

plaudits

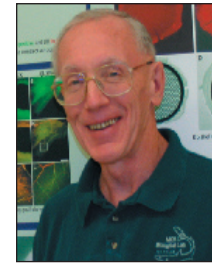
K-State researcher nets \$1.48 million grant renewal to continue working on the cornea

Gary Conrad, a university distinguished professor with K-State's Division of Biology, has received a four-year grant renewal of \$1.48 million from The National Eye Institute of the National Institutes of Health to study the cornea. The grant, which was started in 1971, is the longest continuously funded R01 grant in the state of Kansas.

Conrad's research on embryonic development of the eye has led to knowledge that could possibly improve LASIK surgery. He and his research associates have identified a difference in the connective tissue of normal corneas compared to those that have been cut during LASIK.

LASIK, which stands for laser-assisted in situ keratomileusis, is a surgery using a laser to reshape the cornea as an alternative to wearing corrective eyewear. During the procedure a thin-hinged flap is cut in the front of the cornea and peeled back out of the way to allow the laser to reshape the corneal connective tissue underneath the flap. When the laser is finished the flap is pulled back to its original position.

After LASIK, differences in the structure of sugar molecules made in the cornea prevent cut nerve ends from regenerating, as well as preventing the flap from re-adhering. The grant renewal will enable Conrad's lab group to test a solution that would strengthen the stromal flap and allow it to permanently bind back to the cornea after LASIK, Conrad said. It uses a combination of riboflavin and UVA light to permanently cross-link the connective tissue of the flap to the underlying corneal connective tissue. The treatment is currently in clinical trials in the U.S. for another eye dysfunction known as keratoconus.



Gary Conrad

May-June
on campus

May 26 K-State Zimbra Q&A

An open question and answer session will be held for anyone who has questions about switching over to Zimbra e-mail management system. 10:30 a.m. to noon, Little Theatre, K-State Student Union.

May 29-31 K-State Zimbra migration

The campus e-mail migration to K-State Zimbra begins 6 p.m. Friday, May 29, and ends on Sunday, May 31. After the migration, e-mail will be available at <https://webmail.ksu.edu> or your e-mail client.

June 3 Classified Senate meeting

12:45 p.m., Edwards Hall.



This Thousand Paper Crane display was put together by students in K-State's Japanese Language Program. The paper crane is considered a symbol of peace since the bombings in Hiroshima in 1946.

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.

A bison herd of her own, continued

inger said. "We also wanted the farm to be a place where families, including our own, could come together."

People from all over the world visit the farm every year. All the Dillingers ask in return is that those who can provide a donation to Community Health Ministries in Wamego.

"It's kind of grown by word-of-mouth," Dillinger said.

This time of year keeps the Dillingers hopping with area school groups visiting each day to learn about bison. During the tours the Dillingers set up educational stations, such as bones and hide, to provide visitors with a hands-on lesson in bison anatomy.

The ranch also has been host to international groups, tours from retirement homes

and even a family reunion.

"They were looking for something to do and that whole weekend they had a common experience to talk about," Dillinger said.

Dillinger looks past the hassles of having people out to the farm day in and day out. To her, the education she's able to provide and the connection to the people she meets outweigh all the negatives.

And, as far as she's concerned, the more the merrier.

"We have made a million friends and know people from all around the world," she said. "This is just a part of our volunteerism. It's literally providing something for our community."

"And, it always goes back to education," Dillinger said.

Noteworthy, continued

published "The Role of Personality and Goal Orientation in Student Preferences for Job Attributes," Canadian Journal of Career Development, Vol. 8, No. 1.

Brad Logan presented "Housekeeping in the Central Plains: Spatial Analysis of Late Prehistoric Lodges."

Lauren W. Ritterbush was elected Secretary of the Council of Affiliated Societies.

L. Susan Williams published "Doing Culture with Girls Like Me: Why Trying on Gender and Intersectionality Matters," Sociology Compass, Vol. 3.

