KU Announces 2007 Spring Honor Roll

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These students, from the Lawrence campus and the schools of allied health and nursing at the KU Medical Center in Kansas City, Kan., represent 99 of 105 Kansas counties, 44 other states and the District of Columbia and 37 other countries.

The honor roll comprises undergraduates who met requirements in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and in the schools of allied health, architecture and urban planning, business, education, engineering, fine arts, journalism, nursing and social welfare.

Honor roll criteria vary among the university's academic units. Some schools honor the top 10 percent of students enrolled, some establish a minimum grade-point average and others raise the minimum GPA for each year students are in school. Students must complete a minimum number of credit hours to be considered for the honor roll.

Melvyn Beltran and Kelisha White were among those listed. Both are senior Allied Health undergraduates and Elkhart High School alumni. Melvyn is the son of Mindano and Pompeia Beltran. Kelisha is the daughter of Tim and Connie White.
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Area students include:

**Auburn** – Edgar Ronald Austria, Liberal Arts; Melissa B. Evans, Liberal Arts; Jennifer Rose Gross, Nursing; Shalyn P. Oberle, Liberal Arts; Christopher D. Strait, Liberal Arts; Barbara Lynn Walker, Journalism and Liberal Arts.

**Alma** – Chase Christopher Boucher, Liberal Arts; Amanda Renee Lasswell, Education; Jenny L. Wilson, Liberal Arts.

**Eskridge** – Derek David McFarren, Liberal Arts.

**Paxico** – Sharon Ann Johnson, Education.
To speak in Eureka on July 10

Kansas author Mike Klaassen will be the guest of the Eureka Public Library Teen Advisory Board from 7 to 9 p.m. on Tuesday, July 10 in the meeting room. He will be speaking about his two novels for teens, “The Brute” and “Cracks.”

A Valley Center resident and Whitewater native, Klaassen decided several years ago to take up writing when he noticed a shortage of novels that would be of interest to his teenage sons. “The Brute,” published in 2005, focuses on a scouting trip in Kansas that is disrupted by a tornado. “Cracks,” which was published last year, is about a 16-year-old boy on a youth rehabilitation outing in the Ozarks when an earthquake rocks the area.

Klaassen fostered his interest in writing about the outdoors through his association with the Boy Scouts of America. He was a scoutmaster for four years, has participated in summer camps in Colorado and New Mexico, and in 1999 he received the Scoutmaster Award of Merit.

A graduate of Kansas University, with a degree in accounting, Klaassen has worked as a certified public accountant, stockbroker, and financial planner. He is chairman of the board of a bank his father co-founded.

Klaassen will have copies of his books available for sale at the meeting. For more information, call Teen Activity Board sponsor Nancy Evans at 583-5720 or check with the library at 606 N. Main.
KSU students earn honors

Kansas State University awarded more than 1,700 students semester honors for their academic performance during the 2007 spring semester.

Monica Frey and Bryna Long of Clearwater, and Kendra Pelz of Viola, earned spring 2007 semester honors.

Students earning semester or graduation honors receive commendations from their deans, with the honors recorded on their permanent academic records.

Students receiving semester honors rank in the top 10 percent of their class within their respective colleges and were enrolled in at least 12 semester hours of graded course work.
TOPEKA (AP) — Incoming freshmen at the University of Kansas will pay the same tuition rate for four years under a plan the Kansas Board of Regents approved Thursday.

Under the plan, which takes effect in the fall, tuition rates at the University of Kansas will increase nearly 16 percent over current levels, then stay at that rate for four years.

"Parents so far are liking it because they know what the rate is," said Todd Cohen, a university spokesman.

But it will cost more to send students to all other state schools.

For other state universities, the regents approved a 7.9 percent increase in tuition and fees for in-state students at Kansas State; 6.4 percent at Wichita State; 9.5 percent at Emporia State; 7.1 percent at Pittsburg State; and 5.1 percent at Fort Hays State.

Under the University of Kansas plan, in-state freshmen enrolled in 16 credit hours, which is considered full-time, will pay a total of $3,785.75 per semester for tuition and campus fees. Out-of-state students will pay $9,337.75 per semester.

The total doesn't include course fees, which aren't charged of students in all majors or for the full four years.
K-State campus brings something new to Johnson County

BY HEATHER KIRKWOOD | CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In early June the Olathe City Council voted to sell 91 acres of land near College Boulevard and Lone Elm Road to be used to develop the Kansas State University-Olathe Innovation Campus.

But lest the public suspect the Jayhawks are crowing foul about the potential competition, think again.

