

Fall 2019



giving

GENERATING THE SPARK

Research initiative fuels discovery



PERCHED ON THE BOULEVARD

FOOD FOR JAYHAWKS

Cultural Exchange

Humanities-based laboratory brings together American and Tanzanian students

2019 ColLAB participants from KU and the University of Dar es Salaam met with members of a Tanzanian organization that provides counseling, education and health care to adolescent boys identified as “street children.” The goal is to open up opportunities for collaborative research in health and development. The program was started in 2018 by KU professors Kathryn Rhine, Elizabeth MacGonagle and Peter Ojiambo through the Kansas African Studies Center. ColLAB received a \$30,000 Research Excellence Initiative (REI) award and a \$90,000 grant from the Hall Center for the Humanities to launch this innovative program. Rhine has since received external grants totaling over \$400,000 to support research and curriculum development in the African humanities. Learn more about REI on Page 6.





FALL 2019

KU giving

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LET'S BE SOCIAL



ON THE COVER

This custom stock illustration depicts how collaborative research sparks idea sharing and innovation.

PHOTOGRAPHY

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AT HOME ON JAYHAWK BOULEVARD

FIRST IMPRESSIONS MATTER. AND THE FRONT DOOR OF A BUILDING SETS THE TONE.

The main entrance to the home of the William Allen White School of Journalism and Mass Communications has always been at the northeast corner of the building, facing Sunflower Road. When I was a KU broadcast journalism student in the mid 1970s, those of us in radio and TV came in through the doors at the northwest corner. This understated entry for the radio and TV studios was more convenient for us, especially with all the hours we spent in the building, called Flint Hall then. We would finish a broadcast and then dive into writing and editing pieces for the next day, often staying until 10 p.m. Even with those late hours, the Kansan staff was still hard at work producing the next morning's paper when I was on my way out the door.

I remember the building being uncomfortable at times — hot in August and not quite warm enough in January — so I'm thrilled that today's journalism students and faculty will benefit from the system upgrades and building improvements to Stauffer-Flint Hall currently underway. The new entrance will face Jayhawk Boulevard and give the storied building a stronger presence. It will include a plaza with lighting and digital projection that highlights the round-the-clock nature of journalism and the thought-provoking, important work happening inside.

The updated learning spaces, collaboration areas and state-of-the-art studios are truly the core of the project. These modern workspaces will provide the first professional experience for many students. You can read more about the renovation on Page 19.

A lot has changed since I was broadcasting the latest news on KUOK, the cable AM radio station run by journalism students. The station was so limited in range, it was only heard in the residence halls. Regardless, we worked hard to produce programs worthy of the J-School's longstanding reputation.

And no matter how different things look these days, Stauffer-Flint Hall and the university still feel like home. I think it's because students remain the focus at KU. So much care is given to provide the best educational experience for each and every Jayhawk.

P.S. As you read this issue of KU Giving, Rosita Elizalde-McCoy, Senior Vice President of Communications and Marketing, is starting to enjoy her retirement after 14 years of service to KU Endowment. We have benefitted from her leadership, dedication and talent. I want to thank her for a job well done and wish her much happiness.

MODEST GRANTS LEAD TO BIG RESULTS

WHEN IT COMES TO FUNDING RESEARCH, SEED MONEY IS CRUCIAL. AND EVEN MODEST PRIVATE GIFTS CAN BE TRANSFORMATIVE.

In 2014, Steve Cloud attended a presentation by Dr. Richard Barohn on ALS and Alzheimer's disease research at KU Medical Center. At the time, Cloud's dear friend, John Thompson, was battling ALS. Cloud knew right away he wanted to get involved in helping advance ALS research, so he created the John Thompson Jr. ALS Research fund. He and Barohn discussed the idea of connecting donors with specific research projects that have immediate funding needs in order to get to the next level.

Cloud realized there was an opportunity for other people to be part of significant advancements in research with relatively modest investments through these type of bridge grants. He took the idea to the "Wine Clug," a long-standing group of eight friends who meet over food and wine. The first invitation for the club was misspelled clug, and the name stuck. Working with Barohn, Cloud's bridge grant idea caught on, and several of his friends matched their passions to existing research at KU.

"A lot of credit goes to Dr. Barohn for planting the seed and making the initial phases happen," Cloud said.

Dr. Sandra Billinger's study on cardiovascular health and stroke is testament to the power of the grants provided by Wine Clug members. Howard Ellis and Ira Stolzer together provided a \$5,000 gift to Billinger's research. She found a novel way to characterize continuous brain blood flow from rest to exercise in stroke patients. This was big – no one in the world had done this before. Billinger



FRIENDSHIP AND PHILANTHROPY: Wine "Clug" members have provided bridge grants to jumpstart research projects at KU Medical Center. Pictured from left to right: Bob Cutler, Steve Cloud, Jeff Alpert, Ira Stolzer and Gary Weinberg. Not pictured: Irv Robinson, John Isenberg and Howard Ellis.

used the gift to hire an engineer to develop a protocol and code a way to collect pilot data. "Their support really propelled my research forward," she said.

Once she gathered pilot data, she used those findings to apply for an American Heart Association grant. She was awarded \$154,000 to study how cardiovascular risks affect brain health. Parallel to that grant, Billinger leveraged her research to also receive a \$2.5 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to study vascular and brain health.

Billinger said that private philanthropy enables researchers to conduct innovative studies to provide novel pilot data that could be supported by federal grants.

"You can take a gift of any amount and turn it into something successful with thoughtful planning," Billinger said.

VICTORIA SICKINGER

BUILD A BRIDGE

To learn how you can support a research interest, contact Lindsay Hummer at 913-562-2717 or lhummer@kuendowment.org.



WHY I GIVE

“This gift honors my late husband, Jack Lockton, and will provide students with a quality education and practical skills in insurance and risk management. The ability to advise clients on their various areas and degrees of risk helped Lockton become a true business partner. Philanthropy feels good, no matter the level of giving, and educating students is a top priority.”

Cheryl Lockton Williams, Mission Hills, Kan.
Gift to establish the Jack Lockton Certificate in Insurance and Risk Management

“When I went through the KU Master of Public Administration program over 30 years ago, the scholarship I received made it possible to enjoy a lifetime career in the city management profession. I feel a deep sense of obligation to try to help another MPA student facing a similar situation.”

