

KENT STATE

MAGAZINE

FALL 2015 | Strategic Vision | History of Our Mascot | Wearable Tech | Sax Education

In Focus

Anna Hoffman '15 received a student fellowship from the Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting and traveled to Ireland to cover an underreported story: the threat to the Irish language.

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On the cover: Anna Hoffman '15 (Kent, Ohio) is one of 28 students nationwide this year to receive a student fellowship from the Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting.

COVER PHOTO BY: ALEX LEDET '18

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Visit *Kent State Magazine* on the Web at www.kent.edu/magazine.

Kent State Magazine is published three times a year (Spring, Summer and Fall) by Kent State University Communications and Marketing, P.O. Box 5190, Kent, Ohio 44242.

Printed on Finch Opaque by Angstrom Graphics in Cleveland, Ohio.



JASON ZEHNERT '10

Dog Walk

In August, the Kent State University Alumni Association hosted its third annual Dog Days of Summer, giving 68 dogs (and 98 of their people) a 1.5-mile dog-walking tour around the Kent Campus.

In addition to water and treats, first-time dog participants received a Bachelor of Barkology and second-timers received a Master of Barkology. (Perhaps next year it will be possible for your pooch to receive a Doctor of Barkology?)

For a dog's-eye view of the tour, we strapped a GoPro video camera to Izzy, a 2-year-old goldendoodle, to capture what she saw on campus. Visit www.kent.edu/magazine/dogwalk to watch Izzy's dizzying video debut!

Play Smart

For the 2014-2015 academic season, four Kent State athletes have been named Academic All-Americans by the College Sports Information Directors of America. That's the most in one season for Kent State since 2004, when a record six student-athletes were honored, and it ties the second-highest total, recorded in 1991.

Emma Johnson, Senior | Groveport, Ohio
Major: Accounting/finance
GPA: 3.72
Sport: Softball (pitcher)
Also named: 2015 MAC Pitcher of the Year, MAC Distinguished Scholar Athlete (spring 2015), 2015 NFCA All-Mideast Region Second Team, NFCA National Pitcher of the Week (April 28)
What it takes: "Determination and motivation"

Jordan Italiano, Junior | Canfield, Ohio
Major: Pre-med/chemistry
GPA: 3.98
Sport: Football (safety)
Also named: MAC Distinguished Scholar Athlete (fall 2014), 2015 Smartest Player in College Football by NFL.com, Wuerffel Trophy Watch List, 2015 All-State American Football Coaches Association Good Works Team
What it takes: "Discipline and dedication"

Dior Delophont, Junior | Nancy, France
Major: Fashion design
GPA: 3.88
Sport: Track & Field
Also named: MAC Distinguished Scholar Athlete (winter and spring 2015), Most Valuable Performer at the 2015 MAC Indoor and 2015 MAC Outdoor Championships, First Team All-American
What it takes: "Goals and priorities"

Jared Skolnicki, Sophomore | Pittsburgh, Pa.
Major: Mathematics
GPA: 4.0
Sport: Baseball (pitcher)
Also named: MAC Distinguished Scholar Athlete (spring 2015)
What it takes: "Focus, consistency and a drive for success"



EMMA JOHNSON '16



JORDAN ITALIANO '17



DIOR DELOPHONT '17



JARED SKOLNICKI '18

Taking the Lead

About a year ago, practicing biochemist and heart disease expert Paul DiCorleto, PhD, decided it was time to do something different in the next stage of his career.

He had been heading the Lerner Research Institute at the Cleveland Clinic since 2002, managing a more than \$250 million per year operating budget and helping start spin-off companies. He had also been chairing the Department of Molecular Medicine at Case Western Reserve University's Case School of Medicine since 2003, and helped create a new doctoral program that trained beginning lab scientists to pursue disease-focused projects in collaboration with clinical investigators. He directed an NIH-funded laboratory researching the role of the endothelium in maintaining healthy blood vessels and in inflammatory diseases such as atherosclerosis. And he had written or co-written more than 120 articles, papers and book chapters—in addition to other activities that filled the pages of his curriculum vitae.

But he was seeking a new challenge in Northeast Ohio, and it didn't take him long to find one. DiCorleto accepted the position of vice president for research and sponsored programs at Kent State University, where one of his main duties will be to help faculty and staff secure external funding

“I envision a nationally recognized research mission that attracts high-quality researchers and students and encourages philanthropic contributions and partnerships.”

—PAUL DICORLETO



BOB CHRISTY '95

to support their research and public service projects. He began his new job in August.

“We are delighted that someone of Paul’s caliber and distinction has joined our leadership team,” says President Beverly Warren. After a national search, she made his role a cabinet-level position reporting directly to her. She looks to DiCorleto to advance one of her strategic priorities—enhancing Kent State’s research strengths while increasing the university’s global competitiveness in new areas of research, scholarship and innovation.

DiCorleto, who gained a perspective on public universities during seven years serving on Cleveland State University’s board of trustees, plans to bolster the strong research programs already in place and launch some new ones in order to position Kent State as a leading research university. “I envision a nationally recognized research mission that attracts high-quality researchers and students and encourages philanthropic contributions and partnerships,” he says. “It will be exciting and something I will have fun doing.”

Going for the Gold

"The theme of this building is science on display," says Brian Gardner, senior facilities manager, giving a tour of Kent State University at Stark's stunning new Science and Nursing Building. It opened this fall and houses faculty members and classes from nursing, biological sciences, physics and geology.

As you walk along hallways flooded with light from floor-to-ceiling windows and skylights, you can view informational displays and watch students involved in hands-on learning and research in state-of-the-art classrooms and labs.

But science is also on display in the 41,140 square-foot, three-story building itself, which is projected to earn LEED Gold certification through its sustainability-focused construction practices and design elements.

"One goal with LEED is to get daylight into the interior so you don't have to use as much electric light," says Gardner, noting a light-harvesting system that uses sensors to dim indoor lights in classrooms on sunny days.

Other eco-friendly elements include low-VOC paints and coatings, LED lights, a solar-generated hot water system and an energy-saving heat recovery chiller that can cool the building during moderate-temperature days. A green roof and rain garden are part of a storm water management system. And a new vertical wind turbine, adjacent to the building, contributes two to four kilowatts of electrical power to the building and is also used for instruction.

Part of the Kent State's *Foundations of Excellence: Building the Future* initiative, Kent State Stark's new building will help enhance student experiences and attract the brightest scientific minds to Stark County.

Learn more at www.kent.edu/stark/science-nursing-building.



Photos by Jeff Glidden '87
and Mike Rich '02



What's In the Bag?

Student: Kara Wellman '16 (Pickerington, Ohio)

Major: Visual Communication Design

Date: May 14-30, 2015

Course: Visual Language: A Form for Experience and Expression, a seven-week special topics course culminating in a 16-day study abroad experience in Dublin and London

Focus: Illustration, typography, and hand-lettering

1. Camera bag This bag doubled as my camera bag and purse. I chose function over fashion!

2. Lens I used my Nikon D610 to take this photo. My usual telephoto lens was being repaired, so this is my dad's old Nikon 70-210mm.

3. Sunglasses In Dublin, it rained briefly five or six times a day. London's weather was really nice, which we were told was uncharacteristic. Most days were sunny, in the 60s or 70s.

4. Pens and pencils I have a habit of throwing lots of pens in any bag that I'm carrying.

5. Euros and pounds sterling I treated myself to a pastry every morning. You haven't lived until you've had an almond croissant in London.

6. Passport This was my first trip out of the country. Both cities were beautiful, but I could've spent days in the British Museum—I'm kind of a geek like that.

7. VCD Abroad sketchbook My favorite sketch was of Russell Square, the park beside our London apartments (see below right). I was enamored by the detail of the buildings behind the trees, which contributed to the concept for my final project. I drew an intricate map—laying in cobblestones, windows, doors, fences and trees—combining the cities of London and Dublin. It's more illustrative than practical.

8. Room key for Barnacles Hostel The hostel was next door to the most popular tourist bar in Dublin. We could hear people laughing, yelling and singing until almost 3 a.m. every morning. It was quite the cultural experience. In London we stayed in student apartments with full kitchens.

9. iPhone 5s I probably messaged my parents the most during the trip—to keep them updated on my travels.

10. Travelcards While in Ireland, we took the train to Dún Laoghaire (pronounced Dun Leery), a coastal town near Dublin. As we walked down to the water, we saw a group of locals waving at us from the pier. We waved back—and then they mooned us! Didn't see that one coming.

11. Bobby pins and covered hair elastic Both cities were incredibly windy, so I pinned up my hair most days.

12. Antibacterial hand gel I don't go anywhere without hand sanitizer. Those heavenly almond croissants could be sticky. But they were so worth it!



See Wellman's final project at www.kent.edu/magazine/DubLon.



Path to the Future

Kent State University is developing a strategic roadmap that will enable it to move boldly in new directions and distinguish itself not only in Northeast Ohio but around the world.

We are on a journey to craft a shared vision,” says Kent State University President Beverly Warren, as she embarks this fall on a Forums for the Future tour of all eight campuses to report on the strategic visioning process that began in March. “Where we are today is a result of more than 10,000 responses—in-person and electronic—from Kent State students, faculty, staff, alumni and community members who, throughout the year, took part in community dialogues, research focus groups and survey assessments to help us explore the best vision and future for Kent State University.”

“This whole process of visioning has brought the university together,” says Melody Tankersley, PhD, senior associate provost and co-chair of the 15-member Strategic Visioning and Advisory Committee that was appointed by President Warren to help her direct, assess and evaluate the findings. “So many people contributed their ideas, their vision, their voices,” says Tankersley. “That enabled us to say, ‘Here is what we have been hearing over and over. This is what is critical to who Kent State is and where we are going.’”

Using the findings—including an environmental assessment done under the direction of the university’s partner in the visioning process, 160over90, a consulting

firm from Philadelphia—Warren and the committee began to frame a distinctive vision, articulate the university’s core values and establish a set of proposed priorities for the coming years.

This September the Board of Trustees endorsed the university’s new vision statement and a draft of its core values and strategic priorities—presented on the following pages and on the strategic visioning website (vision.kent.edu), which includes an overview of the university’s strengths, opportunities, aspirations and results.

“As we refine and reflect upon these proposed core values and priorities, we ask for your continued feedback and insights,” says Warren. “We are committed to the concept of ‘one university.’ My hope is that as we complete our strategic roadmap, we will create a common language that does not include terms like ‘main campus’ and ‘regional campuses,’ but reflects the fact that you can thrive and be a part of Kent State wherever you reside in this wonderful community. To do that we need everyone’s input.

“It is critical to develop a common narrative that all members of the Kent State community can use to tell a compelling and authentic story of who we are, what we stand for and where we want to be.”

“ We must be courageous and creative as we bring to life a shared vision for our future—a vision that honors our past as it defines a new era of influence and involvement, and a vision that helps us to boldly and clearly share our remarkable story with the world.”

