

Iman awards announced by Alumni Association

A K-State scientist who obtained several patents in nanotechnology and a veteran professor of Spanish were recently recognized as Iman Award recipients in a ceremony at the K-State Alumni Center.

Kenneth J. Klabunde, university distinguished professor of chemistry, received the 2008-09 Iman Outstanding Faculty Award for Research. The award recognizes full-time K-State faculty members who are distinguished in their profession and whose research has significantly contributed to the educational experience or their area of study.

Douglas K. Benson, a professor in the department of modern languages, received the 2008-09 Dr. Ron and Rae Iman Outstanding Faculty Award for Teaching. This award honors a full-time K-State faculty member for high-quality instruction, developing strong relationships with students and for having a reputation for scholarship and distinguished service to the university.

These awards were made possible by a gift from Ron and Rae Iman of Albuquerque, N.M. The recipients will divide \$10,000 between them.

DeGroat named president of local chapter of the Association of the United States Army

K-State's director of military affairs, Art DeGroat, was recently elected to a two-year term as president of the Fort Riley-Central Kansas Chapter of the Association of the United States Army.

The association is a private, non-profit educational organization that supports America's Army - active, National Guard, reserve, civilians, retirees and family members. It has 125 chapters located worldwide. Made up entirely of volunteers, they provide recreational and educational opportunities to soldiers and their families and support our deployed soldiers and families left behind.

Clinical sciences gives mentoring awards

The department of clinical sciences in the College of Veterinary Medicine recently recognized three faculty members for their commitment to mentoring residents and faculty.

The Award for Excellence in Resident Mentoring went to Emily Klocke, while the Award for Excellence in Faculty Mentoring was shared by Mike Apley and Lisa Freeman.

The purpose of these awards is to recognize senior faculty members who have demonstrated a commitment to the professional growth of junior faculty and residents. Each will receive a certificate and \$1,000.

picture perfect

Measuring success



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

November-December

ON CAMPUS

Nov. 20 K-State historical society program

3 p.m., Hemisphere Room, Hale Library. Ralph Titus, professor emeritus of extension communications will present "Kenneth Davis: A Novelist Trapped in History." The event recognizes the donation of the Davis papers and library to the Morse department of special collections. A reception will follow in the gallery where an exhibit on Davis, a 1934 K-State alum, is on display

Nov. 20-23 Theater: 'Noises off'

"Noises Off" has been hailed by critics as one of the funniest plays of the last 30 years. 7:30 p.m., McCain Auditorium. Call 532-6428 for tickets.

Nov. 21 International program

International Educator Award Reception and Ceremony. 3 p.m., Hemisphere Room, Hale Library.

Nov. 23 Music

The K-State Marching Band will perform under the direction of Frank Tracz and Anthony Pursell. 3 p.m., Ahearn Field House. A \$1 donation is requested at the door.



'Riders in the Sky: Christmas the Cowboy Way' will ring in the holiday season the old country way. The performance is at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 4, at McCain Auditorium. Call 532-6428 for tickets to this and other McCain Performance Series events.

Dec. 4 Holiday Festival of Music

K-State Choir and Chorale, Rhapsody Ringers, K-State Brass Ensemble, and K-State Trumpet Ensemble. Julie Yu and Paul Hunt will conduct. 7:30 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 612 Poyntz Ave., Manhattan.

Dec. 4-5 Better book sale

9 a.m.-5 p.m. Dec. 4 and 9 a.m.-noon Dec. 5. Second Floor, Hale Library.

Dec. 4-6 WinterDance 2008

A showcase of original dance pieces choreographed by faculty, advanced students and a professional guest artist. 7:30 p.m. Dec. 4-6, 2:30 p.m. Dec. 6, Nichols Theatre. Call 532-6428 for tickets.

Dec. 12 Hale library concert series

The K-State Faculty Brass Quintet with William Wingfield, piano. 7:30 p.m., Hemisphere Room, Hale Library. Call 532-7447 for ticket information.

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.

noteworthy, continued

Physics

Uwe Thumm, Feng He, and colleague published "Strong-Field Modulated Diffraction Effects in the Correlated Electron-Nuclear Motion in Dissociating Hydrogen Molecular Ions," Physical Review Letters, Vol. 101.

