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‘A reflection of who we are’

A promise of accessibility

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On the cover
As KSTC became one of the most accessible institutions around, a student group named the Vigilantes organized their own programming, like this 1970-71 basketball tournament in the civic auditorium.
Letter from the president

There is a word I hear frequently from Regents and from state and federal legislators regarding higher education in the United States. The word is “accessibility.” It is interesting to note the change in the subject of this conversation over the years. In the sixties the term referred almost exclusively to physical accessibility for people with mobility impairments. Under the leadership of President John King and then President John Visser, ESU made itself a leader in creating an accessible campus. Of course, we are still committed to making the physical facilities as accessible as possible, and this is a significant concern in all remodeling and construction planning.

Today this “accessibility” conversation typically relates exclusively to the rising cost of higher education and the need to ensure access to higher education for those who are economically challenged. As a public regional university we have a special responsibility to keep higher education affordable. This has become a very challenging aspect of financial planning at ESU due to the changes in state funding during the last nine years. In order to present the information in a comparable format, we adjust the numbers to reflect funding based upon the purchasing power of 2007 dollars. The following table is expressed in these constant dollar terms.

Funding at ESU
Expressed in 2007 dollars per Full-time Equivalent (FTE) Student

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>State Funding/ FTE</th>
<th>Tuition Charge/ FTE</th>
<th>Total Funding/ FTE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>$8,303</td>
<td>$2,202</td>
<td>$10,504</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>$6,385</td>
<td>$3,126</td>
<td>$9,511</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As you can see, we are spending less per student in 2007 than we did in 1999. The primary impact of this fiscal issue has been a reduction in relative salaries for faculty and staff as compared to other institutions in the Midwest region, while students are faced with the ever-increasing costs of attending college. Please know that we’re working very hard to combat these trends.

Consistent with our mission we have maintained other critical areas of accessibility at ESU. For example, freshmen students attend classes taught by full-time faculty members and these class sizes are relatively small. We believe this kind of access is critical to the long-term success of our graduates and permits us to provide them with a high-quality education.

Yes, the cost of attending ESU has increased during the last nine years. However, as you can see, we are doing more (we have grown) with less. I believe we are excellent stewards of both the state funds we receive and the tuition our students pay, as we concentrate on making ESU the most accessible university around. I hope you agree!

With Hornet pride,

Michael R. Lane
President

Emporia State University
Dear editor,

Thank you for another interesting edition of the Spotlight. I was most interested in the story entitled “Universities and War.” Many of the WWII veterans were still attending (KSTC) E-State when I entered as a freshman in the fall of 1950. I remember hearing the many stories of what life was like living in the married housing, which was located just west of Morse Hall and north of the intramural field.

In June of 1950, hostilities broke out in Korea and I planned to attend college that fall, not knowing just how the hostile outbreak would affect my plans. Then early in the fall of 1950 the Communist Chinese entered the conflict. I well remember the evening we heard the news. We all expected an all-out war with China was imminent. The Selective Service Draft was in effect and all of the non-veterans fully expected to be called into the Armed Services at any time. There were no protests, no peace marches, etc. Many E-State men and women served during the Korean conflict. The author of your article like so many others tends to forget the Korean war – the truly forgotten war.

Daniel Baker (BSE 1956, MS 1958)
Mascoutah, Ill.

Article wins national award

An article from your summer 2007 Spotlight won a bronze award for excellence in writing, while two other ESU publications also earned bronze awards at the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) District VI conference in January.

The story, titled “Wow! – Faculty Research at ESU,” highlighted the creative energy of a cross-section of ESU faculty members. The bronze came in the category of research/science/technology feature article, competing in the District VI region against universities of all sizes in the Midwest.

A second bronze in the special publications category went to ESU graphic designer John Decker – your Spotlight designer – for his work on a comprehensive package of invitation materials produced for the presidential inauguration of Dr. Michael R. Lane. A third bronze award recognized Kathleen Dorcas of ESU's Printing Services for her design work on the “Scholarbucks Café” concept for the ESU Foundation’s on-campus campaign. The package of materials – including brochures, a banner, aprons and more – won in the category for excellence in fundraising materials.

Jesse Tuel (BSB 2001)
Editor

To be inspired

Inspiration isn’t always welcome, but its timing can be.

As I pondered ESU’s tradition as a place dedicated to being accessible to persons of impaired mobility, it just so happened that I broke my ankle and found myself lumbering around on crutches for weeks. Now, I don’t presume to claim that my temporary impairment belongs in the same conversation as those who face a lifelong reality of hampered physical or mental mobility on a daily basis. Nowhere near it. But the brief glimpse I was provided – of cursing even the slightest inclines on campus, which I’ve never noticed before, of the frustrated angst from being trapped in my office, unable to drive, to walk outside, or carry a cup of coffee – makes me see accessibility in a new light. I hope you do, too, as you read the cover story.

We’re also inspired by Roy Mann, the outgoing alumni director – and by “we,” I mean each and every person he openly received with his powers of attention, his warm smile and irrepressible humor. At the end of a conversation with Roy, you felt better about yourself, and I think that’s why he had such an impact on others. No matter his workload or frustrations, Roy always put others before himself – so it’s fitting that we’ve devoted pages 12-13 solely to him.

Other sources of inspiration: a baseball team that wins 35 games in a row and a softball team that plays in the national championship game for the second time in three years (pages 22-23); a porcelain dragon made nearly 90 years ago in Germany (page 6); the reflections of a 2008 graduate on ESU’s accessible atmosphere (page 21); the downright fervor of our alumni chapters (pages 10-11); and, well, most everything else that springs from a pursuit as enriching as higher education. At a place like Emporia State, where even a broken bone serves as inspiration, it’s hard to go wrong.

Jesse Tuel (BSB 2001)
Editor

Send your letters to the editor! E-mail jtuel@emporia.edu or mail to Spotlight, 1500 Highland St., Emporia KS 66801-5018.

Read the faculty research story online at www.emporia.edu/saf/news/spotlight/s07_facultyresearch.htm
Calendar of events

University Events

SWARM International
Aug. 12-15, welcoming students

Move-In Day
Aug. 17, Residence Halls

Hornet Walk & Convocation
Aug. 17, Plumb Hall

General Assembly & President’s Address
Aug. 19, Albert Taylor Hall

Classes begin
Aug. 20

Huge Activities Fair
Sept. 3, Memorial Union

International Food Festival
Sept. 6, Morse Hall Lawn

Fall Career Fair
Sept. 16, Memorial Union

William Allen White Book Award Celebration
Oct. 4, Memorial Union

Business Career Day
Oct. 8, Memorial Union

Bonner & Bonner Lecture Series
Sociologist James Loewen is the author of Sundown Towns, a book examining communities that excluded African-Americans by force, law or custom – and some still do.
Oct. 22, 7 p.m., Webb Lecture Hall

Homecoming 2008
Oct. 22 – 26
See details on page 36-37!

Fall Education Career Fair
Nov. 4, Memorial Union

WWII Roundtable Lecture
Nov. 6, MU Kunza Room

Winter Commencement
Dec. 20

Especially for Alumni and Friends

ESU at Kansas State Fair
Sept. 5-14, Hutchinson

Fan Fair
Sept. 5, Hutchinson

Family Day
Sept. 6

South Central Chapter Scholarship Golf Scramble
Sept. 28, Hesston

2008 ESU Alumni Awards Banquet
• Distinguished Alumni
• University Service Citation
• Outstanding Recent Graduates
Oct. 24, MU Ballroom

UAC and ASG Reunion
Oct. 24, Sauder Alumni Center

On Stage

Recycled Percussion
Sept. 24, Albert Taylor Hall

Jazz Ensemble Concert
Oct. 2, Albert Taylor Hall

Orchestra Concert
Oct. 7, Albert Taylor Hall

“Something’s Afoot” Homecoming Musical
Oct. 23 – 26, Albert Taylor Hall

USO Show
Nov. 7, Albert Taylor Hall

Opera Concert
Nov. 14, Beach Hall

Opera Concert
Nov. 18, Albert Taylor Hall

Jazz Concert
Nov. 20, Albert Taylor Hall

Madrigal Feast
Nov. 21 – 22, MU Ballroom

Percussion Ensemble Concert
Nov. 24, Albert Taylor Hall

Wind & Brass Concert
Dec. 4, Albert Taylor Hall

A Cappella & Community Chorus Concert
Dec. 7, Albert Taylor Hall

Emporia Connection Cruise
June 2009
Spend five days in the western Caribbean with ESU alumni!
Contact the alumni office for more information at alumni@emporia.edu or (620) 341-5440.

Homecoming 2008
Mark your calendars for the week of Oct. 22-26. See your Homecoming invitation and registration form on page 36, along with a full calendar of events!

Football Traditions BBQ
The fifth annual Football Traditions BBQ is slated for Saturday, Sept. 6, at the Jenkins Ranch, following ESU Family Day and the football game. The social hour is at 5 p.m., with dinner at 6 p.m. For more information, call the athletic development office at (620) 341-6988.

Get our e-mail newsletter!
To get your Hornet info more often, sign up for the Hornet News Update, a biweekly e-mail newsletter from your Alumni Association. It’s simple – just go to www.emporia.edu/saf/hnu_archive.htm to read past newsletters and sign up!

For more events:
University Advancement News & Events – www.emporia.edu/saf/news – Go here to RSVP online!
University Events – www.emporia.edu (click on Calendar of Events)
Athletics – www.emporia.edu/athletics
High points of the fall’s alumni surveys

Two surveys of alumni last fall, one on implementing a dues-based alumni association and another on alumni attitudes, have told us a great deal about you. We thought you might be interested in the results, because we’re certainly listening.

The first, a mailed survey on instituting a dues-based alumni association, drew 271 responses. Forty-seven respondents, or just 17 percent, supported a dues-based membership program for all alumni. Twenty-two percent supported a dues-based membership program offering an option of paying dues or making a charitable gift in lieu of dues. The Alumni Association board of directors opted not to pursue a dues-based organization at this time.

A majority, 56 percent, supported retaining the current non-dues model while seeking other revenue options, including additional affinity programs. We’ve started a “Spotlighters” program to accept donations to offset the magazine’s cost (see page 5), and for the next edition, we’re looking at advertising on a small scale.

Also worth noting is the 63 percent who support offering alumni the option to subscribe to Spotlight or receiving it online as a means of reducing printing and postage costs.

Our second survey was broader, gauging alumni attitudes through a lengthy e-mail survey. We had a tremendous response rate: 730 out of 3,356 addresses, or 21.8 percent. Below are some of the high points; or scroll through the full results by going to www.emporia.edu/spotlight and clicking on “alumni survey results.”

• More than 60 percent of respondents currently contribute financially, or plan to
• In your interactions with ESU, more of you are reading Spotlight than any other activity, such as visiting campus or the website – and that interest level in the magazine holds across six different age groups
• The performance of the magazine outranks the importance you place in it, while our communication regarding your services and benefits as alumni doesn’t meet the importance you perceive
• Your opinion of ESU is most impacted by your value and respect for your degrees and ESU’s providing scholarships, and least impacted by the success of athletic teams and school rankings (e.g. U.S. News & World Report)
• You’ve told us we’re not doing nearly enough in e-mail correspondence, or you’d welcome more
• You’d like us to identify job opportunities for graduates and provide avenues for your feedback about community perceptions of ESU
• Younger alumni want us to identify job opportunities and facilitate networking with other alumni
• Nearly 70 percent say they prefer e-mail over regular mail to connect with the university
• Time is the biggest barrier to your participation in alumni activities
• In your student experiences, respondents felt the opportunities to participate in greek life and attend athletic events exceeded the perceived importance of those opportunities
• About 60 percent of respondents participated in a professional or career-related organization, with slightly more than 40 percent participating in each of the following – the residence halls, intramural athletics and greek life

Go online to read various aspects of the alumni attitude survey results, like personal accounts of the most influential people in the ESU experience of respondents.

Plugging in our alumni

Connecting you to each other and to Emporia State University is our primary goal, and we hope a new alumni directory in 2009 will strike you as a great option. Our first alumni directory since the 2002 edition is a major undertaking as we seek to update all alumni records. This summer – near the arrival of this Spotlight – you’ll be hearing from us and the directory’s publisher, Harris Connect to update your information. If you want your name, children, pets, and the kitchen sink in the directory, great. If you want your name only, we’ll make it happen. The directories are slated to arrive in March 2009, in CD-ROM and print form.

Meanwhile, an update on other efforts at connecting you: the development of an online community for ESU alumni that we’ve referenced in recent Spotlights is on hold as we work out the kinks of our campus-wide software system. Stay tuned as we get this project off the ground.
Give to ESU

from the comfort of your home or office computer! Go to www.emporia.edu/give and click “Make a Gift.” You’ll create an initial account that will link your gift to your record. To create a permanent account after that, contact Carol Cooper at (620) 341-5440 or ccooper@emporia.edu.

Get on board by sending your donation of $25 or more today. Check the bright yellow box on the Homecoming registration form on page 36, choose your payment method, and send it in the enclosed envelope. Or, give online by going to www.emporia.edu/give. Establish an account if you’re a first-time user, select “other fund” on the “Make a Donation” page, and type “Spotlighter” in the comment box. If you have any questions contact the Spotlight editor at jtuel@emporia.edu.
The mysterious, absurdly decorated dragon who sat in the Sauder Alumni Center’s upstairs board room for so long that it was nearly forgotten is, in fact, an extremely rare German porcelain piece first displayed at the Porcelain Palace in Liepzig in 1921.

As promised in the January edition of Spotlight, we’ve learned more about the piece: It’s one of about 10 dragons named “Gute Zeiten,” or “Good Times,” created by Hugo Meisel in a porcelain manufactory called Volkstedter Porzellanfabrick in Volkstedt, Germany. One piece is displayed at the Hetjens Museum in Dusseldorf, Germany, alongside its “Bad Times” counterpart, while another piece was sold at an auction in Germany on April 5 for the price of 23,000 euros—nearly $36,000.

