You've heard about the inaugural All In for K-State.
Last March, K-State family joined together to champion
one cause
in
one day
and raised more than
$320,000
to support the immediate needs of K-State students.
That was only the beginning.
We're going to do it again March 25, 2020, and
you are invited to go #AllInForKState!
Visit ksufoundation.org/AllInForKState.
The seeds of success

Success can be defined in many ways. At the KSU Foundation, our success is based on inspiring and guiding philanthropy toward university priorities to boldly advance Kansas State University. As the state’s first land-grant university, K-State succeeds by making education accessible and providing opportunities for continuous learning wherever one may live. K-State faculty and students succeed by tackling the challenges facing individuals, communities and the world through research discoveries and innovation. K-State programs provide the leverage students need to succeed, and in turn, students work near and far to help lift up others. With investments from industry partners, alumni and individual philanthropists like you, the seeds of success are cultivated at K-State.

Because of you, success grows here.

With Purple Pride,

Greg Willems
President and CEO
KSU Foundation
Winter 2020

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K-State recognized for championing diversity, inclusion

INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine has awarded Kansas State University the 2019 Higher Education Excellence in Diversity, or HEED, award. The university has received this honor every year since 2014. K-State is one of 94 higher education institutions selected for the national honor and the only Kansas institution to receive the designation. The HEED award measures an institution’s level of achievement and intensity of commitment in regard to broadening diversity and inclusion on campus through initiatives, programs and outreach; student recruitment, retention and completion; as well as hiring practices for faculty and staff. “One of the most impactful endeavors we can achieve universitywide is to employ a diverse and engaged workforce and recruit and retain a diverse and engaged student body. Inclusiveness creates growth, so as we unlock our potential and manage differences, we create a harmonious workplace and educational institution of choice,” said Bryan Samuel, chief diversity and inclusion officer at K-State.

K-State partners on new Feed the Future Innovation Lab

Kansas State University is a partner on an international team in a new global crop improvement research program. The program works to advance plant breeding tools, technologies and methods aimed at delivering crops that can increase yields, enhance nutrition and have greater resistance to pests and diseases. The five-year, $25 million grant comes from the U.S. Agency for International Development, as part of the U.S. government’s Feed the Future initiative. The innovation lab is designed to create an integrated research and delivery program with multidisciplinary expertise in advanced agricultural development, from plant breeding all the way to genetics and gender inclusion. Experts from Cornell University, Clemson University and Kansas State University, along with scientists at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Makerere University in Uganda, Cultural Practice and RTI International, will initially collaborate with national agricultural institutions in Ghana, Haiti, Nepal, Senegal and Uganda to accelerate the breeding of locally and regionally adapted crop varieties targeted to smallholder farmers.
K-State PRSSA selected for mentorship program

The Kansas State University Chapter of Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) was selected as one of five chapters nationwide to participate in the competitive Aspire Higher: Future Fellows Mentoring Program. The program pairs students from each chapter with mentors across the United States from the prestigious PRSA College of Fellows. During the mentorship, mentors and mentees will spend time throughout the school year discussing goals and future career plans, as well as industry trends and issues. To qualify to apply for the program, chapters must have attained the Star Chapter Award in 2019, an award achieved through excellence in leadership, programs and community involvement. The K-State PRSSA Chapter received this award both in 2018 and 2019. K-State PRSSA is a pre-professional society dedicated to offering members the opportunity to enhance their knowledge of public relations and provide access to professional development opportunities.

College of Architecture, Planning and Design is the tops

The graduate programs in K-State’s College of Architecture, Planning and Design continue to rank among the best in the nation, according to DesignIntelligence. This year, the college’s graduate program in interior architecture ranked seventh nationally and first among programs at public institutions. The graduate landscape architecture program ranked eighth in the nation overall and fifth among programs at public institutions. The graduate architecture program ranked 24th in the nation and 10th among programs at public institutions. The rankings are based on national surveys of hiring professionals, deans and department chairs and students in the design disciplines.

Computer science undergraduate certificate launched

Starting this spring 2020 semester, K-State will offer a new avenue for students seeking an undergraduate certificate in computer science. The online undergraduate certificate in computer science is designed for students to learn the high-demand computer programming skills that employers are looking for. These skills enhance students’ career outlooks and make them more marketable upon graduation. This 14-credit hour certificate teaches students how to develop computer-based solutions to real-world problems. The courses offered can be taken concurrently and completely online. For more information on the certificate or to apply, visit global.k-state.edu/engineering/computer-science/.

Easing transition for business transfer students

The K-State College of Business Administration kicked off this school year with a Jump Start for incoming transfer students. The Jump Start program is offered and designed for transfer students to help them adjust to life at Kansas State University while also giving them a leg up on coursework required for all business majors. This three-week program ran from August 5–23. This gave students the opportunity to complete a business orientation, business foundations or management concepts, and a career accelerator course. These students also received one-on-one assistance from academic advisors and career development staff to showcase the variety of services the College of Business and K-State have to offer. The transfer students who participated in Jump Start last year had an increase of nearly half a point in their grade point average compared to other first-semester transfer students. Jump Start students came from 30 different institutions from across the state of Kansas and each participant received a $100 scholarship for attending.
Ten years ago, Kansas State University created a program to address student retention among first-year to second-year students: K-State First. Since its inaugural year, the program has grown exponentially. Two integral pieces of the program are the First-Year Seminar (FYS) courses and Connecting Across Topics (CAT) learning communities — both initiatives are designed to help first-year students establish a solid foundation for the rest of their college careers. With the formation of K-State First, K-State now has the highest first-to-second-year retention rate among Kansas Board of Regents institutions.

K-State First is also home to the university’s common reading program, the K-State Book Network, and a one-on-one mentoring program, Guide to Personal Success, which connects students with faculty, staff and alumni to grow their network and get to know the K-State family on a personal level.
BY THE NUMBERS

86% freshman-to-sophomore universitywide retention rate, up from 78% a decade ago

87% retention rate for freshman-to-sophomore students enrolled in a First-Year Seminar or CAT Community, compared to 84% for students who didn’t participate in either

86% retention rate for first-generation freshman-to-sophomore students enrolled in a CAT Community, compared to 79% for first-generation students who didn’t participate

63% six-year graduation rate for first-generation students enrolled in a First-Year Seminar, compared to 51% for first-generation students who didn’t participate in FYS or a CAT Community

46% four-year graduation rate for first-generation students enrolled in a First-Year Seminar, compared to 27% for students who didn’t participate in a FYS or a CAT Community

42 CAT Communities and 58 First-Year Seminars offered in fall 2019, serving 1,844 students from all seven undergraduate colleges on the Manhattan campus

46 CAT Communities and 60 First-Year Seminars planned in fall 2020, with the capacity to serve approximately 2,300 students

Four ways K-State First helps students transition to college:

- Fosters campus community and feelings of belonging
- Offers opportunities for diverse activities and interactions
- Raises academic expectations with engagement and compassion
- Empowers students with a strong sense of personal responsibility and social agency

KSUFOUNDATION.ORG
Janet Brubaker has had a passion for birds as long as she can remember, having acquired her first parrot in 1981.

Being a Kansas State University alumna through and through, Janet graduated with her degree in home economics education in 1974 and received her master’s in human ecology in 1980. She taught for 42 years and is now happily retired. While living in Hawaii, Janet was able to purchase her first parrot, and from then on, it was all about following her passion.