Thumm presented "Charge-Transfer Near Flat and Nano-Structured Metal Surfaces," Gaseous Electronics International Conference, Oct. 13-17, Dallas, Texas.

Vinod Kumarappan presented "Controlling Molecular Rotations with Lasers," Fifth New Laser Scientists Conference, Oct. 23-24, Rochester, N.Y.

Penny Donaldson, Doniphan County, State Friend of Extension Award; Emily Morehouse, Douglas County, Horizon Early Career Award; Debra Sellers, family studies and human services, Horizon Early Career Award; Raymond Cloyd, entomology, Early Career Award; Diane Burnett, Miami County, Mid-Career Award; Nancy Nelson, Meadowlark District, Holton, Meritorious Service Award; Dave Schafer, animal sciences and industry, Retiree Service Award; Janet Stephens, Multi-county Specialist, State Distinguished Service Award; Donna Martinson, Geary County, International Service Award.

The Kansas to Kenya Team also received the State Team Award. Members of that team are: Tonya Bronleewe and Denise Dias, Sedgwick County; Herschel and Carol George, watershed specialist; Mary Meck Higgins and Sandra Procter, human nutrition; Laszlo Kulscar, sociology, anthropology and social work; Martinson, Geary County; and Mark and Ann Religa, Harvey County.

Research and extension

Epsilon Sigma Phi, the extension professional association, recognized career achievements at K-State Research and Extension's annual conference in October. Those recognized are listed, followed by the county or department for which they work, and the award received:

Best in the nation, continued

this simulation, and because I do not know everything and the simulation attempts to simulate everything, I am in the wonderful but awkward position of not knowing exactly what I am doing but blissfully learning along the way. My job becomes less about teaching, and more about encouraging students to join me on the quest. The quest goes beyond the classroom, facilitated by a cus-

tom Web platform that fosters community and media literacy through the integration of a wiki, blogs, mobile phones and other applications."

Wesch graduated summa cum laude from the K-State anthropology program in 1997 and returned as a faculty member in 2004 after receiving his Ph.D. in anthropology at the University of Virginia. ■

The best in the nation

Carnegie/ CASE names Michael Wesch national professor of the year for research/doctoral universities



Michael Wesch interacts with students in his Introduction to Cultural Anthropology class. Wesch is the latest of three K-State professors who have been named a national winner in Carnegie/ CASE's national professor of the year for research/ doctoral universities.

tionally among all universities, public and private.

"We are grateful Mike Wesch, a K-State graduate himself, returned to teach here after completing his doctorate," said Duane Nellis, K-State provost and senior vice president. "His innovative thinking about new and more effective ways to engage students makes for an outstanding learning environment."

Wesch launched the Digital Ethnography Working Group, a team of undergraduates exploring human uses of digital technology. Coinciding with the launch of this group, Wesch created a short video, "Web 2.0 ... The Machine is Us/ing Us." Released on YouTube on Jan. 31, 2007, it quickly became the most popular video in the blogosphere. To date, it's been

"He is earning well-deserved honors from many quarters for his outstanding ability to communicate effectively with students."

- Jon Wefald, K-State president

his students being more concerned about memorizing what might be on the test instead of actually learning the subject matter.

"Students are asked to imagine the world in the classroom and create their own cultures to survive in their own unique environments," Wesch said. "This helps create an environment for meaningful and inspired learning, preparing us for a final simulation in which we take everything we have learned and try to actually simulate the processes and systems that create our world. The simulation is video-recorded and edited into a final 'world history' drawing explicit connections to events in real world history."

Recently featured in the U.S. State Department's "The Next New Thing," the World Simulation is a massive experiment in education that is now being considered for adoption by high schools and universities throughout the nation. It is online at: <http://mediatedcultures.net/worldsim.htm>

"Questions loom over every single aspect of the creation of

continued on back

Rice re-appointed to USDA Air Quality Task Force

Chuck Rice, a K-State professor of agronomy, was recently reappointed to serve a second two-year term as a member of the Agricultural Air Quality Task Force.



Chuck Rice

The role of the task force is to advise the U.S. agriculture secretary on issues related to agricultural air quality, including the most cost-effective ways for the agriculture industry to improve air quality.

"The 2008-2010 task force will tackle diverse air quality issues such as greenhouse gas mitigation, the reduction of certain pollutants, ozone and ammonia emissions, and the enhancement of opportunities for environmental trading markets for agriculture," Rice said. "These are all issues of increasing concern to the general public in Kansas and elsewhere."

