K-State’s “Borden Boy” at the 1939 New York World’s Fair

Communications professionals offer a variety of services

K-State’s New Presidents – Kirk Schulz and Dalton Henry

Tailgate Party in Cat Town

Saturday, October 17

Starts two hours before kickoff of the K-State vs Texas A&M game.

Football with free food, fun, and fellowship.
From the Dean and Director

How time flies. I recently marked my five-year anniversary as dean of the College of Agriculture and director of K-State Research and Extension. I’m proud of what we’ve accomplished and look forward to continuing my role serving K-State and Kansas.

When I came here, I was impressed with the faculty and staff’s passion and commitment to serve students and Kansas citizens. Our students and faculty continue to win local and national awards as well as leadership roles on campus and in national organizations. As you read through this issue, I hope you share my appreciation for their outstanding accomplishments.

In July, I went – as a guest of the Kansas National Guard – to Armenia one of the countries where the Kansas National Guard has a sister country relationship. I was visiting with ministries and universities related to agriculture to see if there are ways K-State can assist their development and student efforts.

In addition to our global efforts, we are looking at new ways to serve the changing population of Kansas. An analysis of 2008 census estimates shows that in five Kansas counties 40 percent of the youth under 20 are minorities, another five counties have more than 50 percent. To prepare for these students, we are making an effort to be more inclusive in our recruiting efforts. We appreciate Cargill’s support with programs like the summer bridge program for multicultural youth (see pages 14-15).

As President Kirk Schulz mentions on pages 3-7, budget constraints will force us to look differently at what we do. Less funding requires us to plan and prioritize even more carefully. Kirk and I are strong supporters of the land-grant mission of learning, discovery, and engagement. We are committed to maintaining the core values of the College of Agriculture and K-State Research and Extension. Our priorities will continue to focus on the needs of Kansans, while fully recognizing that we must be global citizens.

As part of our budget discussions, I have decided to offer the spring issue of the K-State Ag Report as an online magazine to save printing and mailing costs. With a majority of households having Internet access, I see this as an opportunity to share with alumni and friends in a new and exciting format.

To update your contact information and e-mail address, follow these instructions: Alumni go to www.k-state.com and click on “update your information.” If you’re not a K-State alumnus, fill out the form at www.ksre.ksu.edu/agreport.

I appreciate your interest in our programs and look forward to hearing from you.

Fred A. Cholick
Dean and Director
On the cover
New K-State President Kirk Schulz (left) and Student Body President Dalton Henry strike a casual pose in front of Anderson Hall.

Photo by Dan Donnert
News Briefs

K-State Hosts International Workshop

Researchers from nearly 30 countries came to K-State in June for the 10th annual Fusarium Laboratory Workshop.

Fusarium is a common fungus found on plants, in soil, and in the air worldwide. Strains of this fungus pose a threat to the food supply, economies, and rarely – but more dangerously – human health. The workshop draws people from academia, industry, health care, agriculture, and air quality control.

Identifying and understanding Fusarium is vital to various professions and disciplines, said John Leslie, head of the Department of Pathology and one of the workshop leaders. “The workshop is a huge unifying force for this whole field and encourages people who are in very different fields to communicate with one another about what they have in common and to educate the others about things that are different,” Leslie said.

With colleagues, Leslie has identified and named four species of Fusarium, with several others on the way. He said that more than 1,000 researchers worldwide work on Fusarium.

“The simplest rule is that if it is green, there is a Fusarium that will be able to attack it,” he said.

Traditionally, scientists relied on what they saw under the microscope, which can be somewhat subjective. Leslie said that using DNA analysis to identify different strains has helped answer long-standing questions while raising new ones.

“Many problems arose because different species looked the same,” Leslie said. “As you begin to tell those species apart with the DNA-based techniques, the breeding programs to look for resistance and the screening programs to look for toxin production become much more efficient because strategies are more focused.”

The ability to screen for a particular species, or even a specific strain, of Fusarium offers more opportunities to deal with species-specific fungi, Leslie said.

New District Created

The K-State Research and Extension offices in Decatur and Norton counties in northwest Kansas have joined operations to form the Twin Creeks Extension District.

Districting helps agents be more specialized in particular subject areas, rather than serving as the “generalists” they often are when devoted to just one county, said Chris Onstad, director of the Northwest Area K-State Research and Extension office.

The offices will continue to serve clientele in both counties, he said.

It is the ninth extension district formed in Kansas. Other districts and their counties include: Meadowlark (Jefferson, Jackson, and Nemaha); River Valley (Clay, Cloud, Republic, and Washington); Phillips-Rooks (Phillips and Rooks); Sunflower (Sherman and Wallace); Post Rock (Jewell, Osborne, Mitchell, and Lincoln); Walnut Creek (Lane, Ness, and Rush); Rolling Prairie (Elk and Chautauqua); and Central Kansas (Saline and Ottawa).

MAB Plans Australian Tour

The Master of Agribusiness program is planning its fourth international agribusiness tour to Australia and New Zealand. The trip is scheduled for April 16 to May 1, 2010, with stops in Auckland and Queenstown, New Zealand; and Sydney, Canberra, and Brisbane, Australia. Participants will visit cattle, deer, and sheep stations; dairies; fruit and vegetable farms; grain and cotton producers; as well as agricultural- and food-related industries. They will have the opportunity to spend time with local farm families in Australia and have time for sightseeing. For more information, go to www.mab.ksu.edu or contact Mary Bowen at 785-532-4435 or mjbowen@ksu.edu.
Helping Military Families

Military Life Skills is a new K-State Research and Extension program funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Defense to help military families assigned to Fort Riley.

“The population of Fort Riley has grown tremendously over the last few years, and the Army is recognizing the need for healthy families if they are going to have strong soldiers,” said Paula Peters, assistant director of family and consumer sciences programs.

Families of military personnel have the same issues as other families, plus many special needs, she said. K-State Research and Extension has a long history of providing education to improve the quality of life, and the military family is an important audience for that work.

Toni Jo Bryant, director of the program, is a former military wife and well acquainted with the stresses of military life.

“Separations because of deployment; moving into the role of a single, but-not-single parent; accepting sole responsibility for managing a household; managing frequent moves; and adjusting to a new location, new school, and community, while also reaching out to make new friends are part of military life,” she said.


Subject-matter specialists have been hired to conduct the educational programming.

For more information, contact the Military Life Skills office at 785-239-9991 or visit their Web site: http://www.fortriley.ksu.edu.

The K-State Horse Judging Team hosted a horse judging camp for beginners on June 5, with 23 students and a number of parents participating in the session. The following week, 30 students attended a two-day advanced session, coming from as far away as St. Francis to the west and Missouri to the east. Kindra Gradert, graduate student and horse judging team coach, and Teresa Slough (shown above helping a participant), assistant professor and equestrian team coach, directed both camps.

The annual 4-H Discovery Days event brought 480 4-H’ers between the ages of 13 and 18, along with 90 adult chaperones to the K-State campus June 2-5, 2009. Participants chose from a varied list of 75 class offerings and experienced living in a college dorm. They posed for this photo of K-State’s PowerCat on the Anderson Hall lawn. The photo tradition goes back at least as far as 1927 at the fifth annual Kansas 4-H Club Round Up. For more information about 4-H, go to www.kansas4h.org.
Kansas State University has a new president. Kirk Schulz officially became K-State’s 13th president on June 29.

Schulz said he’s not superstitious about being No. 13. He’s excited to be the president.

“K-Staters may not realize how little turnover there has been here in the presidential job,” said Schulz. “I’m only the fourth president since 1950. That’s pretty amazing – some universities have four presidents in a decade. I look at the pictures of former K-State presidents in the hallway outside my office and realize what a select group that is, and it reinforces what a privilege it is to be the president of Kansas State University.”

President Jon Wefald, who served as university president for 23 years, announced in May 2008 that he planned to retire in June 2009. The Kansas Board of Regents appointed a search committee chaired by former regents chair Nelson Galle (BS ’58 agricultural education, MS ’64 adult and occupational education). Lee Borck (BS ’70 agricultural economics) and Fred Fairchild (MS ’64 milling science and management), 2008-2009 chair of Faculty Senate, also served on the search committee.

“We are fortunate to have Kirk Schulz as our new president of Kansas State University,” Galle said. “He will do an excellent job of leading Kansas State University into the future because he has a lot of energy, is an experienced leader and communicator, and understands the mission of a land-grant university.”

Schulz came to K-State from Mississippi State University, where he was vice president for research and economic development. He has been involved with land-grant institutions throughout his career as a student, teacher, and administrator. K-State’s tradition as a land-grant institution is one of the reasons he pursued the position.

Shortly after his appointment was announced in February 2009, the Schulz family received a “care package” from College of Agriculture Ambassadors.

“They sent a big package to our house in Mississippi with cheese and sausage, little key chains, and information about agriculture,” said Schulz. “It was really cool. It was one of the first things we got after I had been named president. I look forward to meeting with the group.”

