FOCUS

Lasting legacy
Fifth-generation Kansan most proud of encouraging students to see the rest of the world
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A tighter connection
Kinesiology’s movement into the college brings collaborations even closer
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Spring 2013
Message from the dean

It has been my privilege to serve as dean of the Kansas State University College of Human Ecology at an extraordinary time.

I came to this position in January 2006 with high expectations for the work of the college. College faculty, students and staff have consistently exceeded my expectations. Their accomplishments have been truly remarkable. This success would not have been possible without the extraordinary support provided by alumni and friends of the college.

Last fall I announced that I will retire as dean in June. As I prepare to move into a new era in my life, I feel a sense of profound gratitude and admiration for all of you whose collective endeavors and contributions have made, and will continue to make, this a great college.

The intellectual vibrancy of the college is a tangible thing. You feel it in our classes and laboratories, in conversations with faculty and students who are energized and enriched by their work.

Our graduates are exceptionally well prepared for professional roles. As students they are immersed into the culture and practice of the profession; they have been abroad learning from travel, study and work in diverse settings; they share a concern for human significance as one of their core values.

Our facilities are a model of sustainable and functional design. Classrooms are designed to maximize learning. New space for research is under development.

This year the college has continued to achieve remarkable outcomes, including:

- personal financial planning students and interior design students winning first place in national competitions;
- the college using classrooms and offices in the Justin Hall expansion;
- welcoming the Department of Kinesiology into the college;
- the college creating the Physical Activity and Nutrition Clinical Research Consortium, located in Lafene Health Center; and
- Gayle Doll, Ann Smit and Sandi Stith being named national fellows in their respective professional fields.

Celebrating the 150th anniversary of Kansas State University this year is a special pleasure.

This state and this university have come a long way in the past 150 years. The College of Human Ecology marks its beginning 140 years ago when the newly appointed President John Anderson proposed the first three courses of study — the farmers course (now the College of Agriculture), the mechanics course (now the College of Engineering), and the women's course (now the College of Human Ecology).

Because of the prominence of the early faculty and administrators in this college, Kansas State University has more buildings named for women than any other public institution in the United States. When the first three K-State buildings were named in 1902 by the university's Board of Regents, the general classroom building was named Anderson Hall for the university's second president; the library was named Fairchild Hall for the University's third president; and the Domestic Science Hall was named for Nellie Kedzie, K-State's first female professor and head of the domestic science program.

The College of Human Ecology has a long and distinguished history. Its future promises to be even more exciting.

Human Ecology will continue to be a great place to work and learn. It will remain a powerhouse for discoveries that advance human health and well-being. It will continue to prepare graduates for professional leadership.

Thank you for being a part of our progress.

Dean Virginia Moxley

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Happy birthday, K-State.

As Kansas State University celebrates its sesquicentennial, the College of Human Ecology turns 140.

In 1863, just two years after Kansas entered the Union as a free state, a little school called Bluemont Central College became Kansas State Agricultural College. It was the first land-grant school in the United States to open its doors.

In 1873, college president John A. Anderson organized the college into three units — one for the students who wished to be farmers, one for those who wanted to be “mechanics or industrial citizens” and one for the “young ladies.”

Modern students may frown on the classifications, but Anderson was ahead of his time on the American frontier. He believed a woman should be educated, despite the literature of the day that declared that education physically harmed females. A woman should be “an industrialist instead of a butterfly,” he said.

That program sprouted and grew into the College of Human Ecology, which today has more than 3,000 students, a new $5 million wing on Justin Hall, more than $21 million in extramural funding and more than $19 million in endowments.

With this issue of Focus, we salute that 14-decade journey and the leaders — several of them former students of the college — who forged the way.

Take a look at the university’s 150th celebration at k-state.edu/150.

And look at our 150th website — he.k-state.edu/150 — and read about our sesquicentennial plans and highlights of our history.

Mark your calendars now and plan to attend College of Human Ecology festivities during homecoming weekend Oct. 24-26.

And join us to honor the past, celebrate the present and welcome the future.
Success built on a limestone foundation

Six limestone buildings tell the story of Human Ecology’s 140-year heritage. Within the rock walls of these six buildings beats the heart of the college — the leaders, the faculty, the staff, the students.

**Bluemont Building**

In 1859, on a hill west of the newly formed town of Manhattan, Isaac T. Goodnow established Bluemont Central College, a primary and preparatory school, to promote education and science in the Kansas Territory. Less than a month after Kansas became a state in 1861, school trustees sought state university status. They promised to donate land and their 44-by-60-foot limestone building. The Morrill Act strengthened their case and in 1863 Kansas State Agricultural College became the first land-grant institution to open its doors to students. In 1873 when President John A. Anderson established three divisions of study — domestic science, agriculture and engineering — Hattie Cheseldine taught 12 women sewing, dressmaking and millinery on the stage of the Bluemont Building. The students learned to disassemble and reassemble the college’s one sewing machine. The teacher earned $35 a month. The building was razed in 1883.

**Farm Machinery Hall**

In 1875 domestic science classes moved, with the young college, to the present campus where the main building was the Farm Machinery Hall. On the second floor Mary E. Cripps, a successful millenary businesswoman from New York, taught sewing and household economics. Chemistry professor William K. Kedzie instructed the young women in household chemistry. This class later transferred to human ecology and became human nutrition. Domestic science was made a department in 1876 — the Department of Household Economy. The building was razed in 1963.

