

OVATIONS

WINTER/SPRING
2003

MARILYN AND BILL TAYLOR
MEET SOME OF THE STUDENTS
IN THE BESITOS PROGRAM IN
THE KSU COLLEGE OF
EDUCATION (FROM LEFT):
IRLANDA GUTIERREZ, DANIEL
SANCHEZ, JUDY VANG, JORGE
ESTRELLA, MADAI RIVERA,
MIKE FLENTHOPE, EILEEN
MONTALVO, KASEY STADLER,
KYLIE JO BROWN, DAXELI
MONTERROZA AND ANNA
ALCANTARA.



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Taylor-made teachers' aid

Bill and Marilyn Taylor help future teachers study abroad in BESITOS program

Romance, passion and a blind date are often ingredients for a love story. While these terms apply to the relationship that Marilyn and Bill Taylor, Overland Park, Kan., have with each other, their story is really about education, diversity and touching the lives of young people.

The Taylors have teamed up with the College of Education at Kansas State University to help a special group of students enrich their cultural awareness and become better future teachers through a study abroad scholarship program. In doing this, Bill and Marilyn have also expanded the legacy for their daughter, Megan, who died in a bicycle accident in 1992 while touring Germany on an exchange program with her high school band. In the same summer, Megan planned to volunteer for six weeks in a remote village in Mexico, providing sanitation facilities for residents.

BILL TAYLOR VISITING WITH BESITOS STUDENTS DURING A RECENT VISIT TO CAMPUS.



PHOTOS: JAC IMAGING/JOHN LABARGE

ROMANCE

Marilyn Spainhour grew up in Westwood, Kan. Intrigued by other languages, she studied Spanish and French (two of the Romance languages) at K-State. While in college, Marilyn took an opportunity to travel across Europe. Short on time, Marilyn missed visiting Spain and the chance to try out her Spanish language skills, but the overall trip left a lasting impression.

"By helping students have an international experience, they will be better able to go out and help others," Marilyn said.

She speaks from experience. After Marilyn earned a bachelor's degree in modern languages and a teaching certificate at K-State in 1966, she taught Spanish to fourth, fifth and sixth graders at elementary schools in North Kansas City. Although Marilyn later worked in information systems for AT&T and Reuters, she never lost interest in languages and teaching.

PASSION AND KISSES

Socorro Herrera and Kevin Murry arrived at K-State in 1996. These college professors directed a unique recruitment and retention project at Texas Tech University, Lubbock. They developed a model that recruited students from underrepresented groups and supported them all the way through graduation and testing for careers in counseling. This model was modified at K-State to develop bilingual education and English as a Second Language (ESL) teachers in the College of Education. The program, BESITOS, means "little kisses" in Spanish and is an acronym for Bilingual Education Students Interacting to Obtain Success.

"The goal is to increase Kansas' number of qualified bilingual or trilingual educators and better meet the needs of students who don't speak English," Herrera said. "When we started there were only five endorsed bilingual teachers in the state. We were very fortunate to receive a substantial federal grant enabling us to recruit 32 students."

Many BESITOS students are first generation immigrants who might not otherwise have attended college. Their backgrounds, multilingualism and

experiences at K-State will uniquely qualify them for bilingual and ESL teaching and leadership roles.

"We're not looking at grade point averages, SAT or ACT scores," Herrera said. "We're looking for enthusiasm, commitment and passion — passion to make a difference in the world. Teachers and their classrooms are often students' first contact with cultural and linguistic diversity. In today's schools, teachers need to bring cultures together to communicate and learn from one another."

BESITOS students are encouraged to work in Kansas school districts, especially those needing bilingual teachers.

"The number of second language learners in Kansas has almost tripled in the past 10 years, so the need for such teachers is very great — it's growing every day, not only in Kansas, but every state in the Midwest," Murry said. Hispanics are the fastest growing minority in Kansas and the largest minority group in the United States.

A BLIND DATE

Bill Taylor was a farm kid from Chanute, Kan. He attended the University of Kansas and earned a bachelor's (1967) and a master's degree (1969) in accounting and business. Bill joined the Arthur Young firm (now Ernst and Young) in Kansas City. His roommate introduced him to a friend of a friend, Marilyn Spainhour.

"It was a blind date," Bill said. "I took her out for a drink — I wasn't sure if I would want to buy her dinner yet."

About a year and a half later Bill and Marilyn were married. They had two children, Jeff and Megan. Jeff earned a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering at Washington University, St. Louis, Mo., and now works for Boeing.