Schulz is a strong believer in communicating with students, faculty, and alumni. Even before coming to campus, he sent e-mails to faculty.

“I got a lot of responses to the first e-mail,” said Schulz. “People seem to enjoy the relaxed communication style, and I’m going to...”
continue to do the monthly newsletters. I think it’s so important for the faculty and staff to know what I’m thinking and what’s happening on campus.”

He also uses contemporary social networking methods. He maintains a blog, a Facebook page, and a Twitter site. Go to www.k-state.edu/president to learn more about Schulz.

The new president also is attending Cat Backer events in Kansas and surrounding states, often with the new athletic director, John Currie. They have attended events in Great Bend, Hutchinson, Wichita, Topeka, Kansas City, Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minn., and Tulsa, Okla.

“We’ve had record attendance at every single one,” said Schulz. “Both of us have been warmly received by the K-State alumni base. We’re going to schedule a time to swing through western Kansas.”

Schulz realizes that athletics are important to K-State alumni. He and his family have attended two basketball games and look forward to the football season. He said his philosophy in regard to athletics is to hire the best people possible and give them time to perform.

“With Coach Snyder we’ve got one of the smartest football minds in the business back on our sidelines,” said Schulz. “We have a terrific new athletic director who brings a lot of energy and enthusiasm to the job. I think that if you put those together and the fans will come out and support our student athletes, we will have success. People also have to be patient.”

In addition to visiting with alumni at events, Schulz plans to initiate a series of focus groups, involving faculty, staff, student, alumni, and donors.

These groups will look at where K-State ought to be in 2025, explained Schulz.

“We’re going to ask broad questions like: ‘What should our university look like?’ ‘What characteristics should be part of the K-State educational experience?’ Without that input, a plan for the future would be ‘Kirk’s plan.’ If we take the time to do this effectively, the plan transcends the leadership.

“The bottom line is that everyone will have a chance to participate. We’ll do some traditional sit-around-the-table discussions, as well as electronic means, to get lots of information and involvement. People anywhere will be able to go online and offer some suggestions.

“The data will be posted to the Web, and people will be able see trends emerge. You’ll be able to see what’s important to the people who went here to school. That’s what we are going to focus on – not the one or two that are off on the side.”

Schulz anticipates that it will take six months to compile the information. Then a committee will review the responses. The goal is to choose 10 to 12 areas across all parts of the university.

“We want to focus on those areas,” stated Schulz. “They’ll be quantifiable – anyone will be able to look at them and see if we’re making progress or being successful. Some people might look at the goals and say ‘I don’t think we can ever get there.’ You’ve got to set your goals high if you’re ever going to achieve them.”

Schulz is scheduled to speak at the K-State Research and Extension annual conference in mid-October. When this publication went to press, he was on the program for the annual Risk and Profit Conference sponsored by the Department of Agricultural Economics. His topic involves the future of K-State – especially in relation to the land-grant mission and where agriculture fits into that mission.

Experiential learning – students working in labs and fields or participating on judging teams – is a long-
President Schulz visited with students, faculty, and staff at a reception in his honor at the KSU Gardens hosted by the College of Agriculture and K-State Research and Extension.

standing tradition in the College of Agriculture. Schulz said he sees hands-on activities as an important part of the land-grant educational experience, whether in the colleges of Business, Engineering, or Agriculture.

“In my opinion, those experiences are what make us a land-grant institution,” stated Schulz. “Those are part of our central core and our central mission. Those aren’t going to change. If you look at the letters I have sent out to campus, I’ve highlighted our soil judging team and our crop judging team. I’m very proud of our student success in these areas.

“I think we’ve done a good job publicizing our national scholarships; however, the vast majority of our alumni don’t know about many of our other student successes. For example, I was talking to a major donor and I asked, ‘Do you realize that our soil judging team has won first place nationally two years in a row?’ The donor replied, ‘I didn’t even know we participated in stuff like that.’ The president must be an advocate for student success across the board.

“We have to communicate to a broad audience that when their son, daughter, or nephew comes to K-State – they are going to have opportunities to excel and to get hands-on experience. When I give speeches to Rotary Clubs and other organizations, I’m going to continue to highlight our students successes. I want people to say, ‘Wow, they had a Rhodes Scholar and also had this team that excelled here and this team did this.’”

Schulz has asked the deans to send monthly summaries of what’s happening in their colleges to keep central administration aware of successes.

To continue to recruit the best and brightest students, Schulz is actively raising money for a premier presidential-level scholarship package – an eight-semester, full-cost of attendance scholarship with an international experience.

“We want to be able to recruit the really high-achieving high school students who may have elected to go elsewhere because they were offered a terrific scholarship package. In the future, we hope to offer 16 of these per year. We want to make sure that every Kansas resident who would like to get a K-State educational experience can have the opportunity. We have not been competitive on the high end.

“This scholarship is for the young man or woman who scored high on the ACT and who is an active leader, possibly in 4-H. Some neighboring states, Oklahoma State for example, offer a full ride to any National Merit finalist. If we offer half tuition – and they can go across the border and get the land-grant experience for nothing – it’s tough to compete.”

In addition to attracting top students, Schulz wants to attract and retain top faculty.

“K-State is a very desirable place to work,” said Schulz. “We have a nice community, a friendly campus, and we have a lot of great opportunities here. Sometimes people who have been here for awhile forget that it really is a nice place to be. We need to add high-quality faculty whenever we have the chance.

“Retention is another issue, we have to have more endowed faculty positions to support our top-tier faculty. I think we now have about 40 and that needs to grow to 200 to 250. We need our alumni and our donors to help us fund salary supplements and professional opportunities to help retain those really exceptional faculty.”

Many of those top-notch faculty are conducting cutting-edge research in the agricultural area – across the five K-State colleges that are part of K-State Research and Extension. Those who aren’t affiliated with agriculture tend to think that some of the research may be old fashioned. If you look at the work going on, it’s as technical as any other field, stated Schulz.

“Our top-ranked academic
program, plant pathology, is in the College of Agriculture,” Schulz said. “It’s ranked in the Top 10 nationally. I’m proud of that, and we want to have other programs that are as highly recognized.”

Schulz took over as president during a difficult economic climate. To deal with the state budget cuts, he is soliciting advice on how to cut costs while providing students with a high-quality education experience.

“We’re looking at all the excellent ideas about how we can save money, and we’ll continue to streamline our central administration,” said Schulz. “Universities do a lot of good things, but we’re going to have to look at all of these and see if they are central to our mission – teaching, scholarship, and engagement. If they’re not, we may have to elect not to do some of those things.

‘I prefer to use the term engagement, which is broader than service or extension,’ added Schulz. “I believe our broader mission is to be out helping in the state. In Kansas that is agriculture, but also in other sectors.

“I think as a university, we can’t say, ‘Let the extension people work with the folks out in the state.’ It needs to be part of the faculty member’s general role. We need to do scholarly work, teach our students, and be engaged. That’s historically what the College of Agriculture and extension have done, but I think it has a broader mission than it once was. Our extension programs have changed and will continue to change.

“I’m concerned about our ability to provide the services that the agricultural community needs with the budget cuts. If you’re used to having a 100 bucks and all of a sudden you’ve got 80, there’s $20 worth of stuff you can’t do.”

“That may sound like a ridiculous example, but essentially we took a 10 percent cut this last year. I think we going to take another several percent cut, so we’re going to be real close to having $85 where we had $100 two years ago. It’s going to be a challenge to continue to provide the needed services with such a drastically cut budget.”

In spite of the many challenges, Schulz is upbeat.

“It’s great to see how passionate the faculty, staff, alumni, and students are about K-State,” Schulz noted. “Every school claims that their alumni, the people who work there, and the students have a great passion for the institution, but I have experienced a more passionate attitude here than any place that I have worked or gone to school.”

Dean and Director Fred Cholick presented President Kirk Schulz with a framed map created by the Department of Communications showing K-State’s statewide presence. The map now hangs across from Schulz’s desk in his Anderson Hall office.

President Kirk Schulz will be inaugurated on September 24 at 2 p.m. in Bramlage Coliseum. A reception will follow the ceremony.
Leadership Tradition Continues

During the last 20 years, more than half of the K-State student body presidents have been College of Agriculture students. This year both the president, Dalton Henry, and vice president, Wayne Stoskopf, are College of Ag majors. Henry is working toward a dual degree in agricultural economics and agricultural communications and journalism. Stoskopf is majoring in agribusiness.

Henry and Stoskopf have much in common. Both come from small farm communities – Henry is from Randolph, just north of Manhattan, and Stoskopf from Hoisington, in central Kansas. They have strong K-State ties through their parents: Terry (BS ’76 animal science) and Tammy Jo (BS ’80 elementary education) Henry and Dean (BS ’77 crop protection) and Mary Anne (BS ’77 human ecology) Stoskopf.

Henry has been involved with the College of Ag Ambassadors throughout his college career, serving four years on the executive cabinet and one year on Student Senate and chairing the Governmental Relations Committee.

