TOPEKA (AP) — It will cost more to attend the six state universities in Kansas next year.

The Kansas Board of Regents approved tuition increases for the universities and extended a program at the University of Kansas that sets a four-year tuition rate for incoming freshmen.

Under the so-called tuition compact, Kansas freshmen will pay $229.25 per credit hour this fall, and that rate will not change through the 2011-12 school year.

That’s an increase of $244 more a semester than 2007 freshmen pay. Out-of-state freshmen will pay $602.05 per credit hour.

The regents also approved a 5.85 percent increase for all students at Kansas State University. University officials said it was the lowest increase at the university in six years.
June 12th the Kansas Board of Regents established the standard resident tuition rates for the six state universities for the upcoming 2008-2009 academic year. The newly-established tuition rates range from a 4.9% increase at Emporia State U. to a 6.0% increase at the University of KS. The Board also approved KU's rate for the "Four-year tuition compact," the rate that applies for first-time, full-time students who begin as freshmen in Fall 2008. This rate, which will be locked-in for those students over a four-year period, was increased by 7.6%.

The nine-member Kansas Board of Regents is the governing board of the state's six universities and the statewide coordinating board for the state's 36 public higher ed. institutions (six state universities, a municipal university, 19 community colleges, and 10 technical institutions). In addition, the Board administers the state's student financial aid, adult education, GED, and career and technical education programs. Visit the Kansas Board of Regents online at www.kansasregents.org.
A small group of graduate students from the University of Kansas spent this week digging at the oldest archeological site in the state within sight of the state line and a mile south of Kanorado along Middle Beaver Creek. Excavation continues on the 14,000-year-old Paleoindian site, and this summer a ground-penetrating radar unit has been brought to try to develop a three-dimensional image of the area south of the creek bank where the dig site is located.

The KU graduate students were staying in the dorms this week at the Northwest Kansas Technical College, and will be back with a larger number for a field school beginning on Wednesday and lasting until June 27.

Dr. Rolfe D. Mandel, executive director of the Odyssey Archeological Research Program for the Kansas Geological Survey and a professor of anthropology at KU, is directing the work, but is not always at the Kanorado site.

Shannon Ryan, a KU anthropology doctoral student from Salina, is in charge at the site. Ryan, who has been working at the site for four years, said being able to stay in the dorms has been a real blessing. She said Sunday afternoon the small group has been working on three areas on the western site (known as SN-106), and they are working to find more signs that the area was inhabited more than 12,000 years ago. She said last year some additional evidence was found, and more rock flakes as evidence the area may have been where buffalo hides were worked on with scrapers.

Ryan said the flakes were created when the ancient people chipped at larger rocks to make stone tools or points. She said the flakes turn up as the group digs back into the south bank of the creek. She said this supports the theory that the site was a hide-processing area.

Some of the graduate students have been to the Kanorado site before, and are continuing to work on excavating the archeological area about five feet down from the top of the bank.

Nick Kessler of Lawrence has been at the site for three years, but this is the first year for Kris West of Pennsylvania. Hai Huang, a graduate student from Shanghai, China, is back this year after taking a year off, and this is his third year at Kanorado.

Opening a new unit to the west are Patrick Green of Peoria, Ill., and Adam Hefling of Holstad. This is the first year for Green, but Hefling has been at the Kanorado site before.

At the top of the bank Dan Keating and Arlo McKee, both first year grad students were working with a ground penetrating radar unit, and hoped to map about a 100-yard area to develop a three-dimensional picture that may guide future excavations.

Dr. Mandel said fossilized plant remains show the area was much wetter thousands of years ago, had a lot more trees and probably was cooler.

He said Kanorado is a unique site, with much more to be learned. He said the students would take a break, and then return next week with more students.

Dr. Steve Holen of the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, who has been working with Dr. Mandel, said last year the Kanorado site is the first Clovis-era site in the state and the second Folsom-era site. Early native Americans, known as Paleoindians, roamed the High Plains thousands of years ago. Some of the earliest were called Folsom for the fluted points they made about 10,000 years ago first found near Folsom, N.M.
Shannon Ryan (above left) and Hai Huang talked about the progress they are making on excavating one of the units along the south bank of Middle Beaver Creek, which is part of a Paleoindian archaeological site. Dan Keating (left in right photo) and Arlo McKee, both first year KU grad students worked with a ground penetrating radar unit at the archaeological site at Kanorado on Sunday afternoon.

Photos by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News
TOPEKA — The Kansas Board of Regents on Thursday approved tuition increases ranging from 4.9 percent at Emporia State University to as much as 6 percent for other universities and extended a program at the University of Kansas that sets a fixed four-year tuition rate for incoming freshmen.

Juniors, seniors, transfers and graduate students will pay 6 percent more in tuition at KU next fall.

The regents also approved a 5.9 percent increase, or $164.55 per credit, for undergraduate students taking 15 hours at Kansas State.
Regents approve tuition increases at six universities

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Under the so-called tuition compact, University of Kansas freshmen will pay $229.25 per credit hour this fall, and that rate will not change through the 2011-12 school year. That's an increase of $244 a semester, or 7.6 percent, more than 2007 freshmen paid.

Juniors, seniors, transfers and graduate students will pay 6 percent more in tuition at Kansas next fall, or an additional $175.50 a semester for a student taking 15 hours. Nonresident juniors, seniors and transfers would pay an additional $460.50 per semester.

The regents also approved a 5.9 percent increase, or $164.55 per credit, for undergraduate students taking 15 hours at Kansas State. In May, Kansas State had proposed imposing most of the increases on juniors and seniors, but that plan was later dropped.

