

Early Fall 2009



Keeping you CONNECTed to K-State's College of Engineering

## Welcome to the K-State Engineering Family!

### Did you know?

- \* 25% of Chemical Engineering graduates take jobs in California or Texas
- \* K-State Architectural Engineering graduates have a 98% job placement rate
- \* K-State Volleyball games are free for students! The team plays in Ahearn Field House on campus— encourage your student to go and cheer on the Cats!

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You are looking at this year's first issue of K-State CONNECT! You are receiving this newsletter because you are an integral part of a K-State engineering student's support system. The purpose of K-State CONNECT is to **keep you informed about what is happening at K-State's College of Engineering** and how you can be a part of your student's K-State life.

You are your student's best cheerleader and support. The College of Engineering wants to be an effective partner with you with regards to your student's education. Our College's ultimate goal is to graduate students who are great engineers —ethical, knowledgeable, professional, hard-working, well-rounded citizens. Engineering is a dynamic, creative



field and we are excited about the doors that will open for your student upon their graduation from K-State. We believe that friends and family members play a pivotal role in getting students all the way to graduation, and we want to support your success.

K-State CONNECT should be more than just a newsletter in your email inbox or mailbox. CONNECT is a resource for you as you navigate your student's

first year away from home — when they face exams, helping you understand challenges your student faces, and how to react if your student questions whether engineering is the right major for them. If you have suggestions for future issues of K-State CONNECT, please contact us! We'd love to hear from you and what you'd like to learn more about. Call or write Emily at 785-532-3395 or [eawilcox@ksu.edu](mailto:eawilcox@ksu.edu) to offer your input.

## Engineering Students Standing Out, Meeting Their Professors



Professor Goodman and a student at the Making a Difference Awards

K-State's 2009-10 entering class of freshman engineers is hitting the ground running. One of the most important things new students can do is to **actually meet their professors**. Encourage your student to stop by after class or during their professors' office hours. A simple handshake and introduction creates a positive first

impression. Your student will likely feel more comfortable with the professor, and they will be more than just a number in a large lecture class, both of which hint at better grades for your student. Reminder: it's better to be safe than sorry, so tell your student to address all faculty as "Dr." unless told otherwise.

K-State has a new president – Dr. Kirk Schulz was inaugurated as K-State’s 13th president on September 24.

Follow all the news from the Office of the President at <http://www.k-state.edu/president/>

## 30 Seconds with Assistant Dean Satzler

**Assistant Dean Larry Satzler** is the head of the College of Engineering Student Services Office. We spoke with him briefly about his office and how students can work with him to ensure their success.

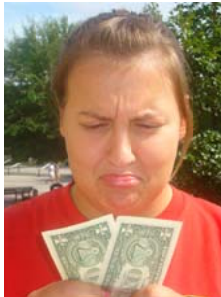
**What can families do to help their engineering students?** “One of the biggest things family members can do is to encourage their students but not hover. Students and families need to find the balancing act that works for them; every student is different! Don’t be afraid to let go, but continue to encourage them.”

**What should students and families know about your office?** “Our office deals with everything academically oriented that has to do with your student. We work with their schedules, especially if students need to drop or add a course. We also work with students who are experiencing medical, personal, or other emergencies that might have an impact on their studies. No issue is too big or too small: if academics are affected, students are encouraged to come in and talk with us about it.”  
Find them online: <http://www.engg.ksu.edu/student-services/index.html>



**Assistant Dean Larry Satzler**  
(Engineering Student Services is located in 1046 Rathbone Hall)

## Everybody’s Working for the Weekend (on-campus, that is)



**Is your student out of cash? Might be time for a job...**

You’ve worked with your student to calculate their budget, analyze their schedule, and come to one glaring conclusion— **this kid’s gotta get a job**. Now what? Luckily there are lots of options and resources on campus for students seeking part time employment.