**Anderson Hall**

At a cost of $20,000 — $6,500 for the stonework alone — Anderson Hall added a south wing in 1885. Sewing classes moved to the new first-floor sewing room, which was top of the line with six machines, dress forms and patterns. A model kitchen, dining room furniture and a dairy were in the basement. Faculty numbered two: Nellie Sawyer Kedzie and Elida Winchip.

**Kedzie Hall**

The building, completed in 1898, is believed to be the first structure built for home economics in the world. First called the Domestic Science Building, it was renamed for Nellie
Kedzie, who personally lobbied the Kansas Legislature for the $16,000 needed for building and equipment. Kedzie headed home economics from 1882 to 1897 and was the first female professor at K-State. The building was one of the first three named for campus leaders. They were Anderson Hall, Fairchild Hall and Kedzie Hall.

**Calvin Hall**

The next home, built in 1908, was the new $70,000 Calvin Hall, named after professor Henrietta Willard Calvin. How modern we were — laboratories, lecture halls, sewing rooms, exhibit rooms, a large dining room with eight individual kitchens. We operated a cafeteria to feed students and to serve as a laboratory for institutional management students. Domestic Science now included home management, food instruction, home nursing, home sanitation, house building and furnishing. A nursery school opened in 1926 in Calvin Hall. Mary P. Van Zile, who was in charge of the curriculum, taught a class in table manners to senior men for 25 cents, meal included. She discouraged them from drinking from saucers. That year football came to campus and a movie theater came to Manhattan. College President Ernest R. Nichols boasted of an enrollment of 2,166 students at the university.

**Justin Hall**

In 1959, the year the Carey brothers celebrated the first year of the new business in Wichita called Pizza Hut, the College of Home Economics moved into Justin Hall. It was built under the judicious eye of Dean Doretta Hoffman and named for Margaret Justin, who was dean for 31 years. The building boasted 102,004 square feet and cost $2,125,000. It was top of the line and included air conditioning, 28 teaching labs, 23 research labs, eight classrooms and a lecture hall that seated 220. In 1985 the college became Human Ecology.

**Justin Hall expansion**

Justin Hall was built to accommodate a burgeoning student enrollment of 1,000. Student population had nudged the 2,000 mark and was still skyrocketing. The business of educating, researching and meeting the needs of students, staff and faculty changed. Human Ecology needed more space for students to work together, for seminars and large high-tech classrooms. In September 2012, Dean Virginia Moxley led dedication ceremonies for a 13,180-square-foot expansion to 50-year-old Justin Hall. The $5-million addition was financed entirely by alumni and friends of the college.
Unparalleled perspective
College’s oldest graduate lived the college’s history

Edith Leora Lale is the College of Human Ecology’s oldest living graduate. The 108-year-old graduated from Kansas State Agricultural College in 1928. She took home economics classes in Calvin Hall and studied from “Practical Cookery,” first published by members of foods and nutrition in 1912, revised and used until the turn of the millennium.

The Lale family farmed in Missouri, and both Edith and her younger sister Mildred earned home economics degrees from K-State. While Edith was on campus, Margaret Justin was dean of the Division of Home Economics; Francis David Farrell led the university; the library was built. Tuition was free, although students paid $33 in fees each semester; the students numbered around 4,000.

Miss Lale took on the role of family caretaker after graduating a year before the Great Depression. She never married, had a career or got a driver’s license. She did live with sister Mildred, manage the household, cook, sew and make lye soap long after it was a necessity. “She once told me she never had to punch a time clock or answer to anybody else,” said Ann Newton, whose mother was Miss Lale’s first cousin.

The Lale sisters moved later to Louisville, Ky., to be near other family members so they could “look out for each other,” Mrs. Newton continued. “Edith was always in caregiver mode. She took care of her mother and grandmother, three generations living in a big stone house in Louisville.”

She did volunteer work, Mrs. Newton remembers, but her obsession was family history. Miss Lale didn’t track family genealogy, but she has written stories about family events, collected photographs and made books on her immediate family members. “I have some of those books, and so do relatives in Missouri,” Mrs. Newton said. “They are really interesting to read. She used a typewriter until about five years ago.”

Edith and Mildred Lale invested in Treyton Oak Towers when it was built nearly three decades ago in the heart of Old Louisville. They moved into a large apartment where, after her sister died, Miss Lale lived until last year when she required assisted living.

“She’s something else,” Mrs. Newton said in a telephone conversation. “Her mind was sharp until very recently. She gets around using a wheelchair. She still loves to eat and is very talkative.

“She is an institution at Treyton Oak.”
Are you smarter than an 1877 student?

The Catalogue of the Kansas State Agricultural College of 1877-78 instructs students on expenses (“Tuition is free, and no charges are made for incidental or ‘contingent’ expenses”), on faculty names and titles (There were 12, counting President George T. Fairchild, professor of political economy), and on courses of study (Offerings for first-year, second-year, third-year and fourth-year students were divided in to three terms — fall, winter and spring).

On page 32 the booklet addresses admission: “Candidates for admission … must be at least fourteen years of age, and able to pass a satisfactory examination in reading, spelling, writing, arithmetic to percentage, geography and elements of English grammar.”

Then it gives some sample arithmetic questions. No calculators were allowed.