Tuition will not increase for Kansas State students on the university's Salina campus, which emphasizes technology.

Tuition rate increases approved for other universities, all based on undergraduates taking 15 credit hours, were: Wichita State, 5.9 percent, or $116.25 per credit hour; Emporia State, 4.9 percent, or $77 per credit; Pittsburg State, 5.8 percent, or $93; and 5.5 percent, or $71.25 at Fort Hays State.
KU Alumni Association to welcome new students at picnic in Pratt

LAWRENCE — Incoming University of Kansas students and their parents from Barber, Harper, Kingman and Pratt counties will be welcomed into the KU family at the Jayhawk Generations Welcome Picnic at 6:30 p.m. Monday, June 30, in Pratt.

The KU Alumni Association and its South Central chapter will greet the new Jayhawks at the home of Dan and Marcia Sitter, 207 Lake Road. Area alumni, new students, students interested in learning more about KU and parents are invited to attend and enjoy complimentary food and beverages. Each new Jayhawk will receive a free T-shirt.

The Suiters of Pratt, Debra Meisenheimer of Kingman, Mark and Amy Keeny of Kingman and alumni association representatives Heath Peterson, director of Kansas programs; Jamie Winkelme, assistant director for alumni programs; David Ochoa, coordinator for membership relations; and Megan Hill, coordinator for alumni programs, are coordinating the event. Alumni association staff will arrive with the signature KU trailer full of grills, burgers and brats for the festivities. Current KU students, alumni and university representatives will mix and mingle with students to answer questions and offer advice.

For more information or to make reservations, visit www.kualumni.org, call the KU Alumni Association at (800) 584-2957 or e-mail kualumni@kualumni.org.

The alumni association invited incoming students whose enrollment deposits were received by the Office of Admissions and Scholarships by May 1. The guests are listed below by hometowns and ZIP codes.

Cunningham 67035: Allison Steffen
Garden City 67846: Erin Ross
Harper 67058: Logan Steele
Isabel 67065: Jordyn Rickard
Kingman 67068: Dayona Nett and Mandi Roser
Medicine Lodge 67104: Mattie Sheldon and Kolton Stumpert
Nashville 67112: Shawn Schaller
Pratt 67124: Heather Himmelman and Eric Kocher
Wichita 67208: Mary Babb
REPUBLIC COUNTY — You might be surprised what you can learn from a campfire. A campfire that has been cold for, say, 300 years.

Stacey Lengyel hopes she can tell, within 30 years or so, when it was used.

Lengyel, a research associate in anthropology at the Illinois State Museum, is the country's leading authority on archeomagnetic dating, a process built around two phenomena: when heated, magnetic particles reorient themselves to magnetic north; and over time, magnetic north is, literally, all over the map.

"They call it a 'drunken wander,'" said Lengyel. "Around 1600, it was real close to Earth's rotational axis. Now, it is around 75 degrees latitude."

Lengyel is one of scores — mostly volunteers, but also some highly credentialed professionals — who were enlisted this summer to help uncover new information about a Pawnee Indian settlement in northwest Republic County.

"One of the things we're really hoping to learn is the actual age of the village," said Richard Gould, administrator of the Pawnee Indian Museum.

The museum encloses the floor of an 1820s earth lodge. It is surrounded by the remnants of many other structures. The earth has settled where each of the lodges once existed.

"We have 22 lodge depressions within the fenced area," Gould said. "What we really want to do is pinpoint when it was lived in."

The group also wants to learn more about this Pawnee Nation band's lifestyle.

The Kitkehahki band was one of four Pawnee Nation bands. It also was dubbed the Republican band by French traders, who were impressed by the Pawnee's collaborative culture. The Republican name then was adopted for the river and the county.

Band members were hunter-gatherers, Gould said, but they were moving into a farming lifestyle. They planted crops in the spring, went hunting for buffalo in the summer, harvested in the fall, and then left to hunt buffalo again in the winter.

The two-week archaeological dig is a project of the Kansas Archaeology Training Program, a venture in its 33rd year that involves the Kansas Historical Society, the Kansas Anthropological Association, the University of Kansas and Kansas State University.

Donna Roper, research associate professor at the University of Kansas, is one of the principal investigators.

"Almost everyone here is a volunteer," Roper said, pointing to dozens of people — young and old, scraping and sifting, pouring and lifting — swarming around intersecting trenches.

More than 150 volunteers, some of them students enrolled in KU's Kansas Archaeological Field School, participated in the two-week...
Whenever potentially significant fragments were uncovered, their location would be charted before they were moved. Dirt shaved from the floor was bagged and then shaken through a series of increasingly fine meshes.

The team was looking for any telltale objects, such as seeds, tools or building materials, that offered insights into the band’s daily lives.

In archeomagnetic dating, once potential samples have been identified, their location and orientation are precisely measured, Lengyel said. About a dozen 1-inch cubes are then excised, encased to preserve them, then taken to a lab.

The chunks are then progressively demagnetized until their natural remnant magnetism can be measured, she said. The objects may have been partially magnetized by nearby lightning strikes, for example, or if they were stored near objects with strong magnetic fields. These weaker magnetic fields must be removed.

First their magnetic fingerprint is taken, and then they are slightly demagnetized. The process is repeated several times; eventually all that is left is the baseline magnetic signal, she said. If the material is fired to about 500 degrees Celsius or more, the magnetic field will point to where magnetic north was located at the time.

“The best dates we can get are within a 30-year time period,” Lengyel said.