

KENT STATE

MAGAZINE

Fall 2011 / Volume 10 / Issue 3

Paddling With
Purpose

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Mysteries of
the Heart
Unlocked

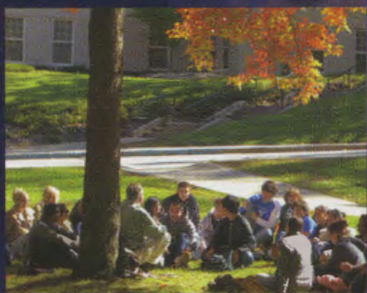
pg. 12

Laid-Off Worker
Gets Fresh Start –
Kent State Trumbull
offers second chance

pg. 13

A photograph of two young women in graduation caps and gowns. The woman on the left has long brown hair and is wearing glasses. The woman on the right has dark hair and is wearing glasses and has a wide, joyful smile. They are both looking towards the camera.

Kent State ranked a
“Best Performing National University”



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Kent State Ranks as a Best Performing National University

Kent State is 14th in the nation for exceeding graduation rates.



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Mysteries of the Heart Unlocked

Kent State Trumbull Professor Mary Russell discovers protein's new role.



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Kent State players and staff assist with Tuscaloosa tornado relief.

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Celebrating a Century of Dedication

The Alumni Association celebrates 100 years.

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Founders Scholarship Celebrates 20 Years of Success

Alumni tell how the scholarship program transformed their career paths.



Message From the President

Having recently marked five years as president, my reasons for enthusiasm, optimism and pride in Kent State are as diverse as our great university itself. There is so much to be excited about, and our cover story showcases just how this university, through a remarkable range of efforts, is fulfilling its number one strategic goal — student success. From ensuring that our students graduate with everything it takes to succeed in a global, innovation-driven society; to providing students and our many other stakeholders with facilities fit for the 21st century; to winning on the field and in the classroom, there is no doubt about Kent State University's dedicated commitment to its students.

When I joined the Kent State family, I knew that I was joining a remarkable community with a rich history of public service. The talents, commitment and contributions of the students, faculty members, staff members, alumni, trustees, business and civic leaders, government representatives and other good friends I have come to know have far exceeded my expectations. You will meet some of Kent State's finest in the following pages, including coaches, athletes and alumni who believe academic excellence and athletic excellence are linked inextricably; and students, faculty and staff members who are using Kent State's resources to enrich the lives of countless area residents. They personify the quest for excellence, innovation and inclusion that continues to drive everything we do on every Kent State campus.

As I invite you to learn more about the university's accomplishments and contributions, I encourage you to make or renew your own Kent State connections, and to share your own, unique success stories. A great way to start is by sharing some basic contact information at <http://www.kent.edu/advancement/update>. I look forward to hearing from and working with many of you as I continue in a role that truly is a privilege of a lifetime.

LESTER A. LEFTON

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Untangling the World of Information Technology

Courseware gift helps launch first-in-the-nation concentration in enterprise architecture.

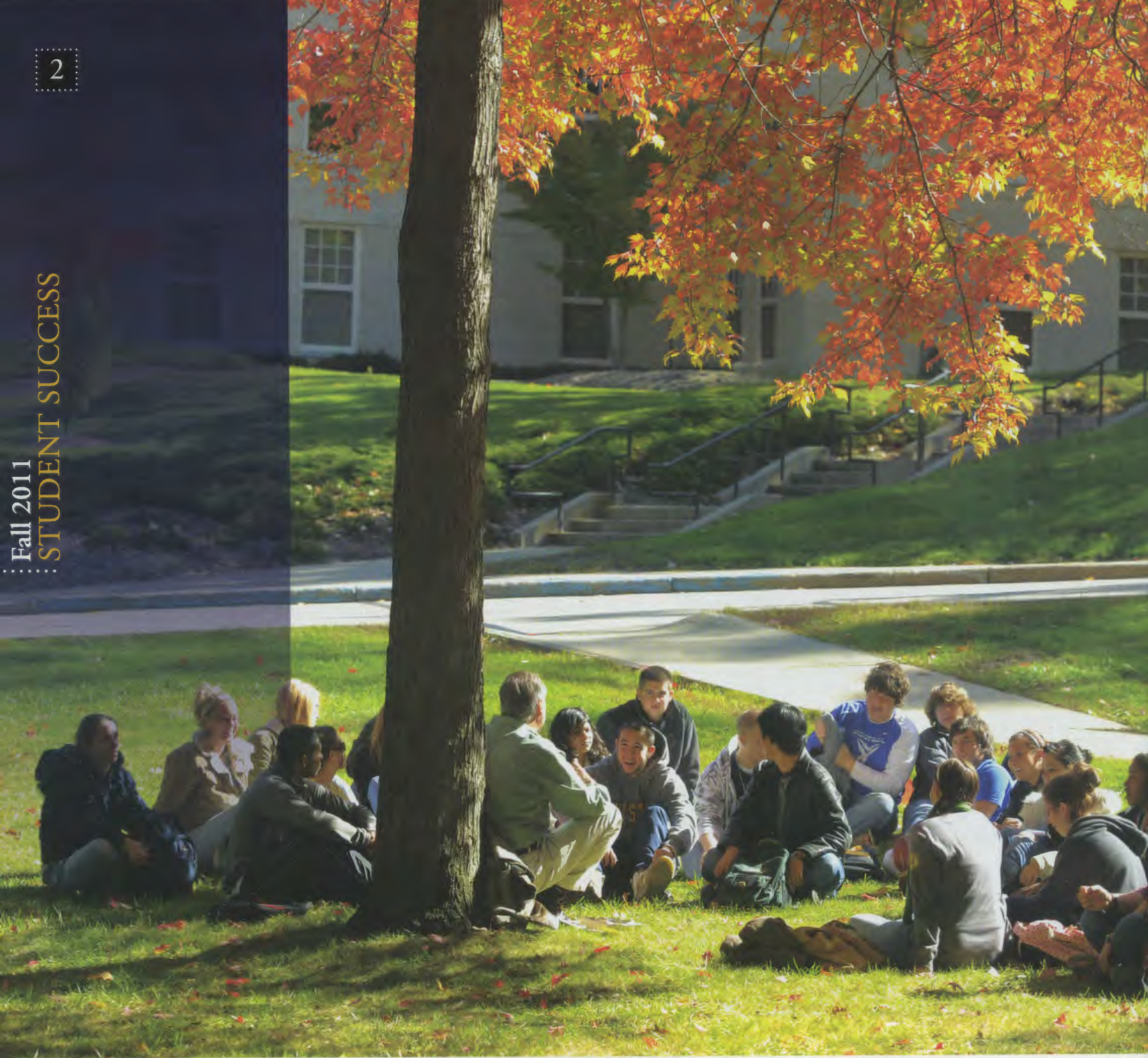
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KENT STATE

RANKS AS A BEST PERFORM

Kent State is helping to prepare a well-educated, technologically savvy and multidisciplinary workforce.

3

Every university prides itself on its graduates. No matter how many great programs are offered or how many buildings pop up around campus, the true reflection of success is found in those wearing caps and gowns on graduation day.

That's why Kent State officials are particularly excited about a recent ranking that shows its graduates are successfully completing their coursework and being graduated at a rate much higher than predicted.

An analysis by Postsecondary Education *OPPORTUNITY*, a monthly research letter, ranks Kent State University 14th on the "Best Performing National Universities: Actual Versus Predicted Institutional Graduates Rates" 2011 list. The university's high ranking indicates that Kent State's actual graduation rate of 50 percent is 10 points higher than what would be expected given the preparedness of its students.

"This analysis confirms that we are doing an excellent job in helping our students succeed," says Kent State University President **Lester A. Lefton**. "Our students are outperforming their predicted graduation rate, and it's important to highlight that Kent State's graduation rate ranks highest among public universities in Northeast Ohio."

As Kent State University enters its second century as a major contributor to the growth and prosperity of Northeast Ohio and far beyond, it has also enjoyed an era of unprecedented changes, challenges and opportunities.

From research that is attracting worldwide attention to ground-breaking degree programs that are helping our students to be more competitive, the driving force behind the university's growing list of achievements is the talent and dedication of the faculty, staff, students and administration.


At the head of the Kent State University family for the past five years is President Lester A. Lefton. His vision has been influential in guiding the university through this period of change. "President Lefton has proven to be the right leader at the right time. He shares our view that Kent State has everything it takes to stand among the best universities anywhere," says **Jacqueline F. Woods**, chair of the Kent State University Board of Trustees.

Lefton's deep commitment to the pursuit of excellence has touched nearly every facet of university life, on campus and everywhere in the world that Kent State has a presence. The following pages outline some of the highlights of the past half-decade and also look forward to what's ahead for Kent State University.

THE

Kent State is 14th in the Nation for Exceeding Graduation Rates

14TH BEST PERFORMING NATIONAL UNIVERSITY



“Everything we do as a faculty and staff should shepherd students to the timely completion of their degrees — degrees that graduate schools and employers nationwide associate with excellence, integrity and the ability to think critically and creatively.”

President Lester A. Lefton

Kent State's chief goal is ensuring the success of every student now and in the future. (Photo by Bob Christy, '95)

JOB ONE: STUDENT



President Lefton announced the appointment of Andre Thornton as Kent State's first President's Ambassador in July 2010. (Photo by Jeff Glidden, '87)

Kent State's Commitment to Diversity

Building a diverse and inclusive environment is a critical component of the university's pursuit of excellence in all endeavors. In November 2007, Lefton formed the broad-based Commission on Inclusion, chaired by respected community leader the Rev. Ronald J. Fowler. Commission members, charged with finding effective and financially feasible ways to create a more welcoming campus environment and to take full advantage of the wealth of knowledge, talents and traditions within the university community, submitted 15 high-priority recommendations. Chief among them was the addition of Kent State's first cabinet-level diversity officer to oversee a new Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

The university recently established the President's Ambassadorship, a vehicle that brings distinguished, local

minority professionals to campus to share their knowledge, insights and experiences. The first ambassadorship, held during 2010-11 by Cleveland baseball legend and business leader **Andre Thornton**, was a resounding success, generating positive feedback among students and the larger community, as well as positive media attention. **Roxia Boykin**, '71, prominent local business executive and Kent State alumna, will serve as the second President's Ambassador for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Framing the Future With New Facilities

Recognizing that students need first-class classrooms, laboratories, stages and other facilities to successfully compete for jobs, internships and advanced education, Kent State has developed a culture of philanthropy and fundraising that supports the university's already strong commitment to capital improvements that enhance

SUCCESS



Left to right: Director Cindy Stillings, Roe Green and Dean John R. Crawford celebrate the grand opening of the Roe Green Center for the School of Theatre and Dance. (Photo by Jeff Glidden, '87)

teaching and learning. Recent facilities improvements include the Roe Green Center for the School of Theatre and Dance, made possible by the generosity of alumna *Roe Green*, '80. The \$6.5 million project gives students in theatre, dance and music a Broadway-caliber black box theatre, dance studios, lighting laboratory and costume shop.

A \$22 million renovation transformed historic Franklin Hall into one of the nation's leading training grounds for aspiring reporters, editors, producers, photographers, videographers and designers where they gain unprecedented opportunities for collaborating and mastering the practice of "backpack journalism," in which news content is layered across a variety of media to reach multiple audiences.

To meet growing regional needs, Kent State University at Ashtabula constructed the Robert S. Morrison Health and Science Building with strong campus and community support. The cutting-edge facility offers 21st-century education in nursing and a range of high-demand, allied-health fields.

A nearly \$11 million renovation of Ritchie Hall, home of the Department of Pan-African Studies, supports a rich range of educational and cultural programming for students and the larger community.

The new, state-of-the-art Performing Arts Center at Kent State University at Tuscarawas also gives students in the performing arts unprecedented opportunities for professional experience in many of the "hottest" fields in the arts, entertainment and related technologies, while greatly expanding cultural enrichment for area residents.

Because the library system constitutes the heart of a world-class learning environment, Kent State undertook a major, multifaceted renovation of the University Library, including user-friendly upgrades to the lobby and circulation desk, as well as the addition of a Math Emporium, a large computer lab staffed with instructors who will provide students individualized help.

Creating a Smooth Path to Graduation

One of the university's top priorities has been making the path to graduation as straightforward and support-filled as possible. The Division of Academic Affairs convened a 21st-Century Graduate Project to eliminate bureaucratic complexity and update the curriculum with a focus on student learning. As a result, a new set of undergraduate course requirements called the Kent Core was established to ensure that students graduate with 21st-century knowledge and skills, including the ability to use, apply and explore knowledge in meaningful ways.