—PRESIDENT BEVERLY WARREN



OUR VISION

To be a community of change agents whose collective commitment to learning sparks epic thinking, meaningful voice and invaluable outcomes to better our society



CORE VALUES*

We value

- A distinctive blend of teaching, research and creative excellence
- Active inquiry and discovery that expands knowledge and human understanding
- Life-changing educational experiences for students with wide-ranging talents and aspirations
- A living-learning environment that creates a genuine sense of place
- Engagement that inspires positive change
- Diversity of culture, beliefs, identity and thought
- Freedom of expression and the free exchange of ideas
- A collaborative community
- Respect, kindness and purpose in all we do

**Your feedback on these proposed values and priorities is welcome. Please email vision@kent.edu or fill out the form at vision.kent.edu.*

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES*

Students First

Provide an inclusive and engaged living-learning environment where students thrive and graduate as informed citizens and productive leaders

A Nationally Distinctive and Distinguished Kent State

Drive innovation, idea generation and national distinction through top-tier academic and research programs and the recruitment and development of talented faculty and staff

Globally Competitive

Advance Kent State's contributions as an international university that prioritizes the cultural competency of students, faculty and staff

Regional Impact

Serve as an innovative engine for the region and state through partnerships and programs that contribute to the quality of life for Ohioans

Excellence in Stewardship

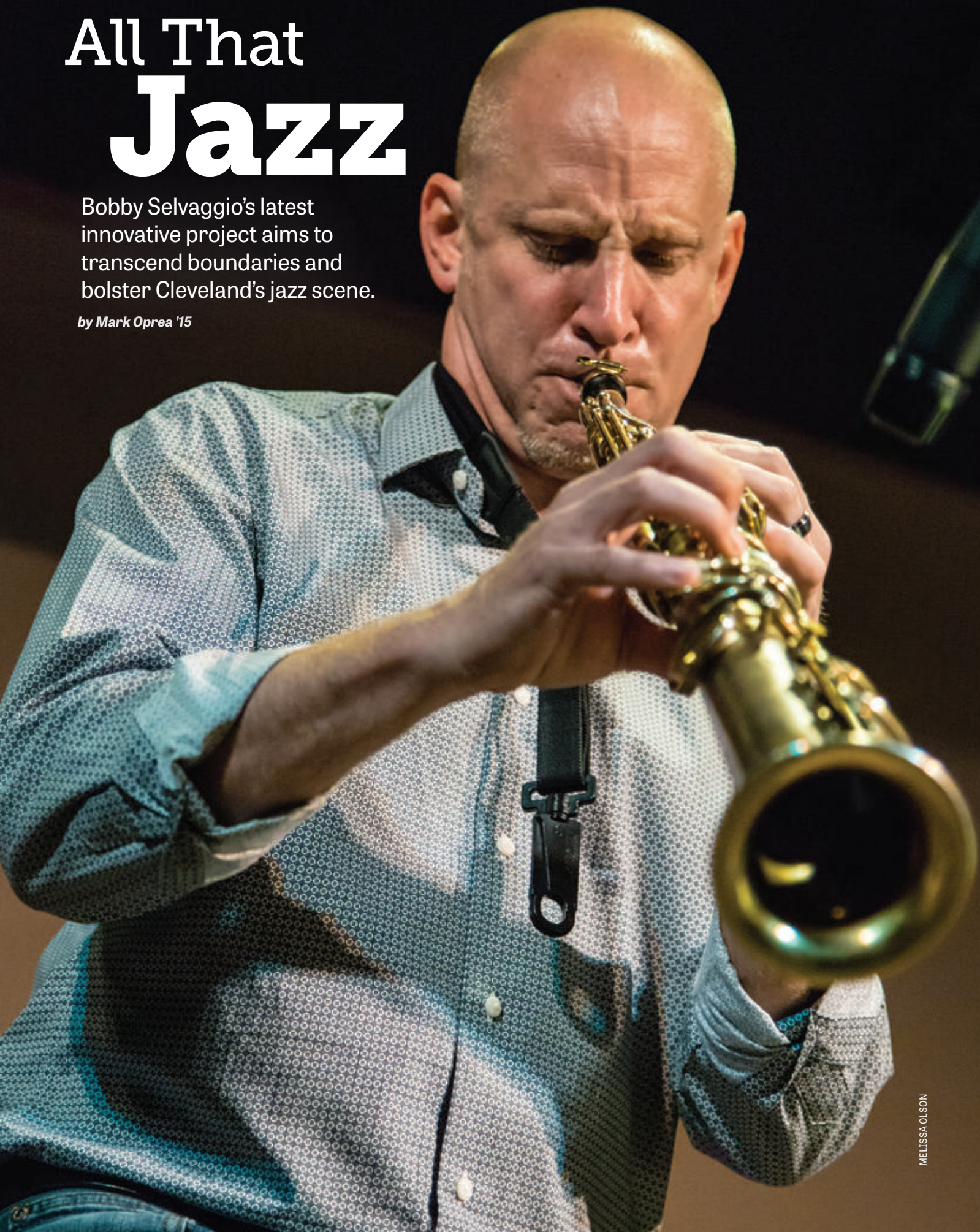
Ensure future growth and vitality through the strategic management of fiscal resources and infrastructure ⚡



All That Jazz

Bobby Selvaggio's latest innovative project aims to transcend boundaries and bolster Cleveland's jazz scene.

by Mark Oprea '15



MELISSA OLSON

At a recent show at BLU Jazz+, a live music venue in downtown Akron, Bobby Selvaggio '92 stands center stage dressed in a silver suit, his sax roaring on one of his own compositions, "Faded Rose." After the pianist finishes an electrifying solo on keys, Selvaggio returns to his sax and pivots on one foot to face his nine-piece Transcendental Orchestra without fumbling a measure. As the crowd applauds wildly, someone shouts what everyone's thinking: "Now that's jazz, baby! That is jazz!"

A good gig for a professor, one might say.

To many jazz veterans and newcomers alike, Cleveland-based Selvaggio is an undisputed master of the Northeast Ohio jazz scene, albeit one hard to categorize. He's as much a powerhouse recording musician, with eight albums to date, as he is a jazz educator, currently director of jazz studies at Kent State. His many personas—saxophonist, composer, educator and bandleader—make Selvaggio a musician to watch.

"The one thing to keep in mind when you're talking about Bobby, is that he's a visionary," says Chris Coles, fellow saxophonist and collaborator. "He's got a vision. And he's not just trying to bring that to Kent State, but to all of Northeast Ohio."

It's a vision dating back decades in Selvaggio's career: to keep innovative jazz alive in Cleveland. While many Northeast Ohio ensembles riff through tunes of the Eisenhower era, Selvaggio's Transcendental Orchestra, his most daring project to date, is on the fringe of what's new in the local scene.

Jetting through Selvaggio's often irregular rhythms, the Orchestra is a two-fold experiment in contemporary jazz fusion: one part hard-hitting bop quartet, with an in-your-face groove and tight melodic improvisations; the other a string quintet—two violins, two violas and cello—providing everything from moving harmonies to haunting,

Bach-like interludes and breaks. With Selvaggio's liquid-smooth alto sax as mediator, the marriage of these well-paired sections gives the group its otherworldly sound.

As for why most of its members are half the professor's age, Selvaggio says, "It's the younger players who are exploring what is happening today, who want to take that to the next level. For them, there aren't any limitations."

Rather than just training his students to memorize the Great American Songbook, Selvaggio encourages student creativity and hands out practical guidance—from how to book club gigs, to, he jokes, "how not to rely on a lot of money" as a musician. Heard throughout the halls of the School of Music, Selvaggio's make-it-new teaching method is often represented via its three-part mantra: "Imitation. Assimilation. Innovation."

"The one thing to keep in mind when you're talking about Bobby is that he's a visionary."

—CHRIS COLES

That approach is rooted in his early training. In 1987, then director of jazz studies Chas Baker nurtured Selvaggio's already impressive chops (Selvaggio was playing in Cleveland jazz clubs in high school) by introducing the first-year student to the music of jazz greats and encouraging him to write to his heart's content. Pretty soon, the Kent Jazz Band was attending festivals with Selvaggio compositions up their sleeves.

"I knew right away he was talented," Baker says. "He could play with a lot of soul. He's got a big sound now, and he had a big sound then." When asked to choose an all-star group from his 35 years as director, Baker replies, "Oh, the one Bobby was in."

With encouragement from Baker, Selvaggio went on to graduate school and earned a master's degree in jazz performance from the Manhattan

School of Music, where he studied with New York jazz legends, including saxophonists Joe Lovano, Dick Oatts and Bobby Watson, all friends of his today. Though the New York jazz scene tempted Selvaggio to stay, he and his wife, Chelsea, returned to Northeast Ohio in 1996, mostly, he says, out of loyalty. Selvaggio took up adjunct teaching positions in the area, including Kent State, yet put off full-time work, fearing it would stymie his goal to bolster Cleveland's jazz reputation.

But with a string of three successful albums on Arabesque Records (an American classical and jazz record label) from 2009 to 2013—earning him the moniker "The Lion" by Fox8—Selvaggio returned to Kent State in 2012 as full-time head of jazz studies, replacing Baker, who retired in 2011. Baker says he can rest easy, "knowing that I've turned this over to someone who knows what he's doing."

As Selvaggio's Transcendental Orchestra continues to test the limits of Cleveland jazz—and is set to record a full-length album this winter—past members of Selvaggio-led projects, like Coles, are triumphing with their

own Cleveland-based bands. Coles, who also is a part-time instructor at the Aurora School of Music, says he even aims to match Selvaggio's teaching style: "There's no reason not to model yourself after someone like Bobby."

For Selvaggio, his lengthy education in jazz is ongoing.

"I'm still learning how to play this music, just like my students are," he says. "There's always teaching and learning going on from both sides. We're experiencing the music together. And when you do that, everybody is learning something." ⚡

Mark Oprea '15 is a freelance writer currently based in Cleveland.

See Selvaggio's five favorite jazz standards at www.kent.edu/magazine/Selvaggio. Learn more about Selvaggio's projects at www.bobbyselvaggio.com.

Forerunners of *Flash*

The convoluted (and sometimes controversial) chronology of Kent State's mascot

Compiled by Jan Senn, Photos courtesy of Special Collections & Archives

There are multiple versions of this tale—and several claims to be the “first official mascot”—but we consulted previous histories and Kent State's digital collection to piece together the puzzle using primary sources whenever possible. Here's our attempt to tell the story of how Kent State arrived at its moniker and mascot—while grappling with the question, “What exactly is a Golden Flash, anyway?”

1920–25 Kent State Normal College establishes its first “real football team with full equipment [and] honest-to-goodness coach” in 1920 (1921 *Chestnut Burr*), but goes without scoring—or a name—until they call the 1923 team the “Silver Foxes,” after the silver fox ranch adjacent to campus that is co-owned by the school's first president, John McGilvrey (1923 *Chestnut Burr*). The 1923 team scores the college's first touchdown and receives this accolade: “The Silver Foxes . . . created a fighting spirit that will live—an undying determination that will make the football record at Kent State in the future a thing of joy” (1924 *Chestnut Burr*). There is no mention of a silver fox **(1)** ever attending a game.

