

plaudits

Walton honored in White House ceremony

Krista Walton, assistant professor of chemical engineering at K-State, recently received a Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers, the nation's highest honor for professionals at the outset of their independent scientific research careers.



Krista Walton

Walton and 14 other scholars, nominated by the U.S. Department of Defense, were recognized in White House ceremonies Dec. 19, receiving their awards from President George W. Bush. Each scholar receives \$200,000 a year for five years to support their research.

The award was established in 1996 to honor the most promising researchers in the nation within their field.

A recognized scientific contributor in adsorption science and technology, Walton holds a bachelor's degree in chemical and materials engineering from the University of Alabama-Huntsville and a Ph.D. in chemical engineering from Vanderbilt University. She worked as an American Chemical Society Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Northwestern University, as well as a graduate research assistant and IBM Fellow at Vanderbilt University. As part of her NASA-sponsored graduate research, she designed a novel adsorption separation system for producing oxygen in the Mars in situ resource utilization project.

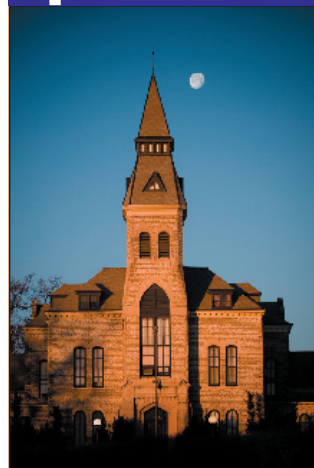
She joined the chemical engineering faculty at K-State in 2006 as the Tim and Sharon Taylor Assistant Professor.

Paz receives Commerce presidential award for promoting diversity at K-State

Rebeca Paz, coordinator of the PILOTS Program, received the Commerce Bank Presidential Faculty/Staff Award for Distinguished Services to Historically Underrepresented Students Jan. 20. The award was established in 1978 to recognize outstanding individual contributions to the development of high-quality education for students of color at K-State. It includes a plaque and \$2,500.

K-State accounting student Careem Gladney also received the Commerce Bank Presidential Award for Enhancing Multiculturalism.

picture perfect



Early morning majesty

The moon hangs in the early morning sky behind Anderson Hall.

Whether you need candid shots for departmental publications, or a professional head shot, contact university photographer **David Mayes** at 785-532-6304 or photo@k-state.edu

on campus January-February

Jan. 30-31

Film: 'W'

Showings at 8 p.m., Jan. 30, and at 7 and 9:30 p.m. on Jan. 31. Forum Hall, K-State Student Union. (There will be an additional showing at 8 p.m. Feb. 1.)

Jan. 31

Russian National Ballet Theatre: Ballet's Greatest Moments

As part of the McCain Performance Series, stars of the Bolshoi and Kirov Ballets along with other leading dancers from across Russia will perform stunning scenes from *The Sleeping Beauty*, *Swan Lake*, *Cinderella*, *Carmin*, and more. 7:30 p.m., McCain Auditorium.

Feb. 4

Classified senate meeting

12:45 p.m., K-State Student Union Staterooms 1 and 2.

Feb. 5-7 and 11-14

Theater: 'Intimate Apparel'

K-State Theatre joins with Ebony Theatre for a production of Lynn Nottage's critically acclaimed, *Intimate Apparel*. The story, set in Manhattan in 1905, revolves around Esther who sews intimate apparel for a variety of clients. She hopes to one day open a beauty parlor. When she searches for a love of her own, she finds it long distance with a stranger that compromises her dreams. 7:30 p.m., Nichols Theatre. Call 532-6428 for ticket information.

Feb. 9

'Connecting the Dots at K-State: Sustainability, Food Systems and Nonviolence.'

As part of the 2009 Season of Nonviolence, Rhonda Janke, professor of sustainable agriculture, will talk about how the local food system supports nonviolence every day. 7 p.m., Little Theatre, K-State Student Union.



Child piano prodigy Conrad Tao will perform at 7:30 p.m., Feb. 7 in McCain Auditorium as part of the McCain Performance Series. For ticket information call 532-6428.

Feb. 10

'Favorite Food Books: Talk and Tasting'

As part of the 2009 Season for Nonviolence, Carol Barta will lead a discussion about food systems authors such as Barbara Kingsolver and Michael Pollan. A local dessert will be served. 7-8:30 p.m., Manhattan Public Library auditorium.

