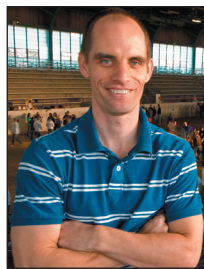


plaudits

National Geographic honors Wesch

Michael Wesch, K-State assistant professor of cultural anthropology and the Carnegie/CASE national professor of the year for research/doctoral universities, is one of the National Geographic Society's "Emerging Explorers" for 2009. The honor, which goes to only 10 people in the world each year, recognizes gifted individuals who have made a significant contribution to world knowledge while still early in their careers.



Michael Wesch

Each member of the National Geographic's Emerging Explorers Program, who may be selected from virtually any field, receives a \$10,000 award to support research and further exploration.

Wesch said he is honored by the recognition because his curiosity as a researcher started with National Geographic some years ago.

"It was by paging through National Geographic magazines as a child that I first explored the world, so this is really a special honor for me," Wesch said. "It is really a sign of the times that after doing research in some of the most remote regions in the world I would ultimately gain recognition for my explorations of the Web."

Wesch first rose to prominence when a video he created to launch K-State's Digital Ethnography Working Group became a YouTube success. Released Jan. 31, 2007, "Web 2.0 ... The Machine is Us/ing Us" has been viewed nearly 9 million times and translated into more than 10 languages.

Professor Russell receives transportation award

Eugene R. Russell Sr., professor of civil engineering at K-State, recently received the 2008 Council of University Transportation Center Award for Distinguished Contribution to University Transportation Education and Research.

The award has been given annually since 1998 to identify individuals who have had a long history of significant and outstanding contribution to university transportation education and research resulting in a lasting contribution to transportation. Russell received the award Jan. 10 in Washington, D.C.

picture perfect



Wild Card

A creatively adorned bike wheel outside Willard Hall.

Time to update your professional portrait? March 3 and 4 Photo Services is shooting portraits for just \$20. E-mail photo@k-state.edu to make your appointment.

Also, check out: <http://www.k-state.edu/photo> for our new look and lower rates.

on campus

February

Feb. 13-14

'Intimate Apparel'

K-State Theater joins with Ebony Theater 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 who compromises her dreams. 7:30 p.m., Nichols Theater. Call 532-6428 for ticket information.



"Sandbar and Trees in River" is on display through April 5 in the Wefald Gallery at K-State's Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art. The watercolor with graphite was done by former K-State professor Roy Langford around 1950 and is one of more than 70 pieces recently donated to the museum by Langford's family. (Photo courtesy of the Beach Museum of Art.)

Feb. 18

'BaadAsssss Cinema: A Bold Look at '70s Blaxploitation Films'

As part of the Black History Month film series, filmmaker Isaac Julien explores the enduring cult appeal of blaxploitation films, pulling footage from films like "Shaft" and "Superfly" and featuring interviews with Pam Grier and Richard Roundtree. 12:30 p.m., Dow Multicultural Resource Center, Hale Library.

Feb. 20

'Aquila Theatre: Comedy of Errors'

As part of the McCain Performance Series, the Aquila Theatre Company will present an imaginative and exuberant production of Shakespeare's classic comedy. 7:30 p.m., McCain Auditorium. Call 532-6428 for ticket information.

Feb. 23

'Change How You See, Not How You Look.'

Feb. 24

Free yoga class

As part of Eating Disorders Awareness Week, a free yoga session will be offered, as well as some quick tips on how to improve body image. 7:30 p.m., Mind/Body Room, Recreation Complex.

Feb. 25

'Dave Chappelle: For What it's Worth'

As part of the Black History Month film series, Dave Chappelle pushes the envelope, tackling race relations

and African-American popular culture. 12:30p.m., Dow Multicultural Resource Center, Hale Library.

Feb. 26

IDT Roundtable Series: Second Life Showcase

Several K-State professors will share their adventures in teaching with Second Life. 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Room 212, K-State Student Union.

Feb. 26-28

'Dog Sees God: Confessions of a Teenage Blockhead'

This parody puts the characters of the Peanuts comic strip in their teenage years, where we see them struggling with the things real life throws at them. A haunting and powerful ending. 7:30 p.m., Feb. 26-28, Purple Masque Theater, East Stadium. Call 532-6428 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.