Alan Sims, MPA 1988, and Gayle Sims, bachelor's in psychology 1977, Cedar Hill, Texas
Gift to the Alan E. Sims Student Opportunity Fund

“Military history, including the study of battles and war that have greatly influenced civilization, tends to be less emphasized by history departments. By establishing this professorship, KU can continue to be an educational leader in this area for generations to come.”

David Pittaway, bachelor's in history 1972, Naples, Fla.

Gift to establish the David B. Pittaway Professorship in Military History

“Our parents dedicated a lot of time and energy to the community while also stressing the importance of our academics. We wanted to create a scholarship at KU in their memory that encouraged academic achievement as well as the activities they loved.”

Patrick Everley, bachelor's in biology 2001, San Francisco, Calif.; Mark Everley, M.D., bachelor's in biology 1997, M.D. 2001, Kansas City, Mo; and Steven Everley, bachelor's in history 2005, Houston, Texas

Gift to establish the Phil and Helen Everley Memorial Scholarship



“We credit the KU law faculty for the incredible instruction and support that gave us a head start on our legal careers, so we created the fund to help continue the great tradition of student-focused teaching that results in the development of strong legal skills and critical thinking. An unrestricted fund seemed to be the best way to support these goals for years to come.”

Robin Miles, J.D. 1986, and Dara Miles, J.D. 1987, Boulder, Colo.

Gift to establish the Robin and Dara Miles Law Opportunity Fund

“Our son experienced tremendous academic and personal growth during his years at KU. We have endowed a fund so that other diverse students can have that same opportunity. Giving to KU is a no-brainer for us.”

Gloria Kumagai and Steve Savitt, Minneapolis, Minn.

Gift to establish the Kumagai Savitt Scholarship

“Philanthropy feels good, no matter the level of giving, and educating students is a top priority.”

—Cheryl Lockton Williams

“The gift to establish the Lindsley Lectureship in Rheumatology will provide an annual educational program for trainees and faculty in Internal Medicine and Pediatrics. It reflects our 40-year teaching careers at KU Medical Center. We also have given scholarships in the School of Engineering and the School of Music, honoring family members.”

Carol Lindsley, M.D., professor emerita of Pediatric Rheumatology, bachelor's in bacteriology 1963; and Herbert Lindsley, M.D., professor emeritus of Internal Medicine, M.D. 1966; Leawood, Kan.

Gift to establish the Lindsley Lectureship in Rheumatology



GENERATING THE SPARK

**RESEARCH EXCELLENCE INITIATIVE
FOSTERS INNOVATION
AND STUDENT GROWTH**

BY VALERIE GIELER

ONE OF THE GREATEST BENEFITS OF A WORLD-CLASS RESEARCH UNIVERSITY IS THE LEARNING THAT HAPPENS OUTSIDE OF THE CLASSROOM. Engaging in hands-on, real-world experiences gives students invaluable skills necessary to be successful in their careers.

The Research Excellence Initiative (REI) in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences is entirely funded by private gifts. Co-directed by Associate Deans for Research Joy Ward and Tamara Falicov, REI is designed to enhance faculty research while simultaneously training and mentoring the next generation of leaders in all fields represented by the College — arts, humanities, social and behavioral sciences and the natural sciences.

Students are traveling with faculty to Africa to learn about social injustice; they are visiting archives at Oxford to find references for books they will publish; and they are working in Garden City on a film about multiple ethnicities coming together.

“When you put classroom learning together with research experience, it propels students to be career-ready and makes KU more competitive nationally,” Ward said. “When students work directly with faculty on producing stellar research and creative works, they gain a large advantage in their future careers. The majority of successful professionals point to a mentor who made the difference, and our initiative supports these long-term partnerships.”

REI funding is awarded through two programs: Competitive Awards and Accelerator Awards. Competitive Awards are open to all faculty and their students in the College and fund projects through a rigorous, peer-reviewed application process. Accelerator Awards are donor-designated funds that support specific projects that both the donor and the researcher are passionate about. In REI’s two-year existence, more than \$800,000 has been awarded. Perhaps more impressive is the return on investment — initial results from REI funding have helped faculty secure more than \$1.5 million in external funding.

Even with this success, the REI team is continuing to advance the program because more students want to work with faculty. “We only have been able to award about 25% of the applications due to funding,” Falicov said. “This tells us that faculty and students are very engaged with research and want to make a larger difference in our world through faculty-student partnerships.”

REI is a tangible way for donors to support research and students, with awards starting at just \$500. The model allows 80% for research costs, and 20% of each award provides direct support for student participation. The leadership team is actively raising funds for the program, and the goal is to endow this initiative to support faculty-student research teams in perpetuity.

“Scientific discovery is fueled by great ideas, curiosity and a burning desire to solve problems, gain knowledge and teach others. These efforts require time, mentoring, collaboration and, for some projects, travel and unique access to source material. REI funds can provide a stimulus to explore a new hypothesis or to complete analysis of a critical data set.”

MICHAEL LINENBERGER

COLLEGE ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER,
KU ALUMNUS AND REI DONOR

PROFESSOR AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

HELP IDEAS DEVELOP

To be part of advancing research in the College, contact Dan Simon at 785-832-7378 or dsimon@kuendowment.org.

The art of connection

A passion for involving the community in her art and inspiration from a 13th century illuminated manuscript took KU visual art professor Maria Velasco to the town of Blanca in Spain's Murcia region. During her artist residency at Centro Negra-AADK, Velasco created a project influenced by *The Book of Games* written by King Alfonso X "The Wise," an important historical ruler in that region. The instructional book has illustrations of men, women and children of different backgrounds playing board games together.

"It's interesting to see how people navigate this town today, because they keep to their own groups," Velasco said. "And I thought, maybe we can plant a seed to change that."

Velasco created a card game with guided questions for people who don't know each other to sit and talk. "Everyone thought it was strange at first, but they warmed up to the idea," Velasco said. "They could answer as many or as few as they wanted. The goal is making connections."