Currently she is a co-chair of the Society of Parrot Breeders and Exhibitors. Its goal, and hers, is to seek to improve the lives of parrots by sharing knowledge with pet owners and breeders.

As a member of the society, she travels around the country, going to bird shows and club meetings to share her bird experience and knowledge (and her birds) with the world, and spread the message of extinction and how we can prevent it in parrots. Many parrot species are listed as endangered and, therefore at risk of extinction. Too many parrot species have been lost forever.

For Janet, that goal of raising awareness and knowledge now aligns with her donation to the College of Veterinary Medicine. By creating two scholarships for students and establishing the Avian Medicine Excellence Fund, she has created the opportunity for faculty to continue their research in avian medicine and promote the field to all veterinary medicine students looking to gain more knowledge and experience in providing health care to birds.

“I wanted a way to make my assets and my passion mean something,” Janet said. By establishing these funds, she now has the opportunity to contribute to the field of avian medicine from the ground up. “If this is a way to get more avian veterinarians out there, then great!” she said.

Her donation to K-State supports both veterinary students and avian research, and can help provide the service with improved diagnostic and treatment equipment. That’s something that Dr. James Carpenter, professor in the College of Veterinary Medicine, will benefit from.

“By establishing these scholarships,” Janet said, “I’ve created the opportunity for students to pursue a career in avian medicine and help fill the gap in the workforce. This is something that we need, and it’s a great way to support future veterinarians.”
I would encourage students to look at all their options and see how many parrots there are in the country. Someone with an education in avian medicine would do really well out in the field.”

— JANET BRUBAKER

Medicine who specializes in exotic pet, wildlife and zoo animal medicine, can appreciate.

“More funding provides this program with so many great benefits. Besides scholarships, we can help students attend national or regional conferences pertaining to avian medicine. But funding to help support our research is also very much appreciated,” Carpenter said.

A large part of the veterinary school experience at K-State is getting hands-on practice working in clinics. Gaining this experience can be difficult for students and practitioners because of the cost associated with the diagnosis and treatment of diseases in birds.

“Some clients come in and do not have the funds to pay for the treatment of the bird,” Carpenter said. “So in select cases, some of this funding can be used to defer medical costs in pet birds, and these teaching opportunities could enhance a student’s training.”

For Carpenter, Janet’s story reflects what he sees every day. “Student interest is very high for this specialty, and they have a great opportunity to make a real contribution to this growing field.”

Currently, students in avian and exotic animal medicine can participate in a variety of research studies, including pharmacokinetic studies, which can determine the dose and frequency of a drug that should be administered into a bird. Without this data, veterinarians would have to extrapolate on dosages, based on drug use in other species such as cats or dogs. And often these extrapolated doses may be inappropriate for a bird.

With birds being the fourth most popular pet in the country, it can be easy to see why more focus on avian medicine is needed. “For me, they bring a great deal of joy, and I would like there to be more people out there who see this as a field they can grow with and learn a lot in,” said Janet.

When asked why she donated to K-State’s College of Veterinary Medicine, Janet said, “It was a win-win situation. On one side we get more research and more vets in the avian field, and on the other I get to see the industry grow and hopefully raise more awareness about birds and their health issues.”

Carpenter can see growing awareness every day in the people with whom he works. “Many species of birds make great companions for people. They are very smart, and they can have good interactions with people,” Carpenter said. “Birds are just cool and exciting to work with. However, not all birds make good pets, so anyone interested in obtaining a bird needs to do a lot of homework on what is required to care for a bird; a potential owner should also check with bird experts, including exotic pet veterinarians, before acquiring a bird. We are very fortunate that our College of Veterinary Medicine has a program that gives us the opportunity to take care of birds and other exotic pets.”

When asked what she hopes students gain from the scholarships, Janet said, “I would encourage students to look at all their options and see how many parrots there are in the country. Someone with an education in avian medicine would do really well out in the field.”

PHOTOS: DENNY MEDLEY/RANDOM PHOTOGRAPHY LLC
“To have their name on that sign makes one so proud; they’re one of us. They’ve come from relatively humble beginnings. They’ve had success, and they’re willing to share their success with the K-State family. We can’t even estimate what kind of profound impact it’s going to have on K-State. It’s just tremendous.”

RICHARD MYERS, PRESIDENT OF KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

Hundreds of purple-clad K-State faculty, students, alumni and friends greeted Carl and Mary Ice at the engineering complex Friday, October 18, to help them celebrate the naming of the Carl R. Ice College of Engineering. This is the first named college at Kansas State University.
“When I think of the Ice name associated with the College of Engineering, I think certainly it’s his relationship with our institution academically and the engineering college, but more importantly, what he means to and how much he cares about K-State.”

GENE TAYLOR, DIRECTOR OF K-STATE ATHLETICS

“To have people like Carl and Mary who care so much; it’s just not about giving money to get your name on a building. It’s because they genuinely care. They want to help in any way they can, without ever asking for a single thing. It’s because they believe in Kansas State University. They believe in the people of Kansas State University. They have a great belief in the values that coincide with their values.”

BILL SNYDER, FORMER K-STATE HEAD FOOTBALL COACH

“Thank you, thank you from the bottom of my heart for your many investments to advance and build the College of Engineering and Kansas State University. You’ll never know how proud we are to claim you as one of our own graduates.”

BRADLEY KRAMER, HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL AND MANUFACTURING SYSTEMS ENGINEERING

“The significance of naming the engineering school the Carl R. Ice College of Engineering is the example Carl sets for all engineering students and all engineering graduates from this day forward. They should all aspire to be the type of leader and business person that Carl Ice is.”

TOM HUND, RETIRED EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND CFO, BNSF RAILWAY

K-State students, faculty, alumni and friends celebrate the college’s naming.
By Allie Lousch

In the United States, the majority of public school children are students of color. However, only 20% of public school teachers are racial and ethnic minorities. Call Me MISTER, an emerging program at Kansas State University, is working to diversify the teaching profession by preparing young men of color to teach in Kansas, providing students with teachers who look like them and can relate to their experiences.

Pioneered at Clemson University nearly 20 years ago, Call Me MISTER (Mentors Instructing Students Toward Effective Role Models) is a nationally recognized initiative raising the pool of male teachers from diverse backgrounds to serve under-performing schools. K-State’s Call Me MISTER program launched in 2015 as part of a decades-long commitment by the College of Education to enrich schools by encouraging students from traditionally underrepresented communities to make teaching their career of choice.

“We recruit high-achieving men of color and work with them to produce effective teachers in the classroom and build good citizenship in these young men,” said Dr. David Griffin, recently retired assistant dean and director of the Center for Student Success and Professional Services in the College of Education. “Through rigorous academic programming, mentoring and leadership development, the end product of Call Me MISTER is to prepare graduates to be involved in the communities where they sign a contract to teach.”

*National Center for Education Statistics

Byron Lewis IV, senior in elementary education, leads his students at Stout Elementary School in Topeka, Kansas, in a math lesson.
“Call Me MISTER’s unique programming trains men to teach and handle any situation so they can be in rural and urban settings — wherever they are needed. This program was tailored to me — a minority male — leading me into education. I can do the same for other kids.”

BYRON LEWIS IV, SENIOR, ELEMENTARY EDUCATION
Currently, K-State’s MISTER participants represent African American, Latino, Native American and Chinese communities. MISTERs are from both rural and urban areas of Kansas, and some are pursuing teaching as a second career.

