A new year invites both reflection and promise. In this edition of The Loop, we at the Staley School (!) are happy to share with you a little of both! In the following pages, learn how our students, faculty and staff – and our wonderful 2014 Michael C. Holen Leader-in-Residence, Mary Jo Myers – have been investing their time and talents. We invite you to celebrate with us their accomplishments and get excited, too, for new opportunities, such as our initiative to honor Coach Snyder’s leadership legacy. As always, we welcome your continued involvement and investment in our collective work.

Leadership is an activity and also, at heart, a relationship. We are grateful for our continued relationship with you and invite you to stay connected. Together we are developing the leadership this diverse and changing world demands. It is important work – timely, relevant, critical work. Thank you for the many ways you contribute!

K-State proud,

Mary Tolar, Director
“Names matter,” said Staley School Director Mary Tolar. “Names not only identify but also convey relationship.” In July of 2009, the School of Leadership Studies became the first stand-alone school of its kind at a public institution. As the School has grown and progressed in advancing its key strategic activities and outcomes for K-State 2025, we are excited to announce that the School now uses its full, official name: Mary Lynn and Warren Staley School of Leadership Studies.

“To introduce oneself is to lay claim to one’s most essential relationships – your family, your people,” Tolar said. “Bearing the name of the Mary Lynn and Warren Staley School of Leadership Studies conveys not only what we do but that we have earned the relationship of two remarkable leaders who represent the very best of the leadership we aspire for ourselves and all those we engage – students, alumni, campus colleagues, and community partners,” she said.

The Staley School of Leadership Studies recognizes the past and continued support of outstanding leaders and K-State alumni, Mary Lynn and Warren Staley. The Staleys are long-time champions of the Staley School of Leadership Studies and have been passionate about advancing its mission. Their investments were vital in establishing an endowed chair for the directorship of the Staley School and expanding numerous opportunities for its students. “We are so fortunate to claim Mary Lynn and Warren as our people and grateful that they claim us as well,” said Tolar.

Unveiling the Staley Name

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The Snyder Leadership Legacy Fellows program will:

- Provide a leadership development opportunity rooted in Coach Snyder’s 16 Goals for Success to top students of Kansas State University.
- Provide opportunity for students to engage in a leadership dialogue with Coach Snyder.
- Raise the visibility and importance of leadership in action, during and after a student’s formal education.
- Elevate students’ passion for service, encouraging them to take on opportunities that make a difference in the world in which they live.
- Provide tools and resources that will aid students in working toward a common goal, with others, as a team, in a competitive environment.
- Expect a commitment from fellows, connecting them to business leaders, successful athletes, and scholars who all have an interest in exercising leadership in their lives.

The goal of the Snyder Leadership Legacy Fellows program is to develop change agents on campus, in the community, throughout the state, and beyond. Our hope is to prepare students for the transition from college and for engagement as lifelong leaders - but this is only the beginning. As the Snyder Fellows alumni base builds, additional development opportunities will be offered to program alumni, and in future years the Fellows program will explore opportunities for expansion beyond K-State.

Learn more about becoming a part of Coach Snyder’s leadership legacy by visiting www.k-state.edu/snyder-fellows or contact Marcia Hornung at hornung@k-state.edu.
Leadership studies students gain knowledge through participation in leadership conferences nationwide.

The knowledge that students receive in the classroom is great for writing papers and taking exams, but nothing can compare to the value of real world experiences. The Staley School of Leadership Studies strives to make these experiences widely accessible to our students through participation in conferences and professional development workshops throughout the year. This past semester, our students took advantage of two exceptional opportunities.

In November, a group of Staley School students and faculty members traveled to San Diego, California to participate in the 16th annual International Leadership Association Global Conference - a conference that brings together individuals from all around the world to discuss, practice, and teach leadership. A portion of the conference is the student case competition, in which students address a specific issue as it relates to leadership. This year’s focus was on immigration, and the Staley School student representatives used their leadership knowledge to compose and present the case study “Chasing a Dream” to a panel of judges.

This year, the team of graduate and undergraduate students representing Kansas State University and the Staley School won first place honors in the graduate division. The team included Alix Bilip, graduate student in mass communications; Tyler Bedell, senior in business marketing; Katie Noll, senior in secondary education; and Colby Haverkamp, junior in communication studies. Assistant professor Andy Wefald served as their coach.