1926–27 The Board of Trustees dismisses President McGilvrey in January 1926, after his repeated attempts to advance the school's standing antagonizes the Ohio legislature and the president of The Ohio State University. Acting president T. Howard Winters supposedly institutes a contest (with a \$25 prize) to select a new name for Kent State athletic teams, and Golden Flashes wins (*The Years of Youth* by Phillip R. Shriver). However, the Nov. 29, 1927 *Kent Stater* and the 1927 *Chestnut Burr* still refer to the athletic teams as the Silver Foxes.

1928 The name Golden Flashes appears without ceremony in the Jan. 13, 1928 *Kent Stater* and in the caption for the basketball team in the 1928 *Chestnut Burr*. However, an ad appears in the June 1, 1928 *Kent Stater*: “Name still open, to be decided Wednesday. ‘Give Kent's Athletic Teams a Name Contest’ will be decided once and for all at the Recognition Day Banquet . . . at the time to be named, the Orphans of Kent will officially have a name.” Names to be voted on include the already recognized “Silver Foxes” and “Golden Flashes,” but “Hurricanes” and “Warriors” are strong contenders.

“Golden Flashes,” which apparently wins again, is said to be derived from the popular California Golden Bears at the University of California, Berkeley, national champions in 1920. Oliver Wolcott, who played football at Kent State in 1922 and became sports editor of the *Kent Courier-Tribune*, perpetuates its use in his columns (as recalled in a recording, circa 1983, by Richard “Moose” Paskert '49, athlete, coach and administrator in the athletics program for more than 40 years). Kent State teams use the symbol of a lightning bolt **(2)** for many years.



1941 The Sept. 25, 1941 *Kent Stater* claims that at the evening's pep rally, “Mascot to be Surprise: Feature of the evening is to be the first appearance of a mascot on the Kent Campus.” Georgie Starn, young son of head coach Rosie Starn, leads a three-month-old German shepherd puppy named “Kim” onto the stage. The dog has been offered as a mascot by Jack Kauvar, sophomore cheerleader, to “cavort at all the Blue and Gold games.” However, subsequent issues of the *Kent Stater* report that Kauvar is accepting donations to pay for the dog's hospital bills (Oct. 9), that he doesn't have time to keep Kim any more and needs to find him a good home (Oct. 15), that three people have offered to raise the puppy (Oct. 16) and finally that Kauvar has loaned Kim to the Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, but will continue to see that he is fed (Oct. 23).

1955 The cover of the December 1955 *Kent Alumnus* is a photo of a golden retriever puppy wearing a cape branded with a “K” **(3)**. The caption reads: “Four-month-old Kent State University Golden Flasher I is the university's first official mascot. A gift of the Ravenna Kennel Club, our mascot is a golden retriever from the Cheyenne Golden Kennels in Kansas and will weigh eighty pounds when full grown.” For a time, the dog appears at all home games, but develops a bone disease and has to be replaced (Paskert recording).

1957–61 An ad for postcards of Golden Flasher II appears in the Jan. 23, 1957 *Daily Kent Stater*, and the 1958 *Chestnut Burr* notes that “By selling dinks to freshmen and mums for Homecoming, the Golden K group [formed to encourage student support at athletic activities] makes enough money to care for the KSU mascot, Golden Flasher II.” However, a three-month disagreement between the Golden K and the Student Council over expenditures results in Golden K “gifting” the dog to the council, which then debates what to do with it (Feb. 9, 1961 *Daily Kent Stater*). Golden K eventually gives the dog away and asks to use the funds formerly allocated for its care to make “a mascot out of a person dressed in a costume.” Council holds the funds in reserve until Golden K can be more specific about the project and its cost (June 1, 1961 *Daily Kent Stater*).

1968–74 Grog, the caveman character from the popular comic strip *B.C.*, arrives on the scene. Conceived of in the spring of 1967 by Joe Joyce '69 and Gene Ferrara '74 of the Chestnut League (the revamped spirit organization formed in 1964), he doesn't show up at games until the fall of 1968 (Feb. 26, 1969 *Daily Kent Stater*). In the meantime, Chuck Ayers '71, cartoonist for the *Daily Kent Stater*, requests permission to use Grog as Kent State's mascot from its creator, cartoonist Johnny Hart (March 4, 1971, *Daily Kent Stater*).

The eight-foot-tall, 50-pound costume is made of wood supports and furry cloth by Esser Costume Co. of Pittsburgh for \$500 (1978 Homecoming supplement, *Daily Kent Stater*).

“It was heavy and hot,” says then Kent State baseball player Ron DeGrand '74, who wore the costume in 1970–72 at both football and basketball games. “I would be wringing wet after a basketball game. But nobody could figure out what a Flash was, so Grog was as good a mascot as any.”

Despite misadventures when the costume temporarily goes missing several times, Grog **(4)** continues to amuse fans until 1974, when he is phased out as mascot by the athletic department. He still shows up as a logo on DuBois Bookstore bags for years afterward.

1971–74 During the tenure of head football coach Don James, the athletic department introduces a western-themed horse and rider **(5)** for all Dix Stadium games. The horse cantors up and down the sidelines during the game and up the 50-yard line following a touchdown. Gary Urchek '77, whose father was friends with Don James, rode his Arabian stallion, Raffstar, for one season, but says he also borrowed a golden palomino at the request of the athletic department (who called it Golden Flasher). His sister, Diane Urchek Coe '76, '86 MEd, took over the next season and also rode Raffstar, as seen in a photo **(6)** from the 1974 *Chestnut Burr* (Paskert recording, Urchek interview).

In 1972, members of a Name Change Committee mount an effort to change the athletic team name. "It's a dynamic name and an original one," protests sports writer Dave Wolfson '72 in the April 7, 1972 *Daily Kent Stater*. "Ask current team members and past members, and the overwhelming majority will favor keeping the current nickname. They carried the name of 'Golden Flashes' with pride and they are not ready for it to be needlessly thrown out." The name stays.

1977 A golden retriever mascot returns to the scene and is proclaimed KSU's "first official mascot" (Oct. 14, 1977, *Daily Kent Stater*). The 19-week-old golden retriever—donated by the Blue and Gold Club, a KSU booster organization—is named "MAC the Flash" by Karen Fuller '73, who wins a "name the mascot" contest held by the athletic department and WKNT radio. "There was no poll or contest for students to help decide what mascot would be selected," Terry Barnard, sports information director says. "But, officially, Flash represents the intercollegiate athletic department, not the student body" (Oct. 6, 1978 *Daily Kent Stater*). He remains the mascot (7) at least until 1979.

1981–83 After the golden retriever, the mascot reverts back "to costumed individuals roaming about in attire with lightning bolts" (Paskert recording), perhaps based on a drawing of a superhero brandishing lightning flashes and signed "Hinkel '81" (8). The costumed characters apparently go under various names, including Freddie Flash, Golden Flash, Flashman and Captain Flash (9), as seen in a photo from the 1982 *Chestnut Burr*.

1985 To increase school spirit and introduce a new era during the university's sesquicentennial, the athletics department hatches an elaborate and carefully scripted campaign to unveil "Kent State's first official mascot, Flash—the Golden Eagle" during the Oct. 12 Homecoming game against the University of Texas-El Paso (Oct. 15, 1985 *Daily Kent Stater*). Terry Barnard, then director of Athletic Marketing and Communications, says an eagle was chosen because the university wanted something proud and "there is nothing prouder than an eagle" (Sept. 3, 1985, *Daily Kent Stater*). A new logo also includes an eagle.

Many people prepare for the reveal, including students in the Kent Technology Education Club who put in more than 300 hours to construct a giant egg (10) out of fiberglass and resin, which is brought onto the field at halftime. As the band plays, the egg opens, a student in a golden eagle costume (11) runs to the 50-yard line, and a live golden eagle flies from the band tunnel to a perch on centerfield. The 23-year-old golden eagle, formerly named Wembli, is christened as "Flash" (12) during the festivities. It lives in Baden, Pa., with its handler, Earl Shriver Jr. and appears at select home events until the mid-90s.

Additional costumes are made, such as this 1986 one (13) for basketball games. Although the golden eagle is met with some scorn by students who object to having no part in creating "a unique mascot," (Oct. 22, 1985 *Daily Kent Stater*), it endures, in updated versions, as the school's official mascot (14).

2008 A new live golden eagle, Flash, makes its debut as Kent State's official mascot on Jan. 23, 2008, prior to a men's basketball game with Akron (15). Hit by a truck in California, the rescued bird was sent to Back to the Wild, a wildlife rehabilitation and nature education center in Castalia, Ohio. It is disabled and unable to return to the wild, says Mona Rutger, founder of Back to the Wild, who uses fees from renting the eagle to benefit the center's mission.

However, a representative from PETA, contacted by someone concerned about the eagle's role at sporting events, writes a letter urging Kent State to use a costumed mascot instead. Rutger says the eagle preens its feathers and eats after the games, signs that it is not stressed. Still, she agrees that having a bird at a sporting event isn't ideal (June 18, 2008 *Summer Kent Stater*).



Flash Today

"From what I understand, there are no plans to use a live animal as a mascot," says James Tunney '15, who handles the scheduling for Flash in both human and inflatable form. "Life is easier with a human inside a furry suit. I think we're going to stick with that."

Facts about Flash

- Flash is always referred to as a male, no matter the sex of the person inside the suit.
- There is one main Flash for football games (scheduled from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.) and alternate Flashes for one-hour events.
- Students who audition for Flash (preferably 5'5" to 5'9") are scored in eight categories: enthusiasm, creativity, interaction with students, reaction to surroundings, portrayal of emotion, animation, ease of movement, overall appearance and presence.
- The Flash mascot costumes are built by Scollon Productions Inc. in White Rock, S.C.
- Each suit is washed after use if the event is over one hour in length; the bicycle helmet inside the Flash head is disinfected once a week, as are the feet; and the fur on both the head and suit is brushed two to three times per month or as needed.
So Flash is fresh! ⚡

Flash attends all football, men's/women's basketball and volleyball matches; select wrestling, gymnastics, baseball and softball games; and campus and community events when needed.

For more information or to hire Flash for a corporate or private event, contact ksuflashesmascot@gmail.com, call 330-672-3970, or fill out the Flash Appearance Request Form found under the Fan Central dropdown menu on www.kentstatesports.com.

POET: Fatou M'Baye
HOMETOWN: Kent, Ohio

"When we were younger, my girlfriends and I called this tree Mrs. Oak," says Fatou M'Baye, sitting beneath the tree that was their gathering place on their elementary school playground. "Whenever we felt sad or lonely we would talk to her—it would make us feel better. This year we realized it is a maple tree!"

M'Baye wrote the poem "Thank You, Tree" last fall as a fifth-grader attending the Holden Elementary School Writer's Club, an after-school program. David Hassler, director of the Wick Poetry Center, held a workshop at the club as part of the center's outreach efforts to the community. "In the first session, we started with the idea of being grateful for something in our lives," says Hassler. "Fatou chose this tree."