Velasco selected seven questions and some of the answers to transfer onto fabric tiles. The tiles were hand-embroidered by volunteers, and then she constructed an "identity flag" to share the responses. A popular question was: What is a wish for the future? Some of the answers: "I would eliminate borders; have work; peace; I would unlearn."

REI funding helped Velasco with travel and material expenses and allowed her to bring along Allison Sheldon, a graduate student in textiles who hand-dyed the fabric tiles.



GREATER UNDERSTANDING: Professor Maria Velasco's research project, Spaces of Conviviality, captured a slice of the diversity that exists in Spain's Murcia region. She invented a question-and-answer card game that encouraged discussion. Many hands touched this project. Young people helped run the game and volunteers hand-embroidered answers onto fabric tiles. Velasco created an "identity flag" that was unveiled at a public art event.





For the sake of discovery

A colorful bouquet has the ability to brighten anyone's day, but in professor Lena Hileman's lab, the love of blooms is taken to a new level. She is an evolutionary biologist who studies how flowers adapt to support pollinators.

The findings in Hileman's lab may eventually lead to advances in crop science or other areas, but the primary goal is just to understand how complex traits evolve. In the genus *Penstemon*, which has about 300 species of plants, some species are adapted to bee pollination and others are adapted to hummingbird pollination. The researchers use the differences in the flowers associated with each type to study their evolution.

“REI has the potential to make contributions for thousands of students over time in many different fields that are important for society. I don't think there is any better way to support a university.”

JOY WARD

ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR RESEARCH

Hileman has received both types of REI awards. The Competitive Award allowed her to spearhead a new direction related to flower symmetry. Hileman's *Penstemon* research has funding from the National Science Foundation, however the Accelerator Award allowed her to get more students involved. “I feel strongly about mentoring the next generation of scientists, so I want to have support for student researchers,” Hileman said. “They bring passion to the lab.”



GREEN THUMBS: Professor Lena Hileman discusses the differences between plant species with purple flowers adapted for bee pollination and red ones adapted for hummingbird pollination with students Alexis Ramos and Amanda Katzer. Ramos' project involves extracting the colors from flowers and running them on chromatography paper to compare the pigments.

Senior Alexis Ramos is a transfer student and said the junior college she was attending didn't have the same opportunities as KU. “I haven't ever done research before, so the whole project excites me,” Ramos said. “I'm extracting colors from flowers right now. It's really cool.”

Doctoral student Amanda Katzer's project involves the nectar traits of flowers, and she often shares her knowledge of how to dissect them with community groups. “I'm really excited that I get to be involved in research because I'm gaining skills that directly relate to my career and my future,” Katzer said.



Telling the story of America

Poet, writer and literary activist Langston Hughes is one of the central voices of the American experience. His work still resonates 50 years after his death.

“Langston Hughes is timeless,” said Randal Jelks, KU professor of American Studies and African and African American Studies. “He speaks to the issues of America: the issues of immigration, the working class and being excluded. He also speaks to our hopes and dreams.”

With Hughes’ Lawrence upbringing, creating a documentary about Hughes seemed a natural fit for a KU team. And the timing was right. The last Hughes documentary was done in 1986. Jelks formed the

Dream Documentary Collective with two other KU professors for a documentary titled “I, Too, Sing America: Langston Hughes Unfurled.” He teamed with Darren Canady as writer and Academy Award winner Kevin Willmott as director for the two-part film.

It focuses on how Hughes represents the American experience and how his art brought communities together.

The collective partnered with the Lawrence Arts Center and produced a



DREAM TEAM: Film executive producer Randal Jelks partnered with fellow KU professors Kevin Willmott (pictured above) and Darren Canady (pictured below) to form the Dream Documentary Collective and produce a film about Langston Hughes. Willmott and Canady recently interviewed Hughes biographer Arnold Rampersad.

teaser for the film with seed funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). An REI award allowed the team to add Arnold Rampersad, the chief Langston Hughes biographer, to the project. The goal is to apply for a \$1 million NEH grant this fall and seek additional funding to cover the film’s estimated cost of \$1.5 million so they can complete production in 2020.

Students will be involved in research and grant writing for the film. Jelks hopes that film inspires people of all ages but particularly the younger generation.

“It’s exciting to have KU professors working together and gaining national exposure,” Jelks said. “I hope we make the people of Kansas and the university proud.”

Help for student mental health

A lot of people think that once a person goes to college, they have it made. In reality, students are often stressed about adjusting to life on campus away from home. The mental health needs of students are as high as the general population, said Kelsie Forbush, associate professor of clinical psychology and director of KU's Center for the Advancement of Research on Eating Behaviors (CARE). In a recent survey, nearly 20% of KU freshmen reported experiencing an eating disorder.

"There's this stereotype that eating disorders affect few people and primarily young women," Forbush said. "The truth is eating disorders are widespread on our campus."

More research and resources are needed at KU because local treatment options are limited. Many students are referred to Kansas City clinics, and the average wait time is three months.



A NEW TOOL: Students with eating disorders will soon be able to receive help through a new app being developed by CARE Director Kelsie Forbush and Tina Lai.

"One of the reasons it is so important to foster creative works through REI is to give people more opportunities to explore those big questions and social issues that can improve our world."

TAMARA FALICOV

ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR RESEARCH



An REI Accelerator Award is helping CARE better predict prognosis for individuals with eating disorders as well as provide early screening, assessment and treatment progress monitoring. They are also working to provide improved treatment to KU students. A big part of that is the interactive app CARE is developing based on a proven cognitive-behavioral therapy. Tina Lai, a graduate student and CARE patient care coordinator, is working with Forbush on the app.

Students will learn to develop healthier eating habits, body image and self-esteem using behavior modification strategies through the app. Each student will be paired with a clinical psychology doctoral student who will provide one-on-one "coaching." CARE plans to begin testing the app later this year and provide treatment on campus in the spring.