The circuitous search for confirmation of our dragon’s authenticity is as colorful as the dragon itself. We knew it was donated to ESU in about 1984 by the late Marea Black, an Emporia native, who with her late husband William Black (BS 1926, MS 1934) endowed funds for the Kansas Master Teacher program at ESU. The Blacks crisscrossed the country working in higher education administration. Our file on the Blacks held two clues that piqued the interest of your Spotlight editor: a 1992 handwritten note from Marea saying another dragon rested in a museum in Munich, and an outdated appraisal valuing the piece at $12,000.

The file’s paperwork also indicates the Blacks’ late son, also named William, was selected by the U.S. government as one of 10 students to go to Germany after WWII as part of a cultural rebuilding effort—to a fine arts assignment. In this period, or later when as a teacher he led a music-drama group on tours of Europe, he must’ve procured the dragon. We can only speculate, because he died of a heart attack in 1973, days after his parents moved to Broken Bow, Okla., to be near him. The senior William died in 1983 and Marea died in 1993, so I turned to Marea’s will—but of the relatives referenced there, the only one I managed to reach didn’t really know the Blacks or the dragon.

So, all we had to go on was the file’s note about a Munich museum. I e-mailed German newspapers and a half-dozen Munich museums and joined an online community for English speakers in Germany, attaching the dragon’s picture and asking for help. The respondents were stumped until one of them forwarded my note to Dr. Alfred Ziffer, who as a member of the German ceramics world recognized the piece. Not only did Ziffer cut-and-paste the auction site’s description of the dragon, but he noted that another piece was at the Hetjens Museum. After e-mailing the museum’s director, Sally Schöne, I Googled a German phrase from Ziffer’s auction description—and was I ever ecstatic to find a photo of the dragon for sale.

Colleagues in the alumni magazine world translated the auction paragraph for me, while I realized the “HM” initials on the base of our dragon matched the artist, Hugo Meisel. Meanwhile, ESU’s former art department chair, Elaine Henry, a ceramics specialist, recommended Kansas State University’s Glenn Brown, another ceramics expert. Dr. Brown interpreted the second marking on the base as that of the Volkstedter manufactory, a marking used from 1900 to 1936. He also noted that since the 1980s, Chinese forgers have replicated historical European porcelain pieces, but if the piece was procured before that, there would be little doubt to its authenticity.

And then the certainty I was hoping for came, when Sally Schöne, the Hetjens Museum director, returned my e-mails in broken English: “Your ‘Good Times’ is an originally one. I never heard that are copies existing. An there is also known that some of them were sell to the U.S.” She attached a picture of her museum’s display of “Good Times” and “Bad Times,” much to my delight, and she mailed an article she wrote on the Porcelain Palace in Leipzig. After a German-to-English translation by Stephanie Clark, our alumni office’s long-time student worker, we learned that Hugo Meisel was one of several artists who worked at the Volkstedter factory, and contributed to the Palace’s collection of ceramic animals. The opening itself, judging from the article’s photos, was a huge cultural event in post-WWI Germany.

I’ll admit a slight obsession with figuring out our dragon’s origins and significance. I was curious, sure, but I also thought we owed it to the Black family to educate ourselves. Donors don’t deserve to be forgotten, and neither does a dragon crafted nine decades ago in Germany.

-Jesse Tuel
Recent changes atop the ESU administrative structure, in personnel and in focuses, have the university poised to meet tomorrow’s challenges. Most notably, Dr. Tes Mehring, dean of the Teachers College, was named the provost and vice president for academic affairs, and Dr. Jim Williams has taken on new responsibility for the university’s strategic partnerships in addition to his vice presidential duties with student affairs.

The changes reflect ESU President Michael Lane’s January 2008 general assembly speech to ESU’s faculty and staff, where he announced a reorganization of the university’s operations in order to address data needs, marketing consistency, retention and graduation rates, and greater partnerships with outside entities.

“It’s important for ESU’s constituents – especially alumni, donors and friends – to know that we’re utilizing our resources efficiently and effectively,” said President Lane. “The success we achieve as an academic institution is our primary goal, and underneath all of this is the reality that we’re operating a complex business, and we must do it well.”

The provost position, a new concept at ESU though common in the university setting, signifies a broader role than ESU’s former model of a vice president for academic affairs. Mehring will have a hand in ESU’s day-to-day operations, overseeing the cross-campus reach of the new division of enrollment management as ESU strives toward a goal of 10,000 students (with 6,000 on campus). Student recruitment and retention calls for an integrated, aggressive strategy, and so the new division brings together Admissions, Financial Aid, the Registrar, Advising, Graduate Programs, Offsite and Distance Education, and International Programs to “create a university with one front door through which all students enter,” President Lane said, to standardize data collection and provide data structures that are sufficient for strong decision-making.

After a national search for the provost, the search committee and President Lane selected Dr. Mehring.

“I was seeking a candidate who would be a leader for our faculty and for academic affairs,” President Lane said at the May 16 announcement. “I was looking for an individual who understands the special nature of Emporia State. As it turns out, the perfect candidate is the one who currently occupies an office in Visser Hall. Tes is a nationally recognized leader in higher education, and I’m delighted we were able to promote someone of her caliber from within.”

She replaces Dr. John Schwenn, who left ESU for the presidency of Dalton (Ga.) State College in February.

“I’m looking forward to the challenge, because I know there is tremendous talent throughout this campus,” Mehring said. “And because of that talent, whatever the challenges are, we’re well equipped to meet them. It’s bittersweet for me. I’m giving up a great job as dean of the Teachers College, but now I have a chance to demonstrate those leadership skills campus-wide.”

A native of Helena, Mont., Mehring earned bachelor’s degrees at St. Mary College in Leavenworth, a master’s degree at Southwest Missouri State University, and a master’s degree in special education and a doctoral degree in special education/educational psychology at the University of Kansas. Arriving at ESU in 1981, she advanced through the ranks from lecturer to professor and in 1993 was appointed associate dean of the Teachers College, Emporia State’s now nationally-recognized teacher education program. She became the dean in 1995, and served as interim vice president for academic affairs in 2006.

Meanwhile, Dr. Williams is now the vice president for strategic partnerships and student life. President Lane said at the general assembly that the university must enhance its relationships with outside organizations. “Dr. Williams will pick up responsibility for working with the deans, the faculty, the business community, the region, and, as necessary, other educational institutions to develop and manage strategic partnerships,” President Lane said. “Expansion of these partnerships should increase our ability to accomplish many goals as we move through the next decade.”

Dr. Williams described his role as the contact person on campus – not necessarily driving each and every partnership, but identifying those on campus who could fit the bill. But he is out there driving some of them, like chairing a subgroup on the Emporia area’s educational needs for the Building Futures campaign, a joint effort to map out the area’s future. It’s a matter of meshing the university’s strengths and services with the various needs of the community, region, state and beyond.

“What I’m discovering is there’s really a big interest in making inroads in the community, the state, and the region,” Williams said, “and we’re still learning about how it’s done, and how we can work together for mutual benefit.”
Foundation’s new grant program funds eight faculty projects

A pilot program of the ESU Foundation to fund small faculty grants awarded its first series of grants to eight faculty projects this spring.

Faculty members are expected to engage in research, and it’s often difficult to find the necessary funding. The ESU Foundation Board of Trustees elected to begin the Faculty Incentive Grant program to provide small grants for projects that aren’t as readily funded by other sources.

A selection committee chose eight proposals representing six academic departments, awarding more than $15,000 in funding. Another round of selections is planned for late in the fall semester.

In May, Dr. James Aber already had a new infrared digital camera, purchased with grant money, ready to use for a summer course called “Small Format Aerial Photography.” The camera captures red light just beyond the human eye’s visible spectrum. Plants are very sensitive to this portion of the spectrum – anything photosynthetic will show up in the camera’s pictures, and so the imagery is used widely in vegetation studies. The development of the technology has military origins – it was used to distinguish camouflage from vegetation in WWII, Aber said.

Aber, along with ESU professors Richard Sleezer, a soil specialist, and William Jensen, manager of ESU’s natural history areas, has plans for the camera. They’re planning a field study with students in which they’ll subject blocks of a grid of prairie acreage to different burning frequencies and timing, and the camera will monitor how the vegetation changes. The work is multidisciplinary, with students coming from the earth science and biology areas, along with geology, library science and even art.

Those interested in supporting the Faculty Incentive Grant program may send donations to the ESU Foundation, 1500 Highland St., Emporia, KS 66801, or give online at www.emporia.edu/give.

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Aber tested a grant-funded camera in Cuchara, Colo., in May, capturing the scenery in normal visible color (top) and in infrared (bottom). He and other professors are preparing ESU’s Ross Natural History area for experimentation in prairie burning.
The Memorial Union serves as our students’ home away from home. It is the heart of campus, a perfect complement to the university’s academic mission. Often called the “living room” of campus, the union encourages students to develop leadership and social skills, to relax and be entertained, to study, and so much more. To meet the expectations of today’s ESU campus and the surrounding community – and serve them well – we’re gearing up to refresh the union’s atmosphere through major renovations while preserving its historical integrity as the oldest student union building west of the Mississippi. Planning, student support and fundraising are already in the works, with renovations slated to begin in about two years.

What will the new Memorial Union look like?
- Open spaces and long lines of sight will define tomorrow’s union, such as a grand entryway
- Renovations to the Colonial Ballroom, possibly to commemorate KSTC graduates
- Modernized meeting rooms with “smart” technology
- Unique dining experiences on two levels
- Comfortable gathering spaces for students, faculty, staff and campus guests
- Services for students including Admissions, Career Services and International Education

Why do we need the renovation?
- To create a facility that attracts and retains students, faculty and staff
- To update facilities that are vital to our community and region

How will the renovation benefit the campus?
- A state-of-the-art union to meet ever-changing student needs – shopping, entertainment, dining, meeting space
- A central gathering place for students before and after 5 p.m.

How will the renovation benefit the community?
- Some of the largest convention space in east central Kansas, boosting the Emporia area’s economy
- The Colonial Ballroom and other areas host a number of special events, from weddings and banquets to concerts and more
- The Veterans Hall of Honor pays tribute to ESU veterans and to Emporia as the founding city of Veterans Day

What needs are not being currently met?
- High-quality student leadership offices
- Variety of food options
- Additional meeting and student space
- Day and evening entertainment activities for campus and community

Will the historic nature of the Memorial Union be preserved?
- Yes. The Memorial Union was first constructed in memory of veterans, and this aspect will guide our planning

How can I support the project?
- Contact development officer Mike Crouch at (620) 341-5440 or mcrouch1@emporia.edu

Project timeline
- July 2008 – Contract with architect finalized
- September 2008 – Process begins – working with students on student fee referendum
- September 2008 – Focus group process begins (set by architect)
- Spring 2009 – Student fee vote
- Spring 2009 – Board of Regents bonding approval
- Spring 2010 – Groundbreaking
Coming soon to your area: a network of Emporia State University alumni right in your own community, banding together to network, share camaraderie and champion ESU. Attendance at ESU alumni events across the nation is up in the last couple years, and the strength of well-established chapters is now complemented by an aggressive plan for the growth of existing chapters and expansion into new areas.

A case in point was a January event in Denver, where the alumni office has been working with Denver-based alumni to reestablish interest. Expecting 40, we reserved a party room at a downtown pub – and the 75-plus alumni who came filled the room. Even those who stood much of the time were all smiles, much like the excitement we’re finding in other alumni chapters. Cindy Ramsey, president of the Smoky Valley chapter in the Salina area, models her ESU passion as a teacher on dress-down Fridays when she wears her ESU gear.

“It gives me such an opportunity,” Ramsey said. “The students say, ‘Wow, you still connect with them?’ And I tell them, ‘Going to school wasn’t just four years – it’s for life. You ought to be highly selective with where you go.’”

That’s the spirit bringing together alumni in their own communities. When Ramsey can identify teachers who are ESU alumni solely from their teaching methods – it’s that obvious, she says – alumni like her are eager to reconnect and give back. The three largest, most active chapters – the Smoky Valley, South Central Kansas and Emporia Connection chapters – have established ESU scholarships.

In the Emporia Connection, the chapter for African-American alumni, this eagerness is doing some amazing things. A small group of alumni had met since the 1970s when word leaked out of a cook-off at the Atlanta home of Mark (BA 1975) and Pat Sevier. “People just started showing up,” said Pat. “We must’ve smoked an entire cow. We decided from then on we were going to meet regularly.”

With events in Dallas, Atlanta, Kansas City and Emporia under their belts – including their first Emporia event, drawing 250 alumni, and one in April drawing more than 100 – the chapter is planning a cruise together in 2009. Their central aim, beyond great fellowship, is supporting current ESU students. When the Emporia Connection Legacy Scholarship was first announced several years ago in Dallas, the 25 alumni in attendance immediately raised about $4,000. Back in Emporia the next year, needing to reach the $10,000 minimum endowment level, the group surpassed it in a matter of minutes. In April, dining regally in Webb Lecture Hall, a quick pledge drive produced similar results.

“People have come prepared to give, and I know they believe in it,” Pat said. “[The chapter has] inspired us to do more for students. None of us did it by ourselves. We recognize that.”

Now the group is thinking of donating to ESU a building devoted to African-American students as a social center and library, and they’re also working with ESU staff to reestablish the traditionally African-American fraternities and sororities. “We just want to go where our hearts lead us,” Pat said.

Another chapter with a history of strong involvement is the South Central Kansas Chapter in the Wichita area. Mim Hiesterman, ESU’s alumni coordinator in the area, said the chapter centered around an annual event at a Wichita Wranglers baseball game when she first became involved 14 years ago. Today, they’ve achieved remarkable growth by planning a variety of different events to attract diverse alumni. Dinner theatre events, after-hours receptions for the business community, family-oriented picnics, pre-game events for ESU vs. Wichita State basketball games – each opportunity brings ESU alumni together.