“My experience with ILA gave me so much more confidence not only in our program here at Kansas State but in myself as well. It is an experience that has given me insight and perspective on the world around me, and I would recommend it to anyone,” said Haverkamp.

The second conference our students not only attended but also helped to create was the Olathe Ethics Conference. Through the efforts of the Staley School Ambassadors, the second annual Olathe Ethics Conference was held on Nov. 7 at the Kansas State University Olathe Innovation campus.

In connection with the mission of the Staley School Ambassadors - to recruit, promote, and educate - Ambassadors facilitated discussions and featured case studies on ethical leadership. The various case studies were presented to Olathe area high school students as an opportunity to see how leadership relates to education and real life scenarios. The ethics-based case studies focused on engineering, medicine, education, business, law, arts, and communication. The Staley School Ambassadors enlisted the help of alumni who are involved in these different lines of work to allow for in-depth discussions about their real life experiences. Joining the Ambassadors this year were K-State alumni Nathan Finster, Grant Goodack, Lee Keller, Sarah Liesen, Lauren Luhrs, Victoria Luhrs, and Meredith Muller.

“The Olathe Ethics conference was such a great experience. It was rewarding to witness high school students working through today’s ethical issues and coming up with actionable ways to implement effective leadership into their own lives,” said Ryan Haefke, sophomore in finance.

Nearly 130 Olathe area high school students attended the ethics conference, which featured guest speaker Anthony J. Gray, President and CEO of the Institute for Global Ethics of Camden, Maine.

This event offers the Staley School Ambassadors the opportunity to share their knowledge of ethical leadership and demonstrate how the Staley School has guided them in their personal leadership development. It’s also a chance for alumni of the Staley School to get involved in leadership education after graduation.

These are only two of the many conferences and professional development opportunities offered to students during the past semester. For the Staley School of Leadership Studies, they serve as an exciting and unique opportunity for our students, faculty, and alumni to demonstrate their own knowledge and, in turn, receive new perspectives to take back to their own campuses, work places, communities, and more.

Learn more about supporting these student opportunities by contacting Damien Williams at 785-532-7510 or damienw@found.ksu.edu.
At the Staley School of Leadership Studies, we strive to develop our knowledge and understanding of leadership to better serve the students, faculty members, colleagues, and community partners with whom we engage. Research is a vital component in carrying out this goal. Staley School faculty share research at professional conferences, publish in scholarly journals, and ask critical questions to advance learning about leadership. Here is a look into some ongoing research.

**Civic Leadership**

Assistant professor of civic leadership Brandon Kliewer is working on a series of research articles and forms of community-engaged scholarship that ask questions about how civic leadership and democratic practices work together. Using models focused on civic leadership, Kliewer will work with assistant professor Kerry Priest and students in LEAD 405: Leadership in Practice to convene a series of community conversations with the Konza United Way and Harvesters Community Food Network. Look for Kliewer’s article “Looking ahead: Envisioning the next generation of civic work” in the January 2015 edition of Diversity & Democracy.

Assistant professor Eric Hartman works to advance research and writing to support the development of ethical, caring, and inclusive individuals who serve communities and embrace human dignity across differences. In October, he gave the plenary address, “Learning into Cultural Humility and Social Change,” at the 4th Annual Intercultural Horizons Conference in New York. “Pushing Boundaries: Introduction to the Global Service-Learning Special Section,” co-written with Richard Kiely (Cornell University), appeared in the Michigan Journal of Community Service-Learning. Hartman also serves as editor of Global SL, a multi-institutional website working to advance best practices in global learning and community-university partnership. Global SL was recently recognized with a $40,000 grant from the Luce Foundation.

Director and associate professor Mary Tolar is collaborating with colleagues Jill Arensdorf (Chair and Associate Professor of Leadership Studies, Fort Hays State University), David Chrislip (Senior Fellow, Kansas Leadership Center), and Tim Steffensmeier (Department Head and Associate Professor of Communication Studies, Kansas State University) on research related to civic leadership as a neglected aspect of leadership studies. Together, their research explores the dominant narrative of leadership and its parallel and complementary communicative practices and analyzes the civic context to which leadership must respond.