Stoskopf was a student government intern his freshman year, where he shadowed other senators. His sophomore year, he served on the student body president’s cabinet as government relations chair. He was a College of Ag senator and Privilege Fee Committee chair his junior year. He said he sees student government as a way to give back to the university.

Before becoming running mates, Stoskopf and Henry had worked together. They jointly conducted the “tips session” for incoming College of Agriculture students during summer orientation. They also had taken an agricultural economics class under Michael Boland, which included a 16-day tour of Chile, Argentina, and Uruguay.

Making the Decision to Run

In fall 2008, they separately debated the pros and cons of running...
on the student leadership ballot. Henry had nearly decided to forgo the opportunity and graduate in May 2008. The prospect of being the first student body president to work with the new university president prompted him to run. Henry contacted Stoskopf about being his running mate.

Henry and Stoskopf ran with the slogan “Real People, Real Action,” with a focus on community safety (real safety, real connections, and real options). The team came in second in the primary race with 27.8 percent of the votes versus 35 percent for the first-place team. Henry said they campaigned hard during the week between the primary and general elections. Their hard work paid off, they received 54 percent of the vote. Their term began in April 2009.

Henry and Stoskopf bring different skills and experiences to the governing team. Stoskopf has been involved across campus serving in both student government and the Student Alumni Board. Henry’s communications focus helped with campaign marketing efforts and his internship with Eric Atkinson and the K-State Radio Network provided speaking experience.

“Eric is a phenomenal teacher as far as speaking concisely and effectively, which was a real help during the campaign,” said Henry. “And the capstone course taught by Kris Boone and Marcus Ashlock discussed communications marketing and branding. Knowing how to define target audiences and when to send messages was a big help in planning campaign strategy.”

Working with City Government

The Manhattan city manager’s office invites student body officers to work for the city during the summer. Stoskopf worked for the city during May and June, then left for Washington, D.C., and an internship in Rep. Jerry Moran’s office. Henry completed the Manhattan internship.

“It was a really great opportunity to see behind the scenes of local government,” Stoskopf said. “In 1994, the K-State campus was annexed to the city,” explained Henry. “The sales tax on campus is pooled and student government makes recommendations on how that money should be used. Marked crosswalks, improved lighting, and recycling efforts are some of the projects that have been approved. “The internship with the city gave us a chance to interact with the city commissioners and staff. Local government decisions – such as rental inspections, smoking ban, mass transit, and safety issues – have a direct impact on students and their safety. It’s beneficial to work together.”

Completing Their Term

Henry and Stoskopf have been laying the groundwork for the busy year ahead. They are both taking classes this fall in addition to their hectic schedules. They admit that maintaining focus and being organized are important. Henry estimates at times, he has more than 20 hours of scheduled meetings per week. They meet regularly with the dean, the president, the provost, the legislative liaison, other university student leaders, and attend Board of Regents and Faculty Senate meetings. Henry is a member of various committees, including the recreation complex expansion, the transition audit advisory and the provost and athletic director searches. Stoskopf is in charge of two committees that handle student dollars – Student-Centered Tuition Enhancements and the Educational Opportunity Fund.

They said they appreciate how student-centered K-State is. “The administration trusts student government to be responsible with allocating student privilege fees that total $15 million,” Stoskopf said. “And they recognize the importance of involving students in all decisions.”

Henry and Stoskopf credit the College of Ag with putting a strong emphasis on student success and providing leadership opportunities. “Being student body president is a phenomenal growth experience,” Henry said. “I’m thankful for the chance to serve the student body and be a part of the changes taking place at K-State.”
Who hasn’t marveled at a spider web highlighted with morning dew or watched a child chase a lightning bug? On the negative side, who hasn’t swatted at a mosquito buzzing around his or her head or cursed a grasshopper eating leaves on a prized plant or crop? Insects are admired and despised. And sometimes misunderstood.

“Insects are extremely important for the ecosystem,” said Tom Phillips, head of K-State’s Department of Entomology. “Some insects are pests, and some are beneficial insects that eat pests or pollinate plants. Our job, as entomologists, is to find ways to safely and effectively manage the pests – to find the balance of nature and live within it.”

The department conducts basic and applied research on insects, then shares that information in the classroom and through various publications, training, and presentations. It truly accomplishes the land-grant mission of teaching, research, and extension.

**In the Classroom**

The department grants master’s and doctoral degrees in entomology. It also offers specialized classes on how insects relate to crops, animals, and plants for undergraduate agronomy, animal sciences, and horticulture majors. Insects and People, a popular general education course, discusses the relationship between insects and humans.

The department’s outstanding reputation draws a number of visiting scholars, such as German Vargas, a Fulbright Scholar from Colombia. Vargas conducts field research on lady beetles with J.P. Michaud at the Agricultural Research Center-Hays during the summer, then works with James Nehols in Manhattan while classes are in session.

K-State entomology alumni hold prominent positions at universities and government agencies in the United States and around the world.

Gary Brewer (PhD ’84), head of the Department of Entomology at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, was honored as the department’s distinguished alumnus in 2009.

“K-State entomology is where I grew up professionally and personally,” said Brewer. “The experiences, friends, and mentors I gained while at K-State have remained with me and gave me a solid base that has stayed with me throughout my career. The success I have had is a direct outgrowth of my days at K-State.”

**Collaborative Research**

Insects are an integral part of agriculture; therefore, entomologists work closely with agronomists, animal scientists, biologists, biochemists, grain scientists, plant pathologists, and pathobiologists to solve insect-related problems.

Because Kansas is known as the “wheat state,” many projects deal with limiting insect damage to wheat and wheat products. K-State
entomologists are involved with various projects with the USDA Grain Marketing and Production Research Center (GMPRC), also located in Manhattan.

“The GMPRC and K-State comprise a world center for research on the red flour beetle – the most serious pest of the flour-milling industry,” stated Phillips. “Some traditional pesticides, such as methyl bromide, are being phased out, so we need to find alternatives.”

K-State entomologists are working on a wide range of research projects, many with prestigious research grants.

Jeremy Marshall, who joined the department three years ago, has a $600,000 National Science Foundation grant to study which genes affect insect mating and fertilization. Much of his research is done with crickets.

“Jeremy’s work could have future impact on insect mating and decreasing insect populations through genetics,” said Phillips.

Molecular biologist Marcelo Ramalho-Ortigao came to K-State in 2008. He has a National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases grant to study the phlebotomine sand flies, which are found in most of the world and are significantly expanding in the United States, especially in the Southeast and Midwest.

The flies are a major problem in the Middle East. Some news agencies have carried stories about the “Baghdad boils” experienced by U.S. service men and women – a cutaneous (skin) sore caused by the parasite *Leishmania major* transmitted via the bite of an infected sand fly.

Ramalho-Ortigao is studying new ways of preventing disease through transmission-blocking vaccines that block development of the parasites (disease) within the host (sand fly vectors). This fall, he is teaching a new graduate-level course on the biology of disease vectors.

Sharing with the Public

Homeowners and producers who deal with insects need reliable information.

“Extension entomologists use a wide range of technology to keep researched-based information flowing to the public,” said Phil Sloderbeck, entomologist and interim assistant director of the Southwest Area Office. “In return, we gather information from the public on topics that need further research. From the traditional farm and home visits and public meetings to cell phones and Web sites the mission remains the same – to provide useful and practical information to interested individuals.”

The Web site www.entomology.ksu.edu/extension provides access to timely insect information, including radio interviews with entomologists; a newsletter that addresses seasonal insect issues; a photo gallery; and links to other publications and Web pages on insect-related topics.

“Our diagnostic lab provides another important service,” added Sloderbeck. “Agents can send samples to the diagnostic lab whenever their clients find insects that may be causing damage or can’t be identified. Proper identification is the first step to any type of management plan. Once the insect is identified a client may be directed to the appropriate publication or put into contact with a specialist who can help provide management information.

The insect diagnostic lab is part of the National Pest Diagnostic Network. By linking all of the diagnostic labs together through NPDN data, alerts on new pests can quickly be shared among states and help reduce the impact of future invaders.

To ensure a continuous supply of insect enthusiasts, entomologists help coordinate the 4-H entomology program. Each year, 4-H’ers collect insects and display them at county fairs. The best collections are taken to the Kansas State Fair, where thousands of insect specimens delight fairgoers, said Sloderbeck.

The department also assists with pesticide safety. They provide training – regulated by the Kansas Department of Agriculture – for producers and commercial pesticide applicators.

For more information, go to www.entomology.ksu.edu.
Skillful instruction brought honors to two K-State faculty this year.

David Krishock, bakery science instructor received a 2009 Commerce Bank Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award, and Joe Arata, assistant professor of agricultural economics, earned a 2009 Presidential Award for Undergraduate Teaching Excellence. Each was awarded a $2,500 honorarium.