MISTERs receive modest tuition assistance, systematic academic support, social and cultural support, networking preparation and opportunities, and assistance with job placement. In this way, Call Me MISTER depends upon investments of time, partnerships and private philanthropy to continue. In line with the program’s strong emphasis on leadership and service, MISTERs have volunteered in local and regional elementary schools, including stepping in for parents/guardians unable to attend the Donuts with Dad and Mornings with Mom activities.

“They learn as teachers that not every parent/guardian can come to every event,” said Jamie Griffin, program coordinator for Call Me MISTER. “These young men are already serving schools and helping students envision themselves in education before they graduate.”

Byron Lewis IV, a first-generation student on track to graduate in December 2019 and the first Call Me MISTER president, knew he always wanted to be a teacher. As a high school student, he set up a service opportunity for his classmates to read with younger students at Williams Science and Fine Arts Magnet School in Topeka, Kansas, where Lewis attended elementary school.

Because of his parents’ concerns about low teacher pay and the hard work inherent in the profession, Lewis began his college career as a communications major in a Kansas City-area university. While taking classes part-time, teaching preschool, interning and working at Blue Moose restaurant, he felt lost. As he worked to save for tuition, Lewis knew that one day he was going to be a teacher.

Then in 2015 he helped move his sister, Myah, to K-State and was impressed by how much she loved her university experience. With an offer to help launch Blue Moose’s Manhattan location, Lewis moved and transferred to K-State.

“When I got to K-State, things just started falling into place,” Lewis said. “K-State gave me my fresh start. I switched to the major I really wanted and got connected to Call Me MISTER. Now other MISTERs are like brothers to me. Call Me MISTER has allowed me to feel seen and represented.”

Despite the challenges of his collegiate beginnings, Lewis has excelled at K-State. In addition to his Call Me MISTER participation, he has served as a modern languages ambassador, EDCAT mentor, a mentor at a local after-school program, a para-educator at Bluemont Elementary school in Manhattan, Kansas, a United Black Voices Gospel Choir member and a volunteer.

In August he joined two other K-State students speaking before the new student convocation. This semester, he is student teaching in his home district, USD 501 in Topeka, and planning for his future of helping students see leaders who look like them and learning, among other academic endeavors, that they matter.

Soon Lewis will be a new graduate of K-State’s Call Me MISTER program and will return to his hometown to teach in the school district he attended as a youth. In a few years, he hopes to earn his master’s degree as he continues to teach and encourage students. “Call Me MISTER’s unique programming trains men to teach and handle any situation so they can be in rural and urban settings, wherever they are needed. I am very grateful for the opportunities and the networking MISTERs has provided. This program was tailored to me, a minority male, leading me into education. I can do the same for other kids.”

Griffin, in reflecting on the goal Call Me MISTER has for each participant, drew upon a line from the Spiderman franchise to sum it up; “Teachers have great power, and with great power comes great responsibility.”
**Success Grows Here**

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Members of K-State’s pre-dentistry club volunteer at Kansas Mission of Mercy, bringing dental care to those in need.
University pet food program benefits the lives of companion animals near and far

By Mary Hirtreiter
Lucre has landed a dog’s dream job — mascot for the Kansas State University Pet Food Program. This program provides pets like Lucre the opportunity to get the best nutrition possible, because we all want our furry friends to be as happy and healthy as possible.

The K-State Pet Food Program is designed to answer the call on how to get the best out of processing pet food. When the program began in 2011, the goal was to provide an academic home for the growing pet food and companion animal nutrition science within the industry. With more than 350 million pets living in over two-thirds of our homes, the K-State family decided it was time to help out those pets and build a program designed to improve their overall health.

“The program has three major elements to maintain our high standing, and those are research, teaching and outreach,” said Dr. Greg Aldrich, research associate professor and pet food program coordinator.

The first element: Research. “We are looking at the effects of processing to see how the food will be affected in terms of safety, shelf life and nutrition,” Aldrich said. “The idea is that we are going to manufacture pet foods under standard production techniques and evaluate whether the nourishment that we are trying to put into the product comes through the product by the end of the process.”

This program also draws talent from many areas within the College of Agriculture such as grain science, agricultural economics, animal science and food science. Engineering and veterinary medicine faculty and students also collaborate with the pet food program, along with foods, nutrition, dietetics and health in the College of Health and Human Sciences. With all of these programs meshing together toward the perfect product, the second element to the mixture is vital to the program’s ongoing success.

The second element: Teaching. “We have designed a pet food minor that is intended for non-majors, and we have an option within feed science and management for those students who want a degree focus in this area. Students can opt in to a number of courses so they can be more prepared when they go into the pet food industry,” Aldrich said.

“The biggest thing we need in this program are students. Kansas has declining enrollment numbers for students of college age, yet the industry is asking us for more and more young people to come work for their companies,” Aldrich said. “Send your best and brightest, your daughters and sons; they can have a career that is rewarding, they can have a good salary, and they can support the nutrition of man’s best friend.”

The third and final element to the pet food program: Outreach. “Part of the university mission as a land-grant institution is outreach. We do a lot of work with industry partners to share our research with companies across the country and work with them to show how our research can help their company,” Aldrich said.

The pet food industry is pretty substantial in Kansas. It is the state’s fourth largest export of manufactured goods and employs in excess of 30,000 people in the state. Nationally, the U.S. is the largest market in the world for pet food, a $33 billion business annually.

Since K-State has a long-standing history in the area of animal food and nutrition research, it was easy for the program to hit the ground running with their research and expertise. This team explores many solutions to industry problems, such as food processing and nutritional challenges.

“We are one of a kind. There are other programs and other universities that focus on nutrition through their vet colleges. I believe we are the only one that is affiliated with grain science and feed management,” Aldrich said. “We are focused on the food and not just the animal. I want to give our students the knowledge to take raw agricultural commodities, make a product and see how it affects the animal and the pet owner today.”

With a group of undergraduate and graduate students helping him, Aldrich can see substantial results for the program on the horizon, and so can the students. “Dr. Greg Aldrich, research associate professor and pet food program coordinator.
Aldrich is a great mentor and has always taught us discipline, a strong work ethic, and he has also put a lot of effort into making the program grow. I think that was essential,” said graduate student Isabella Corsato Alvarenga. “We always participate at conferences, volunteer in the department, and communicate research from our program at the Pet Food Forum. That all makes a good impression. Our program has a huge incentive from the industry.”

This program and its impact would not be possible without the help of donors. “We have been very fortunate as we have built this program to have contributions from some alumni and industry partners,” Aldrich said. “This has allowed the department and the College of Agriculture to support salaries, allowed the program to get up and running, and we have secured a number of scholarships for undergraduate students. We have been awarded scholarships to be able to pay stipends for some of our graduate students, too.”
With more funding and more students, Aldrich and his team could create an even bigger impact for the K-State community and the pet food industry in total. “At the end of the day I want to mirror what the industry is using in their shops so I can train my students on relevant and modern equipment, so they are ready to go to work for those companies,” Aldrich said. “When we are advancing our products out of our research and lab equipment, I want to make sure it is relevant to current producers. We have need for equipment in the lab, and I would love to sponsor more graduate students as well.”

