

Spring 2010



# Pitt State

MAGAZINE



## Above the clouds

Alumnus finds his calling as a flight nurse -pg. 8



JACK H. OVERMAN  
STUDENT CENTER

# PittState

MAGAZINE

## Features

- 8 Above the clouds
- 11 Sustainability
- 13 Help for job seekers
- 14 PSU campus attracts veterans
- 16 College capers & pranks

## College Close-up

- 20 College of Arts & Sciences
- 22 College of Business
- 24 College of Education
- 26 College of Technology

## Departments

- 2 From the Oval
- 28 Athletics Update
- 33 Alumni News
- 36 Class Notes

## From the editor

We think of the PittState Magazine as a conversation between friends.

It is a joy to bring these stories to you, and to catch you up on the things that are going on in the life of the university you love.

We want you to continue the conversation with us. You can do that by letting us know what you like and don't like in the magazine. Give us your suggestions about stories you would like to see and submit your information for alumni notes (career, marriage, births, etc.). And don't forget to send us your recollections and photos of fantastic campus fashion (pg. 16) for the next issue. Send your submissions and comments to [psumag@pittstate.edu](mailto:psumag@pittstate.edu) or by regular mail to the Office of Public Relations, Pittsburg State University, 1701 S. Broadway, Pittsburg, KS 66762.

As always, it's good visiting with you.





## ▶ Axe Library celebrates 30th



Axe Library dedication ceremony, October 1979.

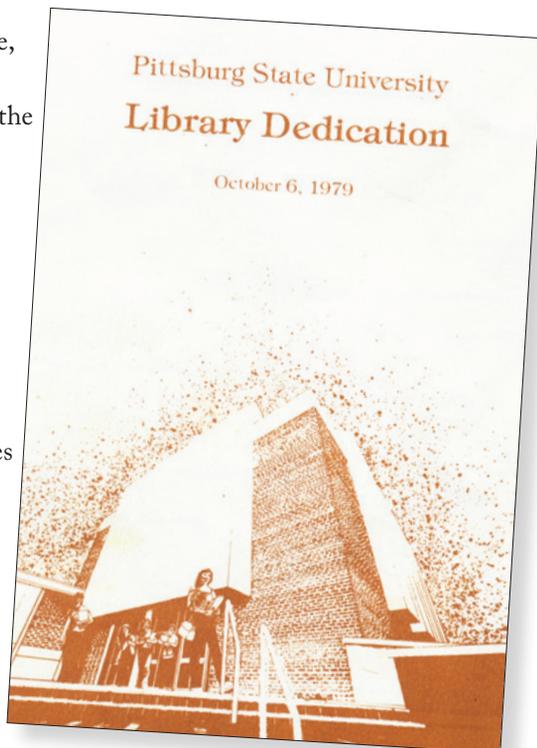
In November, Axe Library celebrated its 30th anniversary. The library's history began with the establishment of the Manual Training Normal School in 1903, but there was no building dedicated to housing the library until the construction of Porter Library in 1927. Porter remained the library's home until Axe Library opened in 1979. The new library was named after Leonard Axe, who was president of the college from 1957 until 1965.

Dean of Learning Resources Bob Walter was master of ceremonies for the

Dedication program, October 1979.

30th anniversary celebration. Randy Roberts, curator of Special Collections; and Cynthia Pfannenstiel, recently retired coordinator of public services, gave historical background. Music was provided by the PSU Brass Quintet, under the direction of Bob Kehle, who also played at the opening in 1979.

The event was sponsored by Friends of Axe Library.



## New library leadership

Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Lynette Olson has announced the selection of Dr. David P. Bunnell as the next dean of Library Services. His appointment was effective Feb. 1.

"We are very excited to welcome Dr. Bunnell to the PSU campus," Olson said. "We believe



he has the skills and experience to take on this very important role on our campus."

David Bunnell

Before coming to Pittsburg State, Bunnell served as the director of institutional effectiveness and research at Griffin Technical College in Griffin, Ga. He was the college's director of library and media services from 2000 until 2007. He is a former chairman of the Georgia Department of Technical and Adult Education's library council. Bunnell holds a BA in computer science from Urbana University, an MA in theological studies from the United Theological Seminary, an MS in library science from the University of Kentucky and an Ed.D. in higher education from the University of Georgia.



## Record enrollment

For the fourth consecutive year, PSU has set an enrollment record for the fall semester. Pitt State had 7,277 students enrolled, up 2.1 percent from the previous fall. Since 2004, the university has grown more than 11 percent.

PSU officials said they were pleased with the overall report, but especially with a 7.4 percent increase in domestic minority students and a 26 percent increase in student veterans, thanks in part to the new GI Bill. They also pointed out that more than 6,600 students are taking classes on campus, which has a



## Budget discussions

In open forums and through online anonymous suggestion boxes, PSU President Steve Scott is engaging the campus in a discussion about how the university weathers the current economic storm.

“I believe it is critically important that we approach these difficult issues and difficult decisions as a campus community,” Scott said. “We must have a sense of shared purpose and responsibility as we move the university forward.”

To accomplish these goals, the president has held open forums on campus as state revenue shortfalls forced cuts in state aid to higher education. In December, he added an online suggestion box to his Web page where faculty and staff can make anonymous suggestions about ways the university can save money and become more efficient.

In the past year, the state reduced its aid to PSU more than \$4.5 million. At the same time, increased costs pushed the budget shortfall for the university past \$5.1 million. So far, the university has reduced salary and wage budgets by \$1.2 million, cut operating budgets by \$900,000, used one-time reserves of \$1.5 million and increased tuition revenue by \$1.5 million.



A video of the December budget forum may be viewed at [www.pittstate.edu/office/president](http://www.pittstate.edu/office/president).

great impact on the local economy.

“This is another good enrollment report,” said PSU President Steve Scott. “I am impressed not only with the growth in numbers, but also in the quality of students who are increasingly making Pittsburg State University their first choice.”

### 2009 enrollment highlights:

Headcount .....	7,277
On-campus enrollment .....	6,629
Undergraduate .....	5,934
Graduate .....	1,343
International .....	471
Student credit hours .....	96,531



Faculty, staff and students, visiting dignitaries from other institutions of higher learning, community members and elected officials filled the space in front of Russ Hall for the inauguration of Dr. Steve Scott on Oct. 23.



## FROM THE OVAL



The construction of Lindburg Plaza in 2009 completed a pedestrian link between the Oval, Gibson Dining Hall and the south residence halls. The plaza includes expanded green space, improved lighting, additional plantings and cul-de-sacs at the intersections of Elm and Locust.



PSU broke ground on Oct. 7 on a \$10 million project that will add a new student housing option for students. Five separate buildings at Joplin and Quincy north of Shirk Hall will feature apartment-style living. Completion is expected in time for occupancy at the beginning of the fall 2010 semester.



Bowen Hall, built in 1956, received a major makeover in time for the beginning of the 2009-2010 year. Bowen's upgrades included new floors, ceilings, windows, doors, bathrooms, and furnishings, at a cost of about \$1.2 million. Bowen is the first of the residence halls to be renovated in a multi-year, \$12 million residence hall improvement plan.



From the day it opened, the Bryant Student Health Center at the corner of Lindburg and Broadway, has been a busy place. The new \$4 million facility allows the university's medical and behavioral services to come together in a single building. The building was formally dedicated in September. In accordance with the wishes of the largest donor, the building was named in honor of former President Tom Bryant.



## ► PSU competes for international students

The fact that Dr. Steve Scott's first international trip after being named president of Pittsburg State University was to southeast Asia is a reflection not only of the interest in that part of the world in American higher education, but also of how important international students are to PSU's future.

"There continues to be a great demand for American higher education in these developing nations, because

*"Foreign students and their dependents contributed approximately \$17.6 billion to the U.S. economy during the 2008-2009 academic year." For Kansas, that figure was \$159.3 million and at Pittsburg State, it was almost \$11.6 million.*

they recognize its value," Scott said.

Scott, along with Chuck Olcese, director of International Programs and Services at PSU, visited

Thailand and Vietnam last fall. Olcese went on to India to oversee the opening of an office in that country.

In Thailand, the president met with a group of PSU alumni. In Vietnam, Scott and Olcese visited universities and met with students.