After Megan's accident, Bill and Marilyn commemorated their daughter by establishing modern languages scholarships at K-State, with preference for students majoring or minoring in Spanish.

Last year, another blind date was arranged to introduce the Taylors to the BESITOS program.

"BESITOS was a perfect fit for our interests," Marilyn said. "This was the kind of thing we know Megan would have leapt at. Her whole life would have been spent helping other people. We had to find a way to help keep that spirit going."

Bill and Marilyn established the Megan E. Taylor Memorial Scholarship for Study Abroad for the BESITOS program. The \$200,000 gift was made through a combination expendable and endowed gift enabling the College of Education to quickly utilize the money.

The first wave of BESITOS students has applied for study abroad programs in Vichy, France and Ronda, Spain. Six students plan to travel in the summer or fall 2003.

"It's incredible what you can do when you provide the opportunities," Herrera said. "I hope the Taylors understand how grateful we are to them for providing this next step — it's an additional dimension through which BESITOS students may experience other cultures, languages and educational systems. These experiences will better prepare our students to serve the needs of all students, irrespective of country of origin or first language spoken."

"The Taylors' generosity enriches an already special program," said Michael Holen, dean of the College of Education. "Perspectives our BESITOS students gain in their studies abroad will enhance the instruction they provide throughout their careers. Good programs can become great programs when people with big hearts step forward to make a real difference." ●

MEET THE STUDENTS IN BESITOS

The 32 students enrolled in the BESITOS program, who were recruited from several Kansas communities with rising immigrant populations, represent a diverse mix of cultures.

Many BESITOS students immigrated with their families from Mexico, Nicaragua, El Salvador and Vietnam. Recent immigrants to Kansas are often employed in meat processing plants, or as maids and babysitters. Their children may have limited ability to speak English, increasing the need for ESL and bilingual teachers in the public schools.

"Although we speak Spanish and English, we will work with children regardless of what their first language is," said Eileen Montalvo, sophomore from Emporia, who left Puerto Rico when she was 5. "As a bilingual teacher, I may work with a student from France or Mexico, Belize or possibly anywhere."

"The main goal of bilingual education is for kids to learn English without sacrificing their native language or culture," said Daniel Sanchez, a junior who moved from Mexico to Garden City in 1994. "We have different ways of teaching English to students, depending on their age. If we have elementary kids, we might include a dual language program. For a student in high school, we might use ESL instruction most of the time."



DANIEL SANCHEZ

First-year BESITOS students are required to live and learn together. Students attend weekly seminars where they are introduced to the latest research in bilingual, dual language and ESL education. They spend two hours a week in the student lab working in cohorts, teams and pairs to complete course assignments and projects.

"BESITOS creates both an academic foundation for us and a support group," said Mike Flentrophe, sophomore from Salina, who has worked as an ESL paraprofessional. "The group is basically one and we help each other and provide enthusiasm for each other."



"Although we speak Spanish and English, we will work with children regardless of what their first language is."

Eileen Montalvo, BESITOS student

Making an impact

Beggs' graduate fellowship benefits
College of Human Ecology

"David and I are very much spiritually oriented and motivated," Rita Beggs said. "Our spiritual life is very important — our love of each other, mankind and God above all."

Their decision to make a gift to K-State grew from a desire to ultimately benefit communities as a whole. The couple has made a commitment of \$200,000 to establish the Dr. David and Rita Beggs Marriage and Family Therapy Graduate Fellowship. The fellowship awarded a graduate student with \$5,000 for the fall 2002 semester, and again for spring 2003.

David is a native of Kansas City, Kan., and a 1956 graduate of Ward High School. He received his bachelor's degree in chemistry from Kansas City's Rockhurst College in 1960. David entered the University of Kansas School of Medicine in 1961.

Rita Heintzelman was raised in Leavenworth, Kan., and graduated from Immaculata High School in 1955. Later that year she enrolled at the Sisters of Charity School of Nursing in Leavenworth. A portion of her training took place at Providence Medical Center in Kansas City.

The couple met at Providence in 1956. David worked there as an orderly during his first year of college, occasionally helping out at the "canteen." A certain student nurse came in for a soda pop, and a couple of weeks later, they began dating. David and Rita were married in 1960.

Rita worked as a nurse until the birth of their third child. While David finished his residency, Rita became a full-time mother. Once all the children were in school, Rita earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from St. Mary of the Plains, Garden City, Kan., in 1982. She went on to earn a master's degree in professional counseling from Fort Hays State University, Hays, Kan., in 1984. Rita practiced as a marriage and family therapist for 15 years before the couple moved to Texas last year.