"We want to better address the needs of students who have eating disorders and to train the next generation of therapists," Forbush said. 🌀

BE A PARTNER IN RESEARCH

REI can currently only fund about 25% of award applications. That means a lot of pioneering ideas are left unexplored. A future goal is to be able to support 50% of applications. How REI awards make a difference:

- \$500 purchases equipment, materials or supplies, or funds regional travel for site-specific research.
- \$1,000 provides a stipend for a student to work in a research group with top-achieving faculty.
- \$2,000 funds registration fees and travel to a national professional conference to present research findings and network with leaders in the field.
- \$10,000 supports a team working together to produce an artistic composition or to better understand the availability of natural resources.
- \$30,000 brings together an interdisciplinary group of KU professors and students to work toward solutions to some of society's greatest challenges.

REI BY THE NUMBERS

\$800,000+ in private gifts

40+ donors

256 applications submitted

25% approximate success rate for Competitive Award funding

Student involvement:

145 graduate and undergraduate students



A NEW DOORWAY TO JOURNALISM

**STAUFFER-FLINT HALL RENOVATIONS
WILL UPDATE ICONIC BUILDING
AND THE SCHOOL'S APPROACH TO LEARNING**

BY MICHELLE TEVIS

YOU CAN HELP

To support next-generation technology for journalism students, contact Marlys Shulda at 785-832-7352 or mshulda@kuendowment.org.

KU'S HOME TO JOURNALISTS
IN TRAINING is undergoing a renovation that gives a nod to nostalgia while leading the way to new educational experiences.

Stauffer-Flint Hall, on the corner of Jayhawk Boulevard and Sunflower Road, is undergoing a transformation thanks to private philanthropy that will boldly alter the building's function and façade while enhancing its natural appeal. A new front door and windows facing

Jayhawk Boulevard as well as more functional workspaces are part of the plan.

The renovation is due to be completed in late fall, with classes resuming there in the spring semester.

Ann Brill, dean of the William Allen White School of Journalism and Mass Communications, said Stauffer-Flint sits on some of the best real estate on campus.

"We never wanted to move, but what we did want to do was make better use of our space," Brill said.

The Romanesque building, which was built to house boilers and a machine shop in 1899, had infrastructure issues for years: The elevator stopped between floors; the basement often flooded; and the pipes clanked loudly in the winter when the building was being heated, so loudly that they would disrupt classes and presentations.

“It was past the point of charming,” Brill said.

So with gifts from John and Barbara Stauffer, of Topeka; the Wallace Charitable Foundation in Wichita; and from the estate of the late W. Keith Swinehart, of Hilton Head, S.C., plans for overdue maintenance and renovation moved forward.

John Stauffer Sr.’s late father, Oscar Stauffer, donated funds in the 1980s for a renovation of then Flint Hall, and the building was renamed in gratitude to him. Both Stauffers are KU alumni, Oscar in 1912 and John in 1949. John Stauffer said his father would be happy to see the building rejuvenated once again.

“This was a project of my father’s, and it was important to him,” Stauffer said. “The building needed improvement, and I felt that in honor of him and his record and accomplishments, I was happy to participate in updating the facility.”

The vision for the inside is one of usefulness — a place for creation and collaboration.

When students and visitors walk in the front door, they’ll see a state-of-the-art broadcast studio for Media Crossroads and KUJH-TV. The University Daily Kansan once again will be produced in the building, with the newsroom serving as flexible laboratory space during the day while Kansan staffers are at class and covering stories. The space will be a news hub for final production of online and print editions in the evening. Audio and podcast production will be part of the media mix as well.

“When you walk in that front door, you’ll feel like you’re in the workspace,” Brill said. “You’ll be able to see what’s going on in the studio; you can watch video productions and radio and podcast production, as well as the production for the Kansan and the advertising staff.”

The building also will gain four rooms that can be used as classrooms or for faculty and students to do



UPLIFTING IMPROVEMENTS:

Stauffer-Flint Hall has sunk about 10 inches below the ground level, so putting in a new front door and plaza facing Jayhawk Boulevard requires digging and leveling the area. Donors John and Barbara Stauffer are excited to see the updates.



hands-on work. The third floor, previously mostly attic space, also is being renovated for student and faculty use.

Brill said the changes will be visible from the outside as well as the inside. The previous east entrance did not have a foyer, the first thing anyone entering the building saw was the elevator. The new north side entrance will give the building a “front door,” and a new plaza and landscaping around the building is part of the plan.

Using digital technology and special lighting, the plaza will show the 24/7 nature of media and display inspiring quotes about critical thinking, truth in reporting and editing, and reflections on the day’s events.