"International students are a very important part of our campus," Scott said. "Everyone understands the important cultural enrichment that takes place when international students come to our campus and our community. Beyond that, there is also an important financial contribution that international students make."

International students typically pay higher out-of-state rates. This year, for example, a Kansas student paid \$2,296 in fees and tuition per semester. A similar international student paid \$6,558. Those rates can vary when students come from universities that have exchange agreements with PSU.

Based upon the Institute of International Education's



Chuck Olcese, director of International Programs and Services, (left) and President Steve Scott visit with prospective students in Vietnam.

recently released "Open Doors 2009" report, the Association of International Educators estimates that "foreign students and their dependents contributed approximately \$17.6 billion to the U.S. economy during the 2008-2009 academic year." For Kansas, that figure was \$159.3 million and at Pittsburg State, it was almost \$11.6 million, which was fourth behind KU, K-State and Wichita State University.

Olcese noted that competition for international students is robust, with the U.S., Great Britain and Australia the most popular options for students in Asia.

"Pittsburg State University has traditionally had a healthy international student population and is in a good position to

attract a significant number of international students in the future," Scott said. "We have excellent programs in areas that are of interest to them and our international graduates are great ambassadors for us."

The president said that the recruitment of international students is just one part of the university's enrollment strategy.

"Pittsburg State is working on a number of fronts," Scott said. "Those include recruiting students locally, regionally and in growth areas of the U.S. It also includes retaining and supporting students once they arrive, so they are successful in achieving their educational goals."



## Inclement weather policy revamped

Long before the leaves began to change and thoughts of winter returned, PSU administrators were thinking about a new inclement weather policy. The policy, which includes the provision for closing the campus, went into effect in the fall.

Historically, the university has very rarely closed because of bad winter weather.

“If this is a typical winter, it is possible we may decide to close the campus as a matter of safety for students, faculty and staff,”

said President Steve Scott. “Another option is that we may want to delay the opening of the campus in order to clear parking lots and sidewalks.”

The new policy outlines a process that begins with an assessment of weather and road conditions by the vice president for administration and campus life. Based upon the vice president’s recommendation and in consultation with the provost and the vice president for university advancement, the president will then make a decision about implementation of the inclement weather policy.

The president’s options include closing the campus completely; keeping the campus open, but canceling classes; or keeping the campus open and holding classes as scheduled.

President Scott said he knows the decision, whether it is to close or remain open, will not be an easy or sometimes popular one.

“The weather is unpredictable. It can be

snowing in Pittsburg and clear in Parsons and the forecast may change dramatically in just a few hours,” Scott said. “We will make these decisions together with the best information we have at the time. We probably won’t always be right, but we will always base these decisions on what we think will keep our students, faculty and staff safe.”

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620-235-4140 [www.pittstate.edu/office/careers](http://www.pittstate.edu/office/careers)

# “Where in the World is Gus?”

Kyle King (BSBA '08) and his fiancée, Emma Lindquist (BSBA '07, MS '08) show their Gorilla pride in front of the Coliseum in Rome in April '09. At that time, Emma was in the Daimler Trucks North America's Global Talent Training program, which allowed the pair to live in Germany and travel in western Europe while Emma worked for Mercedes. Today, Kyle and Emma live in Charlotte, N.C., and look forward to returning to Pitt State and tailgating before a PSU football game.



Paul Schleicher (BS '60) proudly wore his Gorilla jacket when he and his wife, Geneva, and daughter, Kelli, visited the old city of Jerusalem in December of 2009. The Schleichers live in Overland Park, Kan.



Vicki O'Neal (MS Education, '80) got lots of attention from the locals when she wore her Pitt State attire while on a Fulbright-Hays Fellowship in Mongolia in August of 2009. She said the Mongolians liked the split-face logo. In these photos she and her roommate, Dayna Drake, settle into their ger, a traditional home on the Gobi desert.



Robert C. Oehme (BST Commercial Graphics, '91) and Sherri L. (Giordano) Oehme (BST Commercial Graphics, '92) traveled with their children, Elizabeth, 17, and Bradley, 15, to Ghana, West Africa, on a mission trip in April 2009. The 10-day trip was spent working on a church and school in the northern town of Basyonde, visiting enslaved and rescued children in the Lake Volta area, and spending time with younger rescued children at a safe house in Tema. The family went with a team of 18 from Grace Community Church in Mt. Vernon, Mo. The Oehmes own and operate Forms Plus Printing, Inc., in Aurora, Mo.



We would like to know what interesting places Gus has visited.  
E-mail your photo and a brief story to [psumag@pittstate.edu](mailto:psumag@pittstate.edu)

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# Above the clouds

## Alumnus finds his calling as a flight nurse

LIKE MANY college students, it took Matt Derfelt a little time to figure out what career path he should follow. Along the way, this Galena, Kan., native with an almost ever-present broad smile, considered fields as varied as theater and construction engineering technology. He found his passion, however, above the clouds.

Derfelt, BSN '95, is a flight nurse with St. John's Regional Medical Center's MedFlight air ambulance system in Joplin, Mo. He is one of three persons on a typical crew that includes the pilot and an EMT.

Derfelt said his path to becoming a flight nurse began when he took an EMT class. He was a construction

engineering technology major at the time, but he knew almost instantly he had found his true calling elsewhere.

"I just fell in love with emergency care," Derfelt said. "(That class) made me wonder about the possibility of nursing."

Initially, it seemed that Derfelt's dream of a career in nursing might be thwarted. His application to PSU's nursing program was not accepted because of limited space in the program. But Derfelt was persistent and was admitted that same semester.

As he worked to earn his BSN, Derfelt also served as an EMT in Cherokee County. It was in that role that an incident occurred that had

a lasting impact on the young man. Derfelt was one of several emergency personnel who were called to work a very bad accident involving multiple persons, including juveniles.

"My abilities were exhausted," Derfelt said. "MedFlight arrived and the support I received was immeasurable."

The accident touched Derfelt emotionally, especially because it involved children, but he didn't realize how much it affected him until he returned to class.

"One of my instructors was very perceptive," Derfelt recalled. "She stopped the class and conducted a

*(see Above the clouds, pg. 10)*





**“I would see these guys and gals fly out into the sunset...I would see them do some great work and I knew that’s what I wanted to do.”**

## Above the clouds

(from pg. 8)

critical incident stress debriefing on the spot.”

Derfelt said he will always remember that act of kindness and compassion.

Following his graduation from PSU in 1995, Derfelt spent a time in the military (he was a military science minor), which he followed with seminary in Texas, all the while working as a registered nurse. In 2003, he returned to work at St. John’s Regional Medical Center in Joplin.

In 2005, an opportunity arose for Derfelt to become a flight nurse with MedFlight and he jumped at the chance. For Derfelt, working as a flight nurse is really a dream come true.

“In 1993, when I was a tech here I would see these guys and gals fly out into the sunset,” Derfelt said. “I would see them do some great work and I knew that’s what I wanted to do.”

Derfelt said one of the aspects of



The relaxed atmosphere of the break room includes lots of good-natured kidding.

being part of the flight crew that he enjoys is the special relationship that exists between members of the air ambulance crews.

“What stands out to me is the closeness I have with my peers,” Derfelt said. Those bonds are forged over 24-hour shifts during which crew members share meals and living quarters. “You learn to trust someone and their skills and knowledge.”

Derfelt said he also likes the responsibility that comes with his job and the ability it gives him, under a doctor’s supervision, “to do things I

would never have the opportunity to do in a fixed facility.”

Derfelt said his job and his schedule have also allowed him to do something else important to him. He and his wife, Heather, founded the Journey Church, a Southern Baptist congregation in Joplin.

Matt and Heather, together with their children, Maegen and Mylas, are now firmly rooted in the four-state area. It is not a path Matt expected when he first enrolled at Pittsburg State, but one that he is happy to be on. •

Everything has its place in the close confines of an emergency helicopter.



# sustainability:

of, relating to, or being a method of harvesting or using a resource so that the resource is not depleted or permanently damaged.

AS PSU PRESIDENT Steve Scott began meeting with his administrative team after stepping into his new role last summer, he had a very important message for his top facilities planner.

In their first sit-down, Scott and Paul Stewart, director of Facilities Planning, had many important campus building projects to discuss, but there was one thing Scott wanted to be sure Stewart understood: “I told him I had three words for him,” Scott said. “Green. Green. Green.” And in an instant, the university’s new president had conveyed what has become one of his most important initiatives – ensuring that the campus becomes more environmentally friendly and develops a plan for sustainability that carries over throughout every area, from the office to the classroom.

