University mourns loss of long-time friend and employee

John A. Blaufuss, university controller and interim executive director of University Advancement at Emporia State University, died December 22, 2005. He was jogging when he was struck by a vehicle.

Blaufuss was an ESU employee for more than 30 years. He became university controller in 1973 after serving as business manager at the College of Emporia and St. Mary’s Hospital. He served as interim executive director of University Advancement since October 2005.

“John’s leadership in both these positions was effective and exemplary. He was a supportive and understanding colleague of the university,” said ESU President Kay Schallenkamp. “He will be missed greatly by the Emporia State University family.”

During his time at ESU, he designed ESU’s accounting system to deal with the increased demands of an expanding academic institution.

Blaufuss received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from ESU. In 2003, he was named the ESU Unclassified Professional Employee of the Year, which is presented to an employee who has made outstanding accomplishments to the campus and to the Emporia community.

Survivors include his wife Dorothy, sons James and John Jr. and daughters Janell, Michelle, Elaine, Lisa and Angela.

Dr. Kay Schallenkamp named Black Hills State University President

Donna Shank, Chairwoman of the Kansas Board of Regents, issued the following statement in response to the announcement that Emporia State University’s (ESU) President, Kay Schallenkamp, will depart ESU to accept a new position in her home state of South Dakota:

“It is with a mixture of deep regret and sincerest congratulations that I announce the departure of President Kay Schallenkamp from her post at Emporia State University. President Schallenkamp has been a leader and a valuable asset to Kansas higher education since she was first hired as ESU’s President in 1997,” Regent Shank said.

President Schallenkamp is expected to depart near the end of the fiscal year (June 30). “While the Board is very sad to lose such an exceptional president, we also understand her desire to return to her home state of South Dakota. We congratulate President Schallenkamp on this new opportunity and wish her the best of luck in her new position as President of Black Hills State University.”

“Ken and I have enjoyed our nine years in Emporia. This is a wonderful community in which to live and work. We will be leaving good friends and outstanding colleagues,” President Schallenkamp said. “Accepting the appointment of President of Black Hills State University is an opportunity for us to return to our home state.”

“The Board sincerely appreciates her eight and a half years of hard work and dedicated service to ESU and to the state of Kansas. ESU has certainly prospered under President Schallenkamp’s leadership,” Regent Shank said.

“Emporia State is a strong and vibrant university with nationally acclaimed faculty and outstanding programs. I will miss the extraordinary collegial atmosphere on the ESU campus and the unique focus on students that is shared by all faculty and staff,” President Schallenkamp said.

ESU has an outstanding team of leaders who have, through campus-wide collaboration, been successful in achieving aggressive goals. In 2002 the School of Business received accreditation from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) after years of rigorous preparation and review. Only twenty-five percent of business schools achieve accreditation from AACSB.

In 2004 a team of examiners from the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) reported that the Teachers College successfully met all the organization’s standards for reaccreditation and they could find no areas of improvement. In 2005 the college received national recognition when Arthur Levine, former President of Columbia University’s Teachers College, in a lengthy report critical of many teacher preparation programs, cited ESU as a model for teacher programs. “This,” said Levine of ESU “was a Camelot for teacher education.”

In early 2005, The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) extended the university’s accreditation for another 10 years, the longest period achievable for all institutions of higher learning. The HLC praised ESU faculty and staff for an outstanding self-study report and well-organized campus visit.

“It has been an honor and a privilege to lead ESU for the past nine years. I am confident that Emporia State University will continue to focus on its mission to provide high-quality programs and experiential opportunities that prepare students for success in their careers and for the rest of their lives,” President Schallenkamp said. The Board will conduct a national search for ESU’s new president. The process and details of the impending search will be finalized in the coming months.
ESU students celebrate the life and legacy of Rosa Parks

Three ESU students were recently awarded the 2005 Rosa Parks Scholarship. They recipients are Addison Canidy, Casi Jo Graves, and David Muhammad.

The award were given at a program at Emporia State University honoring civil rights pioneer Rosa Parks. Three Memorial Union Bookstore textbook scholarships of $200 each were presented to the winners. Each winner had the opportunity to present their work at the program celebrating Parks’ life and legacy.