**Identities Affecting Leadership**

In an effort to continue cultivating an inclusive environment for all members of the Staley School family, assistant professor Leigh Fine is leading the charge on research that examines how gender identities affect our leadership and educational development. He is focusing on how gender and sexuality affect one’s experience in the American education system. His article, forthcoming in the February issue of the American Journal of Education, examines the likelihood of graduating college as contingent on sexuality and gender. Another article, currently under revision, explores how social support affects lesbian, gay, and bisexual students’ decisions to stay in college or not. Fine presented these works at the Midwest Sociological Society conference. His expertise on the subject afforded Fine the opportunity to write an entry on “campus climate” for the SAGE Encyclopedia of LGBTQ Studies this year.

**Leadership Education**

Assistant professor Kerry Priest conducts research on the intersections of leadership development and engaged teaching and learning in higher education learning communities, including campus and community partners. Priest is particularly interested in questions around four main categories of research that include: student leadership identity development, leadership educator identity development, leadership education and high-impact practices for leadership education, and understanding the role of social contexts and communities in learning leadership. Priest has presented and published several articles on high impact practices for leadership education and is focused on student and educator identity development and exploring the use of community-engaged methods for student and community leader development.

Assistant professor Andy Wefald researches leadership and leadership development for college students. His research uses a social science and psychology lens, with the goal of promoting positive leadership in organizations through an understanding and scientific examination of leadership theories, organizational behavior, attitudes, and personality. Some of Wefald's current projects include assessing political skill and how it intersects with leadership development, using improvisational exercises in the classroom, and implementing service-learning projects as a pedagogical tool to teach leadership skills.
Each fall, the Staley School of Leadership Studies hosts Spirit of Leadership - an event that connects alumni, friends, faculty, and students, as well as celebrates our alumni and friends who continue to lead in their communities, professions, and for the public good - such as the Michael C. Holen Leader-in-Residence. In 2014, we were especially excited to celebrate all of the members who have been part of the Staley School Advancement Council since 2004. Thank you to the Advancement Council members, both past and present, who helped to make our work possible.

**Spirit of Leadership**

**Leader-in-Residence**

Congratulations to the 2014 Michael C. Holen Leader-in-Residence: Mary Jo Myers!

The Michael C. Holen Leader in Residence Award honors outstanding individuals who are exercising leadership in a range of organizational, professional, and civic settings. This year’s recipient, Mary Jo Myers, exemplifies the core tenets of the award, including a commitment to serving the common good and collaboration to address current societal challenges.

Myers is currently Associate Director of Public Affairs for Hayes and Associates - a public relations, communications and event planning firm. The primary focus of her position is on events for military related non-profit organizations. She also serves on the advisory boards for THANKSUSA, Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS), National Military Family Association, and the Board of Trustees for the Fisher House Foundation.

A graduate of Kansas State University, Myers remains active in support of her alma mater as a member of the Alumni Board and a Foundation Trustee. She will serve as Co-Chair for the Innovation and Inspiration Campaign to advance Kansas State University towards its strategic vision to become a top 50 public research university by 2025.

We are inspired by her service and dedication, and we are thrilled to celebrate Mary Jo Myers as the 2014 Michael C. Holen Leader-in-Residence.