Fostering Learning Through Living

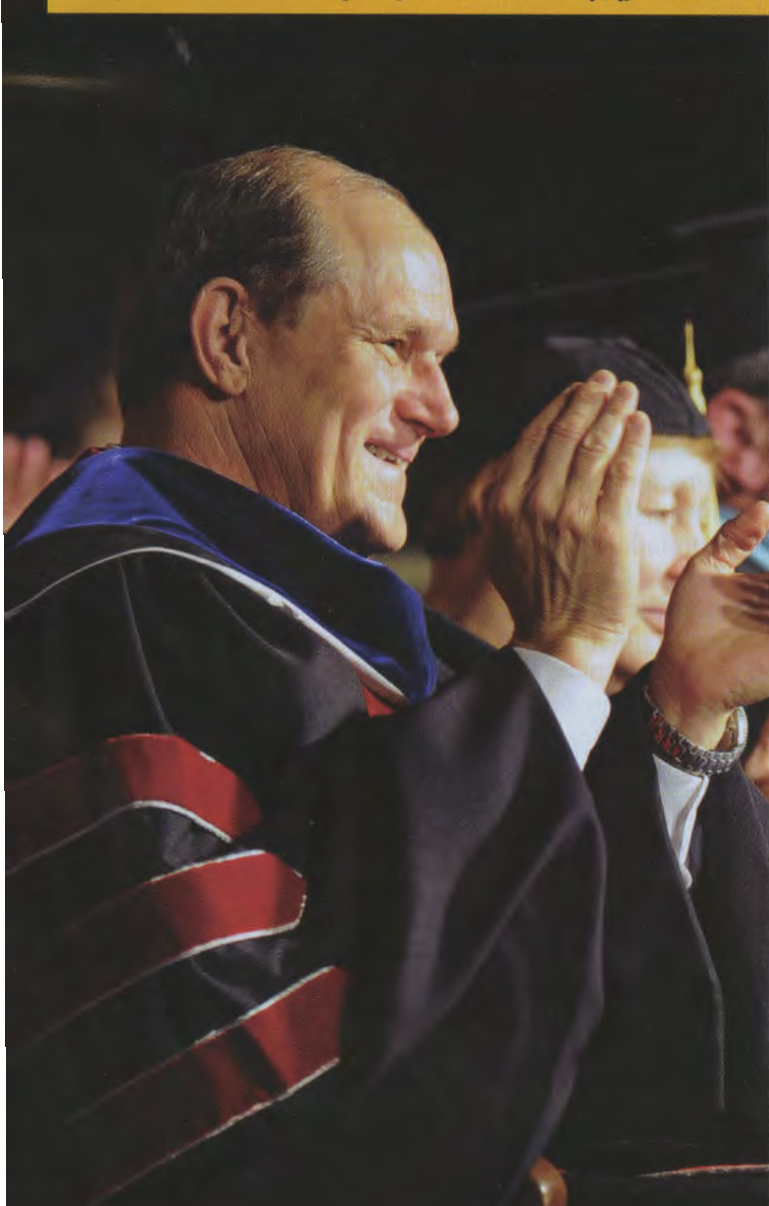
The university's commitment to expanding opportunities for learning outside traditional classrooms, labs and studios runs deep. With strong support from the executive office, administration and faculty, the university established a requirement that all undergraduates engage in at least one experiential learning experience, which may take the form of community service, service learning, undergraduate research, internships and capstone projects.

And, during the last five years, Kent State has created a variety of residential colleges and learning communities. With classrooms, labs, library support, advising and administrative offices, and faculty presence related to an academic college or department all located within a specific residence hall, teaching and learning can continue virtually 24/7. Learning communities are designed to make Kent State's large, flagship campus feel small, and they range from 10-75 students, all of whom live on the same residence hall floor and join in connected classes, activities and workshops.

Raising the Bar Leads to Record Enrollment

The university's pursuit of excellence has yielded annual increases in the quality and quantity of entering classes,

Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs Robert G. Frank formed a committee of faculty members, student advisors and academic administrators charged with making undergraduate course requirements more relevant to 21st-century realities and more manageable for students. (Photos by Jeff Glidden, '87)



including increases in underrepresented, out-of-state and international students. Last year, systemwide enrollment climbed to 41,365, creating university history and making Kent State Ohio's second-largest public university. At the same time, the percentage of students who stay and graduate continues a steady, upward trajectory.



Kent State University Director of Athletics Joel Nielsen introduced Darrell Hazell as the Golden Flashes' 20th head football coach at an afternoon news conference held Dec. 20, 2010.

Winning Scores and Winning Grades

Golden Flashes athletes and coaches have taken the call for excellence to heart, scoring high academic marks while compiling a long list of winning games, championships and awards. The student-athlete graduation rate is consistently higher than the rate for the student body as a whole and, year in and year out, more than half of all teams maintain cumulative grade-point averages of 3.0 and above — with many student-athletes earning perfect 4.0 GPAs.

The highlight reel of the last five years includes a prestigious first: Kent State won the Reese Cup for the top Mid-American Conference (MAC) men's athletic program and the Jacoby Cup for the top MAC women's athletic program in the same year (2009-10). The university placed second in the 2009 Excellence in Management Cup, a national competition recognizing athletic departments that win the most conference and national games while keeping expenditures low. And last year, Kent State was honored as the recipient of the MAC's Cartwright Award for excellence in academics, athletics and citizenship.

A Top 200

University in the World
by *Times Higher Education*, London

1st Tier

Best National Universities
by *U.S. News & World Report*

2nd Largest

Public University in Ohio

Top 3

Fashion Schools in the U.S.
by *Fashionista.com* magazine



Earning World and National Recognition

In 2010, the university's far-reaching impact and reputation on the international stage were affirmed with its ranking as one of the top 200 universities in the world by *Times Higher Education* of London. Kent State was the only public research university in Northeast Ohio — and one of only four in Ohio — to make the list.

The university also earned a coveted spot in the first-tier list of Best National Universities in the 2011 edition of *Best Colleges* issued by U.S. News Media Group. The well-known rankings, which evaluate more than 1,400 schools nationwide, are viewed by millions of readers when they appear in print and electronic editions of *U.S. News & World Report*.

Graduating Needed Talent for Our Nation

One of the results envisioned by Lefton when he introduced an institutional agenda for excellence is coming to life to the benefit of all Kent State students: A Kent State degree has become a passport to success in every field, with employer

surveys showing high levels of satisfaction with new graduates' ability to hit the ground running and a desire to hire more employees educated at Kent State.

The success of Kent State graduates was the inspiration for a well-received advertising campaign launched in 2010 and intended to show prospective students and their families the transformational power of a Kent State education. Using the theme, "Experience for Life," a series of three television commercials and companion print ads featured well-known, successful and multigenerational alumni in fields from news to entertainment to counseling to scientific research. The commercials aired in national markets to millions of viewers during prime viewing hours. The university intensified the campaign's reach and impact by taking it to an online audience via social media sites such as Facebook and YouTube. The campaign earned an award in the statewide ADDY Awards competition for excellence in advertising.

Nurturing the Entrepreneurial Spirit

Because 21st-century students must compete in an innovation-driven economy, the university established an undergraduate major in entrepreneurship that is unique nationally in its interdisciplinary approach. The College of

Graduate architecture students work alongside faculty to provide design services, research and advocacy for cities, neighborhoods and institutions as part of Kent State's unique city-university partnership, the Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative, in Cleveland's PlayhouseSquare District. (Photo by Jeff Glidden, '87)



Business Administration operates the Center of Excellence for Entrepreneurship and Business Innovation. In the center's Entrepreneurial Lab, students gain professional experience working with area start-ups, family businesses and individual entrepreneurs on projects from feasibility studies to marketing campaigns.

Student-run businesses provide services from canned kumquats to Cannes Film Festival flicks. International students can purchase food, spices and other merchandise that they may miss from home at HOME Markets, located in Acorn Alley in downtown Kent. HOME Markets carries a variety of foods and beverages from China, India and Japan.

Other student-staffed services include the Tannery, a full-service integrated marketing communications firm, and Glyphix, an award-winning student-staffed graphic design studio, hosted by the College of Communication and Information.

\$1.9 Billion

Kent State University and its graduates generate \$1.96 billion in added income to the Northeast Ohio economy.



Right: Joanna Chiu navigates her way down the Cuyaboga River in a kayak during a Crooked River Adventures excursion in downtown Kent. (Photos by Jeff Glidden, '87)

PADDLING WITH PURPOSE

Crooked River Adventures Promotes Experiential Learning
by Hiring Students Interested in Related Fields of Study



To watch a video about Crooked River Adventures, click here <http://bit.ly/cradv>.

A feeling of nervousness washes over the group of soon-to-be-paddlers standing around the back of the cargo trailer. After properly fitting their life jackets, they watch a video about how to safely navigate the river and what to do if they find themselves in trouble. Then with the aid of their instructor, they practice paddling techniques and proper strokes.

“The weather this season has been intense,” says Crooked River Adventures’ manager, **Christopher Hendricks**, M.A. ’11. “I intend to keep people safe no matter what nature decides.”

One-by-one, the boats are gently pushed off the banks of Tannery Park. Some catch the current quickly, while others spin in circles as the novice paddlers learn how to maneuver. Hendricks has now watched thousands of people do the same thing since he helped open Crooked River Adventures in the spring of 2010.



Student-run Initiative

Operated by the Department of Recreational Services, the livery is just one of many new businesses in downtown Kent that has been developed by Kent State University initiatives. It offers canoe or kayak trips, bicycle rentals and tubing to the general public each summer.

“Crooked River Adventures is pretty unique,” says **David Herpy**, ’01, the outdoor adventure coordinator for Recreational Services. “Our staff is composed completely of students, many of whom are majoring in a relevant field of study. We’re offering students the opportunity to gain exceptional professional experience.”

After giving his staff instructions, Hendricks checks the hitch to the boat trailer and heads off to monitor the group’s progress. After three 13-hour days, he shows no signs of fatigue. Opening the livery was no easy task, either. On a yearly basis, Crooked River Adventures must win a contract with Kent’s parks and recreation department to be the exclusive provider in downtown. They pay a monthly rental fee, and a percentage of all income goes back to the city.

“We have developed a great partnership between the city and the university,” says Herpy. “Beyond the fact that we now provide the citizens of Kent with a new form of recreation, we are able to offer our advice on a lot of local projects, including the city’s long-term goal of developing a whitewater park and the creation of the Cuyahoga River Trail.”

Changing Perceptions

Hendricks comments that sharing his passion for paddling is the best part of his job. “Paddling brings me such a total sense of serenity.”

However, serene was not always an adjective used to describe the Cuyahoga River. In 1969, an oil slick caught fire in Cleveland, making the river a symbol for the growing environmental movement. Since then, however, the demolition of the dams in both Kent and Munroe Falls has done a lot to help improve the water quality.

“Our participants are quick to realize that it’s nothing like what it was over 40 years ago,” comments Herpy.

The livery has made it part of its mission to help restore the river to its former glory. Paddlers are educated about the “Leave No Trace” philosophy, one that encourages minimal impact on the environment. And every year, they host Clean Up the Cuyahoga, an event designed to help remove trash from the river.

In Munroe Falls, Hendricks meets his group near a blue and gold exit flag, signaling the end of their voyage. He exchanges each boat for a hybrid mountain bike, giving the group directions on how to find their way back. Trips run every day from May through October.

After securing the last boat to the trailer, Hendricks heads back to start over again. “When I was a kid, I spent every weekend I could on the water. I still love that feeling of being completely engrossed in the wilderness. What’s awesome is that I feel that every time I’m on the Cuyahoga.”

i Read more at <http://bit.ly/crtriptube> and to learn more about this and other offerings by Recreational Services, visit www.kent.edu/crookedriver.

E

Mysteries of the Heart UNLOCK

Kent State Trumbull Professor Mary Russell discovers protein's new role

i To learn more about Professor Mary Russell, visit <http://bit.ly/professorrussell>.

When people *hear* that **Professor Mary Russell** is researching “cinnamon,” they’re confused. And the confusion is only natural. After all, why would a molecular biologist spend her time conducting research into something that almost everyone has in their pantry?

“Yeah, I get that look when I tell people outside the field what it is I’m working on,” says Dr. Mary Russell, associate professor of biology at Kent State University at Trumbull. “But when I explain that I — and others in my field — are dealing with a protein, and not what my kids sprinkle on their toast, the light bulb comes on.”

