

Keen is first to earn new certification

Julia Keen, an assistant professor in the department of architectural engineering and construction science, was recently notified that she passed the first ever certification examination for designation as a High-Performance Building Design Professional. She is the first engineering faculty member in the nation to achieve this designation.



Julia Keen

The American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers launched the certification program June 25. It is designed to recognize and promote environmentally friendly heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration design in new and existing buildings.

By earning this certification Keen now has an increased awareness and knowledge of environmentally friendly designs for new and existing buildings which she can incorporate in her classes in the department of architectural engineering and construction science. This new certification program was developed in close collaboration with the Illuminating Engineering Society of North America and the Mechanical Contractors Association of America, and with input from the U.S. Green Building Council and the Green Building Initiative.

Adams on board of museum to be honored

Earlier this week during a White House ceremony, First Lady Laura Bush conferred the National Medal for Museum and Library Service on the General Law Wallace Study and Museum in Indiana. The award is the nation's highest honor for museums and libraries. Roger Adams, associate professor and rare books librarian at K-State Libraries, serves on the museum's board of trustees. "The award is indicative of the hard work and dedication of the museum's staff and volunteers," he said. "I am truly honored to be part of such an outstanding organization."

points of pride

K-State's Higuchi recipients named

Christopher Sorensen, university distinguished professor of physics, and Larry Takemoto, university distinguished professor of biology, have received Higuchi-KU Endowment Research Achievement Awards. The awards honor outstanding research accomplishments by faculty at Kansas Board of Regents institutions and include a plaque and a \$10,000 research grant.

ON CAMPUS October

Oct. 13

Piano solo  
Guest pianist Solon Pierce will play at 7:30 p.m., All Faiths Chapel.

Oct. 14

Provost's lecture series  
David Shulenburg will give a talk "Maintaining Affordability of Public Higher Education." 1:30-3 p.m., Fiedler Auditorium, Fiedler Hall.

Oct. 15-19

'Once Upon A Mattress'  
K-State Theatre presents a production of "Once Upon A Mattress," a unique spin on "The Princess and the Pea." Performances are at 7:30 p.m., Nichols Theatre. The show will also make a run from Oct. 22-26.

Oct. 16

Museum workshop  
"Talking about Art with Children" will teach adults how to help children tell stories with works of art. The cost is free, but reservations are requested. Childcare is available 6:30 p.m., Beach Museum of Art.



The Capitol Steps will put the "mock" in democracy at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 19, as part of the McCain Performance Series. Call 532-6428 for ticket information.

Hispanic Heritage Month event

"Loteria Night." Loteria is a form of Mexican bingo. The event will include music and door prizes. Admission is free. 6:30-9 p.m., K-State Union Station.

work. 7:30 p.m., Forum Hall, K-State Student Union.

Oct. 23

Art talk  
Arts Above the Arch talk by Steven Guarnaccia and Nora Krug. Guarnaccia and Krug, illustrators and associate professors at Parsons: The New School for Design, New York City, will talk about their work in the BLAB! exhibition. 5:30 p.m., Beach Museum of Art.

Oct. 22

Poet laureate to lecture  
Poet Laureate of the United States Charles Simic will read from his

A hard habit to break, researching addiction ... continued

in their testing environment shuts off when the rats earn a dose of nicotine. After about a minute, the light comes back on to signal that more nicotine is available. By manipulating this signal, Palmatier and his colleagues found that the rats weren't really that interested in nicotine by itself. "We figured out that what the rats really liked was turning the light off," Palmatier said. "They still self-administered the nicotine, but they took more of the drug when it was associated with a reinforcing light." Palmatier and colleagues published a paper on their research in the August issue of Neuropsychopharmacology. Palmatier has begun looking at

how rats respond to sweet tastes after having nicotine. He said preliminary results show that nicotine has comparable effects on sweet tastes. That is, rats respond more for sugar-water solutions after getting nicotine. "The taste aspect is really important because we can actually figure out how nicotine is increasing the subjects' behavior," Palmatier said. "If it makes a reward more pleasurable, then it may increase the palatability of a sweet taste." Palmatier said that future research will focus on determining whether nicotine can make unpleasant experiences more tolerable, helping explain why lighting up after a bad day at work can be tempting. ■