Feb. 11

eID deadline

Today is the deadline for changing passwords on K-State eIDs for spring 2009. See the Password FAQs and change your password in your eProfile.

opportunities

Classified

- A list of employment opportunities is posted at <http://www.k-state.edu/hr/vac.html>
- A recording of classified job opportunities is available 24 hours a day on the Employment Information Line, 532-6271.
- For additional information, call 532-6277 or visit the Division of Human Resources at 103 Edwards Hall. Applications are accepted 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

Unclassified

- A listing of vacancies can be seen at <http://www.k-state.edu/affact/Opportunities/unclass.htm>
- For additional information, call the office of affirmative action at 532-6220 or visit 214 Anderson Hall.

Obesity research, continued

towski, food prices can ultimately determine what a child eats, such as when an item's price and taste trump its nutritional quality. Healthy options like fresh fruits and vegetables and lean meats are generally more expensive than energy-dense foods made from refined grains, sugars and fats.

In the socio-cultural environment, the researchers found that parenting styles can affect children's food choices.

"Parents and guardians should strive to not control their children's eating and activity, but set limits," Dzewaltowski said. "The best way to do this is to limit children's options to healthful choices."

In the built and natural environments, the researchers found that larger plates, bowls, cups and serving utensils can promote a greater consumption of food.

Rosenkranz said the healthy choice is not always the easy choice.

"There are very powerful forces at work beyond the home that can have an overwhelming influence on what a parent does to provide things for children," he said.

As examples, Rosenkranz named several factors that can lead to an obesity-inducing environment: advertising directed at children that promotes unhealthy foods; the U.S. farm bill that partly determines what foods are

produced and the costs of those foods to a family; and the current economic situation that affects, among a list of numerous things, what foods families can afford.

Rosenkranz said there are some simple changes parents can make in the home to prevent their child from being overweight, such as having regular family meals with fruits and vegetables and no soda, while saving junk foods for occasions like trips to the movies or restaurants.

In addition, parents should make healthy options like fruits and vegetables easily accessible, like having vegetables readily prepared for snacking and a fruit bowl, he said.

Parents can be role models for their children and influence their attitudes about food and nutrition, Rosenkranz said.

"The worst thing a parent can do is to have and eat a lot of junk food – like ice cream, cookies and soda – in the home, and then to have restrictive practices with regard to allowing kids to access that junk food," Rosenkranz said. "If the kids know it is there, and parents are consuming it themselves but won't let kids have it, that is just a recipe for disaster."

An ongoing \$77,501 grant from the Sunflower Foundation provided funding to support the creation of the model of the home food environment. ■

Creative solutions

Budget crisis a high priority at K-State

Calling the current state budget crisis "unprecedented times," several K-State administrators have been meeting with faculty, staff and students across campus since summer to discuss the university's financial position. Most recently, Bruce Shubert, vice president for administration and finance; M. Duane Nellis, provost and senior vice president; and Pat Bosco, vice president for student life, are holding public forums to share information, discuss strategy and listen. Ruth Dyer, associate provost; and Cindy Bontrager, budget director, also are participating.

Those meetings continue — and the remaining ones are listed in the box on this page. Forums are open to all interested parties. Especially encouraged to attend are executive staff, department heads, faculty senators, College Committee on Planning members, student senators, student college council members and classified senators.

Each forum begins with a presentation outlining the budget problems and asking for input from the university community on creative ways to approach bleak financial times.

"The governor's budget calls for 3 percent cuts in 2009 and an additional 4 percent in 2010. It was prepared before the December revenues were known," Shubert said. "Those revenues were down \$50 million, making the budget situation even worse." He said the next revenue report will be released in April.

Among the possible challenges for K-State is a recommended unfunded 1 percent salary increase for next year, Shubert said. If adopted by the Legislature, K-State would need to find the money for that increase on top of other salary obligations, such as funding fringe benefit cost increases, funding pay increases related to the second year of the classified pay plan and providing funding for faculty promotions.

K-State already has cut costs by cancelling searches for the dean of the Graduate School and dean of the Division of Continuing Edu-



Bruce Shubert, K-State's vice president for administration and finance, explains the current budget situation to the College of Engineering's staff and faculty Thursday, Jan. 22. *Left:* College staff and faculty look on during the budget presentation.

Also, the administration has suspended filling the posts of associate vice president of administration and finance and vice president for institutional advancement. Funding for Targeted Excellence also is being reduced.

Nellis said it is important to maintain the high quality of K-State's educational experience. "Reductions will be mission driven, with emphasis on maintaining the quality of the student learning experience at both the un-

continued on back

New deans named

The interim deans of K-State's Graduate School and Division of Continuing Education have earned regular appointments to their respective positions from M. Duane Nellis, K-State senior vice president and provost.