"More access to academic research in the Kansas City area can only be a good thing for the region," said Bob Clark, vice chancellor of the KU Edwards Campus. "The things that K-State plans to offer are very specific. They're things that are K-State's area of expertise."

Clark points to the benefits the KU Edwards Campus has brought to the metro area, such as continuing education for professional engineers or collaborations between local school districts and KU's education department.

"It will be the same with the K-State campus," Clark said. "We'll all benefit."

On about 40 acres of the land, K-State plans to build a satellite campus that initially will offer graduate-level courses and continuing education opportunities for the bioscience work force. K-State isn't ruling out future undergraduate offerings.

Any future undergraduate offerings, however, would be developed only after a gap analysis. The analysis would evaluate areas of study not currently available in the metro area and probably would involve input from surrounding educational institutions as well as the business community.

The campus could accommodate classes for as many as 2,000 to 3,000 students when it's fully built; however, plans are still in the early stages.

The rest of the land will be used by the Kansas Bioscience Authority to construct a bioscience office park, including wet labs and office space, perfect for incubating future companies.

Bob Krause, vice president for institutional advancement at K-State, said the university isn't trying to take a piece of the education market away from existing regional institutions. Rather, K-State plans to offer courses that others in the area are not able to offer.

It's too early to spell out exact course offerings, but Krause said the university is looking at offerings that would include graduate work in animal health, food safety and agro-forensics.

"We'll be looking for ways to collaborate with other institutions in the area," Krause said.

Krause said that America's infrastructure and K-State has been exposed to food safety issues, but controlling and combating a pathogen intentionally added to the nation's food system is different: It's a crime scene.

Other programs will involve animal health and facilities to conduct animal clinical trials.

Many of the details about how programs would work, however, haven't been worked out. For example, while many of the KU Edwards Campus faculty can commute from nearby Lawrence, Manhattan is too far for commuters. Faculty would either have to spend specified amounts of time at the Olathe campus or a core group of faculty would have to be recruited to reside in the Olathe area — or both.

Bob Regnier, CEO of the Bank of Blue Valley, is another member of the community pleased to see the Wildcats come to Johnson County. He's long been an advocate of developing a research triangle in Johnson County, much like other bioscience or technology centers have done in other areas of the country.

"The one thing Johnson County has always been willing to invest in is education," Regnier said. "There are some people that might argue we should have waited for the state to pay for this, but that's the state's responsibility, but that would likely mean waiting five to 10 years. We can't wait."

For now, Krause said K-State is focusing on getting the infrastructure and the land ready to begin construction, possibly this fall.

Heather Kirkwood | Kirkwood is a freelance writer in the Kansas City area.
What experiences have you had as president of Central Arizona College that will benefit you at Johnson County Community College?

I think there are a number of things that we did there that I'll be able to bring here. I think the faculty here are very interested in the experiences I had in developing our learning outcomes program. That's very much understood and supported by business. Most businesses are focused on outcomes and quality. That's really how we based our college operations.

What most attracted you here?

Johnson County really is probably one of the top two or three colleges in the country. The college has a great reputation for innovation and quality and has tremendous work force development programs, and the facilities just are unsurpassed. As you're looking for capstone opportunities in your career, it's one of those opportunities that come along once in a lifetime.

The University of Kansas has been increasing its efforts in Johnson County, and Kansas State University plans to open a campus in Olathe. What are your plans to enhance coordination with the four-year schools?

It's really imperative that we do that. We probably are the largest feeder of associate degree students into both of those universities. It's really important for us to make sure that we have great articulation programs with those two universities in particular, but all the universities across the state. I've already corresponded with the presidents of both KU and K-State. When you think about hospitals opening, the universities provide the physicians but the colleges provide the technicians, and for every physician you have you need 10 techs working in either respiratory care or phlebotomy or nursing or whatever it may be.

What are your goals toward keeping JCCC closely connected with the business community?

First of all, to make sure we take a look at all of the partnerships and strengthen all of those. As good as they've been, there are always opportunities for us to get even closer to our business partners. One of the things that I've said to our faculty and staff here is that we need to be the consummate entrepreneurs. We need to think like businesses think and we need to support business with the talents that we bring to the table in a partnership.

What do you see as JCCC's biggest strength?

I think our greatest strength is that when we do get out into the classroom or off-site into a business, we do things in a really high-quality way. That quality faculty is so critical. Having the key talent in the right places is really important. That's a huge strength of this institution.

What is the biggest challenge before you?

I think always it's how do we interact with the state legislature and some of the challenges we're facing both at the state level and nationally. There's always that issue of budget. I think certainly because of the strength of our community we are in a good place but we always make sure that our college gets its fair share from national grant opportunities or statewide initiatives.