The scholarship competition had three categories: written (poetry, essay, research paper, fiction), Fine Arts (sculpture, photography, musical composition), and Performance Arts (song, dance, theatrical, film, multimedia).

Canidy, a freshman from Topeka, won in the performance arts category and paid tribute to his late grandmother and Rosa Parks through song.

“I originally chose this song before my grandmother passed,” Canidy said. “Right now I know that she is in heaven flying with wings. So I dedicate this to my grandmother and to Ms. Rosa Parks.”

Muhammad, a junior in secondary education from Overland Park, was the winner in the written submission category. He presented an original poem dedicated to the women in his life entitled “My Sistas.”

“The inspiration from this poem came from the struggles I have seen so many African American women go through,” Muhammad said.

Graves, a sophomore art education/art therapy major from Oxford, won in the fine arts category. Graves presented a sculpture that “tells the story of the United States’ steps forward in the battle against prejudice.”

“A colleague of mine at my former university developed this scholarship competition, and I asked if I could spread the idea to Kansas when I left New York. She was delighted,” said Elizabeth Nelson, Multicultural Programs and Services coordinator.

“This competition was designed to give students an opportunity to make statements about the true legacy of Rosa Parks – the concept of cultural pluralism, or the conviction that various religions, ethnic, racial, and political groups should be allowed and encouraged to thrive.”

Nelson said the students statements could be made in any way they wished.

“We wanted to give ESU students a way to use their talents without fear of GPA or essay requirements,” she said.

ESU student receives scholarship from Journalism Education Association

Tiffany Shogren was the recipient of one of three Future Teacher Scholarships in the amount of $1,000 from the Journalism Education Association.

Shogren is a junior middle school math education major with a journalism education certification. Upon graduation Shogren hopes to teach both math and journalism in a small school in eastern Kansas.

She is currently helping organize the Kansas Scholastic Press Association Regional contest hosted by Emporia State University in February. In the past, Shogren has served on the staff of The Bulletin as a sports writer and sports editor.

“I loved working for The Bulletin, and I treasure my tremendous time working there,” she said.

The award, sponsored by the Journalism Education Association, offers a scholarship to education majors who intend to teach scholastic journalism.

“It’s an amazing honor to be chosen for this national award. I have met so many incredible journalism teachers over the past few years that it is humbling to be recognized as someone who may one day join their ranks,” said Shogren. “Receiving this award validates and fuels my desire to pursue a career in journalism education.”

The scholarship application requirements include a 250-word essay on the applicant’s desire to teach secondary-school journalism.

Winners of the award were announced at the JEA/NSPA National High School Journalism Convention held in Chicago, IL on November 10-13, 2005.

Shogren’s experience with journalism started in high school when she, an advisor, and friends revived the Satanta High School paper from its 25-year dormancy. She was the first editor-in-chief of The Arrowhead and in its first year the newspaper won the All-Kansas award.

We’re on the Web: www.emporia.edu/jones/tcnewsletter/
Education faculty honored

Four education faculty members at Emporia State University were honored for their achievements in instruction, service, and scholarly activity at a special ceremony Jan. 9.

**Excellence in Instruction** - Diane Miller, associate professor in psychology and special education, received the award for her development of more than a dozen courses during the past five years, including the core courses of the Psychology and Special Education Department’s new Adaptive Special education program. She also pioneered assessment techniques and delivery models for online classes that encourage student accountability for content knowledge while reducing test anxiety.

**Excellence in Scholarly Activity** - Lauren Shapiro, associate professor in psychology and special education, was honored for her outstanding work in the field of cognitive development, especially children’s memories, and her dedication to student involvement in her research projects. A brief overview of her accomplishments over the past three years includes ten research projects conducted with student collaborators; numerous articles and abstracts published in highly-regarded, peer-reviewed journals; over $20,000 in grant funding for research projects; and presentations at various professional meetings including five international conferences.