Most recently, Rice has been investigating soil and global climate change and soil carbon sequestration and its potential benefits to the ecosystem. His research has been supported by more than \$15 million in federal and other grants.

Rice also served on the U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change to author a report on climate change and was among scientists recognized when that work won a Nobel Peace Prize in 2007.

Inside



Michael Wesch shares his teaching philosophy Up Close

oh, by the way

Where to go for information about campus closings because of weather

When questionable weather arises this winter, the best place to go for information about whether campus is closed is your local radio.

Cox Cable channel 21 will also carry an announcement, as will Topeka TV – though because their coverage area is broader than just our immediate region it may take a while for the information you're seeking to scroll across the screen. K-State's home page – www.k-state.edu – will also be updated with the most recent information.

For more information about what happens when there is bad weather, including a list of radio stations to listen to, go <http://www.k-state.edu/policies/ppm/3035.html>

Library hours change during break

Hale library is closed the following days during the semester break: Dec. 25, 26, 27 & 28, and Jan. 1.

The library's posted schedule is available anytime at: <http://www.lib.k-state.edu/hours/>

Full-time classified staffers gain vacation leave

This summer, full-time classified employees gained more time off, thanks to a resolution passed by the Kansas Board of Regents.

In fiscal year 2009, full-time classified employees with 10-15 years service will now earn 6.7 hours per pay period instead of 5.6 hours of vacation leave. Per year, that amounts to another 3.6 days of paid vacation.

In fiscal year 2010, a similar change will take effect for employees with 5-10 years of service. They'll start earning 5.5 hours of vacation per pay period, up from 4.7. That amounts to 2.6 days more paid vacation a year.

"A lot of employees will see some benefit," said Jennyfer Owensby, president of K-State's Classified Senate. "Full-time classified staff at K-State now earn more leave than other classified state employees."

Full-time classified employees can also now accrue up to 304 hours a year, the same as unclassified employees.

Master of agribusiness featured on Jeopardy!

K-State and its award-winning master of agribusiness program recently earned a place as part of pop culture trivia.

The program, which is the first graduate agribusiness degree in the nation to be offered through distance education, was an \$800 question on the Oct. 13 "Jeopardy!" game show. And at least one of the game show's contestants knew the answer.

The question, which in the "Jeopardy!" format is actually the answer, was: "If you're a slick, pressed-overalls Manhattan M.A.B., you have a master of agribusiness degree from here, K-State for short." M.A.B. is the acronym for the master of agribusiness program.

And, well, you know the answer — and, as long as you put it in the form of question, host Alex Trebek would have said you are correct.

The K-State "Jeopardy!" reference is available at: http://www.j-archive.com/suggestcorrection.php?clue_id=146555

a look back



K-State boasts the highest number of Carnegie/CASE winners in Kansas. (Not pictured are past winners and professors emeriti Miles McKee (1990) and Richard Consigli (1985 and 1986).

Educational excellence

K-State has a long history in the classroom

Kansas State University is a national leader in the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education competition for Professor of the Year.

Three K-State professors have won the national professor of the year award in the research/ doctoral university category, more than any other research/ doctoral university. K-State is also the only research/ doctoral university in the nation to win both the national and state awards in the same year. K-State has had three national professors of the year, seven Kansas professors of the year, and one professor who twice won a silver award in the competition when it was first initiated.

- Winners include:
- * Michael Wesch, assistant professor of cultural anthropology, national winner for research/ doctoral universities, 2008.
- * Chris Sorensen, university distinguished professor of physics, national winner for research/ doctoral universities, 2007. Sorensen is the current Coffman Distinguished Teaching Scholar.
- * David Littrell, university distinguished professor of music, Kansas winner, 2007
- * Harald Prins, university distinguished professor of anthropology, Kansas winner, 2006
- * Bryan Schurle, professor and head of agricultural economics, Kansas winner, 2000
- * Dean Zollman, university distinguished professor of physics, national winner for research/ doctoral universities, 1996