On the right path ... continued

after another would stop by her office. "They'd say, 'Hi, I'm about to go to class.' But they're checking in, to see if that person who talked to them is still here. "Of course I am!" ■

opportunities

Classified

A list of employment opportunities is posted at <http://www.k-state.edu/hr/vac.html>  
A recording of classified job opportunities is available 24 hours a day on the Employment Information Line, 532-6271.  
For additional information, call 532-6277 or visit the Division of Human Resources at 103 Edwards Hall. Applications are accepted 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

Unclassified

A listing of vacancies can be seen at <http://www.k-state.edu/affact/Opportunities/unclass.htm>  
For additional information, call the office of affirmative action at 532-6220 or visit 214 Anderson Hall.

noteworthy ... continued

Physics

Chii-Dong Lin and colleagues published "Theory of High-Order Harmonic Generation From Molecules By Intense Laser Pulses," Journal of Physics B: Atomic, Molecular and Optical Physics, Vol. 41.

Shanteau and former student published "Medical Expertise," "Expert Medical Systems" and "Subjective Expected Utility Theory," Encyclopedia of Medical Decision Making to be published by SAGE Publications.

Psychology

Richard Harris, student and former students published "Social Movie Quoting: What, Why, and How?" Ciencias Psicologicas, Vol. 2, No. 1.

Ron Downey and students presented "Factor Analysis and Construct Validity for a Vigorous Well-Being Measure," Third International Conference on Occupational Health, Sept. 1-4, Quebec City, Quebec, Canada.

Gary Brase published "A Field Study of How Different Numerical Information Formats Influence Charity Support," Journal of Nonprofit & Public Sector Marketing, Vol. 20, No. 1.

Kimberly Kirkpatrick and colleague presented "Changing the Value of Food Reinforcement Retards Learning about a Shift in the Time of Delivery," annual meeting of the Psychobiology Section of the British Psychological Society, Sept. 3-5, Windermere, UK.

James Shanteau presented "The Gold Standard Illusion: The Elusive Search for Perfection in Health Care," Health4Life Conference: Judgment, Assessment & Decision Making in Health & Social Care, Sept. 3-4, Dublin City University, School of Nursing.

Women's Studies

The following K-State faculty presented at the 29th Annual National Women's Studies Association Conference, June 19-22, Cincinnati, Ohio:

Shireen Roshanravan, "Navigating Racial & Sexual Subjectivity Against Colonial Legacies."

Angela Hubler, "Representations of Rape & Sexual Abuse of Female Adolescents"

Michaeline Chance-Reay, "First Day Feminism: Effective Strategies to Introduce Feminism."

Valerie Carroll, Torry Dickinson, Rhonda Janke and student, "Reclaiming the Civil Commons: Feminist Pathways to Global Social Justice and Environmentalism."

k-state statement

For Kansas State University faculty and staff

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Building a brighter future

Conference on sustainability aimed at collecting ideas, perspectives



Organizers of K-State's first conference on sustainability say the university can be a leader in adopting more 'green' practices across campus.

An effort to make Kansas State University not just a participant but a leader in the drive toward sustainable practices has created an on-campus conference scheduled for Jan. 23, 2009. Organizers of the conference, titled "Leading Kansas in Sustainability," are evaluating proposals from government, education, commercial and nonprofit entities for presentations and poster sessions at the inaugural conference. Final selections should be made by the end of October.

Ben Champion, the university's director of sustainability, hopes the event will help build "a community of interest" about sustainability at K-State. "That means catalyzing interest across departments, colleges, curriculum, research – all across campus.

"Orr is a real leader and an intellectual force on issues of sustainability," Champion said. The range of conference issues is intentionally broad, because virtually all aspects of human activity affect the environment, and vice versa. Topics will range from the concerns of academic research and university operations to rural population loss, soil and water conservation, and potential economic models of green development across the state. "Our society has a lot to confront in coming to terms with sustainability," Champion said. "We need to think carefully and seriously about what that means

for K-State and the state as a whole." Conference sessions consist of the following tracks:  
Energy: Presentations will identify the long-term prospects and changes needed in supply, efficiency and demand appropriate to sustain quality of life in Kansas. Speakers will represent consumers and producers of energy.  
Rural sustainability: Prospects for continued decline, stabilization or reversal of population loss are central to the sustainability of the state. Community scale, the role of technology, governance and infrastructure all determine what is sustainable on the Kansas prairie.