“I think we’ve taken good steps, but in the past we’ve lacked in coordination and the expectation that everyone would participate,” said Scott, whose international travels caused the environmental issue to truly hit home. “When you get a greater

sense of how many people live on this planet, you see that sustainability is a good, right thing that can unite people. I believe this is something people can rally around.”

Shifts toward environmental awareness have been in the works at PSU in recent years. Collaborating with SEK Recycling in Pittsburg, the campus began a recycling program and designated an area in Whitesitt Hall as a recycling center. Police and Parking Services purchased a Segway to help officers get around campus. The University Committee for Energy and Resource Conservation (UCERC), which introduced a program for students to donate unwanted items upon moving out rather than throwing them away, is focused on conducting a universitywide energy audit and encouraging green thinking across campus. With the help of newly named Sustainability Coordinator Brian Peery (he is also PSU’s research and grants coordinator) the committee is working to find funding to back up their efforts.



Jake Cutshaw, a senior from Louisburg, Kan., prepares recycled materials from across campus for transport to Southeast Kansas Recycling, Inc.

“It’s more than just recycling bins,” said Jon Bartlow, head of UCERC. “We’re encouraging the purchase of hybrid vehicles for university police and making sure that when we build a new building, it follows LEED standards. We’re starting to see a culture shift here toward sustainability.”

For Bartlow, it has been an awakening. Years ago while working at a small private school near Minnesota’s Twin Cities, students playfully reprimanded him after he tossed an aluminum can in a trash can rather than a recycling bin. Chuckling at his faux pas, he says hearing about the extra work President Scott has put into making his surroundings more “green” has been inspiring: Scott

*(see Sustainability, pg. 12)*

## Sustainability *(from pg. 11)*

pushed for a hybrid as the presidential vehicle, switched the light bulbs in his office to high-efficiency, and sorts papers for recycling in his office.

“I feel very positive about the direction we’re going under his leadership,” Bartlow said. “A lot of presidents talk about going green but don’t do it. I think this is truly something of utmost importance to him.”

With budgets getting tighter, Scott has taken the opportunity to remind

employees that simple changes can make a big difference, such as turning off computer monitors, lowering thermostats, and doing more work electronically. Lessons on sustainability are also being carried into the classroom. Professors across campus are integrating lessons on sustainability into their coursework, with some in the College of Technology even earning their LEED certifications.

And as for Stewart, the encouragement to make

environmentally friendly decisions means that whenever possible, PSU will opt for building improvements (such as the new windows and air control units added recently to several buildings) that save on utility bills.

“We have to take care of the planet, but the bottom line is there are multiple advantages for doing so,” Scott said. “There’s a great opportunity here to make real progress. I’m proud of the steps we’ve taken so far.” •

# Leaving a Legacy

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## *a decade of gratitude.*

**TEN YEARS AGO**, the PSU Foundation established the Heritage Society to honor and thank those, like Ken Gordon, who have “planted seeds” to ensure continued growth of our vibrant institution and the success of our students. As a professor, Ken committed more than 40 years to the education PSU students. Now retired, he has chosen to continue his commitment through a planned gift for scholarships.

Planned gifts such as provisions in wills, trusts, retirement plans, life insurance and other long-range financial plans are integral to the generational success of PSU.

By planting the seeds of support today through a planned gift, you can join Ken and more than 400 other Heritage Society Members who have shown their commitment to the long-term success of the university we all love.



For more information on creating a lasting legacy at Pittsburg State, or if you have already included PSU in your plans, contact:

**Shawn Naccarato**, Director of Planned Giving  
620-235-4863 [snaccara@pittstate.edu](mailto:snaccara@pittstate.edu)

Ken Gordon, retired faculty, PSU College of Technology



# Career Services suspends fee to help struggling job seekers

IN AN EFFORT to help alumni and local residents looking for work in the most difficult employment environment in many decades, Pittsburg State's Office of Career Services announced in January that it was opening its on-line job search engine, Gorillas4Hire, to these groups for free. The service normally costs \$50 for PSU alumni and \$60 for community members.



"We recognize the challenges job seekers are facing," said Mindy Cloninger, director of Career Services. "We want to do our part to assist our alumni and members of our community in their employment needs."

Cloninger said those who decide to use the service will get 30 days of access to Gorillas4Hire at no cost. Users will need to log on to the site and sign up for an account by answering a few brief questions. Cloninger said the process takes about three minutes.

Gorillas4Hire is a secure, password-protected site that allows job seekers to find and also apply for jobs online. A wide array of employers from across the Midwest and beyond post jobs on Gorillas4Hire, Cloninger said. For more information on Gorillas4Hire, or to register, go to [pittstate.edu/office/careers](http://pittstate.edu/office/careers) and click on the student link or call the Office of Career Services at 620-235-4140. •



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# Military-friendly campus, new G.I. Bill, attracts veterans to PSU

After World War II, veterans, aided by the G.I. Bill, transformed the Pittsburg State University campus. Today, a new generation of veterans, aided by a new G.I. Bill, is coming to a campus that has earned recognition in the 2010 Guide to Military Friendly Schools.

\* LAST FALL, PSU was recognized by the 2010 Guide to Military Friendly Schools. Pitt State was selected for the honor for multiple reasons, including having an active veterans association, working with members of the military to accept credits from other institutions, and financial and non-financial recruitment and retention techniques.

\* “We find that military personnel relocate a lot, and if they’ve attended multiple schools it can be difficult if their credits won’t transfer,” explained Sherry Roberts, the veterans certifying official for PSU. “We do our best to accept credits so they can complete their degree in a timely manner. We want to recruit veterans and for them to feel this is the best school for them.”

\* In addition, Roberts said the new National Guard Armory, which is connected to PSU’s Student Recreation Center, is a benefit when recruiting students. What seems to have made the biggest difference in bringing students to PSU, however, is the new G.I. Bill that became available Aug. 1. Approximately 175 PSU students receive a G.I. Bill of some sort, with 38 receiving the newest version, which covers tuition and fees and offers a stipend of up to \$941 a month.

\* While the older version of the G.I. Bill may still be better for some, Roberts said the new version is changing the face of the campus military community. For example, the new bill allows for veterans to give the money to their dependants, meaning some benefiting from the funds have never been in the military themselves.

\* “I’ve had several students tell me they would not be here if it weren’t for the new bill,” Roberts said, adding that some students, including those who take all their classes online, those who are enrolled only half-time, and those who receive scholarships or grants, benefit more from older G.I. bills. “We have several

students who are collecting the G.I. Bill because of their parents.”

Bruce Curry, a PSU senior who is active in the National Guard and leads the new PSU Student Veterans Association, agrees that PSU’s military friendly status is well-earned.