If your student is looking for a job, we strongly recommend they get one on campus. Campus jobs are typically more flexible with scheduling and requires little or no travel time to get

to work. For campus jobs, your student should stop by Career and Employment Services (located in Holtz Hall). They will help your student prepare a resume, hone their interview skills, and apply for jobs both on and off campus. If your student qualifies for work study, they are even more attractive to campus employers.

K-State athletic facilities, Hale Library and K-State’s Student Union are also

good places to job-hunt. The Student Union also features a job board across from the copy center.

If your little engineer is hoping for something that will really give their resume a boost, it never hurts them to ask around their department— often graduate students and professors need help with research or other odd projects. Departmental office staff are also supremely helpful—just walk in and ask!

## Engineering Student Organization Spotlight: CONCRETE CANOE TEAM

**What:** K-State’s Concrete Canoe Team

**Who:** All engineering students are invited to participate! Students don’t have to be civil engineering students to be on the team (just to compete at competition)—all majors and ages are welcome.

**How:** Concrete Canoe usually meets on Saturdays starting in November—contact the team using the email addresses below!

**Why:** Concrete Canoe is a student-run organization that participates in the National Concrete Canoe Competition. Members are charged with designing, fabricating, building, and racing a canoe that is fast, agile, and maneuverable...and all made with concrete! For more information, contact Amanda Sixbury at [mandasix@ksu.edu](mailto:mandasix@ksu.edu) or Jessica Hennes at [jlhenn12@ksu.edu](mailto:jlhenn12@ksu.edu).



## Start Early, Go Often: Why SAS Tutoring Works

Scholars Assisting Scholars (SAS) is a very focused tutoring program that employs student tutors who are trained on effective tutoring techniques. SAS Tutors attend course lectures and are available for free tutoring up to 20 hours per week. Students just need to find a time that works for their schedule and stop by!

Tutors have already completed the course they tutor (and done well in it!) and they attend lecture so they are up to date on what is covered day to day, and how that specific professor presented the material. **SAS Tutoring is free** and students don't need an appointment!



SAS Tutoring is located in the Carter Learning Center on the second floor of the Engineering Complex.

For questions and to see tutoring schedules check out our website at [www.ksu.edu/wesp/SAS](http://www.ksu.edu/wesp/SAS).

### Fall 2009 SAS Courses:

Chem 210	Math 220
Chem 230	Math 221
Physics 113	Math 222
Physics 114	CE 333
Physics 213	CE 530
Physics 214	CIS 209
CIS 200	CIS 300

## The Computer Question: What Kind of Computer Should We Invest In?

Still don't know what kind of computer your engineering student should have? Mac or PC? Laptop or desktop? All the bells and whistles, or minimalist word processing?

The **K-State Student Union Computer store** is conveniently located on the first floor of the K-State Student Union to answer all of your family's computer questions. The Union

Computer Store is an Authorized Apple Campus Store; while the K-State-Dell Program will give your students up to a 12% discount when ordering online.

Your student is eligible for deep discounts on the computer hardware, software, and accessories used on campus today. K-State Engineering is equally friendly to Mac or PC users, so operating systems are strictly a per-

sonal preference. Similarly, your student won't need fancy schmancy engineering software during their freshman year on campus. Finally, the College is nearly completely wireless, so students can connect anywhere!

Look the computer store up on the web: <http://www.k-state.edu/computerstore/>

Have you been to the College of Engineering's web site?

Surf on in to [www.engg.ksu.edu](http://www.engg.ksu.edu)

## Can I Get Some Assistance? Student Financial Assistance, That Is!

There are several things you can do as a family to make sure your student is getting all the money you qualify for.

All families are encouraged to fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Assistance (the **FAFSA**) each year by Valentine's Day. The FAFSA will determine how much federal money—grants, loans, and work study—your student qualifies for.

The **K-State general scholarship form on the Student Financial**

**Assistance website must be filled out by February 1st each year.** This is also the date (and form) for general Engineering scholarships. Students will receive emails about the Engineering Scholarship process as the date approaches. Make sure your student is aware of these dates!