There’s also the “icing on the cake,” as Hiesterman described it, the annual scholarship golf scramble each
September. With the 11th annual event coming up Sept. 28, the tourney sees 100-plus golfers each year, and it’s raised more than $50,000 for an endowed scholarship fund. Four Wichita-area students received the scholarship in the last school year.

The South Central chapter is also immersed in another successful tangent of their passion for ESU – the Teacher Appreciation Program (TAP) featuring free lunches for teachers in Kansas high schools, and the Students Through Alumni Recruitment Teams (START). The two programs have spread into other alumni chapters as well, both seeking to attract potential students to ESU.

Chapter leaders have a message for those who aren’t sure they want to get involved with their local chapters. With Emporia Connection, it’s all in the chapter’s name. “We all have something to add,” Pat Sevier said. “Just go and mingle – enjoy it. The world is getting smaller and smaller, and you’d be surprised at the connections we have.”

Hiesterman, meanwhile, always tells people they’ll be surprised at who’s an ESU alum from their community. “You will be surprised who you’ll know. It's really a small world,” she said. “Come and be surprised at who you might meet, get reconnected to the school, and have a sentimental journey from that time of your life.”

Go online to www.emporia.edu/spotlight to see the Emporia Connection group photo of 100-plus alumni at the April reunion, or find photos from other chapter events, and contact your local chapter president!
Roy Mann is delightfully predictable. The outgoing alumni director was always unfailingly quick with laughter, with listening, with an open door. Yet as he managed his transition from a 20-year career at Emporia State University to a brand new adventure as a fundraiser for an international church-planting organization, there was unpredictability in Roy.

At his home in late April, after his last day at ESU and before his first day with the Provision Ministry Group, there were the obvious signs of Roy: music paraphernalia everywhere, including three guitar cases in the closet of his new home office, not one but two cluttered desks, the aroma of freshly brewed coffee, DVDs of “The Office” and the “Rocky” movies.

But there was also revelation as Roy reflected. Get this: Roy, the uber-emcee of any and all ESU events, dreaded emceeing — that he’d forget someone, overlook an award, misread a title.

"I hated to do that. That was one of my worst fears," Roy said. He remembers what Joe Rossillon, the interim director when he started, told him: ‘It’s a job of immense responsibility, to keep things moving orderly and efficiently, to keep things happening at the right time.’ And so Roy was never entirely at ease: “You can make it happy, you can make it sad, you can make it grandiose and pompous, you can make it as informal as you want. My stomach would be in knots until it was over.”

Surprising, from the guy who seemed to drink in the spotlight like a comedian taking the stage. Typical, though, that he returns to sports metaphors and high school football — there, he said, you’ve got a helmet to hide behind. On the podium, “you’re exposing yourself to the world,” he said.

Roy, who earned a bachelor’s in music education in 1979 and a master’s in educational administration in 1998 from ESU, served as the alumni director since 1995 and first came to ESU as an assistant director of endowment in 1988. Those who saw him in action knew he thrived on contact with people. But now he’s looking forward to alumni events where he can slow down his pace.

“I want to come back to Homecoming when I can enjoy it, and have a lengthy conversation with someone, and go to the events I want to go to without running from one event to the next,” Roy said. His mind was always fretting over details, sending supplies here or there, running out of name tags, trouble-shooting. Maybe he’ll go to the Kansas State Fair — as a spectator. “Maybe I’ll drop by the booth and just say hi, and keep going — and not put a tattoo on another kid or take down the booth or drive the rental truck. I always enjoyed going, but I never got to...,” Roy said, his voice trailing off.

Never got to slow down: Roy said he loved building relationships with ESU alumni and friends, but after 20 years, it was time to take on a new challenge. But even the transition came with an unexpected challenge. During his last week at ESU, Roy’s mother Iona passed away in Emporia. What the hundreds who attended Roy’s going-away reception on April 17 didn’t realize is that he returned to the nursing home that evening to be with his mother — and contrary to what we might’ve thought, the timing was a blessing in disguise for Roy.

“In some respects, it caused me not to focus on it, and reset my priorities,” Roy said. Interestingly enough, Roy’s father passed away shortly after he started working at ESU. “I don’t believe in coincidences. The loss of your parents, one beginning your tenure and one ending it... a little hard to absorb.”

Even through all this, Roy still carried a positive attitude, probably assisted in this by the support he received.
Overheard at his home when the doorbell rang, when yet another flower arrangement arrived honoring his mother: “Wow. Who’s this from? ‘With sympathy.’ Awww! From our church!”

In his church, Roy began teaching Sunday school and summer Bible camps as his kids grew older. He’d played in bands ever since college, and his electric guitar eventually found its way from clubs and bars into churches. Between songs with his Christian music group, Roy found himself sharing his faith – and he “realized it was ministry – at first I don’t think I ever understood that.” Now he’ll be taking his knack for relationships into an effort to build churches across the world, and impact people he’ll never even meet. “It’s an exciting thing,” he said.

As he begins, he’ll still have to shed his tendency to fret over alumni events. In his first week off the job, he hadn’t blocked out the habit of making mental notes to check event attendance, get an idea down on paper, send an e-mail. But he offered the same assistance to the new alumni director that he received from his predecessor, Dave Eldridge: “You ever need anything, you let me know. But I’ll never get in your road,” Roy said. “I’ll probably say the same thing to the next person. They’ll have new ideas – and a very supportive alumni base with volunteers who freely give their time and money. Our people are our greatest resource.”

It’s safe to say Roy’s hallmark of humor isn’t going anywhere, as evident when asked what parting thoughts he’d like to share with alumni: “That I’m still accepting gifts and I don’t have to count them on my taxes. You might want to include my address.”

More seriously, Roy feels the mark of his success will be seeing alumni chapters carry on without him. “That’ll be the greatest thing in the world,” he said. And he knows the chapters will succeed – Roy said he was uncomfortable with the title of “Mr. ESU” because it detracts from so many other people who have done more for the university, people who have given longer careers, more volunteer hours, unparalleled dedication.

“I’ve felt privileged to serve and appreciate their support,” Roy said of alumni. “It’s overused to say that, but I have been surprised to find how many other people attribute their success and attribute what type of person they’ve become to their years at Emporia State. I would encourage everybody to find some way to get involved. It could be something like financial resources – or it could be what sometimes is a deeper commitment than that, to devote time and effort. And people sometimes wait until they’re asked – don’t wait until somebody calls to ask you.”

And with that, the predictable Roy carried on. In the span of a couple hours, his close-knit family called twice – one call from his wife, another from a daughter. Telemarketers called too, and for once, Roy was at home. “I like to answer those now,” he said with a mischievous gleam in his eye. “I told one, ‘I can’t really help you. I’m in between jobs right now.’ I’ve always wanted to say that.”

The face of a university – the person who is most often thought of when the institution comes up in conversation – is often the president. Coming in at a close second might be the director of alumni relations! In a highly visible role with public exposure, the alumni director promotes the university on a daily basis, in front of different audiences – alumni, naturally, but also the community and its leaders, donors, lawmakers, current and potential students, and others.

Emporia State University is now actively engaged in a national search for a new Director of Alumni Relations. Take a look at the job description online. If you or someone you know fits the bill, we encourage you to apply or share it with a friend.

The director of alumni relations is an unclassified staff position in ESU’s Office of University Advancement. The director reports to the University Advancement CEO & President of the ESU Foundation, coordinates and reports to the Alumni Association Board of Directors, and serves on the Advancement executive team. The new director will come on board at a truly exciting time for the Alumni Association as we expand our outreach efforts and tap into the energy of new leadership in the Advancement office and in the ESU President’s office. The director is the ambassador to external constituencies and promotes a passion for Emporia State University, striving to develop and enhance lifelong relationships with students, alumni and friends.

Required qualifications:

• Bachelor’s degree; 3-5 years experience in public affairs, public relations, marketing, and/or fundraising

• Success in working with volunteers; work experience related to the duties and responsibilities specified

To view the full job description go to:

www.emporia.edu/saf/alumni/documents/AlumniDirectorJobDescription.doc

To apply:

Submit a letter of application and resume to emporiastate@rpainc.org – or submit materials to: RPA, Inc., Attn: Emporia State University Alumni Director Search, 2895 S. Reach Rd., Williamsport, PA 17701.

Help shape the future of the ESU Alumni Association!
For Mike and Lori (Goertz) Hubert, attending Emporia State University was a holistic experience. It was learning, life, and leadership. It was earning a degree, having a great time, and romance – they met through the Xi Phi leadership organization, and interacted because of their Greek involvement.

They credit the ESU experience with launching them into their careers in communications and accounting, and now they’re giving back to students who have similar experiences. The Huberts recently established two scholarships – the Michael James Hubert Family Scholarship for communication majors in the Sigma Tau Gamma fraternity, and the Lori Lyn Goertz Hubert Family Scholarship for business majors in the Chi Omega sorority. Both scholarships are reserved for students who are sophomores or above and carry at least a 3.0 GPA, and both will benefit other Greek students if Sigma Tau Gamma or Chi Omega members do not qualify.

For the Huberts, giving to ESU is a personal experience. The gifts were specifically tailored to recognize continuing students who have demonstrated academic diligence and campus involvement, which Mike sees as a “measure of success” for later in life. “Scholarships are a way to reward great behaviors,” Mike said. “And we’ve crafted our scholarships to be a reflection of who we are and who we’ve become.”

In 1991, Lori earned her bachelor’s degree in accounting and Mike earned his in communication and public affairs. Today, the couple lives in Fairfield, Conn., with their two sons, Jacob and Caleb. Mike works in downtown New York City, leading the communication efforts for Pfizer, the world’s largest pharmaceutical company, as the vice president of leadership communication and colleague communications. Lori worked full-time in public accounting before transitioning into a role where she could spend more time with their kids, while managing the books for a bridal shop, their church and parent-teacher associations, and opening a new consulting venture from their home.

“We were really driven by our experiences on the Emporia State campus. We’ve always wanted to set up scholarships,” Mike said. “First and foremost, we realize that scholarship support is really important. It’s critical for students to have the financial resources to be successful – we know it was for us.”

When the Huberts moved back to Kansas City in 2006 and then returned to the East Coast later that year, they realized it was time to make good on their plans. And with the help of Pfizer’s matching gift program, the gifts were even more manageable. “We’re fortunate because we have a really strong matching gift program,” Mike said. “I’m proud to work where I work.

They don’t have to do this. It is one of the things that makes me feel really good about working at Pfizer.”

Mike and Lori are particularly pleased to be able to give at a relatively young age, and they hope their story encourages others to consider giving. “I’m very pleased we were able to do this, especially as young as we are, because we can watch this scholarship being given out year after year after year,” Lori said. Mike agreed, saying he was glad to give early in life, knowing the gifts would only grow through the fiscal management of the ESU Foundation: “It’s a lot bigger payoff to students who are trying to get an education. We felt we were at the right age to start doing this.”

Looking ahead five or ten years, Lori said she’s excited to think that the scholarships will have created a lasting impact on the lives of ESU students – helping them to prepare for a career in business or communication, and then to excel in a field they enjoy.

As tomorrow’s ESU students become a reflection of who Mike and Lori are, the lasting impact on students’ lives will certainly earn their scholarships a “measure of success.”
The cracks in the pavement were the first-down markers. Five wheelchairs against five wheelchairs, making up the rules as they went. In these regular after-dinner football games organized by the Vigilantes, a group of Emporia State students in the late 1960s and early 1970s, there was a tremendous sense of camaraderie. For some of the students, like the 1969 Vigilantes president Larry Schmidt, coming to college in Emporia put them around others who also faced impaired mobility – for the very first time.

“We grew up together, we played together, we cried together,” said Schmidt, who now lives in Moundridge, Kan. “All kinds of experiences. It was a neat opportunity. We had so much fun just being ourselves and learning what we could and couldn’t do.”
All this happened at Emporia State University for one reason — accessibility. As early as the 1950s, before state or federal laws began to require equal accommodations for those with mobility impairments, ESU was remaking its physical spaces to offer equal access to higher education. And the reputation ESU earned is still with us today, although a need for continued vigilance remains.

It was Dr. John King, the ESU president from 1953 to 1966, who jumpstarted the transformation toward accessibility, said Dr. Harry Stephens, former vice president for student affairs. In the late 1950s, King met Olpe High School student Bill Scales, who was confined to a wheelchair due to polio. King offered Scales not just a scholarship, but accessibility — the president hired football players to carry Scales up and down stairs all over the campus. King recognized the physical limitations on college campuses, and saw opportunity to make KSTC a uniquely accessible institution. On a small campus, King foresaw big changes, Stephens said, not just for physical access to higher education but also access for students from different ethnic backgrounds. The vision carried over into later university administrations, such as President John Visser, who saw the impact it made.

The vision carried over to the students. Scales (BSE 1959, MS 1962) was active in disability issues as a student, then he became ESU’s coordinator of rehabilitation services, and eventually became the director of disability services at the University of Maryland in College Park. (Attempts to reach him were unsuccessful.) Stephens also noted that the late Howard Moses (BGS 1979) lobbied the Kansas governor for extra accessibility funding at KSTC, and then worked in disability services for the Carter administration. And William Greene, Jr. (BSB 1970, MS 1971) was named an ESU Distinguished Alumnus in 2005 for his founding of New Life, Inc., which provides sports programs, peer counseling and coaching in the Wheelchair Sports USA races. Greene received the Humanitarian Certificate from President Richard Nixon and was inducted into the Wheelchair Sports USA Hall of Fame.

“That was the environment here,” Stephens said. “It was not uncommon to see eight to 12 students in the cafeteria at any one time. In the ’60s, the culture of campus was clearly accessible.”