**Excellence in Service** - Joan Brewer, associate professor in health, physical education and recreation, was recognized for her leadership abilities both at ESU and in many state, regional and national professional organizations and which have honored her for her contributions. In her teaching, she encourages service through service-learning projects, which not only give students a chance to apply knowledge and skills outside the classroom, but also provide much-needed service to the community.

**Darrell E. Wood Service Award** - Larry Lyman, chair of Elementary Teacher Education. Under Lyman’s leadership, ESU’s Elementary Teacher Education program has moved from a traditional program to a full Professional Development School model documented in a New York Times article in August 2005. His accomplishments also played an integral role in the success of The Teachers College during the most recent NCATE accreditation process.

Each year The Teachers College presents the Darrell E. Wood Service Award to an individual who has supported the mission of the college in a unique or outstanding manner.

Recipients were nominated by their respective academic departments and selected by a university-wide committee. The awards were presented by Dr. Larry Clark, interim executive director of the Jones Institute for Educational Excellence, and Jennifer Thomas, chair of The Teachers College Dean’s Advisory Council.

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Bleeker appointed to two national positions

Dr. Gary Bleeker, Associate Dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences, was recently appointed to two positions for the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE)—state coordinator for the annual Achievement Awards in Writing Program for high school juniors and state representative for the Assembly for Literature for Adolescents (ALAN), one of NCTE’s special-interest groups.

Bleeker has been active for many years in both NCTE and KATE (Kansas Association of Teachers of English), the regional affiliate of NCTE. He has also served as a judge for the Achievement Awards in Writing competition.

The state coordinator’s duties include distributing applications to different schools, selecting judges, and tallying scores for the writing competition. “I feel honored to be part of a process that celebrates excellence in writing in the state of Kansas,” Bleeker said. “It is great that ESU can be associated with such a prestigious award.”

The National Council of Teachers of English, with 60,000 individual and institutional members worldwide, is dedicated to improving the teaching and learning of English and the language arts at all levels of education.

As state representative for ALAN, Bleeker’s primary responsibilities will be to recruit new members and to spread the word about ALAN and The ALAN Review, a journal emphasizing new books, research, and methods of teaching young adult literature. Founded in 1973, ALAN is made up of teachers, authors, librarians, publishers, educators and their students, who are particularly interested in young adult literature.

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Faculty Notes

Dr. Tom Eddy, professor, Department of Biological Sciences, received the 2005 “John K. Strickler Award for Excellence in Conservation and Environmental Education” from the Kansas Association for Conservation and Environmental Education at their Annual Conference in Hutchinson, KS on November 4.

Lendi Bland, instructor, Department of Elementary Teacher Education, was nominated last fall and initiated in December into Phi Kappa Phi as a graduate student at Kansas State University.

Dr. Tom Eddy, professor, Department of Biological Sciences, presented a program on tropical insect ecology and behavior to students at Walnut School on November 10.

Dr. Marsh Sundberg, professor, Department of Biological Sciences, presented a paper “Student Inquiry and Engagement Promotes Content in Biology” at the 2nd Annual Conference of the International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, October 14-16, in Vancouver, B.C.

Dr. Marcus Childress, Instructional Design & Technology Department Chairperson, and Dr. Harvey Foyle, IDT professor, published Improving Student Technological Conceptions, Attitudes and Integration Through the Intervention of the Intel Teach to the Future Curriculum in the National Social Science Journal (2005), Volume 25, Number 1, pages 34-46.

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Spring 2006 Academic Calendar

February 27 - Graduate students notify Graduate Office, 313 Plumb Hall, of their intent to graduate in Summer 2006

March 19-26 - Spring Break

May 5, Friday - Last day of classes

May 8-12 - Final examinations

May 13 - Commencement, 9:30 a.m., Welch Stadium

Interested in taking a class during the summer?

Check out the courses offered by Emporia State University at http://www.emporia.edu/lifelong/summer/dept063.html
Ibarra of West Branch Middle School in West Branch, Iowa, was selected by Phi Delta Kappa International, an international professional education association, from among all 50 State Teacher of the Year Award winners as well as a winner from Puerto Rico, to become only the 10th Wal-Mart National Teacher of the Year.