The catalog did not give the answers so we asked Robert B. Burckel, professor of mathematics, for some help. We thank Dr. Burckel for his answers and annotations.

How many barrels, each holding 2 bushels and 3 pecks, will be needed to contain 880 bushels of apples?

Probably it was not an issue with farm kids in 1877, but no student (or adult) today could relate pecks to bushels. A dictionary informs us that a bushel is 4 pecks, so the problem is telling us that a barrel holds $2 + \frac{3}{4} = \frac{11}{4} \text{ bushels}$. Thus one wants to know how many times this number is present in 880; that is, one divides 880 by $\frac{11}{4}$ (equivalently, one multiplies 880 by $\frac{4}{11}$). Of course, a fractional answer will have to be rounded upward, as there are no fractional barrels.

Add $\frac{3}{5}$, $\frac{4}{7}$, $\frac{13}{21}$, and $\frac{7}{15}$.

For a bunch of dimes and quarters one only needs a common unit of currency, nickels. Here a common unit is $\frac{1}{105}$ ($105 = 3 \times 5 \times 7$): $\frac{3}{5} = \frac{63}{105}$, $\frac{4}{7} = \frac{60}{105}$, $\frac{13}{21} = \frac{65}{105}$, $\frac{7}{15} = \frac{49}{105}$. Altogether there are $63 + 60 + 65 + 49 = 237$ of these $\frac{1}{105}$‘s. That is, $\frac{237}{105}$ (= $\frac{79}{35}$ in ‘lowest terms’, if you prefer).

How many cords in a pile of four-foot wood, five feet six inches high and twenty-three feet long?

Today only tradesmen know the definition of “cord,” so the present wording is hardly suitable for 21st-century students. A dictionary clarifies that a cord is 128 cubic feet. The given volume of wood is (4 feet) times (5.5 feet) times (23 feet) = 506 cubic feet. Each 128 cubic feet of this is 1 cord, so you’re simply being asked how many 128’s there are in 506.

If by selling cloth at $0.75 a yard I gain 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ percent on the cost, how much must I advance up on this price to gain 31 $\frac{1}{4}$ percent on the cost? (From the 1882-82 catalogue)

If the problem is saying that a price of 75 earns 18 percent profit and wants to know what price will earn 31 percent profit, we can proceed as follows: The “given” is that $75 = \text{cost} + \text{profit} = \text{cost} + 18 \% \text{ of cost} = \text{cost} + .18 \text{ cost} = 1.18 \text{ cost}$. Therefore, \text{cost} = \frac{75}{1.18}. To earn 31 percent profit on this cost means we must charge cost + 31 percent cost = cost + .31 cost = 1.31 cost = 1.31 times \frac{75}{1.18}. You can do this arithmetic. (Of course, the unit of cost is cents-per-yard.)
Much of this information was adapted from “Legacy of Leadership” by Carol Kellett. To learn about the book, see he.k-state.edu/150library.
Dean Carol Kellett (1998-2006) created the Celebration of Excellence that continues to honor alumni and friends who have made lasting contributions to the college and to their professions. She guided the completion and rededication of the Hoeflin Early Childhood Education Center and the Campus Creek Complex that houses the expanded Speech and Hearing Center and the Family Center.

Dean Margaret Justin (1923-1954) was known as a visionary dean who pushed for academic excellence. Home Economics grew to 500 students. In four departments — applied art, clothing and textiles, food economics and nutrition, and household economics — 24 faculty members offered 52 technical courses. A new program led to a certificate of public health. Justin pushed for international education and was a renowned national leader in home economics. Justin Hall was named in her honor.

Dean Dorette Schlaphoff Hoffman (1954-1974) negotiated the planning and construction of Justin Hall, dedicated in 1960. She built a strong faculty, developed graduate programs, enhanced research and fostered international partnerships.

Dean Ruth Hoeflin (1975-1983) was head of the Department of Family and Child Development and associate dean. She was known for her creativity and expertise in family life education. The early childhood education lab and child care facility was named in her honor in 1983: The Ruth Hoeflin Stone House Child Care Center.

Dean Barbara S. Stowe (1983-1998) tells her own story:

“A number of turning points happened during my tenure as dean, but two stand out in my memory.

“Home Economics to Human Ecology: A group of faculty greeted me upon arrival at K-State with the earnest wish to change the college name. Home Economics had served the profession well when graduates were educated to serve the home as the center of production, but when families mostly purchased goods and services in the marketplace, graduates became professional designers of those goods and services with knowledge of the needs and desires of those being served.

“Proposed dissolution of the College of Human Ecology: In the difficult fiscal times of the early 1990s, administrators saw the college as a disparate collection of disciplines rather than an ecosystem of studies that strove to improve the human condition. They thus proposed that constituent disciplines be transferred to other parts of the university. A determined alumni, faculty and students made certain that did not happen.

“A continuing joy for me was the ability of faculty to assess circumstances impinging on the human condition and pursue research and instruction which responded appropriately for the time. It is satisfying to know that the college continues striving to answer the question, ‘What does the world need of us?’”
Ancestors on both sides were Kansas pioneers, emigrating from Germany, Switzerland and Sweden between 1850 and 1870. Her Altwegg great-grandparents were living in a soddy west of Junction City when the College of Human Ecology got its start in 1873. There were three students in her class at Brookside Elementary and 125 at Chapman Consolidated High School. “I was not very talented at being a teenager,” she remembers. “I was an introvert who lived a long-distance phone call from classmates. I was the girl who took math.”