That’s when wheelchair basketball and football really caught on. The Vigilantes’ five-on-five games after dinner were just the beginning. The sense of belonging in the
group, which included some Vietnam veterans, produced some bold moves. The university asked if they’d consider changing their name, but they said no – jerseys were already printed. They organized the state’s first wheelchair basketball tournament, and successfully petitioned the school for the right to use the athletic bus for an away game at the University of Illinois, Schmidt said.

On campus, they became close to the ESU football and basketball teams. Kinesiology students would carry the heavy electric wheelchairs up staircases in the old gym, and football players would also get in on the football games – although they’d be in wheelchairs. “They were hard on the chairs – they were big boys,” Schmidt said with a laugh. “We usually gave them the chairs that didn’t work very good – the used chairs.”

Schmidt, a native of Buhler, near Hutchinson, came to ESU on his high school counselor’s recommendation. After qualifying academically, he also received tuition support from the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services, as did other students with disabilities, and even roommates assigned to work with the students. Schmidt recalled how eye-opening it was for him, from a small town, to develop close friendships with all the residents of the residence halls’ bottom floors, which were filled by students with mobility impairments.

But it wasn’t all fun and games. The library, for one, was hard to enter and exit. They had to ring a bell and wait outside in the elements until it was opened. “We had some challenges,” Schmidt acknowledged. “Sometimes we used it as an excuse not to show up for class! But there was a lot of support, too. Teachers were always willing to help.” The police helped, too, sometimes driving them back to campus: after a night on the town, electric wheelchairs would run out of juice and couldn’t make the six- or eight-block trek back to campus (through the back alleys, which were smoother than the intersections on Commercial Street).

Breezing through past editions of the alumni magazine and the yearbook, one can find plenty of anecdotes. The 1971 yearbook carries a photo spread of students with mobility impairments ironing, fishing in Wooster Lake and more. It’s titled “Just People,” ostensibly aiming to show the normalcy of their college lives.

Ann Wilgus (MS 1975) was featured in a 1973 edition of the KSTC “Alumni News” for coming to Emporia from Delaware “because a friend told her the college had excellent facilities for handicapped students.” Wilgus found the facilities to be outstanding: “They are far better than I dreamed. At home I’m rather isolated in my apartment in the winter especially. But here I can go anywhere I want. I can even go downtown very easily.”

In 1973, the article says, “KSTC was one of the first colleges or universities in the country to equip its campus for handicapped students. Ramps lead to every building. All buildings are equipped with elevators and the residence halls and academic buildings have restroom facilities. Doors on buildings have been widened and drinking fountains and pencil sharpeners lowered. A student in a wheelchair or on crutches can move over the entire campus under his or her own power without meeting architectural barriers.”

Todd Morando (BFA 1986, MS 1986), featured in the 1985 yearbook as ESU’s only blind student, explained his reasons for choosing ESU in a way that points to another way ESU is accessible – its atmosphere. “I wanted a college small enough to get around but large enough to get lost in,” Morando said in the yearbook. “I liked the way the university treated me. My questions were answered and they gave me lots of cooperation. I also like the atmosphere of the school. It’s like that of a family or small community.”

Student organizations also played a part. In 1985, PUSH (People United for Self Help) was credited with paving the way for several accessibility items on campus – a chair lift in the planetarium, elevators in the library, water fountains and parking spaces, and crosswalks and ramps throughout campus, according to the 1985 yearbook.
Into the 1990s, ESU’s tradition of accessibility was still there. Grady Atwater (BA 2003, MA 2005), who was confined to a wheelchair when he was choosing a college in the late 1990s, toured universities in Kansas and chose ESU – primarily because it was the most accessible campus he visited, he told the Spotlight for a 2007 article.

The work continues today, as accessibility planning is proactively factored into student-faculty relationships and physical construction. “That’s not the case at many universities – it’s often an afterthought,” said Shanti Ramcharan, director of disability services. “When I go to the national conferences, people know the reputation of Emporia State. It comes from a long-standing history. We made this a priority long before any legislation, long before we were required to.”

Two primary pieces of legislation guide university accessibility, Ramcharan said: Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act, which prohibits denying access or services based on disabilities, and Title II of the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which defines physical spaces. ESU’s office of disability services focuses equally on physical and programming aspects, flexibly approaching each student’s needs by looking at the barriers and dismantling them. “There’s no cookie-cutter approach,” Ramcharan said.

Ramcharan has found the university quite responsive. Recently, when a violin-playing student in a wheelchair couldn’t descend into the orchestra pit to play for a theatre production, the facilities department realized that a traditional lift would take up too much space in the pit. So they located a smaller lift designed for a swimming pool that runs on water pressure. Water pipes were installed,
and the student was able to play the violin to accompany the production.

"In some places, they might’ve said, ‘We just can’t do that,’” Ramcharan said. "No one here was going to tell the student no – that was just not an acceptable answer."

Today’s universities also see a greater diversity of disabilities in students – those with learning or psychiatric challenges, or chronic health problems, might not have attended college in years past. But the numbers don’t necessarily bear out – 200 students are registered with ESU’s office, while the national average suggests that 8 percent of ESU students, or 500, have some form of impairment. It’s a good sign, Ramcharan said, that students don’t need as much assistance – they’ve often acclimated well after the first year or two, and when they begin studying in upper-level classes, the academic departments begin offering the necessary accommodations.

But the need for advocacy continues. From the perspective of his wheelchair, Dr. James Costello, an assistant professor in the department of counselor education, says the university shouldn’t rest on its reputation. He sees cracks in the Earl Center parking lot that are perfectly fine to drive over in a car, but they’ll stop his wheelchair in its tracks. In the winter, he sees snow plowed into the corners of parking lots, often where the accessible parking spaces are located. He sees minimal consequences for those who illegally use the accessible spaces.

He also speaks with students who are nervous about raising problems they’re having. He’s seen students who have a learning disability in mathematics struggling with the algebra requirement. They’ll fail the course over and over, without knowing they can provide documentation of the disability and move onto a substituted course, and find themselves left with only the algebra course before graduating. “Most students don’t want to volunteer that they have a learning disability,” Costello said, adding that algebra for someone with a learning disability in math is “like asking someone with a spinal cord injury to run the Boston Marathon – it’s not going to happen.”

Although work remains to be done, the university has a history of adapting. Back in Larry Schmidt’s era, the school adapted as the students found their bold voice. “People looked out for us,” Schmidt said. “We became obvious.” Schmidt said he and his friends got to sign up for classes first, to accommodate the time they needed to move between classes. So they’d get together and five or six guys in wheelchairs would show up for a criminal justice class, much to the professor’s surprise. “It was a process of the campus adapting to us,” Schmidt said. “We showed up and said, ‘Here we are!’”
We can all remember our elementary days as if they were yesterday – when we walked into a place where we felt as much a part of the school as the next child. Everyone knew our name, our art work was hanging in the hall, and the counselor was our best friend when we had a problem. Those were the days, when we walked in each morning and sat at our own familiar pencil-marked desk, next to a friend we made back in kindergarten, and we’d talk until we got in trouble.

Then came middle school, where some aspects changed tremendously but many continued to bring us comfort. Entering high school was a huge leap for us all, with the fear of getting shoved in a locker always in the back of our minds. However, it was typically overshadowed by the opportunities for enjoyment – coming and going at your own free will, the chance to be the star of the basketball team, or being able to eat pizza for lunch every day.

But as it always happens, we come to a point where our life will move on, and the sense of comfort and familiarity you have always known will disappear. The concern of becoming “just a number” and getting lost in the world of a million college students starts crossing the minds of many. Practically everyone goes into a panic as they wonder how they will ever pass a math class with more than 200 people in it.

Then somewhere in the college brochures, one stands out that says “Emporia State University.” It is a college of less than 7,000 students, a place where you know your teachers and they know you, where you find comfort in talking to them about anything. The opportunities to get involved are tremendous, whether you desire a leadership position or a fun organization, or a chance to tryout for a sports team. It is an incredible chance to get involved in many things, while preparing for a brighter future through the experiences of ESU.

Emporia State made my college selection easier than I ever thought it would be. After I came on a visit I could not imagine going anywhere else. Everything is close together, the campus is beautiful, and people are always smiling when you pass them. This place is special to me and has a truly great place in my heart. I will always value the closeness I have with my professors, and I’ll remember all the times they assisted me. I’ll remember the people I’ve met whose friendships will last a lifetime, and I’ll remember the opportunity to be involved and grow with experience.

This university has the best accessibility – the classrooms are small enough that the board can be seen by everyone, and any question you have will get answered. Even the parking situation is better than any other school I have attended. Now with graduation upon me, I realize how ESU excels at giving students a remarkable education, in addition to providing students with a good sense of community. The modest campus is a nice way to keep students “un-stressed.”

But the best part about coming to a smaller university is the relationships that are built while here. You’re not just a name when you attend ESU – for many, teachers become mentors who not only help with class work, but also assist with setting up internships and jobs for the future. When I had a concern or wanted more information about anything I always felt comfortable going to any of my teachers. If they did not know the answers right away, they knew how to find someone who did. The difference here is that people care. Teachers, staff, friends, as well as the entire Emporia community – they all care. And if that’s not enough, keep in mind that you can still eat pizza every day.

Send your stories of ESU accessibility to jtuel@emporia.edu.
Spring athletic highlights

Yet another outstanding year for ESU athletics is in the books. Nine teams finished their seasons in the top 25 nationally: volleyball, women’s basketball, men’s and women’s indoor and outdoor track and field, women’s tennis, softball and baseball. In the 2007-08 school year, the Hornets had three MIAA championship teams and more All-Americans in more sports than any other MIAA school.

Track and field
Senior Jonel Rossbach capped her outstanding career with a national championship in the 5000m to propel the Emporia State women to a 10th-place finish at the NCAA D-II Outdoor Track & Field Championships. Rossbach’s championship was one of seven All-American efforts for ESU at the outdoor meet, as the Hornet men placed 18th.

Rossbach broke her own school record in the 5000m, running a 16:52.28 to earn All-American honors for the seventh time. She’s the first Hornet to win a national championship on the track since Kadri Kelve won the steeplechase in 2003. The ESU women were the top-placing MIAA team at the national meet and it is the first time since 2001 that both programs finished in the top 20 nationally at the outdoor championships. Both programs also finished third at the MIAA outdoor meet. From the indoor championships in March, ESU boasted six All-Americans and a pair of top-25 team finishes.

Softball
The Hornet softball team appeared in the national championship game for the second time in three years. Like their 2006 appearance, the Hornets overcame a loss in the second game of the NCAA D-II tourney to play for the national title, but they fell to Humboldt State, 1-0. Before reaching the national tournament, the Hornets continued their success in the MIAA, winning their fifth-straight MIAA tournament title and becoming the first league team to win the regular season and tournament championships in the same year four straight times.

ESU ended the season 48-17. They’ll lose four seniors – Jessie Wiard, April Huddleston, Samantha Sheeley and Megan Grisell – while returning six of eight position players next season. Meanwhile, Sheeley and Miranda Campbell were recognized as All-Americans by the National Fastpitch Coaches Association, landing spots on the second team. Sheeley pitched 168.2 regular season innings, striking out 229 batters with a 20-6 record, one save and a 1.37 ERA. Campbell hit .409 in the regular season with 45 runs scored, 11 doubles, three triples, 14 home runs and 41 RBI with a .948 fielding percentage at third base.

Baseball
An MIAA-record 35-game winning streak highlighted the baseball season at ESU as catcher Keith Hernandez was named the 2008 National Player of the Year. The incredible winning streak spanned a month and a half, and reached 35 games in dramatic fashion. It took a lead-off home run by Hernandez, in the 10th inning of the second game versus Northwest Missouri State, to secure the 35th win. Meanwhile, Eric Shortell hit six home runs in those two games.

ESU finished the season with a 50-10 record, playing in the NCAA D-II Regional for the fifth straight year until falling 17-14 to Nebraska-Omaha. Coach Bob Fornelli notched his 500th career win while three Hornets earned spots on the Daktronics All-American Team – Hernandez...
as a first-team All-American, with Brian Majors and Shortell on the second team. Hernandez, tapped as the National Player of the Year, finished the season hitting .462 with 18 home runs and 80 RBI. He’s the first Hornet to be named overall Player of the Year since the Hornets joined the NCAA, and in June, he signed a free agent contract with the Detroit Tigers.

Women’s basketball

The storybook career of ESU’s Michelle Stueve came to a close this spring as the #25 Lady Hornets fell to #24 Washburn in the NCAA D-II South Central Regional Championship. The team ended the season with a 23-8 record, advancing to the national Sweet 16 for the third time in the last four years and claiming a share of the MIAA regular season championship.

Stueve was named the 2008 Ken B. Jones Award winner as the top female student-athlete in the MIAA. The Olpe, Kan. native was ranked in the top ten nationally in scoring, three-point field goals percentage and made three-pointers. She was a unanimous selection for MVP of the MIAA. Stueve ended her career as the leading scorer in MIAA and ESU history with 2,403 points. She is the ESU career record holder in scoring, made three pointers, free throws made and free throw percentage. She ranks second all time in Lady Hornet career rebounding and field goals made, is tenth in blocked shots and 11th in steals.

She is the only Lady Hornet to finish her career with 2,000 points and 1,000 rebounds, ending with 1,040 boards in 127 games.

In her career, the Lady Hornets went 100-27 with three trips to the Sweet 16, an Elite Eight appearance and an MIAA regular season championship. An excellent student off the court, Stueve was a second-team ESPN The Magazine Academic All-American this year and has been on the MIAA Commissioner’s Academic Honor Roll every year she has been eligible.