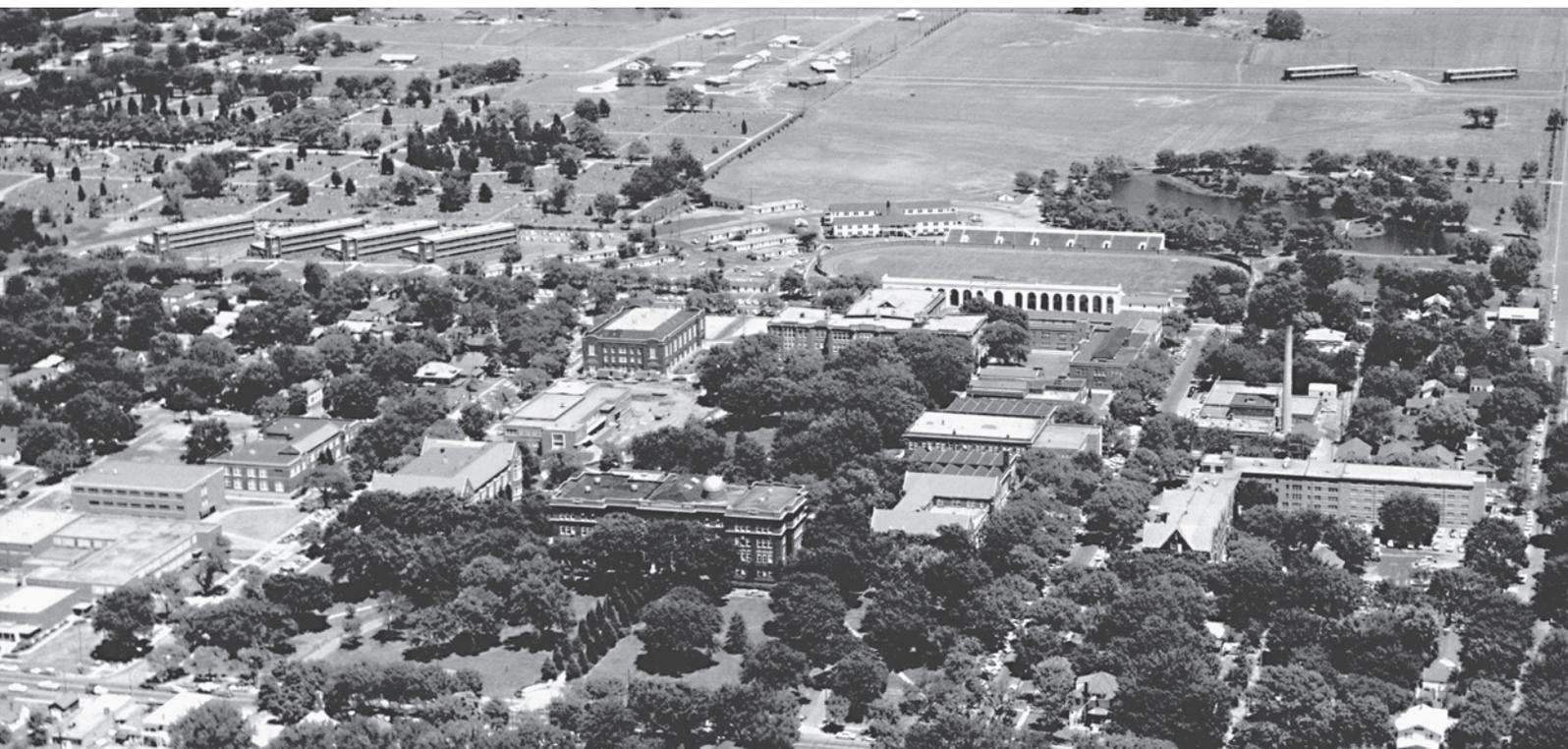
“The school has been very helpful to veterans. Sometimes it’s a difference between what the military wants and what a school will do for you, but PSU has been so accommodating. They don’t have the attitude of ‘it’s our way or nothing.’ They are willing to learn and adapt.”

Although he benefits from an older G.I. Bill, Curry also works with veterans whose G.I. benefits are helping a new generation.

“I get lots of questions from older veterans who never used their G.I. Bill and they want their kids or spouse to have it,” he said. “It’s great that it’s not being wasted. It’s great to have help available to veterans, but if you can do something for veterans and their families, that’s even better.” •



- ★ The return of veterans following World War II meant not
- ★ only an increase in enrollment, but a distinct change in the
- ★ character of the campus. Aided by the GI Bill, veterans arrived
- ★ in large numbers. They were older than typical freshmen and
- ★ many brought along wives and children.
- ★
- ★
- ★ Married student housing, including war-surplus Quonset huts,
- ★ popped up to the north and east of Brandenburg Stadium.
- ★ The area had a distinctly domestic air about it that included
- ★ laundry drying on clotheslines and even small family gardens.





# Collegiate capers, & priceless moments

IN THE LAST ISSUE, we asked you to recount your favorite campus pranks and practical jokes. It appears that many of you are not willing to fess up to your deeds, even after many years of anonymity.

Lots of people remember the streakers from the '70s, even naming names, but we won't reveal those. Someone else suggested the McCray Hall ghost stories have their roots in a practical joke played by students on a faculty member.

Following are some stories of typical pranks that still bring smiles to those involved.

## Halloween dummies

Carolyn Brooker, a retired member of the faculty in the Department of Nursing, sent both a story and a question. Carolyn remembered one Halloween after the department moved into McPherson Hall when two Nursing Department dummies went missing. The pair returned after Halloween unharmed. Carolyn wrote that no one ever confessed to the kidnapping, but she still wonders about it and would like to know if anyone is interested in confessing. The statute of limitations has expired.

## The man who 'shot' John Lance

Ken Coyle, BS '61, MS '64, wrote to us about an incident that was recounted widely over the years as a practical joke that was actually just an accident. Ken gives credit to Al Ortolani and his legendary storytelling ability for turning the event into more than the "freshman moment" it actually was.

IN THE SPRING of 1957, I was a freshman participating as a sprinter on the Gorilla track and field team. We were returning from a meet with Wichita State and I was given the assignment to

## Panty raid

Keeping in spirit with homecoming festivities, third floor Shirk Hall residents Mark Pemberton, Craig Kelly, and Kevin McCray display their panty raid collection.

—1980 Kanza



*We Still Laugh About it*

carry some equipment from the team bus.

My arms were full with several pieces of equipment, including a starter pistol in my right hand. It was dark, as we entered the gym. Coach John Lance appeared from his office, and I spontaneously called out to him, "Hi Coach!" At that very moment, for some reason the pistol accidentally discharged, making a horrible noise, startling Coach Lance and all of us.

Contrary to the legend, I did not point the pistol at Coach Lance.

As a result of the incident and because Coach Lance realized the accident was just that, an accident, he and I immediately became friendly.

Sadly, however, I was forever tagged as the one who "shot John Lance."

**Pat (Terry) Silovsky**, BS '83, MS '86, wins the prize for sending us the most practical jokes. Pat is the director of the Milford Nature Center in Junction City, Kan. She wrote about some practical jokes from her campus days in Heckert-Wells Hall that still bring a smile to her face.

### Oh, we had some good ones in Heckert-Wells!

As graduate students in Field Biology, we did our share of practical jokes. We were a tight group called the Dungeon Crew because of our association with creepy crawly things and the fact that we had to have offices in the bottom of Bowen Hall while Heckert-Wells was being built. There were some good ones that I can tell without recrimination.

### Watch out for the M&M's!

In our graduate office, we had a fish bowl full of M&M's and everybody hung around the M&M bowl to chat, eat, avoid doing things they should be doing (you know). Dr. Jim Triplett (JT) was chairman of the Biology

Department and he would escape up to our office to eat M&M's. Every time we put something different in the bowl, everyone would pick out the different candy to see what it was. One April 1st, we put carob-flavored doggie kisses in the bowl, and while

*(see Pranks, pg. 18)*

### Political pranks

John Farley, Osawatomie junior, and Bob Murry, Coffeyville junior, strike their American Gothic pose for a campaign photo. Farley and Murry ran under the Porta Party ticket and wanted to "flush out the old and flush in the new."

—1992 Kanza



.....  
*We Still Laugh About it*

### Streakers

Streaking was such a '70s thing. Calculated for sheer shock value, streaking died out almost as quickly as it began. These photos from the '74 KANZA document the craze. Some of you mentioned a streaker at a convocation in McCray Hall and there were others, including at least one on a motorcycle. Most of these students, we believe, went on to become responsible, respectable adults. Some may even have kids in college now -- we wonder if they know about Mom & Dad?

### Next issue: Fantastic fashion

Bell bottoms & tie dyes, mini skirts, blue jeans & white t-shirts – each generation of PSU alumni made its mark with style. For the next issue of the Pitt State Magazine, we'd like to hear your stories of fashion triumphs and failures. Share your photos, too. Send them by e-mail to [psumag@pittstate.edu](mailto:psumag@pittstate.edu) or by regular mail to Office of Public Relations, Pittsburg State University, 1701 S. Broadway, Pittsburg, KS 66762.



## Pranks (from pg. 17)



Water fights are a good way to meet your neighbors, "face to face." Stephanie Delana greets Pat Stevenson with a big splash.

-1981 Kanza

we never got JT to take the bait, we did get Jeff Luttrell, a graduate student to eat one. The only problem was, he couldn't tell the difference! He actually ate several of them and thought they were tasty! Our M&M wall in Heckert-Wells was something to see. Every time we filled the fish bowl, we would put the wrapper on the wall. We had completely wallpapered the inside of the graduate office and had started outside into the hallway. About 5 years ago, JT said he had something for me. He handed me all of the M&M wrappers that had been up on the wall saved in a bundle with a string tied around them! I would guess there were several hundred M&M bags in that bundle.