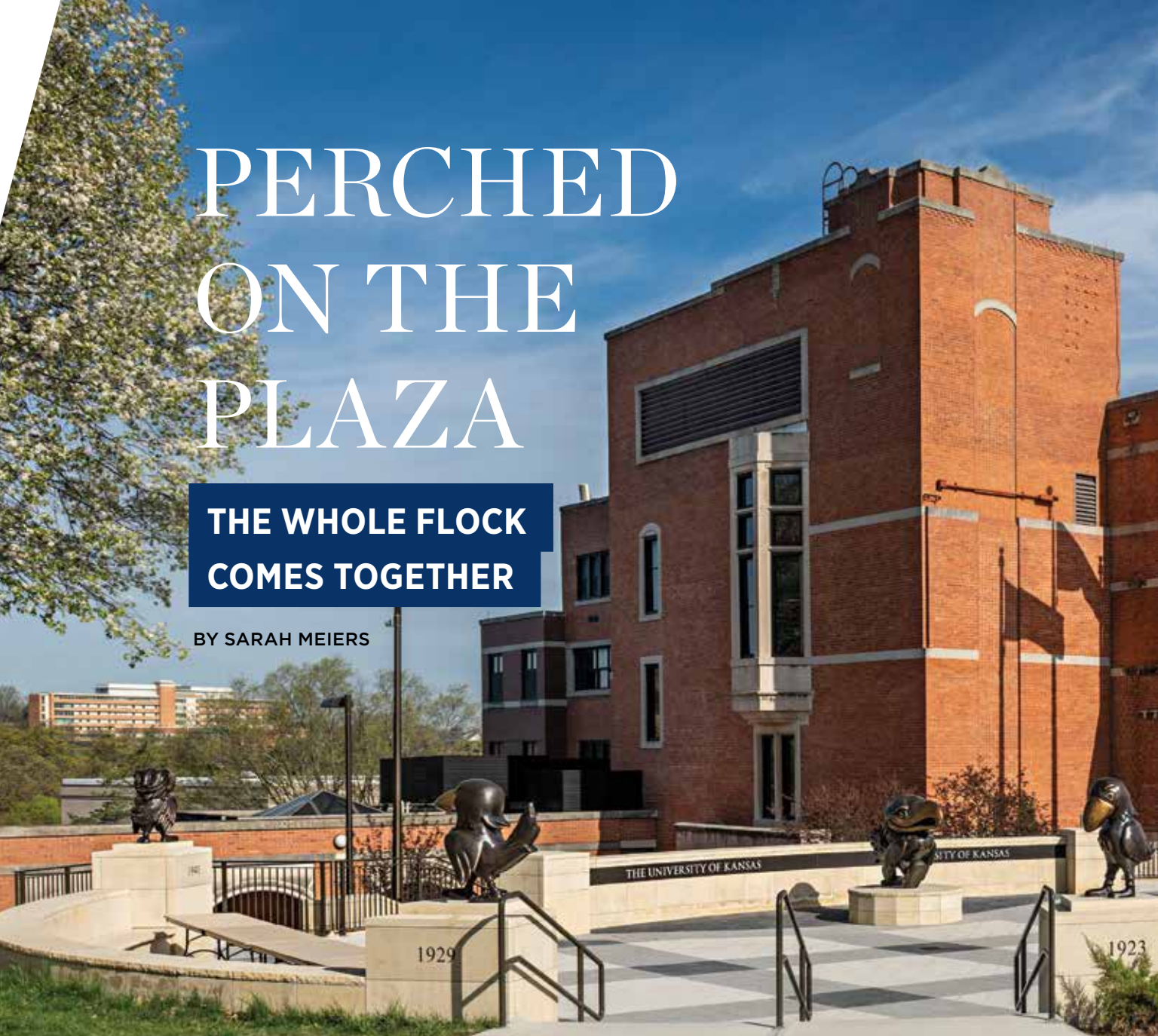
Dinah Swinehart Brock, a 1972 KU alumna who lives in Beaufort, S.C., said the renovation was an important cause for her father, KU alumnus W. Keith Swinehart.

“He loved KU and the journalism school,” she said. “Having spent most of his college days in this beautiful building, whether working on the Kansan or in the classroom, he wanted the building preserved for future generations of journalists.”

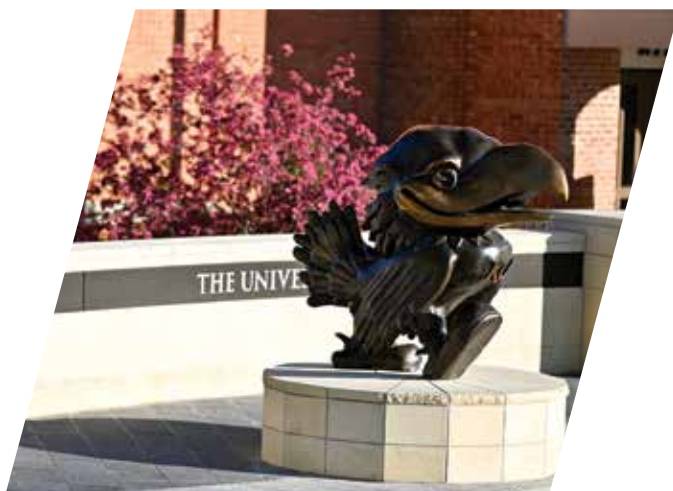
PERCHED ON THE PLAZA

**THE WHOLE FLOCK
COMES TOGETHER**

BY SARAH MEIERS



FROM THE FIRES OF AD ASTRA
FOUNDRY, SIX JAYHAWKS EMERGED,
FORGED IN BRONZE. Sculpted by the
hands of artist Robin Richerson,
their creation was made possible
with support from alumnus
James Ascher Sr. and his wife,
Mary Ellen. All versions of the
Jayhawk, for the first time ever,
were created in large-scale 3D.





“When I heard we could cast them in bronze and place them outside for all to see, I thought **we must do this.**”

JAMES ASCHER SR.





The Aschers, who gave in 2013 to rescue the 1,000-piece Jayhawk collection and provide it with a permanent home in the Kansas Union, stepped up again to support the new Ascher Plaza.

KU Memorial Union Director David Mucci said the idea came about when Jayhawk Boulevard reconstruction caused the necessary renovation of the Union plaza area. Mucci began to reach out to people and found the Aschers more than willing to help.

"We thank James Ascher Sr. and his family for once again coming to the rescue of Jayhawks," Mucci said.

Even with the Aschers' support, there wasn't quite enough to complete the project. The Pi Deuteron Chapter of Phi Gamma Delta, Class of 1980, provided the remaining amount needed, and the plaza became a reality. The bronze Jayhawks were unveiled to the public on March 7, 2019.

"Few people realized they were walking on images of historical Jayhawks when they entered the main entrance of the Union," James Ascher said. "When I heard we could cast them in bronze and place them outside for all to see, I thought we must do this." 🌀



CASTING A LEGEND

James Ascher Sr. and members of the Ascher family toured the ICON Artworks studio and Ad Astra Foundry to see various stages of the casting process for the Evolution of the Jayhawk monuments.



1

Artist Robin Richerson explains the ancient “Lost-Wax” Casting Method the design team employed to create the monuments. Due to the size of the monuments, each Jayhawk was cast in multiple pieces and then welded together. Here, the head and beak of the 1929 Jayhawk has been removed from its ceramic shell.



2

James Ascher Sr. stands next to the 1923 Jayhawk bronze monument prior to the finishing process, which involves the application of chemicals in multiple steps to create the desired patina.



3

Cutting-edge 3D technology was employed to produce the monuments. In the initial steps of casting, a wax or a plastic 3D-printed monument section in this case, is dipped into a ceramic slurry to build up a shell. The sculpture is dipped several times to achieve the shell and then placed inside of a kiln at high temperature to burn out the plastic. Bronze is then poured into the void left within the ceramic shell, which is removed when the sculpture cools.

4

Featured in this photo is the beak of the current Jayhawk. The final cast bronze monument weighs 605 pounds and is the centerpiece of Ascher Plaza.