"I wanted to thank her for helping me and my friends," says M'Baye. "I wanted to thank all the trees. Without them we wouldn't have healthy, happy lives."

THANK YOU, TREE

Tree, you put the spark
back in my body.

And when I take a breath,
the lights behind my eyes
are turned on, and the fire
in my furnace crackles.

The whole world stops buzzing.

For once the Earth
will have a chance to think
and remember why we're here.

On that day, I'll look at you, tree,
through your leaves, your bark,
your sapwood, all the way to your heart—
your beating, beating heart—
and say, "thank you."

BY FATOU M'BAYE
5TH GRADE, HOLDEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
KENT, OHIO

Since 2009 illustrated poems have made their way across Northeast Ohio, displayed on buses and transit systems and printed on posters and postcards as a project of the College of Arts and Sciences' Wick Poetry Center. Now these poetry illustrations are journeying around the world as part of an interactive website and traveling exhibit that launched this fall, with support from the Ohio Arts Council.

Traveling Stanzas—an award-winning collaboration between the Wick Poetry Center and the School of Visual Communication Design—aims to facilitate a global conversation through the intimate and inclusive voice of poetry. Featured poems are curated from global submissions and illustrated by Kent State students and alumni.

Share Your Voice!

In partnership with Traveling Stanzas, *Kent State Magazine* will feature a poem by one of our readers in future issues. If your poem is selected by the Wick Poetry Center, it will be illustrated and appear in print and online versions of the magazine, as well as on the Traveling Stanzas homepage.

To submit your poem, visit travelingstanzas.com, click "Submit," and label it "Magazine Entry."

For more information, call Wick Poetry Center at 330-672-2067. ⚡

Tear off the included poem postcard and mail it to a friend! View a video of Fatou M'Baye reading her poem at travelingstanzas.com.

Illustration by Rust Valley Design

GeekChic

by Jenni Laidman '77

Illustrations by
Melissa Olson

In the expanding world of wearables, one challenge is how to tailor technology into something we'd actually want to wear. As fashion and technology merge, Kent State researchers and students from diverse fields are collaborating on innovations that could become an essential part of our everyday lives.

It's a sock.

Not exactly a big fashion item. Nobody goes to fashion school with dreams of becoming the Coco Chanel of socks. And when it comes to new technology, it's hard to picture Apple rolling out the Apple sock, the iSock, the MacSock.

But don't dismiss it. Because this sock has potential: Its temperature-sensing capability could help prevent foot amputations for people with diabetes. Air travelers might want a pair for long-distance flights because of its ability to detect the temperature change that comes from life-threatening blood clots, a known risk of sitting for extended periods. Healthcare workers might use it to monitor patients at risk for bedsores. Its offspring, in the form of T-shirts and headbands, may tip off young football players at risk of heat stroke, or, in the form of gloves, may alert Arctic researchers dangerously close to frostbite. Its grandchildren may be wound dressings that detect infection and then treat it.

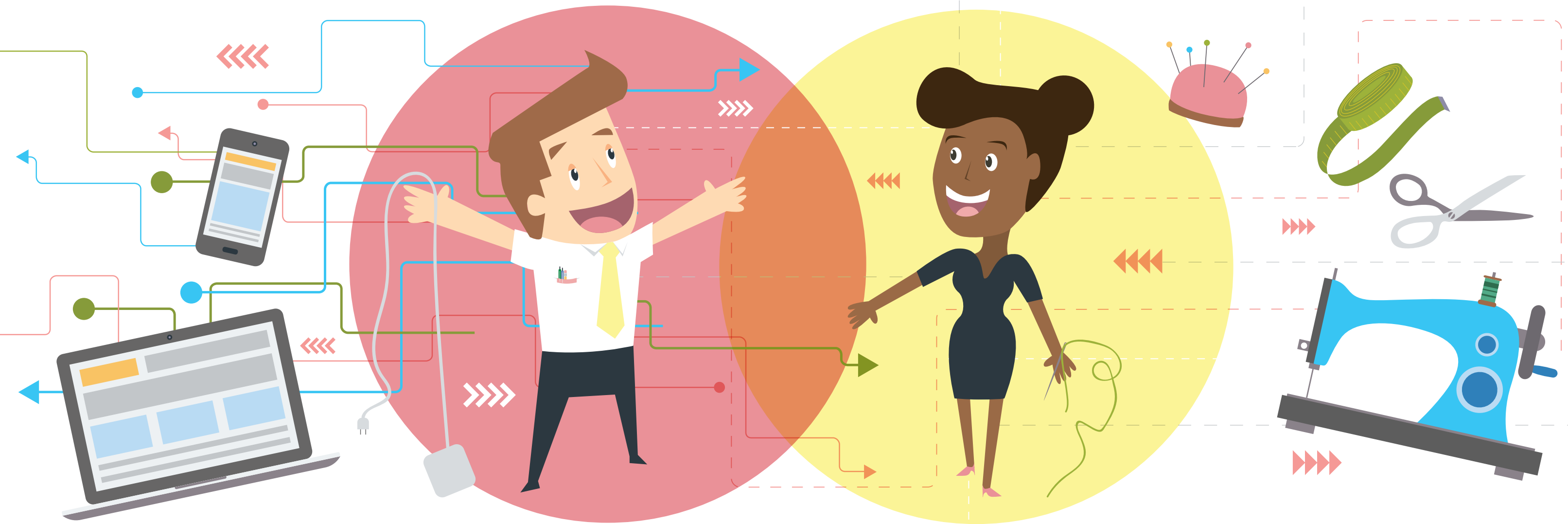
It's also helping Kent State establish a, ahem, foothold in the exploding field of wearable technology (clothing and accessories that incorporate computer and advanced electronic technologies). This temperature-sensing sock—a collaboration between faculty members at the School of Fashion Design and Merchandising, the College of Podiatric Medicine and the Liquid Crystal Institute—is just one example of the university's growing efforts to enter the wearables market via an unlikely partnership of engineering know-how and fashion aesthetic sense. Such integration is an essential step in transforming wearable tech from fashion accessories fit only for the technologically besotted into beneficial—and beautiful—items with mass appeal.

J.R. Campbell, PhD, director of the Fashion School, hopes to close the gap between engineering and aesthetics. "People have been trying to strap computers onto their bodies for a long time," he says. In the meantime, the creation of fashion has been transformed by technology. "The problem is the gulf between wearable technology creators and fashion. What it has lacked over time is anybody saying, 'Well, why do we really need that?'"

Campbell pulls his white iPhone out of his pocket and places it on one of the high tables in the Fashion School's TechStyleLAB. "This is the most effective wearable technology out there, and the only clothing you need to support it is a pocket." No one questions its success both technologically and aesthetically. Yet too many wearables fall short of that standard, meeting the aesthetic sensibilities not of the fashionistas, but of the young tech geeks.

Even popular fitness trackers such as Fitbit or Jawbone only recently began to take appearance into account, notes Kevin Wolfgang, MFA, TechStyleLAB outreach program manager. Who really wants to wear a rubber bracelet? "I was stunned that it took so long for these companies to engage fashion firms like Dooney & Bourke to create pieces that were

**Who really
wants to wear a
rubber bracelet?**



aesthetically appropriate,” Wolfgang says. “Women love tech. They’re interested in gadgets. But developers are ignoring this huge segment of the market.”

From the perspective of Robin Bonatesta, a senior who double majors in fashion merchandising and computer science, wearable tech needs an intervention. “I hate wearable tech. All of it. It’s really frustrating to see engineers coming up with cool ideas but then totally ignoring the fashion side.”

To remedy the disconnect, she helps prepare the fashion minded to collaborate with the tech savvy. Through the student organization HacKSU, which she co-leads, Bonatesta teaches fashion students and other beginners basic tech skills, such as how to create a website and do some coding. “And it’s been successful,” she says.

HacKSU—along with the Fashion School, Blackstone LaunchPad (which helps nascent entrepreneurs at the university), Liquid Crystal Institute, School of Digital Sciences, and Department of Computer Science—organized an annual Fashion/Tech Hackathon focused on developing wearable technology prototypes, in tandem with academic and business symposia.

In January 2015, the event’s second year, 144 students from 19 universities, along with researchers and business

leaders from across the United States, came to Kent State for the weekend tech events.

Hackathons are sleepless marathons of invention and standard practice in the tech student world. But for fashion students, this was new territory. A.J. Morganti, a senior applied engineering major showed up with a toolbox full of tools for the Fashion/Tech Hackathon, thinking he might be of some help, and also figuring this might be the one hackathon where females outnumbered males. He was right about both. A Fashion School team snapped him up to help them create workout clothing intended to measure, basically, everything. Morganti proposed a more modest plan: installing sensors in clothing that would let users know if they were executing a pushup correctly.

Morganti was delighted to find a team open to his viewpoint. Then his teammates shocked him. “The first night, they went home to sleep! I’m lying in bed thinking, *I have so much work. I got out of bed and coded until 4 or 5 a.m.*”

But he learned from the fashion majors as well. Over the 36-hour sprint, his teammates sat him at a sewing machine and even handed him an iron, giving him his first taste of some older technologies. His moment of truth came when his teammates saw the app he had created for their fitness clothing. They hated it. They wanted something to match the

To continue on this pathway to innovation, fashion experts and technology mavens will have to learn to talk to one another.

fashion sensibility of their outfit, which featured a spine-revealing laser-cut design in the back.

“The app was all industrial looking and blocky,” Morganti says. His teammates helped him create a finished product that better matched their aesthetic sense. Their SmartGains biometric workout clothing took second place in the hackathon, behind a New York team that created a GPS-linked backpack designed to free the urban explorer from the need to stare at their phone and miss their surroundings.

The temperature-sensing sock collaboration started almost three years ago, not long after the former Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine in Independence, merged with Kent State University. Soon colleagues at the College of Podiatric Medicine and the Liquid Crystal Institute were talking about how they might work together to solve foot problems. Jill Kawalec, PhD, associate professor and director of research at the College of

Podiatric Medicine, and John West, PhD, Trustees Research Professor at the Liquid Crystal Institute, narrowed their focus to one frightening ill effect of diabetes: Diabetics can lose all feeling in their feet, and minor infections left untreated often lead to amputations. “Someone could step on a nail and not realize it,” Kawalec says.

Bringing in Margarita Benitez, MFA, assistant professor and fashion technologist at the Fashion School, they began work on a sock that people with diabetes could put on briefly each day to check their foot health. The sock would register subtle changes in foot temperature, turning blue—a bit counterintuitively—when infection made the temperature rise, or changing to red when the temperature fell, possibly signaling a blockage in circulation. To demonstrate the concept, they settled on a fabric and painted liquid crystals on its surface, then compared its sensitivity to that of a thermal imager. The fabric passed the test.

But several challenges remain. For instance, the fabric they've worked with thus far only stretches in one direction. Socks need to stretch in all directions. Further, the liquid crystals on the test fabric may wear off or otherwise degrade, and the fabric can't be washed. To solve this problem, the crystals will be encapsulated and thus protected from the environment and the washing machine.