**Staley School Advancement Council Members**

- Alicia Addison - Perry
- Ariel Anib
- Caitlin Arnold
- Doug Baier
- Veronica Baus
- Nancy Bolsen
- Pat Bosco
- Mary Bosco-Heinrich
- Kent Bradley
- Dwayne Broddle
- Byron K. Brooks
- Wallace Brown
- Lyndsay Bruns
- Vy Bui
- Zac Byard
- Rick Calhoun
- John Carlin
- Lynn Carlin
- Sydney Carlin
- David Carlin
- Casey Carlson
- Elaine Spencer Carver
- Ella Casey
- Whitney Coen
- Jim Coffman
- Olivia Collins
- Whitney Davis
- Art Degroat
- Jimmy Downes
- Liza Dunn
- Michael Ellis
- Ben Fenwick
- Bernard Franklin
- Wayne Freeman
- Chelsea Gerber
- Carl Gerlach
- Erin Gettler
- Lindsay Glatz
- Gary Glatz
- Bobby Gomez
- Grant Goodack
- Trisha Gott
- Jessica Gradert
- Teryn Greer
- Ashley Guenther
- Christopher Hansen
- Heath Harding
- Ally Heidebrecht
- Jason Heinrich
- Candi Hironaka
- Morgan Holechek
- Michael Holen
- Leslie Holtzen
- Bob Hopkins
- Phil Howe
- Collin Hueter
- Todd Johnson
- Russell Johnson
- Clovis Jones
- Dan Kahl
- Ata Karim
- Justin Kastner
- Jeff Katz
- Reagan Kays
- Barbara Keener
- Kerri Keller
- Keith Kennedy
- Lori Kniffin
- Kevin Lockett
- Barbara Luhrs
- Victoria Luhrs
- Lauren Luhrs
- Sue Maes
- Suzanne Mayo-Theus
- Trevor McCart
- Jackie McClaskey
- Doris Miller
- Steve Mirakian
- Tyson Moore
- Jack Mosimann
- Meredith Muller
- Greg Musil
- Mary Jo Myers
- Duane Nellis
- Stacey Truitt
- Nibbelink
- Lana Oleen
- Ed O’Malley, Jr.
- Aaron Otto
- Aubrey Abbott
- Patterson
- Deb Patterson
- Morgan Peelen
- Julianne Perrini
- Sue Peterson
- Kari Phelan
- Sue Pray
- Leo Prieto
- Zoe Prince
- Don Rathbone
- Becky Reichard
- Amy Button Renz
- Sylvia Robinson
- Harold Roesler
- Eric Schmidt
- Larie Schoap
- Eli Schooley
- Susan M. Scott
- Riley Scott
- A.J. Scribante
- Kevin Shaffstall
- Bob Shoop
- Patrick Simpson
- Autumn Snesrud
- Bill Snyder
- Theo Stavropoulos
- Phil Stein
- Sara Stephens
- SueAnn Strom
- Emily Surdez
- Jack Taylor
- David Thomson
- Linda Thurston
- Mary Tolar
- Stacey Truitt-Nibbelink
- Nancy Twiss
- Page Twiss
- Ruth Ann Wefald
- Chad Weiberg
- Maggie Weller
- Todd Wells
- Patrick Wertzheimer
- Ryan Wilkerson
- Teresa Williams
- Ron Winter
Resolved.

Our work is important. It travels beyond the old stone wall surrounding campus, out of the beautiful Flint Hills, past national borders. It sometimes changes perspectives immediately in the classroom, but often persists and manifests decades later. It lives within and among us, changing constantly to adapt to new circumstances. It’s the work of teaching and learning in the pursuit of a better world.

I love my job. I get to engage with students in the important work of making the world a better place - for all people. With the new year, and in a resolution mindset, I started grappling with how our lofty goals sometimes seem insurmountable. However, if they prove to be out of our reach, the pursuit of them is all the more important and valuable. It isn’t easy to think differently than you previously thought - to admit that your previous self was wrong. But in my eyes, that’s what it means to learn and that’s what I ask of students and myself every day.

In my mind the mission of the Staley School is both an aspiration and reality. We seek to develop leaders for a diverse and changing world, but we are also doing it now. Our mission is seen in the efforts and passion of current students, the successes of alumni, but also in the challenges we pose to one another. I want to assist in the development of leadership in K-State students so they can affect change in the world as they see fit. Not willy-nilly, but strategically, with knowledge, ethics, inclusion, and care. As an educator, I want my students to see something beyond themselves and their own. Family and career are incredibly important parts of my identity and I think our students agree. But there is something beyond taking care of oneself that must also be a part of our lives. We are part of a community - of many communities - that require constant creating and reshaping to respond to new and changing realities. In addition to our family and work lives, our civic lives need attention and time.

In the grind of our daily lives, it’s often difficult to achieve the perspective needed to understand the potential of education to transform communities. Each new year gives us the opportunity to step back, to move to the balcony, and situate ourselves to dream of what can be in the coming year. I, for one, can’t wait to get back to the business of challenging students to find their own passion to create the world where they want to live.

- Chance Lee, Instructor

Congratulations (from left to right) to Trisha Gott and Ben Trenary on the birth of their son, Leo; Eric and Shannon Hartman on the birth of their daughter, Ruby; and Lori Kniffin who graduated with a masters degree in counseling and student development.

Welcome
We are pleased to welcome our newest staff members (from left to right) Jackie Harmon, administration support specialist; Lori LaVezzi, administrative officer; and Theo Stavropoulos, communications coordinator.

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Developing knowledgeable, ethical, caring, inclusive leaders for a diverse and changing world.

- Chance Lee, Instructor

Farewell
Thank you and farewell to former Staley School faculty and staff members (from left to right) Gilbert Davila, Karey Debardeleben, and Joshua Mosier. We wish you all the best!