It is synemin (rhymes with cinnamon), a protein found in the human heart, that has framed Russell’s research for the better part of the last 10 years.

Grant Money Supports Research

In 2004, Russell, a graduate of The Ohio State University, received a Summer Research Grant from Kent State University, with which she initiated the construction of cDNAs needed in the synemin project. Since that time, Russell has added funding from the Farris Family Fellowship, which has aided her in her most recent synemin-related discovery. Russell has found

Left: A slice of human heart tissue showing synemin (stained in red), demonstrating that the protein synemin is found at the striations within the heart muscle cells and the junctions between muscle cells.

Right: Dr. Mary Russell, associate professor of biology at Kent State University at Trumbull, examines a yeast-expressing synemin sample. (Photo by Robb King)



Left: Heather Riffe at her new job with Ajax TOCCO Magnethermic. (Photo by Robb King)

Right: Kent State University at Trumbull



ED

By Robb W. King

that synemin has a second, completely unexpected, role in the muscle cell — both synemin proteins bind and tether a second protein in human heart cells to the internal cellular framework.

The second synemin protein, kinase A (PKA), participates in a cascade of events that, among numerous other things, allows muscle cells to respond to hormonal signals such as the release of adrenaline. This is a particularly complex set of events, and Russell is attempting to unravel the function of PKA being held tight by synemin in heart muscle cells. According to Russell, the picture is unclear since there are other pools of PKA within those cells.

Russell's research goals are to: construct cDNAs encoding alpha and beta synemin fused to a fluorescent protein; construct mutated cDNAs encoding alpha and beta synemin that do not anchor PKA and are fused to a fluorescent protein; determine the PKA substrates within cultured cells with either alpha or beta synemin; and visualize the location of each of these proteins alone and then together within the same cultured cells.

Using fluorescent microscopy, it is possible to determine where each protein is within a cell, and if they are localized together. Russell anticipates these discoveries to have exciting results within the next six months to a year.

In addition to heading up this project, Russell oversees several other projects in the Kent State Trumbull lab, each holding out the possibility of providing countless discoveries.

Laid-Off Worker Gets Fresh Start Kent State Trumbull offers second chance

By Robb W. King

When *Heather Riffe*, '87, B.A. '10, found herself laid off from Delphi Packard Automotive after nearly 20 years on the job, she thought the time was right for a new chapter in her life.

It was time for a fresh start.

Little did she know that Kent State University at Trumbull was thinking along the same lines. It was April 2009, and Kent State Trumbull had recently announced the kickoff of its new Fresh Start program, which offered free tuition to laid-off workers who had lost their jobs because of the poor state of the economy.

When Opportunity Knocks

"I had planned on going back right after I got laid off," Riffe says, "and when I read in the paper that the university was offering this program, I told my husband that this opportunity may never happen again. I was already half way there, why not jump in and do it?"

I am so very grateful to the university for what they did for me," she continues. "The entire experience was worthwhile."

Fresh Start applicants had to provide documentation that the layoff was from a full-time position and had occurred since Oct. 1, 2008, and was the result of the economy — not the fault of the employee. The students could not have attended any college or university within the prior three years.

The program's scholarship allowed a new student to enroll in up to 12 credit hours for free. Like Riffe, a large

number of the Fresh Start students — 63 percent of the 112 enrollees — had previous college experience.

And it just so happened that Riffe's previous experience was with Kent State University at Trumbull, and resulted in an Associate of Arts degree in 1987. It was at that time that Riffe put her educational pursuits beyond that two-year endeavor on hold as she transitioned from a retail store sales clerk to her role as a component engineering support staffer with Delphi.

Good Things Take Time

"When I started my college career," says Riffe, "Kent State was celebrating its 75th anniversary, and when I finally got my bachelor's degree, it was celebrating the 100th anniversary. Twenty-five years from start to finish — I wonder if that's some kind of record."

Regardless of how long Riffe took to get from start to finish, getting her hands on that degree played a role in her landing a position as a buyer with Warren-based Ajax TOCCO Magnethermic just two months short of her December 2010 graduation.

"In my mind, without a doubt, to show (Ajax) that I was finishing my degree, making that commitment to making myself a better person and employee was a factor in my getting the job," says Riffe. "And they were as accommodating as could be while I finished up my schooling. I couldn't have asked for more, either from Ajax or from Kent State Trumbull. The whole thing couldn't have worked out better."



To learn more about Kent State University at Trumbull, visit <http://www.trumbull.kent.edu>.



To view a video about Fresh Start, visit <http://bit.ly/trumbullstart>.

When the Golden Flashes played their season opener against the University of Alabama on Sept. 3, their journey south was driven by much more than a simple game of football. Kent State's presence in Tuscaloosa was a reminder of its strong connection to the Crimson Tide and how Golden Flash players and staff helped rebuild the town in the wake of a devastating tornado.

On April 27, Tuscaloosa went reeling when a tornado ripped through the town and left hundreds of people homeless and almost 200 dead. The weeks that followed found a weary community trying to recover, and that's when members of the Kent State University football team decided to draw upon an alumni connection and make a difference.

The team, led by new head coach **Darrell Hazell**, reached out to Crimson Tide head coach *Nick Saban* to see how they could help. Saban, a one-time Golden Flash defensive back, played on the team in 1972 when Kent State won the only Mid-American Conference championship in school history.

Golden Flashes Lend a Hand

Saban, '73, M. Ed. '75, welcomed the offer from his alma mater, and members of the Golden Flashes traveled to Tuscaloosa last summer to help the community in a variety of ways. The players, armed with hammers and nails, helped Habitat for Humanity build a new home for tornado victims. They also held football skills clinics for displaced youth and donated \$10 from the sale of each Golden

Coach Hazell,

Please convey my heartfelt THANKS to your players and assistant athletic director-communications for their work at Tuscaloosa. Our entire state was devastated by the tornadoes on April 27, and lives were changed forever. The work of [the] volunteers will also change lives forever. Thank you Kent State! See you in September.

*ROLL TIDE!
Robin Mize
Birmingham, Alabama*

Flashes season opener ticket to a tornado relief fund.

"When we agreed to the Sept. 3 nonconference game last fall, it presented a tremendous opportunity for us to open our season against one of the preeminent programs in the country, one that just so happens to be coached by a Kent State alumnus," says Kent State Director of Athletics **Joel Nielsen**. "In the aftermath of the tornado, the game took on a whole new meaning, and we were happy to help."

Saban has also done his part for his community. He and his wife, *Terry*, '74, M. Ed. '77, have pledged \$50,000 from their Nick's Kids charity to Project Team Up to help rebuild homes in a nearby town devastated by the twister. His players and staff have also pitched in to aid with the relief efforts as the town struggles to recover.

MORE THAN A GAME

Golden Flashes Support Alumnus Coach Nick Saban
and his Tornado-torn Community By Alan Ashby



A Kent State Legacy

Saban played defensive back for the Golden Flashes from 1970-72. His teammates were NFL Hall of Famer *Jack Lambert* and current Missouri head

coach *Gary Pinkel*, and they played under College Football Hall of Fame coach *Don James*. Graduating with a bachelor's degree in business, Saban went on to earn a master's degree in sports administration in 1975 while serving as a graduate assistant with the Flashes. He then spent a year as the linebackers' coach on the 1975 squad.

Saban led Alabama to the 2009 BCS National Championship after directing LSU to the 2003 title. He is 38-11 (.776) in four seasons with the eighth-ranked Crimson Tide, and owns a collegiate coaching record of 129-53-1 (.708) in 15 seasons as a head coach, having also directed the programs at Michigan State University and the University of Toledo.

Exciting Schedule

The MAC schedule begins in October with a two-game road swing to Ohio University (Oct. 1) and Northern Illinois University (Oct. 8). The Flashes have come out victorious in four of their last five trips to Athens, but have not won in DeKalb since 1966.

The Golden Flashes make the short trip to Akron for the annual Wagon Wheel game on Nov. 12 before closing out

the home slate the following weekend against Eastern Michigan University (Nov. 19). The Flashes reclaimed the Wagon Wheel with a 28-17 victory last year in Kent.

Kent State wraps up the regular season by traveling to Temple the day after Thanksgiving (Nov. 25), part of ESPN's multiple-game selection plan that gives the network flexibility in choosing the best match-up that day.

i To read a blog about how Kent State football players and staff assisted in tornado relief at Tuscaloosa, go to <http://bit.ly/tackletornado>.

2011 Kent State Football Schedule

9/3	at Alabama
9/10	vs. Louisiana 7 p.m.
9/17	at Kansas State 7 p.m.
9/24	vs. South Alabama 3:30 p.m.
10/1	at Ohio* 2 p.m.
10/8	at Northern Illinois* 3:30 p.m.
10/15	vs. Miami* (Homecoming) 3:30 p.m.
10/29	vs. Bowling Green* 1 p.m.
11/4	vs. Central Michigan* (ESPNU) 6 p.m.
11/12	at Akron* (SportsTime Ohio) 2 p.m.
11/19	vs. Eastern Michigan* 1 p.m.
11/25	at Temple* (ESPNU/ESPN3) TBA
12/2	at Marathon MAC Championship Game (ESPN) 7 p.m.

All times are Eastern

**Mid-American Conference Game*

Far left: Nick Saban has a 38-11 record in four seasons at Alabama, where he directed the Crimson Tide to the BCS title and a perfect 14-0 record in 2009.

Near left: As a three-year letterwinner (1970-72), Nick Saban was a member of the 1972 Mid-American Conference Championship team that went on to play in the Tangerine Bowl. (Photos provided by Alan Ashby, Kent State Athletics)





MEET THE MEN'S BASKETBALL COACH

Kent State Director of Athletics **Joel Nielsen** didn't have to look far to find the school's 24th men's basketball coach.

On April 7, Nielsen hired from within by choosing assistant coach **Rob Senderoff** to lead the Kent State men's basketball team.

"It became clear fairly early in our coaching search that the most qualified candidate and the best choice to lead our program to even greater success in the future was Rob Senderoff," says Nielsen. "Rob has been one of the cornerstones behind our long tradition of winning. He has proven ready to continue

enhancing our program's position as one of the nation's very best, both on the court and in the classroom."

Senderoff spent seven seasons on Kent State's staff, most recently as associate head coach under Geno Ford. He signed a three-year deal worth \$250,000 per year plus incentives.

An Established Leader

The 37-year-old has led the Golden Flashes into the post season in each of his seven years with team (2002-06; 2008-11), and he has been a part of the staff during three of Kent State's

five Mid-American Conference regular season titles.

Last season the Golden Flashes became the first MAC team in 21 years to claim back-to-back regular season championships.

"It is both a privilege and an honor to be named the head coach at Kent State and I want to start off by thanking university President **Lester A. Lefton**, Director of Athletics Joel Nielsen and Executive Associate Athletic Director **Tom Kleinlein** for giving me this great opportunity," says Senderoff. "We have established a great tradition of success here, and I am extremely excited about

(Photo by Bob Christy, '95)



Keeping Up With Varsity "K" Hall of Famer Dirk Hayhurst

By Alan Ashby

Dirk Hayhurst, '03, can now add "bestselling author" to his résumé.

Hayhurst, a relief pitcher in the Tampa Bay Rays organization and Kent State graduate, wrote *The Bullpen Gospels*, which chronicles his journey to the Major Leagues.

The Bullpen Gospels premiered at No. 19 on the *New York Times* bestseller list under the category of nonfiction after an estimated 20-30,000 copies of the book were sold in the first week following its release on March 30, 2010.

MSNBC political analyst and sports enthusiast Keith Olbermann called Hayhurst's work, "one of the best baseball books ever written."

No one should be surprised with Hayhurst's prowess as a writer. A communications graduate from Kent State, the Canton, Ohio, native is well-known for the 'Non-Prospect Diary' that he wrote for *Baseball America*, as well as several articles he wrote for Canton's newspaper *The Repository*.

Career Ups and Downs

Hayhurst's big-league career has been marked with ups and downs. The right-handed pitcher was selected in the eighth round of the 2003 Major League Baseball Draft by the San Diego Padres.

He was called up and made his Major League debut on Aug. 23, 2008, against the San Francisco Giants.

The Toronto Blue Jays claimed Hayhurst in October 2008, and he saw time with the team in 2009 before missing the entire 2010 season following surgery on his right shoulder.

Prior to the 2011 season, Hayhurst signed a minor league deal with the Rays and was invited to spring training.

He is currently playing for the Triple-A Durham Bulls of the International League and holds a record of 1-1 with a 3.38 earned run average.