Krishock joined K-State in 2005 as the Bakers National Education Foundation instructor. He teaches Baking Science I and II and Bakery Layout and Design. He also teaches Bakery Practicum Production at the American Institute of Baking, as well as International Grains Program short courses.

Krishock advises 38 baking science students and is the adviser for the Bakery Science Club. Each year, he takes 20 or more students to a four-day conference in Chicago.

“It’s a great networking opportunity for the students,” said Krishock. “They get to meet people in the industry who may provide internships or become future employers.”

Joel Arata (PhD ’74 agricultural economics) teaches three undergraduate courses in agricultural economics and is known to students as “Jumpin’ Joe” for his enthusiastic and comedic teaching style.

As a former Wall Street economist and trader on the stock exchange, Arata relates real-world knowledge to benefit his students.

Andy Stickle (BS ’09 agricultural economics) took Arata’s Futures Trading class.

“I not only enjoyed Dr. Arata’s class, but learned a lot,” Stickle said. “His one-of-a-kind teaching style and upbeat attitude made learning fun. His ability to keep us focused helped me understand the material in a real-life way.”

Before joining K-State in 1996, Arata was vice president at Merrill Lynch Capital Markets where he managed the risk level and the finance structure for commodity inventories.
The K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy (KASLA) drew 25 high school students from 22 Kansas counties to Manhattan June 10-13, 2009.

The students visited the K-State beef stocker, poultry, and swine units; went on a College of Agriculture scavenger hunt; and engaged in three interactive leadership development sessions led by faculty members from across campus. Participants added to their college experience by living in the dormitories and eating in the K-State dining halls.

The program also included two days of livestock industry tours, including: Gnadt’s Sheep Farm, Alma; Mill Brae Ranch, Maple Hill; Kansas Livestock Association, Topeka; Sundstrom Dairy, Ottawa; Peeper Ranch, Lenexa; Cargill Meat Solutions, Wichita; and Tiffany Feedlot, Herington.

Students received classroom instruction on leadership, communication, and animal science issues. They divided into groups to focus on current issues affecting the livestock industry. Faculty mentors from the Department of Animal Sciences and Industry assisted.

Each group made a presentation on topics such as “Animal Rights vs. Animal Welfare” and “Negative Media Surrounding Animal Agriculture” at the reception on the last day. More than 100 family, friends, and members of the K-State community attended the reception.

All but three of the participants had 4-H and/or FFA backgrounds.

Five K-State animal science students served as counselors for the event – Cody Bornholdt, Robin Kleine, Michael Lanzrath, Kayla Lee, and Tera Rooney.

The event was sponsored by the Livestock and Meat Industry Council and coordinated by the K-State Youth Livestock Program. For more information go to www.YouthLivestock.ksu.edu or contact Sharon (Glaenzer) Breiner (BS ‘05, agricultural communications and journalism, MS ’07 animal science) coordinator, at sbreiner@ksu.edu or 785-532-1264.
Twenty-six students from across Kansas and the United States spent six weeks (June 19-July 31) on the K-State campus in the Multicultural Academic Program Success (MAPS), the Project Impact Summer Bridge Program. The program is sponsored by Cargill and K-State’s Project Impact and administered by K-State’s colleges of Agriculture, Business, and Engineering. Eleven of the students enrolled in the College of Agriculture.

MAPS prepares incoming students for the academic rigor of the university environment; familiarizes freshmen with K-State and campus services; connects participants to multicultural student leaders and organizations; communicates with parents of incoming freshmen on ways to be supportive and involved; and begins the personalized advising process.

The students earned up to six college credits in chemistry, math, kinesiology, or university experience and participated in an integrated biofuels project. In addition to classroom work, they toured various industries and built friendships and campus connections through various activities.

“Cargill is extremely proud of the accomplishments of the students as they completed the 2009 MAPS program, said Scott Eilert (BS ’89 animal science), vice president and director, Cargill meat technology development. “It was evident at the closing ceremony that each of them felt challenged by the content of the MAPS program. We look forward to watching these students further develop as leaders, and were thankful that we could play a small part in their development.”

For more information, contact Zelia Wiley, assistant dean of diversity programs, 785-532-5793 or zwh@ksu.edu.
Above: Olivia Moore finds a great PowerCat poster during the scavenger hunt.

K-State President Kirk Schulz meets with MAPS students during their final presentations.

Terry Garvert (BS '77 feed science and management/chemistry), Cargill customer risk manager, talks with MAPS students after participating in a biofuels panel discussion.

Students test their skills on the rope challenge course.

Students pose for a fun photo during a tour break.

Students toured the Cargill plant in Blair, Neb. They also went to the Wichita facility.
New, colorful College of Agriculture promotional materials arrived in the mailboxes of prospective K-Staters during the last year. The “Going Places” campaign and the college’s many online efforts to communicate with prospects contributed to a 11 percent increase in new student enrollment for fall 2009.

The materials didn’t happen overnight. It took 18 months from the original brainstorming session until the last piece was designed. Jackie McClaskey, assistant dean; Becky (Zenger) Johnson, marketing consultant; Bob Holcombe, graphic designer; Don Boggs, associate dean; Sharon (Combes) Thielen (BS ‘02 agribusiness), college event coordinator and incoming interim assistant dean; and College of Ag students Mary Geiger (BS ‘07 agricultural communications and journalism), Kindra Gradert (BS ’08 animal science), Sandy (Dillon) Klein, and Ashley Guenther were the main contributors.

Johnson, who worked for Mariposa Partners when the project started and now works for Fleishman-Hillard, earned a dual degree in agricultural communications and journalism and food science in 2003, and had worked in the college’s academic programs office. Her familiarity with K-State and the college was a bonus.

“After such a great personal experience with the college as a student, I was thrilled to have the chance to help them define how to best communicate what they offer to prospective students. As an alumna, I also provided an outsider view that was helpful in challenging the college to focus its messages and outreach. My role was primarily guiding the message development and overall strategy of the campaign, while the Academic Programs Office and students really drove the material development and story creation.

“Students were key to the message development,” said McClaskey. “We had lots of student involvement, especially photos. I give credit to Mary Geiger for the travel concept, even though she graduated before the actual pieces were developed.”

The recruitment materials – a destination guide, a fold-out travel map, a scrapbook, a diversity brochure, and a series of postcards – follow a “Going Places” theme. The travels of Morgan Parker and Becky Sullivan, two College of Ag students who served as National FFA officers, inspired the travel theme.

The “Taking U Where You Want to Go” map is the size of a road map. One side features a map of the K-State campus overlaid with items students would accumulate – cell phone, change, invitations, K-State memorabilia, notes. The flip side gives a brief overview of majors in the college, as well as information about Manhattan and Kansas. The map is popular with prospective students, parents, and faculty.

“My dad and about 30 agricultural education teachers asked for laminated copies of the map,” said Klein (BS ’06 agricultural education and current graduate student).

The “Which Way Do U Go?” scrapbook looks like … a scrapbook. Ten students provided testimonials and items from their college career – name tags, photos, event and plane ticket stubs, medals, etc. – for their scrapbook page. It gives prospective students a glimpse into the lives of College of Ag students.

Brycen Meng (BS ’07 golf course management) shared memorabilia from his internship at St. Andrews Links in Scotland and local golf courses for the scrapbook.

“It’s important to share with future K-Staters about the value of internships,” said Meng. “Working internationally opened the door to future jobs and opened my eyes to different styles of management. Preparing students to quickly succeed at their career is clearly a College of Ag priority.”

The diversity brochure, “The People U Can Meet,” highlights the College of Agriculture Diversity Programs Office and its student professional organization, Minorities in Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANRRS).
The 48-page destination guide is chock full of information about what it’s like to be a student at K-State. Some students bring the guide when they visit campus. One prospect brought his copy with dog-eared pages because he – and probably his parents – had looked through it so much.

A series of 17 postcards – with the same travel look and the compass rose – provide a fun way to keep in touch with prospective students. They range from a thank you for visiting – usually with a personal note from the College of Ag Ambassador who met with them – to a birthday card and a holiday greeting card.

“When we came up with the idea of the map, we had a concept but couldn’t visualize it,” said McClaskey. “Once that was done, the rest of the pieces came together. In fact, we produced all the pieces on schedule and under budget.”

The recruitment pieces were entered in several contests. So far, the map has won a gold award from the Association for Communication Excellence, and the scrapbook and the entire package won silver awards from the Admissions Marketing Report.

The College of Ag recruitment pieces have a unique theme but college recruitment efforts coordinate closely with the overall university materials and events.

“Our office enjoys a fantastic relationship with the College of Agriculture,” said Emily Lehning, K-State’s assistant vice president for new student services. “The College of Ag consistently provides representatives for our many events and offers an unparalleled campus visit experience. Students and families rave about having access to administrators, faculty, and especially students in the college. I am most impressed with the way the publications, events, and campus visit experiences convey the sense of ‘family’ in the College of Agriculture.