Men’s basketball

The ESU men became the first #8 seed to play in the MIAA tournament championship game as they made a late-season push against the league’s top teams. In round one, they upset the #1-seed Southwest Baptist Bearcats with 16 3-pointers, becoming the first #8 seed to win a tourney game since 1996. In round two, they beat Fort Hays State, and then fell to #2-seed Northwest Missouri, 57-51, in the championship.

DeAndre Townsend was named to the Daktronics All-South Central Region Second Team, ending his Hornet career as a member of the 1,000 point club and becoming the first player in the MIAA to lead the league in points and assists since the league started tracking statistics. Meanwhile, Wes Book and Caleb Tegtmeier were named to the MIAA Men’s Basketball Commissioners Academic Honor Roll. Book finished his career as a member of the 1,000 points club and averaged 14.5 points and 5.3 rebounds while Tegtmeier finished the season first in the MIAA in three-point percentage.

Tennis

Both ESU tennis teams advanced to the NCAA tournament for the second straight year, while Natalie Villaflor and Julian Rios swept the North Central Region Senior Player of the Year Awards as presented by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA). As a team, the women have advanced to the sub-regional final in each of the last four years.

Villaflor was a unanimous first-team All-MIAA selection at #2 singles as well as #1 doubles with senior partner Marcela Bayon. She finished with a mark of 16-2 in singles action this season and was 17-2 with Bayon at #1 doubles. Rios finished 14-2 in singles this past season, going 9-1 at the #1 position and 3-1 in MIAA action. He was 8-8 in doubles using four different partners during the 2008 campaign. Freshman Amanda Morris also picked up the women’s MIAA Freshman of the Year award. was 14-3 at #3 singles this season for the Lady Hornets, and teamed with senior Audrey Sherman to go 14-3 overall with a 13-3 mark at #3 doubles.
2000s

Patricia "Patty" Smith (BA '72, MS '78), Emporia, retired from teaching English after 34 years at Astra Bank.

Elizabeth "Zi" Sharp (BA '72), Fort Collins, Colo., retired in December 2007 after 34 years of teaching in the Muncie community schools. Jalayn (Schafer) Stieben (BSE '70), McPherson, is a new 3rd grade teacher at Elyria Christian School. Michael Manning (BA '71), Paradise Valley, Ariz., was recognized by the National Law Journal as one of the "100 Most Influential Lawyers in America." Dough Patry (BSE '71), Wichita, retired after nine years as Wellington postmaster. Candace (Terrill) Richard (BSE '71), Turpin, Okla., was named Elementary Music Educator of the Year by Southwest Kansas Music Educators Association. Doris (Alexander) Santee (BSE '71), Anthony, was hired to teach family and consumer science at Chaparral High School.

Lawrence Williams (MS '71), Emporia, has been hired as a math/computer science/economics teacher at ESU. Carol Wohlford (MLS '71), Wichita, was awarded a certification of Kansas Certified Public Library Administrators. Terry Collins (BSE '72), Washena, is the new director of special education services for the Doniphan County school districts. Pam (Powell) DePriest (BSE '72), Derby, is the new Title I/reading specialist at Mulvane Grade School.

Carole (Persin) Ferguson (BSE '72, MA '84), McPherson, is teaching 6th and 12th-grade English at Marion High School after teaching for 31 years in McPherson. Glenda (Barrett) Priest (BSE '72), Emporia, is the 2008 Emporia Master Teacher. John Wilson (BSE '72), Sedan, is now a business instructor at Elk Valley School. Judy (Martin) Anderson (BS '73, MBA '90), Manhattan, became the director of human relations for ESU. Judy (Crumb) Ball (BA '73, MS '75), Emporia, is now a part-time psychology and special education teacher at ESU.

Larry Heilman (BSB '73), Topeka, was featured by the Kansas Small Business Development Center as an "Extraordinary Entrepreneur."
Development Center for the 2007 Existing Business of the Year, Smith Audio Visual, Inc. Larry Knopp (BSE ‘73), Laramie, Wyo., is the President and CEO of UniWyo Federal Credit Union and the 2007 Credit Union Professional of the Year.

Roger Larson (BSE ‘73), Elsmost, a teacher for six years and counselor for 28 years, accepted a position at Marramont Valley High School. William Martin (BA ‘73), Harlingen, Texas, is now the President/CEO of the Development Corporation of Harlingen. Bill Mullins (BSE ‘73, MS ‘79), La Cygne, a teacher for 27 years, is now a math teacher at Marion High School. Irma Piper (BSE ‘73, MLS ‘81), Marion, became the new library media specialist at Marion Elementary School and Marion High School. Jim Piper (BSE ‘73, MS ‘75), Marion, accepted a position as principal of Marion High School. Nancy (Ward) Ward (BSE ’73), Las Vegas, Nev., retired after 34 years in education. Bert Wilson (BA ‘73), Topeka, retired in March after 50 years as a wildlife manager and environmental scientist. Steve Wilson (BSE ‘73), Derby, is an inter-related special education teacher at Mulvane Middle School.

Karen (Werner) Carlson (BSE ’74), McPherson, was promoted to customer service representative at Farmer’s Alliance. Susan (Shannon) Carlson (BS ‘74, MLS ‘89), Lincolnhville, is the new librarian at Centre High School.

Douglas Forsythe (BSE ’74), Fort Worth, Texas, with 25 years at AT&T, is an area manager and leader of the public safety solutions team. John Harclerode (BSE ’74, MS ’79), Emporia, was selected for Kansas Teachers’ Hall of Fame. Charles “Chuck” Wood (BS ‘74, MS ’75), Westphalia, is the new school psychologist for Burlington Elementary School and Lebo-Waverly USD 243.

Ronald Wynn (BSE ‘74, MS ’77), Winthrop Harbor, Ill., was hired as District 159 superintendent. Joe Markley (BME ’75) and Sheila Markley (MS ’76), Chapman, are retiring in May 2008 after teaching vocal music at Chapman High School since 1980. Teresa (Haggard) Stracke (BSE ’75), retired as the 3rd and 4th grade teacher at Edwardsville Elementary School after 32 years of teaching. Mark Witten (BSE ’75), Tucson, Ariz., led a seminar at ESU about biosensors and using technology to detect terrorist activity.

Darrell Conrado (BS ’76), North Newton, owns Conrado Insurance Group, and serves on the Newton Medical Center Board and the Newton USD 373 board of education. Janet (Hanson) Dodson (BSE ’76), Crete, Neb., was appointed vice president of policy, research and education by the National Student Loan Program. Jacqueline (Hibbs) Fursman (BSE ’76, MS ’82), Garnett, now teaches first grade at Prairie Creek Elementary School. Kenna (Pearson) Reeves (BSE ’76, MS ’88), Emporia, was named a 2008 Kansas Master Teacher. Vicki (West) Johnson (BS ’76), McLouth, has been promoted to chief counselor at KDOT after 24 years there. Jim Blackburn (BSE ’77), Topeka, was named vice president of administration and controller at Sun Graphics.

Julie (Layher) Davis (BSE ’77, MS ’96), Elkhart, teaches special education at Elkhart Middle School. James Fisher (MS ’77), Liburn, Ga., is the Enslow Press Presbyterian Church interim pastor. Jay Fowler (BS ’77), Wichita, was recognized by The Best Lawyers in America for his work in Foulston Siefkin’s Wichita office. Sue (Meyers) Givens (BSE ’77), El Dorado, is the superintendent of USD 490 and received the Distinguished Service Award from the United School Administrators of Kansas. Bryan Griggs (BSE ’77), Inman, teaches at the Canadian-American Language School in Hsinchu City, Taiwan. Kelvin Heitmann (BSE ’77), Satanta, is the new pastor at Satanta United Methodist Church.

Adamma Ibeawuchi (BSE ’77), Sebring, Fla., established a school, library and medical clinic in Nigeria. Milton H. Siegele, Jr. (BA ’77), Colleyville, Texas, spent two weeks in India on a church mission trip. Rick Tyler (MA ’77), McPherson, had 30 years of professional artwork displayed at McPherson College, where he is a professor. Belinda Vail, M.D., (MS ’77), Prairie Village, a clinical associate professor, vice chair and faculty residency director for the family medicine department at the University of Kansas School of Medicine, was awarded the Ruth Bohan Teaching Professorship. Annette (Nunemaker) Wood (MS ’77), Wichita, held a book signing in September for A Different Kind of Kin: For Relatives of Persons With Autism, inspired by her sister.

Lynn Clark (BSB ’78), Newton, is the new store manager of Orscheln Farm & Home. Bruce Givens (BSE ’78, MS ’84), El Dorado, is the Derby Public Schools special education director, and for 17 years the South Central Kansas Special Education Cooperative director.

Richard Nienstedt (BS ’78), Ottawa, was named Ottawa’s city manager after being Fort Scott’s city manager since 1993. Nancy (Benett) Rush (MS ’78), Neosho, Mo., is retiring from Neosho Middle School, where she was a principal for 13 years. Julie (Lohmeyer) Augustyn (BSE ’79), Burlington, joins the Burlington schools as a physical education teacher, a para-educator, and a volleyball and track coach. Roy Hoffman (BFA ’79), Coldwater, was named Coldwater’s 2007 Citizen of the Year. David Kehres (BS ’79), Opie, is the principal at Kapaun Mount Carmel Catholic High School in Wichita. Brig. Gen. Kevin Leonard (BS ’79), Fort Bragg, N.C., is serving the United States in Southwest Asia. Janet (Steiner) Kife (BSE ’79), Castle Rock, Colo., graduated from UNC and is a registered nurse at Craig Hospital on the spinal cord injury and traumatic brain injury rehab floor.

Randy Scott (BSE ’79), Los Altos, Calif., is co-founder and chief executive of Genomic Health, and is pursuing advanced diagnostic testing for individualized cancer treatment. Carol Spiker (BSE ’79), Topeka, was honored as a guest speaker for Norwich’s 3rd annual SADD assembly. Larry Stockebrand (BSE ’79), Yates Center, is a K-8 physical education instructor at Yates Center Elementary School and was awarded the Woodson County School District #336 Employee of the Month in October 2007.

1980s

Col. Guy Beougher (BSB ’80), McLean, Va., (MNF-1, DCS R&S) is serving on active duty in Iraq. Duane Iweth (BA ’80), Emporia, recently took a position with building services at ESU. Clark Jacobs (MS ’80), Hutchinson, has been named the 2007 Fall Employee of the Semester for his work as director of business and industry training at Hutchinson Community College. Dr. Andrea (Kapel) Loewy (MS ’80), Lafayette, La., was a flutist in a duo concert at the Unitarian Universalist of the Shenandoah Valley. Annette (Packerbush) Mathias, Partridge, is the new first-grade teacher in Partridge.

Peg (Marstall) Schultz (BS ’80), Topeka, joined FHLBank in October as a market risk analyst. Joyce Thierer (MS ’80, MS ’86), Atchison, presented Calamity Jane in a first-person portrayal at the Leavenworth County Conservation District’s 59th annual meeting. Col. Dave Thompson (BSB ’80), Killeen, Texas, is an inspector general serving on active duty in Iraq. Steve Traylor (BSE ’80), Denver, Colo., is the fine arts recruiter and director of bands for Central Wyoming College.

Jerry Albert (BSB ’81), Overland Park, recently opened Paddy O’Quigley’s Crossroads in downtown Kansas City. Cheri (Mantooth) Dohrmann (BSB ’81), Medicine Lodge, is a teacher at Medicine Lodge High School and was awarded the Secondary Teacher of the Year Award for 2007. Bob Lamb (MA ’81), Bronson, is the new Spanish teacher at Labette County High School. Brian Merriman (BFA ’81, MA ’83), Shawnee Mission, held an exhibition titled “Pictures” at Bill Krzyzanowski Photography. Alan Sill (BS ’81), Liberal, was appointed chief of police in Liberal. Sue Vossler (MLS ’81), Lawrence, was presented with the Legacy Award by the Lawrence Education Association and the KU Credit
Union. Tim Weiser (BS ‘81, MS ‘82), Manhattan, was named the Big 12 Conference deputy commissioner. John Thomas “Jay” Wieland (BS ’81), Paola, was selected as Paola’s new city manager. Jeanne (Baker) Dexter (MBA ’82), Lynn Haven, Fla., received a university-wide advising award at Florida State University. Janece English (BSB ‘82, MS ‘84), El Dorado, received the Leadership Butler Ambassador Award for 2007. Timothy Trent (BSE ‘82), Globe, Ariz., was named the ASA 2008 Superintendent of the Year. Janet Anders (BSE ’83), McKinney, Texas, has been named as the new principal of Robert L. Puster Elementary in the Lovejoy Independent School District. Jerri Kemble (BSE ’83, MS ’98, MS ’02), Herington, is the new superintendent and K-4 principal for the Centre School district. Chris Merritt (BSB ’83), Great Bend, was promoted to PSA III, Business Manager at Hutchinson Correctional Facility. Barb (Haseluhn) Sandford (BSE ’83), Lincoln, Neb., is the managing editor of the Gallup Management Journal. Mike Walkup (BME ’83), Bella Vista, Ark., received the Bentonville/Bella Vista Chamber of Commerce’s Teacher of the Year Award. Darren Wicks (BSB ’83), Hutchinson, is a financial adviser with Edward Jones and chairman of the Hutchinson/Reno County Chamber of Commerce. Tim Anders (BS ’84), McKinney, Texas, has been named the area manager at the AT&T Lightspeed Center in Irving, Texas. Jane (Smith) Black (BA ’84), Austin, Texas, is the new general counsel for the Texas Department of Savings and Mortgage Lending. Kirk Young (BS ’93), Shawnee Mission, presented “From Ties to Tattoos,” a workshop on age-specific hiring and retention strategies for employers. Vickie (Clark) Deere (MS ’84), Emporia, retired from her position as a custodial manager in residential life after 20 years at ESU. Debbie (Yager) Larkin (BSE ’84), Medicine Lodge, is a first-grade teacher at Medicine Lodge Grade School and was chosen as the district’s Master Teacher. Tim Weis (BSE ’84, MS ’86), Fontana, is the high school principal for the Prairie View district. Wendy Williamson (BSE ’84), Wichita, is a senior personal trainer for Genesis Health Clubs and Williamson Fitness Consulting and received a Ph.D. in exercise science. Eloise (Stone) Williams (MS ’85), Council Grove, teaches math, computer sciences and economics part-time at ESU. Steven Younger (BSB ’85, MBA ’92), Emporia, is the new program coordinator for the Center for Business and Economic Development in ESU’s School of Business. Mark Dolsky (BSE ’86), Wichita, was promoted to vice president of group sales and marketing of Blue Cross and Blue Shield.