Young Virginia Munson was no stranger to campus when she enrolled on a Putnam Scholarship as a freshman majoring in clothing and textiles. As an undergraduate she worked in textile science research, one summer making 20 jackets from different fabrics for Sam the Thermal Man. “I was pretty fast by the 20th one,” she said.
For three years she was a resident assistant at Goodnow Hall, an experience she recalled as helping her to be sympathetic to a student’s plight. “You learn about what happens to students on a daily basis,” she said.

In human ecology classes she learned the language and framework necessary to manage an organization, another skill she polished and put into practice in her job as dean.

She loved economics class where she learned how to bring power to data through graphical presentation.

On the way out the door with a new master’s degree, the future dean stopped to say hello to Dean Doretta Hoffman “and she offered me a job.” That led to another position doing research with Steve Bollman in family studies, which led to a doctoral degree.

Her new husband, Tom, a fellow K-Stater, had military obligations and when he returned from Korea, he had the opportunity to take over the family ranch in Morris County. Mrs. Moxley had to rethink her life plans.

When she heard about an opening for the head of the Department of Home Economics at Emporia State University, she applied and was hired. She was 26 years old.

For the next 12 years she taught three classes a semester and led the department that transformed into the Division of Sociology, Family Science and Anthropology. She added a sixth generation of Kansans to the family — daughters Amy and Angie — and a Ph.D. in education and the rank of professor to her vita.

When Barbara Stowe became K-State’s dean of Human Ecology, she conducted a national search for an associate dean. Stowe had heard the young Emporia State department head speak at a Kansas Home Economics Association meeting and asked her to apply for the position. Even though it meant twice the commute from the ranch, the possibility for personal and professional growth intrigued the young Dr. Moxley.

In 1985, Dr. Moxley returned to K-State as associate dean and professor.

Her commute to work at K-State involved half a million miles, many cars and a lot of flat tires. Never one to pass up an opportunity, she spent the miles learning languages on tape, listening to books, contemplating strategies to focus research, to fund projects, and to facilitate student and faculty growth.

Despite a record of college, university and national leadership that inspires exhaustion just reading it (see story at right), the dean believes her most important accomplishments are the invisible ones — the changed lives.

“Dean Moxley has the ability to fit into any situation. From tailgating to black tie, visiting troops in Iraq or establishing relationships in China, her humor, sincerity and grace have represented the college and our profession in style.”

— Mary Ice, president-elect of the Human Ecology Alumni Advisory Board

A few notable achievements:

- The major force in the fundraising and building of the $5-million expansion to Justin Hall, dedicated in September 2012.
- A leader in building a sustainable continuing education and distance program for the university and the college. “Teaching online is as important as face-to-face,” Moxley said. “I think this position speaks well for the future.”
- A founder of the Institute for Academic Alliances that provides consultation and management support for higher education alliances nationwide.
- Dean when the college realized substantial increases in extramural funding and student enrollment.
- A founder of Great Plains Interactive Distance Education Alliance, a multi-institutional group sponsoring undergraduate and graduate academic programs. “We had no platform — there was no Internet reach then — and no models,” Moxley said. “We brought together the right people who worked on policies for the institution.”
- Expansion of the human ecology program to the Salina and Olathe campuses.
- Instrumental guide in adding the Department of Kinesiology to the college.
- An advocate for more international engagement for faculty, for students and for research.
She wanted human ecology students to have international experiences. “When freshmen arrive on campus, I advise them to come with a computer, a bicycle and a passport. We know that graduates need to be technologically savvy, physically fit and culturally competent to succeed in the professions for which this college prepares them,” she often said.

And she wanted to boost students’ writing skills. “As a student I took science writing from Lowell Brandner, who taught us to write clearly, concisely and persuasively, exactly the kind of skill I needed for the rest of my life,” she said.

“I’m naturally strategic,” she said. “In my life, everything is always urgent. You have to learn what to do and what to leave undone. I don’t always get it right.”

She rarely looks back but concentrates on the path beneath her feet and the road ahead.

Ask about retirement and she will say, “I have no plan.

“I keep reinventing myself. My life has been one of capturing opportunities that I didn’t especially make. I’m assuming that will happen again.”

During a one-year phased retirement, she will work as co-director of K-State’s Institute for Academic Alliances, an organization she has led since its inception.

“I’ve been privileged to have a fascinating career,” she said. “Now I look forward to the next adventure.”

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**Honoring Dean Moxley**

Virginia Moxley, who retires in June as dean of Human Ecology, will be honored with a reception from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Thursday, May 9, in Justin Hall. A short program will be at 4 p.m.

Free parking is available in lot A3 at Vattier Street and North Manhattan Avenue, or for a charge in the university parking garage.

An online guest book for students, staff, faculty and other colleagues and collaborators past and present has been established at he.k-state.edu. Click on the Dean’s Retirement Guest Book at the right. Leave your name and greeting.

A Virginia Munson Moxley Excellence Fund has been established in recognition of her contributions to the college and the academic community locally and nationally. The fund will be used to continue pursuit of the college mission to advance human health and well-being through education and research.

For information about the fund, contact Jennifer Rettele-Thomas, senior development director, at 785-532-7592 or at jenniferr@found.ksu.edu.
**Leaving a mark**

Colleagues know her as a reader who enjoys a well-written novel but mostly sticks to nonfiction books about business, leadership and global affairs. They know her as a traveler who has filled more than one passport.