5

Artist Robin Richerson, Andrew Ascher, James Ascher Jr., James Ascher Sr., Christopher Ascher, Mary Ascher and Matt Palmer of ICON Artworks get a preview of the bronze Jayhawks in miniature.





WHAT'S IN YOUR BACKPACK?

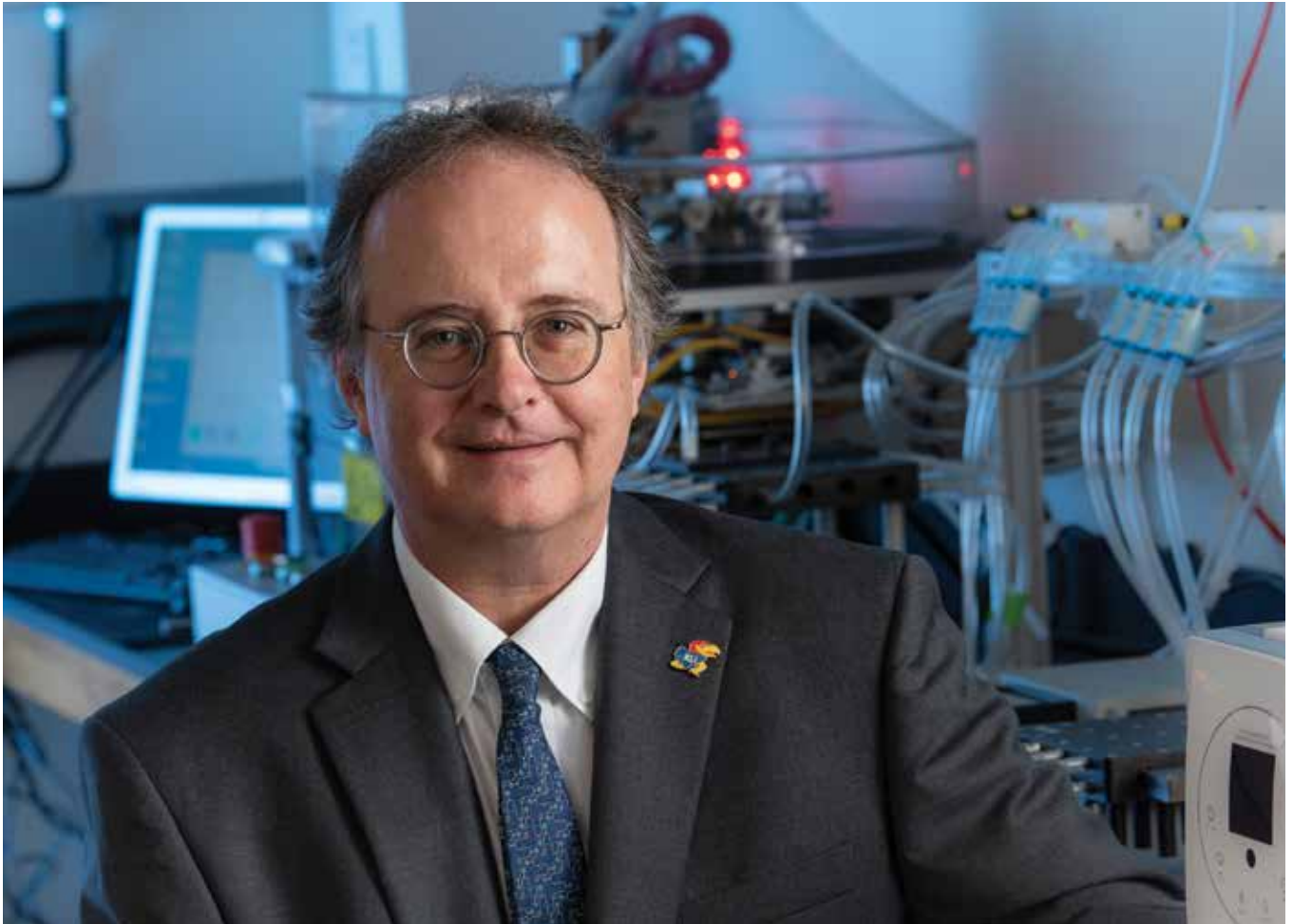
“MY PASSPORT AND MY RING FROM SPAIN,” said Bridget Rennard, a 2019 KU graduate from St. Louis with degrees in Speech-Language-Hearing and Spanish. “It’s nice to look back and see all the stamps and where I’ve been. My ring reminds me of Spain and why I enjoy studying Spanish.”

Rennard’s love for travel is fueled by her passion for languages and cultures. She traveled quite a bit with her family starting at a young age, but Rennard’s first international experience was when they hosted a Spanish exchange student while she was in high school. “We became really good friends, so that made me want to visit her hometown.” Rennard received a KU study abroad scholarship that supported a semester in Salamanca, Spain. “It made it a bit more feasible and let me know that there are scholarships and people who do value study abroad.”

Upon returning to the U.S., Rennard worked as a peer advisor for the Office of Study Abroad. Her responsibilities involved sharing information about scholarships and advising new students on study abroad decisions. She also was a Student Endowment Board member, serving as the vice president of fundraising. In this position, Rennard saw the impact of crowdfunding firsthand and how small gifts can make a difference to students. “I think it really taught me the importance of donor support and why it’s important for people to give back to KU.”

Rennard will be spending the next year as an English teaching assistant as part of the Fulbright Program in the Canary Islands. She then plans to return to the U.S. and attend graduate school for speech pathology.

EMILY COX



WHAT'S IN YOUR BRIEFCASE?

“THE VAPING AND SMOKING ROBOTS IN MY LAB,” said Matthias Salathe, M.D., Peter T. Bohan Chair of Internal Medicine and professor of pulmonary and critical care medicine at the University of Kansas Medical Center. “The robots expose human cells to vaping and smoking to help us investigate effects on the respiratory system. We are looking at whether vaping nicotine is as safe as people thought or if it is actually as damaging as cigarettes.”

The latest research by Salathe’s team, published in June by the *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine*, found that vaping had negative effects on the ability of cells to clear mucus from the airways. This could lead to chronic bronchitis and other conditions. Salathe has long been fascinated with how the lungs clear themselves and how smoking or a genetic disease such as cystic fibrosis affects them. He said more research in these areas is needed because lung diseases have drastically increased and are leading causes of death.