Turtle trappings, continued

talk about and have something in common," Pearson said. "Everyone can create their own significance for the turtles."

The purpose of therapy,

Pearson says, is to find a different way to be in the world. The turtle, which is known for its resilience and adaptability, can be symbolic of that journey. ■

Louder than words, continued

sitive to the color yellow, where-as reds and violets tend to blend into green foliage backgrounds," Mattson said. "White flowers also have been traditionally used in wedding bouquets to symbolize purity and innocence."

When giving flowers based on friendship, use a mixture of colors. Mattson suggests flowering potted plants for this type of relationship.

"There are a lot of beautiful winter potted plants, such as cyclamen, begonias or kalanchoes,"

he said. "Flowering plants make very nice long-lasting gifts because cut flowers eventually die and get thrown away."

To increase the vase life of cut flowers, Mattson suggests putting a copper penny in the vase, which will help prevent microbial growth, and a tiny amount of sugar in the water, which works like food to sustain the cut flower. He also said that the bottom of rose flower stems should be cut off daily to increase water uptake and to prevent wilting. ■

Noteworthy, continued

Allegories Through the Maternal Body, Cambridge Scholars Press.

Political science

Krishna K. Tummala delivered "Coalition Dharma: Political Corruption in India" at the eighth Asian Forum on Public Management at National Chi Nan University, Pulin, Taiwan Dec. 12-15, 2008.

Psychology

Mark Barnett and students present-

ed "Undergraduates' Perceptions of the Desirability of Specific Personality Traits and Body Types" and "Factors Associated with Individual Differences in the Liking of Children," Society for Personality and Social Psychology annual conference, Feb. 5-7, Tampa, Fla.

Kimberly Kirkpatrick and colleague published "Visually-guided Capture of a Moving Stimulus by the Pigeon (Columba livia)," Animal Cognition, Vol. 12.

k-state statement

For Kansas State University faculty and staff

February 12, 2009 Vol. 31, No. 14

K-State collaborates to fight cancer

Partnering with KU will strengthen Kansas' position as a bioscience hub



Above, assistant chemistry professor Sundeep Rayat works with undergraduate researcher Cecilia Ariga on compounds shown to have an adverse effect on various kinds of cancer cells. Right: Masaaki Tamura, Deryl Troyer and Duy Hua inspect a peptide synthesizer in Hua's lab. The synthesizer is used to make short synthetic amino acid chains, which enhance a nanoparticle's ability to target cancer cells. (Photos courtesy of the Terry C. Johnson Center for Basic Cancer Research.)

The complementary nature of the cancer research programs at K-State and the University of Kansas make them ideal partners for fighting cancer.

Kansas Gov. Kathleen Sebelius recently announced a new cooperative agreement between the two institutions, which was signed in her office by K-State President Jon Wefald and KU Chancellor Robert Hemenway.

"Kansas is fortunate to have these two strong cancer research programs," said Rob Denell, director of K-State's Terry C. Johnson Center for Basic Cancer Research. "This new synergy will increase our productivity still further."

When it comes to cancer research, K-

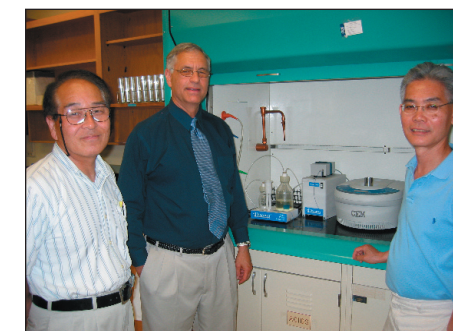
State's specialty is basic research. Nearly 70 faculty members affiliated with the center perform laboratory studies that address the causes of cancer and provide the basis for new approaches to prevention, diagnosis and treatment, Denell said.

Some of the projects K-State researchers are working on include figuring out how to retain the anti-cancer properties of wheat during processing, developing simple tests for breast and prostate cancers and finding ways to target anti-cancer drugs directly to tumors.