"Given the extraordinary financial times we are facing this coming year and the uncertainty of the financial situation beyond next year, I requested that we cancel the national searches for new deans and appoint Carol Shanklin as dean of the Graduate School and Sue C. Maes as dean of Continuing Education," Nellis said. "Both Drs. Shanklin and Maes, who were appointed as interim deans following internal searches at K-State, have been performing their duties in an exemplary fashion and have a true understanding of the difficult economic times ahead."

Shanklin and Maes were each appointed to three-year terms.

Shanklin, a veteran administrator and educator in food service and dietetics, was appointed acting dean of the Graduate School in August 2007 and interim dean in October 2007.

Maes, an expert in new academic programs and fostering institutional collaboration, has served as interim dean of the Division of Continuing Education since July 2008.



Sue Maes



Carol Shanklin

Upcoming budget forums

- *Jan. 29, 10 a.m., College of Education
- *Jan. 29, 3:45 p.m., College of Human Ecology
- *Jan. 30, 8 a.m. College of Agriculture
- *Feb. 2, 1:30 p.m., College of Arts and Sciences
- *Feb. 2, 3:30 p.m., College of Business Administration
- *Feb. 3, 3 p.m., College of Architecture, Planning and Design

Inside



Professor uses birding to teach people how to appreciate nature **Up Close**

oh, by the way

Food and human relationships to be focus of 2009's Season for Nonviolence

Food, food systems and human relationships will be the focus of K-State's eighth annual Season for Nonviolence, Jan. 30-April 4.

The community-wide event is dedicated to promoting nonviolent relationships and takes place on the 64 days between the assassination anniversaries of two world-famous peacemakers: Mahatma Gandhi, who was killed Jan. 30, 1948, and Martin Luther King Jr., who was shot April 4, 1968. The observance was started in 1998 and has grown into an international event.

Some of the upcoming K-State Season for Nonviolence events are listed in the 'On Campus' portion of this newsletter. A full listing can be found at <http://www.k-state.edu/nonviolence>. All events are free and open to the public.

Dance program bringing guest artists

Traditional West African music and dance and modern dance will be the focus of two guest artists who will work with K-State's dance program in the spring 2009 semester.

The guest artists include Bernard Woma, artistic director of the Saakumu Dance Troupe and the founder and director of the Dagara Music and Arts Center in Accra, Ghana, and Chanon Judson, director of UB2, the performing apprentice ensemble of the critically acclaimed Urban Bush Women dance company.

Woma will be on campus Feb. 3-7, while Judson's residency will be Feb. 13-28.

Woma and a member of his dance troupe will teach master classes in traditional West African social music and dance. Woma also will present a lecture demonstration on African traditions and offer master classes for USD 383, the Manhattan-Ogden school district. More information about his schedule is available by contacting Neil Dunn at neildunn@k-state.edu.

While at K-State, Judson will be restaging a portion of Jawole Willa Jo Zollar's "Walking with Pearl...Southern Diaries" with K-State dance students. The work will be performed at K-State's SpringDance 2009, April 3-4. Along with the restaging project, Judson also will teach dance classes at K-State; conduct a seminar and present lectures for the American ethnic studies program; and teach movement classes at Manhattan's Douglass Community Center for at-risk children.

Beach Museum hosting lecture on 'KansAsians'

To accompany its exhibition on Japanese-American artist Roger Shimomura, K-State's Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art will offer a lecture on the historical experiences of Asian-Americans in Kansas at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 29.

William Tsutsui, associate dean of international studies and professor of history at the University of Kansas, will present "KansAsians: The Asian-American Experience in Kansas from Race Riots to Roger Shimomura." The lecture is free and open to the public.

Tsutsui's talk is in conjunction with the Beach Museum exhibition "The Return of the Yellow Peril: A Survey of the Work of Roger Shimomura, 1969-2007," a thematic review of 63 works by Shimomura, including paintings, prints, performance photographs and found art sculptures. The exhibition is on display in the Pelton Gallery through Feb. 1.

For more information, call the Beach Museum of Art at 532-7718 or drop by the museum on the southeast corner of the K-State campus at 14th Street and Anderson Avenue.

research

Making healthy decisions



Richard Rosenkranz, assistant professor of nutrition, illustrates the decisions kids are faced with about the availability of foods at home. In one hand he holds an apple. In the other, chocolate-covered cookies.

K-State researchers say availability of foods at home can make or break childhood obesity

What parents make available for their children to eat can contribute to an obesity-prone home food environment, according to researchers at K-State.