Economic forecasts suggest the importance of staking some territory in the growing field of wearables. The independent market research firm IDTechEx says wearable electronics are a more than \$20 billion market this year. In 10 years, they predict a market as large as \$70 billion. SNS Research, which also tracks this market, estimates wearable shipments will pass 140 million next year, generating \$30 billion in revenue, with a compounded annual growth rate of 30 percent over the next five years. Whatever way you interpret these data, one thing is certain: the field is taking off, spurred by the availability of low-cost sensors, the growth of wireless connectivity and the rise of smart materials that are active and interactive.

The real growth explosion will come, IDTechEx predicts, with the invention of smart textiles woven with electronic capabilities. Kent State could be part of this revolution. West's lab recently developed a thread with a liquid crystal core, making it possible to create fabrics with the capabilities of a laptop screen. How about Internet access on your sleeve? Or clothing that can detect an athlete's electrolyte balance? Or wall coverings that communicate? "Now that I have a thread, I can weave it," West says. "I can start thinking of doing everything that's being done display-wise, sensor-wise, into fabrics."

But he warns it could be decades before these promising new threads show up in your blue jeans. Although creating such a thread proved to be far easier than West expected (he is applying for a patent), several significant challenges remain. For instance, while liquid crystals can sense temperature without a power source, creating a liquid crystal fabric display will mean finding a way to attach a power source, a tricky problem.

If Kent State is going to continue on this pathway to innovation, fashion experts and technology mavens will have to learn to talk to one another, says Kevin Wolfgang of the TechStyleLAB. "How we communicate is huge. We get isolated in our own departments, using our own language, and we don't have open communication. We need to learn each other's language. We need to break down our language for other people."

The Fashion School is experiencing greater opportunities for collaboration as industry comes calling for its expertise. For instance, a graduate student in the Fashion School is working with a Northeast Ohio company to create clothing that can warm up quickly—a real boon to anyone who works outdoors. Further, Margarita Benitez, who might hold the first fashion technologist tenure-track spot at any university anywhere, hopes to create an interdisciplinary lab to work on wearables and attract funding for research. "I see a bright future in the field. It's just a matter of getting the right people in the right room."

In a bit of serendipity, Benitez helped do just that in 2012 when she co-curated an exhibition at the Kent State University Museum called *Shifting Paradigms: Fashion + Technology*. "It had all kinds of wearable tech and examples of how technology was being used in fashion," she says. While at the exhibit, she was approached by Kate Harmon, then associate director of Blackstone LaunchPad, who suggested creating the Fashion/Tech Hackathon.

This year the hackathon coincided with the launch of the first KSU TechStyleLAB Symposium, at which academics presented papers on fashion and technology. An industry group, the Northeast Ohio Wearable and Embedded Technologies Consortium, held its first meeting in Kent on the same day as the symposium and hackathon, attracting 50 experts in wearable technology from across the region. (Next year, the Fashion/Tech Hackathon runs January 29 to 31.)

"We want to tie our curriculum and the future of the Fashion School into the emerging role of technology," says Campbell. "We need to better bridge the gap between us and the core technology innovators. That's where our future lies." ⚡

Jenni Laidman '77 is a freelance writer based in Louisville, Kentucky. View a video about the temperature-sensing sock at www.kent.edu/magazine/wearabletech.



WearNext

Fitbit and Apple Watch are just the beginning of the wearable tsunami to come. Although many early wearable devices haven't met consumer expectations (one survey said a third of consumers who purchased a wearable fitness tracker in the last two years stopped using it within six months), developers are exploring ways to collect more consistent data and turn them into insights that are meaningful and relevant to users.



BENEFITS

Many consumers still welcome wearable tech apparel and devices that will meet their needs, as reported in "The Wearable Future," a survey prepared by the professional services firm PwC. Below we list the top benefits that 80 to 90 percent of consumers identified as important in that report, along with a few products we've found that are designed to provide them.

Safety

Keeping children (and others) safe

- **The Sproutling** ankle monitor provides worried parents with a wealth of data, including skin temperature, sleep position, heart rate, and even probable waking time. Other devices that measure baby biometrics include the Owlet Smart Sock and Pacif-i, the smart pacifier.
- **The FitGuard** mouth guard tracks head acceleration and notifies the coach if the acceleration makes the player a probable concussion victim.
- **ActiveProtective** smart garments detect when the wearer falls before he or she hits the floor and deploy airbags to prevent broken bones. A Fujitsu wearable, FEELthym, can alert drowsy drivers by sending vibration to a user's neck.

Healthy living

Eating healthier, exercising smarter and accessing more convenient medical care

- **The Adidas in-shoe tracker, Speed_Cell**, records distance, speed, stride rate for any sport and, in combination with miCoach, provides real-time performance advice. The Adidas X_Cell on-body sensor tracks quickness, vertical, hustle and heart rate.
- **The Garmin Forerunner 620** watch helps athletes prevent injuries by advising users on recovery times between workouts. Garmin's S6 Golf Watch adds swing analysis to its data collection.
- **The Empatica** wristband can measure the onset of seizures, which could help determine the efficacy of anti-epileptic medicine, or trigger an ambulance call.

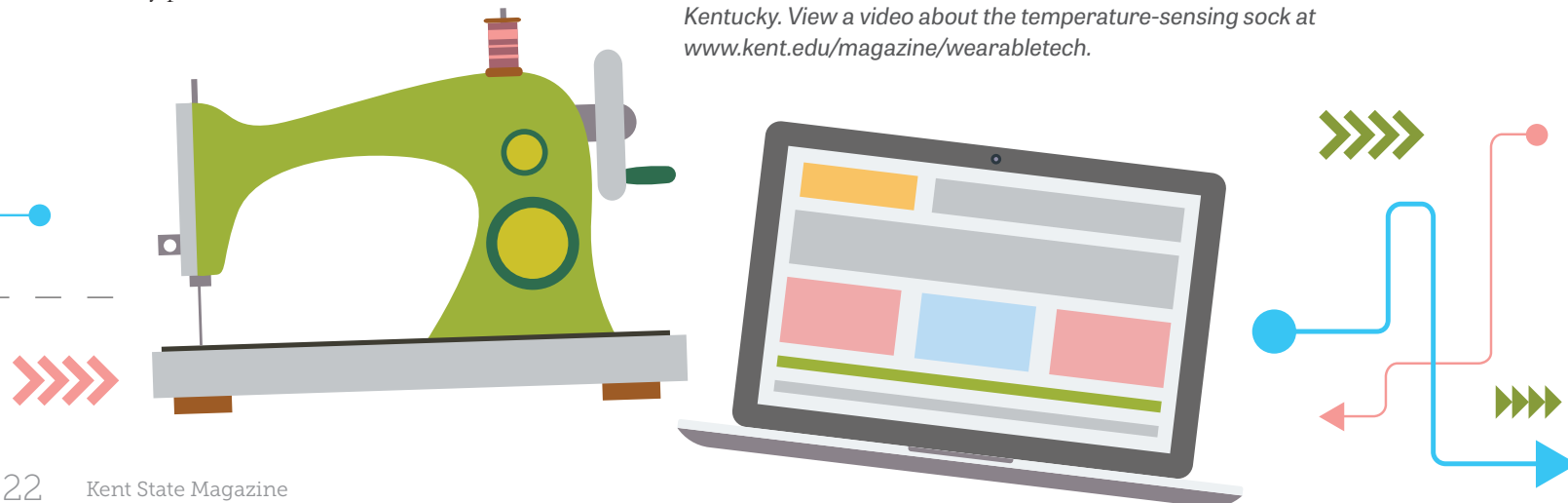
Simplicity and ease of use

Making technology simpler and easier to use

- **The bPay wristband**, introduced by Barclay Bank of London, takes the place of credit and debit cards.
- **The Narrative Clip**, a 5-megapixel camera that clips to your clothing, takes a picture every 30 seconds and provides free cloud storage and apps to organize the thousands of photos captured in your life log.
- **Ringly**, a ring set with a semi-precious gem that connects to your smartphone, subtly notifies you when someone on your pre-set list sends you an email.

BUT BEWARE

In the "The Wearable Future" report, 82 percent of consumers said they were concerned that wearable tech will invade their privacy, and 86 percent expressed concern that wearable tech will make them more vulnerable to security breaches. Wearable tech companies will need to earn consumer trust and navigate potential regulatory issues that emerge as the category grows.



Saving Irish

Irish is the official language of Ireland, but its use is in rapid decline, and UNESCO lists it as an endangered language. With a student fellowship from the Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting, Kent State senior Anna Hoffman traveled to Ireland this summer to research and report on the community of Irish speakers who are scrambling to revive their cultural treasure.

Story and photos by Anna Hoffman '15

Irish language education is compulsory in Ireland, but not everyone who attends school leaves with the ability to speak it.

“I think the education system was successful in impressing on people the idea that they should be fluent in Irish, but not successful in actually making them fluent, so people just come out with this guilt,” says Aoife Crawford, the acting Irish language officer at Trinity College in Dublin.

Members of the Irish language community do not say they “speak” Irish. Instead, they say they “have” Irish, a phrase indicative of the admiration and desire to hold onto a key piece of Irish cultural identity.

While many in the Irish community point to the new generation of Irish speakers as the hope for the future of the language, there is an entire portion of the Irish population who had such negative experiences with the language when they were in school that they may go their entire lives without ever having Irish.

“Something is direly wrong when after 14 years at school, most people come out without being able to speak Irish,” says Eddie Lenihan, an Irish storyteller based in County Clare. Lenihan says members of his generation recall having Irish literally beaten into them in school. It was not taught as a spoken language, but instead was taught through poetry or literature, with a focus on grammatical constructions.

Robert Campbell, a retired Dublin native, says that at the time he was in school learning Irish, nobody spoke it outside the classroom. “It wasn’t fashionable to speak Irish,” says Campbell. “You were sort of looked down on, so people tried to hide the language.”

These negative feelings toward Irish persist today with some members of previous generations. This causes some to reject it and others to make later attempts at embracing it.

“When I left school, that was the end of the language,” says Campbell. “Even though I loved it at school, that was the end of it.”

After Campbell left school he moved to America and worked at a theater in Berkeley, California. While working on a play by Sean O’Casey, a famous Irish playwright, the director asked Campbell to perform a monologue in his own language, meaning Irish. “It was the most shameful moment imaginable because I didn’t have my own language,” says Campbell. “I didn’t have it.”

He reached out to a professor at Berkeley and began to learn the speech the director gave him in Irish. Campbell performed the speech, in Irish, on stage in that play, and says he swore to himself then that before he died he would be able to speak Irish.

Today, Campbell is part of an Irish conversation circle in Dublin that meets every Wednesday and he currently writes stories in Irish.

“Where you have a lack of resentment, you have hope,” says Lenihan. “Because the schools created a lot of resentment against Irish.”

The Irish language is becoming a bit more popular among kids growing up with the language today. Watching SpongeBob in Irish or listening to pop hits translated to Irish is not unusual—a stark comparison to the generation that grew up with it as a dead language in classrooms years ago.