Sociology, anthropology and social work

The following K-State faculty members attended the 74th annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, April 23, in Atlanta, Ga.:

Global understanding, continued

more to be added each coming year. In exchange, one K-State student is presently studying abroad, and many others considering the opportunity. "It is hoped that more K-State students will spend a semester at South China Normal University to learn Chinese language and culture and that others will go for shorter periods," Meredith said. Faculty and graduate students in the marriage and family therapy and early childhood education programs also have gone to the university to conduct research and give presentations. "Marriage and family therapy is an emerging field in China and K-State is doing its part to help that field grow," Meredith said. "The Chinese are adopting more Western ideas relative to early childhood education. The School of Family Studies and Human Studies is well situated to help them and, in the process, our faculty and students learn from them as well." Meredith also is working to establish a Confucius Institute on campus, which would coordinate efforts to spread Chinese language and culture at K-State.

* Neil Dunn and Julie Pentz of K-State's dance

faculty have introduced American and West African cultures through dance. In 2004 Dunn met, studied and performed with Bernard Woma, director of the Dagara Music Center and artistic director of the Saakuma Dance Company in West Africa. What started out as a friendship turned into the K-State African Ensemble and an exchange program. In 2008, Dunn and Pentz, K-State's dance program director, took a dance student to study at the Dagara Music Center in Ghana. The time at the center was spent studying the music and taking part in several social dances, as well as being involved in other cultural activities including wedding ceremonies and Kenti weaving. Woma and Evelyn Yaa Bekyore, a dancer in the Saakuma Dance Company, then came to K-State to share West African dance with the university's dance students and the Manhattan community. "This was a wonderful opportunity for K-State students and the community, who were able to get concentrated interaction with Bernard and Yaa, who are not only natives to the culture, but also touring professionals in the art," Dunn said. ■

A different world, continued

win, but we decided that was something we as scientists would want to see, not high school kids," Totten said.

Totten has presented the work at Tulane University, the International Conference on Digital Game and

Intelligent Toy Enhanced Learning, and the Education Grantmakers Conference.

She said that Second Life is being used to teach other science disciplines like genetics, by using virtual fruit flies, and chemistry,

by showing lab experiments such as the Redi Experiment that are not easily done in the high school classroom.

Second Life has a special role to teach geology to students on the Great Plains, Totten said. ■

Global understanding

K-State faculty actively promote the value of an international education

As the work force becomes increasingly global, exposure to international experiences and cultures is becoming a key part of any university education.

From advertising to veterinary medicine, faculty at K-State have taken that to heart, working to bring cultures together, foster understanding and literally have an impact in other countries.

Here are some recent highlights from just a few of the countless projects where K-Staters are having a global impact:

* David Hodgson, an anesthesiologist and professor of clinical sciences at the College of Veterinary Medicine, is presently on his third trip to Afghanistan, where he's training future Afghan veterinarians at Kabul University. When Hodgson made his first trip to the country in 2007, he found the students ill prepared and the university's curriculum and textbooks hopelessly out of date. Since then, he's been teaching students the most current methods of diagnosis and treatment, and he's helping to develop a more current curriculum in veterinary science. "The real thing that is going to change Afghanistan is going to be education," Hodgson said. "The thing that really keeps me going is the enthusiasm the students have and the real desire to want to learn. If I didn't think that I wasn't having an impact, I wouldn't go back."

* Swinder Janda, professor of marketing, prepares his students for the real world by taking them to globally prominent companies. "Since business is increasingly global, it is important to expose students to global perspectives," he said. "By traveling abroad, students gain a much deeper perspective related to how economies of nations are interconnected. It enhances their world-mindedness, which is increasingly critical in today's global environment." To date, 130 K-State students have benefited from Janda's programs. Over the last several years, he has taken undergraduates in his international business class to several European cities, including Munich to visit the BMW Corporation, Paris to visit the Fashion Exposition, London to learn about the Ogilvy Advertising Agency, and Brussels to attend seminars at the European Commission. Last winter, graduate students studying



emerging markets traveled to China with Janda to study the cultural and business climate and learn the skills needed to interact and negotiate successfully with Chinese businesses. As the Paul Ederley Endowed Professor in Global Business, Janda also brings prominent global business scholars and practitioners to campus, advances exchange partnerships with foreign universities, and facilitates study abroad experiences for K-State students. He also spends considerable time on internationally oriented research, having published four peer-reviewed articles in the last year. "Since business is becoming increasingly global, these programs are an absolute necessity to adequately prepare our students for the real world once they graduate," Janda said.