“As an alum (BS ’98 agricultural education), I am so proud to send prospective students to the College of Ag to learn about the academic programs because of the great experience that is delivered time and again.”

The university Web site is often the first contact for those looking to further their education. The K-State site www.consider.k-state.edu and the College of Ag site www.ag.k-state.edu are user-friendly and student-focused, said McClaskey.

In addition to the printed recruitment pieces, the college uses social networking tools such as Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and blogs. Students on international study tours have the most successful blogs. Students and faculty also share photos about events and campus life on Flickr. The snapshot-type photos taken at events and contests contributed to the travel theme.

“We send e-mails targeted to specific groups, such as transfer students and new freshman,” said McClaskey. “We usually have communicated with incoming freshman for three years, starting with their sophomore year in high school.”

“The printed and online efforts encourage prospective students to check out the College of Agriculture,” said Associate Dean Don Boggs. “The campus visit cements the deal.”

To view the recruitment materials, go to www.ag.k-state.edu/goingplaces.
Andrew McGowan weighs soil samples in a Throckmorton Hall lab.

society for people to make more informed, environmentally friendly decisions.

“I firmly believe that considering the environmental consequences of our actions is essential to sustain our existence and the rest of the environment,” McGowan said. “Because agriculture is one of the major ways people alter the earth’s landscapes, making sure we care for the soil, air, and water when producing food is critical.”

McGowan studied at the Beijing Language and Culture University in China from February through July 2009. He was a member of the 2008 National Champion K-State Soil Judging Team. He has served as the environmental chair on the Moore Hall Governing Board, campus issues coordinator for the K-State Association of Residence Halls, and webmaster for Students for Environmental Action. He also is an Eagle Scout and has been a staff member at Philmont Scout Ranch.

Greg Foote (right), senior in agricultural economics from Bucyrus, and Matt Hewitt, senior in finance, presented a K-State jersey and football donated and signed by Coach Snyder to Warren Buffett, one of the world’s richest and most successful investors.

Foote had written a letter to Buffett’s personal secretary requesting that students from the K-State Student Finance Association meet with Buffet. Foote was initially told that the students would be put on a waiting list for the next year. Association leaders pointed out that they were only three hours away and could be ready to fill in should another school cancel. Foote also made regular contact with Buffett’s assistant, which paid off. The students met with Buffett on March 27 in Omaha, Neb.
Mark Meier, Hays, was one of 14 K-State students named as a 2009 outstanding graduating senior. Meier was a member of the Union Program Council, K-State Club Baseball, K-State Poultry Judging Team, Little American Royal, and resident assistant at Goodnow Hall. "My opportunities being a campus leader have truly allowed me to grow as a person," he said. "I feel like I’ve learned a lot about people through all my interactions, and that has helped shape the person I am."

**Jamie Smidt** (BS ’08 agricultural communications and journalism) recently was named a Rotary International Scholar, which will provide a $23,000 scholarship for graduate study in Argentina. Jamie currently works as a seagoing communication specialist for an international earth sciences research program at Texas A&M University.

**Lindsey Stadler**, animal sciences and industry, was one of nine students chosen campus-wide as an Extraordinary Student for 2009 – a student who has overcome unusual obstacles and has been able to succeed in her or his educational pursuits. Lindsey was honored for her ability to overcome her deafness.

**Jennifer Guilford** (BS ’09 horticulture) was one of 22 students from colleges and universities across the nation to receive the NextGen Leaders Award from American Humanics. The $4,500 scholarship helped cover living and educational expenses while completing an internship with a nonprofit organization. She interned with the UFM Community Learning Center, a nonprofit campus and community education program that serves K-State and the Manhattan area.

**Melanie Peele**, junior in animal sciences and industry, Olathe; **Kelley Nelson**, sophomore in bakery science and management, and **Danny Unruh**, junior in food science and industry, both from Manhattan; were chosen as student orientation and enrollment leaders. They inform new students about resources, activities, services, and facilities available at K-State.

**Drew Goering**, Inman, park management and conservation, and **Kelley Nelson**, Manhattan, bakery science and management, are two of the 17 students named to the 2009-2010 class of the K-State Student Foundation. Members focus on raising awareness among current and future alumni and students about the importance of giving back to K-State and cultivating philanthropy across the university.

**Jacque LaRue**, a senior in agricultural education with a minor in animal sciences and industry, has been selected as a Fulbright Scholar. LaRue’s Fulbright grant will give her the opportunity to teach conversational English and American culture for a year in South Korea. LaRue has tutored students in several subjects and has been a substitute teacher in USD 383. She has also studied animal agriculture in Costa Rica and says she is dedicated to becoming a successful high school agricultural education teacher. She began her international assignment in South Korea in July.

**Rebecca Farha**, senior in animal sciences and industry, Yates Center, sang the national anthem and **John Bergin**, senior in agricultural education, Meriden, delivered the reflections address at the spring 2009 College of Agriculture commencement ceremonies.
Student Accolades

Students Sweep the Next Big Thing Product Division

Grain science students won the top three places in the product division of K-State’s first Next Big Thing competition for undergraduate students.

The contest, sponsored by the Center for the Advancement for Entrepreneurship, gave students the opportunity to put their ideas to the test in exchange for prize money.

Students attended six seminars on the entrepreneurial process to help develop their ideas and write feasibility plans.

A team of judges reviewed the 26 presentations and chose eight teams to make final presentations.

The first-place team submitted Flour Indulgence, a company that makes baked goods, such as cookies and brownies, into edible bouquets as a substitute for flowers. Team members: Kehley Pfrang, Mary Gleason, Maggie Weeks, and Kelsey Fairfield.

Second place went to Brian Drees, John Weis, Cole Schroeder, and Johnny Wilson for Prestige Worldwide, a microbrewery that produces wheat and celiac-friendly beers.

Kathleen Kraus, Tyler Langton, Cassie Knudsen, and Kelly McGuire earned third for Bone on the Go, meal-replacement dog bones.

Robot Rebels Win Third Consecutive Championship

For the third year in a row, K-State has won first place in the Agricultural Robotics Student Design Competition sponsored by the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers, said Naqian Zhang, the team’s faculty adviser.

Team members include: Andrew Osborn, DeeAnn-Rose Turpin, Wei Han, Peng Li, Alan Bauerly, and Seth Perkins.

Bunnen Earns Truman Scholarship to Further Career Goal

Dena Bunnen is K-State’s 31st Harry S. Truman Scholarship winner.

Bunnen is a senior in political science and agricultural communications and journalism from Welda. As a 2009 Truman scholar, she will receive up to $30,000 for graduate studies toward a career in public service.

She plans to work as a project designer or manager for agriculture development programs in low-income countries. Specifically, she would like to work in Africa with extension programs promoting sustainable agriculture practices.

“I recognize the importance of agricultural production, especially in developing countries where the majority of people work in agriculture and the majority of a family’s income goes toward food,” Bunnen said. “Increased production is important because we have to feed our rapidly growing populations, and sustainable production is equally important because the earth isn’t getting any bigger, so we have to farm the land we have for a very long time.”

Bunnen’s interest in agriculture stems from being raised on a dairy farm, she said. In addition, she has interned with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service and with the U.S. Agency for International Development. She said the internships are where she became interested in international and conservation affairs and how they relate to agriculture.

She also has studied in China, where she said witnessing extreme poverty solidified her desire to work in international development.

Mickey Snack Earns Disney Award

Students Kathryn Goddard, Ellsworth, and Elyse Buckley, Chanute, won first place in the Nutritious Foods For Kids Contest sponsored by Disney Consumer Products, Inc. They prepared pumpkin-orange and sweet potato-strawberry fruit snacks shaped like Mickey Mouse.

The students work for Professor Fadi Aroumani, whose responsibilities include research and development on food products. He encouraged the students to enter the contest. They were named as finalists at the Institute of Food Technologists conference and were invited to Disneyland to serve their product and make a 15-minute presentation for a panel of judges to win the $2,500 prize.
Agricultural Economics
Michael Boland, professor of agribusiness management, was named the 2008-2009 Outstanding Academic Adviser for the College of Agriculture. Ted Schroeder, professor of livestock marketing and price analysis, was recognized as a Distinguished Scholar by the Western Agricultural Economics Association.

Agronomy
Mary Beth Kirkham, professor of crop physiology and soil plant water relations, received the Gamma Sigma Delta Outstanding Research Award. P.V. Vara Prasad, associate professor of crop ecophysiology, was presented with the Gamma Sigma Delta Early Career Award.

Animal Sciences and Industry
Mike Brouk, associate professor and extension specialist, received an Appreciation Award at the Kansas All Breeds Junior Dairy Show. Curtis Kastner, director of the Food Science Institute, was selected by Gamma Sigma Delta to receive the Distinguished Achievement in Agriculture Award. Evan Titgemeyer, ruminant nutritionist, received the College of Agriculture Excellence in Graduate Teaching Award. Jeff Stevenson, bovine nutritionist, received the Animal Management Award from the American Society of Animal Science. Daniel Y.C. Fung, microbiologist, received an Outstanding Achievement Award for Distinguished Service as president, secretary, and treasurer (2000-2009) of the Chinese American Microbiology Society.