While Hayhurst's book discusses his time in the minor leagues, it was his time at Kent State that earned him a job playing professional baseball.

Hayhurst was inducted into the Varsity "K" Athletics Hall of Fame this past February. As a senior in 2003, Hayhurst earned Mid-American Conference Pitcher of the Year. A three-time MAC Pitcher of the Week honoree, Hayhurst ranks first in the Kent State record book for strikeouts (274) and innings pitched (320.2).

An accomplished public speaker, Hayhurst expects his second book to be due out in 2012.

See more at <http://bit.ly/varsityk2011>.

By Alan Ashby

getting to work with the coaching staff and players in order to focus on carrying that tradition forward into the future."

Jeff Goodman, currently a columnist with CBSsports.com, recognized Senderoff as the top assistant coach in the MAC, and in September 2010, *The Hoop Scoop* rated him as one of the top 50 Mid-Major Assistants in the country. Coming in at number four on the list, he was the only MAC assistant coach ranked in the top 25.

i To read more about Coach Senderoff, visit <http://bit.ly/ksumenball>.

Kent State offers multiple opportunities for students to be involved in international programs. Fashion School students participate in study tours in Europe and Asia on a regular basis. (Photos by Jeff Glidden, '87)

The Shannon Rodgers and Jerry Silverman School of Fashion Design and Merchandising at Kent State University continues to be one of the campus crown jewels, shimmering like a diamond on a runway model.

Center of Excellence


The Fashion School's reputation was recently vaunted by the Ohio Board of Regents when it was named one of the state's Centers of Excellence in Cultural and Societal Transformations. Kent State joins four other universities throughout the state to receive this distinction. This category of Centers of Excellence recognizes programs that explore in significant and innovative ways factors that affect the human condition and community welfare, leading to the social and economic prosperity of individuals and communities.

With this recent distinction, Kent State has received three Centers of Excellence designations out of six categories, including the Biomedicine and Health Care category and the Advanced Materials and Sensors category.

Top Rankings

In December 2010, the Fashion School received an appreciative nod from the popular online fashion magazine, *Fashionista.com*. *Fashionista* ranked the Fashion School third in the country and 13th in the world.

"The Top 50 Fashion Schools in the World" list was compiled after the *Fashionista.com* staff spoke to students, employees

 To learn more about the Fashion School, visit <http://bit.ly/nsmLpW>.

FASHION SCHOOL NAMED CENTER

Board of Regents Confirms School's Ranking Among

at the school, companies who hire graduates and industry professionals. It also took into consideration tuition costs, demographics, famous alumni and variety in programming.

Students Show at China's Fashion Week

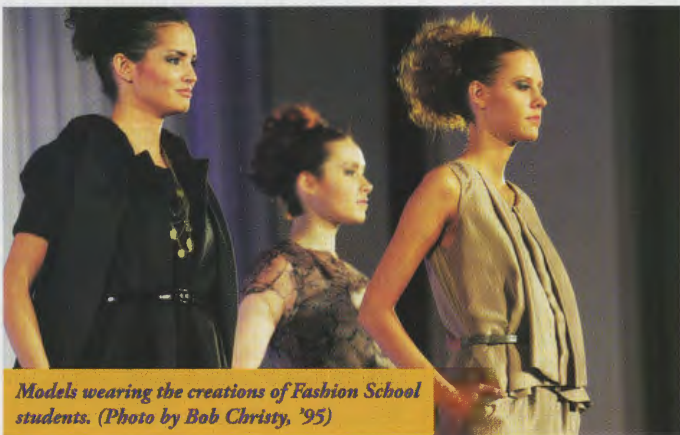
In March, Kent State designs were seen on a runway across the globe when seven Kent State fashion design students and three faculty members attended China's 2011 Fashion Week as guests of China's Central Academy of Fine Arts and Beijing's city government. These students showed four pieces from their senior collections at the show.

"It was pretty transforming for each of the students," says Fashion School Director **J.R. Campbell**. "The experience gave them a totally different perspective on their work and their future. And a lot of people now think about our school not just in context of the U.S but as a member of the international community in education and in the fashion industry."

Fashion Empire CEO

Kent State bestowed the honorary degree Doctor of Humane Letters to Leonardo Ferragamo, chief executive officer of Palazzo Feroni Finanziaria S.p.A., a holding company of the shoe and luxury good dynasty Salvatore Ferragamo of Florence, Italy. During the same ceremony, Leonardo Ferragamo was inducted into the university's Shannon Rodgers and Jerry Silverman School of Fashion Design and Merchandising Hall of Fame for his internationally recognized expertise in the global merchandising of the Salvatore Ferragamo brand of women's footwear, handbags and scarves, as well as the men's shoes and clothing line.

While at the university, the fashion empire CEO and his family met with Fashion School students and received a personal tour of the Katharine Hepburn exhibition at the Kent State University Museum by Museum Director **Jean Druessedow**, who also served as the exhibition's curator.



Models wearing the creations of Fashion School students. (Photo by Bob Christy, '95)



Leonardo Ferragamo accepts induction into the Fashion School Hall of Fame. (Photo by Jeff Glidden, '87)

International Artist of the Year Award

Campbell himself helped add another gem to the Fashion School's accolades last year when he and Associate Professor of Fashion Design **Vincent Quevedo** were jointly awarded the "International Artist of the Year" award at the 2010 Fashion Art Biennale in Seoul, South Korea, for their piece DMZ, which stands for demilitarized zone.

Campbell attended the Biennale as one of only four American speakers at the weeklong event. The event drew 104 artists from 17 nations and included a symposium of various speakers, performances and the main exhibition on the theme of Fashion Art - War/Peace, which was in honor of the 60th anniversary of the Korean War.

The Fashion School Store Launches

Just as the Fashion School enjoys a growing global presence, an opportunity to expand locally surfaced this year with an offer from Kent philanthropist and developer Ron Burbick. Burbick, the man behind the city's new retail area known as Acorn Alley that has spurred the redevelopment of downtown Kent, donated store space to the school in Acorn Alley.

Campbell says the school will use the space to open The Fashion School Store this fall. While plans are still under development for exactly what the store will offer to customers, there is no doubt in Campbell's mind about what the store will offer his fashion students.

"In the context of fashion education, very few schools have built-in opportunities for students to experience everything from design production to retail," Campbell says. "Students are going to be able to use this store as an experiment and try different modes of retail in the digital and nondigital sense."

i To see more photos of Leonardo Ferragamo receiving his honorary degree and being inducted into the Fashion School Hall of Fame, visit <http://bit.ly/npLLtW>.

OF EXCELLENCE

p Three in Country

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEMBER PROFILE

JOHN AND HELEN WILLIAMSON: FIRST LIFE MEMBERS

OF THE KENT STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



(Photo by Bob Christy, '95)

John, '45, and Helen, '45, Williamson, for whom the Williamson Alumni Center is named, were instrumental in launching the life membership program for the Kent State University Alumni Association, and became the first life members in 1975.

After graduating, John had a long career as a utilities executive and retired as chairman of Centerior Energy, and Helen stayed home to care for their sons. John holds a bachelor's degree in business administration, and Helen holds a bachelor's degree in home economics from Kent State University.

How did you meet at Kent State?

I worked on campus at the print shop, and sometimes they would send students in so I could teach them how to run the printers. Helen's sister was one of the students who came in. I asked her on a date, but she told me I was too young and that she had a sister who sat in front of me in psychology. So I met Helen in class and have been with her ever since. We got engaged in college and were married on Aug. 3, 1945.

What did you enjoy most about Kent State?

It was the atmosphere. It was such an intelligent and caring campus. The people make the university and campus. There is something here at Kent State that shows people care for one another.

Favorite Kent State memory?

Meeting Helen — tapping her on the shoulder and asking her on our first date.

Where was your favorite place to hang out on or around campus?

We loved going to the restaurants on Water Street. I remember I would skip eating in the dining hall in order to take Helen on a date downtown.

Why did you become lifetime members of the Kent State Alumni Association?

We greatly appreciate what Kent State had done for us, and it was just another way for us to give back.

MEMBERS SUPPORT PROGRAMS THAT:

- Build and sustain lifelong relationships;
- Encourage learning and professional growth;
- Celebrate the successes of alumni, faculty and students; and
- Share the excitement of university accomplishments.


ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

JOIN NOW ONLY \$35 A YEAR
visit www.ksualumni.org or call 1-888-320-KENT

BACK TO THE FUTURE

— Kent State Style

Alumni return to their alma mater and catch a glimpse of its latest endeavors

By Lindsay Kuntzman, '06, M.A. '09

Kent State alumni felt like students again when they returned to campus for the first-annual Alumni College, held May 21, 2011. The event gave attendees the opportunity to reunite with one another and revisit the campus. They shared fond memories, revisited familiar places, discovered all the impressive ways their alma mater has changed and heard firsthand its plans for the future.

"Welcoming more than 100 alumni back to campus for our first annual Alumni College was very exciting," **Brittney Braydich**, assistant director of outreach for the Kent State University Alumni Association, says. "Watching them reconnect with each other and hearing their excitement about all the advancements on campus made the entire day a huge success!"

Popular educational sessions were offered to attendees throughout the day. Kent State faculty members taught classes on topics such as Katharine Hepburn's

fashion, the basics of wine, liquid crystals and more.

In addition to taking classes, participants enjoyed a bus tour of campus. For *Marguerite Spears*, '39, M.A. '50, the tour was one of the day's highlights.

"The campus has grown! None of this was here when I was," Spears says. "I wanted to come back while I was still able to, and I'm glad I came today."

Alumni also listened to an update from President **Lester A. Lefton** during lunch. The day concluded with a reception where alumni received "diplomas" and a stuffed black squirrel.

Leona Brown, '51, says she was happy she attended the event and would consider coming again.

"I did enjoy myself. And, I think if you asked anyone here, they'd tell you they enjoyed themselves, too," Brown says.



Watching clips from Katharine Hepburn movies and learning how her fashion sense influenced women's clothing was just one of the activities offered at Alumni College.

Plans for next year's Alumni College are already being discussed. Save the Date for **May 19, 2012**.

"Our hope is to build on the success and positive feedback from this first year," Braydich says. "We're considering expanding the program and developing an alumni committee to help guide our efforts for future Alumni College programs."

Class Notes

1959

George W. Domhoff, M.A., Santa Cruz, Calif., is a research professor in psychology and sociology at the University of California, Santa Cruz. Domhoff is the author of *Who Rules America?* and books in sociology and power structure research, including *Finding Meaning in Dreams* and *The Scientific Study of Dreams*.

1960

Carolyn A. (Poling) Schriber, Ph.D., Cordova, Tenn., published *Beyond All Price*, a Civil War novel based on the life of Union nurse Nellie M. Chase. Schriber's book is available from Amazon.com in trade paper or Kindle edition.

George S. Schroeder, M.F.A. '62, Hiram, Ohio, is emeritus professor of art at Hiram College and serves as its art department chairman. He has exhibited his work in shows in France, and in many permanent collections, including those of the Canton Museum of Art and the Cleveland Indians.

1962

Richard W. Carter, J.D., and Gale (Burkhardt) Carter, '62, Bradenton Beach, Fla., celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 10. Richard continues to practice law in Bradenton Beach, Fla., where he was formerly a municipal judge. Gale served six years as a city councilwoman.

Thomas M. Fabek, M.B.A., Lakewood, Ohio, received a 2011 Patriot of the Year Award from the Help Hospitalized Veterans organization.

1966

Charles J. Dale, Montgomery Village, Md., won the Chairman's Award for Excellence, one of the highest awards given by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. Dale developed regulations that will make money market funds safer and more liquid for millions of investors.

1967

Allan B. Pintner, Brecksville, Ohio, has been named Industry Statesman by the National Affordable Housing Management Association. Pintner retired as vice president in 2010 from Millennia Housing Management, but continues as its real estate broker managing more than 7,000 units of affordable

housing in seven states. He also is on the Executive Committee for the Northeast Ohio Apartment Association and is a director of the United Telephone Credit Union.

1969

Rich Hollenbaugh, J.D., Columbus, Ohio, a partner at the law firm, Carlile Patchen and Murphy, has been elected to serve as president of the Ohio Legal Assistance Foundation Board of Trustees.

Brooke E. Sectorsky, Cleveland, Ohio, was honored with the 2011 John Hill Award, which recognizes a Cleveland-area executive for exceptional understanding and support of communications.