### The moving car

But I did manage to get JT (Jim Triplett) good one semester. I had worked for him over the summer hauling fish for his private pond stocking company. As such, I had keys to several of his vehicles. He, of course, forgot I had keys. I hatched a plan one day as I saw him park his car on Joplin Street. While he was in the building, I would go out and move his car to a

different parking spot. At first, it was just a couple of spaces away but each day I would move it a little farther or across the street. This went on for several weeks and he never said anything. I couldn't stand it anymore so I finally moved his car around the corner and down the next street. When I went that far, he finally figured out that someone was moving his car! It was great to see him come out of Heckert-Wells and not be able to find his car! The look was great!

### Be careful what you say

And another one: Dr. Brill was my physics teacher and one day in class he made a simple math error on the board -- something like  $2+2=$  and he put 5 instead of 4. I called him on it and he called me a "female chauvinist sow" in good fun, however. I think he realized he shouldn't have said that out loud (even though we had a good-natured banter going on all semester). I found

a card with a pig on it and sent it to him and signed it "from your favorite female chauvinist sow." He sent me a card about a week later with another pig on it. We progressed to little pig figurines and I still have a little pig figurine that he sent me on my desk at work. The card exchange lasted at least two years and each of us tried to outdo the other one with a good pig card!

### And the list goes on

There was the methylene blue in the clear pipes of Heckert-Wells and the 55 gallon trash can of Jello we made in the science prep room walk-in freezer, too.

Anyway, I have great memories of PSU and my time as a graduate student and part founder of PSU Raptor Reach, aka Nature Reach now. I have had the privilege of sending both of my sons to PSU so we are carrying on the family tradition.

Thanks for letting me share.

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## In his words...

William Sullivan, BS '86 Biology, osteopathic physician for Medical Consultants of Pittsburg, LLC., and consulting physician with the Community Health Clinic of Southeast Kansas on his selection for the Outstanding Alumni Award, 2009:



William Sullivan

"When I received the Outstanding Alumni Award last fall, I presented President Scott with a Pittsburg State University flag I had flown while serving with the military in Afghanistan in 2007. It was symbolic, because the flag arrived in Kabul on Sept. 11, and I flew it in a combat zone that day. It took a lot of work to get it there and get it back, so to be able to give it to the leader of the university was a very special thing for me.

"I was serving overseas as a physician, and the reason I am a physician is because of my outstanding education at PSU. Everything goes back to my roots here in Pittsburg. I knew PSU was right for me and I had confidence in the university's ability to provide a great education. At the time I'd applied to PSU in 1982, our pre-med program was ranked highest in the state and our acceptance rate to medical school was 72 percent. The faculty knew what needed to be done to make doctors.

"Receiving this award was one of the top things that have happened to me in my lifetime. It was such an incredible, uplifting experience and such a great honor. What I hope future students realize is that they don't need to leave home to get a great education. PSU is a treasure box in the Midwest and its right here at our doorstep."

## Music is her passion

If you'd asked Stella Hastings 15 years ago if she envisioned settling in Southeast Kansas to live, teach, and conduct music, the odds would have been



Stella Hastings

good that she had larger venues in mind. But it turned out PSU and the Pittsburg community offered this consummate performer more than she expected.

"The amount of satisfaction I get from being able to do my passion, my hobby and my career in a community that is supportive of family allows me to be a whole person," she said. "I can be an artist, an educator and just be myself. I don't know many places where that kind of balance can be achieved."

Hastings, who directs the Southeast Kansas Symphony and teaches at

Pittsburg State as an associate professor of music, has for years also been part of a Grammy-nominated choral ensemble. This past winter, she toured with the group, *Conspirare*, in Texas. And although she juggles many roles (including mother of two), she balances it all with the help of her husband Todd, also a PSU music professor and renowned jazz performer.

Born in Brazil and raised in Canada, Hastings earned her education in the states and moved to Kansas in 1996 with Todd, who was drawn to PSU first for his professorship. Since making Kansas their home, the two have helped foster a community of musicians and performers through their work with jazz ensembles, the symphony, and bringing musical performances to area children.

"I love to balance community things with more broad performances," she said. "Each role I play is important to my contribution to the university and community."



Students, faculty and staff in the Department of Nursing show their school spirit by all wearing red for the annual Paint the Town Red event last fall. The annual event, sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, encourages communitywide support of Pittsburg State University.

## Researcher studies black holes

Dr. Alexander Konopelko's fascination with outer space may have been influenced by pop culture, but his scientific



Alexander Konopelko

research in astrophysics is without a doubt far beyond the average star gazer – both intellectually and in proximity.

“I watched a lot of movies about space research growing up. I loved Star Trek,” said Konopelko, a physics professor at PSU whose area of study focuses on black holes millions of miles beyond the Earth's surface.

Not a bad place for space experts to begin. After moving to the United States from Germany three years ago, Konopelko spent a year as a research associate at Purdue before being recruited to teach at Pitt State. Since then, he has quickly proven why he is part of a selective group of highly regarded astrophysicists in the country: last fall, he and his researchers were awarded a \$140,000 grant from NASA to study black holes. Their goal is to catch one in a flaring state, which he says would ultimately help explain the evolution of the universe.

“We want to understand the nature of this ultra-high energy gamma ray emission,” he said. “If we can track the absorption of it, we can explain different models of evolution and how the universe will evolve from now on. Black holes are one of the best things to study to give us these answers.”

His connections with NASA will certainly help with that endeavor, along with his work to recruit students to the program. Crediting his team of students, faculty and staff with helping to secure the grant, he's headed in the right

direction when it comes to showing potential students what they can achieve at PSU.

“We want to make this school a place where students want to come to study this,” Konopelko said. “Physics education has evolved, and we are seeing that graduates with physics degrees can find jobs everywhere. People are interested in this research.”

## Students receive research grants

Eleven students studying science at PSU have been awarded highly competitive research grants through the Kansas IDEa Network of Biomedical Research Excellence (K-INBRE).

The students, who plan to attend professional or graduate school upon completing their degrees, each received \$4,000 (\$1,000 of which goes toward their research supplies) through the grant program, which provides money to qualifying university scholars throughout the state. The funds come through the National Institutes of Health, which aims to provide money for biomedical research in states that have traditionally been underfunded.

Dr. Virginia Rider, PSU's campus representative for K-INBRE, said the university has received more than \$700,000 since the program became available in Kansas. With the addition of chemistry majors competing for grants for the first time this year (four were awarded), more science majors have received funds this year than ever before.

“We probably have the most competitive students of any university in Kansas. Their maturity, their drive, their grades, their ethics – they can compete with students at any university in the state,” Rider said. “Research is expensive, and we couldn't sponsor undergraduate research projects without this.”



## Broadcast students win national awards

Broadcasting students from Pittsburg State University brought home two national finalist awards from the National Collegiate Student Production Awards held in October in Austin, Texas. The awards recognize the best in student electronic media production from across the United States.

More than 100 student radio and television stations compete annually in 24 broadcast-related categories. CAPS 13, Pittsburg State's cable access station, received national finalist awards in two categories: Best Live Sports Production and Best Documentary/Public Affairs.

It is the second year in a row the students have been recognized for their work in documentary production and the fifth year they have been recognized for live sports production.

The entry in the Best Live Sports Production category was the production of the 2008 MIAA football championship game between Pittsburg State and the University of Nebraska-Omaha. Pittsburg State's entry in the Best Documentary/Public Affairs category was “Osa Johnson, The Woman Time Forgot.”

For more information on the National Student Production Awards, go to [www.askcbi.org](http://www.askcbi.org).

## In her words...

Susan Dechant, BBA '92 Accounting, vice president of administration and chief accounting officer for NPC International, Inc., on her selection for the Outstanding Alumni Award, 2009:



Susan Dechant

“Neither of my parents attended college, but the work ethic they taught me, my brother and sister was very strong. As far as my parents were concerned, not going to college was not an option. We all attended and graduated from PSU. For my parents, having their kids go to school and receive scholarships at a university with so much pride was great for them. To see how proud my mom was when I received the Outstanding Alumni Award made me even more proud of myself.

“We live our lives and don’t reflect on what we’ve accomplished, so being recognized for what I accomplished was awesome. In addition to my parents, my accounting teacher in high school, also a PSU graduate, inspired me as well.