They also know her as someone who will make them think broadly before making decisions and who cherishes both the teaching and scholarship aspect of university life. Someone who walks the walk.

“Virginia was invested in the goals of K-State 2025 before they were articulated. Since I came to K-State in 2009, I’ve been amazed at all she has done to get Human Ecology involved with military families and making us a military-inclusive university. One of her strongest legacies will be getting the Great Plains IDEA Network off the ground. A program like the Interactive Distance Education Alliance — or IDEA — is ahead of its time in the way that it erases campus boundaries for distance students to capitalize on the strengths of faculty across institutions. The College of Human Ecology has a history of leaders and change-makers at K-State, and Dean Moxley is no exception.”

— Kirk Schulz, president, Kansas State University

“We wanted to offer the group of 20 administrators of kindergartens from southern China a cultural experience in the Flint Hills when they were here in 2010. Dean Moxley invited them to the family ranch.

“Tom spent the day showing our visitors, all who lived in urban areas in China, the Kaw Indian sites, walking with them on the prairie and explaining the ranching business in Kansas. They saw cattle close up, examined feed, felt the strong Kansas wind, and sat on a horse so they could take photos of each other. Tom loaned them his hat.

“The dean showed them around the ranch house, which was filled with her family artifacts, answering questions about her family and ranch life. She made everyone feel welcome and offered a window on the personal life of an American family our visitors would not know otherwise.

“She was, and always is, so gracious. She always has the right words for every occasion. She can evaluate the tenor of a situation and offer just the right comments.”

— Bronwyn Fees, associate professor, Family studies and human services

**Present**
Collaborations between kinesiology and human ecology began more than 20 years ago when K-State first offered a dual undergraduate degree in nutrition and kinesiology. The newest partnership is the Physical Activity and Nutrition Clinical Research Lab.

This year The Department of Kinesiology moved to the College of Human Ecology. The move was logical academically and scientifically, said Virginia Moxley, dean. “We share a mission to discover, disseminate and apply science-based knowledge to meet basic human needs and improve the human condition,” said David Dzewaltowski, head of the Department of Kinesiology.

Like other areas of human ecology, kinesiology utilizes both physical and social sciences — from physiology to sociocultural studies — to examine and promote health and well-being on the personal, community and even the global level.

“We look at physical activity from the cellular level up to the societal level,” Dr. Dzewaltowski said to sum up his group’s center. “We look at exercise as a health behavior, at health outcomes of movement, whether it is sedentary behavior or intense physical activity.”

Some of kinesiology’s current projects include a NASA study on physical characteristics necessary for an astronaut to perform tasks in space; a project to identify mechanisms of muscular microcirculatory dysfunction in heart failure, which is being funded by the National Institutes of Health; a study to find community-based solutions to childhood obesity; and a project to examine how increased body fat and a sedentary lifestyle may lead to the development of exercise-induced asthma in children.

While the study of physical activity was a central component of general education when K-State was established, in 1926 a B.S. degree in physical education and training was first offered.

By the early 1970s when Charles B. “Chuck” Corbin was department head, the Department of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation was inching its way toward a culture change. Corbin, who became known as “father of the conceptual physical education movement,” set in motion the vision for modern kinesiology at K-State. Corbin moved the department from a focus on learning how to perform and teach physical activity to a focus on studying the concepts underlying physical activity. The department then restructured and eliminated programs, changed its name to kinesiology, and evolved during the 1990s into...
Building on strengths

New department head Barbara Anderson wants to make choosing K-State for apparel, textiles and interior design an obvious choice

The department of apparel, textiles and interior design is a leader in integrating issues of human well-being and sustainability. Newly appointed department head Barbara Anderson plans to strengthen that position in education, research and engagement.

“We want to give students real reasons to choose K-State over other universities to earn their education in apparel and textiles or interior design,” she said.

“We have a responsibility to prepare students to be leaders in shifting the guiding principles to a place where sustainability is broadly understood to be a good business model,” said Anderson, an associate professor who has a Master of Architecture from the University of Kansas.

“Our graduates need to have a strong understanding of human ecology to make ethical decisions in their work and also in their lives as they help to shape effective, well-functioning communities.”

To be change-makers, she said, students need to understand global environmental, social, political and economic issues. Part of her mission is to develop international relationships so her students have opportunities for personal international experiences.

Anderson is proud of the department. She listed its strengths:

• a high quality faculty that “is incredibly productive and very engaged in scholarship and teaching”;
• great high-performance students who publish, win competitions and awards, and get tapped for top-notch internships and positions after graduation;
• a small but hardworking staff; and
• the Historic Costume and Textile Museum.

“The museum’s primary function is to provide opportunities for scholarship using the artifacts we preserve,” she said.

Its secondary function is public education and outreach. “It’s a good way to connect with the community and with alumni from across the entire university,” Anderson said, adding that the museum depends on contributions.

Anderson and her husband, Greg Fitch, have two sons. She is learning Korean.
In short: A quick look at what's going on in the college

Three earn Fellow awards

Dr. Purcell-Keith, medical family therapist and crisis intervention specialist at Medical City Children's Hospital in Dallas, supports, educates and comforts families whose children face life-threatening medical issues. She is the College of Human Ecology's alumni fellow for 2013 and was honored at the K-State Alumni Association's Alumni Fellow Reception and Banquet on Feb. 21. While in town, she presented a seminar at Mercy Regional Health Center on bereavement and end of life care for the medical staff.