The KU Cancer Center specializes in clinical studies. Its researchers and clinicians focus on cancer diagnosis and treatment, drug development and delivery, patient care, prevention and survivorship, according to

"One important aspect of the agreement is that it will improve the translation of K-State's basic research to clinical trials."

— Rob Denell, director of K-State's Terry C. Johnson Center for Basic Cancer Research



Denell.

"One important aspect of the agreement is that it will improve the translation of K-State's basic research to clinical trials," Denell said.

Administrative cooperation between the two centers will foster closer working relationships between researchers, which will result in a more comprehensive approach to cancer research in Kansas, Denell said. The universities will share sophisticated research facilities and K-State's cancer researchers may apply for KU Cancer Center funding.

The collaboration also was made to strengthen the KU Cancer Center's application for designation as a Comprehensive Cancer Center by the National Cancer Institute.

continued on back

K-Statement going online

Starting July 2009, K-Statement will go digital.

"State agencies in Kansas, including K-State, are facing budget cuts," said Cheryl May, assistant vice president for university relations and director of media relations. "Cutting back is necessary to meet the financial challenges we are facing."

May said the decision to eliminate paper copies of K-Statement was not made lightly.

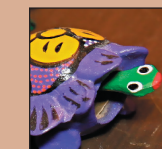
"Over the years, I've resisted taking K-Statement exclusively online because I felt that employees without easy access to e-mail or the Internet at work would be disenfranchised," she said. "K-Statement is for every employee, not just those who have computer access."

Halting the publication of K-Statement will also take income from printing services, which will have a financial impact on that unit.

Because the contract to print K-Statement is pre-paid through the end of the fiscal year, the publication will continue in hard copy form until the end of June.

Keep an eye out for further details about how to access K-Statement come July.

Inside



A counselor's collection of turtles brings people together. Up Close

oh, by the way

Docent training to start at Konza Prairie Feb. 21

If you are interested in the tallgrass prairie, would like to learn more about grasslands and think you might enjoy introducing others to the joys of the prairie, K-State's Konza Prairie Biological Station has an opportunity for you.

New Konza Prairie docent orientation will begin Saturday, Feb. 21. The first orientation session, one of 13 sessions in the docent training, runs from 9 a.m. to noon.

Trained docents guide hikes and driving tours for public and school groups visiting the Konza Prairie. Other service opportunities include helping with K-12 student research activities, workdays and special projects. Docents also have the opportunity to attend educational in-service programs and social events.

At the first session, participants will be able to preview program materials, check out the training schedule, meet experienced docents and Konza Prairie staff and view a presentation about the Konza Prairie.

For more information call 785-587-0381, e-mail konzaed@k-state.edu or go to <http://www.k-state.edu/konza/keep>.

Information systems' replacement complete

The end of the fall semester marked the first semester completely managed with the new student information system, known as iSIS, and the final phase of the system's installation. It was also the final step in completing the LASER Project, K-State's largest ever information technology project.

LASER, which stands for Legacy Application Systems Empowered Replacement, began in 2002. The project's primary objectives were to move from the mainframe computing environment and replace the outdated financial and student information systems with new applications featuring advanced Web-based technologies. This charge had university-wide implications given the numerous business procedures across campus.

The result is a Web-based system available from anywhere at anytime, with information updated on a real-time basis. With the elimination of Social Security numbers as the primary identifier, iSIS also better protects personal information. The new system also is positioned to integrate more easily with other K-State systems, such as K-State Online, to improve the instructor experience in attending to administrative details.

Design programs ranked among best in the U.S.

A recent survey of architecture and design firms has ranked K-State's bachelor of interior design and interior architecture programs as the best in the nation, with three other architecture degree programs also earning top 10 rankings.

According to the 2009 survey of leading architecture and design professionals published in the journal *DesignIntelligence*, K-State ranks: First among bachelor of interior design and interior architecture programs; Second among master of interior design and interior architecture programs; Second among bachelor of landscape architecture programs; and Eighth among master of landscape architecture programs. K-State's master of architecture program also was ranked 11th.

For survey purposes, K-State's bachelor's programs in interior design and interior architecture and product design — which are in different colleges — are combined.