I think also just making sure that we continue to keep the college on the forefront of everyone in the community's mind. One thing that really will be a challenge for us is really making
sure that we take a more aggressive approach to how we recruit students.

**What do you expect will be the biggest changes you’ll make?**

After four days, I’m not sure. I think it’s wise for anyone who comes in to make sure you understand the environment in which you’re working. All too often I think people come in and say, “We’re going to do this tomorrow.” If they really dig into it they don’t have enough information to make the best decisions. So really what I’m doing is really sitting down and spending the first bit of time getting a full understanding of the college and how we operate and meeting with faculty and staff and our leadership team and the board and community members to see what it is that we’re doing well and what are the challenges we face.

**What are the unique challenges of your circumstances, being only the fifth president for the school and coming on the heels of a president who was there for 25 years?**

I think the key is that you can’t try to be anyone else. You have to be yourself. Someone asked me, “How are you going to fill Chuck Carlsen’s shoes or Larry Tyree’s?” My answer was I’m not going to try. You can’t fill the shoes of icons like that. At the same time, I think you have to be your own person. I’ve been very lucky in my career. I’ve been pretty successful in the places I’ve been. I hope I’ll bring some of that skill and talent to this job. The only person I can be is myself. I hope that will be something that makes our community better.

Jonna Lorenz
Tuition rates at Kansas state universities are low, according to a recent survey conducted by the Kansas Board of Regents.

The survey compared the tuition and fee rates of Kansas' six state universities to similar institutions in neighboring states for the most recently completed school year.

Among the survey's findings:

- Undergraduate resident tuition and fees at the state's research institutions — Kansas State University, the University of Kansas and Wichita State University — were 15 percent less than at similar institutions in neighboring states.

- Undergraduate resident tuition and fees at the state's regional institutions — Emporia State University, Fort Hays State University and Pittsburg State University — were 23 percent less than for peers in neighboring states.

“A state university education in Kansas remains a great buy when compared to neighboring states,” Nelson Galle, chairman of the Kansas Board of Regents, said in a news release. “Take the state of Missouri for example, some students pay up to 53 percent more each year to attend a public school than a Kansan pays. Tuition rates have rapidly increased across the nation, but rates at our state's universities continue to provide Kansans with an exceptional educational value.”

Jonna Lorenz

Education in Kansas is a bargain
Humboldt quiz

By Eileen Robertson

Question: Are there any early accounts of how Humboldt celebrated the 4th of July?

Answer: It just so happens that Frank Baron, one of Humboldt’s KU German Professor friends, sent me the following item:

Daily Journal of Commerce, Kansas City, Missouri, June 10, 1859: 4th in Humboldt. - We have just printed a lot of invitation cards for a grand celebration of the 4th of July in Humboldt, K.T., the most southern of the Kansas towns, and the largest on the Neosho. It is also one of the youngest, being only a little over a year old.

The celebration is to be on a large scale, and will wind up with a ball at the Humboldt House. This house is kept by Barbee & Sphar, and if any of our citizens happen [to be] in the Southern part of Kansas on the 4th, they should try and be at Humboldt.

Please note the year of publication in the K.C. Mo newspaper. Humboldt did not have The Humboldt Union until after the Civil War in 1866, when it was started by Orlin Thurston, our young attorney/entrepreneur. Also, please note the “K.T.” after “Humboldt”; that stands for Kansas Territory. We were still a territory, and Kansas did not become a state until 1861. 1857 Humboldt was notably young, elegant, and enthusiastic in its “grand” 4th of July celebration 1859.

How wonderful that the Lions are helping to keep Humboldt’s enthusiasm alive and glowing today with their annual community Fire Works display.

Question: Where can I find stories and information about the Neosho River, a ferry, a ford, and bridges across the Neosho at Humboldt?

Answer: All can be found on pp. 10 & 11 in the Choguills’ book A History of The Humboldt, Kansas, Community 1855-1988. It can be read at your Humboldt Historical Museum, Riverside School House, 2nd and Neosho, or at your Humboldt Public Library on east Bridge Street between 9th and 10th Streets.

SARAH WORKS stands next to the Liberty Bell she visited as part of Citizenship Washington Focus.
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Humboldt High School alumni Matthew Zachary Hudson, a Liberal Arts Undergraduate Junior; Amy Jean May, daughter of John and Lora May, an Education Undergraduate Senior; and Bradley D. Witherspoon, son of Gary Witherspoon Liberal Arts Undergraduate Junior made the Spring 2007 honor roll.