Nelson L. Stevens, M.F.A., Amherst, Mass., was profiled on TV Land's "AfriCOBRA: Art For The People" as part of their celebration of Black History Month. Stevens has taught undergraduate and graduate level art courses. His art has been exhibited in museums in Harlem, New York and Chicago and is found in many private collections, including the Smithsonian, The Schaumburg Library and Research Center in New York and the Chicago Institute of Art.

Alumni Association Annual Members are in blue, Life members are in gold.



CELEBRATING A CENTURY of Dedication

Continued alumni support contributes to 100 years of success for the Alumni Association

By Ashley Katona, '06

Fall 2011
ALUMNI

1. Fred Gissendaner, '67, M.A. '77, Dr. Janet Gissendaner, '78 and alumni association staff member, Pam Speck
2. Mrs. Gabriele Malon, D. Scott Cunningham, '77, and Gordon Ober, '72, M.B.A. '75
3. Harry Tripp, '83, M.Ed. '89, Dan McCombs, '61, M.Ed. '67, and Anita Herington, '71, M.A. '88, Ph.D. '94, and Lori Rendorf, M.B.A. '99, executive director of the alumni association
4. Rex Ray, '67 and Lee Trotter, '67
5. Current and former board members and alumni directors

The Kent State University Alumni Association has much to be proud of as it celebrates its 100th anniversary this year. And that pride starts with Kent State alumni. Each year, thousands of graduates walk down the aisle to receive a Kent State diploma to take into the world.

And along with Kent State graduates' educational experiences come many unforgettable memories, long-lasting friendships and a network of connections made at Kent State — all reasons why Golden Flashes proudly support the university today.

Ronald Beer, Ph.D. '69, former alumni director (1968-69) of the Kent State Alumni Association, says one of the pillars of the alumni association is the graduates who valued their Kent State experience.

He remembers Donald Wrentmore, '48, John Young, '50, and John Williamson, '45, as very accomplished graduates

who made significant contributions to the university. "It was those students who had great experiences and showed gratitude toward faculty and staff who were intimately involved and had a great impact on the university," Beer says.

Alumni have been a pivotal force behind many university accomplishments. The following are some major alumni association milestones from the past 100 years.

The Formation of the Alumni Association

Kent State's first president John E. McGilvrey recognized the importance of Kent State's alumni and formed an alumni association in 1911, even before classes started.

In 1914, Kent State Normal School, soon to be named Kent State Normal

Class Notes

1970
Ken Stephen, North Canton, Ohio, retired in July of 2010 after working most of his career at the Canton Repository as a district manager, advertising consultant and developer of the company's first Internet sales program. He finished his career as an advertising consultant/Web marketing salesperson.

1971
Peter M. Jedick, Rocky River, Ohio, recently converted his novel *HIPPIES* to the Kindle and Nook e-book versions (\$4.95). *HIPPIES* is a coming-of-age romance novel set against the turmoil on Kent's campus during the 1969-70 school year. The book sold out two printings in 1998 and 2001.

1972
Nancy A. Roth, Galloway, Ohio, is implementing research-based early literacy instruction while serving as a K-3 literacy tutor with Minnesota Reading Corps at Olson Elementary School in Bloomington, Minn.

1973
Michael T. Casey, Overland Park, Kan., is the congressional liaison for the U.S. Army's Combined Arms Center (CAC) at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., where he prepares CAC senior leaders for visits to Capitol Hill and coordinates congressional visits. Casey won numerous journalistic awards and was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize.

Carter E. Strang, B.S. '73, J.D., Cleveland, Ohio, a partner with Tucker Ellis and West LLP in Cleveland, Ohio, has been named the 2011 Kent State University Distinguished Honors College Alumni. The award recognizes an Honors College graduate for professional success and contributions to the community and to Kent State University and the Honors College.

1974
Richard S. Cooper, Lawrenceville, Ga., assists student teachers as a university supervisor for the College of Education at Georgia State University in Atlanta, Ga. Cooper taught for 33 years in Clayton and Rockdale County Schools until he retired in 2006.

Carolyn S. Jones, Novato, Calif., owner of Gate Lady Publishing, announces the publication of the book she

authored and photographed. *Opening the Gates of the Heart: A Journey of Healing* is the winner of two honorable mentions: one for photography and one for spirituality, from the 2010 San Francisco and New York Book Festivals, respectively. Information about the book is available at Gatelady.com.

1975
Charles J. Dolezal, Orrville, Ohio, has been named to serve as superintendent of the state Division of Financial Institutions by the Ohio Department of Commerce.

Richard M. Foote, M.B.A. '87, Aurora, Ohio, is the vice president of business development and client services for Davey Tree's residential/commercial services division.

1976
Jim Wardwell, M.A. Norwalk, Conn., was honored with the Boy Scouts of America Silver Beaver Award, the highest award for volunteers on the local council level. Wardwell has been involved in scouting for 50 years, serving in a number of roles.



College, graduated its first class of 34 students, and soon after Kent State formed an alumni association that included several alumni clubs throughout Northeast Ohio.

One of the association's early accomplishments was its support of the administration's effort to prevent Ohio state legislators from transforming Kent State Normal College into a psychiatric hospital in 1933. Two years later, alumni helped McGilvrey accomplish one of his major goals for the Normal College, which was transforming the school into a university. Some of the first graduates of the university also played a vital role in the creation of graduate programs, a business school and, in 1935, the "gateway" to the Kent Campus, Prentice Gate.

Transitioning the Office of Alumni Relations

Although Kent State had much support from alumni in its early years, the alumni

association was missing a full-time staff. This is when Beer, who worked at the university for several years, stepped in as first director of alumni relations.

"President *Robert I. White* (1963-1971) asked me if I would take over the alumni office and get it started on a new path," Beer says. Beer accepted the position for a two-year term. He was joined by other new staff members, including *Bill Barrett*, '54, who became alumni editor.

The alumni relations team brought much success to the alumni relations office, including the creation of an alumni board, a new award-winning magazine, *KENT*, and reinvigorating alumni groups across the country.

A Campus Home for Alumni

John, '45, and *Helen*, '45, *Williamson* recognized the importance of having a home away from home for Kent State

alumni. "We had the idea to use the president's home to attract graduates from all over," says *Williamson*. "In my mind [the alumni center] creates good will."

When the Curtiss House, the former president's home, was offered to the alumni association in 1988, private gifts totaling \$1.6 million were raised for renovations and to build an addition. *John* and *Helen* gave the lead gift for the project.

A Century of Dedication

The Kent State University Alumni Association continues to follow its mission of helping alumni connect to their alma mater. It strives to cultivate a tradition of ongoing involvement among and between alumni even as the number of graduates exceeds 200,000.

"What makes our university and alumni association special is the people — from the students to our dedicated alumni," **Lori Randorf**, M.B.A. '99, executive director of the alumni association, says.

1978

Catherine P. Hakala-Ausperk, M.L.S. '91, Chagrin Falls, Ohio, has been named Executive Director of The Northeast Ohio Regional Library System.

Rene Paschal, Tempe, Ariz., served the Mesa Public School district in Mesa, Ariz. where he began his career as an elementary school teacher and later served the district as principal at two of their schools for 14 years. *Pascal* recently left his post there as director of professional development to become principal of Samuel W. Tucker Elementary School, Alexandria City Public Schools, Alexandria, Va.

1979

Michael E. Simonella, B.G.S. '79, Canton, Ohio, returned from Japan where he reports he shared God's comfort, love and salvation, as well as his physical help. *Michael* has ministered in 69 countries and notes the Japanese have open minds and hearts.

Bryce K. Wilson, Cary, N.C., has been promoted to director of digital operations and Webmaster for Curtis Media Group, a locally owned and operated group of 20 radio stations across North Carolina. *Wilson* manages 25 websites, six audio

streams and a 400-user email system. *Wilson* has been with the company since 1986.

Jill A. (James) Woodruff, El Paso, Texas, daughter of former KSU head football coach, *Don James*, recently published a book titled *The Coach's Daughter, A Journey Into God's Faithfulness*.

1981

Karen A. (Andrus) Tollafeld, Mentor, Ohio, has been awarded this year's Outstanding English Language Arts Educator Award, Elementary, by the Ohio Council Teachers of English Language Arts. *Tollafeld* has taught in Beachwood, Ohio, for 30 years and is currently pursuing her Ph.D. at Kent State.

1983

Joyce A. Baugh, M.A. '83, Ph.D. '89, Mount Pleasant, Mich., published her book, *The Detroit School Busing Case: Milliken v. Bradley and the Controversy Over Desegregation* (February 2011) as part of The University Press of Kansas's Landmark Law Cases and American Society series.

Robert J. Boggs, M.P.A., Reynoldsburg, Ohio, former director of agriculture for the State of Ohio, was named to the State Executive Committee of the Farm Service Agency.

Clark F. Stein, Mentor, Ohio, will be joining the Brecksville United Methodist Church in July as their next pastor. *Stein* has been married to *Kathy* for 30 years and they have four children.

1984

Roger S. Howard, M.Ed. '93, Independence, Ohio, principal of Independence High School, has been named the State of Ohio Secondary Principal of the Year by the Ohio Secondary Association of School Administrators. Under *Howard's* leadership, there has been an increased general academic rigor as well as a more student-centered environment where students enjoy attending school.

1986

David M. Edgecombe, Ph.D., Anchorage, Alaska, is a professor at the University of Alaska Anchorage's Department of Theatre and Dance and is the director of the historical play "Libby" which debuted in February at the Juneau Arts and Culture Center in Juneau, Alaska.

WHERE IN THE WORLD are Kent State Alumni?

By Sarah Lack and Nicole Gennarelli

Mark Bartholet, '06, and Andrea Muto, '98, are among the more than 1,200 Kent State graduates living and working in countries outside of the U.S. Here are their stories about what inspired them to work abroad and make a difference overseas.

A Home Away From Home

The first time Bartholet visited El Salvador, he was an undergraduate student at Kent State pursuing a bachelor's degree in integrated mathematics. He traveled to the Central American country with the Newman Center, the Catholic ministry located on the Kent Campus, to see the towns and villages for which the university parish helped to raise money.

Since that initial visit, Bartholet knew he would return to the country that had found a special place in his heart.

After graduating, Bartholet taught mathematics at Cleveland Heights High School, and returned to Kent State to work as a pastoral associate at the Newman Center.

"I always thought I was going to be a teacher, but math didn't fit," Bartholet says. "It was then that I decided that in the future, I wanted to return to El Salvador for an extended period of time."

Bartholet traveled to El Salvador in 2008 and 2009. Bartholet taught

English at Colegio Padre Nicolas Antonio Rodriguez, a parochial school in the San Jose parish of El Salvador. The school, founded by Father Rafael Fuentes, is supported in part by the Newman Center.

He plans to return in December to celebrate the baptism of the school principal's daughter. He was asked to be her godfather.



Andrea Muto with members of the publications staff.

Making a Difference in Kabul

Muto never imagined a career in librarianship would take her to Kabul, Afghanistan. But it did just that in 2007, when she traveled to Kabul to build a law library.

"I had always wanted to work in some type of international position," Muto, who graduated with her degree from Kent State's library science program in 1998, says.

Muto left for Kabul in February 2007 to work on a USAID-funded project focused on working with the Afghan Supreme Court and Ministry of Justice. Muto managed a staff of 28 Afghan workers who organized and codified select Afghanistan laws.

Muto is now back in Washington, D.C., and will travel mid-April to Pristina, Kosovo. She will work at the law school there, with another USAID-funded project.



Bartholet working with school children in Salvador.

Class Notes

1987

Ward D. Peterson, M.B.A., Aurora, Ohio, has been named Utility Arborist of the Year by the Utility Arborist Association. Peterson is the Utility and Urban Resources manager for Davey Resource Group.

1988

John M. Moosey, M.P.A., North Branch, Minn., is the new manager of the borough government offices in Palmer, Ala.

1989

Lawrence G. Haines, Ashtabula, Ohio, has been appointed to the position of strategic development manager at Plasticolors Inc. where he has held various positions since 1989.

Phil B. Soencksen, Newburgh Heights, Ohio, has returned to Kent State as Writer, Marketing Communications in the University Communications and Marketing Department. He most recently had worked as a freelance copywriter in the Chicago area.

1990

Tracy M. Ferrett, Hartville, Ohio, is now the Marlboro Township fiscal officer.

1991

Lisa M. McGuire, Greensboro, N.C., is the assistant director for adult, transfer and commuter programs at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

1995

Peter A. McAllister, Ph.D., Tucson, Ariz. has been named dean of the College of Arts and Letters at California State University, Los Angeles. McAllister has co-edited 11 books, presented more than 45 research papers and has published in the important research journals in his field. He has been appointed to the *Music Editors Journal* editorial committee for six years, and continues to serve as an accreditation site visitor for the National Association of Schools of Music.