“When I graduated from Pitt State I accepted an auditing position at Grant Thornton in Wichita. I really think PSU gave me a great advantage in landing that position.

“Here in our Pittsburgh office we are fortunate to have more than 20 PSU graduates, most of them in management positions. Gene Bicknell sold NPC to Merrell Lynch in 2006, and it was important for him (and us, of course) to continue to have the corporate office in Pittsburgh. Having employees with such great work ethic and the ability to recruit PSU graduates are a few of the many reasons to stay in Pittsburgh.”



## Students get a dose of personal finance know-how

Learning about personal finance can never start early enough. That’s the idea behind “Gorilla Savings,” a program sponsored by the PSU group Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE).

Last semester, PSU students in the organization brought a series of lessons to Pittsburg’s Lakeside Elementary School that focused on the concept of personal finance. Third graders were introduced to the basic ideas of how to begin a savings account, how to borrow money and other financial literacy skills. Their lessons concluded with a tour of Citizens Bank.

Sam Johnson, Gorilla Savings project co-chair and junior from Fort Scott who is majoring in Business Finance, said that the organization’s main goal is to jumpstart the students into thinking about personal finance and the skills they will all need to have.

“It is important to teach key financial concepts at an early age in order to empower future generations to make wise financial decisions,” said Johnson.

The final lesson at Citizens Bank included a tour of the bank and vault. Students also received a financial workbook.



Pittsburg fourth graders participated in “Just Imagine Nation,” an economic simulation project developed by SIFE and Pittsburg teacher Babs Tims. The event, held in Pittsburg’s Memorial Auditorium, is the biggest event of the year for SIFE. The activity teaches children about the market economy of four regions of the U.S.



## Princeton Review recognizes excellence in MBA program

Pittsburg State University has again been recognized by The Princeton Review as having one of the top business colleges in the nation, and has been featured in the Review's latest guidebook "Best 301 Business Schools."

The college was selected for the strength of its MBA program, which has approximately 160 students. The Princeton Review, an educational services company, reviews institutional data collected at universities and releases its list of the best based on academic programs and offerings, as well as the opinions of students.

"We are very proud of this accomplishment," said Dr. Michael Muoghalu, MBA program director. "We're not taking anything for granted. We've worked hard and have grown the program without sacrificing quality."

The guidebook specifically ranks academics in the program high, citing supportive faculty who "take an active role" in the learning experiences of students. Student testimonials include commentary about the high quality of the courses. The Review also lauds the program for its affordability and high degree of success in helping students find jobs.

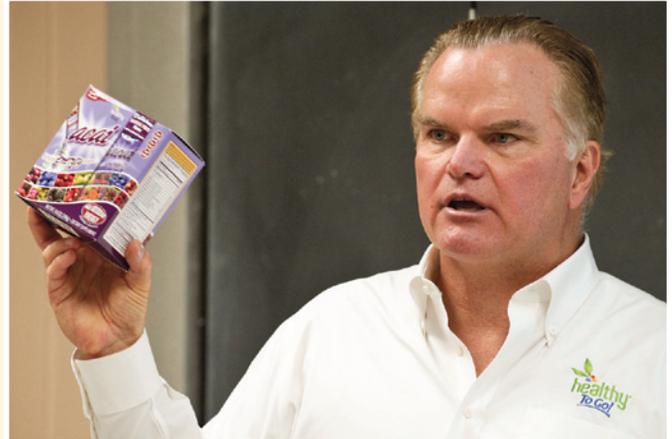
Over the past 10 years enrollment in the MBA program, which began in 1974, has grown more than 50 percent and has expanded to include three areas of specialization: accounting, general administration and international business.

## Visiting exec shares lessons with students

The success of College of Business graduates is evident when alumni like Bob Herrmann make a stop at Pitt State.

Herrmann (BSBA '70) visited PSU in October through the university's Executives on Campus program, a day that offers alumni and constituents a chance to share the important lessons they've learned over the course of their careers - and to show students what an education from PSU can make possible.

As CEO of To Go Brands, Inc., a California-based manufacturer of nutritional supplements sold worldwide and in major retail chains such as Sam's Club, Costco, and GNC, Herrmann shared with marketing students the importance of networking when it comes to job hunting, how to develop communication skills in business, and



Bob Herrmann

how to create an effective marketing campaign for a company. With a business projected to exceed \$200 million in gross sales by 2013, his wisdom comes from years of experience - and a path to success that began at PSU.

"It was a combination of school and the interaction I had with organizations on campus that made PSU the right place for me," Herrmann said during his day visiting with students.

For more information about Executives on Campus, contact the College of Business at 620-235-4598.



Kelce has a new look this year, thanks to a \$422,000 window replacement project just completed. The new windows not only improve the look of the building, their energy efficient design will help as the university looks for ways to reduce utility costs across campus.

## In his words...

Dr. Clayton Tatro, BS '94 Psychology, MS '95 Psychology, president of Fort Scott Community College in Fort Scott, Kan., on his selection for the Outstanding Alumni Award, 2009:



Clayton Tatro

"I came to PSU as an accounting major, but I soon learned I couldn't sit behind a desk every day. I dabbled with a few other majors, but it wasn't until I took a psychology class that I knew I found my place. I was fortunate to become a teaching assistant and ended up getting hooked and bitten by the teaching bug.

"Some of us never leave college. I've been involved in a higher education setting now for 20 years as either a student, faculty member, or administrator, and I've always loved it. Education is so important to me and my value system, and the profession has given me so many life experiences.

"The advantage of working at a community college is that we are at the level of higher education that can shape and change so many lives. We're in a unique position to truly be an open-door, open-admissions institution – to take students from where they are to where they need and want to be. There's nothing more rewarding than to have that type of impact on so many students."

## KAHPERD convention

The PSU Department of Health, Human Performance and Recreation hosted more than 500 physical education teachers for the 2009 Convention of the Kansas Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (KAHPERD) last October.

"Hosting the convention is fun for

us to do," said Janice Jewett, associate professor. "It's a lot of work for the faculty, staff, and students, but it's very rewarding and gratifying."

The three-day convention included classes and hands-on breakout sessions such as archery, zumba, self-defense, dance, geocaching, tai chi, kung fu, skateboarding, and others.

In addition to these sessions, an emphasis was placed on the teaching of fitness courses including nutrition and childhood obesity.

"We've always focused a lot on physical activity," Jewett said. "The nutritional aspect is more about how to use it. In addition to physical education, more teachers are being asked to teach health, too. They need more ideas about how to teach nutrition."

This year was the fifth time for PSU to host the event and the first time for the convention to be held in the new Student Recreation Center. "It's especially pleasing because we get to showcase the new facility and all of southeast Kansas," Jewett said.

## PSU smoothes degree path

The College of Education signed agreements this spring with Kansas community colleges that will make it easier for students pursuing associate's degrees to earn bachelor's degrees from Pittsburg State University. The articulation agreements, signed with nine community colleges in southeast and northeast Kansas, cover both elementary and secondary education programs.

"Pittsburg State and the College of Education have a long history of cooperation with community colleges," said Dean Andy Tompkins. "Our goal is to

Dean Andy Tompkins, President Steve Scott and Fort Scott President Clayton Tatro sign an articulation agreement this spring.

create highly qualified, caring teachers for elementary and secondary classrooms in Kansas and across the region. We have been very successful in doing just that. This associate's-to-bachelor's degree agreement makes it easier for talented students at community colleges to complete their degrees at PSU and begin their service in the classroom."

Tompkins said the articulation agreements were signed with Fort Scott Community College, Coffeyville Community College, Neosho Community College, Allen County Community College, Labette Community College, Independence Community College, Johnson County Community College, Kansas City Kansas Community College and Butler Community College.

## College hosts diversity event

The College of Education is making a strong effort to attract students from diverse backgrounds to the teaching profession. This past fall, the college hosted a diversity event that brought more than 60 high school students to the campus to learn about the opportunities available to them in education.

Dr. Trinity Davis, assistant professor in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, helped organize the event.

"The event was very successful," Davis said. "These students are potential educators and we were able to provide them with a well-rounded view of the College of Education."