* Bill Hargrove, director of K-State's Kansas Center for Agricultural Resources and the Environment, is bringing Pakistan and Kansas together. Earlier this spring, he coordinated an experiential training program for 11 college-age men from the Fata region of Pakistan. The students were enrolled in English language classes, lived in student housing and ate at Kramer Dining Hall with other K-State students. While at K-State and in the U.S., they had a variety of experiences aimed at building their awareness of American culture and government and their knowledge and skills in leadership, volunteerism and community development. They were exposed to more than 20 faculty members from a variety of disciplines and a wide variety of students. "Stereotypes of Americans as anti-Muslim and militaristic and Pakistanis as Islamic terrorists were shattered through direct personal interactions and development of lasting friendships," Hargrove said. The lesson, however, wasn't only for Pakistani students. "K-State students were impacted by the friendships that they developed with the trainees and learned about Pakistan and Muslim culture in a part of the world that is in the news every day," he said.



From top to bottom: Pakistani students visiting K-State perform a folk dance; David Hodgson works with veterinary science students in Afghanistan; and graduate students studying emerging markets visit China. (Courtesy photos)

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picture perfect

Let the sun shine in

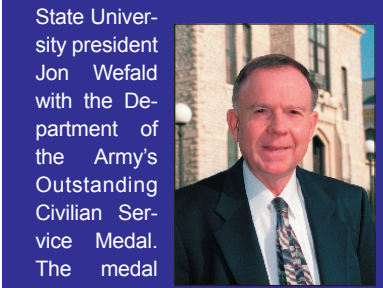


Kristin McDonnell studies for her environmental geography final in a sunny window in Hale Library.

For creative professional images contact university photographer David Mayes at 785-532-6304 or photo@k-state.edu A gallery of Mayes' photos can be seen at <http://ksuphoto.zenfolio.com>

Wefald receives Army civilian service medal

Officials from the U.S. Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth have honored Kansas State University president



Jon Wefald

Jon Wefald with the Department of the Army's Outstanding Civilian Service Medal. The medal recognizes those not employed by the Army for their support.

The medal was awarded by Brig. Gen. Edward Cardon, deputy commandant of the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth during the commencement ceremony for K-State's Graduate School.

"Through his untiring support, the Command and General Staff College and Kansas State University now cooperatively manage master's and doctoral degree programs in security studies, history, adult education and operations research ... President Wefald's service to Fort Leavenworth, the United States Army, the state of Kansas, and the nation reflect great credit on himself and Kansas State University," said the citation.

This spring, 40 students received degrees earned through the program, including 29 master's degrees in adult education, nine master's degrees in security studies, one master's degree in history and a doctorate in education.

Inside



For this K-State educator, bison ranching is a way of life. Up Close

Oh, by the way

K-State colleges honor faculty members

Several colleges at K-State have recognized faculty for excellence in teaching, service, research or advising.

The College of Agriculture recognized five faculty members for excellence in teaching and advising for the fall and spring semesters. Andrew Barkley, professor of agricultural economics, and Timothy Rozell, associate professor of animal sciences and industry, have been named the outstanding agriculture faculty for the fall 2008 semester, with Richard Baker, associate professor of communications, and Jeff Whitworth, assistant professor of entomology, recognized as the outstanding agriculture faculty for the spring 2009 semester. Michael Boland, professor of agricultural economics, was named the College of Agriculture's outstanding academic adviser. The college also awarded the David J. Mugler Outstanding Teaching Award to Steve Harbstreit, associate professor of agriculture education.

The College of Architecture, Planning and Design presented its Distinguished Service Award to M. Duane Nellis, K-State provost and senior vice president, and Jonathan Kemper, chairman and chief executive officer of Commerce Bank, Kansas City, Mo., and a K-State supporter. Katie Kingery-Page, assistant professor of landscape architecture, is the recipient of the college's Wayne Hunt McElwee Faculty Teaching Award.