“Taller's impressive track record of bringing science to life for young people was a strong reason for his selection as the Wal-Mart Iowa State Teacher of the Year earlier this fall,” Wal-Mart stated in a press release. “From building ‘solar cars’ that share the power of energy conservation, to activities that demonstrate the impact of daily activities on our environment, Dr. Ibarra is a respected leader in his field and among his students, and is nationally renowned for his work in educating students about the environment.”

Born in Mexico in a home near the one-room schoolhouse where his mother was the teacher and learning to speak English in the fourth grade, Ibarra was called a model for many by Wal-Mart representatives.

A teacher for almost 30 years, Ibarra, who teaches sixth- and seventh-grade general and earth science, was named to the 2002 All-USA Teacher Team, USA TODAY’s recognition program for outstanding teachers. The reason given at the time for Ibarra’s inclusion on the Teacher Team was his hands-on approach to science education. Ibarra and his students have analyzed the cost of conventional versus fluorescent lighting in the West Branch School District, studied the environmental impact of used automobile oil filters, and have coordinated a project with students in Japan that involved the construction of Lego-based rovers controlled over the Internet.

Ibarra, who holds a Ph.D., a master of science degree and bachelor of science degree -- all in science education, was named Wal-Mart State Teacher of the Year for Iowa, netting a $10,000 educational grant, a personalized Teacher of the Year jacket and other prizes, as well as a one-year membership in Phi Delta Kappa. Ibarra’s students at West Branch nominated him through the Iowa City Wal-Mart for the local Teacher of the Year Award before he went on to win at the state level.

Since 1992, Ibarra has won nearly $500,000 in grants. And his research into his school district’s lighting costs led to the district switching to fluorescent lights, saving taxpayers $1,000 a month. The project was cited by former President Bill Clinton in a 1997 speech in his address to activities that demonstrate the impact of daily activities on our environment. Dr. Ibarra is a respected leader in his field and among his students, and is nationally renowned for his work in educating students about the environment.”

Ibarra has received other national honors. He participated in the Fulbright Memorial Fund Master Teacher Program. His class last year won the President’s Environmental Youth Award. Ibarra’s list of honors includes the Christa McAuliffe Fellowship, National Science Teachers Association Distinguished Teaching Award and the Milken National Educator Award.

Robert McFrazier, former superintendent of Topeka Public Schools, has been named the 2005-2006 Jones Distinguished University Professor at Emporia State University.

McFrazier attained state and national prominence over his 40-year career in education, and is an expert on the 1954 U.S. Supreme Court’s Brown V. Board of Education of Topeka ruling. At Emporia State’s Teachers College, McFrazier is teaching Introduction to Education to future teachers and is a guest lecturer in classes.

The Jones Distinguished University Professor program provides a unique opportunity for a nationally respected professional in education to spend a semester or more at ESU.

McFrazier, who started his career as a teacher in 1967 as a junior high English teacher in Junction City, is active in education policymaking. He retired from the Topeka Public Schools in 2003. That same year he was appointed by Gov. Kathleen Sebelius to serve on an education policy team charged with reviewing student achievement, studying cost-efficiency issues and growing education leaders among Kansas teachers and students.

Serving as director of the Kansas Alliance of Black School Educators’ Parent Information Resource Center, McFrazier works to involve parents in their children’s education. The PIRC is funded through a grant from the U.S. Department of Education in its effort to integrate knowledge gained from research demonstrating parental involvement is positively related to achievement in student learning.

As superintendent of Topeka Public Schools, McFrazier is credited for reading and math resolutions which helped increase student achievement. Another notable accomplishment of his is the passing of a $24.5 million bond issue in April 2001 to fund construction of classrooms and a sports park on the grounds of the former Topeka State Hospital.
Kansas schools gain highly qualified teachers

Over 80 percent of educators mentored through a program at Emporia State University this past year achieved the highest honor of the teaching profession. The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards released results today for teachers who worked for the national certification during the 2004-05 school year, with 29 Kansas educators achieving the certification.