**In his words...**

Dr. CJ Huff, BSED '96, superintendent of Joplin School District in Joplin, Mo., on his selection for the Outstanding Alumni Award, 2009:



CJ Huff

"I come from a family where you're either an educator or a farmer. My grandmother taught in a one-room schoolhouse and my grandfather was on the school board. All their children went to PSU and got teaching degrees, and my brothers and cousins are educators too. I remember where I was standing at PSU when I decided to change my major to education. I headed straight to Russ Hall to change my schedule and took my first education class the same day.

"With teachers, superintendents, a counselor, a coach, and a former school board member and teacher's aide sitting around the dinner table, it makes for really interesting conversations at family gatherings. We like to solve the world's education problems. I'm very proud of our heritage and proud of what we have accomplished for education.

"Now is the most exciting time I've experienced since being in this field. Despite the negative press public schools get and efforts to discredit the work of teachers, there are so many wonderful things happening. It's important we don't lose sight of our mission, and important that we continue to work with children and build relationships with them despite the pressures put on us."

**Two alumni win state award**

Two PSU College of Education alumni were named 2010 Kansas Horizon Award recipients. The award sponsored by the Kansas Department of Education recognized 31 exemplary beginning educators from around the state.

PSU alumni receiving the award were Amy Bartlow and Kala Robinson. Bartlow received her BS in education in 2007. She teaches at George Nettels Elementary School in Pittsburg, Kan. Robinson also received her BS in education in 2007. She teaches at Guthridge Elementary School in Parsons, Kan.

The Horizon Award program, currently in its eighth year, allows all school districts in the state an opportunity to nominate one elementary and one secondary teacher for the award. To be eligible for a Horizon Award, teachers must have successfully completed their first year of teaching and have performed in such a way as to distinguish themselves as outstanding. The Horizon Award program is a regional competition with four regions corresponding to the state's U.S. Congressional districts. Four elementary and four secondary classroom teachers may be selected for the award from each region.

Recipients of the 2010 Kansas Horizon Award were notified of their selection by Diane DeBacker, interim Kansas commissioner of education.

"It is a pleasure to congratulate the recipients of the Kansas Horizon Awards program," DeBacker said. "These first-year educators have shown themselves to be tireless advocates for Kansas students. They are truly making a difference in classrooms across our state. I look forward to meeting them in February and working with them for years to come as we work collaboratively to prepare Kansas students for success."

The 2010 Kansas Horizon Award



Amy Bartlow



Kala Robinson

recipients were recognized at a special luncheon during the Kansas Exemplary Educator Network (KEEN) State Education Conference in February.

As recipients of the Kansas Horizon Award, these educators are invited to join the Kansas Exemplary Educators Network (KEEN), a network of educators from around the state who have been formally recognized for exemplary performance. Members of KEEN have an opportunity to network with other outstanding educators and participate in a number of professional development programs throughout the year.

**New tradition recognizes student teachers**

The College of Education began a new tradition last fall by hosting a Student Teacher Recognition ceremony to recognize the efforts of the fall 2009 student teachers.

Graduating teachers were presented with a specially designed medallion recognizing the successful completion of the Teacher Education program, a tradition the college plans to carry out each semester.

A special guest to the fall ceremony was Christy Levings, NEA executive committee member, who served as the keynote speaker. Levings, an elementary school teacher from rural Osawatomie, Kan., was elected to the National Education Association's (NEA) Executive Committee in July 2007 for a three-year term.

## Students prepare for leadership roles

A number of female Pittsburg State University graduates are making their way into management positions in the construction industry, and more are on the way. This past fall, four PSU construction management students were selected to participate in a conference designed to inspire and encourage women who want to follow that path.

Rebekah Dallman, a junior from Pittsburg, Kan.; Ashley Roberts, a senior from Garnett, Kan.; Lori VanDyne, a senior from Independence, Kan.; and Lindsey Strenth, a senior from Pittsburg, Kan.; were selected by the Kiewit Corp. to attend the company's Women in Construction Leadership Seminar in Omaha, Neb. They were among 55 women from universities across the U.S. who were chosen for this annual program.

"The construction industry is trying to grow the number of women in construction and Kiewit is trying to be an industry leader," Dallman said.



Lindsey Strenth, Rebekah Dallman, Ashley Roberts and Lori VanDyne.

At the seminar, the students attended educational presentations and roundtable discussions on a variety of topics, all led by women in construction management. Vernice Armour, the first African American female combat pilot in the United States Marine Corps, delivered the inspirational keynote speech. The students also had an opportunity to tour a hospital construction site. All expenses, including travel, were paid by Kiewit.

"This is a wonderful experience for our students," said Jim Otter, chairman of the Department of Construction Management and Construction Engineering Technologies. "This is a chance for women in our program to learn about leadership in the industry, its challenges and opportunities."



PSU senior Caleb Galemore, Chanute, works with Pittsburg High School student Matthew Flood as he assembles a "Gorilla Flipper." The technology education majors, who were enrolled in GT 380 "Manufacturing Enterprise," worked with technology education students in Pittsburg High School's new Center of Applied Learning in a collaborative project entitled, "Operation Enterprise." The PSU students designed and produced a series of jigs and fixtures to build the modified catapult systems that launch various items to a target area. The PHS technology education students used these fixtures to produce the parts, and worked with the PSU students to finish them and apply screen printed logos, using an assembly line process. PHS teacher Larry Dunekack said his students learned all about production in the world today.



## SAE sponsors autocross

It's been 17 years since there's been an autocross race locally, but this past fall some enthusiastic PSU automotive technology students finally put one together.

More than 40 participants registered for the event, held on Oct. 18 in the Brown lot east of Axe Library. Jonathan Bloomer, a senior from Girard, helped organize the competition.

Bloomer, who is president of the PSU student chapter of Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE), said the SAE teamed up with the local chapter of the Sports Car Club of America (SCCA) to sponsor the race. Preparing for the race took several months.

After the race, the SCCA donated one-half of the proceeds from the race to the SAE.

## GIT celebrates 100 years

The Department of Graphics and Imaging Technologies wrapped up its centennial celebration with its annual awards banquet on March 6, featuring Frank Romano, a nationally known and celebrated graphics educator and professor emeritus from RIT.

Today, the department, with more than 200 students, boasts processes, equipment and courses that are designed to prepare students as future leaders in a high-tech, rapidly changing world of printing and visual communication.

It traces its roots to a much simpler time, however. In 1910, just seven years after the founding of the Kansas State Manual Training Normal School, principal R.S. Russ expressed his concern that an institution with a devotion to industrial education should give instruction in printing and bookbinding as well.

By the spring of 1921, the school was selected as a vocational training school for disabled veterans and four courses in printing were listed in the catalog.

Over the years, printing continued to grow and in 1973, the Kansas Board of Regents officially authorized the Department of Printing. Dr. David G. Vequist was named chairman of the newly formed department.

In 1997, the Department of Printing left Whitesitt Hall to join other technology programs in the new Kansas Technology Center.

The department has evolved over the past century, through the change from hot metal to cold composition, the rise of desktop publishing and the dizzying growth in digital information. To better reflect those changes, the name of the department was changed to Graphic and Imaging Technologies. Through it all, the department has embraced new technologies and worked to prepare each generation of students for the rapidly changing world they face.



Jack Frederick

## Automotive student wins silver at world competition

Automotive technology student Jack Frederick proved he is one of the best in the world by bringing home the silver medal from the WorldSkills competition in Calgary, Canada.

Frederick, a senior from Wichita, Kan., took second place in the Automobile Technology competition at WorldSkills Calgary 2009 on Sept. 6. Teams from 51 countries competed at the event.

Frederick learned last December that he had been chosen by the Automotive Service Technology Committee with SkillsUSA to compete in the world competition, which is held every two years in different locations throughout the world. Frederick worked with his adviser, PSU Automotive Technology Professor Ron Downing. Downing, who is also involved in SkillsUSA, has served as the organization's national technical expert since 2001 and is regarded as one of the brightest automotive minds in the country.

"We worked diligently to get our hands on the types of equipment we knew we'd be working with," Frederick said, adding that throughout the summer, they put in an average of 50 hours a week in

training while gathering donations to make the trip possible.

Downing, who has coached two other competitors to the silver medal in this competition at WorldSkills, said Frederick's score (550 out of 600), as well as the student from Ireland who took first place, were the highest in the competition's history. Frederick also took home the gold medal for Best of Nation for accruing the highest score on his team.