The College of Arts and Sciences presented its 2009 William L. Stamey Teaching Excellence Awards to Daniel Kuester, assistant professor of economics; Amy Lara, assistant professor of philosophy; Kendra McLaughlan, assistant professor of geography; Sumanth Reddy, graduate teaching assistant in geography; and Lisa Tatonetti, assistant professor of English. Kent Kerby, coordinator of advising in the Division of Biology, received the 2009 William L. Stamey Advising Excellence Award.

The College of Business Administration has awarded its Ralph E. Reitz Outstanding Teaching Award to Rodney Vogt, instructor of accounting, while the Kansas State Bank Outstanding Advising Award has been presented to Scott Hendrix, instructor of finance and adviser to the Student Finance Association.

The College of Education recognized David Griffin Sr., associate professor of secondary education and assistant dean, with the Faculty Excellence in Service Award. The recipient of the college's Faculty Excellence in Research/Creative Activities Award is Gail Shroyer, professor of elementary education.

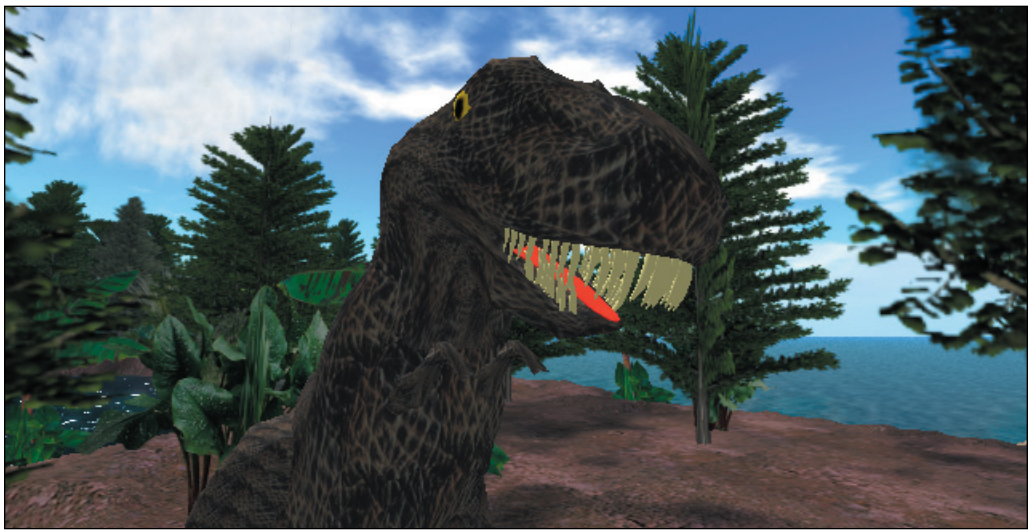
The College of Education's Dan and Cheryl Yunk Excellence in Educational Administration award has been presented to Larry Dixon, a three-time alumnus of K-State. Dixon, the Innovation in Schools and Community liaison/consultant with USD 475 Geary County, has a bachelor's degree in business education, a master's in curriculum and instruction, and a doctorate in school administration, all from K-State.

The College of Human Ecology's Dawley-Scholar Award for Faculty Excellence in Student Development has been presented to Weiqun "George" Wang, associate professor of human nutrition. Delores Chambers, director of the Sensory Analysis Center and associate professor of human nutrition, has received the college's Faculty Research Excellence Award.

Eric Shappee, associate professor of aviation, is the recipient of K-State at Salina's Marchbanks Memorial Award for Teaching Excellence, while Jung Oh, associate professor of arts, sciences and business, has been recognized with the college's Rex and Jean McArthur Family Faculty Fellow Award.

The College of Veterinary Medicine's Carl J. Norden Distinguished Teacher Award recipient is Emily Klocke, clinical assistant professor of small animal surgery, and the college's Pfizer Animal Health Award for Research Excellence has been presented to David Renter, assistant professor of veterinary epidemiology.

research



A screen shot of what the Second Life program looks like for high school students studying geology.