“Philanthropy is important in maintaining a steady stream of research support. I believe that to advance our therapies, we need to do research, and that is why we have an academic medical center. We want to cultivate the next generation of physician-scientists and to be part of the solutions for diseases.”

A fund established by Peter T. Bohan, a KU professor of medicine from 1914 to 1945, supports Salathe’s position as chair. His role is to build on the medical center’s excellent clinical education by expanding the research focus with more teams of physicians and scientists working together.

“What I enjoy most is getting people excited about making new discoveries and translating that into clinical practice. All of our progress over the last 40 years in medicine would not have been possible without academic research and support.”

VALERIE GIELER

CAMPUS HAPPENINGS

A home for hope

Survivors of domestic violence have a new housing option in Lawrence thanks to a partnership between The Willow Domestic Violence Center, KU Endowment and Tenants to Homeowners-Lawrence Community Housing Trust. KU Endowment made the house available through a mutually beneficial agreement.

In May, several survivors moved into Restoration House, the first transitional housing for The Willow. Up to four survivors can live in the five-bedroom two-story, furnished house for a monthly rent of \$100 each. There is room for a survivor to bring two small children and stay there for up to two years. Currently, Willow's crisis shelter is only able to provide housing for 30 to 60 days. Restoration House will give clients more time to rebuild their lives.



Jazz Ensemble is tops

KU Jazz Ensemble I was recognized by *DownBeat* magazine as the best graduate college large jazz ensemble in the country in the 42nd Annual Student Music Awards. Under the leadership of Dan Gailey, director of jazz studies and professor of music, KU students have won 27 *DownBeat* awards, which are among the most prestigious and competitive in jazz education. Gailey received a coveted Chancellors Club Teaching Professorship for 2017–23.

Estate gift creates scholarships for KU medical students

A \$2.8 million gift from the estate of the late Alton and Helen Knechtel will provide scholarships for medical students at the KU School of Medicine. The California couple, who were native Kansans, married in 1936. Alton died in 1984 after battling Alzheimer's disease, and Helen died in 2018. "Alton's medical condition was probably the reason the couple chose to leave the gift to the medical school," said Kimberley Price, of Encinitas, Calif., a family friend of Helen's for over 40 years. "She felt she could make an impact on more people in the long run by supporting students to become doctors."

World's premier organist joins KU faculty



Internationally acclaimed organist Olivier Latry has been named a William T. Kemper Artist-in-Residence at the KU School of Music, beginning this fall. One of Notre Dame Cathedral's three principal organists, Latry is professor of organ at the Paris Conservatory of Music. He has given concerts in more than 50 countries on five continents and appears regularly at prestigious venues as a soloist and with prominent orchestras around the globe. Latry will visit KU each semester for three years and will teach and perform. His appointment is made possible through a gift from the William T. Kemper Foundation.

KU grades high

In the 2020 rankings from *U.S. News & World Report*, the University of Kansas has 11 graduate programs in the top 10 and 48 in the top 50 among public universities. The special education program is ranked No. 1 again this year, and the local government management program remained the best among all schools for the 23rd consecutive year. KU's part-time MBA program climbed eight spots, and the law, aerospace engineering and public affairs programs each increased their ranking.

New year, new degrees

As the 2019–20 academic year begins, the KU Edwards campus is offering several new degree programs. Beginning in fall 2019, students can earn bachelor's degrees in environmental studies, American Sign Language & Deaf Studies, and exercise science, as well as an undergraduate certificate in strength and conditioning online.

Stunning fossil discovery

Groundbreaking work by a team of paleontologists led by KU doctoral student Robert DePalma has presented the best evidence yet to understand the cataclysmic events that wiped out 99% of life on Earth, including the dinosaurs. A treasure-trove of exquisitely preserved animal and fish fossils was discovered at a site called Tanis in North Dakota's Hell Creek formation. Scientists can trace the fossils' origins to just minutes after an asteroid devastated the planet some 66 million years ago. The study was published in the prestigious Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences in April.



Humanitarian recognized

KU alumna Shelly London, the leader behind the creation of Understood.org, was selected to receive the 2019 Dole Humanitarian Award, presented by KU's Department of Special Education. London was recognized for her work as the founding president emeritus of the Poses Family Foundation. In collaboration with 14 other nonprofit partners, the foundation launched Understood.org, which provides free web-based resources to support the one in five individuals with learning and attention issues. London and her husband, Larry Kanter, also a KU alumnus, are longtime Jayhawks and donors to the university.

"We got a great education at KU, and everyone deserves the same," they said. "Well beyond career preparation, a great education helps develop critical thinking and practical wisdom. And that's what we all need for our lives, our country and our planet."

First Forward honors

The University of Kansas has been nationally recognized for excellence in improving experiences and outcomes of first-generation college students. The Center for First-generation Student Success has named KU a First Forward institution, one of only 80 schools to receive the designation. The university will receive professional development opportunities and will benefit from engaging with peer institutions on challenges, sharing resources and best practices, and celebrating program successes.

You said it

"I recently donated to JayDoc Clinic because as a medical student, participating in the clinic was formative to me and helped shape the physician I am today and the goals I have for the future."

ELIZABETH SCHEPKER, BROOKLYN, N.Y.
M.D. 2010

"We are grateful to make regular gifts to the Comfort and Rickman awards to support the superb young men and women in KU's ROTC programs."

JIM COOPER, LAWRENCE, KAN.
BACHELOR'S IN POLITICAL SCIENCE 1974

"Our motivation in creating the fund was to honor my father's legacy of promoting Haitian culture and history. In addition to donating a portion of my father's personal library, we felt it was important to support undergraduate and graduate travel to Haiti for field research."

SERGE DANIELSON-FRANCOIS,
DEARBORN HEIGHTS, MICH.



FILL THE CUPBOARD

You can support KU community members in need by visiting kuendowment.org/foodforJayhawks

FOOD FOR JAYHAWKS

NEARLY ONE IN THREE KU STUDENTS STRUGGLES WITH FOOD INSECURITY, according to a survey conducted in spring 2018 by Stacey Swearingen White, director of the School of Public Affairs and Administration. The university is committed to raising awareness, identifying resources and encouraging compassion about hunger and food insecurity in our community.