Water and soil: This track will focus on natural resources in Kansas, their quality and distribution.  
Economic development and the emerging green economy: The challenges of developing such an economic base include reforms of existing industries as well as development of new economic models and organizations. Topics in this session could focus on investments by renewable energy companies, the role of small grocery cooperatives, and tensions between sustainable agriculture and resource-intensive conventional methods.  
For more information go to <http://sustainability.k-state.edu/conferences/leadingkansas/> ■

K-State begins first-year seminars

Kansas State University is working to make the transition from high school to college easier by implementing first-year seminars: special classes for incoming freshmen that are capped at 22 students.

A pilot study, which started this fall, will examine the feasibility and effectiveness of the first-year seminars program in enhancing the learning experience of first-year students at K-State.

"K-State is a student-centered university, and the first-year seminars study aims to advance the academic success of our newest students and to help them with the transition to college-level learning and college life," said M. Duane Nellis, K-State provost and senior vice president.

The pilot study consists of 16 sections of first-year seminar courses in five K-State colleges. It is being directed by Gregory Eiselein, professor of English and K-State's 2008-2009 Coffman Chair for University Distinguished Teaching Scholars, and Emily Lehning, assistant dean of student life and coordinator of new student programs.

Students who were enrolled in a first-year seminar course this fall will be taking part in a survey at the end of the semester. The survey will help determine their level of engagement — their involvement in the course work and campus life combined.

Inside



Madai Rivera takes the personal approach to recruitment Up Close

## Assessment Showcase is Oct. 24

An Assessment Showcase planned for Oct. 24 will provide a morning workshop about assessment at K-State for new faculty and staff, and an afternoon session highlighting best-practice assessment efforts from across the university.

K-State's office of assessment exists to assist faculty and staff across campus develop ways to measure student learning in a meaningful and consistent way. During the showcase, the latest and most effective methods for assessment will be demonstrated.

The Assessment Showcase will be from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday, Oct. 24, at the K-State Student Union. For more information go to <http://www.k-state.edu/assessment> and click on the event flyer. Questions and reservations may also be directed to 532-5712 or [assessment@k-state.edu](mailto:assessment@k-state.edu)

## Technology offerings expanding at Hale Library

Fall 2008 brings new and exciting technology to Hale Library on the K-State campus.

The first of three collaborative technology carts has been installed on the second floor. The carts, supported by K-State Libraries and the Information and Technology Assistance Center, will help assist students working on group projects with a 37-inch LCD display, an audio splitter and connections for PC or Mac computers. Students and faculty can employ the cart for any collaborative purpose including research, projects and presentations.

K-State Libraries is also introducing two new 3M self-check stations in Hale Library. Located on the second floor near the circulation desk, the two stations provide quick and easy access to check out library materials without waiting in line, or when service desks are closed.

Assistance with any of the technologies mentioned is available from the Library Help Desk in Hale Library. For more information, contact the Help Desk at 532-7421 or email [genref@k-state.edu](mailto:genref@k-state.edu).

## Wind turbine takes to the air at fire station

A Skystream wind turbine was recently installed near the fire station at Kimball and Denison Avenues. In addition to supplying electricity for the station and creating study opportunities for the K-State Wind Applications Center, the turbine is also a memorial to Luke Short, a K-State electrical engineering student who died earlier this year.

Once in service, the turbine will supply part of the fire station's electrical needs, said Ruth Douglas Miller, an associate professor of electrical and computer engineering.

The fire station installation is part of a three-year Wind for Schools program that is placing similar turbines at five rural schools annually. The aim is to train young engineers for jobs in wind industry and to increase public awareness of wind power. It's financed by the National Renewable Energy Lab.



## A hard habit to break

K-State researcher looks at the psychological aspects of nicotine addiction

**Matt Palmatier**, assistant professor of psychology, says people may find it difficult to quit smoking because nicotine appears to make other experiences more pleasurable.