Biological and Agricultural Engineering
Joseph P. Harner, interim department head, received the Henry Giese Structures and Environment Award from the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers for his outstanding efforts involving improved grain storage, handling and processing technology, and for improving animal production and waste management systems.

Biology
Walter Dodds, professor, was named a university distinguished professor. He coordinates aquatic and hydrological research at the Konza Prairie Biological Station. His research is partly funded by K-State Research and Extension.

Communications
Richard Baker, associate professor and news director of the K-State Radio Network, was named one of two Spring Faculty of the Semester for the College of Agriculture. Deb Pryor, producer, and Randall Kowalik, cameraman, produced a video for the Food Science Institute that won third place in a national competition. The video can be seen at http://www.texturetechnologies.com/TTC_University_Video_Contest_2009.htm.

Entomology
Jeff Whitworth, assistant professor, was named one of two College of Agriculture Spring 2009 Faculty of the Semester. His specialties are integrated pest management of row crops and household and structural pests. C. Michael Smith, professor, received the Gamma Sigma Delta Distinguished Faculty Award.

Horticulture, Forestry and Recreation Resources
Charlie Barden, professor and state extension forester, has been selected as a Fellow of the Society of American Foresters. Gamma Sigma Delta awards: Edward (Ted) Carey, professor of vegetable crops at the K-State Research and Extension Center – Olathe, received the Excellence in Extension Award. He specializes in using high tunnels to extend growing seasons. Steven Keeley, associate professor of turfgrass science, earned the Outstanding Teaching Award. His areas of specialization are horticultural pest management and turfgrass management. Cathie Lavis, assistant professor of landscape management, received the Advising Award.

Plant Pathology
John Leslie, professor and department head, was one of two K-State scientists named as 2009 recipients of the Outstanding Senior Scientist Award from the university’s chapter of Sigma Xi, the scientific research society. Karen Garrett, associate professor, Lorena Gomez, a master’s student, and a team in Bolivia received the American Phytopathological Society’s 2009 Global Experience Award for a workshop on statistics in plant disease epidemiology and agriculture. The researchers further developed online teaching modules for students in Bolivia by adding new material and translating materials into Spanish. The group also is developing online training modules that are free to anyone with Internet access. More than 30,000 visitors from more than 100 countries have accessed these modules.

In Memoriam
John David Wheat, 87, Manhattan, died April 12, 2009. He joined the K-State Department of Animal Sciences and Industry in 1954, teaching primarily animal genetics and animal breeding. A highlight of his career was working with the K-State U.S.A.I.D. contract team at Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria. He later made consulting trips to Costa Rica, Taiwan, and Nigeria. He served on various departmental and university committees, including Faculty Senate, and especially enjoyed serving multiple terms on the KSU Intercollegiate Athletic Council. A football season ticket holder for 40 years, he was looking forward to watching Bill Synder coach the Wildcats again this fall.

Robert Bohannon, Knoxville, Tenn., died June 25, 2009. He served as Nemaha County agricultural agent; statewide soil testing specialist, assistant to the director, and director of the Cooperative Extension Service. In 1976, he returned to the Department of Agronomy as a crops and soils extension specialist. He resigned in 1985 to accept a position as the national program leader for USDA Soil and Water Conservation Districts, where he finished his career.
New Program for Wildlife Managers

The Department of Horticulture, Forestry and Recreation Resources is offering a new program – Wildlife and Outdoor Enterprise Management. The program is designed to train professional operational managers for hunting/shooting preserves and resorts, game bird production companies, fishing resorts, and outdoor-experience companies.

According to the most recent national survey, 87.5 million Americans 16 years old and older participate in wildlife-related recreation (hunting and fishing), with a total expenditure of $122.5 billion. And more than 19 million Americans participate in shooting sports annually. The popularity of these activities indicates the need for qualified managers.

The program will combine natural resources, wildlife and fisheries management, business, hospitality and management courses with “in-the-field” outdoor skills courses.

“It’s the first program in the world to offer this type of training,” said Tom Warner, who is coordinating the program. “We have tremendous industry support for this program.”

The program was approved by the Kansas Board of Regents in May 2009. The restricted admission program has selected the first class of students for fall 2009. The next class will be fall 2010, with an application deadline of Feb. 1, 2010.

For more information about the courses, career opportunities, and admission requirements, go to www.hfrr.ksu.edu/woem.

Rice Chosen as University Distinguished Professor

Charles W. “Chuck” Rice was named a university distinguished professor, a lifetime title that represents the highest honor K-State can bestow on its faculty.

Rice, professor of soil microbiology, has conducted long-term research on soil organic dynamics, nitrogen transformations, and microbial ecology.

He has gained international fame for his work in carbon sequestration. He served on the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and was among the team of scientists who shared a 2007 Nobel Peace Prize with former vice president Al Gore.

Rice’s research has been supported by grants from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Science Foundation, Department of Energy, and others.

Rice will assume the role of president-elect of the Soil Science Society of America Jan. 1, 2010. He also has been appointed to the Board on Agriculture and Natural Resources, a major program unit of the National Research Council.

Horticultural Therapy Graduate Certificate Now Offered

The Department of Horticulture, Forestry and Recreation Resources and K-State’s Division of Continuing Education are offering a 16 credit-hour graduate certificate program in horticultural therapy.

The program will train professionals to use live plants and the growing environment to heal and rehabilitate people.

Candice Shoemaker, professor of horticulture and director of the program, said the new graduate certificate was developed to meet the demand for distance learning programs in horticultural therapy.

“K-State was the first university to offer a bachelor’s degree in horticultural therapy in 1971 and has the longest-running undergraduate and graduate programs of any university,” Shoemaker said.

Most course work for the graduate certificate program will be offered online, and the curriculum consists of five required graduate-level courses that may be applied to a K-State master’s degree.

For more information go to, http://www.dce.k-state.edu/ag/horticultural-therapy.
Ag Econ Department Head Arrives

David Lambert joined the K-State faculty as head of the Department of Agricultural Economics in early August. He had been a professor and former department chair in the Department of Agribusiness and Applied Economics at North Dakota State University.

“We are so pleased to have David Lambert on board,” said Fred Cholick, dean of the College of Agriculture and director of K-State Research and Extension. “His international experience, as well as his years in research, teaching, and extension, will prove valuable as he guides our agricultural economics efforts.”

Lambert had been at NDSU since 1998. Before that he was at the University of Nevada, Reno, for 14 years.

He earned a Ph.D. in agricultural and resource economics from Oregon State University, and master’s and bachelor’s degrees from the University of California, Davis. He also spent one and a half years at Georg August Universität in Göttingen, Germany, first in the University of California’s Education Abroad Program and later as a research assistant.

Lambert made this comment about his career change, “I am very excited to be a part of a great university that is preparing tomorrow’s leaders through its excellent educational programs, is providing research-based answers to today’s agricultural and natural resource problems, and is working with the state’s public and private decision makers to help them make the best choices for their families, their businesses, and for the people of the state.”

Even before moving to Manhattan, Lambert reached out to new students with helpful information about the department and how to make a successful transition to campus life.

“Just like you, this fall will be my first semester at Kansas State University,” he wrote in a letter to new freshman majoring in agricultural economics. “Also like you, I was attracted to K-State by its excellence in teaching and in conducting research that improves peoples’ lives.”

Animal Scientist Leads Research

For the last year, J. Ernest “Ernie” Minton, professor of animal sciences, has been serving as the interim associate director for research and technology transfer. Minton has been appointed to that position permanently.

“Normally there would have been a national search to fill the position,” said Fred Cholick, dean of the College of Agriculture and director of K-State Research and Extension. “Dr. Minton has done an excellent job performing the duties and responsibilities of associate director; therefore, I requested that the search process be canceled and Ernie be appointed to the permanent position for the next four years.”

“I am excited to continue as associate director,” said Minton. “Without question, the greatest common challenge for us will be to manage through this period of significant budgetary contraction.

“As Dean Cholick has indicated numerous times, we should prepare for doing ‘less with less.’ While this is the frank reality in the short term, I’m optimistic. As the state’s financial situation improves, we will find opportunities to strategically manage budgetary regrowth that will allow K-State Research and Extension to focus on high-priority mission areas.

“I look forward to working with the faculty in the five K-State colleges that have K-State Research and Extension funding as we move forward into a more favorable economic environment.”

New Department Head David Lambert (center) takes a few minutes to visit with Ph.D. students Craig Smith, Haven, and Elizabeth Yeager, Cottonwood Falls.
### Class Notes

#### 1961
The father/son team of **Jim** (BS ’61 animal science) and **Jeff** (BS ’92 animal science) Houck, owners and operators of Rock Creek Ranch near Americus, were honored as the 2009 Outstanding Stockmen at this year’s Block and Bridle banquet.

