K-State awards over 3,470 degrees at May commencement ceremonies

Commencement ceremonies were held on K-State’s Salina and Manhattan campuses in May to recognize over 3,470 students who have earned a degree from Kansas State University.

K-State awarded more than 2,550 bachelor’s degrees; 676 master’s degrees; 118 doctoral degrees; 100 Doctor of Veterinary medicine degrees; and nearly 30 associate degrees. Nearly 240 students earned their degree through distance education, which is offered through Kansas State University Global Campus.

The University awarded its 127th honorary doctorate to John Hofmeister, a K-State alumnus and founder and CEO of Citizens for Affordable Energy, during the Graduate School ceremony. Hofmeister is a member of the U.S. Energy Security Council and former president of Shell Oil Co., and also served as commencement speaker for the Graduate School and College of Arts & Sciences ceremonies.

"Kansas State University is honoring John Hofmeister for his distinguished career, particularly as one of the nation’s foremost leaders on energy issues,” said Kirk Schulz, K-State president. “He also demonstrates how degrees from K-State can help one become a leader not only in the boardroom but also on issues of major importance facing our country today, such as energy security.”

Other notable commencement speakers included:

- College of Agriculture - Jackie McClaskey, university alumna and Kansas Department of secretary
- College of Business Administration - General Richard Myers, K-State alumnus, retired U.S. Air Force general and former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
- College of Engineering - Kirk Schulz, president of Kansas State University

President Schulz and General Myers also spoke at the university’s Army and Air Force ROTC commissioning ceremonies during commencement weekend.

Additionally, bringing to fruition a primary goal of the Johnson County Education Research Triangle (JCERT) initiative, K-State Olathe graduated its
The initiative mandated the campus provide research and graduate education for workforce and economic development, focusing in particular on food safety and security and animal health. Seven other students also completed their master’s degrees in adult and continuing education from K-State Olathe.

The Class of 2014 is the 147th to graduate from Kansas State University since the first class graduated in 1867.

K-State Salina Flight Team wins national trophy

The K-State Salina Flight Team has landed the prestigious honor of being recognized as the most outstanding all-around aviation program in the country.

For the first time in school history, the K-State Salina team was awarded the Loening Trophy at the National Intercollegiate Flying Association’s SAFECON National Championship.

The trophy, called the oldest and most elite of all collegiate aviation awards, is presented annually to the aviation program that demonstrates its overall excellence. The trophy was first presented in 1929, with aviation greats Amelia Earhart and Charles Lindbergh among the judges.

“The Loening Trophy is a piece of history and we can’t wait to display it on the Salina Campus,” said Tom Karcz, assistant professor of aviation and K-State Salina Flight Team faculty adviser.

In October 2013, the K-State Salina Flight Team won its first National Intercollegiate Flying Association SAFECON regional competition. The top three teams from each regional were then invited to participate at nationals. The national championship consisted of a variety of tests both on the ground and while flying, including landing a plane accurately, navigating a flight plan and attempting to hit a target while dropping an item from the air.

Team members from Kansas include Martin Harvey, Andover; Tosh Taylor, Riley; Alex Zinser, Abilene Park; John Snyder, Salina; Cameron Calvert, Wichita; Bert Hutchinson. Out of state members are Ian Barnhart, Tyler Thull, Trevor Henson, Alex Osborn and Shane Richardson.

DID YOU KNOW?

34 K-State students have been awarded the prestigious Harry S. Truman scholarship, ranking the university first for the number of Truman scholars in the nation among all public state-supported universities.

College of Human Ecology offers nation’s first graduate certificate in financial therapy

The personal financial planning program at Kansas State University will offer the nation’s first graduate certificate in financial therapy this fall.

The certificate program provides graduate-level educational training to both financial and mental health professionals who want to improve clients’ financial health by integrating relational, behavioral, cognitive and emotional elements with personal finance, according to Kristy Archuleta, associate professor and licensed marriage and family therapist who has spent her career bridging financial planning and marriage and family therapy to form financial therapy.

“Financial therapy is an emerging field of practice and study. K-State’s College of Human Ecology is offering the first academic program in the country - and perhaps in the world - that aims to address this concept of financial therapy.”

National Strategic Selling Institute remains one of the top sales programs

For the third consecutive year, the National Strategic Selling Institute at Kansas State University’s College of Business Administration has been named one of the top sales programs in the country by the Sales Education Foundation.

The National Strategic Selling Institute sponsors the university’s sales team,
which prepares students for sales competitions across the country. The Institute also organizes K-State Sales Week, an annual event featuring workshops, competitions and networking sessions to develop students' sales skills and expose them to careers in sales, and other competitions throughout the year.

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