There may be a very good reason why coffee and cigarettes seem to go hand in hand.

A Kansas State University psychology professor's research suggests that nicotine's power may be in how it enhances other experiences. For a smoker who enjoys drinking coffee, the nicotine may make a cup of joe even better.

And that may explain why smoking is so hard to quit.

"People have very regimented things they do when they smoke," said Matthew Palmatier, assistant professor of psychology at K-State. "If you think about where people smoke or who they smoke with, you realize that it occurs in very specific places, often with a specific group of people. Maybe it's a reason why nicotine is so addictive — if you get used to

having that extra satisfaction from things you normally enjoy, not having nicotine could reduce the enjoyment in a given activity.

"People may not be smoking to obtain a pleasurable drug state. They may be smoking in order to regulate their mood, and that effect could make nicotine more addictive than other drugs."

Palmatier said much of the previous research on nicotine addiction has looked at the drug itself rather than the other factors he is studying.

"The approach we're taking is out of left field," he said. "But it seems to be one of the best explanations as to why people smoke."

Palmatier has a grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse to understand how this phenomenon can be used to better design tobacco addiction treatments,

usually offered in patches and pills. He began psychological research in addiction as a graduate student and later began researching the reinforcing effects of nicotine.

"The big picture is trying to figure out why people smoke," Palmatier said. "There are a lot of health risks, and the majority of smokers already know what they are. They want to quit but can't. It's not because nicotine is a potent drug; it doesn't induce significant amounts of pleasure or euphoria. Yet, it's just as difficult if not more difficult to quit than other drugs."

At K-State, Palmatier studies rats that are allowed to self-administer nicotine by pushing a lever. The main source of light

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## Clinical sciences

**David Anderson** presented "Tropoin," "Biosecurity," "Pain/Stress" and "Standards of Surgery," American Association of Bovine Practitioners, Sept. 24-27.

**Greg Grauer** presented "Staging and Management of Feline Chronic Kidney Disease, Part I and Part II," "Proteinuria Lecture and Lab," "The Importance of Hypertension and Proteinuria in Feline CKD, Part I and Part II," and also was one of the speakers for the seminar "Medical Imaging of the Urinary Tract: An Internist's Perspective," American Association of Feline Practitioners meeting, Sept. 20-23, Atlanta, Ga.

## Economics

**E. Wayne Nafziger** presented "Inequality, Conflict, and Human Development," Human Development & Capability Association Third Annual Conference, Sept. 10-13, New Delhi, India.

**Nafziger** has been appointed editor of the Journal of African Development.

## Geography

The following K-State faculty members presented at the 2008 meeting of Great Plains-Rocky Mountain Division, Association of American Geographers, Sept. 12-13, Grand Forks, N.D.:

**John Harrington Jr.** and students, "Visualizing Geographical Practices."

**Kendra K. McLauchlan, Harrington** and students, "Trees as Sentinels of Environmental Change: A Tool for Ecological Forecasting."

**Harrington** and student, "Detecting Change in the Onset of Spring: An Analysis of Growing Degree Days for the Central U.S."

**Richard Marston** and students, "The Spatial Extent and Causes of Chan-



**Jennifer Askey** presented "Nursing and the Sickroom in 19th-Century German Fiction for Girls," Women Writers of the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century Conference Series, Sept. 5, Exeter College, Oxford University.

**nel Incision in the Black Vermillion Watershed of Northeastern Kansas."**

**Bimal K. Paul** and student, "Hazard Warning and Response to Evacuation Orders: The Case of Bangladesh's Cyclone Sidr."

**Doug Goodin; Diego Maldonado**, mathematics; and student, "Malaria Occurrences in Paraguay: Correlating Malaria and Normalized Difference Vegetation Index."

**Lisa M.B. Harrington**, Great Plains-Rocky Mountain Regional Councilor, gave a report at the luncheon on activities and initiatives in the AAG.

**Marcellus Caldas** and colleagues published "Road Networks and Forest Fragmentation in the Amazon: Explanations for Local Differences with Implications for Conservation and Development," Journal of Latin American Geographers, Vol. 7, No. 2.