#### 1966
**Larry Miller** (MS animal science), Centreville, Md., was inducted into the Hall of Fame by the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service on Oct. 21, 2008. He was honored for his nearly 38-year career with the USDA.

#### 1968
**Ron Seyfert** (BS animal science) retired after 40 years with K-State Research and Extension. He was the agricultural agent for Ottawa County and for the Central Kansas Extension District.

#### 1969
**Michael Sandberg** (BS, MS ’70 animal science), Tallahassee, Fla., is retiring after 30 years of military service and seven years as a logistics contractor with SY Coleman Corp. and Camber Corp.

#### 1971
**Joe Ebert** (BS animal science) of Fourth and Pomeroy Associates Inc., Clay Center, was inducted as an honorary member of Block and Bridle.

#### 1973
**Larry Berger** (BS, MS ’75 animal science), professor of animal science at the University of Illinois, has been named the Marvel L. Baker head of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Department of Animal Science.

**James Lindquist** (BS agricultural education, MS ’74, PhD ’87 adult and occupational education), assistant director for extension field operations, is the recipient of the Distinguished Service Ruby Award from Epsilon Sigma Phi.

#### 1974
**Galen Johnson** (BS animal science) was elected mayor of Dwight on April 7, 2009. He is self-employed.

#### 1990
**Jerry Vandervort** (BS agricultural education) teaches agricultural education at Washburn Rural High School. He and his wife, Ingrid, started Rocking V Ranch, where they board horses. They were featured in a two-part “Now That’s Rural” profile written by Ron Wilson of K-State’s Huck Boyd National Institute for Rural Development [www.ksre.ksu.edu/huckboyd/ksprofil.htm](http://www.ksre.ksu.edu/huckboyd/ksprofil.htm).

#### 1991
**Dan Moser** (BS animal science), K-State beef cattle geneticist, and his family were featured in the July 2009 edition of Hereford World Magazine. His wife, Lisa, works for the K-State Department of Communications.

#### 1993
**Carolyn (Farris) Dunn** (agricultural economics), St. John, was asked to speak about rural America at the Republican National Convention on Sept. 3, 2008. For more about her and her husband **Brian** (BS animal science), go to [www.ksre.ksu.edu/huckboyd/ksprofil.htm](http://www.ksre.ksu.edu/huckboyd/ksprofil.htm).

#### 1994
**John Anderson** (BS horticulture), Parkville, Mo., is the Kansas City branch manager for Ryan Lawn & Tree, which employs many K-Staters.

#### 1995
**Shannon Washburn** (BS agricultural education, MS ’99 secondary education) associate professor, has been elected to a three-year term on the K-State Ag Alumni Board.

#### 1999
**Amy Bickel** (BS agricultural journalism and animal science) is an ag writer for the Hutchinson News and helped establish an ag Web site – Kansas Ag Land [www.kagland.com](http://www.kagland.com).

**Kathryn (Barr) Elder** (BS animal science), Yakima, Wash., was promoted to domestic sales manager at AB Foods, a sister company of Agri Beef, in Oct. 2007. She and her husband, Kailan, announced the birth of their first child, Rhyse Robert on June 9, 2008.

**Shelby Wehrman** (BS agricultural economics) is teaching math and coaching football and track at Derby High School. He and his wife, **Melanie (Thomas) Wehrman** (BS ’00 agricultural economics) announced the birth of their fourth child, Kathryn Lottie, on Dec. 20, 2008. Her siblings are Alayna (2), Caleb (4), and Jayleigh (5).
2000
Shannon (Blender) Blocker (BS agricultural education), Osawatomie, K-State Research and Extension Anderson County agriculture and natural resources agent, and her husband, Jim, welcomed twins, Lauren and David, on April 26, 2009.

2003
Chris Long (BS agricultural education) is the K-State Research and Extension Walnut Creek District agriculture and natural resources agent.
Cade Rensink (BS animal science), K-State Research and Extension Central Kansas District agriculture and natural resources agent, and his wife, Amanda, announced the birth of their son, Callan Thomas, June 26, 2009.

2004
Anthony Rathbun (BS animal science), Geneseo, and his wife, Jamie, Ellsworth County family and consumer sciences agent, announced the birth of their son, Wesley John, July 9, 2009. He has a big sister, Kate.

2005
Janae (Casten) McNally (BS family studies and human services) and her husband Caleb (BS agricultural technology management), New Strawn, announced the birth of their daughter, Braelyn Kate, April 23, 2009. Janae is the K-State Research and Extension Coffey County director. Caleb is the district seed manager for Syngenta Crop Protection.

2007
Christine (Soukup) Mushrush (BS animal science and agricultural economics) Amarillo, Texas, and her husband, Daniel (BS agribusiness) announced the birth of their daughter, Sadie Grace, Dec. 17, 2008. Daniel is a commodity broker for Amarillo Brokerage Co., and Christine is an audit manager for IMI Global, Inc.

2009
Kaitlyn (Crow) Peine (BS agricultural communications and journalism) is the K-State Research and Extension Johnson County 4-H youth development agent.

IN MEMORIUM
Waldo McBurney (BS ’27, horticulture), Quinter, died July 15, 2009, at the age of 106. He was named America’s oldest worker in 2006. He gained fame in his later years as a competitive runner in the Senior Olympics, the World Masters, and other events – winning 10 gold medals.
Gerald Keith Fish (BS ’43 agricultural economics), Miami, Okla., died Feb. 16, 2009. He became an assistant agricultural agent in Rooks County in 1958. In 1959, he transferred to Trego County and remained there as county agricultural agent and county director until his retirement in 1980.
Edward Francis Murray Jr. (BS ’50 agricultural education), 81, Manhattan, died April 30, 2009. He graduated from K-State after serving in the U.S. Navy. He called himself an entrepreneur or “horse trader,” because he founded and operated numerous companies during his career. The city of Ogden presented him with the Random Act of Kindness Award in 2007.
Kenneth E. McGinness (BS ’49 agricultural economics), Olathe, died July 7, 2009. He was a junior assistant agent in Geary County, a county club agent in Franklin County, a 4-H agent in Johnson County, and served as Johnson County extension director from 1973 until his retirement in 1986. Memorials are suggested to KSU Gardens, where his grandson Scott McElwain is director.

Mark Your Calendars!
The 2010 Wild4Ag Weekend is May 7 and 8.
Check www.ag.ksu.edu/wild4ag for more details.

Ag Alumni Class Notes
Fill out this form and return it to:
Gloria Holcombe
Department of Communications
315 Umberger Hall
Manhattan, KS 66506–3402
or e-mail to: gloria@ksu.edu
Name
__________________________
Spouse’s Name
__________________________
City_________________________ State_______ ZIP___________
Home Phone_________________ E-mail____________________
Graduation Date(s)________________ Degree(s)________________
Employer____________________ Title_____________________
Feel free to attach more information.
College of Agriculture staff, Agricultural Alumni Board members, family, and friends gathered May 9 to honor two distinguished alumni – Michael Torrey and Sen. Sam Brownback – and an outstanding teacher – Steve Harbstreit.

Kelli Ludlum (BS ’99 animal science), Arlington, Va., presented the Outstanding Young Alumnus Award to Michael Torrey.

“I met Mike nine years ago, shortly after I started working in Washington, D.C.,” Ludlum said. “He has been very supportive and a great mentor to me and others.”

Torrey (BS ’86, agricultural education), Arlington, Va., has a strong background in policy and congressional relations. He founded Michael Torrey Associates, LLC in 2005. Before starting his government affairs practice, he served as deputy assistant secretary for congressional relations for the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the USDA’s deputy chief of staff; was vice president of legislative efforts for the International Dairy Foods Association; and served as legislative assistant to former senators Nancy Kassebaum Baker, Robert Dole, and Sheila Frahm.

Before moving to Washington, D.C., in 1990, the Wamego native was director of membership services for the Kansas Grain and Feed Association and the Kansas Fertilizer and Chemical Association.

As a K-State student, Torrey studied ag policy under professor Barry Flinchbaugh.

“Mike has been unbelievably successful in a relatively short time,” Flinchbaugh said. “What is really remarkable – in today’s atmosphere in Washington – is that Mike is respected on both sides of the aisle, and no one questions his integrity.”

Torrey credited much of his success to K-State.

“K-State is a physical facility, but the ties are mobile,” said Torrey. “I come across K-Staters everywhere I go, and I find we have a common connection. I’m proud to be from Kansas, from Wamego, and to be a K-Stater.”

Eric Guenther (BS ’80 animal science), ag lender for USDA Farm Loan Specialists and president of the Ag Alumni Association, presented the Distinguished Alumni Award to Sen. Sam Brownback (BS ’79 agricultural economics). Brownback received the Outstanding Young Alumnus Award in 1993.

Three Honored during Wild4Ag Festivities

Mark Your Calendars!
Alumni Association

Guenther listed Brownback’s many accomplishments and stated, “Other members of Congress appreciate Sam Brownback’s sincerity. Even if they don’t always agree with him, they believe he is sincere in his convictions.”