As for Lucre, he will stick to being the mascot, certified taste tester and resident purple-clad ambassador for the program. “We are all about the companion animal, and Lucre is proof of that,” Aldrich said. “He is a great ambassador for the program, especially if you have our treats in your hand, and you are willing to share.”
Scholarships fuel a recent K-State graduate’s dream of becoming a rural librarian

By Mary Hirtreiter

Macy Davis, 2019 graduate in English.

HANNAH ROSE PHOTOGRAPHY
Many students strive to make their passion in life their future career. For Macy Davis, her passion for rural communities and rural youth works perfectly with her dream of becoming a librarian.

“When I made the decision that librarianship was what I wanted to pursue, it was a natural leap to youth services because I’ve always loved reading, and children’s and young adult literature are my favorite genres,” Davis said.

A recent graduate of Kansas State University, Davis was awarded the Phi Kappa Phi graduate fellowship to work toward a dual master’s degree in children’s literature and library and information science, which she is pursuing at Simmons University in Boston.

Her goal is to find a job in a rural library and return to rural America to become a youth services librarian. “I plan to integrate myself into a community where a library can and should be seen as an asset to those who live there,” Davis said.

Davis’ passion for rural communities comes from her background growing up in Scott City, Kansas. Participating in multiple clubs and activities, such as 4-H, throughout her childhood showed Davis that her community really cared about her. “To put it plain and simple, people in my community cared about and paid attention to what their young people were doing, and that continued even after I left for college,” Davis said.

Naturally, that caring environment is what Davis wanted to have in her future, both in her career and in her life. “I am drawn to places that feel like home and people who understand that support, values and ethics help provide a way for tomorrow. I believe that strong communities such as these are most prevalent in rural areas,” Davis said. “Rural youth deserve the opportunities and experiences that urban youth may be privy to. I know that a community and a library can be vital in helping provide that because I have experienced it first-hand.”

Davis found her time at K-State to be critical to who she has become as a person. “I am who I am because of the things I’ve experienced, and my particular set of life experiences makes me a dreamer and a hard worker at the same time,” Davis said.

Davis was a member of the Collegian, served as president of Alpha of Clovia in 2017–2018, and was dedicated to the speech team during her time at K-State. She gained national attention for K-State on the speech team as the third-place finisher in impromptu speaking at the American Forensics Association National Individual Events Tournament and was selected as a member of the 2019 All-American Team. While dedicating most of her time to her clubs and her school work, Davis found a home at K-State where she could gain the skills needed to pursue her passion. “The K-State English department truly helped me flourish as a student, as a person and as a writer,” Davis said. “K-State offers a small school feel at a top-notch public institution, and there isn’t anywhere else I could have imagined calling home for my undergraduate career.”

According to Davis, her journey thus far would not have been possible without the support of scholarships. “Thanks to the Kansas State University Kassebaum Scholarship, I came to K-State looking toward a future in public service. Thanks to the Chapman Scholars Program, I was able to pursue a life-altering internship at the Library of Congress, which helped me decide to become a librarian,” Davis said. “Now, the Phi Kappa Phi Fellowship I have received will help me further reach my goals at Simmons University.”

Davis attributes most of her drive to become a librarian to her love of reading. “Reading has opened my eyes to so much around me and made me more understanding of others and a better citizen of the world. If I give even one kid the same thing I got through reading someday, then I will have succeeded as a librarian,” Davis said.

As Davis looks toward the future, she says she will never forget her time at K-State. “Kansas and K-State will always be two important places to me. Both spots that I love full well.”
Gardiner Lecture Series helps connect farmers to agricultural thought leaders

By Marisa Larson
Messages kept popping up on Dwane Roth’s phone, but they weren’t from his family or persistent marketers — they were from the soil water sensors on his farm in western Kansas. Roth farms with his nephews near Holcomb, Kansas, using water from the Ogallala Aquifer to irrigate their land. For years, Roth thought he was doing a good job of using progressive water conservation techniques to reduce water usage, improve the soil and generally conserve the land. Then he went to hear Jay Famiglietti, a hydrology scientist, give a lecture at Kansas State University.

Famiglietti was the fourth speaker invited to K-State through the Henry C. Gardiner Global Food Systems Lecture Series, which has been hosting world-renowned leaders in climate, agriculture and global foods research since 2013. Hearing Famiglietti talk about the depletion of underground water around the United States and the world, and the importance of reversing that trend to preserve water for future use, Roth doubled down on his conservation efforts.

“I knew we farmers had to do something to better conserve water,” Roth said. “I saw on the K-State website that this world-renown hydrologist, Jay Famiglietti, was coming to give a lecture, so I decided to go find out how to solve this problem. Before this, I said I would never spend $1,400 on a soil water monitor, but now I have them everywhere. I don’t even want to start an irrigation pivot if we don’t have one on there. That’s how this thing took off from the global food lecture.”

Since attending the Gardiner lecture in 2016, Roth has implemented technology that has cut down his water usage and improved the health of his soil. He has become passionate about preserving land and water for future generations, attending conferences around the country and inspiring the next generation of conservationists. His daughter, Grace, focused on water advocacy and awareness as her FFA supervised agricultural experience project her freshman year in high school. This project grew into the Kansas Youth Water Advocates, which is supported by K-State, the Kansas Department of Agriculture, the state FFA office and other agricultural organizations.

The Henry C. Gardiner Global Food Systems Lecture Series began in 2013 as a way to honor a pioneer in livestock breeding and agriculture. “My dad, Henry, was passionate about education and lifetime learning,” said Mark Gardiner, a 1983 K-State alumnus. “As a beef producer, he was never satisfied with average. Henry was committed to research and progressive dialogue with anyone sharing similar objectives. His theories weren’t always popular. He was committed to proving or disproving theories, recognizing that sustainable, repeatable results were the hoped for outcomes. He knew the pathway to progress was through objective dialogue, interaction with folks that didn’t always agree but were focused on the same end goal — to breed better beef cattle or to become better stewards of the land. Our goal with this lecture series is to sustain Henry’s philosophy of passionate learning that leads to better outcomes.”

Dwane and Grace Roth’s experiences demonstrate the impact the Gardiner lecture series is having in the community, but it is also benefiting faculty and students on the K-State campus. The 2018 speaker, Sara Menker, is the founder and CEO of Gro Intelligence, a company that aims to find solutions to world hunger. It’s a technology company that provides data that helps farmers and others in the agricultural industry determine the most efficient way to grow food in different regions of the world. Because of her time speaking at K-State, Menker allowed students to use her expensive software free of charge.

“Gro Intelligence let the students use the site for free, which provided an exceptional opportunity for them to explore immense economic data sets on an incredible number of commodities from around the globe in a relatively easy-to-navigate platform,” said Ted Schroeder, professor of agricultural economics. "Access to
**Lecture Series Speakers**

**2019 Dennis Dimick**
“Living in the Human Age”
Dimick is a journalist, photographer, presenter and educator. For years he served as executive environmental editor for National Geographic magazine and was a photo editor for the National Geographic Society for more than 35 years until retiring in December 2015. He continues in a consulting editorial role.

**2018 Sara Menker**
“Why There Doesn’t Need to Be a Global Food Crisis”
Menker is the founder and CEO of Gro Intelligence, a technology company that is bridging the information gap in agriculture by providing data that can help farmers and others in the agricultural industry determine the most efficient way to grow food in different regions around the world.