The annual survey is conducted by *DesignIntelligence* and the Design Futures Council, in conjunction with the *Almanac of Architecture and Design*.

research

Flowers speak louder than words



Valentine's Day staples convey meaning in a special way

Whether it's a dozen red roses, a single carnation or a flowering potted plant, the emotional power of giving flowers on Valentine's Day remains strong, according to Richard Mattson, a K-State professor of horticulture.

Mattson, who also is coordinator of K-State's undergraduate horticultural therapy program, said it is no wonder that the Society of American Florists has the slogan "Say it with Flowers," as flowers really do have the power to convey feelings without using words. He said that flowers have a very strong psychological impact connected to their fragrance and color.

Mattson and one of his doctorate students, Seong-Hyun Park, recently published research on the impact of flowers and plants present in the recovery rooms of appendectomy patients. They found that the patients who

were recovering in rooms filled with plants and flowers had more positive physiological responses, such as lower blood pressure, lower heart rate, and less pain, anxiety and fatigue. They also required less pain medication than the patients in rooms without flowers and plants.

"Flowers are a universal material — everybody understands their meaning," Mattson said. "Flowers are sensory stimulating and reduce stress. They can have a very powerful impact on a person."

For many decades, the traditional Valentine's Day flower has been the red rose. Mattson said that red roses are romantic because their color represents a deep powerful emotion and conveys the concept of love. He also said red roses make people feel good about themselves because they are reassured that somebody loves them.

"There is something sensory stimulating about a rose as well as its visual attractiveness," Mattson said. "It also is important to remember that a single red rose can be just as pleasing as a dozen. It is the thought that is important because you are saying something with flowers. It doesn't have to be expensive."

The type of flower one gives on Valentine's Day depends on the message they want to convey as well as the person's stage of life, Mattson said. For example, when giving flowers to an elderly person, you might consider a combination of white or yellow daisies, carnations and chrysanthemums. Mattson said arrangements of white and lighter colors may symbolize respect if given to an elderly person and are also more visual to aging eyes.

"The human eye is most sen-

continued on back

noteworthy

Architecture, planning and design

The following K-State faculty participated in the seventh annual Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities, Jan. 9-12, Honolulu, Hawaii.

Katrina Lewis, interior architecture and product design, presented "Drawing Out Tradition."

David Sachs, architecture, chaired a session and presented "Learning to Work in China: RTKL 2003-08."

Clinical sciences

James W. Carpenter presented "Patagonian Wildlife...with Emphasis on the Reintroduction of the Andean Condor," Ross University's School of Veterinary Medicine, Exotic Animal, Zoo, and Wildlife Club, January, St. Kitts, West Indies. He also made a variety of other presentations on exotic animal medicine.

Dan Thomson presented "The Impact of Slaughter Checks for Looking at Management Practices in the Feedlot" and "Feeding a First World Country: Science, Politics, & Media," Jan. 28-29, Phoenix, Ariz.

Hans Coetzee presented "Clinical Pharmacokinetics," Iowa State University, Jan. 26, Ames, Iowa.

Engineering

Richard Hayter was named the 2008 Tau Beta Pi National Outstanding Adviser at the 103rd national Tau Beta Pi Convention, Sacramento, Calif.

English

Erica Hateley published "Shakespeare in Children's Literature: Gender and Cultural Capital," New York: Routledge, 2009.

Jonathan Holden published the poem "Western Meadowlark," *The Poet's Guide to the Birds*, Eds. Judith Kitchen and Ted Kooser, Anhinga Press, 2009.



Cynthia Harris published "A Spot of Tea and Huckleberry Bread," *EYE* on Kansas online magazine, Winter 2009.

Anne Longmuir published "Emigrant Spinsters and the Construction of Englishness in Charlotte Brontë's *Villette*," *Nineteenth Century Gender Studies*, Vol. 4, No. 3.

Phillip Marzluf published "Small Failures and Compromises: The Institutional Life of Diversity," invited guest blogger on *CCCC Conversations on Diversity*, Dec. 18.