KU Student Affairs and the Center for Community Outreach operate the Campus Cupboard, a grocery-style free food resource available to all KU students, faculty and staff. Last year, the store moved from its off-campus location to a new space on Level 4 of the Kansas Union to make it more convenient for the KU community. The Campus Cupboard is accessible from both the Student Involvement and Leadership Center and the Sabatini Multicultural Resource Center. Just Food, the Douglas County food bank, supplies the food, and KU Dining provides prepackaged items.

The Campus Cupboard is currently staffed by a KU Master of Social Work student, but a future goal is to hire someone full time to allow expanded hours of operation to better meet the needs of students.

“Over the past year, my experience at the Campus Cupboard has been life-changing,” said Alexandria Hall, Campus Cupboard coordinator. “Being in a position to help hundreds of people access a basic need is heartwarming. This is a safe space on campus where everyone in the KU community can come, free of judgment and receive help.”

Research to ascertain the depth and breadth of these concerns is ongoing, but expanded resources and services are needed in order to support KU’s most vulnerable students. The university believes the Campus Cupboard will grow and become sustainable and also will serve as a tool to fight the stigma that surrounds hunger on campus.

JODI BOUYACK

ENHANCING THE KU EXPERIENCE

ENGAGING CLASSES, INSPIRING FACULTY, INFECTIOUS SCHOOL SPIRIT AND A BREATHTAKING CAMPUS are just a few reasons why the Jayhawk experience is like no other. Now consider that private support fuels many of the traditions and aspirations that make KU exceptional.

Donors who provide unrestricted support of at least \$1,000 annually to the Greater KU Fund are recognized by the Chancellors Club. Their generosity supports the students and faculty at the heart of KU and help make possible some of KU's most beloved customs and traditions.

The Greater KU Fund supports:



Students

- Study Abroad
- Marching Jayhawks
- KU Honors Program
- 16 new Chancellors Club Scholars each year



Faculty

- Professorships
- Research Awards
- Career Teaching Awards



Campus events

- Commencement
- Homecoming



To learn more about the Chancellors Club, or if you'd like to make a gift, contact Kevin Kelly, Chancellors Club director, at 785-832-7408 or kkelly@kuendowment.org.

JAYHAWK FAITHFUL

LOYAL JAYHAWKS INSPIRE OTHERS

WHAT COMES TO MIND WHEN YOU THINK OF A FAITHFUL FRIEND?

Maybe it's a neighbor you can always count on. Or a childhood friend who still brings joy to your heart after all these years. Or possibly, you picture the warm faces of family who are there for you in the best and most trying times.

For us at KU Endowment, we consider members of Jayhawk Faithful to be among the most dedicated friends of the University of Kansas. The recognition program celebrates KU supporters who have given to any area at the university for two or more consecutive years — no matter the size of the gift.

We created Jayhawk Faithful to show appreciation for the over 23,000 KU alumni, students, parents, faculty, staff and friends who currently support the university, year after year. We recently asked members to share some of their stories about why they give to KU. The stories we have received so far are heartfelt and inspiring and speak to the importance of ongoing loyal support. If you would like to tell your story, please visit www.kuendowment.org/jayhawk-faithful-stories.

“How lucky we have been to return to the enlightening and educational environment offered by the University of Kansas! It's quite easy to give to university programs on a continued basis because of our interest in lifelong learning and loyalty to KU.”

*Dave Domann, bachelor's in pharmacy 1976,
master's in pharmacy 1978, and Libby Domann,
bachelor's in nursing 1977
Lawrence, Kan.
3-year consecutive donors*

“I attribute much of my success to what I learned from my professors while at KU. I give to honor them and to help perpetuate the legacy of the Crimson and Blue. I am thankful for having had the opportunity to go to such a fine institution and hope, that by giving, I help maintain her legacy.”

*Jaime Diaz, bachelor's in business and Latin
American studies 1984
Shawnee, Kan.
12-year consecutive donor*

“While there are many worthwhile organizations that seek contributions, I feel that the education of our young people offers the greatest hope for the future of our state and nation. As college costs rise, more and more students need help to avoid going into debt. KU was an important part of my life, and I want to enable others to have the opportunity to learn and grow into good teachers for our children and youth.”

*Sylvia Allgaier, Ed.D, bachelor's in education 1958
Dallas, Texas
34-year consecutive donor*

“The moment I walked down the hill in 1955, I knew I wanted to continue my identification and association with KU. Giving became a habit. Once you form a good habit you continue it. Later in life, I began to realize how important it is to support higher education.”

*Gary Padgett, bachelor's in business 1955
Greenleaf, Kan.
53-year consecutive donor*



VICTORY EAGLE'S FINAL LANDING

A MAJESTIC BRONZE EAGLE HAS TOUCHED DOWN ON A PERMANENT HOME AT KU. The Victory Eagle is a Kansas treasure that honors veterans and casualties of World War I from Douglas County, some of whom were KU students. Located on campus since 1982 east of Dyche Hall, the Victory Eagle was recently moved to Memorial Drive. Thanks to the support of KU donors including a lead gift from Leslie and Dirk Raemdonck, the statue and recognition plaque are now located in a plaza overlooking Marvin Grove. It was rededicated during a celebration in May.

The impressive statue portrays a female eagle with a wingspan of more than seven feet protecting her nesting young. It is one of six known bronze eagles created in the 1920s as part of the Victory Highway, a

coast-to-coast route from New York to San Francisco intended to memorialize those who died in World War I. The vision for the highway was to place a statue at each county line along U.S. Highway 40, but the initiative lost momentum during the Depression.

The Victory Eagle was originally placed at the Douglas-Leavenworth county line in 1929. It remained there until 1980, when vandals knocked it off its pedestal and stole the plaque listing the names of Douglas County's fallen soldiers. The statue was then placed in the care of the University of Kansas.

The recent Memorial Drive reconstruction project provided an opportunity for the Victory Eagle to be relocated there and take its rightful place among the other KU war memorials.

VALERIE GIELER



KU ENDOWMENT

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