Lenihan says, “It will never come back as the first language of the state. [But] we can become proud of it, rather than resentful of it, and say no, we’re not going to let it go—because if we do, we’re letting go of part of what we had.

“If you can get that across to people, then it will survive, and be sure of surviving. Because the day we let Irish go, then we’re in trouble.”

“Where you have lack of resentment, you have **hope.**”

—EDDIE LENIHAN, Irish storyteller

“The young people of Ireland are the ones who’ll lose out if the situation continues as it is.”

—LISA NIC AN BHREITHIMH, radio host, Raidió na Life



“They just [taught] the Irish language in writing in school, and we learned very little about speaking the language. And it wasn’t fashionable to speak Irish. You wouldn’t get a job, either, if you couldn’t speak English. So historically it was difficult. When I left school, that was the end of the language, even though I loved it. But the basic undercurrent of shame hasn’t disappeared totally.”
— Robert Campbell, retired Dublin native, member of an Irish conversation circle, Trinity College



“I started school in Cork, and when I left the classroom I kept speaking Irish. My mam would explain to me that people in the shops didn’t speak Irish. We moved to Dublin when I was around eight, and I continued to go to Gaelscoil [Irish medium school]. In secondary school [high school], I went to an English-speaking school. I had no opportunity to speak Irish anywhere, other than in the Irish class. If I hadn’t found out about Raidió na Life, I probably wouldn’t be able to speak Irish anymore.”
— Cian Mác Cartháigh, station manager, Raidió Na Life, a community-based Irish language station in Dublin



“This last government seemed to want to get rid of us Irish speakers. Everybody from the island has Irish and even people who move here from other countries attempt to learn a certain amount of Irish. Some do a good job of it, some don’t. But at least they try. What I have noticed in the past few years, actually, is a lot more Irish people come to the island trying out their bit of Irish that they learned at school and wanting to learn Irish. More so than years ago. So maybe we are getting more proud of our heritage and our language, hopefully.”
— Angela Connolly, shopkeeper, Inis Mor



Students at Gaelscoil na Móna, an Irish medium school in Belfast. Everything is taught through Irish, so students become fluent in speaking the language before they move on. Although not compulsory in Northern Ireland, Irish language education is growing and considered part of the culture. Many people point to the new generation of Irish speakers as the hope for the language’s survival.

Only an estimated 1.8 percent of citizens of the Republic of Ireland speak Irish daily, and only 40.5 percent of the population say they have the ability to speak the language. “There is no situation globally that is comparable to the cultural situation in Ireland,” says Cuan Ó Seireadáin, communications officer at Conradh na Gaelige [The Gaelic League], a nonprofit organization whose primary mission is to reinstate Irish as Ireland’s primary language. “An Ireland without the Irish language wouldn’t be the same place.”

The decline of the Irish language was not gradual and not long ago, he says. For the majority of time under British rule [roughly 800 years] the Irish language was still frequently used; however English was the official language, especially for legal, administrative and political affairs. This lowered the status of the Irish language, and the working class population who most often used it was eventually diminished by mass emigration and the Great Famine in the mid 1800s. The Irish language never fully recovered.

In Ireland’s constitution [the second one enacted since independence in 1922] Irish is given the status of the first and official language of the nation. Nearly 100 years later, English is clearly still the dominant language.

The Irish government has made numerous plans to encourage the use of Irish. In 2003, Ireland passed the

Official Languages Act, which promotes the use of Irish for official matters of the state. But often there are too few resources, and Irish speakers complain about noncompliant government organizations. Ó Seireadáin says part of the issue is the government’s “béal grá,” which literally translates to “mouth love,” meaning someone who talks positively but has no actions to back up their words.

“Sometimes policy is formed without full knowledge of the relevant facts,” he says. “Pressure on the Gaeltacht areas [mostly in western Ireland where Irish is the community language] is extremely large and there is a need for the government to take action there to ensure that the most precious cultural thing we have in Ireland, and the place where it has continued in use unbroken for over a thousand years, is not lost.” ⚡

Excerpted from “Learning Irish,” first published by the Pulitzer Center, and “To Have Irish,” first published on Huffington Post’s The WorldPost, by Anna Hoffman ’15, a political science and global communication studies major from Kent, Ohio. For more reporting on this topic, view Hoffman’s Pulitzer Center project page at <http://pulitzercenter.org/projects/europe-ireland-culture-language-generations>.

Honor Roll

The Kent State Alumni Association hosted a special ceremony on October 2nd to celebrate its **2015 alumni award** recipients, who have made exceptional contributions in their professions, communities and at Kent State.



Tim Hunsicker '92, '93, MArc '94 Missionary architect with ABWE

International, who in 2013 relinquished his nearly 20-year role as a partner in the Cleveland architectural firm CBLH Design Inc. (where he designed projects for libraries, healthcare and higher education) to assist with design solutions in countries around the world, including Kosovo, Bangladesh, Papua New Guinea, South Sudan and Togo. (**Distinguished Alumni Award**)



Earl Miller '85 Picower Professor of Neuroscience at MIT,

whose award-winning research of the prefrontal cortex has established a foundation to explore how executive control is implemented in the brain and its dysfunction in diseases such as autism, schizophrenia and attention deficit disorder. (**Professional Achievement Award**)



Abbie Morneault '12 Math teacher/advisor at Dayton Early College

Academy, who helps students from under-represented and low-income families prepare for college and volunteers with Determined to Develop, a non-profit based in Malawi, Africa, that provides healthcare, education and community resources to impoverished children and their families. (**Distinguished Citizen Award**)



Morgan Shields '14 Graduate student at the Harvard T.H. Chan School

of Public Health, who studies the social representation of mental conditions and distress within the context of mental healthcare service delivery and organized a weeklong conference at Harvard to discuss topics related to diversity and inclusion, such as weight stigma, race and ethnicity. (**Outstanding New Professional Award**)



Douglas DeFouw Jr. '17 Senior majoring in flight technology, who received his Instrument Rating from Kent State's

Flight Technology program, graduated from Air Force ROTC Field Training as a superior performer (top 20 percent) and hopes to serve as a pilot in the United States Air Force. (**Golden Flash Award**)



Larry Disbro '71, '73, MEd '78 Former educational administrator

for award-winning elementary and junior high schools, who is a member of the Kent State University Golden Flashes Club and Honorary Varsity K, has served on the Kent State University Intercollegiate Athletic Council since 2009 and on the Kent State National Alumni Board of Directors from 1995 through 2002. (**Kent State Advocacy Award**)



Sandy Disbro '75 Former teacher and recipient of the Mentor

Schools Excellence in Teaching Award for 2004, who has volunteered with the Kent State Admission's Office, served as Homecoming parade judge for more than 10 years and also has co-chaired several committees for the Lake County Alumni Chapter. She and her husband, Larry, are life members of the Kent State University Alumni Association and have supported Kent State initiatives for more than 40 years. (**Kent State Advocacy Award**)

Read more about our 2015 award winners at www.ksualumni.org/alumniawardrecipients.



Joe Grisola '68, Beaver Falls, Pa., **Ralph DeJesus**, Lorain, Ohio, and **Don Humphrey '68**, Concord, Ohio, were sophomore roommates on the third floor of Lake Hall in 1965-66. They reunited on the Kent Campus in August, after Grisola looked his friends up on the Internet. It was the first time back on campus for Grisola and DeJesus since the sixties, and they were amazed at the changes. The trio plan to keep in touch!

Watch their reunion on this news video: bit.ly/1E1qV66

Daniel List, Hanover Park, Ill., wrote, "It's hard to get a job when you have grey hair and lines in your face like me, so I've decided to get a more youthful image. I'm getting my résumé a tattoo and a piercing. Meanwhile, I'm working on a screenplay about a sexy Middle Earth wizard. Working title: *Fifty Shades of Gandalf the Grey.*"

76 Gail Fonda, Beachwood, Ohio, wrote, "I am finally working on my second book. It includes what happened to me at Kent."

Kim Uhlik, MA, PhD '99, Ravenna, Ohio, wrote, "Ever since taking a black and white photography class at Kent State, I've been encouraged to trust my eye and to develop a distinctive style. This lifelong vocation recently took me to the Pacific Ocean, the North Sea, and southern France, before returning to Kent. Twenty-five digital images acquired during that journey were exhibited at the KSU Downtown Gallery from February 25 through April 4, 2015."

78 Paul Burke, JD, Murrysville, Pa., wrote, "After 30 years I left my Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania-based law firm, Sherrard, German & Kelly, and became the vice president and general counsel of Huntley & Huntley Inc., a century-old oil and gas exploration and production company headquartered in Monroeville, Pennsylvania."

79 Vikki Hawthorne, Columbus, Ohio, retired after a 30-year career with the Defense Logistics Agency. She spent nearly twenty years in their Small Business Utilization Office assisting small businesses in federal government contracting. She is currently owner and senior business development strategist at Market Your Wares, working with businesses to increase their footprint in the government contracting arena.

John Martin, London, Ohio, retired in 2010 from 30 years of service with the Ohio Attorney General's Office. He retired in 2015 from 24 years of service with the U. S. Navy as LCDR-intelligence officer. He is currently employed with the Madison County, Ohio, Sheriff's Office as the county school resource officer.

80 Matt Steele, Sandy, Utah, joined Alaska Aerospace Corporation as vice president for business development. He is responsible for securing small and medium class satellite launches from the Pacific Spaceport Complex-Alaska, as well as developing diversification strategies for AAC.

81 Jose Gonzalez-Taboada, DBA, Caguas, Puerto Rico, is the new dean of the AACSB-accredited College of Business Administration of the University of Puerto Rico at Río Piedras.

John Hollabaugh, Mentor, Ohio, wrote, "I am now an account executive at WKYC NBC3 Cleveland, thus completing a career working at WJW, WOIO/WUAB, & WEWS in Cleveland Television. Could never have done it without Kent State!"

82 John Henning, MEd, PhD '99, Athens, Ohio, was named new dean for the School of Education at Monmouth University. He joined the university community on July 1, 2015.



Keith McFarland '62, PhD, president emeritus of Texas A&M University-Commerce, delivered the keynote address at the Commencement ceremony for those receiving their bachelor's degrees at the Kent Campus on August 15. Joining him and his wife, **Nancy (Myers) McFarland '62**, to witness the event and attend the Presidential Luncheon afterward were family and lifelong friends who attended Kent State, including his two college roommates and her three college roommates! Pictured (left to right): **L.L. Mac McFarland, MBA '80, Carole (Painter) Kane '62, Hilary Kane '90, Barbara (Ujicic) O'Donnell '62, Sandra (Hickenbottom) Dobson '62, Thomas Kozlevcar '62, Nancy (Myers) McFarland, Keith McFarland and George Parsons '63.**

Heidi Johnson-Wright, JD '86, Miami, Fla., an ADA compliance professional, attorney and author, spoke to the students in Professor Frank Martinez's Architecture Design and Theory class about the importance of the University of Miami School of Architecture's commitment to an inclusive built environment. Johnson-Wright, who has used a wheelchair for mobility for 40 years, has published more than 1,000 articles on universal and inclusive design and the built environment.