David's medical career has taken them to Winfield, Garden City and Hays. David now works part time at the Harrington Cancer Center in Amarillo, and part time back in Hays. The move also put them closer to their three grandsons.

"David and I have always been interested in mental health. We knew about K-State because our youngest son, daughter and daughter-in-law are alumni," Rita said. "At my therapy practice in Garden City, an associate introduced me to Tony

Jurich, K-State professor in both the marriage and family therapy, and life span human development programs.

"We wanted to do more for people needing help with emotional and mental issues. Establishing the graduate fellowship allowed us to do that by providing the opportunity for advanced training of professionals in this area."

"The Beggs fellowship connects a faculty mentor with a deserving graduate student — the beginning of what often becomes a lifelong professional relationship," said Carol Kellett, dean of the College of Human Ecology. "We are proud to award this prestigious fellowship in support of graduate students who are advancing a career that serves families and enhances their quality of life."

Rita and David are currently working on another fund to benefit the College of Human Ecology.

"We became familiar with people in the Department of Marriage and Family Therapy who are working on pain management. As an oncologist, David was particularly attracted to their research focusing on cancer treatment," Rita said. "This research not only includes medical therapy, but also therapy for stress and family issues. When a person has cancer, it's often not only that individual who needs help."

"I know first-hand that people receiving medical treatments rely on their family relationships," David said. "It makes a bad situation worse if there aren't good family dynamics. Hurt and anger that has never healed can explode around somebody who is dying."

"We appreciate the Beggs' generosity in support of marriage and family therapy," said Bill Meredith, director of the School of Family Studies and Human Services. "They have truly rewarded the excellence of the program with their interest in preparing students to work in the field of mental health."

"Rita and I are committed to making an impact on our world and our society," David said. "I can't think of a better way to do that than by supplying someone with the tools to make that impact."

"We have always worked at sharing what good fortune we have had," said Rita. "We wanted to focus our efforts by giving in a way that would be beneficial for many years to come. If we don't educate our young people we're not going to have the leaders we need. Giving to K-State has been very worthwhile." ●

KIM ZERFAS



DAVID AND RITA BEGGS

WHEN IS IT OKAY TO POUR CHAMPAGNE ON the floor of Bramlage Coliseum? Only when you are dedicating a new racing shell for the K-State Women's Rowing Team, and only when you clean up afterwards!

KSU Foundation Trustee Jerry Hill, Marina Del Rey, Calif., and his daughter Sheri, recently dedicated a racing shell named in honor of Jerry's late wife, Joanie Hill. Women's Rowing Coach Jenny Hale and KSU First Lady Ruth Ann Wefald were also on hand for the dedication.

Jerry's commitment of \$500,000 establishes a racing shell endowment fund for the varsity eight boat and provides funds for the boathouse campaign. The K-State Women's Rowing Team is the third largest athletic team on campus with more than 55 oarswomen from 16 states and three countries. The team house fund will be used to construct a new facility that will include offices, meeting rooms, athletic training areas, lockers and showers. Currently there is only a boat storage facility on site. The fund for the racing shell makes this the first endowed racing boat at Kansas State. Rowing shells typically have a four-year competition and replacement cycle. Jerry Hill's endowment will perpetually keep a boat named for Joanie Hill.

Dedicating the Joanie Hill



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

A TRUE "CHAMPION"

Ben Champion, Olathe, Kan., is the seventh Kansas State University student since 1986 to win a Rhodes Scholarship.

Champion is a senior in chemistry, natural resources and environmental sciences with minors in Spanish and political science. He was one of two Kansans who were among the 32 winners nationwide for 2003. The Rhodes Scholarship provides \$40,000 to \$60,000 to support two years of study at Oxford University.



BEN CHAMPION

K-State President Jon Wefald said, "Ben is truly an outstanding individual and very deserving of a Rhodes Scholarship. This will provide him the opportunity to pursue a doctorate in chemistry at one of the world's great universities."

Champion was a Udall Scholarship winner in 2000. He was a finalist in the 2002 Truman Scholarship competition. He is an Eagle Scout, a Kansas Honors Scholar, a K-State Putnam Scholar, and a Howard Hughes Undergraduate Research Scholar.

Kansas State University students are second in the nation among public universities in the number of Rhodes Scholarship winners since 1986. K-State also is the only public university over the past 15 years to rank among the top 10 of all U.S. schools for all five of these major scholarship programs: Rhodes, Marshall, Truman, Goldwater and Udall.