**2017 Jason Clay**
“Feeding the World, Sustaining the Planet”
Clay, senior vice president for markets and food at World Wildlife Fund, works with some of the world’s largest companies to reduce their impact on the environment. Clay created one of the first U.S. fair-trade ecolabels and has been involved in developing many other standards for commodities such as cotton, shrimp and sugarcane.

**2016 Jay Famiglietti**
“Water, Food, and Energy: Interwoven challenges to sustainable resource management”
At the time of his lecture, Famiglietti was the senior water scientist at the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California, and a professor of earth system science at the University of California, Irvine. He is now the director of the Global Institute for Water Security at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon, Canada.

**2015 Greg Page**
“Climate Change and the Future of Food Production”
Since joining Cargill in 1974, Page has held numerous positions with the company in the United States and internationally, including a poultry processing operation in Thailand; beef and pork processing operations in Wichita, Kansas; and the financial markets group in Minneapolis. He served as Cargill’s chief executive officer from 2007 to 2013 and has been chair of the board of directors since 2007.

**2015 Robb Fraley**
“2050: Agriculture’s Role in Mitigating Global Challenges”
In 1983, Fraley and three other Monsanto scientists were the first to genetically modify plants. By 2013, Fraley’s work in this area contributed to crops that were being grown on more than 430 million acres around the world by 18 million farmers. More than 90% of the farmers are small, resource-poor farmers in developing countries. He was the 2013 World Food Prize recipient.

**2013 Steve Hunt**
“Meat and Meals”
Steve Hunt helped launch U.S. Premium Beef, which is a system that rewards ranchers and cattle feeders for producing quality beef. He served as its chief executive officer from 1996 through January 2013.
Gro Intelligence helped the students become more aware of what types of data were available, and in some cases provided access to data from international sources that they would likely have not found available elsewhere.”

Jida Wang, an assistant professor in the Department of Geography and Geospatial Sciences focusing on hydrology, was able to connect and collaborate with Famiglietti, advancing his career in the process. “I first learned about Jay Famiglietti while working on my doctorate at UCLA due to his pioneering work on groundwater issues, particularly using GRACE satellites,” Wang said. “When he came to K-State to give the Gardiner lecture, I was working with my colleagues on global endorheic (landlocked) water using GRACE satellites. I talked to him in person after the Gardiner lecture, and during our conversation, he agreed to collaborate in this work, which was eventually published in Nature Geoscience. Publishing with prominent researchers, with their contributions and endorsements, may increase the weight and credibility of my future research outputs, which is invaluable to early career scientists like me and my doctoral student who is a coauthor. It also brings prestige to K-State by elevating the profile and visibility of our research due to the global network and visibility of prominent researchers.”

Nearly every speaker has spent time with faculty and students, on top of giving the lecture. They visit classrooms and conduct workshops either the day of or after their speech. The lecture series also raises K-State’s prestige. “The Gardiner lecture series puts us on the radar of someone like Sara Menker,” said Susan Metzger, senior executive administrator for the College of Agriculture. “She probably never thought of K-State before, but now she will know who we are when conducting research or hiring someone. It puts us on people’s radar.”

The speakers selected for the lecture series often challenge conventional thought, creating debates between those who attend the lecture or watch it remotely; that is the purpose of the lecture series. “Our overriding goal was to bring dialogue, discussion and honor to Kansas State University,” Gardiner said. “Ultimately, these events spur thought, thought spurs actions, which help us arrive at the ultimate goal of finding solutions to complex issues.”

As part of the Global Food Systems Initiative, “Something to Chew On,” the GFS podcast, aims to explore global food systems, discuss what has been done to address the issues and explore the best ways for humans to approach these challenges in the future.

13 episodes released as of September 2019
30 different countries reached
1,600 unique downloads as of September 2019

To listen, subscribe via your podcast app or go to kstate-gfs.libsyn.com.
A scholarship helps
a single mother
be a full-time
professional and a
full-time student

By Mary Hirtreiter
or many students, the financial stress of having to pay for school weighs heavily. For students like Ashley Walther, a single mom and K-State Global Campus student, that stress is even greater. The Maes-Hemmendinger Family Scholarship helped relieve some of that stress for Walther.

K-State’s Global Campus was built to provide educational opportunities for adult learners. It offers degree programs in multiple areas for people who cannot make it to campus every day. Students like Walther benefit from this accredited online learning opportunity because of the flexibility it provides them.

“Global Campus has allowed me to schedule school when I can. The flexibility of the program has allowed me to continue my education full time and keep balance in my life,” Walther said.

Walther, who lives in Yelm, Washington, is currently double majoring in nutrition and health, and dietetics, while also working full time as a head dietetic technician at an eating disorder facility. By enrolling at K-State Global Campus, she is able to work and gain vital experience for her professional growth.

Walther’s daily schedule is hectic at times, not only with being a full-time student, but also having a full-time job and a daughter in preschool. She begins each day at 5:30 a.m. with her online classes through K-State Global Campus. She watches her lectures, takes notes and does homework. After dropping her daughter off at day care, it is an hour drive to her job as a dietetic technician where she works until 7 p.m. most days.

The most important part of her day is spending quality time with her daughter when she gets home from work. After putting her daughter to bed, it is back to working on school, where at night she finishes her homework and takes any exams she can for the week.

Walther said finishing her degree and getting her career started would not be possible without the help of scholarships and K-State’s Global Campus. “Global Campus has afforded me the financial ability to attend school without having to take out costly loans and relieved much of the stress that comes from having to allocate funds to put toward my tuition while juggling being a single mother,” she said.

The Maes-Hemmendinger Scholarship is available to both undergraduate and graduate students admitted to a distance education degree program offered through K-State Global Campus. The scholarship was established by Sue Maes, retired dean of K-State Global Campus. She and her husband, Dennis Hemmendinger, are happy they can help students further their education through distance learning. Walther appreciates the support.

“Global campus is a great opportunity for working single mothers and anyone who wants to further their education,” Walther said. “Don’t let the belief that there is not enough time in the day among all your other responsibilities hold you back.”

— Ashley Walther
K-State students take on ag policy through innovative program
By Ellery Sedlacek
In the fall of 2018, Taylor Nikkel, senior in agricultural economics, hit roadblocks personally and professionally. She knew she wanted to work in agriculture policy, but she felt she needed to experience something new. So, she packed her bags and moved to Washington, D.C., for the spring 2019 semester to represent Kansas State University’s College of Agriculture as part of the Kansas Food and Agriculture Policy Fellowship Program.

“Taking the big step and moving away was just what I needed,” Nikkel said. “It allowed me to grow and learn in a new setting with people I didn’t know and meet some of our nation’s top policymakers.”

Nikkel is one of 11 students who has served as a K-State ag fellow since the program’s first year in 2016.

The fellowship consists of experiences at the state and federal level where students work with a legislative or congressional office, a state or federal agency or a food- and agriculture-related organization.

“It’s important to recognize that there is an opportunity to develop a leadership capacity with our K-State agriculture students for policy programming in their future careers, and that there is a benefit for the Kansas community to have young students from K-State as our resources in D.C. and in Topeka, serving in advocacy roles for agriculture,” said Susan Metzger, senior executive administrator for the College of Agriculture.

Nikkel worked at the Kansas Department of Agriculture for her stateside experience. During her time there, Nikkel helped close and archive cases, drafted demand letters and assisted the legal team in various other ways.