In 2006, she received the prestigious George Washington Honor Medal from the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge for her work in providing care and comfort to families of extremely sick children. The award recognizes "individuals and organizations that epitomize the best of American Spirit and stand out as good citizens, role models and modern day heroes to the nation's youth."

The alumni fellow received three degrees from K-State: a bachelor's and master's in family studies and child development and a doctorate, awarded in 1979 in Human Ecology. She is also a licensed Registered Nurse.

Canter tapped for one of nation's top dietetics honors

Deborah D. Canter, professor and longtime advocate for the dietetics profession, has been selected for one of the highest honors given by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, formerly the American Dietetic Association.

Dr. Canter presented the 2012 Lenna Frances Cooper Memorial Lecture at the 2012 Academy of Food & Nutrition Conference & Expo in Philadelphia in October. The invitation to give the lecture is an annual honor that goes to an academy member who has reached the pinnacle of the profession.

College honors seven alumni

Seven alumni were honored in September 2012 for their contributions to their professions and for their efforts to give back to students and enrich their education.

They were:

Lora Gilbert, Distinguished Service Award. She received her master's degree in 1981 in human nutrition and has been honored throughout the industry for her innovative successes as senior director of food and nutrition services for the Orange County (Fla.) Public Schools.

Diane Parks, Executive Leadership Award. Vice president of sales in the nephrology unit at Amgen, Parks has been an executive for large pharmaceutical and biotech companies for more than 30 years. She received a bachelor's degree in fashion merchandising in 1974 and is a strong advocate for developing women as leaders.

Nancy Scally, Entrepreneur Award. She owns an electrical engineering company called Colorado Engineering Inc. in Colorado Springs that develops high-end electronics systems for the Department of Defense. Scally grew up on the family ranch in western Kansas and graduated in 1983 with a degree in dietetics.

Shawn Sullivan, Public Advocacy Award. As secretary for the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services, he heads a $1.67 billion state agency responsible for promoting the security, dignity and independence of older adults and people with disabilities. Gerontology was his secondary major at K-State.

Josh Umbehr, Young Professional Award. Umbehr is a board-certified family physician who graduated from K-State with a degree in human nutrition in 2003. He owns Atlas MD Concierge Family Practice in Wichita.

Mary Vanier, Friend of the College Award. A 1989 graduate in hotel and restaurant management, Vanier is president of Grand Mere Development Inc. in Manhattan. She is recognized for her generosity and philanthropic leadership locally, nationally and internationally to Gamma Phi Beta International Sorority, Manhattan and K-State.

Mary Frances Nettles, Ph.D., RD, Distinguished Research Award. As director of the Applied Research Division of the National Food Service Management Institute at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg, Nettles leads a team of researchers who address operational issues impacting child nutrition programs (CNPs); determine best practices for issues...
impacting the operation of CNPs. She received her doctorate in foodservice and hospitality management and a master’s degree in institution management from K-State.

**Scott Rice Office Works, Partner Award.** The partnership between the Department of Apparel, Textiles and Interior Design and Scott Rice Office Works began more than a decade ago. Scott Rice hires ATID graduates, provides internships for students and more. The company helped acquire furniture for the Justin Hall expansion.

**Museum joins ‘forces’ for Discovery Center exhibition**

The Historic Costume and Textile Museum was one of six organizations collaborating on the exhibition “Forces: The Shaping of Manhattan, Fort Riley and Kansas State University” at the Flint Hills Discovery Center in Manhattan. The exhibition followed ideas, events and issues that influenced the military post, a town and a university from about 1863 to World War I. The group is at work on “Forces II”, which will cover World War I to the present.

This silk wedding gown worn by Ura Burgoyne Higinbotham at her marriage to Edward Augustus Wharton in Manhattan represented the height of fashion on the Kansas prairie in the mid-1880s. She was one of the original members of the Domestic Science Club. The couple operated Wharton’s mercantile at 323-5 Poyntz Ave. The college bought the cheval mirror in the 1880s and it is still used in the apparel and textiles program.

The linen prairie bonnet shaded the wearer’s face and neck. The cotton dress, c. 1850, was a gift from Louise Hattery Harden, ’26. Her grandmother Almira Inman Beath wore it.

Silk embroidered trim adorns a boy’s jacket worn by Gilbert Woodruff of Parsons.

The wool girl’s day dress was worn around 1870. The woman’s day dress, c. 1860, was made of silk with silk velvet details. It was probably brought to Kansas by someone who settled in the area. Few merchants on the prairie stocked fabric like this, according to Marla Day, museum curator.

The linen prairie bonnet shaded the wearer’s face and neck. The cotton dress, c. 1850, was a gift from Louise Hattery Harden, ’26. Her grandmother Almira Inman Beath wore it.
Painting the State Fair purple

Willie and the gang rolled out the purple carpet for K-State Day at the 2012 Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson. Faculty and students set up a specially-created Human Ecology Non-Trivial Pursuit game. Willie played but didn’t do as well as some alumni who stopped by.