The researchers say that when it comes to childhood obesity, a multitude of factors affect the food children consume in the home.

"Many people view healthful eating and physical activity as an individual responsibility, but research says that we tend to eat what is available," said David Dzewaltowski, professor and head of the department of kinesiology at K-State. "So, for adults, we are driven by what is available and marketed by the food system. For children, parents are the gatekeepers of what is available at home and what out-of-home options are provided."

Richard Rosenkranz, assistant professor of human nutrition at K-State, is a former doctoral student of Dzewaltowski and worked under his guidance to compose a model of different components that contribute to an obesity-prone home food en-

vironment.

Their work, "Model of the Home Food Environment Pertaining to Childhood Obesity," is in the March 2008 Nutrition Reviews journal.

Since children's homes are the most influential environment in developing dietary behaviors, their research is meant to create a full view of the food environment from which an individual's dietary intake could be moderated, according to Rosenkranz.

The research found three types of influential environments: political and economic, built and natural, and socio-cultural.

In the political and economic environment, the study found that factors like food pricing and family socioeconomic status affect the dietary lifestyle in the home.

According to Rosenkranz and Dzewal-

continued on back

noteworthy

Agricultural economics

Kevin Dhuyvetter and **Terry Kastens**, had spreadsheets featured in Farm Futures magazine. One spreadsheet: "Will a New Guidance System Reap Profits in 2008" was featured as the February 2008 Spreadsheet of the Month, and another, "What Can You Afford to Pay for Your Lease" was the December 2008 feature spreadsheet.

Architecture

Ulf Meyer published "LX Architecture-In the Heart of Europe," in three languages (German, English and French), DOM Publishers, Berlin, Germany.

Mick Charney conducted the workshop "Call Me Ishmael: What Our College-Age Students Don't Know About Religion... but Should (and Why?)," at the Seventh Annual Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities, Jan. 9, Honolulu.

Geology

Iris Totten was featured in the Ewing-Marion Kauffman Thoughtbook 2009, "Students Explore Real Earth Virtually."

Totten published "An Earth Science Course for Pre-Service Teachers," Journal of Geoscience Education, Vol. 56, No. 5.

Landscape architecture

The following K-State faculty presented at the annual national conference of the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture, Jan. 14-17, Tucson, Ariz.:

Eric Bernard and student, "Improving Landscape Architectural Problem Solving: Integrating GI-Sciences and Technology Edu-



Kate Stenske will present "Feline Upper Respiratory Infections: Sneezes, Sniffles, and Snots. Oh My!" Western Veterinary Conference, Feb. 16, Las Vegas, Nev.

ational Objectives in Landscape Architecture Curricula."

Blake Belanger, "Operative Terrain: An Armature for Design Studio and Seminar Integration Focused on Contemporary Theories of Landscape and Urbanism."

Tim Keane and student, "Historical Inventory and Analysis of the Riparian Vegetation Corridors in the Black Vermillion Watershed, Kansas" and "Geomorphic Stream Stability Assessment, Prediction and Validation."

Katie Kingery-Page, "Kabul University Gateway: Learning from Anthropology in Design Education" and "Re-founding Space: Planting Design as a Minimalist Strategy."

Melanie Klein, "Communicating Innovative Ecologic, Economic and Social Sustainability for the Damaged Landscape."

Stephanie Rolley and student, "Critical Practice, Case Application to Urban Design."

Rolley and student, "Guidelines

for Landscape Architects Collaborating with Skatepark Design/Build Companies."

Rolley presented a series of papers related to design communication through diagrams, literature maps and other means of visualizing concepts and process.

Rolley served as an invited panel member in a discussion of the future growth of the landscape architecture profession and the role of universities in meeting the projected demand.

Multiple departments

Doug Powell and **Casey Jacob**, diagnostic medicine/pathobiology; and **Amy Hubbell**, modern languages; published "New Media for Communicating Food Safety," Food Technology, Jan. 9.

Physics

C. Lewis Cocke, Predrag Ranitovic and colleagues published "Observing the Creation of Electronic Feshbach Resonances in Soft X-Ray-Induced O₂ Dissociation," Science, Vol. 322, No. 5904.

Psychology

Satoris Culbertson and colleagues published "Laying Down the Law: Engaging Industrial/Organizational Psychology Undergraduate Students on Employment Legal Issues," The Industrial-Organizational Psychologist, Vol. 46, No. 3.