- * Andrew Barkley, professor of agricultural economics, Kansas winner, 1993.
- * Melvin Hunt, professor of animal sciences and industry, Kansas winner, 1992
- * Deborah Canter, professor of dietetics and head of the department of hotel, restaurant, institution management and dietetics, Kansas winner, 1991
- * Miles McKee, university distinguished professor of animal sciences, Kansas winner, 1990
- * Richard Consigli, university distinguished professor of biology emeritus, was the first K-State professor to win the award and in both 1985 and 1986 was designated a Silver Award medalist, a level beyond the state winner, which has since been discontinued. ■

noteworthy

Clinical sciences

Greg Grauer presented "Early Detection of Acute Renal Damage," "Managing Acute Renal Failure," "Using NSAIDs in Dogs With Kidney and Liver Disease," "Urinalysis with an Emphasis on Proteinuria," "Early Detection of Chronic Kidney Disease," "Staging and Management of Chronic Kidney Disease," "Roles of Hypertension and Proteinuria in Chronic Kidney Disease," "Protein-Losing Nephropathies" "Managing Complicated Urinary Tract Infections," CVC West, Nov. 2-3, San Diego, Calif.

English

Philip Nel and colleague published "Tales for Little Rebels: A Collection of Radical Children's Literature," New York University Press, 2008.

The following K-State faculty presented at the American Studies Association, Oct. 16-18, Albuquerque, N.M.:

Tonya Gonzalez, "Working in The Middle: The Intersections of Chicana Theory and Latina Practice."

Nel, "The Black Cat in Hat: Seuss and Race in the 1950s."

Lisa Tatonetti, panelist, "Sexuality, Nationality, Indigeneity: Intersections of Native American and Queer Studies."

Nel, "Dr. Seuss, American Icon: The Legacy of Theodor Seuss Geisel" and "Behind The Purple Crayon: The Life and Work of Crockett Johnson" Plum Creek Literacy Festival, Concordia University, Oct. 11, Seward, Neb.

Kara Northway chaired the panel "Learning 'Downstream': Exploring the Outcomes of Writing Center Cultures and Conditions," 2008 joint conference International Writing Centers Association/National Conference on Peer Tutoring in Writing: New Directions in Writing Center Work, Oct. 31, Las Vegas, Nev.

Donna Potts presented "The Wearin' o' the Deep Green: Paul Muldoon and Paula Meehan," American Conference for Irish Studies Midwest Meeting, Oct. 10, St. Paul, Minn.



Frederick Burrack led "Integrating Technology in School Music Teaching," for the music teachers in the Montgomery County Schools, Nov. 4, Radford, Va.

Wendy Matlock presented "The Dead, Decaying body in 'In a pestri stude I Stod.'" 24th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Medieval Association: "Bodies, Embodiements, Becomings," Oct. 2, Saint Louis, Mo.

Han Yu presented "Reaching Beyond Local Contingencies and into the International Context: An Ongoing Study of Technical Communication in China," 35th Council for Programs in Technical and Scientific Communication Conference, Oct. 3, Minneapolis, Minn.

Jonathan Holden's poem "The Scientist," which originally appeared in his collection *The Names of the Rapids*, was selected by Garrison Keillor to be read on *The Writer's Almanac* Oct. 6.

Geology

The following K-State faculty members presented at the 27th Annual American Association of Aerosol Research, Oct. 20-24, Orlando, Fla.:

Saugata Datta and colleagues, "New Sampler Holder For Mass Limited Samples For Speciation Studies of Fe, Mn, Ni by XANES."

Iris Totten has been named associate editor for the *Journal of Geoscience Education* as of Oct. 1.

Totten presented "Can Video Games Teach? An Examination of Educational

Outcomes, Challenges and Opportunities," Grantmakers for Education Annual Conference, Oct. 21, Baltimore, Md.

International Student Center

The following K-State faculty presented at the NAFSA: Association of International Educators conference, Oct. 21-24, Park City, Utah:

Stacey Bailey and **Maria Beebe**, "Basic Immigration for Non-Advisors."

Sara Thurston-González, "Global Nomads/Third Culture Kids: Who are They and How Can We Serve Them?"

Thurston-González was recognized for completing a two-year term on the NAFSA Leadership Development Committee and Chair of the Leadership Cultivation Subcommittee.

Journalism and mass communications

Sergei Samoilenko presented "Public Relations in Eastern Europe: Seven Years into the New Millennium," Center for Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies, University of Kansas, Oct. 6, Lawrence.