1990s

Scott Carter (BSE ’90, MS ’96), Kingman, accepted a position as superintendent for USD 331. Dr. Amy (Langdon) Mueting (BSE ’90), Axtell, is teaching special education grades 7-12 at Valley Heights USD 494. Kevin Saunders (BSE ’90), Atlanta, Ga., is the Southeast region sales manager for Victory Packaged Foods. Rich Trease (BSB ’90), Derby, was honored by the Wichita Business Journal’s “40 Under 40” for his work as vice-president of business development at GE Capital Public Finance. Donna Wolf (BS ’90), Burlington, joined the internal audit department at FHLBank in September 2007 as auditor III. Elaine (Mayes) Alexander (BSE ’91), Longton, is the new second-grade teacher at Elk Valley Elementary School. Joel Figs (BS ’91, MS ’93), Concordia, was hired as dean of enrollment management at Cloud County Community College. Shannon Haydock (BSB ’91), Derby, KS, is the new assistant principal at Rose Hill High School. Susan Thacker (BS ’91, Great Bend, was appointed Kansas director of the Poker Players Alliance. Lt. Col. Laura (May) Trinkle (BSE ’91), Dupont, Wash., was promoted to lieutenant colonel and assigned as the executive officer for the Western Region Medical Command and Madigan Army Medical Center. Ginger Butler (MS ’92), Larned, is a special education teacher at Larned Middle School. Alain-Philippe Durand (BA ’92, BA ’92), Providence, R.I., head of French and Francophone studies at the University of Rhode Island, was awarded the Palmes Académiques in the rank of Knight by the French government. Donald Gilstrap (BA ’92, BA ’92, MLS ’94, MA ’95), Norman, Okla., is the associate dean of libraries at the University of Oklahoma. Cecilia Gunn (BSE ’92, BSE ’92), Butler, Mo., is the new gifted facilitator of USD 344. Jodi (Clay) Grover (BSE ’92, MS ’94), Iola, is the new counselor at Iola High School. Kristy (Anderes) Pauls (BS ’92, MS ’94) is the office administrator of Pauls Productions, Inc., a construction company she started with husband Eric Pauls (FS). Laurie (Hebison) Ryan (BSE ’92, BSE ’92, MA ’95), Wichita, teaches 9th- and 11th-grade English, oral communication, and forensics and drama at Lyndon USD 421. Lesley (Miller) Sanchez (BSE ’92, MS ’95, EDS ’96), Hiawatha, is now the program manager of the Valley Community Residence Program, a residential living environment for mental health recovery. Trudy (Mohr) Tilton (BSE ’92), DeSoto, is the new kindergarten teacher at Spring Hill Elementary School. Carla (Brubaker) Warner (BSE ’92), Halstead, was featured with her family in the Halstead newspaper in an article about the ties between cooking and family. Ellen (Bowermaster) Welch (MLS ’92), Paola, teaches 7th-grade communications at Paola Middle School. Jennifer (Pettijohn) Young (BSE ’92), Westphalia, is a math teacher at Central Heights Middle School and High School. Mark Higgins (BSE ’92), Wichita, is the new vice president and wealth management consultant at the Commerce Trust Company. Amber (Ely) Casement (BSB ’93), Wichita, was honored by the Wichita Business Journal’s “40 Under 40” for her work as a controller at J.Enterprises, Inc. Dr. Charles Huffman (MS ’93) and Mary LuJean “Ru” Huffman (MLS ’93), Americus, Ga., are both faculty members at Georgia Southwestern State University.
The 2008 class of Distinguished Alumni is now being notified of their awards. Please check www.emporia.edu/saf/awards/disalum.html in the coming weeks for the announcement, and then **join us during Homecoming on Oct. 24** to celebrate Distinguished Alumni, University Service Citation, and Outstanding Recent Graduate recipients.

### University Service Citation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Institution</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Roger Heineken</strong></td>
<td>Emporia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BFA 1978, Art,</td>
<td>Emporia State University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gilbert Rodriguez</strong></td>
<td>Emporia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dr. Harry Stephens</strong></td>
<td>Emporia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA 1965, Biology, and MS 1972, Counselor Education, Emporia State University</td>
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### Outstanding Recent Graduates

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Institution</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Jared Larson</strong></td>
<td>College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Annville, Penn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSE 2001, MS 2004,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Jeremy Luby</strong></td>
<td>School of Business Overland Park, Kan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSB 2003, MBA 2004</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Todd Wheat</strong></td>
<td>Teachers College Olathe, Kan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSE 2001, MS 2004</td>
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**Go online to** www.emporia.edu/saf/awards/ and follow the links to find biographies of each winner!

### Searching for the best

They are all around you, those brilliant people who make everything they touch turn to gold. Honor them with a nomination for an ESU award or board position. For more information, visit www.emporia.edu/saf/awards/. Nomination deadlines are:

*Aug. 10 – **Hornet Heritage Award*** for multigenerational families of Hornet alumni

Feb. 15 – University Service Citation Award

Dec. 1 – Alumni Association board

Feb. 15 – Distinguished Alumni

Aug. 1 – Foundation Board of Trustees
University. Michael Rose (BS ’93, BS ’93), Salina, joined the consulting team at T&C Manufacturing and Operating, Inc. Jackie (Chaney) Scott (BSB ’93, MS ’99), Emporia, retired as director of human resources at ESU. Tami (Hoogendoorn) Shields (BSB ’93), Overland Park, is an at-risk teacher at Spring Hill Middle School. Wendy Wawrowski (BS ’93), Garnett, is teaching 6th-grade social studies and 8th-grade American history at Royster Middle School. Traci (Rogers) Fraizer (BSE ’94, MS ’00), Holton, is now a counselor with the Holton School District for grades K-2 and 9-12. Linda (Becker) Wille (BSE ’93), Piqua, is now teaching special education at Marramont Valley Elementary School after 10 years at Iola High School. Beth Elder (MSL ’94), Denver, Colo., is the new director of Salt Lake City (MLS ’94), Denver, Colo., is the new director of the Holton School District for grades K-2 and 9-12. the Holton School District for grades K-2 and 9-12. Joni (Reinert) Mahieu (MLS ’94), Minneola, presently serves on the board of editors of the Journal of the Kansas Bar Association as president-elect of the solo and small firm committee. Marcilyn Martinez (BS ’94), Salina, was hired by Kennedy and Coe, Certified Public Accountants and Consultants, as a tax research accountant. Cindee Parsons (BSE ’94), Inman, is a new teacher at Lincoln Elementary School. Rebecca (Barber) Troyer (BSB ’94), Reading, retired as an applications developer for ESU’s technology and computing services. Angela (Kneisel) Dawdy (BSE ’95), Manhattan, achieved certification as a real estate appraiser. Lori (Grilliot) Green (BSE ’95), Moundridge, is a new teacher at Moundridge Middle School. Rudy Ortiz (MS ’95), San Diego, Calif., is now the assistant dean of academic advising at the University of California. Marcellus Stiede (BS ’94), Fresno, Texas, taught English in Taiwan with his wife and is now an operations manager for Dollar/Thifty Automotive in Houston, Texas. Angela Swihart (MS ’95), Emporia, joins the staff at Olpe High School and Hartford High School as an English teacher. Tristen (Scheve) Wendland (BS ’95, MS ’00), Colorado Springs, Colo., is the National Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor of the year for the Department of Veterans Affairs. Joyce “Jody” Young (BSE ’93), Gridley, joins the staff at Southern Coffey Country Middle School as an English teacher. Nikki Barnes (BSB ’96), Emporia, is the Banner administrator for ESU’s technology and computer services department and was chosen for the You Make A Difference Award. Warren Bleeker (BA ’96), Altadena, Calif., joined the law firm Christie, Parker & Hale LLP. Ryan Entz (BSB ’96), Newton, was honored by the Wichita Business Journal’s “40 Under 40” for his work as director of marketing and communications for the Wichita Metro Chamber of Commerce. Richard Fergola (BSE ’96, BSE ’04), Mason City, Iowa, former ESU wrestler, is the head coach of the North Iowa Area Community College wrestling team. Sandra Gasca (MS ’96), Wichita, was honored by the Wichita Business Journal’s “40 Under 40” for her work as chief program officer for Youthville. Donna (Siebuhrl) Hanson (AS ’96, BSB ’01), Emporia, was hired as an administrative officer in ESU’s financial aid office. Kista (Haas) Holt (BSB ’96), Larned, is the 3rd-grade teacher at Northside School. Christine Koch (BSB ’96), Overland Park, is now the lead banking and financial services recruiter at Stephen James Associates. Gretchen Oldham (BSE ’96), Hiawatha, is the Hiawatha Elementary kindergarten teacher. Dan Owens (MS ’96), Haven, is the new coordinator for the Male Involvement Network of Reno County. Rhonda (Kueser) Prothe (BSE ’96, MS ’04), Osawatomie, is a Paola Middle School counselor. Jamie (Lynn) Stiede (BSE ’96), Fresno, Texas, taught English in Taiwan and is now the Sylvan Learning Center director of education in Stafford, Texas. Tammy (Kelley) White (BSE ’96), Waverly, joins the staff at Waverly Grade School as a 4th-grade teacher. Alane Ecord (BSE ’97), Pomon, is a third- and fourth-grade teacher at Appanoose Elementary School. Travis Linnemann (BS ’97), Manhattan, won a best in competition award sponsored by the Midwestern Criminal Justice Association for a paper on racial threat. Tracie Massey-Howell (BSB ’97), Lawrence, is the new director of the Roger Hill Volunteer Center for the United Way of Douglas County. Jessica (Elliott) Arndt (BSE ’98, MS ’07), Junction City, is an early interventionist for Geary County Infant Toddler Services. Mary Delgado (BSE ’98), Emporia, is a teacher at the Center for Early Childhood Education at ESU. Marc Grout (FS ’98), Galva, is the new head principal of Goessel Junior-Senior High School. Rick Massey (BS ’98), Topeka, has accepted a position with the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Mohammed Nashatzadeh, M.D., (BS ’98), Houston, Texas, is working to complete a special medical fellowship at the Parkinson’s Disease Center and Movement Disorder Clinic for Baylor College of Medicine’s department of neurology. Stana (Bittel) Jefferson (BS ’98), Augusta, is the coach for the Andover High School girls’ basketball team; the team is top-ranked and undefeated. Eric Schultz (BS ’98, BSB ’00), Westmont, Ill., works at McMaster-Carr as a distribution specialist. Randall Stephens (MA ’98), QuinCY, Mass., recently published The Fire Spreads: Holiness and Pentecostalism in the American South. Shelley (Tinder) Wichman (BSE ’98, BSE ’98), Topeka, now teaches physical science, chemistry and physics at Rossville High School. Kimberly (Young) Becker (MS ’99), Wichita, is a director of pediatric services at HeartSpring. Brad Crusinbery (BSB ’99, MS ’04), Morgan, is the principal at Jefferson Elementary School. Heidi (Hillyer) Diller (BME ’99), Hiawatha, is the vocal music instructor for Hiawatha Elementary School. Katrina (Feldhausen) Gros (BSE ’99), Frankfort, is the preschool director for Valley Heights Kinder-Prep/Preschool. Jill (Beck) Hammond (BSB ’99, MBA ’01), Kansas City, Mo., has been promoted to a managerial position at BKD, LLP. Sharon (W e i m e r s ) Huband (BS ’99), Washington, has started the Cheeleader University program for grade-school girls. Kelcee (Tidwell) Roberts (BSB ’99), Emporia, is a business teacher for Augusta Public Schools. Bryon Sturm (BSB ’99), Emporia, is a math teacher at Augusta Public Schools. Amy (Sullivan) Vore (BSB ’99, MS ’05), Douglas, is teaching early childhood special education at Munson Primary School. Amy (Lowe) Wright (BSB ’99), Humen, Mo., is the school and junior high counselor and National Honor Society sponsor for USD 344.

2000s

Jenner Almond (BSE ’00), Lenexa, is an art teacher at Spring Hill High School. Michael Burton (BSB ’00, MBA ’07), Olathe, is a teacher in the Blue Valley School District. Ben Coltrane (BSB ’00), Emporia, is the principal at Walnut Elementary School. Kristie (Gregory) Heger (BSE ’00), Paola, is a first-grade teacher at Cottonwood Elementary School. Lisa (Blaufuss) Hesse (BSE ’00, MBA ’01), Topeka, is working for Federico Consulting. Dr. Melissa (SUCHY) Herrman (BS ’00), Council Grove, is a physician at Chase County Family Health Center in Cottonwood Falls. Ray Kallaher (BS ’00, BS ’00), Blackshear, Va., completed his Ph.D. at Florida State University in 2007. Heather (Costin) Newton (BSE ’00), Neodesha, is teaching preschool for USD 461. Jennifer Page (BSE ’00, BSE ’00, MS ’04), Rose Hill, is a physical education and health teacher at Paola High School. David
Peavler (BA '00, MA '03), Lawrence, will teach at Towson University in Baltimore, Md., after earning his Ph.D. in history at the University of Kansas.