SAY IT IN STONE

The achievement of college graduation deserves a fitting tribute and there is no better way than to carve your honored grad's name in stone. The Senior Sidewalk is a project administered by the KSU Student Foundation through its Graduates Investing for Tomorrow (G.I.F.T.) Program. With your \$55 tax-deductible donation to the G.I.F.T. Program, a granite stone will be placed in the Senior Sidewalk and a contribution will be made to the graduate's college or the Office of Student Life. We even provide a certificate for you to present to your graduate.

The Senior Sidewalk begins along 17th Street at the south end of Memorial Stadium. It has already become a popular place to "show and tell" for alumni returning to campus.

Reservations are being accepted now for spring 2003 graduates. If you missed the chance to honor a member of the class of 2000, 2001 or 2002, you can still make arrangements to do so. Call the Donor Relations Department at 800-432-1578 to request a Senior Sidewalk brochure.



CHARLES Q. CHANDLER III

HALF A CENTURY OF SERVICE

Charles Q. Chandler III, Wichita, Kan., was honored for 50 years of service as a trustee of the KSU Foundation at the annual trustees banquet last October. Chandler, who is chairman of the board of Intrust Financial Corporation, Wichita, is a longtime benefactor and volunteer leader of Kansas State University. He has served on the College of Business Administration Advisory Council; was a member of the presidential search committee that hired President Jon Wefald; was honored as the Alumni Fellow for the College of Business Administration in 1998; and he and his wife, Georgia, were honored with the Friend of the College Award from the College of Human Ecology in 1999. The Chandlers gave the lead gift for the privately funded renovation of the Stone House, which was dedicated in 2001 and renamed Stone House Ruth Hoeflin Early Childhood Education Center and C.Q. and Georgia Chandler Institute for Child and Family Studies.

Paul Nelson honors his roots

TEACHERS ARE AMONG THE BIGGER INFLUENCES IN a person's life. For Paul Danheim Nelson, these weren't his school teachers, but rather some relatives who happened to be college professors. His uncle and aunts, Charles and May Danheim Burt and Bertha Danheim, all Kansas State Agricultural College alumni, became college-level instructors in herpetology, home economics and botany, and encouraged Paul's interest in science.

"When I was about 9 or 10, I remember finding echnoids and crinoids (marine fossils) in the pasture on my father's farm," Paul said. "My father had discouraged me from becoming a farmer. I didn't have too much of a choice but to go to K-State."

The farm was located in Wildcat country, only a couple of miles outside of Blue Rapids, Kan., about 40 miles north of Manhattan. His mother was a registered nurse.

"My grandfather, Henry Danheim, wasn't a teacher, but he certainly believed in education," Paul said. "He was a big influence on Mother and my aunts."

Paul graduated from Blue Rapids High School in 1945. At K-State, he earned a bachelor's degree in geology in 1950 and master's degree in 1952. For his thesis about linear pattern geology (joints), Paul studied the subsurface in Riley, Pottawatomie and Marshall counties. He minored in education.

"The state's education department was really interested in keeping me in Kansas as a teacher," Paul said. "I had interviewed with an oil company in Tulsa and decided the money was better in the oil industry."

Paul spent seven years as an exploration geologist with Carter Oil (a subsidiary of ExxonMobil). He worked in Denver and Durango, Colo., and in the southeast corner of Utah, monitoring oil wells and drilling samples in the Paradox and Denver-Julesberg basins.

With oil production declining in 1959, Paul decided to return to academics. He became an 8th grade teacher in Idaho Falls, Idaho. A year later, he joined the Boise (Idaho) Junior College, where he taught geology and vocational technology.

"They opened up the junior college system in St. Louis, Mo.," Paul said. "There were some professors from the University of Idaho who knew me and

wanted me down there. I got hired on the basis of just one letter."

One letter turned into a 30-year teaching career at the Forest Park and Meramec campuses. Paul taught a variety of courses including geology, geography and math.

Environmental planetary stewardship and over-population concerns and practices are important to Paul. He is a longtime member of several organizations including The Nature Conservancy, Audubon Society and Sierra Club.

"This has really been the theme of my life," Paul said. "Geology is really one of the basic sciences that can help handle environmental concerns, perhaps better than the other sciences."

When he retired in 1999, Paul decided to honor his educational roots at K-State and dedicated more than 50 percent of his fixed income toward several KSU programs, most notably in the Department of Geology. His \$40,000 gift created the Danheim Nelson Equipment Fund and the Danheim Nelson Scholarship/Fellowship Fund. In 2002, Paul made an additional \$500,000 commitment for the Paul Danheim Nelson Professorship in Geology.