College hits $21 million-plus in extramural funding

Researchers in Human Ecology received $21,157,826 for 38 different projects in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012. Research covered a broad variety of subjects and included every department and school in the college. Topics included prevention of obesity in youth, food allergy training for foodservice directors, sensory flavor analysis of beef steaks and 4-H Army youth development.

One of the new projects was a five-year, $2.5 million grant for community-based research to learn more about sixth- to eighth-graders’ eating habits. Tanda Kidd, associate professor in human nutrition and Research and Extension nutrition specialist, heads the USDA-funded project. Goals are to identify barriers that stand between youth and healthy choices; to develop strategies to overcome the barriers; and to increase youths’ consumption of health-promoting fruits, vegetables and whole grains, and physical activity.

Pre-football dining in the tent

Alumni, friends, staff and faculty dined; hospitality management students organized and served. The college had its annual White Tent events before two 2012 football games. When the Wildcats obliterated the Jayhawks, the menu was barbecued brisket, black bean and roasted red pepper frittatas, and cinnamon rolls. On the menu at homecoming, when K-State triumphed over Texas Tech, were whole roasted pig and trimmings.

Financial planning champs

Three seniors in personal financial planning came home the champions from the National Collegiate Financial Planning competition in October 2012. Team members were Matt Gould, Wende Witthuhn and Kristen Moore. Ann Coulson, assistant professor in the School of Family Studies and Human Services, was the team’s adviser. The team won $10,000 for the PFP program. K-State is the only university to send a team to the finals every year since the competition began in 2000. In 2011 the team tied for second place.

Largest enrollment in university history

Enrollment for the 2012-13 school year hit a record of 24,378 students. Human Ecology recorded 2,516 students. There are 21,179 students on the Manhattan campus and 737 in Salina. The university has 2,445 students enrolled online.

In Human Ecology, graduate students number 393, nearly half of them master’s degree students in the School of Family Studies and Human Services. FSHS also has the most undergraduates with 513. The other top enrollment programs are dietetics with 262 students, hotel and restaurant management with 257, and apparel and textiles with 194.

The addition of kinesiology will bring more than 500 additional students to the college for the 2013-14 head count.

Interior design is the tops

The interior design program at K-State has been ranked among the Top 10 in the U.S. The ranking, published in the November/December 2012 issue of DesignIntelligence, is based on a survey of principals, design directors and human resource directors from 392 professional practice organizations in the United States. They were asked to name the schools from which they have had the best experience hiring employees.
PFP bestows first doctorates

Julie Cumbie, the first graduate from the personal financial planning doctoral program, is assistant professor of finance at the University of Central Oklahoma. Her dissertation was “Three Essays on Money Arguments and Financial Behaviors.”

The program’s second graduate was Ron Sages, whose dissertation was “Three Essays on Self-Esteem and Retirement Planning Behavior.”

The two were among the first cohort of Personal Financial Planning Ph.D. students to spend a week in Seoul, South Korea. In spring 2012 they presented research and collaborated with graduate students at Ewha Woman’s University.

The trip was part of their Ph.D. program that requires one summer session abroad to examine global markets and how financial planning is being developed in other countries.

The second group is traveling to Korea this spring.

Design winners

For the third time in five years, a K-State interior design student team won the Interior Design Educators Council Student Design Competition.

Team members Sydney Hall, Andrea Sisk and Haoran Hu won with a design called “A Refreshing Education.”

Migette Kaup, associate professor in apparel, textiles and interior design, is the group’s adviser.

This year 37 programs across the U.S. and Canada submitted 101 team projects to regional competitions.

Scholar sees public health nutrition as path to teaching medicine

Ben Harstine, a junior in public health nutrition with a pre-med emphasis, wants to go to medical school, then teach. The desire to pursue excellence in knowledge and in relationships with people — he calls it “life-on-life interaction that inspired growth” — runs in the family, he said.

His dad, Stan, teaches at Friends University in Wichita. His mother, Deb, teaches kindergarten. Both are K-State graduates.

When he was a senior in high school, Harstine was awarded the K-State First President’s Excellence Scholarship, the largest scholarship in Kansas. It covers all costs associated with the student’s schooling and is renewable for up to four years, making its total worth $80,000. Selection was based on academic achievement, leadership, community service and a broad range of other areas.

“It was an answer to several years of prayers for provision,” the junior said. His two older brothers were in college at the time.

Harstine’s favorite classes have been human anatomy and physiology (he was on the cadaver team), and energy balance taught by Mark Haub, associate professor and interim head of human nutrition. “I love studying physiology,” Harstine said, “and especially the physiology of how food interacts with the body.”