Cynthia Price (BA '00), Topeka, has joined the Kansas Insurance Department as a publications writer. Ben Ronning (BSB '00), Great Bend, has qualified for Waddell & Reed’s annual Circle of Champions conference. Kendra (Lee) Stoppel (BSE '00) is a sixth-grade English teacher at Scott City Middle School, after seven years teaching in Holcomb.

Angela (Hess) Tauer (BSE '00), Olathe, is a fifth-grade teacher at Spring Hill Intermediate School. Patrick Schroeder (BSE '00, BSE '00), Minneola, is the principal of Minneola Elementary and Junior High School. Becky (Boone) Barngrover (BSE '01), Topeka, is a preschool teacher at Burlingame. Andrea (Taur) Baldwin (MA '01), Emporia, is a public service administrator in ESU’s registration office. Rev. Steven Baxter (BS '01), Live Oak, Fla., earned a master of metaphysical science degree from the University of Metaphysics. Abbie (Martin) Collins (BSE '01), Yates Center, is a kindergarten teacher at Jefferson Elementary School.

Alison “Ali” (Lawrence) Geitz (BSE '01), Emporia, is the special education teacher at Marais de Cygnes Valley Middle School. Debra (Peters) Lawson (BSE '01), Spring Hill, is a special education teacher at Spring Hill Intermediate School.

Veronica McAsey (BA '01, MA '03, MLS '04), Winfield, is the director of the Memorial Library at Southwestern College. Joshua Morris (BFA '01), Salina, is the new curator of Smoky Hill Museum. Julie Vestal (BSE '01), Caney, is the art teacher at Caney Valley Junior-Senior High School. Todd Wheat (BSE '01, MS '04), Olathe, is the principal at Northview Elementary School.

Darcie (Phillips) Wooge (BSE '01), Burlington, is the special education teacher at Spring Hill Elementary School.

Jamie (Winegar) Anderson (BSE '02), Paola, is the kindergarten teacher at Cottonwood Elementary School.

Scott Camien (BS '02, BSE '02), Iola, was hired as the assistant baseball coach for Cowley College. Andy Cook (BS '02), Osawatomie, and Kevin Cook (FS), teamed up to open their own chiropractic clinic, Cook Chiropractic. Adrienne (McDaniel) Foltz (MS '02), Syracuse, is the new principal of Jackson Heights Elementary School. Rick Horton (BSE '02), BSE '02), Iola, is the head football coach and physical education instructor at Iola High School.

Mark James (BS '02, MS '06), Council Grove, is on the women’s basketball coaching staff at Independence Community College. Lori Johnson (BSE '02, MS '07), Hutchinson, is an early childhood teacher at Buhiher Grade School. Joel Naaf (BSE '02), Marysville, is the academy coordinator for Marysville Junior High School and Marysville High School. Jalayne (Gleue) Nelson (BSE '02), Parker, is a first-grade teacher at La Cygne Elementary School. Dr. Casey McKeown (BS '02), Fairview, is the newest addition at Newport Chiropractic as an associate doctor. Katrina Penner (BSE '02, BSE '02), Wichita, is the math teacher at Conway Springs High School. Kaniel (Potter) Rawie (MS '02), DeSoto, was named 2007 Outstanding Young Educator of the Year by the Rotary Club of Johnson County.

Lindsay (Krom) Schulte (BSE '02), Eskridge, is a kindergarten teacher at Burlingame. Katy Sullivan (BSE '02), Lakin, is a language arts teacher at St. Marys Junior/Senior High School. Stephanie Vincent (BSE '02), McPherson, is an early childhood teacher at McPherson USD 418. Benjamin Watkins (BFA '02), Feorlia, Ill., was featured in a gallery for his ceramic artwork. Greg Watt (BFA '02), Kansas City, with a Kansas State University master’s degree and a University of Tulsa law degree, is now a prosecutor in the Jackson County, Mo. prosecutor’s office. Crystal Acker (BSN '03), St. Mary’s, is a lecturer for the School of Nursing at Washburn University.

Tammy Beckwith (BSE '03, MS '07), Caney, is the new school nurse.
counselor for Field Kindley High School in Coffeyville. Dana (Drake) Ellis (BSE ’03), Topeka, is a second-grade teacher at Burlingame Elementary School. Nicodemus Fraenza (BSE ’03, BSE ’03), Mayetta, is teaching earth science, biology, chemistry and physics at Waverly High School. Cristina (Havvy) Grimwood (BSE ’03, MS ’07), Emporia, is a first-grade teacher at Americus Elementary School. Maria Gunselman (BSE ’03, BME ’07), Lawrence, is now the vocal and instrumental teacher for grades K-12 at the Moran schools. Dustin Hardison (BFA ’03), Topeka, formerly the director of public policy at the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services, is now running for a seat in the Kansas House of Representatives. Matthew Jones (BA ’03), Costa Mesa, is a professional speaker and author of two books. Rachel (Yurko) Keim (BSE ’03), Burlington, is teaching special education at Burlington High School. Brett Misse (MS ’05), Gardner, is a counselor at Paola High School. Rochelle Rey (BSE ’03), Derby, is a second-grade teacher at Munson Primary. Heather (Kuhn) Swanson (BSE ’03), Derby, is teaching first grade at Munson Elementary School. Elizabeth Agin-Wilson (MS ’05), Oak Ridge, Tenn., presented her findings on locating unmarked graves using geophysical technology at an international conference. Callie (Greenwood) Bartelson (BSE ’04), Mayfield, is teaching English at Conway Springs High School as well as helping coach the girls’ volleyball team. Kristen Boyes (BSE ’04), Belpre, is a physical education and health teacher at Americus Elementary School. Dustin Buell (BFA ’04), Augusta, is the public relations coordinator for Youthville in Wichita. Michael Crouch (BIS ’04), Emporia, is now a development officer of special projects at the ESU Foundation. Brian Ferrell (BIS ’04), Oklahoma City, Okla., is the owner of factor 110, an event solution, communications and destination management company. Lisa Gutierrez (BA ’04), Emporia, was hired as an administrative assistant in ESU’s registration office. Danny Lundberg (BSE ’04), Walton, is a physical education teacher, head tennis coach, and assistant boys’ basketball coach at Hillsboro High School. Alycia Ruff (BSE ’04), Salina, received the Horizon Award as an eighth-grade English teacher and assistant coach for the volleyball and basketball teams at Southeast Saline. Derrick Richling (BSE ’04, MS ’06), Newton, is a fourth-grade teacher at Walton 21st Century Rural Life Elementary and was a 2008 Horizon Award recipient. Daniel Wooge (MM ’04), Burlington, is an instrumental music teacher at Burlington Middle and High Schools. Jon Quanstrom (BSN ’04), Emporia, is a nurse at Newman Regional Health and at Stormont-Vail Health Center. Jennifer (Hoffman) Whitchair (BSE ’04), De Soto, is an early childhood teacher at Spring Hill Elementary School. Jill Augustyn (BSE ’05), Cheney, is a seventh- and eighth-grade social studies teacher at Cheney Middle School and a 2008 Horizon Award recipient. Karen (Adams) Bitler (BSE ’05), Eureka, is teaching high school math at Eureka Junior-Senior High School. Jeff Bucher (BSB ’05, MBA ’07), Sidney, Neb., is a new internal audit specialist for Cabela’s. Elizabeth Engelenk (BSE ’05), Wichita, will be teaching sixth-grade reading and social studies at Rose Hill. John Harms (BS ’05), Burden, recently took a position as a pastor at the First Baptist Church in Burden. Jeff Haslett (MS ’05), Hillsboro, is teaching physical education and driver’s education and coaching football and basketball for the Hillsboro schools. Deedra (O’Connor) Howard (BSE ’05), Fort Scott, joined the staff at Sunflower Elementary in Paola as the special education teacher. Tera (Trotter) Hylton (BS ’05, BSE ’07), is teaching civics and sociology at Paola High School. Ryan Martin (BS ’05, MS ’07), Ulysses, is the sports director for the Grant County Recreation Commission. Samantha McVey (BSE ’05), Lamar, is a third-grade teacher at Burlington Elementary School. Julie (Cromwell) Oakley (BSE ’05), Louisburg, is a fifth-grade teacher at Sunflower Elementary School in Paola. Sarah Phillips (BFA ’05), Lenexa, is now with the Kansas University Endowment Association as the assistant director of annual giving. Mikhailnet Tennon (BS ’05), Centralia, is now the assistant women’s basketball coach at Southeastern Louisiana University. Josh Williams (BS ’05, MS ’07), Colby, is with Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks as an environmental scientist. Tyler Applegate (BSE ’06, BSE ’06), Mound City, teaches world history, economics and geography at Prairie View Schools, and coaches football and basketball. Melinda Ayers (MA ’06), Chanute, is an instructor at Neosho County Community College and spoke at the Southeast Kansas Higher Education system legislative dinner. Beth Boswell (BSE ’06), Phillipburg, is the new junior high literature teacher at Stockton. Tamara (Trousdale) Cassidy (BSE ’06), Arkansas City, is a fifth-grade teacher at Jefferson Elementary and a 2008 Kansas Horizon Award recipient. Kristen (Healy) Crank (BSE ’06), El Dorado, is a sixth-grade social studies teacher at Augusta Middle School and was a 2008 Horizon Award recipient. Ryan Dalton (BS ’06), Olathe, is the new program supervisor of Spring Hill Recreation Commission. Aaron Dirks (BSE ’06), Ottawa, is a world and American history teacher at Ottawa High School. Heidi (Schlesener) Eck (BSN ’06), Merriam, is a registered nurse for the ICU at Overland Park Regional Medical Center. Shaun Edmondson (MS ’06), Lawrence, is the head coach for the Eudora Cardinals baseball team. Marcia (Brown) Fox (MAT ’06), Wamego, has been a teacher for 35 years and joined the Kansas Historical Society as a curriculum specialist. Darci Gulick (BSE ’06), Iola, is a fourth-grade teacher at Lincoln Elementary School. Collette (Burton) Haslett (MS ’06), Hillsboro, is a fifth-grade writing and language arts teacher at Hillsboro Elementary School. Lance Heath (BSE ’06, BSE ’06), Andover, teaches physics and physical science and is the assistant boys’ soccer coach at Mulvane High School. Shane Heiman (BSE ’06), Emporia, is a second-grade teacher at Village Elementary School and was a 2008 Horizon Award recipient. Randi (Ponton) Helget (BSE ’06), Burlington, is a first-grade teacher at Eugene Field Elementary School. Scott Hill (BSE ’06), Lyndon, is a fourth-grade teacher at Lyndon Elementary School and also serves as the high school assistant football coach. Kellen Howell (BA ’06), Ottawa, graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, and earned distinction as an honor graduate. Kyle Kabriel (BSE ’06), Wamego, is a physical education and health teacher at Hugoton High School. Jennifer (Lawellin) Keith (BSE ’06), Belpre, is a physical education and technology teacher, head volleyball coach, and assistant basketball and track coach at Larned Middle School. Megan (Williams) McGuire (BSE ’06, MS ’07), Madison, teaches a combination of physical education, athletic training world history and psychology to grades 7-12 in Olpe and Hartford. Erin Nichols (BSE ’06), Lenexa, is a first-grade teacher at Edwardsville Elementary School and was a 2008 Horizon Award recipient. Crystal Pape (BSE ’06), Elkhart, is a pre-kindergarten teacher at Elkhart Elementary School. Frederick Polkinghorne (MS ’06), Carbondale, Ill., was recognized with the RRAMM Endowed Scholarship for Excellence in Vocational Education at Southern Illinois University, while presenting at conferences and publishing in business journals. Meaghan Russell (BSE ’06), Unióntown, is the sixth-grade teacher at Marmaton Valley Elementary School. Graham Sikes (MS ’06), Mishawaka, Ind., was named assistant baseball coach at the University of Notre Dame. Brandie Stephens (BSE ’06), Anthony,
The endearing philosophy of a Kansas Master Teacher

By Heather Smith (BFA 2008)

One of the 2008 Kansas Master Teachers was one of ESU’s very own. Kenny Reeves (BSE '76, MS '88), an instructor in the department of communication and theatre for 20 years and the coordinator of speech and theatre secondary education, was recognized with other winners earlier this year.

“lt is humbling and profound to be recognized for doing something I love to do so much. It is an honor to stand among others who are also devoted to the teaching profession,” Reeves said. “It is a highlight of my professional life.”

One of the reasons Reeves is so successful is her educational philosophy of being involved in her students’ lives. She values the idea that her students come first, and that all students can learn—some just learn differently.

“A good teacher uses different approaches and styles of teaching. A good teacher also adapts and uses new technology as it becomes available to help reach students,” Reeves said.

She also knows respect is a two-way street, even if that means she has to teach it to students in her classroom. This respect ensures a safe environment for all students while reminding them of the communication skills of empathy, equality and refraining from stereotyping. And Reeves is dedicated enough to her students to be able to admit when she is wrong.

Her philosophy also includes the knowledge that effective teachers are lifelong learners. “The best part of teaching is what I learn from my students every single time I step into my classroom,” she said.

As a young child, this Kansas Master Teacher was influenced by teachers who motivated and inspired. After observing a debate tournament in eighth grade, Reeves knew what her career choice would be. Since graduating from ESU, she has taught at a number of Kansas schools, and has come to enjoy the “energy of the students.”

Beyond the classroom, she also finds meaning in being involved in many other aspects of education and community. She is the immediate past president of the Kansas Speech Communication Association, a member of the National Communication Association, the Kansas Academic Advising Network, and Lambda Pi Eta, just to name a few.

“My life has been blessed with a wonderful biological family as well as my extended family of ESU colleagues, great friends and students,” Reeves said.

Her students find comfort in talking with her, and know that she is always willing to offer her help and understanding. With years behind her and many awards on her shelves, Reeves continues to do what she loves.