"I wish I had more money or won the lottery," Paul said. "Small departments like the geology department really deserve to have more help. I would build them a new building if I could."

"Paul's gifts to the Department of Geology have helped us develop in new areas and activities such as a permanent installation at the Konza Prairie capable of monitoring global earthquakes," department Head Mary Hubbard said. "His professorship gift is a tremendous statement of his generosity that will provide everlasting benefits."

JOE MONTGOMERY



PAUL DANHEIM NELSON

Al Schwan's quest for excellence benefits College of Technology and Aviation

ALFRED SCHWAN WAS RAISED IN MARSHALL, Minn., a town of about 5,000 people, in the 1930s. His father, Paul, worked as foreman at the Perfection Ice Cream Company. During the summers, Al worked at the ice cream company making ice cream bars and other treats.

After graduating from high school in 1943, Al joined the U.S. Navy, where he served as a pilot through 1948. He and his wife, Doris, settled in Davenport, Iowa, where her parents lived.

"We bought a Dairy Queen store, opened several more and ran them," Al said. "But I decided I wanted more."

In addition to running the Dairy Queens, in 1950 Al joined John Deere and Company in Moline, Ill., as an industrial engineer. He remained there through 1963, when he left to join his brother Marvin's business back in Marshall.

Marvin founded Schwan's Sales Enterprises Inc. in 1952 with an idea for a route delivery system of ice cream and other frozen foods. The company, now called The Schwan Food Company, is still headquartered in Marshall. Production and distribution facilities are located across the United States and in Europe, employing 24,000 people.

Al became the manager of the plant and route system in Marshall and West Union, Iowa. To make the commute between the two plants easier, he purchased his first airplane.

In 1970, Marvin placed a tiny ad in the Wall Street Journal: "Wanted: one pizza plant." The owner of Tony's Pizza in Salina, Kan., answered the ad, and Schwan's acquired the plant. Tony's currently makes Tony's, Red Baron and Freschetta frozen pizzas. In April 1970, Al became the manager of this plant as well.

Marvin passed away in 1993, at which time Al became Schwan's CEO. He currently serves as chairman of the board.

Since 1986, Schwan's and its subsidiaries have supported KSU and what was then called Kansas Technical Institute in Salina, with a giving history surpassing \$250,000. Al's understanding of engineering technology and his love of flight led him to establish the Al Schwan Fund for Excellence in 2002. Recognizing Tony's Pizza Service, this \$50,000 gift will support student projects and provide scholarships for outstanding students enrolled in mechanical or electronic engineering technology or technology management.

"My brother was once asked, 'What does it take to succeed at Schwan's?'" Al said. "Marvin told them to 'work hard, be enthusiastic, have integrity, believe in growth — personally, spiritually and in business — and help one another.' Those values are, hopefully, in the hearts and minds of our people, and they're engraved in stone."

They are, in fact, engraved on a marble paper-weight atop Al's desk.

KIM ZERFAS



AL SCHWAN

CURTAIN CALL

"ABSOLUTELY AMAZING!"

That's the appraisal of Telefund Director Gordon Dowell following another record-setting Telefund campaign. A late pledge pushed the month-long phone-a-thon to \$1,403,303 via 21,221 pledges. Telefund is the world's largest all-volunteer telephone campaign for higher education. Overall, 1,660 students participated.

"Considering the economic and geopolitical challenges facing our nation, the success of Telefund 2003 is absolutely amazing," Dowell said. "The pledge and participation totals speak volumes about alumni pride, student leadership and generous support from the business community."

Telefund started in 1980 and provides scholarships and educational benefits in the nine academic colleges. During those 24 years, records have been set each year for dollars pledged, alumni donors or both.

K-State ranks No. 4 nationally and No. 1 in the Big 12 based on percentage of alumni supporting their alma mater. With more than 20,000 donors annually, Telefund is a key to those standings.

For more, click to www.found.ksu.edu/telefund.

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Kansas State University Foundation is to secure and prudently manage private gifts in support of Kansas State University and foster a culture that unites philanthropic desires with university priorities.

OUR VISION

The Kansas State University Foundation is helping to build the world's finest land-grant university.

OUR VALUES

Respect, diligence and integrity guide our interactions, decisions and work.



PHOTOS: J&C IMAGING/JOHN LABARGE

● Visit us on the World Wide Web at www.found.ksu.edu

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