While in D.C., she worked for the U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry as a majority staff intern under Chairman Pat Roberts. For this internship, Nikkel spent a lot of time on Capitol Hill attending hearings and briefings, preparing memos for staffers and researching subjects such as cell-based meat technology.
Students submit their applications for the ag fellows program during the fall semester.

Applications are reviewed by the ag fellows program board, who select students to move on to the interview portion.

Applicants are interviewed by board members and participate in a reception with stakeholders and the host organizations.

After further deliberation, the board selects the next round of ag fellows, typically 2-3 students.

The next round of ag fellows will be announced early in 2020.
“I was in the center of where ag policy is formed and got to experience the implementation phase of the 2018 Farm Bill and work under Chairman Roberts,” Nikkel said. “It was very exciting to be in D.C. — I had a great experience.”

Mike Torrey, 1986 graduate in agricultural education, principal and founder of Michael Torrey Associates, and founder of the ag fellows program, said he created the program because he had seen other universities host internship programs in D.C. and he thought K-State would benefit due to its land-grant status and the importance agriculture has on the economy.

“Public policy has a role in all of our lives at the local, state and federal level,” Torrey said. “I think no matter what you decide to do with your career and life, having an understanding of that, and having a hands-on experience with the role of government and what happens in public policy will make you stronger in your career. It’s an experience that’s unique and different that students can benefit from.”

In addition to Torrey, Jackie McClaskey ’93, former Kansas secretary of agriculture, and Mary Soukup ’07, managing director at the Beef Alliance, helped with the initial discussion and development of the ag fellows program at the state level.

Since its inception, the ag fellows program has had many organizations apply and host students as interns on both the state and federal side, including the Kansas Farm Bureau, Kansas Livestock Association, Kansas Corn Growers Association, national associations and various ag-related lobbying firms.

Sarah Niederee, 2019 graduate in agricultural economics and former ag fellow, worked with the Kansas Department of Agriculture and Michael Torrey Associates during her time as an ag fellow.

“My biggest takeaway from both my state and federal experiences were the relationships that I built throughout Kansas and in D.C.,” Niederee said. “The world is a lot smaller than you think. I have been able to lean on these relationships for everything from receiving industry scholarships, letters of recommendation and even job offers.”

While many of the internships students receive are paid, the cost of living in D.C. is much higher than in Kansas. To help offset this financial burden, the ag fellows program provides students with a stipend to help pay for housing.

“We are able to offer a stipend through the philanthropy of the donors to our program,” Metzger said. “Money goes faster in D.C., so our hope is that we can really grow to a level where fellows can go and not worry about their housing and instead focus on their job as much as possible.”

Jackie Newland, 2018 graduate in agricultural communications and journalism, and former ag fellow, said both her internships with Devine, Donley & Murray Governmental Affairs and working with Sen. Jerry Moran were paid, which was critical for Newland to participate.

“Opportunities like this are a huge step in the right direction, and it wouldn’t work without support from those who can give, financially or otherwise,” Newland said. “This program impacted not only my time at K-State, but my future career in agricultural policy.”
MAKING SMILES, CHANGING LIVES
For some, dentist appointments are biannual visits that only require a phone call to confirm. For others, dentist appointments require a long road trip and endless lines, with no confirmation they will be seen.

Kansas Mission of Mercy, an organization that provides free dental care for underserved populations, hosted their annual KMOM event in Pittsburg, Kansas, in April 2019, with the help of more than 600 volunteers, including 19 members of the Kansas State University Pre-Dental Club.

“I don’t think many people realize how much of a need there is for dental care,” said Katelyn Stepanek, a member of the K-State Pre-Dental Club and senior in biology. “Going there, you see how many people are really in need of care and how many people don’t get it. It makes you really excited to be able to go into something like this where you can really help people.”

Over the course of two days, Kansas Mission of Mercy served 743 patients and provided more than $1 million worth of free dental care.

“I think the reactions on people’s faces when they get dental care is a wholesome experience; it really touches you,” said Jackson Clements, president of the pre-dental club, at that time, and a May 2019 graduate with a degree in life sciences. “These people, they really need help.”

Volunteers play a variety of roles including monitoring the doors, translating and directing patients to the correct station based on their needs.

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“**I THINK THE REACTIONS ON PEOPLE’S FACES WHEN THEY GET DENTAL CARE IS A WHOLESOME EXPERIENCE; IT REALLY TOUCHES YOU. THESE PEOPLE, THEY REALLY NEED HELP.**”

— JACkSON CLEMENTS

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Members of K-State’s Pre-Dental Club volunteer at Kansas Mission of Mercy

By Ellery Sedlacek
Julie Andazola, vice president of the pre-dental club at that time, and a December 2019 graduate in life sciences, said she has volunteered at KMOM for the last four years and helped in various ways.

“My favorite part is being able to translate for the Hispanic community,” Andazola said. “I know how scary it can be to trust a doctor you can’t speak with.”

Andazola said she has translated in previous years, but this year she translated more than usual due to the low number of volunteers who could translate.

“A specific moment that stands out is when I translated for a young girl who had two baby teeth that never grew in,” Andazola said. “She wouldn’t have been able to communicate with the dentist that she wanted those specific teeth fixed. With my help, the dentist was able to address her concerns. With her new smile, she cried of happiness. It was an emotional experience.”
experience that we will cherish forever.”

The pre-dental club has been able to volunteer at KMOM for several years with help from the K-State Student Governing Association.

“Funding is needed,” Clements said. “Paying for five or six hotel rooms is expensive. They give us a reduced rate for KMOM, which helps, but that funding is crucial for us.”

While KMOM is a great opportunity for K-State students and others to volunteer, the impact goes beyond gaining experience in the dentistry field.

“KMOM really brings our club together. Each year we get really close and we are able to connect with each other,” Clements said. “It’s a wonderful experience for us, and I want to personally thank SGA for funding us every year. Without them, we couldn’t do something like this, and we are very fortunate to have this experience.”
The Office of First-generation Students helps students succeed

By Ellery Sedlacek

For 27% of undergraduate students at Kansas State University, they are the first in their immediate family to earn a four-year degree. These first-generation students face several hurdles when entering college, including not knowing how to navigate the university system, lacking social and cultural capital and not having the financial resources to pay for their education. To help these students adjust and be successful in college, K-State created the Office of First-generation Students.

Funded by the Suder Foundation, with additional support from Phillips 66 and the NASPA Center for First-Generation Student Success, the office helps students navigate college, develop leadership skills and foster a community of peers and faculty. In addition to connecting students with campus resources, the first-generation student lounge, located in Holtz Hall, provides a common space for students to study and form relationships. The office also coordinates peer and faculty mentoring programs and the First-generation Student Organization.

In 2019, K-State’s Office of First-generation Students was recognized by the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators as a First Forward Institution. The designation recognized K-State’s commitment to increasing awareness and improving the college experience for first-generation students. Additionally, K-State was one of nine universities selected to serve in an advisory role for other universities pursuing the growth of first-generation student success on their respective campuses.
Jessie Carr, senior in family studies and human services
Hometown: Pleasanton, Kansas
Graduation: December 2019

“The first-gen organization has steered the course of my success throughout college. I was involved in a community service project with the Riley County Verde Clovers [a 4-H club] through the first-gen organization my freshman year. All my efforts since have stemmed from that service experience; it has now set me up with what I want to do in the future. I actually just accepted a job as a 4-H agent when I graduate. I don’t think I would be as successful as I am without being connected to the organization.”