Like his father before him, he lives in FarmHouse fraternity house. He is from Towanda.
About 3 percent of all registered dietitians in the United States are male. But 60 percent of the fall graduating class in dietetics were men, marking what we believe is the first time three male students have graduated in a single semester. The three are Josh Mathiasmeier, Brett Ziegler and Colin Duke. … Dean Virginia Moxley has received the 2012 Special Recognition Award from the Association of Continuing Higher Education. … Edgar Chambers IV, university distinguished professor of human nutrition and director of the Sensory Analysis Center, chairs the group developing standards for the International Standards Organization’s Technical Committee on Sensory and Consumer Evaluation. … Kristine Smith, who earned her bachelor's degree in dietetics online while on duty overseas with the U.S. Navy, was the Division of Continuing Education’s alumni fellow for 2012. She directs nutrition services at Sand Diego’s Neighborhood House Association. … Mary Molt received the Gold Plate award, the highest honor given by the International Foodservice Manufacturers Association, for her contributions to foodservice operations. The current author of “Food for Fifty,” she is an assistant professor in hospitality management and dietetics and dining services. … Petros Levis, general manager of Medallion Laboratories, a Division of General Mills Inc., was keynote speaker for spring graduation ceremonies in 2012. … Kelley Nelson was the student commencement speaker. About 350 students received Bachelor of Science degrees in spring 2012. … Apparel, textiles and interior design’s Barbara Anderson, associate professor and department head, and Hyung-Chan Kim, assistant professor, lectured to students and faculty at Inje University’s College of Design in South Korea. … Sherry Haar, associate professor in apparel, textiles and interior design, received the Award of Excellence in a juried exhibition for her Dye Garden Sampler. … Stephanie Gfeller and her colleagues at the Center on Aging created a guidebook — “Uniting Wonder With Wisdom: An Intergenerational Classroom Replication Guide” — outlining ways to create a successful intergenerational program involving nursing home residents and kindergarten and preschool students. … Brian Lindshield, assistant professor of human nutrition, gained attention for creating a textbook replacement — called a flexbook — that saves students money and provides professors with teaching flexibility. One kudo was a nomination for an Education-Portal.com People’s Choice Award for “Most Open Resource”. … The School of Family Studies and Human Services will offer a new online program of study: Master of Science in family and community services. It enables professionals who are place bound and working full time to acquire advanced study without relocating geographically. … Nick Leckey, who was captain of the Wildcat football team and went on to pick up a Super Bowl ring in 2009 with the New Orleans Saints, was student commencement speaker for fall graduation. He got a degree in hospitality management. … Carolyn Jackson, executive director of the American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences in Washington, D.C., gave the main address. … Dean Virginia Moxley rode a purple Harley as part of “Human Ecology on the Move” in the homecoming parade in October 2012. Nine other motorcycles and several unordinary vehicles joined for a special salute to marshals Sally and Thane Baker. Sally Baker is a CHE alumna. … Assistant professor Kevin Roberts has been named director of the hotel and restaurant management program. … Amber Howells, instructor and registered dietitian, is the new director of the coordinated program in dietetics.
Fighting for families
Military-connected donors boost college’s support of military families
By Hayli Morrison

For Ross and Mary Stryker, life is about surprises.
“It’s just funny how the little twists and turns take you down an unexpected path,” Ross Stryker said. “The unexpected is what’s fun about life.”

But when it comes to their legacy, the Lebanon, Mo., couple will leave nothing to chance. Both 1978 K-State alumni, they are planning ahead with gifts in their wills to reinforce their top three priorities on campus. Ultimately, the decision centered on two simple questions.
“What was your life about? Did you impact people?” Stryker said.
“I want to touch people in generations we’ll never see. I want to choose where my money goes,” he said. “The neat thing about the KSU Foundation is you can literally designate exactly how you want that money utilized. You have control over it, even after you’re gone.”

The first funding choice was obvious for the Strykers. With a 12-year history in the Army and a current orthodontics practice serving largely military clientele, they felt compelled to fund military family initiatives in the College of Human Ecology. The Ross and Mary Stryker Military Families Excellence Fund will broadly impact a range of disciplines through the college’s nationally recognized Institute for the Health and Security of Military Families. The institute coordinates workshops, clinical programs, research and education to engage and serve military families both now and into the future.

“What any time we get affirmation of the work we’re doing at the institute, it’s fabulous, but more importantly this gift recognizes the needs of military families,” said Briana Nelson Goff, director of the institute and professor of Family Studies and Human Services. “This is a group that really merits these kinds of programs.”

As daily firsthand observers of modern military family life, the Strykers couldn’t agree more.
“We witness every day in our office the sacrifice these military families make,” Stryker said. “It’s just neat to hear their stories, and unfortunately we’ve had several tragedies, too. Anything we can do for the military, it’s the least we can do.”

With a second fund designated for K-State Athletics’ Academic Learning Services Office, the Strykers will support student athletes, particularly those returning to college to finish degrees.
“We wanted them to be able to look back and know they got everything they needed out of K-State,” he said.

The gift also allows Stryker to honor a deep tradition in his family, where everyone always came together for K-State game day.
“He’s got a 94-year-old mother who still watches all the games,” Mary Stryker said. “I’ll be on the phone and she’ll remind me when the games are on.”

The Strykers’ third gift will align with one of their lifelong passions — helping animals. As longtime cairn terrier owners, the couple created a local society to subsidize veterinary care for pets in need and will now fund spay and neuter educational outreach through the College of Veterinary Medicine.

Together the three gifts will make a tremendous impact across campus, and the full extent of that impact may unfold in unexpected ways. But after all, as the Strykers say, “Therein lies the fun.”
Justin Hall expansion dedicated in September 2012

College of Human Ecology leadership team

Administration
Virginia Moxley, dean
William Meredith, associate dean
Karen Pence, senior assistant dean
Shawna Jordan, assistant dean for student support

Unit heads
Barbara Anderson, Department of Apparel, Textiles and Interior Design
Gayle Doll, Center on Aging
David Dzewaltowski, Department of Kinesiology
Mark Haub, Department of Human Nutrition
Maurice MacDonald, School of Family Studies and Human Services
Jeannie Sneed, Department of Hospitality Management and Dietetics
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