85 Patrick Liverpool, DBA, Henrico, Va., has been appointed provost and vice president for academic affairs at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore.

Michael Zagger, Redmond, Wa., was named vice president of sales and marketing at EndoGastric Solutions Inc., a leader in incisionless procedural therapy for gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD), in June.

87 Dean Tondiglia, MPA '97, Stow, Ohio, has been named Kent State University's new chief of police. Prior to leading Kent State Police Services, Tondiglia served as the university's assistant chief of police and associate director of public safety (a role he will retain).



Ben Hendricks '10, Akron, Ohio, released a third full-length album with his band, Annabel. *Having it All* was released on the Tiny Engines label June 9, 2015. Bandmate and brother, **Andy Hendricks '11**, designed the artwork and provided drums for the record. **Corey Willis '12** and Scott Moses complete the lineup. The album is available at annabel.bandcamp.com.

Steve Wright, Miami, Fla., celebrated in March the first anniversary of Steve Wright Marketing Communications. The Miami-based boutique firm provides marketing, business development, public relations, social media content and copywriting services to town planning, urban design, architecture, transportation, sustainability and related professional services firms. An award-winning journalist in Ohio, Wright worked as the senior urban policy advisor to the chairman of the Miami City Commission before heading the marketing group for Architectonica, one of the world's largest global architecture firms.

88 Kenneth Smith, MBA, Hudson, Ohio, retired from PolyOne Corp. in June, 2014. He had served as the company's chief information officer since it was formed in 2000, and he had also taken on the role of human resources officer in 2003. Prior to that, he had been with BF Goodrich/Geon since 1989.

89 John Burkey, MA, Kent, Ohio, published *The Hearing-Loss Guide: Useful Information and Advice for Patients and Families* (March 2015, Yale University Press), based on his twenty-five years as an audiologist at the Lippy Group for Ear, Nose & Throat in Warren, Ohio.

90 Heidi LeCount, Raleigh, N.C., wrote, "I completed 21 hours of post-baccalaureate coursework in human resources at Meredith College and obtained my Professional in Human Resources (PHR) certification in June, 2014."

Paul Rohrbaugh, MLS, New Middletown, Ohio, designed and published the board game *September's Eagles: The Thompson Trophy Air Race, 1929-1939*, in December, 2014. The race was the largest outdoor spectator event in the United States until the start of the Super Bowl. A leading game designer with many publication and presentation credits, Rohrbaugh released the game through his game publishing company, High Flying Dice Games, www.hfdgames.com.

92 Graham Glynn, PhD, Miller Place, N.Y., was recently appointed provost at Fort Hays State University in Kansas.

Thomas Moore, Stow, Ohio, recently started his own content marketing firm, TM Communications, which provides a variety of services, including writing and social media. Learn more at www.tmcommunications.org.

Class Notes

The little sunburst denotes an Alumni Association member. For a list of life members, visit www.ksualumni.org/lifemembers.

53 Ernest Mazzatenta, Hendersonville, N.C., wrote, "I write a monthly "Speaking of Words" column for the *Hendersonville Times-News*; I've served as co-mediator for more than 250 community mediations; I'm president of the General Motors Alumni Club of Western North Carolina; and I'm executive editor of the quarterly newsletter serving the Class of 1949 at Ashtabula (Ohio) High School. All this began when I majored in journalism at KSU."

69 Douglas Shuck, Pittsburgh, Pa., retired from WTW Architects. He also served on the Township Planning Commission in Upper St. Clair, and he is a past president of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

70 Alan Lavine, Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., the author of 15 books, is a contributing writer for *Financial History*, a publication of the Museum of American Finance in New York City. His March 2015 article, "Economic Titans Debate on Free Trade Versus Protectionism in 1869," is about debates between Horace Greeley, publisher of the *New York Tribune* and Arthur Perry, a Williams' college professor and leading economist of the day.

73 Bob McEvoy, Fayetteville, N.C., was named Vice President of Athletics at Methodist University, one of the largest Division III NCAA programs in the nation. He has served at the university for 24 years.

74 Gary Fincke, PhD, Selinsgrove, Pa., has published two new books in 2015: *Vanishings* (Stephen F. Austin University Press), a memoir, and *A Room of Rain* (West Virginia University Press), his sixth short-story collection. He is the Charles Degenstein Professor of English and Creative Writing at Susquehanna University.



COURTESY OF THE NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS/DAVID SILVERMAN

11 Fast Facts About Julian Edelman

Hard worker, determined and persistent are words that describe former Kent State quarterback Julian Edelman. When he was drafted in the seventh round of the 2009 NFL Draft by the New England Patriots, many critics thought he was too small to succeed in the NFL—but he proved them wrong.

After developing a different skillset to become a wide receiver and punt returner, Julian Edelman helped the Patriots win Super Bowl XLIX with a nine-catch performance, including the game-winning touchdown catch with just over two minutes left in the game. He finished the game with 109 receiving yards, 7 rushing yards and 27 punt return yards.

We caught up with Edelman, the 2015 Homecoming Parade Grand Marshal and a Varsity “K” Hall of Fame Inductee, and found out more about this sports star.

11. His jersey number at Kent State was #11 and then became #1. “My jersey was #1 in high school for two years and we won championships both years, so I thought it would bring more winning.”

10. He grew up in Redwood City, California. He enrolled at the College of San Mateo before transferring to Kent State, where he was a three-year starter at quarterback from 2006 to 2008.

9. During his senior season at Kent State, he threw for 13 touchdowns and 1,820 yards. He also rushed for 1,370 yards and 13 touchdowns on the ground. His total offense (3,190 yards) broke Josh Cribbs’ single-season school record, set in 2003.

8. He majored in business management at Kent State. His favorite class was international marketing. “It was a fun class with good student participation, and I enjoyed it. I learned tips that I use to market my own brand.”

7. His favorite place to eat in Kent was Sorboro’s, the team’s pregame meal spot for home games. He also enjoyed smoothies from Pulp in Kent. On his website, he’s portrayed as a burger aficionado and smoothie connoisseur. “Every once in a while, I’ll have a burger, but it doesn’t help my training. That’s what the smoothies are for.”

By Ashley Whaley '06, MEd '12 and Vince Slomsky '08

6. His Kent State nickname was “Ju-elz Santana.” Currently, he’s called “Minitron,” “Incredelman,” “The Energizer Bunny” and “Squirrel.”

5. He is on the Athlete Advisory Council of CoachUp, a nationwide service that connects athletes with private coaching in every sport. “Coaching is a huge part of what’s made me my best. Having someone who can remind you about the fundamentals and teach from their experience is a valuable tool for a professional athlete.”

4. His sense of humor helps him connect with fans through social media and other venues. “It’s a way of communicating and getting to show some of your personality.”

3. He once conducted the Boston Pops Orchestra. He led them in a performance of “The Stars and Stripes Forever” at the orchestra’s 2015 annual Presidents at Pops fund-raiser.

2. He visited Israel this past summer to explore his heritage. “I have huge respect for a country that’s so small and has to constantly defend itself against others.”

1. He knows how to overcome challenges. “Just worry about what you can control. Always keep your mind on the goal. Ignore a lot of the noise that’s on the way. Manage your expectations, and try to be as consistent as possible. Don’t let someone tell you that you can’t; prove them wrong.” ⚡

Send Us Your Class Note

We’d love to hear from you!

Go online to complete the form at www.ksualumni.org/classnotes (you may include an image in JPEG, GIF or PNG format).

Write to Kent State University Alumni Association, Williamson Alumni Center, P.O. Box 5190, Kent, Ohio 44242-0001.

Please limit your notes to 100 words or less and include your class year, city, state and degree(s). Notes may be edited for length or clarity and published as space allows.

Deadlines for submissions:

Fall May 30
Spring September 30
Summer January 31

06 ☀️ **Valerie Patton George**, Santa Monica, Calif., was recently nominated as chair-elect of the California chapter of the Society of Cosmetic Chemists, a professional organization promoting high standards of practice for scientists working in the personal care industry. She is a research and development chemist at Paul Mitchell, focusing on permanent hair color and other hair care products. She also was elected vice president of the Southern California chapter of the Kent State Alumni Association.

08 **Ryan Telzrow**, Cleveland, Ohio, is an admission screening officer at Cuyahoga County Juvenile Justice Center since last May.

11 **Allison Brager, PhD**, Atlanta, Ga., published a popular science book, *Meathead: Unraveling the Athletic Brain* (WestBow Press) in February. The book bridges Brager’s work in neuroscience (which she began at Kent State) with her experience as an athlete and coach.

12 **David Siedlarczyk**, Amsterdam, was promoted to designer, Calvin Klein Swimwear Mens, and he relocated to the European headquarters in Amsterdam. He joined the PVH Corp.—an American clothing company that owns brands such as Tommy Hilfiger, Calvin Klein, Van Heusen—more than two years ago and was associate designer at Calvin Klein Underwear in Manhattan. Siedlarczyk is recognized as the originator of the first Kent Fashion Week held in downtown Kent in spring 2012.



Ashley (Katona) Whaley '06, MEd '12 (Stow, Ohio) wrote, “I married Bill Whaley on July 31, 2015, at St. Ignatius of Antioch in Cleveland, Ohio. We had a great time celebrating with family and friends and have so many amazing memories of the day.” Pictured: Eric Toulouse, Chad Smith, **Dan Klimkowicz '04**, Chip Fails, Adam Johnson, **Jack Whaley '14**, Bill Whaley, **Ashley Whaley**, Katie Zabor, **Dana Santoro '02**, Lori Mendise, Katie Walczak, **Lauren Etzel '06**, Leslie Mutryn.



2015 Homecoming Photos Online

Thanks for coming—we had a blast! Whether you made it back to campus for Homecoming on October 3 or not, you can view photos from the weekend at www.ksualumni.org/homecoming.

Take Our Survey!

During the past year, the Kent State University Alumni Association has begun a process to more effectively and efficiently deliver programming, services and communications. In October we sent an online, confidential alumni attitude survey to all alumni so we can learn more about your Kent State experience, how it influenced your life, what you expect from your university and alumni association and the best way to communicate with you.

If you did not receive an email invitation to complete the survey, please email alumni@kent.edu. Thank you for your support and participation.