Brownback was born in Parker, Kan., and raised on the farm where his parents still live. While at K-State, he served as student body president. He completed his law degree at the University of Kansas, where he was president of his class. He briefly practiced law in Manhattan and also broadcasted a weekly radio program. In 1990, Brownback was accepted into the White House Fellow program in the U.S. Trade Representative office. He then became the youngest person to serve as Kansas’ Secretary of Agriculture. He was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1994 and replaced Bob Dole in the U.S. Senate in 1996.

Brownback finds various ways to give back to his alma mater. He has been the guest speaker at College of Agriculture commencement and other university events. More than a dozen College of Ag students and alumni have worked for Brownback in Washington, including recent Rhodes Scholar Vincent Hofer.

“K-State is a great place to grow people with good hearts and good heads,” said Brownback. “Technical knowledge is important, but the ability to work with people is more important. K-State has taught a lot of people how to learn and lead, and it has done that for me.”

Board member Lindsey (George) Huseman (BS ’06 ag education), who teaches at Wilson Junior/Senior High School, presented the David J. Mugler Outstanding Teaching Award to Steve Harbstreit.

“It’s a great honor for me to present this award to Dr. Harbstreit,” said Huseman. “He was my adviser as an undergraduate, and he continues to advise me during my master’s study and my teaching career.”

The award is named for former associate dean Dave Mugler, whose motto was “They don’t care what you know until they know you care,” and Steve Harbstreit clearly exemplifies that principle.

Current student Marinda Johnson attests to Harbstreit’s caring demeanor with students.

“I have gone to him on many occasions for his advice and input,” said Johnson. “He always starts off the conversation with a cheerful ‘How are ya?’ and a handshake. He makes a point to get to know each of his students individually.”

During his 20 years at K-State, Harbstreit has been a strong advocate for the ag education program. When the university discontinued the ag mechanics and shop courses, Harbstreit worked with the Manhattan Area Technical College and local high school teachers to provide those necessary courses for ag education students.

In 2008, the ag education curriculum moved to the Department of Communications.

“Steve has been a wonderful addition to our department,” said department head Kristina Boone. “He is serving as an excellent mentor to younger faculty in both agricultural education and agricultural communications and journalism.”

In addition to their strong support for K-State, the three award winners share a common background in FFA. All served as chapter presidents, Torrey and Brownback both served as FFA state presidents, and Brownback was a national vice president. Harbstreit served a three-year term on the National FFA Organization board of directors representing the American Association of Agricultural Education.

Ag Alumni Association board members present at the Wild4Ag reception: (l-r) Delta George (BS ’02 animal science), Larry Dahlsten (BS ’66 agricultural technology management), Janna Dunbar (BS ’00 animal science), Stephen Bigge (BS ’06 agribusiness), Jim Dooley (BS ’72 agronomy), Lindsey (George) Huseman (BS ’06 ag education), Kelli Ludlum (BS ’99 animal science), Eric Guenther (BS ’80 animal science), and Jennifer (Dunn) Pfortmiller (BS ’96 food science).
Philip and Jeannie Hollis, Tucson, Ariz., have made a commitment of $150,000 to establish the **Hollis Family Legacy Scholarship** for out-of-state students whose parents graduated from K-State.

“No student’s ability to attend K-State should be hampered by state lines. In our family, the K-State tradition almost died because of a lack of scholarships available to out-of-state students,” Phil Hollis said.

The Hollis’ daughter had to make a difficult decision – pay out-of-state tuition to attend K-State as a fourth generation Wildcat or accept a substantial scholarship package from an in-state school that would keep her close to family and friends.

“It’s one time we were grateful she did not make the logical choice. Family tradition and K-State won out,” Jeannie Hollis said. “We hope our gift inspires others that will help make K-State the logical choice for legacies, regardless of where they live.”

SFP, headquartered in Leawood, Kan., has made a $25,000 commitment to establish two scholarships in the Department of Agronomy.

The **SFP and Dr. Larry Murphy Agronomy and Soil Science Scholarship** honors Dr. Larry Murphy, president of Murphy Agro, third-party research consultant for SFP, and former K-State faculty member. The **SFP and Dr. George Walter Wallingford Agronomy and Soil Science Scholarship** honors the memory of Wallingford (BS ’70 animal science, PhD ’74 agronomy) as a co-founder and former chairperson of SFP.

“SFP has long supported the research program in the Department of Agronomy,” said Gary Pierzynski, department head. “There is a shortage of qualified agronomists, and these scholarships will help greatly in recruiting additional students.”

“We are pleased to be associated with such a great university for our product research and now helping the future leaders of the agricultural industry,” said Larry Sanders, founder of SPF.

Tien-Mo “Tim” Lim, San Jose, Calif., has made a commitment through two $150,000 gifts of stock to the College of Agriculture to establish the **Tim Lim Graduate Scholarship in Agriculture** and the **Tim Lim Undergraduate Scholarship in Agriculture**.

The Tim Lim Graduate Scholarship in Agriculture will be given to a graduate student in applied economics from Chung Hsing University, Taichung, Taiwan.

The Tim Lim Undergraduate Scholarship in Agriculture will be given to any undergraduate student enrolled in the Department of Agricultural Economics at K-State. This scholarship was also established with a gift of $150,000.

Lim (MS ’67 economics) is retired.

“The encouragement that professor Orlan Buller of agricultural economics gave me in 1968 inspired me to establish a scholarship at K-State as a way to give back,” Lim said. “There is no money wasted in use for educating students,’ Buller said when I told him that I had to quit graduate research work toward my doctoral program with him.

“Giving back money you earned to support higher education is an investment with a great reward, and it is also a joyful thing to do in life.”

---

**Grain Science Honors Alumni and Friends**

The Department of Grain Science and Industry held an awards luncheon on April 23, 2009.

“In our department’s nearly 100-year history, we have had many outstanding alumni who have pursued successful careers and many friends who have been of great service to our students, staff, faculty, and programs,” said Dirk Maier, department head. “This first awards luncheon was a beginning to recognize the success of our graduates and to say thank you for all of the support we enjoy among our alumni and friends.”

**Outstanding Alumni awards were presented to:**

**Ron Kruse** (BS ’62 feed science and management)

**Dan Wells** (BS ’72 milling science and management)

**Dale Eustace** (BS ’59 feed science and management, MS ’62, PhD ’67 milling science and management)

**Steve Curran** (BS ’74 milling science and management, MS ’82 grain science)

**Theresa Cogswell** (BS ’80 milling science and management)

**Royal Denning** (BS ’65 milling science and management)

**Outstanding Service Award recipients were:**

**Betsy Faga**, North American Millers Association

**Dan Cain Jr.** (BS ’50 agricultural economics)

**Chuck Walker**, professor emeritus

**Brian Davis** (BS ’98 feed science and management)

**Richard Hahn** (MS ’54, PhD ’57 chemistry), former department head
How time flies. I recently marked my five-year anniversary as dean of the College of Agriculture and director of K-State Research and Extension. I’m proud of what we’ve accomplished and look forward to continuing my role serving K-State and Kansans. I can’t believe it has been five years – the old saying is true “time flies when you’re having fun.”

When I came here, I was impressed with the faculty and staff’s passion and commitment to serve students and Kansas citizens. Our students and faculty continue to win local and national awards as well as leadership roles on campus and in national organizations. As you read through this issue, I hope you share my appreciation for their outstanding accomplishments.

In July, I went – as a guest of the Kansas National Guard – to Armenia one of the countries where the Kansas National Guard has a sister country relationship. I was impressed with the enthusiasm and commitment of the Kansas National Guard – to Armenia and other countries in need of assistance. I believe it has been five years – the old saying is true “time flies when you’re having fun.”

As President Kirk Schulz mentions on pages 3-7, budget constraints will force us to look differently at what we do. Less funding requires us to plan and prioritize even more carefully. Kirk and I are strong supporters of the land-grant mission of learning, discovery, and engagement. We are committed to maintaining the core values of the College of Agriculture and K-State Research and Extension. Our priorities will continue to focus on the needs of Kansans, while fully recognizing we must be global citizens.

As part of our budget discussions, I have decided to offer the spring issue of the K-State Ag Report as an online magazine to save printing and mailing costs. For those with Internet access, I see this as an opportunity to share with alumni and friends in a new and exciting format. To update your contact information and e-mail address, follow these instructions: Alumni go to www.k-state.com and click on “update your information.” If you’re not a K-State alumnus, fill out the form at www.ksre.ksu.edu/agreport.
K-State’s “Borden Boy” at the 1939 New York World’s Fair

Communications professionals offer a variety of services

K-State’s New Presidents – Kirk Schulz and Dalton Henry

Tailgate Party in Cat Town
Saturday, October 17

Starts two hours before kickoff of the K-State vs Texas A&M game.

Football with free food, fun, and fellowship.