Libraries

Antoinette W. Satterfield was appointed chair-elect to Kansas Library Association Government Documents Roundtable, 2008-09.

Linda Marston published "The Kansas Aerial Photography Initiative," *Archival Products News*, Vol. 15, No. 2.

Management

Dana C. Krueger presented "Semiconductor Yield Modeling Using Generalized Linear Models," Fall Technical Conference, sponsored by the American Statistical Association and the American Society for Quality, Oct. 9-10, Mesa, Ariz.

Music

Craig B. Parker presented "The Chamber Music of Joan Tower," College Music Society national conference, Sept. 27, Atlanta, Ga.

continued on back

up close

Words of wisdom

Wesch's wife taught him the first thing about teaching – and he took it from there

"**A**merican Idol" may seem like an unlikely source of wisdom for an anthropology professor who helps his students explore cultures from around the globe.

But a story that Michael Wesch's wife, Sarah, told him about one of the show's contestants helped the assistant professor overcome nervousness about teaching his first class at K-State five years ago. Wesch said he still takes to heart the contestant's advice about loving the audience.

"The moment you allow yourself to believe that and truly love your audience, it's not about you any more," Wesch said. "All that anxiety just melts away. All you care about is caring for these 400 people in front of you and giving them the best learning experience possible. And once you think about that, it's so easy."

The advice has proven worthy. Wesch is the 2008 Outstanding Doctoral and Research Universities Professor of the Year. The honor is awarded by the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. Wesch is the third K-State professor to win the award, making K-State the university with the most national winners among institutions its size.

Wesch said anthropology is one of the toughest subjects to teach because the classes are less about memorizing information than about transformation. One of the fundamental principals of anthropology, he said, is that people view the world through their own cultural biases, a concept that can be tough for students to accept.

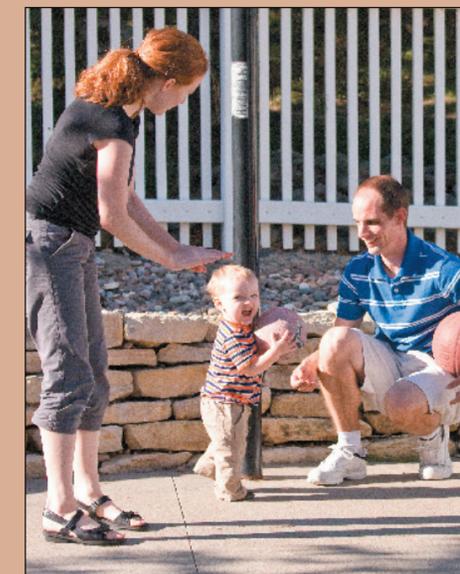
"It's a really a transformational journey for students. It really shakes them to the core," Wesch said. "It becomes a challenge as a teacher to start them on that journey and help them along the way. When you're willing to step outside of your own values and beliefs for a moment to truly see and understand others, then you grow as a person — and the whole world is better for it."

Although Wesch's students have diverse academic interests, he said what they learn in his anthropology classes serves them well, wherever they end up.

"They'll always encounter people who are different from them, even if they're in the same culture," he said. "That's true no matter what career they go into."

Wesch's research on human interactions in the face of new media also comes from an unlikely source. Through his field work in Papua, New Guinea, Wesch has watched a village transform in eight years from a group where less than a dozen people could read or write to a society that is organizing itself around the written word.

"It's not just important how they're using this new medium but how this medium is using them," Wesch said. "For instance, when they started using written law, the result was



Game on: When not shaping young minds in the classrooms of K-State, Michael Wesch spends quality time at home with his wife, Sarah, and son, Wilson. Above, Wilson hams it up during a recent family game of basketball.

suddenly a focus away from relationships in which they'd solve their problems in a face-to-face way. Now they go to a courthouse where a judge is reading this law. This medium is actually shaping what they do."

That got Wesch thinking about how new media, such as social networking sites YouTube and Twitter, are shaping our culture. In trying to explain this to other anthropologists, Wesch created a short video, "Web 2.0: The Machine is Us/Using us."

He posted the video on YouTube in January 2007, and as of November 2008 it had been viewed more than 7 million times and put Wesch and his work in the international spotlight. The video can be seen at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6gmP4nk0E0E>

"It was really a user-generated force," Wesch said. "It was bigger than me. I think it's worked out amazingly well for the students."

continued on back