In Memory

☀️ *The little sunburst denotes an Alumni Association member. For a list of life members, visit www.ksualumni.org/lifemembers.*

Loretta Holmes '44, March 1, 2015

☀️ **Loreto George '50**, March 22, 2015

John Charlton '51, April 1, 2015

Betty Wheeler '53, May 1, 2013

Warren Herbert '54, April 2, 2014

David Schmitkons '55, January 12, 2015

Silvester Smith '55, March 16, 2015

George Simpson '56, November 27, 2014

Cliff Murphy '57, July 24, 2014

Edwin Cairns '59, September 5, 2014

Lewis Young '59, February 27, 2014

Elaine Emerson '60, December 17, 2013

George Vanderbilt '60, February 1, 2013

Robert Wirth '60, February 2, 2013

Norma Jones '61, March 9, 2014

Mary Minadeo '62, December 1, 2013

Richard Sitek '63, February 14, 2013

Young Byun '64, August 22, 2014

Rosalyn Sasala '64, August 28, 2014

Thomas Everett '65, April 1, 2015

Priscilla Haden '65, January 1, 2015

☀️ **James Schordock '65**, March 27, 2015

Dennis Tischler '65, May 12, 2014

Robert Felton '66, January 1, 2015

Elaine Hoffmann '66, October 2, 2014

Jack Rader '67, November 20, 2013

Gary Sekerak '67, October 30, 2013

Jacqueline DeCosmo-Carroll '68, March 6, 2014

James Demetriu '68, February 6, 2015

Jeffrey Pillars '68, February 5, 2015

Sharon Clark '69, July 20, 2014

Milton Cooper '69, February 6, 2015

Robert Becherer '70, December 26, 2013

John Kavcar '71, January 2, 2015

William Hawley '72, March 25, 2014

Deborah White '73, January 24, 2014

Edgar Johnson '74, February 1, 2015

James Johnson '74, February 7, 2015

Diane Wells '74, August 12, 2013

Dolores (Boyd) Wysocki '74, MA '75, July 4, 2015

Dan Bobier '75, February 23, 2015

Jeanette Hetz '75, November 10, 2013

Harold Hicks '75, September 2, 2014

James Massey '75, March 12, 2015

Frederick Patrie '76, September 6, 2014

Valerie Smith '76, May 12, 2015

Jean Broida '78, November 25, 2014

Jacqueline Campbell '78, May 7, 2015

Gail Lozzi '78, October 23, 2014

Mary Clark '79, December 2, 2014

Beverly Bader '80, June 27, 2014

Carol Lauer '80, October 15, 2014

Nancy Olland '80, January 5, 2015

Robert Shanafelt '80, March 26, 2014

Stella Damico '81, April 24, 2015

Janice Garver '81, May 22, 2015

Patricia Hadaway '81, December 16, 2014

Dave Werner '81, September 1, 2014

Benjamin Heggy '82, May 3, 2015

Oscar Schultz '82, January 24, 2014

Gary Wunderlin '83, January 4, 2015

Karen Denius '84, November 21, 2014

Anker Studsgaard '84, December 1, 2014

Philip Harnick '86, March 1, 2015

Dale Sablotny '86, May 7, 2015

Mary Paull '89, May 12, 2015

Joseph Deshance '91, January 10, 2015

Brenda Dallacheisa '96, April 24, 2015

David Suhy '98, March 22, 2015

Maryann Mitalski '99, May 15, 2014

Patricia Davis '00, January 18, 2014

Erin Myers '00, May 2, 2015

Cameron Fleming '13, July 29, 2014



The “K” Book, a handbook for incoming freshmen, outlined proper conduct, as well as traditions, events and student organizations.

Special “K”

They are small, about the size of a smartphone (only lighter), and you could easily carry one in your pocket.

Which is a good thing, because first-year students at Kent State during the 1940s typically were required to have these student handbooks—published by the Student Council and commonly referred to as “K” Books—in their possession at all times. And that’s not all.

Freshmen rules, drafted by a student council committee and listed in the books, appear to have varied from year to year, but those from 1942–43 also required purchasing and wearing the “dink” cap, performing “any act or duty within reason requested by an upperclassman,” rising and giving their seats to upperclassmen at any public place and knowing the alma mater. The rules also prohibited walking on the seal at the Prentice gateway, walking anywhere on campus except on cement walks and smoking on campus.

Meant to acquaint incoming students with university rules, regulations, traditions, activities, campus organizations and other information about life at Kent State University, these “K” Books—produced each academic year from 1928 to 1970 (with possible exceptions)—give a glimpse of the concerns, customs and social codes of their time period.

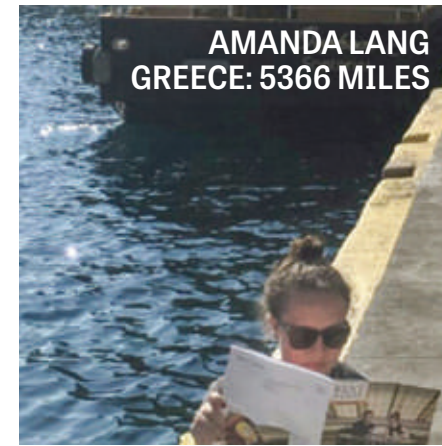
The 1928–29 edition (61 pages) is concerned that “any one student not overtax his time and strength with extra-curricular activities,” and it institutes a point system so students won’t be over-involved in campus organizations.

The 1938–39 edition (72 pages) lists some “advisory suggestions” for sorority, fraternity or cooperative houses, which include being “supervised in such a way as to encourage: study, intelligent conversation, clean language and interest in religion.”

And the 1948–49 edition (87 pages) dedicates five pages to detailed social standards for women—but none for men. Regulations for women included special hours and permits needed for just about everything—such as requiring that “any special permit for class work, outside employment, and opera must be obtained from the dean of women’s office before 5 p.m. the day it is to be used.”

Several academic years either were not published or are missing from Archives’ collection: 1931–32, 1932–33, 1934–35, 1935–36, 1936–37, 1958–59, 1959–60, 1960–61, 1961–62, 1962–63, 1963–64, 1964–65, 1965–66, 1966–67, 1968–69. If you have an original copy of any of these books, please contact Cara Gilgenbach, head of Special Collections and Archives, at cgilgenb@kent.edu. ⚡

COURTESY/SPECIAL COLLECTIONS & ARCHIVES



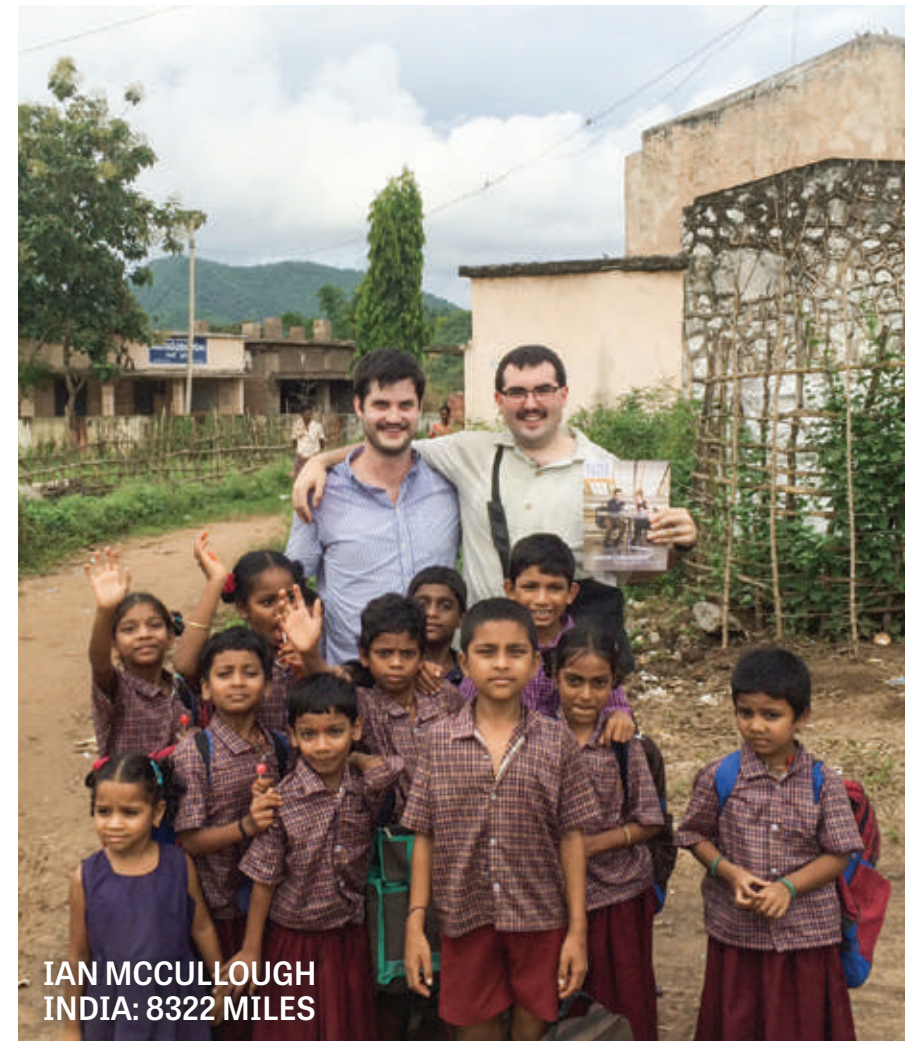
AMANDA LANG
GREECE: 5366 MILES



KATHLEEN BANAS
BRAZIL: 5037 MILES



ERIC MANSFELD
AUSTRIA: 4494 MILES



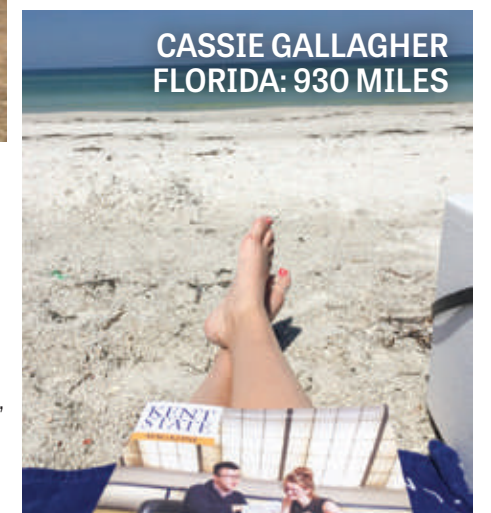
IAN MCCULLOUGH
INDIA: 8322 MILES



KEVIN O'NEILL
GERMANY: 4388 MILES



EDWARD FERRARO
ALASKA: 3030 MILES



CASSIE GALLAGHER
FLORIDA: 930 MILES

Going the Distance

When we invited you to take the summer issue of the magazine with you on your summer trips—with a prize (a \$50 gift certificate to Barnes & Noble) for the farthest distance traveled from Kent State—we had no idea where it might end up. Turns out it traveled to both coasts of the United States and five foreign countries!

Kent State interactive designer and developer Ian McCullough '11, MFA '14 (in the blue shirt above), took it with him on a mission trip to a small village in Andhra Pradesh, India, and he won—although it appears that application developer Thomas Smith '12 (in the green shirt) did the heavy lifting. Thank you to everyone who entered! ⚡

Family Tree



Fatou M'Baye (in the flowered blouse), poses with her parents—Kent State teachers Eriko Tanaka, lecturer of Japanese, and Babacar M'Baye, associate professor of English—and sister, Amina, beneath the tree that inspired her poem, “Thank You, Tree.” She wrote it while attending an outreach program of Kent State’s Wick Poetry Center at her elementary school.

Read Fatou M'Baye's poem on page 17, and send a copy to a friend by tearing off the included postcard.