## Grain science and industry

**David Wetzel** presented "Exploiting the Power of Near-IR Focal Plane Array Imaging for Practical Purposes," and was one of the original organizers of the International Diffuse Reflectance Conference, Aug. 3-8, Chambersburg, Pa.

## Institute for Academic Alliances

**Dawn Anderson** presented "Best Practices in Distance Education Program Selection," 24th Annual Conference on Distance Teaching & Learning, Aug. 5-8, Madison, WI.

## Modern languages

**Maria Martinez-Ortiz** presented "Globalising Terror: A Film Analysis on the Commodification and Consumption of the Feminicide in Juarez, Chihuahua," Transnational Cinema in Globalising Societies: Asia and Latin America, August 2008, Puebla, Mexico.

**Claire Dehon** published the second edition of "Le Roman camerounais d'expression française," Spring 2008.

## Multiple departments

The following K-State faculty presented at the Kansas International Educators statewide meeting, Sept. 22, Manhattan:

**Maria Beebe** and **Stacey Bailey** served as the local arrangement chairs.

**Young-ok Yum**, communication studies, theater and dance, presented, "Do You Speak American?: Ways to Reduce Barriers in Intercultural Interactions."

**Elizabeth Ward**, study abroad, presented, "Health and Safety in Study Abroad."

**Mary Ellen Barkley**, career and employment services, presented "Resources for Assisting International Students with Interviews, Resumes and Job Searching."

**Ketty Rebbert** and **Chen Hua Wu**, English language program, presented "Helping International Students with Cultural Adjustment."

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## Setting students on the right path

Admissions coordinator uses the personal touch to recruit minorities

**Madai Rivera** sees herself in the students she helps bring to Kansas State University.

"I am the student I want to recruit," Rivera says of her background: A girl in Juarez, Mexico, at 12 she found herself uprooted and transplanted to Dodge City. She and her family adapted to a new country and a new language, but the notion of college, particularly in far-off Manhattan, remained foreign.

Rivera came to K-State because K-State came to her in the form of Niza DiCarlo, a scholarship coordinator who conducted a bilingual session at Dodge City High School.

"I know how big a difference that made to me, to see in front of me this Hispanic woman speaking about going to college," Rivera said. Once at K-State, Rivera earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education and a master's in curriculum and instruction, with a stint in between teaching Spanish at several Manhattan schools. She joined K-State in 2007.

Reassuring families of underrepresented students that higher education is a possibility keeps Rivera on the go and on the phone as an admissions coordinator for Hispanic recruitment. She is based in the College of Human Ecology.

"When I go to a high school, I always give kids my cell phone number," she said. After a presentation, "I'll get calls immediately: 'Can you meet at the public library? Can you meet with my parents?'" Her answer is always "Yes." That



Admissions coordinator **Madai Rivera** sees herself in the minority students of today.

leads to home visits and more phone calls.

"If you really want to connect with these students, you have to go the extra mile," she said. "Once we get that communication going, I can say, 'Hey, you might want to come see this place we've been talking about.'"

She encourages students to

visit K-State during the spring Open House or the recent Multicultural Pride Day, which Rivera coordinated. That event, based in the Student Union, allows high school students to explore K-State's colleges and student groups, which go all out to inform visitors as well as entertain them. This year's version broke attendance re-

cords, attracting 200 high school students and about 20 counselors and teachers, Rivera said. "The Union ballroom was so packed that we had to request additional chairs," she said. "The energy in that room was amazing." With many K-State faculty members, staff and students on hand to welcome the high school groups, the head count topped 300.

Even when high school seniors opt for the immediate paycheck of a meatpacking job instead of K-State, Rivera encourages them to enroll in community college.

"I want to bring them all," she said, "but I understand that it's not always feasible."

If a student can attend K-State, Rivera's job is only half done.

"Once they're here, you don't just forget about them," she said. She and others on campus build a support network consisting of faculty mentors, extracurricular activities and groups like the Hispanic American Leadership Organization.

The daughter of Carlos and Cecilia Rivera, Madai Rivera is the first in her family to attend college. But she is by no means the last. Brother Carlos Rivera is a senior in sociology.

Rivera's reward comes every time she sees one of "her" students on campus, particularly on the first day of this fall semester.

"It was just such a great day," she said. One freshman

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