It's a different world out there

Second Life takes high-schoolers on a trip back in time

A mysterious island that moves through time. Travelers in search of answers.

It sounds something like the science fiction television show "Lost," but it also describes a new approach to teaching earth sciences to high school students.

Iris Totten, an associate professor of geology at K-State, and Molly Davies, an associate professor of geology at University of Missouri at Kansas City, designed TerraWorld, an island in Second Life, to help students learn geology in an interactive way. It is part of the larger GeoWorlds project.

"In geology, the only way we can talk about past times is to look at the fossil record," Totten said. "So this tool is especially useful. Through their avatars, the students can see that the biota are different and know that they're in a different geologic time period. They may see flying pterodactyls. They can click on different organisms and bring up more information about them. They can watch videos from the Chicago Field Museum, the Discovery

Channel or National Geographic."

Totten and Davies are working with Stacey Fox, a visiting assistant professor of art at the University of Kansas. Initial parts of the project included involvement from iVerity, a company that designs virtual worlds.

Totten and collaborators received a \$700,000 grant from the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation to study the impact that TerraWorld and the coming WaterWorld have on student learning and attitudes about science. The programs are being piloted at Tolbert and Brookside charter high schools in Kansas City, Mo. In the fall, about 400 ninth-grade students at Junction City High School will start using the program.

Creating TerraWorld meant that Totten had to do in-depth research about the types of animals and plants that existed in each geologic time period. Using a computer-sculpting program, Fox brought the plants and animals to life. Totten and Davies provide the content and design, and Fox assembles the worlds.

To get the students to explore the worlds through their avatars, they complete quests and scavenger hunts. The program is paperless. If there is an assignment students need to turn in, they can put it on a note card in Second Life and drop it in a box, where it goes to the instructor's management system on the GeoWorld's Web site. Teachers can assess all of their student's assignments on the Web site.

The avatars' locations on the island are monitored, which lets the teacher see if students are exploring the worlds and will help the designers make the island more efficient.

The designers also are developing two artificial intelligence bots that will help students answer questions and help them with the scavenger hunts. The bots will be able to learn from each question they are asked and will recognize if a similar question is repeated. Totten said the bots will look like young female geologists and serve as science role models for young women.

"We talked about having Dar-

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noteworthy

Agronomy

Chuck Rice is president-elect of the Soil Science Society of America. His term as president-elect begins Jan. 1, 2010; he assumes the role of president on Jan. 1, 2011.

Dan Sweeney has been elected as 2010 representative to the Soil Science Society of America Board of Directors for Division S-4 Soil Fertility and Plant Nutrition.

Scott Staggenborg is 2010 chair-elect of Division A-8 Integrated Agricultural Systems of the American Society of Agronomy.

Bill Heer has been elected 2010 representative to the American Society of Agronomy Board of Directors for Division A-7 Agricultural Research Station Management.

Art

Lynda Andrus' artwork is currently being exhibited at Exhibition 2009: Art of Collage and Assemblage, Espace Villa Dutoit, Geneva, Switzerland, and was recently shown at Salon Du Collage, Paris, France.

Andrus' artwork was also published in Studio Visit, a juried artist's catalog, and in Fiber Arts Magazine, Summer Edition, 2009. She also has assemblages published in American Style Magazine, April 2009, and has published a collage in "The Copeland Collection."

Andrus also received the McKenny Award at Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, Mich. Two of her collages will be published in the 38th Edition of "Cellar Roots," the university's arts journal.

Architecture

Gary J. Coates presented "Evoking a Sense of the Sacred: Memory, Imagination and Meaning in Carl Nyrén's Vitlycke Museum," inaugural



Kimberly Kirkpatrick and colleague published "Reward Value Effects on Timing in the Peak Procedure," Learning and Motivation, Vol. 40.

Architecture, Culture and Spirituality Symposium, March 24-26, Mt. Angel Benedictine Abbey Retreat House, Mount Angel, Ore.

Coates presented "Ecological and Sustainable Community: A Study of Kronsberg (Hannover), Germany," Spring Lecture Series, College of Architecture and Planning, Ball State University, April 22, Muncie, Ind.