Brian Mota, junior in marketing
Hometown: Lenexa, Kansas
Expected graduation: May 2021

“When I was a freshman, I didn’t know who I wanted to be. I think the first-generation student organization really helped me see myself in a different perspective that I was blind to. Having all these resources helped me print out a map of what I wanted to do and how I wanted to do it, and I think that is really special.”
Dream TEAMS
International Service Teams help students serve and lead abroad

By Sara Wallace and Mary Hirtreiter

A typical morning routine for Lily Colburn is to wake up, take a shower and get ready for the day. This past summer though, her showers consisted of a bucket and a cup of water to pour over her body. When living in The Gambia, sustainability of life becomes the only option. For two months, Colburn traveled with a Kansas State University International Service Team and was immersed in this new culture.

Every summer a couple dozen K-State students embark on a worldwide mission to learn from and help others. While they leave with plans of making a difference, many find that they are the ones most changed by the experience.

International Service Teams, a program of the Staley School of Leadership Studies, provides a unique opportunity for K-State students to exercise leadership and service abroad. Teams travel and live in communities around the world, focusing on ethical and sustainable service projects, allowing students to work with a community rather than for one. Projects focus on health, education, environmental and sustainability concerns, and youth development.

Learning to live with less is one common theme for team members, regardless of where they served.

“Being able to have three hours of uninterrupted time working with someone and asking questions about their life really allowed me to learn about the more subtle things that happen in The Gambia that you wouldn’t learn from just being there for a couple of weeks,” Colburn said.

The biggest impact this trip had on Colburn was where her focus and values are now. She learned how important a strong community can be through the Staley School of Leadership Studies and meeting new people within the International Service Team.

“When I heard my turtle patrol partner pour his heart out about his family members who have taken the dangerous step of immigration, it really put my perspective into an...
“This was a very powerful experience in all shapes and forms. I think the students had way more of an impact on me than I think I could ever have on them.”

TORI BURKHART

reality,” Colburn said. “I definitely have a greater focus on developing and cultivating important and meaningful relationships with people I’m around now, and that is what The Gambia is known for.”

Tori Burkhart, a 2019 K-State graduate, had a similar epiphany with her International Service Team in Nyeri, Kenya. “I learned a lot about self-care. Something I learned about the Kenyan culture is that time is a very different construct to them,” Burkhart said. “In America it is go-go-go all the time and we are told to constantly think about the next step and what we can be doing to be productive. In Kenya it is all about taking your time. Taking time for yourself, taking time for other people, taking in every experience and being present in every moment.”

Burkhart’s team partnered with the Children and Youth Empowerment Centre, a residential program for former street-dwelling children and youth. The CYEC not only provides shelter but also provides students the ability to learn and grow through their educational and vocational training programs.

Burkhart was in charge of working with the communications aspect of the center. “Since my degree is in advertising, I put together the communications and marketing plan including what a newsletter could look like, revamping the website, and eventually training someone else to sustain the plan themselves,” Burkhart said.

Burkhart explained she “hoped that at the very least my work was able to bring in more financial resources for them to utilize so that they can empower the children even more.”

But the real impact came from working at the center and working with the people of Kenya. “It was very
cool to connect with the students and the youth and learn about their stories. This was a very powerful experience in all shapes and forms,” Burkhart said. “I think the students had way more of an impact on me than I think I could ever have on them.”

Participating in the International Service Teams program is a big decision, especially financially. When Colburn thought about not being able to work during the summer while in The Gambia, scholarships became more important than she realized.

“The choice of spending money to go and have this amazing experience while also missing out on the chance to make and save money for the upcoming school year was really difficult,” Colburn said. “So having that scholarship was key in being able to have an experience of a lifetime.”

The return home might have brought a little culture shock but also a fresh view on how to apply her skills learned at K-State.

“It felt insane coming back to the United States, but I came back from this trip and put what I’ve learned in classes into perspective and can turn that into action,” Colburn said. “The work you do in your host country is amazing and not to be taken for granted, but the work you do on yourself while you are there can be much more important.”

Burkhart agrees and has advice for students interested in the program.

“Have an open mind and take the time to understand yourself and be open to understanding others.”

“The choice of spending money to go and have this amazing experience while also missing out on the chance to make and save money for the upcoming school year was really difficult. So having that scholarship was key in being able to have an experience of a lifetime.”
“WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU GROW UP?”

It’s a question we often ask children. We advise them to pursue their passions, and that doing what you love will lead to success, both professionally and personally. For many students, that advice is a lot easier said than done. Students today face real financial pressures that can lead to abandoned passions and deferred dreams.

With help from donors who invest in scholarships, Kansas State University students are empowered to pursue their passions. From addressing world hunger through baking to designing a sustainable infrastructure to inventing tools to help farmers, K-State students are following their dreams and creating a better world in the process. Keep reading to meet four students who, with scholarship support, are pursuing their passions.
Bread, the heart and soul of bakery science, was once a daunting class experiment for Sierra McCain to perfect. But now, bread has become second nature to Sierra and has given her a new perspective on how to apply her skills.

"Bakery science has given me real life skills to learn how to adapt very quickly. Sometimes things come up and I may not know what to do or I may face adversity, but I’ve learned to just go with the flow and figure things out one step at a time," McCain said.

Kansas State University is the only school in the United States with a four-year bakery science bachelor’s degree. This has allowed McCain to dig into her passion to study food insecurity and make connections within the field, thanks to scholarships.

“Scholarships help me because instead of going to work one night, I could go meet some corporate employers who also have a passion for feeding America and connect with people who have the same goals I do,” McCain said. “I couldn’t do that if I was worried about making money at the same time.”

As McCain finishes her last year at K-State, the lessons she’s been able to pocket are unique to K-State and to her future of solving issues related to world hunger.

“I think if you understand bread, the chemistry and how it bakes, you can understand anything in life; nothing is a problem! Just know, bread!”

MAJOR: Bakery science

HOMETOWN: Nashville, Tennessee

CAREER PLANS: Work in the commercial baking industry, open her own bakery and open food pantries to fight hunger

PHOTOS: KYLE STITHEM AND CLARISSA WEERS
For Grant Urban, the next big wave of new architecture would not be possible without two things: Kansas State University and a focus on sustainability.

“I believe one of the most selfless acts of an architect or community planner is to consciously design with the intent of quality and sustainability. Designing environmentally sensible buildings today for the success of future generations should not be a choice but a priority,” Urban said.

None of the new-age designs that Urban and other architecture students are creating would be possible without the support of K-State family and the architecture program.

“APDesign has provided the fundamental education I needed to understand the value of sustainable design,” Urban said. “This academic foundation is helping me continue my passion for designing buildings and communities that progressively and innovatively improve the quality of life for their occupants.”

Urban credits his ability to focus on the future of architecture and the planet with the scholarships he has received throughout his time at K-State. “This financial support has allowed me to focus more time and energy on my education without the pressing necessity of part-time work outside of my college curriculum,” he said.

“It would be a realized dream to build a career around the ideals of sustainable practices and historic preservation, and look back on a legacy of work that satisfies clients and communities through designs that positively impact the environment and sustain the health, safety and success of future generations,” Urban said.