Sean M. Stadler, Washington, D.C., is an associate principal at WDG Architecture in Washington, D.C. He recently joined 12 national recipients who received the 2011 Young Architect Award from the American Institute of Architects (AIA) and serves on the Board of Directors of the AIA D.C. Chapter.

1996

Rando Bruns, M.B.A., Amherst, Ohio, Ebersheim, Germany, group treasurer of Merck KGaA, has received the award "Treasury of the Year 2010" by *Finance* for the acquisition financing and financial integration of Millipore Corp. (U.S.). Bruns also received an award for the 'EMEA loan of the Year 2010' by the *International Financial Review*. In addition, awards for the best corporate EUR bond issue in 2010 have been awarded by *Euroweek* and *Credit Magazine*.

1997

Joseph D. Bowlds, M.M., Laurel, Md., U.S. Army Master Sgt., has been decorated with the Army Commendation Medal. The medal is awarded to individuals who, while serving in any capacity with the Army, have distinguished themselves by acts of heroism, meritorious achievement or meritorious service. Bowlds, a woodwind group leader with 13 years of military service, is assigned to the U.S. Army Field Band at Fort George G. Mead in Laurel, Md.

Jennifer N. West, J.D., Cleveland, Ohio, is serving on the Planning Commission in South Euclid, Ohio.

Ron Brown, '01, was enjoying a night out with friends and family at the Winking Lizard Tavern in Cleveland when he heard his name announced on the television. Dari Nowkhah and Ryan Burr, ESPN *SportsCenter* anchors, revealed that Brown had won a job as a sportscaster with ESPN for the day. The exciting news was part of Oprah Winfrey's Harpo Hookups, through which Oprah made individuals dream jobs a reality — at least for an afternoon.

"I was shocked when I heard them say 'Ron Brown from Cleveland, Ohio,' on ESPN, and then I saw a picture of myself on television with the Oprah logo," says Brown. "I didn't know what to think, but I was so excited, and it was great that all my family and friends were there."

A Friend Indeed

Included among those friends was James Hill, '01, who engineered the hook up. Hill wrote to the Oprah show about Brown's passion for sports broadcasting and love for ESPN. Hill included a clip of Brown on Kent State's TV-2, along with the letter.

About two years after Hill wrote the letter,

Brown received the opportunity of a lifetime. He was invited to ESPN's studios in Connecticut to appear on *SportsCenter*, where he interviewed Derrick Rose, a point guard for the Chicago Bulls and the 2011 NBA MVP, during game four of the NBA playoffs. Brown also interviewed sports analyst John Berry.

"I never thought in a million years that I would have an ESPN microphone in my hand and be on the *SportsCenter* set," Brown says. "It really was amazing."

Brown's appearances were not over just yet. Brown then flew to Chicago to be on the *Oprah Winfrey* show, which aired on May 5.

Meeting an Icon

"I never thought I would meet Oprah and have her asking me questions," Brown says. "It is amazing because she is such an icon and legend and to be in the same area as her was an honor."

His experience in television began his sophomore year at Kent State with TV-2, the student run news station on campus.

"TV-2 was one of the first things I did when I got to Kent State, and it is when



Ron Brown at the ESPN studios. (Photo courtesy of John Atashain Photography.)

I found my passion for broadcasting," Brown says.

Brown credits his TV-2 advisors, Gary Hanson and Tom Olson.

"They really were the fuse for me to make me want to do broadcasting and made it seem like it was something that I could actually do," Brown says.

Brown still hopes to work in broadcasting someday.

"The experience at ESPN rekindled a lot of feelings," he says. "I would love to get up and do that every day because it wouldn't seem like work. That would really be living out my dream."

Oprah "Hooks Up" Ron Brown with his ESPN DREAM JOB

By Ashley Katona, '06

1998

Tracy N. Lamparty, Saint Paul, Minn., was recently named the grants and operations manager by the trustees of The Jay and Rose Phillips Family Foundation of Minnesota.

Stephen C. Needham, Chicago, Ill., is head of the bankruptcy practice group at Noonan and Lieberman Ltd. in Chicago.

Jason E. Shelton, Arlington, Texas, is a tenured track professor at the University of Texas at Arlington.

1999

Rob Glenn, Hilliard, Ohio, was recently appointed as the executive director of Ohio Homeland Security. Glen served in a multitude of roles at Ohio Emergency Management Agency including executive officer, readiness and response branch chief and chief of public affairs.

Cynthia D. Wilkinson, Tampa, Fla., lives in Tampa with her partner, Kelly, and is a registered ultrasound technologist.

2000

Jack L. Baumann, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, started as a summer intern in 1997 at Braun & Steidl Architects in Akron, Ohio. After graduation, Baumann joined the firm and has

contributed to more than 55 projects during his tenure, primarily focusing on higher education and religious project types. Recently, he was the project manager for the new \$42 million Cleveland State University Student Center.

Kelly J. Emery, Clyde, Ohio, has been promoted to assistant vice president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago in the credit risk management area in the central bank services division.

Jennifer L. Kramer, Akron, Ohio, was promoted to director of public relations and marketing communications, College of Communication and Information at Kent State. Kramer is responsible for strategic communication functions for all schools and units of the college.

Torin M. Scott, Galloway, Ohio, is part of the small filmmaking team that produced the film "Stones" which was selected for the Cannes International Film Festival Short Film corner.

2001

Jason L. Craig, Stow, Ohio, is interactive project manager with Hitchcock Fleming and Associates Inc. Craig develops and maintains innovative interactive online marketing and communications programs and is certified in Google analytics.

Amy Laity, M.L.S., Elmore, Ohio, became the new director of the Harris-Elmore Public Library on April 1. Laity was manager of the Genoa Branch Library since February 1995 and was appointed to assistant director in March.

Heidi L. Landskroener, M.L.I.S., '05 Cleveland, Ohio, has been promoted to Children's Librarian at the Addison Branch of the Cleveland Public Library.

Alexandra P. Nicholis, Munroe Falls, Ohio, has been named executive director of the Massillon Museum, having served as interim executive director since June of 2010. In 2004, Nicholis originated the concept of Studio M, which showcases a new selection of regional art every six weeks. For the past two years, she has planned and supervised construction of a state-of-the-art storage facility.

Simone R. Richardson, M.L.S., Akron, Ohio, is a librarian at the Summit County Library and recently authored *Executive Clemency by Pardon: A Guide to Pardon Success*.

Losses

- 1931**
Molly Troxil, Pleasant Hill, Calif., March 1999.
- 1937**
Ronald H. Davidson, J.D., Hudson, Ohio, November 2006.
- 1938**
Ruth A. Mac Lennan-Uphaus, Saint Petersburg, Fla., July 2010.
- 1939**
Sophie Kahn, Cherry Hill, N.J., August 2010.
- 1941**
Joseph M. Michaels, Leland, N.C., December 2010.
- 1942**
J. James Rose, Middlefield, Ohio, December 2010.
- 1943**
Elaine P. Friedland, Kent, Ohio, February 2011.
Eleanor H. Kubiak, Kennebunkport, Maine, February 2011.
- 1945**
Jean H. (Hungerford) Beverly, Hermitage, Tenn., March 2009.
- 1947**
Jacqueline S. Newman, Fairview Park, Ohio, April 2006.
- 1948**
Walter F. Meads, Lakeland, Fla., March 2011.
Vasile W. Tanyas, Columbus, Ga., January 2007.
- 1950**
James E. Van Gilder, M.Ed. '56, Stow, Ohio, January 2011.
- 1951**
Joanne E. Davidson, Independence, Ohio, November 2009.
- 1952**
Edwin F. Clark, Salisbury, Md., January 2011.
Daniel Moss, Longwood, Fla., April 2011.
- 1953**
James R. Espenschied, M.Ed., North Canton, Ohio, May 2011.
Charles E. Stokes, Akron, Ohio, November 2010.
- 1954**
Earl W. Swancy, Fresno, Calif., February 2011.
- 1956**
Carol M. (Levens) Clapp, Pakkret Nonthaburi, Thailand, March 2010.
- 1957**
Don Silverstein, Sacramento, Calif., January 2011.
- 1960**
James M. DeJoy, Willoughby, Ohio, February 2011.
- 1962**
Otto P. Fulpahs, Hinckley, Ohio, July 2010.
Stewart N. Little, Amherst, Ohio, September 2009.
Donald C. Thrall, North Ridgeville, Ohio, May 2011.
- 1963**
John L. Williams, M.A. '63, Ph.D., Gambier, Ohio, May 2011.
- 1964**
Janet A. (Donaldson) Ebinger, Vienna, Ohio, April 2011.
John W. Hampton, Lafayette Township, Ohio, November 2009.
Kathryn K. (Kirkpatrick) Hanson, Stow, Ohio, April 2011.
- 1965**
Alma J. Sheets, February 2010.
- 1966**
Patricia A. (McCallum) Pickens, M.Ed. Okemos, Mich., January 2009.
- 1967**
Craig N. Lucas, M.F.A. '76 Kent, Ohio, April 2010. Member of KSU art faculty from 1969-2004.
Steven K. Pilzer, Clermont, Fla., November 2006.
Paul G. Warden, M.A. '67, Ph.D. '71, Stillwater, Okla., February 2011.
- 1968**
Michael L. Merlo, Brighton, Mich., April 2010.
Mel Vaughan, Cumming, Ga., November 2010.
- 1969**
Thomas G. Blosser, M.A., Kent, Ohio, April 2011.
Mary F. (Amodio) Frisina, M.Ed. '86, Brecksville, Ohio, March 2011.
Gregory C. Granger, M.Ed. '69, Minerva, Ohio, March 2011.
Frank A. Matchett, Canal Fulton, Ohio, March 2011.
- 1970**
Margaret A. Holzapfel, Mogadore, Ohio, April 2011.
Ina W. (Weltman) Rothman, Hudson, Ohio, November 2010.
Sally P. (Plaine) Warrick, M.A. Mountain View, Mo., May 2011.
- 1972**
Marjorie H. (Glandorf) Fulmer, Tucson, Ariz., January 2011.
- 1973**
Bill Crist, Ravenna, Ohio, March 2011.
Ernest H. Hirsh, Cincinnati, Ohio, February 2011.
- 1974**
Gary R. Tartaglia, Berkeley, Calif., June 2010.
- 1975**
Steven M. Puck, Cleveland, Ohio, April 2007.
- 1976**
Richard M. Ludwig, Columbiana, Ohio, January 2009.
Tom H. Matteson, M.Ed. Ashland, Ohio, November 2010.
Janet L. Vogelbaum, Lighthouse Point, Fla., April 1991.
- 1977**
Eric L. Steele, Leavittsburg, Ohio, December 2010.
- 1978**
Lisa J. Brown, Pittsburgh, Pa., November 2009.
- 1980**
Joan B. (Brant) Wolfe, Fort Worth, Texas, December 2010.
- 1986**
William Castrovinci, Sagamore Hills, Ohio, July 2010.
- 1987**
Ken Limpert, North Ridgeville, Ohio, July 2010.
- 1995**
Ruth Nash Thompson, Ph.D., Edinboro, Pa., April 2011.
- 1998**
David J. Abrahamson, Morrisville, N.C., January 2011.
- 2000**
Carl E. Hirsch, Palm Beach, Fla., February 2011.

Faculty and Staff

- John A. Flower, Ph.D., Shaker Heights, Ohio, May 2011. Former dean of the College of the Arts (then College of Fine and Professional Arts) and associate provost. Founding dean of Kent/Blossom Music.
Edwin Lively, Ventura, Calif., October 2010. Former Kent State faculty member.
John J. Michaels, Kent, Ohio, March 2011. Professor Emeritus of Technology.
Robert T. Pfeiffer, Warsaw, Ind., October 2010. Professor Emeritus.
Phillip R. Shriver, Oxford, Ohio, April 2011. Former Kent State University dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Class Notes

2002

Tara L. Beamish, Uniontown, Ohio, has been named Benefits Manager for Associated Materials Inc., assuming direct management responsibility for all U.S. benefits plans and programs.

Melissa B. Martie, M.B.A.'05, Akron, Ohio, recently joined The Ruhlin Company, located in Sharon Center, Ohio, as the marketing coordinator.

2003

Suzanne Hughes, M.S.N., Hudson, Ohio, was named Heart Champion by the American Heart Association for her 37 years of work in the field. Hughes is the director of population health at Summa Health System, is frequently an invited lecturer, has held several editorial positions and has authored or co-authored more than 60 academic articles and book chapters on issues related to cardiac health.