Confused about financial aid? Have your student meet with their financial aid advisor (call for an appointment at 785-532-6420).

And there you have it—money doesn't grow on trees, so apply, apply, apply!



MAPS students showing 104 Fairchild Hall, home of Student Financial Assistance

Office of Student Financial Aid: <http://www.k-state.edu/sfa/>

## Use the Postal Service and Show How Much You Care!



Nothing makes students smile like receiving care packages from home!

Has your student been hinting that they aren't getting any mail? Do they subtly drop the words "care" and "package" during conversations? Compile a care package to send to your little engineer to brighten their day. Here are some ideas:

- Check out your student's test schedule on the opposite page and send a "Good-Luck-On-Your-Exam" package. Include items like favorite candy, index cards, new pencils, post-it notes, and energy drinks.
- No student in the history of the world has ever turned down a gift card. Slip a Target, WalMart, Chipotle, Coldstone Creamery, McDonalds, Starbucks, or Applebees gift card in a card for your student to enjoy around town.
- Halloween is coming up — box up some Halloween candy and fun dorm room decorations and

stick it in the mail.

- Is your student having a birthday while away at college? Call Dillon's (a Manhattan supermarket) at 785-776-9285 and have a cake and balloons delivered to your student's residence hall on their special day.
- A simple card or letter of encouragement can make a world of difference to a student after a rough test!

## Advice from Anita ... An Engineering Mom's Perspective

GO CATS!

Sometimes it is very helpful to hear from other parents who have "been there and done that." We went in search of an ACTUAL engineering parent for the final edition of K-State CONNECT. Anita (and her husband Ed) are the parents of three daughters, including Samantha, a senior in Industrial Engineering at K-State. These are Anita's thoughts regarding advice, struggling students, and what it's like to parent an engineering student:

### Were you familiar with engineering before your student started at K-State?

I knew what engineering was but I didn't know that there were so many engineering avenues!

### Did anything surprise you about parenting an engineering student?

Whether you are parenting an engineering student or an art major the first semester is a "wow" for parents. With both of my daughters I have received that first week of school panic phone call saying I just don't think I can make it. I never

realized that I am really not very smart, etc. So after I let them vent (or have a pity party) then I asked if they wanted to hear my advice.

### What have you noticed your student struggling with, and how did you help?

Our engineering daughter had an easy time in high school, straight A's and barely cracked a book, and then came college and engineering classes. These are the brightest minds and nothing comes easy—it takes hard work and discipline! Having to take a class a second time for a passing grade is not the end of the world for us as parents or our students, it actually builds lots of character.

### Do you have any advice for other engineering parents or students?

My advice is as follows: Go see your advisor, as with both my girls neither one went right away to see their advisor, it took encouragement. After they each visited their advisors, I visited with their



Samantha and Anita Marin

advisors (the girls didn't know this until later). I found the advisors to be very helpful and gave me some great advice to pass back to my daughters.

Then I encouraged them to sit near the front of every class, and introduce themselves to their professors, making that connection makes them more accountable to attend class. Study groups, study groups, study groups! Join them as they really help when doing projects and studying for tests. There is always the free tutoring provided by the college! Utilize this service. Lastly, I encouraged my girls to be involved in one activity or club that gave them a social life.

# October 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5 Fall Break— No Classes!	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 Chem 230 Exam	13	14 Physics 113 Exam	15	16 Physics 213 Exam	17 Football vs. Texas A&M
18	19 Chem 210 Exam	20 Math 221 Exam ★	21	22 Math 220 Exam Math 222 Exam	23 Physics 214 Exam	24 Homecoming/ Football vs. Colorado ★
25	26	27	28 Physics 113 Exam	29	30	31 Halloween



This calendar contains dates relevant to new K-State engineering students. The courses listed are common courses freshmen may enroll in during their first semester. Free SAS tutoring is also available for all of these courses.