MAJOR:
Master’s in architecture with a minor in business and community planning

HOMETOWN:
Manhattan, Kansas

CAREER PLANS:
Obtain a LEED accreditation and plans to join an architecture firm in Kansas City
Fulfilling her passion for journalism and the arts was one of the main reasons Sara Wallace decided to take the leap and come to Kansas State University. Wallace took another leap of faith when she decided to join the radio station on campus, Wildcat 91.9.

Her time spent at the radio station has helped her fulfill passions and goals that she set for herself before she graduates. "I have about 50 things I hope to be before I die," Wallace said. "My job right now as the music director was on that list for sure."

And for those who say that radio is dead, Wallace and the rest of the team at Wildcat 91.9 have a different perspective. "We all listen to talk and podcasts all the time; it’s all in your pocket. All of that is radio in a new form," she said.

Working at the radio station and taking classes, it can be difficult to balance life and school, but scholarships help Wallace grow her strengths, instead of worry about money. "Scholarships help take off that financial burden and stress so I can put my efforts elsewhere, somewhere beneficial. It resonates so deep and is very important to my success in school," she said.

"Just hearing these voices of support from donors saying ‘you got this’ means more than just my family saying it, because it is coming from someone who doesn’t know me but still wants to bring me up, help me out and make sure I succeed," Wallace said. "That power and impact means the whole world."

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MAJOR: Journalism and mass communications

HOMETOWN: Derby, Kansas

CAREER PLANS: News reporter and writer or music director for a non-commercial radio station

SARA WALLACE

By Mary Hirtreiter
Evening was on the rise, and Blake Chance had finished baling hay for the day as he went to clean his baler and noticed something strange. Twine had wrapped around a shaft on his baler, heated and hardened into a plastic mess. Chance recalled in this moment how many hay balers had caught fire in his neighborhood in the past years and how lucky he was that he was not next.

"After this moment, I started to think about how, if the baler did catch on fire, I would get my tractor unhooked quickly enough so it wouldn’t get destroyed too," Chance said. "That’s when I developed my ‘Quick-Pin’ concept."

Chance invented a hitch pin that allows a quick release from a baler and tractor for cases when hay catches on fire.

"It works like a regular hitch pin, but there is probably going to be pressure on the hitch when your baler catches on fire," Chance said. "If you can’t pull it off the draw bar, the hitch pin I created allows the shaft to fall through the hole of the hitch when the pressure is released and you can get away."

Thanks to scholarships, Chance was able to take his idea to an entrepreneurial competition for K-State students, where he became a finalist. Currently, Chance is working on getting a patent for his hitch pin invention.

"Someone invested in me, which allowed me to pursue my passion, which is now serving a greater purpose," Chance said.

To see videos of these students, go to YouTube.com and search KSU Foundation.
K-State donors make an impact through the KSU Foundation

Fiscal year 2019* was the most successful fundraising year ever in K-State history, raising $212.3 million in gifts, pledges and commitments through the KSU Foundation. These results would not have been possible without the extraordinary leadership and generosity of K-Staters like you.

*July 1, 2018–June 30, 2019

Growing scholarships

208
New scholarships created, up from 170 in FY18.

$47.8M
Total gifts and commitments for scholarships and student success in FY19.

$212.3M
new gifts and commitments

How gifts were designated

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<tr>
<td>Designation pending</td>
<td>$2,241,409</td>
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</table>
At KSU Foundation, our objective is to be, pound-for-pound, the best development shop in the country.

**Top-quartile performance**
Based on a national study of 130 colleges and universities

**11¢**
Cost to raise a dollar through KSU Foundation. National average is 25¢.

**$4.1M**
Dollars raised on average per KSU Foundation development officer. The national average is $1.8M.

**154**
Average number of visits per KSU Foundation development officer. The national average is 83.

**15%**
K-State alumni gave in FY18. The national average is 5%.

$613.4M
Market value of K-State’s long-term investment pool, up from $539 million in FY18.

**Dollars made available to campus for...**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student success</td>
<td>$18,110,019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faculty support</td>
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<td>Facilities</td>
<td>$34,268,639</td>
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<td>Programs</td>
<td>$4,870,362</td>
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<td>Excellence</td>
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<td>$733,371</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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</table>

LEARN MORE
As K-State’s strategic partner for philanthropy, the KSU Foundation inspires and guides philanthropy toward university priorities to boldly advance K-State. To learn more, visit ksufoundation.org/annual-report.
For many programs on campus, gifts of any size can make a big difference. Discover a program you care about.

Recreational Services

Recreational Services’ mission is to develop, promote and manage the administration of recreational and fitness facilities, services and programs for the campus community. Studies have proven that an active and healthy lifestyle enhances the opportunities for everyone to grow and maintain their progress as individuals. Eighty-eight percent of the student enrollment and more than a third of the faculty and staff participate in some class, fitness or wellness program at the Chester E. Peters Recreation Complex. These classes not only keep students moving during times of stress, but also reinforces the idea of a well-balanced lifestyle even when it might seem hard to find the time. Recreational Services is also rated number one by students both as an auxiliary department after a day of academic programs and in the retention of students.

For more information about how you can help K-State students maintain a happy and healthy lifestyle, please contact Heather Strafuss at heathers@ksufoundation.org or 785-775-2146 or give online at give.evertrue.com/ksu/rec-excellence.
The seeds of success

Success can be defined in many ways. At the KSU Foundation, our success is based on inspiring and guiding philanthropy toward university priorities to boldly advance Kansas State University. As the state’s first land-grant university, K-State succeeds by making education accessible and providing opportunities for continuous learning wherever one may live. K-State faculty and students succeed by tackling the challenges facing individuals, communities and the world through research discoveries and innovation. K-State programs provide the leverage students need to succeed, and in turn, students work near and far to help lift up others. With investments from industry partners, alumni and individual philanthropists like you, the seeds of success are cultivated at K-State. Because of you, success grows here.

With Purple Pride,
Greg Willems
President and CEO
KSU Foundation

Recycling Center

Career Closet is a program established by the Career Center that allows students access to business attire from a wide selection of clothing donated by Kansas State faculty, staff and alumni, as well as other professionals. The clothing is free and available to all K-State students. Career Closet helps students dress to impress for things such as interviews and career fairs on and off campus. They also give students the knowledge to make choices about their professional clothing, such as the difference between business casual and business attire, and what to wear versus what not to wear to an interview.

You can help make a difference for students focused on their careers by giving online at give.evertrue.com/ksu/careercloset or by contacting Heather Strafuss at heathers@ksufoundation.org or 785-775-2146.

With the focus of the world on how to reduce global waste, the Kansas State University Recycling Center is doing its best to make the college campus as eco-friendly as possible. With a convenient place to drop off all recycling material 24/7, the recycling center is the hub for all students, faculty, staff and citizens of Manhattan. The recycling center also partners with the T. Russell Reitz Animal Shelter in Manhattan, Goodwill and Cats’ Cupboard to make good use of waste from move in and move out of the students. By continuing to prevent recycling material from entering the landfill, the recycling center makes a difference.

You can help make this difference on and off campus by giving online at give.evertrue.com/ksu/recyclingcenter or by contacting Heather Strafuss at heathers@ksufoundation.org or 785-775-2146.
You’ve heard about the inaugural All In for K-State.

Last March, K-State family joined together to champion one cause in one day and raised more than $320,000 to support the immediate needs of K-State students.

That was only the beginning.

We’re going to do it again March 25, 2020, and you are invited to go #AllInForKState!

Visit ksufoundation.org/AllInForKState.