Ivan Smalyukh, Ph.D., Lviv, Ukraine, is a recipient of the prestigious Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers and was honored by President Barack Obama at the White House. Smalyukh says he received the award with great honor and deep gratitude, saying it is strong encouragement for him and his students and will help them in their future work. He also credited his experience and education at the Liquid Crystal Institute of Kent State as providing a solid background and courage needed for pursuing important and ambitious research goals.

2004

Marian B. Maxfield, M.Ed., Stow, Ohio, earned her Ph.D. in Instructional Technology at Kent State in May 2011.

Nicole M. Weirich, Dalton, Ohio, is now co-anchoring the 6:30 and 9 p.m. newscasts for FOX-affiliate KXRM in Colorado Springs, Colo.

2005

Kathleen M. Hale, Ph.D., Auburn, Ala., recently published *How Information Matters: Networks and Public Policy Innovation*.

Ryan D. Takaba, M.F.A., San Antonio, Texas, is a member of the ceramics faculty at the Southwest School of Art and also an

adjunct faculty member at Northwest Vista Community College, both in San Antonio, Texas. Takaba's works are on display at the Houston Center for Contemporary Craft in Houston.

2006

Lynne E. Ausman, Cincinnati, Ohio, graduated from Northern Kentucky University with a Masters in Public Administration and a certificate in nonprofit management and is the runaway and homeless youth division operations coordinator at ighthouse Youth Services in Cincinnati.

Charles F. Hansen, M.L.I.S., Mount Vernon, Ohio, has been selected as the new director of the Granville Public Library.

Ashley B. Toussant, Canton, Ohio, recently performed at the Kent Stage in Kent, Ohio, with Cleveland band The Lighthouse and the Whaler. Toussant is also recording her first full-length CD.

2007

Timothy J. Dickey, M.L.I.S., Columbus, Ohio, had his article "Books as Expressions of Global Cultural Diversity: Data Mining for National Collection Analysis" accepted for publication in *Library Resources & Technical Services*.

Life Members

Margaret Akerstrom, North Barrington, Ill.
 William Akerstrom, North Barrington, Ill.
 B. Rajaram Baliga, Winston Salem, N.C.
 Gayathri Baliga, Winston Salem, N.C.
 B. Carol Barber, Canton, Ohio
 Thomas Barber, Canton, Ohio
 Pauline Black, East Liverpool, Ohio
 Leslie Bolgrin, Canal Fulton, Ohio
 Judith Brode, Hudson, Ohio
 Michael Brode, Hudson, Ohio
 Kathleen Brown, Avondale, Ariz.
 Amanda Burkhalter, Fostoria, Ohio
 Richard Busch, Westlake, Ohio
 Martha Carrick, Stone Mountain, Ga.
 Robert Carrick, Stone Mountain, Ga.
 Anna Citino, Salem, Ohio
 Magdeline Clemens, Dayton, Ohio
 Geneva Damron, Sun City Center, Fla.
 O. Rex Damron, Sun City Center, Fla.
 Mary Ann Dany, Clyde, N.C.
 Robert Dany, Clyde, N.C.
 Jacqueline Davis, Lakewood, Ohio
 Abbie DelGratta, Bonita Springs, Fla.
 Jay Dombos, Mentor, Ohio
 Linda Duhn, Apopka, Fla.
 William Duhn, Apopka, Fla.
 Wayne Dunlevy, Hammondsville, Ohio
 Kristin Eckard, Warren, Ohio
 Colleen Fisher, Silver Lake, Ohio
 Dale Fisher, Silver Lake, Ohio
 Michael Forsythe, Deadwood, S.D.
 Gerald Fox, Jr., Naples, Fla.
 Daniel Frank, Ravenna, Ohio
 Jeffrey Frazier, Lebanon, N.J.
 George Gardner, Jr., Bryan, Ohio
 Roberta Gardner, Bryan, Ohio
 Gale Gault, Tallmadge, Ohio
 Mary Gentile, Statesboro, Ga.
 David George, Strongsville, Ohio
 Jean Gilmore, Anaheim, Calif.

Charles Goold, Stow, Ohio
 Lorena Goold, Stow, Ohio
 Margaret Grigsby, Akron, Ohio
 Steven Grudzinski, Northfield, Ohio
 Lenard Hairston, Lilburn, Ga.
 Francis Hamilton, Odessa, Fla.
 William Hawthorne, Alexandria, Va.
 Maria Held, North Royalton, Ohio
 Daniel Helfinstine, Kent, Ohio
 Shannon Helfinstine, Kent, Ohio
 Kimberly Himes, Fairview Park, Ohio
 Tanya Hopson, Dayton, Ohio
 Thomas Hoza, Akron, Ohio
 Samantha Hubbard, Clinton, Ohio
 Donald Humphrey, Concord, Ohio
 Chalmers Jenkins, Jr., Scottsdale, Ariz.
 Evelyn Jenkins, Scottsdale, Ariz.
 Shirley Johnson, Ravenna, Ohio
 Delores Jones, Stow, Ohio
 Kim Kelly, Rocky River, Ohio
 Patrick Kelly, Rocky River, Ohio
 Brianne Kimmel, Columbiana, Ohio
 Lydia Kleinhenn, Bryan, Ohio
 Karen Lamb, Atlanta, Ga.
 L. Darleen Lewis, Stow, Ohio
 Robert Liu, San Jose, Calif.
 Alexandra Lizarribar, Clyde, Ohio
 Bonita Lucci, Steubenville, Ohio
 Richard Lucci, Steubenville, Ohio
 Thomas Malito, Girard, Ohio
 James Maurer, Hudson, Ohio
 Marian Maxfield, Stow, Ohio
 Jedediah McMath, New Philadelphia, Ohio
 Kieran Mulhausen, Westlake, Ohio
 William Mulhausen, Westlake, Ohio
 David Murch, Twinsburg, Ohio
 Elizabeth Murch, Twinsburg, Ohio
 Quentin Nolan, Lorain, Ohio
 Patrick Obermayer, Jr., Parma, Ohio
 Selma Papell, Strongsville, Ohio
 Paul Penick, Haines City, Fla.
 Charles Pepkin, Plano, Texas
 Donald Phillips, Cupertino, Calif.

Mary Ann Phillips, Cupertino, Calif.
 Richard Phinney, Geneva, Ohio
 Peter Procaccio, Uniontown, Ohio
 Sandra Procaccio, Uniontown, Ohio
 August Quattrochi, Strongsville, Ohio
 Richard Rader, Mesa, Ariz.
 D. W. Rajecki, Fishers, Ind.
 Jill Rango, Silver Lake, Ohio
 Richard Rango, Silver Lake, Ohio
 Nell Rapport, University Heights, Ohio
 Joseph Reed, Milltown, N.J.
 John Rees, Kent, Ohio
 Judy Rees, Kent, Ohio
 Kelly Reid, Warren, Ohio
 Melissa Rhode, Dover, Ohio
 Josue Robles, Jr., San Antonio, Texas
 James Sell, Orange, Texas
 David Severson, C.P.A., San Diego, Calif.
 Jon Shulsky, Brunswick, Ohio
 John Smith, Massillon, Ohio
 Michael Soinski, Broadview Heights, Ohio
 Brenda Spier, Loudonville, Ohio
 John Spurney, Miami, Fla.
 Richard Stacklin, Lakewood, Ohio
 Albine Stickney, Hudson, Ohio
 Robert Stickney, Hudson, Ohio
 Dan Stoica, North Canton, Ohio
 Daniel Suvak, Canton, Ohio
 Lisa Swartout, Ravenna, Ohio
 Michael Swartout, Ravenna, Ohio
 Paul Sweeny, Redding, Calif.
 Janine Tiffe, Norman, Okla.
 Jacqueline Toole, Fort Mill, S.C.
 Jonathan Trout, Southfield, Mich.
 Cynthia Vesia, Diamond, Ohio
 William Vesia, Diamond, Ohio
 Koreen Ward, Rootstown, Ohio
 Barbara Webb, Powell, Ohio
 Lillie West, Upper Marlboro, Md.
 Katrina Wilkosz, Spring Green, Wis.
 Thomas Wilson, Massillon, Ohio
 Robert Wolf, Hartsville, Ohio
 Scott Wolf, Avon Lake, Ohio

Kathryn A. McGee, M.Ed., '10 Chardon, Ohio, received a master's degree in education in August 2010 and a position at Kent State at the Geauga and Twinsburg Academic Center in June 2010. McGee says, "I am loving every minute of it!"
Hayley A. Reaver, Millersport, Ohio, won the Radio Mercury Student Award for her 30-second spot entitled *Orkin: Mosquito Insanity*.

2008

Erica L. Hudkins, Stow, Ohio, was promoted to human resources generalist at Associated Materials Inc. Hudkins is responsible for assisting with talent recruitment across all U.S. operations, as well as coordinating the management training program and other administration functions.

Lara L. Kocerka, Saint Augustine, Fla., owns Declaration Boutique and Events (declarationboutique.com) in St. Augustine, Fla.

Joshua M. Parker, Stow, Ohio, had an exhibit in the Main Gallery at The Sculpture Center in Cleveland as part of the 2011 Window to Sculpture Emerging Artists Series.

2009

Daniel P. Alcorn, B.G.S., '09, Rutland, Vt., received his Masters of Public Administration from Norwich University and has been accepted into a Doctor of Public Administration program with Capella University.

Tessa K. Hogue Catlin, M.L.I.S., Mason, Ohio, is the manager of the library and in charge of career services and information technology at Strayer University in Cincinnati, Ohio. Hogue married Stephen Catlin Oct. 2, 2010.

Kristin E. Cole, M.L.I.S., Niles, Ohio, has accepted the position of reference- instruction librarian at Muskingum University in New Concord, Ohio.

Jennifer Collier, M.F.A., Kent, Ohio, had an exhibit in the Euclid Avenue Gallery at The Sculpture Center in Cleveland as part of the 2011 Window to Sculpture Emerging Artists Series.

Janice G. Radl, M.L.I.S., Sagamore Hills, Ohio, was recently hired as a librarian in the Science and Technology Division at the Akron-Summit County Public Library.

Rikki J. Steingass, M.L.I.S., Bluffton, Ohio, received a 2011 YALSA Teen Tech Week Mini Grant for Bluffton Public Library.

2010

Lennise J. Baptiste, Ph.D., Kent, Ohio, received the highly competitive 2010 Michael Scriven Dissertation Award for Outstanding Contribution to Evaluation Theory, Methodology or Practice. Baptiste completed her degree and dissertation, "Process Use Across Evaluation Approaches: An application of Q Methodology in Program Evaluation," in May 2010 from Kent State University. During her doctoral program in evaluation and measurement, she worked for Kent State's Research and Evaluation Bureau. Most recently, she accepted a monitoring and evaluation specialist position at the Caribbean Health Research Council.

Daniel J. Slife, M.L.I.S., Huron, Ohio, is the new director of the Huron Public Library.

Hear Firsthand About All the Amazing Things Happening at Kent State

Dear Alumni and Friends:

Join Kent State University President Lester A. Lefton at an upcoming alumni reception near you. You'll find the receptions are great opportunities to network with fellow alumni, meet President Lefton and hear about new initiatives at Kent State.

The hall is reserved. The welcome mat is out. All that's needed is you!

Please watch your mail for an invitation or visit www.ksualumni.org for additional program information and to register online.

We look forward to meeting you.



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Mark Your Calendar:

San Francisco: Sept. 27	Atlanta: Feb. 15, 2012
Pittsburgh: Oct. 11	Bonita Springs: Feb. 18, 2012
Boston: Oct. 24	Phoenix: March 18, 2012
Charlotte: Nov. 17	Denver: March 19, 2012
Rancho Mirage in Palm Springs: Dec. 1	Columbus: May 17, 2012



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Alumni Continental Breakfast and Parade Viewing [9-11:30 a.m.]

Hosted by the Kent State Alumni Association
Williamson Alumni Center at 1200 Main Street

Homecoming Parade [10-11:30 a.m.]

Main Street

Flash FanZone [2:30 p.m.]

Dix Stadium

Football [3:30 p.m.]

Miami University Redhawks vs. Kent State Golden Flashes

Other Activities

- Class of 1961 reunion luncheon
- Bowman Cup 5K race
- Open houses at Ice Arena, Student Recreation and Wellness Center and Kent State University Museum
- Kiss on the K
- Much more

Shop for homecoming apparel at the
Kent State University Bookstore.