But more than anything, her strong philosophy of teaching is making a difference in the lives of students.

Editor’s note: Author Heather Smith was certainly pleased to write about Reeves—she was one of the instructor’s students.
the high school wrestling team in Paola. **Taelor (Veal) Herrman** (BS ’07), Abilene, is employed at Lear & Grow Depot Child Development Center. **Rozanne (Sлонекер) Holmes** (MS ’07), Stafford, became a K-4 resource room teacher for Stafford Elementary/Middle School. **Natasha (Schmidt) Jenkins** (BSE ’07), Ottawa, is teaching American and world history at Ottawa High School. **Matthew Johnson** (BSE ’07), Emporia, is a customer sales associate for CoreFirst Bank & Trust in Emporia. **Rachel Johnson** (BSE ’07), Kansas City, Mo., is a new first-grade teacher for Noble Prentis Elementary. **Mallory Kalcik** (BSN ’07), Topeka, is a new registered nurse at Stormont Vail Health Care. **Beverly (Olsen) Kelley** (MLS ’07), McPherson, became the associate director for Briner Library at Central Christian College. **Stacey (Audano) Kraus** (BSE ’07), Lyndon, is a second-grade teacher at Lyndon Elementary-Middle School. **Melissa (Francis) Leonhart** (BSB ’07), Overland Park, is a sales accountant for Marks Nelson Vohland Campbell Radetic, LLC. **Sarah Rabas** (BSE ’07), Humboldt, is a fourth-grade math and social studies teacher at Humboldt Elementary School and a high school cheerleading coach. **Rebekah Renyey** (BSE ’07), Ottawa, is a fourth-grade teacher at Garfield Elementary School. **Nathan Robinson** (BSE ’07), Paola, is a business teacher at Paola High School. **Joe Rose** (BSB ’07), Osage City, is an IT specialist in Topeka. **Dena Russell** (BS ’07), Emporia, became the volunteer coordinator for the SOS Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) program of the Flint Hills. **Angela Schroeder** (MBA ’07), Overland Park, accepted a position with State Street Corporation in Kansas City. **Sandra (Langley) Scoggin** (BSE ’07), Hartford, is a biology teacher at Iola High School. **Megan Sken** (BSE ’07), Lake Tapawingo, Mo., is a new first-grade teacher for Chapel Lakes Elementary School. **Shawna de (Mayes) Smith** (BSE ’07), Goddard, is a special education teacher for Sedgwick County Area Educational Services Interlocal Cooperative. **Mark Snider** (MM ’07), Emporia, is a choir and guitar teacher at Lyndon Elementary and High Schools. **Jeanene (Hovious) Solano** (BSE ’07), Burlington, is a special education teacher at Burlington Elementary School. **Michele (Kerr) Solorzano** (BS ’07), Garden City, is a teacher at Gertrude Walker Elementary. **Kelli Travnicke** (BSE ’07), Ottawa, is a fifth-grade teacher at Lincoln Elementary School. **Kathryn (Standridge) VanSchoelandt** (BA ’07), Lenexa, is a legal secretary/paralegal for Armstrong Teasdale LLP in Kansas City, Mo. Jennifer (Johnson) Vazquez (BS ’07), Wichita, recently joined the staff at the El Dorado Correctional Facility. **Kelley (Leach) Wallace** (BSE ’07), Osawatomie, is a second-grade teacher in Osawatomie. **William “Bill” Ward** (BSE ’07), Olathe, is a full-time substitute teacher for the Santa Fe Trail USD 434 School District. **Erica Wentling** (BSE ’07), McPherson, is an Early Childhood Center teacher in McPherson. **Kira Werner** (BS ’07), Neosho, is a new sales associate for Effie Janes. **Chelsea Whisnant** (BSE ’07), Topeka, is a fourth-grade teacher at Rossville Grade School. **Beth (Booth) Wiggins** (MS ’07), Eureka, is a teacher at Eureka High School in the regular education alternative program. **Philip Williams** (BSE ’07), Marion, is employed by Burnham Basement & Foundation Repair, Inc., in Emporia. **Shanna Williams** (BS ’07), Derby, is a new development coordinator for Kansas University Endowment Association in Wichita. **Susan Williams** (MS ’07), Leavenworth, is a new teacher at Leavenworth High School. **Erik Willimon** (BSE ’07), Plains, is a new history teacher, athletic director and football and track head coach at South Gray Junior High. **Audrey Wilson** (BSB ’07), Stilwell, owns Three Crows Equine Services. **Rebecca Wilson** (MS ’07), McPherson, is a new teacher at Eisenhower Elementary. **Helen (Fischer) Woolsey** (BSE ’07), Paola, is a kindergarten teacher in Osawatomie. **Patricia (Enloe) Zimmerman** (MS ’07), Perry, is a fifth-grade teacher at Perry-Lecompton Middle School. **Kaylon Price** (BSE ’07), Lincoln, is a published author of young adult novels. **Richard Uhlig** (BA ’07), New York, N.Y., is a published author of young adult novels. **Julie (Erwin) Weakley** , Admire, is a nurse in Emergency Services in the staff at the El Dorado Correctional Facility.
ESU athletics, is the University of Hawai‘i associate athletic director for administrative services. Roberta Eichenberg, Emporia, received a Mid-Career Fellowship award for her work as an assistant art professor at ESU. Susan Kendrick, Emporia, is an assistant professor in the English department at ESU and was a recipient of the Ruth Schillinger Award. Dave Wiemers, was named defensive coordinator for the Pittsburg State Gorillas.

**Births**


In Memory

1920s
Susan (Reed) Wever (LIF '26), Nov. 26, 2007.

1930s

1940s

1950s

1960s
Take Corky with you!

Hundreds of us in ESU’s family didn’t leave Corky behind on our summer vacations, and you can join the troupe! Show your support for Emporia State while contributing to ESU scholarships by sporting a Corky license plate on your Kansas vehicle. For an annual donation of $35 – less than a fill-up at the gas station – you can take your Hornet pride with you everywhere you go.

The annual donation gives you access to the ESU plate, and it also gives students access to higher education through scholarship support. Visit www.emporia.edu/saf/license.html to register, or contact Carol Cooper at (620) 341-5440 or ccooper@emporia.edu.

Former & Current Students, Former Faculty & Staff


1970s


1980s


1990s


2000s


Former Pres. King dies at 94

Dr. John E. King, the president of Kansas State Teachers College from 1953 to 1966, died on Saturday, June 28, 2008, at the age of 94. For more on King’s momentous impact on the university, see the winter 2009 edition of Spotlight. Those wishing to remember him with a contribution may donate to the Glennie and John E. King Scholars Fund.

Friends


(*Asterisks mark individuals who are remembered with a memorial at the ESU Foundation. To send a gift, make a check payable to the ESU Foundation, write the person’s name in the memo line, and send it to 1500 Highland St., Emporia, KS 66801.
Send information for Through the Years to alumni@emporia.edu or 1500 Highland St., Emporia, KS 66801-5018.)
All registration information will be available at the first event you attend or at the registration table from 8 to 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 25, on Memorial Union Main Street. In the return envelope folded into the pages of your Spotlight, return this form and your payment by Oct. 17 to the ESU Alumni Association, Sauder Alumni Center, 1500 Highland St., Emporia, KS 66801-5018, or fax to (620) 341-6635. Sorry, no refunds after Oct. 20. Questions? Contact us at (620) 341-5440 or alumni@emporia.edu.

Contact Information
Name: _______________________________ (Maiden): _________________________________
ESU Degree(s): __________________________________ Year(s): ______________________
Address: _____________________________________________________________________
City:___________________________________________ St:________ Zip: ________________
Telephone: (_____) _____-____________ E-mail: _____________________________________
Spouse/Guest Name: ___________________ (Maiden): __________________________________
If ESU alumna/us, degree(s): _____________________________ Year(s): _____________________

Event RSVP
Please indicate which event(s) you will attend.
Friday, Oct. 24
☐ 2008 ESU Alumni Awards Banquet 6:15 p.m. ___ (# attending) @ $25 each
☐ UAC/ASG Reunion Reception 7 – 9 p.m. ___ (# attending) complimentary
☐ Black Alumni Meet-and-Greet 6 – 10 p.m. ___ (# attending) complimentary

Saturday, Oct. 25
☐ Athletic Hall of Honor Breakfast 8 a.m. ___ (# attending) @ $12 each
☐ Kaffee Klatc 9 a.m. ___ (# attending) complimentary
☐ Hornet Family Pre-Game Picnic 11 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. ___ (# attending) @ $8 each
☐ Watering Hole 11 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. ___ (# attending) @ $15 each
☐ ESU vs. Truman State 1 p.m. ___ (# attending) @ $8 each** ($5 for seniors)
☐ Post-Game Reception 3:30 – 6 p.m. ___ (# attending) @ $10 each
☐ Black Alumni Saturday Social 4 – 6 p.m. ___ (# attending) complimentary
☐ Class of 1958 Reunion Dinner 6:30 p.m. ___ (# attending) @ $21 each
☐ Fabulous Forties Reunion Dinner 6:30 p.m. ___ (# attending) @ $21 each

If you're using this form solely for football tickets, call the ESU Ticket Office at (620) 341-6378.

Give online at www.emporia.edu/give

Payment information
I’ve enclosed a check payable to the ESU Foundation for the amount to the left, $ __________.
☐ Please charge the amount of $ __________, VISA, MasterCard, Discover, American Express
Card #: ____________________ Exp. Date: __________ Signature: ____________________________
☐ My gift is in the form of a pledge of $ __________ to be paid in ______ payments of $ __________ each
for ______ years/months, beginning __________.
☐ Please send me information about how I can make a gift to ESU through my estate.
☐ Please send more information on __________.

The ESU Foundation is a non-profit organization that exists to support Emporia State University. The full amount of your gift may be considered a charitable contribution, with the exception of Homecoming event costs.

Motels: Blocks of rooms have been reserved under “ESU Reunion.” Contact Joan at (620) 341-6469 or jlauber@emporia.edu for more information.
Homecoming 2008 Schedule of Events

Wednesday, Oct. 22
Bonner & Bonner Diversity Lecture Series
7 p.m., Webb Lecture Hall
Come hear James Loewen, author of Sundown Towns, speak about continuing discrimination in ESU’s Bonner & Bonner lecture series, the premier diversity lecture series in Kansas.

Thursday, Oct. 23
Oktoberfest
11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., MU Skyline
Treat yourself to festive cuisine for lunch in ESU’s favorite dining room.

Friday, Oct. 24
Phi Delta Theta Pole Sit for S.O.S.
6 a.m., Kellogg Circle
Help the Phi Delts raise money for S.O.S., Inc. The Pole Sit will conclude Saturday at noon.

Black Alumni Meet-and-Greet
6 – 10 p.m., MU Flint Hills Room
Network with other alumni as we kick off Homecoming weekend. Contact LaShawn Childs at (785) 213-7037 for more information.

ESU’s Light the Night
• Tricycle Races, 7 p.m.
• Ultimate Event, 8 p.m.
• Snake Dance, 8:15 p.m.
• Bonfire, 8:30 p.m., Wilson Park

Saturday, Oct. 25
Alumni Registration
8 a.m., MU Mainstreet
Pick up your Homecoming information.

Athletic Hall of Honor Breakfast
8 a.m., MU Webb Lecture Hall
The 2008 inductees will be honored at the annual induction breakfast. Go Hornets!

Sigma Sigma Sigma Open House
8 a.m. – 5 p.m., 418 W. 12th
Sisters of Tri Sigma will gather at the chapter house for refreshments and house tours. For more information, contact Anne Cochennet at (620) 342-2150.

Kaffee Klatch
9 a.m., MU Mainstreet
Coffee and refreshments for alumni and friends, hosted by emeriti faculty.

Phi Sigma Kappa Alumni Meeting
10 a.m., MU PDK Room

Hornet Family Pre-Game Picnic
11 a.m. – 12:45 p.m., MU Hornet Nest & Deck
Bring your toddlers, teenagers and everyone in between to the family-oriented picnic for ESU’s alumni and friends.

UAC/ASG Reunion
Join your fellow UAC and ASG alumni at the reunion. You won’t have to manage the scheduling of a big-name comedian or follow Robert’s Rules of Order, but you will have a great time! The Friday reception is followed by an after-party, and then the Memorial Union is open Saturday.

• Reception - 7 – 9 p.m. Friday, Sauder Alumni Center
• After-Party - 9 p.m. – 1 a.m. Friday, Wheat State Grill, 707 Commercial St.
• Open House - 8 – 11 a.m. Saturday, Memorial Union

ESU Football vs. Truman State
1 p.m., Welch Stadium
Check out the Hornets under second-year coach Garin Higgins as they tangle with Truman State.

Post-Game Reception
3:30 – 6 p.m., Sauder Alumni Center
The post-game reception for alumni and friends invites you to mingle after the game in the Sauder Alumni Center and the Dr. John R. Webb Atrium.

Black Alumni Saturday Social
4 – 6 p.m., MU Ballroom
Join us for a social gathering and a presentation from the Emporia Connection, ESU’s African-American alumni chapter.

Class of 1958 Reunion Dinner
6:30 p.m., MU Kanza Room
The Class of 1958 will celebrate their 50-year reunion with a great dinner and program.

Fabulous Forties Reunion Dinner
6:30 p.m., MU Flint Hills Room
Graduates of the 1940s will gather for a special time together.

ESU Alumni Awards Reception and Dinner
6:15 reception, 7 p.m. dinner, MU Ballroom
Join us as we celebrate the 2008 recipients of the Distinguished Alumni awards, the Outstanding Recent Graduate awards, and the University Service Citation awards.

Sunday, Oct. 26
Alpha Sigma Alpha Chili Feed
11 a.m. – 7 p.m., 229 West 12th
Get your fill of chili, fun and friends at the annual chili feed. Everyone is invited!