Coates presented "The City as Garden: A Study of the Sustainable Urban District of Kronsberg (Hannover), Germany," 47th International Making Cities Livable Conference, May 10-14, Portland, Ore.

Clinical sciences

Greg Grauer presented "Nuts and Bolts of Azotemia"; "Risk Factors and Monitoring To Avoid Acute Renal Failure"; "Are NSAIDs Safe For Dogs With Liver and Kidney Disease?"; "Early Detection of Chronic Kidney Disease"; "Staging and Managing Chronic Kidney Disease"; "A Simplified Approach To Urine Retention and Leakage Disorders"; "Focus on Proteinuria- From Microalbuminuria To Nephritic Syndrome"; and "Which Is It? Acute Renal Failure Vs. Chronic

Kidney Disease"; Central Veterinary Conference East, April 25-27, Baltimore, Md.

English

The following K-State faculty members presented at the Cultural Studies Association seventh annual meeting, April 16, Kansas City, Mo.:

Erica Hateley, "Child Centered Panic."

Michele Janette, "Why I Haven't Given Up On Cultural Studies," plenary session on "The University After Cultural Studies."

Kinesiology

The following K-State faculty presented at the annual conference for the Society for Behavioral Medicine, April 23-25, Montreal, Canada:

Elizabeth Fallon and student, "Healthcare Provider Attitudes Towards Counseling Diverse Patient Populations For Preventive Health Behaviors."

Fallon and student, "Body Image Moderates The Transtheoretical Model Constructs For Physical Activity."

Modern languages

The following K-State faculty presented at the Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, April 18, Lexington, Ky.:

Benjamin Torrico, "A cal y canto: la resurrección de Lázaro (de Tormes)."

Douglas Benson, "El tiempo vuela: variaciones en la trayectoria poética de Angel Gonzalez (1925-2008)."

Psychology

Satoris Culbertson and colleagues

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up close

A herd of her own

K-State instructor uses bison ranch to educate people from around the globe



Susan Dillinger poses with her personalized license plate, reflecting her lifestyle as a rancher.

Susan Dillinger's entire life is about education. She's spent 36 years as a public school teacher, married a fellow educator and now, as an instructor of special education, counseling and student affairs at K-State, she's passing on her knowledge to the teachers of tomorrow.

So, it should come as no surprise that when she and her husband, Ed, decided to take on ranching, they ended up making an educational enterprise out of it.

When they moved to Pottawatomie County in the early 1990s, Dillinger said they started out with what they thought they could handle: two Morgan horses, animals that her husband's family had raised for some 50 years. Then

they added seven Beefmaster heifers, some chickens and a couple of ponies, intending to create what Dillinger calls a "grandpa's farm."

Then, they started to think bigger.

"We didn't know squat about bison, but thought it would be a lot of fun to have a few running around among the cows, you know, as a novelty," Dillinger said.

Fourteen years later, the novelty has worn off but not the fascination with the iconic animal as the Dillingers' herd of five heifers has grown to around 80 animals.

When they first got the bison, a few neighbors and area residents called up, wanting to see the animals up close. The Dillingers, who are the outgoing sort, were happy to oblige

Fun facts about bison

- Bison and buffalo are no longer endangered.
- Bison and buffalo are not the same. The bison raised by the Dillingers are a different species from African or Asian water buffalo.
- Bison meat, which the Dillingers sell, is the leanest red meat around.
- Bison are one of three animals in the world that are not afraid of humans. The other two are mountain lions and grizzly bears.
- Bison are not the cuddly type of animal. In fact, they're quite territorial. "If you try to push them, they push back," Dillinger said. "There's no negotiating with them. They are truly wild animals."

and told people to come on over.

But since those first few calls, literally hundreds of people have been out to the Lazy Heart D Ranch, which is about eight miles southeast of Westmoreland or 10 miles west of Wamego, to learn more about the animals and

the Dillingers have been able to use their "grandpa's farm" as an educational tool.

"We felt that kids were losing touch with agriculture, and that they're losing touch with grandparents because they usually live far away," Dill-

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