Richard Harris and colleagues published "The Effect of Advances in Video Game Technology and Content on Aggressive Cognitions, Hostility, and Heart Rate," Media Psychology, Vol. 11.

up close

Nurturing nature

K-State professor uses birding to build an appreciation for nature

When looking to take in a little nature, most would probably head for the nearest prairie or hiking trail.

No need, according to K-State's Ted Cable. All you need to do is look out the window.

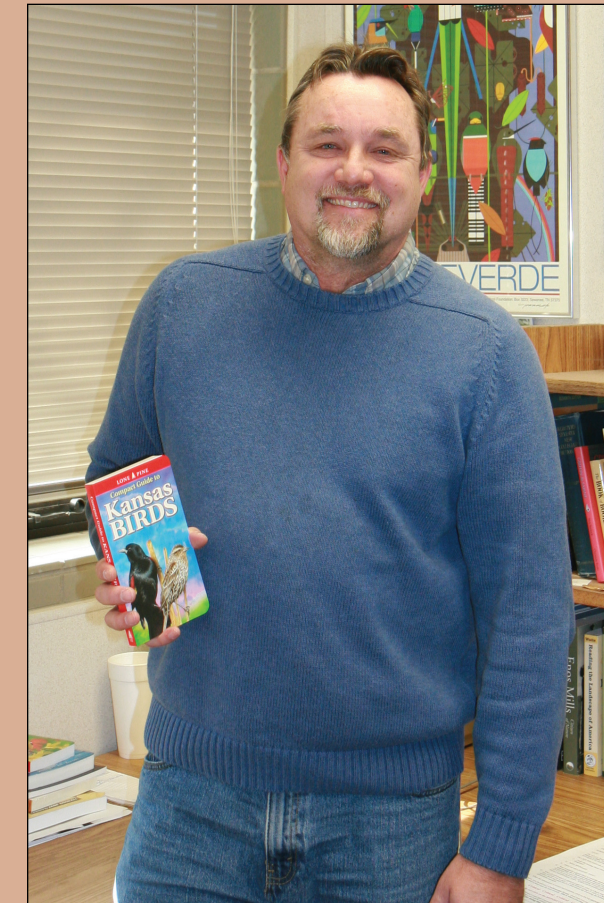
"People are surrounded by beauty; they just need to stop and take in what I call mundane miracles — things we take for granted," Cable said. "By looking at a leaf or bird more closely they become pretty amazing things."

From his office in K-State's Throckmorton Hall, Cable says he can see a variety of birds, including catbirds and thrashers. Opportunities abound elsewhere on campus, too, he said. Campus lawns, trees and creeks, even the under-hangings of several campus buildings and other unsuspecting places can be fruitful for birdwatchers.

"Birds are conspicuous. They're elegant and colorful ... they represent what nature is all about," Cable said.

As a professor of natural resource management and a conservationist, Cable helps people interpret and appreciate nature. Introducing folks to birding is just one way to do that, he said.

To that end, his latest book, "The Compact Guide to Birds of Kansas," is a reader-friendly compilation of Kansas bird statistics and pictures of the scores of birds that can be seen right here in Kansas. The book recently took first place in the small book division of the Interpretive Media Awards



Professor Ted Cable, pictured here with his latest interpretive project, has seen some 2,300 different avian species, 427 of which were in Kansas. Recently, Cable added another bird to his list: the very rare Ross's Gull. The gull, which has never before been seen in Kansas, typically lives on the Arctic ice. Cable spotted it Jan. 14 at Tuttle Creek Reservoir.

Competition in Portland, Ore.

"My goal is to try to get people to see beauty in nature and to see beauty in the things around them," Cable said. "One way to do that is through

birding education."

Much as a museum curator might explain a piece of abstract art to a museum patron, Cable said he helps his students and others understand



'The Compact Guide to Kansas Birds' stands among several of Cable's other educational works.

the natural world and, more importantly, make an emotional connection.

"I don't want to turn people into nature nuts, but by exposing people to the beauty of birds — an animated, ubiquitous manifestation of nature's beauty — and by helping them find personal meaning in nature through interpretation, I hope to get people to fall in love with birds and nature in general," Cable said.

After all, he said, people will care for the things they care about.

"The purpose of interpreting nature for people is not to make every person we come in contact with a naturalist, but rather, to make the people we come in contact with happier people," Cable said.

More often than not, Cable said it's a matter of getting people to slow down and take in their surroundings. It's a difficult task, he said, admitting that even he has trouble getting out of his office and away from it all.

That's why he keeps a set of binoculars sitting just below his office window. ■