The following K-State faculty presented at the Modern Language Association Convention, Dec. 28-30, San Francisco:

Jim Machor, "Rethinking the Romance-to-Realism Paradigm through Reception Studies," Division on Nineteenth-Century American Literature; "Reception and Reprinting as Remaking: Catharine Sedgwick, National Authorship, and Children's Literature"; and a special session on "Reception Criticism, Book History, and American Literary Studies: Points of Convergence."

Karin Westman, "Children's Literature and War," session chair and organizer.

Philip Nel and colleague presented

"Tales for Little Rebels: A Collection of Radical Children's Literature," *Bluestockings Bookstore*, Dec. 20, New York, N.Y.

Geology

Abdelmoneam Raef will publish "Land 3D-Seismic Data: Preprocessing Quality Control Utilizing Survey Design Specifications, Noise Properties, Normal Moveout, First Breaks, and Offsets," *Journal of Earth Science special issue on near surface geophysics*.

Matt Brueseke presented "More Than Just McDermitt: Temporal-spatial Relationships of Mid-Miocene Magmatism on the Oregon Plateau," University of Kansas geology department 2008-09 colloquium, Jan. 29, Lawrence.

Graduate school

Carol Shanklin was awarded the 2009 Founder's Award at the 14th annual Graduate Education and Graduate Students' Research Conference in Hospitality and Tourism, Jan. 5, Las Vegas, Nev.

Libraries

Diana Farmer, **Marcia Stockham** and **Alice Trussell** published "Revitalizing a Mentoring Program for Academic Librarians," *College & Research Libraries*, Vol. 70, No. 1, January 2009.

Adam Wathen published "How We're Laying the Foundation for a Culture of Assessment at Our University Libraries," *Library Connect*, Vol. 7, No. 1, January 2009.

Modern languages

Maria Martinez-Ortiz published "We Are All Malinche: The Construction and Collapse of the Mexican National Mother in Contemporary Literature and Film," (*M*)othering the Nation: Constructing and Resisting National

continued on back

up close

The trappings of turtles

Barbara Pearson's accidental collection brings people together

When she holds the small aqua-green turtle dish, Barbara Pearson is taken back to the warm, blue waters of Hawaii. She feels peaceful, relaxed, centered. It takes her back to a trip five years ago she took with her sister, a trip about family, rebirth and renewal.

"The turtle holds great symbolism for me," Pearson said. "It reminds me of peace, patience, steadfastness and tranquility."

These are qualities she tries to incorporate not only into her life, but impart to others as a counselor to K-State students with mental health issues.

In her relaxed, low-lit office in the English/Counseling Services Building, Pearson has more than a dozen different turtles, among them a trio of small, brightly colored turtles from Mexico; an aqua and silver-colored turtle bracelet made by a student; a clear, glass turtle-shaped candleholder from Pearson's secret Santa; an earthy-colored turtle magnet stuck to her desk; and many, many other ceramic renditions of the iconic reptile.

"The placement of the turtles in my office brings me tranquility and peace as I go through the day," Pearson said. "Many students notice the turtles and bring their own stories and significance about them. Often they say the turtles are a comfort to them when they are here."

Pearson said that the turtle is a popular symbol in many cultures. In Native American mythology, she said it's



Barbara Pearson, assistant director of counseling services at K-State, holds one of the larger members of her turtle collection.

linked to stories of creation. Numerous folk stories, like the Tortoise and the Hare, represent the turtle as steadfast and patient. In Hawaii, the turtle stands for family, which is something Pearson says is very dear to her. It seems fit-

ting, then, that her collection began with that "sisters trip" to Hawaii.

Little did she know when she returned to work with that single dish that she was about to become a collector. People she knew from all walks of



Top, Pearson's coffee table is where to find a majority of her campus turtle collection. Above, this is the turtle from Hawaii that started it all. Below, this turtle pin is attached to a decorative box and is a piece Pearson picked up from a Kansas artist.



life just started bringing them in.

Today, most of Pearson's collection is on the small coffee table in her office. She says that her clients, co-workers and students alike are drawn to the turtles, feeling a need to pick them up and hold them. And, as a counselor, that works to her advantage.

"They give people something to commune with and

continued on back