## IMPORTANT EARLY FALL DATES

- \* OCTOBER 5—K-State's Fall Break—no school for students
- \* OCTOBER 17—Football vs. Texas A&M (home)
- \* OCTOBER 24—K-State's Homecoming and Football vs. Colorado

**Black** = K-State/Campus Events

**Purple** = Course Exams

★ = Important event!

## IMPORTANT ENGINEERING PHONE NUMBERS

*Engineering Dean's Office: 785-532-5590*

*Engineering Student Services Office:  
785-532-5592*

*K-State Engineering Recruitment and  
Leadership Development Office: 785-532-  
5455*

*K-State Engineering Scholarship  
Information (c/o Patty Berens): 785-  
532-6686*

*Fiedler Engineering Library: 785-532-  
3764*

## How to Speak "K-State"

**The "Bill":** Bill Snyder Family Stadium is the 50,000+ seat stadium where the Wildcat football magic happens.

**CLC:** CLC stands for Carter Learning Center in the Engineering Complex, which is home to SAS Tutoring.

**The "Derb":** The Derby Dining Center is the dining center on the east side of campus—it serves students in Haymaker, Moore, West, and Ford Halls.

**EP 1 and EP 2:** Physics 213 (Engineering Physics 1) and Physics 214 (Engineering Physics 2) are classes engineering students typically take during their sophomore year at K-State.

**Call Hall:** K-State's very own dairy bar, Call Hall is the ice cream "native" to

campus. The most popular flavor, after vanilla, is Purple Pride (it's actually blueberry).

**K S Hill:** Two 80-foot tall letters (K and S) overlook Manhattan near the Kansas River. Tau Beta Pi Engineering honorary students whitewash the letters every year.

**Manhappenin/Manhappiness:** This is a term of endearment for Manhattan.

**Open House:** Open House is the huge K-State showcase every April (the next celebration is April 23 and 24, 2010).

**The "Ville":** Slang for "Aggieville," this is the student campustown area of Manhattan. The Ville is home to many restaurants, bars, and shops close to campus.

**Wabash:** The Wabash Cannonball is known as K-State's "second fight song." It is a student favorite whenever it is played to pump up the Cats.

**Willie:** Willie the Wildcat has been K-State's mascot since 1947. While his appearance may have changed over the years, his identity is always kept a secret.



**Stop by Call Hall for some authentic K-State ice cream**



Women in Engineering and Science Program  
 Kansas State University  
 125 Seaton Hall  
 Manhattan, KS 66506  
 3757

Phone: 785-532-3395  
 Fax: 785-532-3349  
 E-mail: wesp@ksu.edu

We're on the Web!  
[www.ksu.edu/wesp/](http://www.ksu.edu/wesp/)

❖❖❖ **Did These Get Left at Home? It's Never Too Late to Stick Them in a Care Package!**

- 10. Envelopes and stamps
- 9. Duct Tape & 3M sticky strips
- 8. Posters and stuff for walls
- 7. Extra hangers
- 6. Febreze
- 5. Umbrella
- 4. Power strips and extension cords
- 3. Shower shoes
- 2. Back up disks for your computer
- 1. Pictures of family and friends

**Factoid:**  
 There are more than 400 student organizations and 20 club sports at K-State!



**Upcoming K-State Football Schedule for 2009 – Welcome Back Coach!**



- Oct 10 Texas Tech @ Lubbock, TX
- Oct 17 Texas A&M @ Home
- Oct 25 Colorado @ Home
- Oct 31 Oklahoma @ Norman, OK
- Nov 07 Kansas @ Home
- Nov 14 Missouri @ Home
- Nov 21 Nebraska @ Lincoln, NE

The Official Wildcat Athletics Site is [www.kstatesports.com](http://www.kstatesports.com)...that's your source for all ticket and schedule information.