Updated information regarding the parade,
schedule of events and more is available at

www.ksualumni.org/homecoming
1-888-320-KENT

Mirta Gonzalez Prior, '71, and Tom Prior, '72, will fund numerous scholarships through an endowment created by their estate. (Photo by Gillian Hunt)

AN EDUCATION THAT OPENED UP THE WORLD

Alumni couple gives back because of opportunities made possible by Kent State By Brian Thornton, M.A. '07

For *Mirta Gonzalez Prior, '72*, as high school graduation approached, prospects sometimes seemed as gray as a Northeast Ohio winter sky. The daughter of migrant farm workers who moved from Puerto Rico to the area when she was a child, Gonzalez Prior knew that she wanted to attend college. But Cleveland in the 1960s was a place suffocating under negative national attention for its economic decline, racial tensions and pollution.

One teacher helped lift her out of those gloomy confines by bringing her to visit Kent State, where she instantly “fell in love with the campus.”

“Especially for a gal who grew up in Cleveland, I felt my life was limited by the surroundings,” she says. “I was enthralled by the beauty of the campus but also by the people I met from all walks of life.”

Love Found at Kent State

One of the people she met was her future husband, *Tom Prior, '71*, whom she admits to forgetting the first few times their paths crossed. The couple dated for 13 years; busy careers in sales kept them from marrying until they were each transferred to California with their respective jobs in 1980 and 1983.

Tom's Kent State classes — first in architecture, and later in business —

proved helpful in the high-tech world of industrial sales. He also found other benefits to his education.

“One of the things about a Kent State degree that proved to be an asset was the discovery that...having a Midwest education still carries a lot of weight out in the business world today.”

President Inspires Giving

Support for Kent State wasn't at the forefront of the Priors' minds until they encountered President **Lester A. Lefton** at a reception several years ago.

“President Lefton spoke about how hard it was to motivate students toward higher education — how, because of the cost...a lot of families were not pushing their kids to go to college,” Prior says. “I thought that was sad because education is the most important thing you can give to a child.”

Finances were a roadblock for both Tom and Mirta in pursuing their educations. Both juggled schoolwork with employment; Tom held a variety of jobs to assist with tuition and other living expenses, while Mirta worked in the cafeteria at Tri-Towers.

The couple has pledged to leave the bulk of their estate to the university to endow

TAKING ACTION: SCHOLARSHIPS

dozens of new need-based scholarships as part of the Centennial Campaign.

“There were scholarships available to me, but they were more based on scholastic achievement,” Mirta says. “I really had to dig for scholarships. If there had been more scholarships available, I would have had a less stressful time.”

Mirta, a regional sales manager for a medical products company, is also serving on the newly formed Diversity Advisory Board, which aims to increase diversity and inclusion among the student body, as well as fund scholarships to aid that effort. It's a mission close to the heart of the former Brook Park resident, whose education “opened up a new world.”

“Kent State was one of the most wonderful experiences of my life, to be exposed to people of different cultures and backgrounds,” she says. “I firmly believe that this is a country of opportunity, and you get what you make of it. You can really do pretty much anything you want in life.”



To learn more about the Centennial Campaign, visit www.kent.edu/advancement.

FOUNDERS SCHOLARSHIPS CELEBRATES 20

Alumni share how the scholarship program transformed their career path By Brian Thornton, M.A. '07

Fall 2011
SPECIAL CENTENNIAL
CAMPAIGN SECTION

TAKING ACTION: SCHOLARSHIPS

i To learn more about the Centennial Campaign, visit www.kent.edu/advancement.

Spring 2011 graduate *Richard Jeric's* message to attendees of last year's Founders Gala was simple and heartfelt: "It is because of the investments made by you, the donors to Kent State University, that all Founders Scholars can graduate from the university with total confidence in their future. I am proud to have chosen Kent State, and it is thanks to all of you that I did."

Jeric's gratitude for his education is shared by many of the nearly 500 alumni of the Founders Scholars program, which turns 20 years old this year. It's a major milestone for an initiative that transformed the academic experience of Kent State's best and

brightest students by offering them guaranteed scholarship support for four years.

This fall, more than 125 students will receive scholarships through the program. And since the Centennial Campaign's launch, donors have committed to funding 20 new Founders Scholarships.

But the true measure of the program's success comes from its alumni, who are pursuing careers as researchers, architects, journalists, nurses, entrepreneurs and educators, among other fields. Here are three of their stories.

Angie Jones, '02, M.A. '04, Ph.D. '09

Angie Jones wouldn't have come to Kent State without the Founders Scholarship, but the value of the program's financial benefits became clear as she sorted out her future through four different majors.

"When I was going through all sorts of majors, the Founders Scholarship kept me on track," the mother of two says. "Knowing I had four years of a free education really helped me to focus and keep my education a priority."

Her scholarly exploration began in journalism, but ended in psychology, where her decision to pursue an honors thesis led her to cancel plans for law school and instead continue on at the College of Arts and Sciences to earn a master's degree and doctorate. During her graduate work and post-doctoral

fellowship, Jones' research focus included explorations of spelling and reading, and how humans process language. She also looked at adolescent risk factors for suicide and violence, a project that included outreach to teachers in Portage, Stark and Summit counties.

Today, Jones is a tenure-track assistant professor at John Carroll University, where she teaches courses including cognitive psychology, sensation and perception. But one of the most important lessons she has for her students is the value of pursuing opportunities outside the core requirements of a degree.



"Where I am today is directly influenced by deciding to do an honors thesis," she says. "I think a lot of students, especially undergrads, don't realize how large the field is and all of the directions you can go with it."

Photo courtesy John Carroll University Department of Integrated Marketing and Communications.

SCHOLARSHIP YEARS OF SUCCESS



Gabriel Diego Delgado, '98

Texas-based artist *Gabriel Diego Delgado* was among the earliest Founders Scholars, choosing Kent State in 1994 for its “culture and climate,” he says. He wasn’t disappointed, finding an engaged School of Art faculty that drilled him in theory and technique, and a campus atmosphere that gave Delgado and friends the freedom to begin a student artistic salon, Grupo De Frescura.

“Finding out that I was one of the [Founders] award-winners was a step in the right direction in terms of courage and motivation,” he says. “It was an esteem-builder, essentially. And then the money that came along with it was fantastic. I mostly used it for art supplies, in addition to tuition.”

He also found his voice as a political activist, a role that has influenced his career ever since. Following graduation, Delgado moved to Houston and became a curator — first for the Artcar

Museum, and then for the Station Museum. It was at the latter institution that he co-curated *Made in Palestine*, a show of 26 artists and poets’ work that grew out of a month-long trip to Israel, Jordan, Palestine and Syria. The acclaimed exhibition traveled to San Francisco and New York and spawned a hardcover book.

Today, Delgado works as an administrator for the San Antonio School for Inquiry and Creativity. But he still creates as a way of making political statements, focusing his art on issues such as the Middle East, the environment and animal rights. His most recent solo exhibitions of large-scale, sociopolitical paintings were displayed this summer in San Antonio and Houston.

Photo courtesy Gabriel Diego Delgado.

Heidi Baumgart, '06

“Having the Founders Scholarship was probably the best thing that happened to me at Kent State,” *Baumgart* says. “I wasn’t worried about taking more credits than I could pay for, and wasn’t pressured with bills. Five years later, if I still had student loans, I wouldn’t have been financially secure enough to quit my day job to start my business.”

That business is *Heidzillas*, a wedding planning and coordination service that’s received numerous awards since launching in 2008, including *The Knot*’s “Best of Weddings” for two years in a row. Her clients’ cakes have even appeared on *WE TV*’s *Amazing Wedding Cakes*.

The entrepreneur is proud that she’s never spent money to advertise her startup, relying instead on social media and her blog. *Baumgart* credits her Kent State advertising education, as well as her time working at the *Daily Kent Stater*, with providing the marketing and project-management skills she draws upon daily.

“I can’t say enough about Kent State,” she says. “I am such a Kent State dork.”

Photo by Andrew Jordan Photography.



Untangling the Complex World of Information Technology

Courseware gift helps launch first-in-the-nation concentration in enterprise architecture

By Brian Thornton, M.A. '07

When the world's most successful companies — including Microsoft Corp., Bristol-Myers Squibb and Wal-Mart Stores Inc. — have an information-technology challenge, they don't simply purchase a new piece of software. Instead, they employ a process called enterprise architecture.

Samuel B. Holcman, managing director of the Enterprise Architecture Center of Excellence, would know — his organization counts those corporations among its clients.

Enterprise architecture is a practice used by Fortune 500 companies, the U.S. government and organizations around the world to assist them in creating technological roadmaps that match their business needs. Using the roadmaps, organizations develop tools and processes to help their employees work smarter and more efficiently.

"In the last 20 years, people have started to pay attention because of one word, and that word is 'complexity,'" says Holcman, one of the field's early pioneers. "The business and technological needs of modern organizations are extremely complex. The analogy I like to give is 'if you're building a rowboat, you don't need information and planning. If you're building a cruise ship, you better do a lot of planning and architecture.'"

Gift Creates Rare Course of Study

And now, a gift from Holcman's organization to Kent State's new School of Digital Sciences will allow students to pursue a first-in-the-nation concentration in enterprise architecture at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Through the partnership, the Enterprise Architecture Center of Excellence (EACOE) has donated a five-year license to use its courseware in the school's curriculum, a gift valued at \$3.2 million.

The university's newest school will operate under a multidisciplinary model that incorporates faculty and courses from existing programs, including computer science, computer information systems, technology, library and information science, visual communication

TAKING ACTION: CURRENT OPERATING

design, communication studies and instructional technology. The first classes are being offered this fall.

"What students will gain is a series of transferable skills that will make them extremely valuable to organizations around the world," he says. "But while enterprise architecture is of interest to people around the world, work in the field from an academic standpoint is very thin...Kent State can bring discipline to this, with the university becoming the foremost authority."

"Best Training You Can Get"

Dr. **Denise A.D. Bedford**, the Goodyear Professor of Knowledge Management in the Information Architecture and Knowledge Management program of the School of Library and Information Science, also serves as a faculty member in the School of Digital Sciences. She calls EACOE's courses "the best training you can get."

"They start with the idea that information technology is really about business and performance," she says. "Organizations today are struggling to manage all of their IT components and to see how those components align with business goals. Enterprise architecture puts the focus on business goals to create systems that work together — so that tools work for users."

The new program fits within the university's vision of driving knowledge and economic growth.

"The impact on Ohio...could be meaningful," says Dr. Bedford, who joined Kent State's faculty after retirement from the World Bank. "One of the things enterprise architecture tells organizations is how they're spending money inefficiently. I think jobs in this field are going to be significant."



To learn more about the Centennial Campaign, visit www.kent.edu/advancement.

ACCESS TO EXCELLENCE



Meet Sarah Ineson.

Sarah's an award-winning fashion design student who recently interned with the costume and textiles department at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Sarah was able to pursue this prestigious, unpaid opportunity because of the generous help of an endowed scholarship made possible by Jo-Ann Fabric and Craft Stores.

The company recently expanded its support of Kent State Fashion School students by funding a new scholarship for five years. The Jo-Ann Stores First Generation Scholarship for Fashion Merchandising and Design will provide \$5,000 annually to high-achieving students whose parents did not attend college, giving aspiring designers the ability to make their mark in the competitive world of fashion.

Financial barriers are the number one reason students are unable to achieve their career ambitions by completing a degree. Learn how you can make a deserving student's academic dreams come true by making a gift to the Centennial Campaign today.

Kent State University Foundation

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2011 CALENDAR

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Through
Aug. 26, 2012

*On the Home Front: Civil War
Fashions and Domestic Life*

Kent State University Museum

oct

15

Homecoming

Homecoming Extravaganza: Activities for
alumni, families and friends
1-888-320-KENT
www.ksualumni.org/homecoming

11th Annual Bowman Cup 5K
Race and the Race for Ability

8 a.m.
Student Recreation and Wellness Center

Alumni Continental Breakfast and
Parade Viewing

9-11:30 a.m.
Williamson Alumni Center,
1200 Main St.

Football: Miami Univ. RedHawks
vs. KSU Golden Flashes

3:30 p.m.
Dix Stadium

nov

13

Kent State University Orchestra
University Auditorium, Cartwright Hall

19 and 20

Opera Scenes
Wright-Curtis Theatre

20

Kent Keyboard Series
Ludwig Recital Hall



For a complete listing of events,
visit <http://ecalendar.kent.edu>.