“Teachers who pursue National Board Certification are committed to daily reflection about their effectiveness as teachers,” said Tes Mehling, Dean of The Teachers College at ESU.

“They strive to document student learning that occurs as a result of teaching. They are willing to provide evidence that they meet the highest standards in the profession. Emporia State University and The Teachers College congratulate the teachers who have met this benchmark of excellence!”

The process a teacher goes through to gain the certification is one of the main ways the teaching profession recognizes excellence among its ranks. Linda Sobieski, director of Emporia State University’s Great Plains Center for National Teacher Certification in the Jones Institute for Educational Excellence (JIEE), guides teachers through the year-long process.

Kansan 2005 New National Board Certified Teachers (school district – teacher’s name):

Achison Public Schools - Diane Liebsch
Blue Valley (USD 229) - Denise Campbell, Jennifer Duke, Amy Farthing, Theresa Gropsitch, Jennifer Hare, Christina Khan, Cheryl Kerns, Barbara Mcleer, Kathleen McCullough, Lori Teig, Colleen Zink
Concordia - Tina Brewer
Emporia - Marilyn Mccomber
Garden City - Linda Ackerman
Garnett - Tonya Graham
Geary County Schools - Erin Jurand
Hayville - Erin Compton
Maize - Lori Heger, Janis Mertes, Wendy Trail
Mill Creek Valley - Tonia Carlson
Olathe - Kamiel Rawie
Pittsburg - Diana Oertle
Rose Hill Public Schools - Meggin Demoss
Seaman - Tonya Campbell
Valley Center Pub Sch - Gregory Mittman
Wichita - Merrilee Copeland, Stephen Smith

State Farm funds teacher’s academy

A record number of teachers in Kansas are in the process of pursuing a prestigious national certification and have received help from area businessmen.

Over 70 teachers from across the state attended the Fall 2005 National Board Orientation Academy sponsored by State Farm Insurance. This is nearly a 30% increase in the number of Kansas teachers typically pursuing this national certification each year. This is the seventh year the company has funded the academy.

State Farm contributed $8,000 to support two orientation academies held at the beginning of the school year. While $6,000 goes toward the first-time certificate candidates, $2,000 goes to teachers seeking to renew their certificates. These programs operate from the Great Plains Center for National Teacher Certification in ESU’s Jones Institute for Educational Excellence.

For more information about the NBPTS program at ESU, visit the Jones Institute web site at www.emporia.edu/jones.

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Students from Emporia Middle School present their ideas about a teaching career after the Kansas Future Teacher Mini-Academy held at ESU on February 9. Twenty-five eighth graders nominated by educators in Emporia attended the one-day event which featured sessions on setting goals, technology, and general information about college. Scott Waters, academy director, said the goal of the mini-academy is to get younger students - particularly those in under-represented populations - thinking about attending college and becoming teachers. This was the second year the mini-academy was held; it was coordinated by USD 253 and Future Teacher Academy instructors. A similar one-day academy will take place April 7 in El Dorado with students from the Wichita area. For 17 years the Kansas Future Teacher Academy has been a week-long summer academy. That academy will be held again this summer June 18-22 at ESU. The KFTA is coordinated by the Jones Institute for Educational Excellence at ESU.

Help us stay in touch

Do you have information to share with us and/or your classmates? If so, please return the completed form to The Teachers College Newsletter, Jones Institute for Educational Excellence, Campus Box 4036, Emporia State University, Emporia, KS 66801-5087 or fax to (620) 341-5785 Attn: JIEE. You may also use the online form at www.emporia.edu/jones/tcnewsletter/alum-choice.htm.

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Promotions, Job Changes, Awards, Activities, Name Changes, Marriages, Births, Deaths (Remember to include who, what, when, and where.)

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TTC Fund for Excellence is intended for scholarships, enrichment activities, and other critical needs. If you would like to make a tax-deductible contribution, please make your check payable to The Teachers College Fund for Excellence and mail to:
The Teachers College Fund for Excellence
ESU Foundation--1500 Highland
Emporia, KS 66801-5018

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□ I would like information on establishing an endowed fund.

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