## Technology Conference has green theme

Green was the theme at the 67th annual Four State Regional Technology Conference at PSU's Kansas Technology Center Nov. 12 -13. Nearly 500 persons registered for the conference, which had the theme "Sustainability Through Lean and Green Technology."

Dr. John Iley, chairman of Technology and Workforce Learning and the director of this year's conference, said presentation topics highlighted the latest sustainability techniques and products in everything from automobiles to construction.

As part of the conference, student TECA teams from as far away as Wisconsin and Wyoming participated in competitions staged over the two-day period.

Iley said at least 60 different presentation topics were covered by experts in their respective fields.

Four State Regional Technology Conference





Gene Iba

### A year of change for PSU athletics

Two high profile coaches announced their retirements this past fall in a year unlike any other in Pittsburg State University athletics.

#### Iba retires

Head men's basketball coach Gene Iba announced in September that he would be stepping down at the conclusion of the 2009-2010 season.

"The timing is right for me to make this announcement," said Iba, who has fashioned a 252-154 record in 14 seasons at Pitt State and a 478-357 mark in 29 years as a collegiate head coach. "I've always said that my No. 1 goal has been that, when I walked away from coaching at Pitt State, I wanted to leave the basketball program in better condition than what I found it in back in 1995. I think we are doing that."

During Coach Iba's tenure, the PSU men's basketball program marked several milestones. Coach Iba logged career win No. 450 in a dramatic 76-70 win against Northwest Missouri in the semifinals of the MIAA Tournament on March 3, 2007. Pitt State also celebrated its 300th all-time win at John Lance Arena in a 95-86 decision against Central Missouri on Jan. 29, 2005. Coach Iba also directed Pitt State to a school-record 40 straight home wins between Jan. 10, 1997, and Feb. 22, 1999, and he led the Gorillas to 18 straight wins and the program's first No. 1 NCAA ranking on Feb. 15, 1999. The five trips to the NCAA-II National Tournament have marked PSU's first-ever trips to the NCAA postseason, after the school thrived between the 1930s and 1960s as an NAIA power.

Prior to coming to Pitt State, Iba enjoyed successful stints coaching at NCAA Division I programs Baylor University and Houston Baptist University.

Iba earned his bachelor's degree in business administration in 1963 from Tulsa University. While working on his master's degree in business education at Oklahoma State University, he served as a graduate assistant coach for his legendary uncle, Henry "Hank" Iba. Gene and his wife, Sandy, have three adult daughters: Debbie, Erin and Kelly.

#### Broyles retires

Representatives of the media, the campus community and friends and colleagues of PSU Athletic Director and Head Football Coach Chuck Broyles packed the lower level of the Wilkinson Alumni Center on campus on Dec. 2 for the announcement that Broyles was retiring from his position as head football coach.

In remarks that were punctuated with both humor and reflection, Broyles told the crowd that although the decision to retire was a difficult one to make, "it is the right time. . .I'm at peace with my decision."

Scott said Broyles, who was appointed PSU head football coach in 1989, had begun talking to him about retiring some time back.

"Even though it's hard to imagine Gorilla football without him, I completely understand and support his decision to retire," Scott said. "The job of head coach, particularly in such a high profile program, is one of the most difficult I can imagine, both for the coach and also for the coach's family. We wish the entire Broyles family well as they move forward into this next chapter of their lives, and we



Chuck Broyles



thank them for the many, many hours they have devoted to supporting Chuck and to supporting this university.”

As athletics director, Broyles said he wanted to focus on several major projects, including the search for a new head men’s basketball coach.

Broyles completed his 20th season as head coach at PSU with a 198-47-2 record, winning 80.6 percent of his 247 career games. Among all collegiate coaches with 10 years of experience, Broyles had the best win-loss record by percentage in NCAA Division II and he trailed only Bob Stoops of Oklahoma among active 10-year veterans in NCAA Division I.

Broyles guided the Gorillas to the NCAA Division II playoffs in 15 of his 20 seasons as head coach, including a Division II record eight straight playoff appearances from 1990-1997. He led the Gorillas to four berths in NCAA Division II national championship games and 19 NCAA playoff wins. He was honored three times as the NCAA Division II national coach of the year.

Chuck and his wife, Helen, have three grown children: Scott and his wife, Bryna; Kyle (deceased); and Mark and his wife, Brooke.

## Beck named Pitt State’s Head Football Coach

Pittsburg State University President Steve Scott moved rapidly to replace retiring head football coach Chuck Broyles, introducing Tim Beck as the school’s 14th head football coach on Dec. 9.

Scott promised to be expeditious yet deliberate and inclusive in his search to replace Broyles and he said that process quickly led him to Beck.

“As I visited with current football players, former players, colleagues in the coaching ranks, athletics staff members, fans, boosters, and community members, it became clear that the person who



Tim Beck

personifies all of (the attributes we were looking for) is Assistant Head Coach Tim Beck,” Scott said. “Tim is respected by the Pitt State players, both current and former, PSU’s faculty and staff, the school’s proud alumni, fans, as well as his fellow coaches on campus and across the country... Tim is a proven winner. He is the perfect fit to assume the role as the 14th all-time head football coach at Pittsburg State University. I’m extremely excited for our student athletes, our coaching staff, and our fans. As you get to know the depth of Tim’s commitment to this program and to winning, as you witness the strength of his character, and as you hear about the many new ideas he plans to bring to this role, I am confident you will share my excitement.”

Beck, 45, takes over the helm of his alma mater after serving for 22 years as an assistant coach on the Pitt State football staff. Beck served the past 16 seasons as the Gorillas’ offensive coordinator, fashioning one of the most prolific offensive units in college football. He also served as the program’s assistant head coach for the past two seasons.

“I am very thankful for this

opportunity,” Beck said, before thanking the school administration, his family, the Pitt State coaching staff, former and current Gorilla players, alumni and PSU students.

“I want everyone here to know that I am very passionate about PSU football,” he added. “I believe the formula for success is a very simple one: hard work. Every single player and coach on our football team will have great work ethic, and if they don’t have it we will help them obtain it.

“I understand that our team will be measured by wins and losses but our goal is this: improve every day. Improve as a student, improve as a citizen, improve as a teammate, improve as a family member and improve as a player. There are still a lot of improvements to be made after a win.”

As either a player or a coach at Pitt State, Beck has been associated with 14 conference championship teams, 20 national playoff appearances and four trips to the NCAA Division II national championship game, including the school’s 1991 national championship.

Pitt State’s storied history is not lost on Beck.

“At all times, we must respect the proud tradition of Pittsburg State University football,” Beck said. “The Gorillas have won more football games than any other NCAA Division II school in the nation. Many young men have worn the uniforms and coaching gear that we are wearing now and everything we do as a member of the Pittsburg State University football family is a direct reflection on them. We must understand this, and constantly work to make these men continue to be proud to be associated with Pittsburg State University football. We must continue to demonstrate the intense pride, loyalty and commitment that these former players have passed down to us.”



## Rampy to lead offense

Long-time Blue Valley High School coach Steve Rampy will be in charge of the Gorillas' offense this fall. Head Football Coach Tim Beck made the announcement in December.

Rampy, one of the state's most decorated prep coaches, guided Blue Valley High School to four state championships and four additional state runner-up finishes during a 25-year career as the school's head coach. He posted a 176-84 record (.677) with nine Eastern Kansas League crowns and 14 district titles.

"We are very fortunate to add Steve Rampy to our staff as the Gorillas' offensive coordinator," Beck said. "Coach Rampy has been one of the most successful high school coaches in the region. He has been very innovative with his offenses and has been one of the pioneers of running the pistol offense in the prep ranks. He is a high character individual who will represent Pittsburg State very well. He also will be a tremendous asset to help our staff's recruiting efforts in the Kansas City metro area and across the state of Kansas with the great relationships he has developed with his coaching peers over the years."

Rampy led Blue Valley to Kansas Class 5A state championships in 1991, 1998, 2003 and 2006, and 5A state runner-up finishes in 1992, 1995, 1997 and 2005. Rampy earned both bachelor's and master's degrees from MIAA rival Northeast Missouri State University – now Truman State University.



## Volleyball finishes 25-11

The Gorilla Volleyball team won 10 of 11 of its last regular season matches to earn a No. 21 national ranking and begin play as the No. 5 seed in the NCAA-II South Central Regional Tournament in November. The season ended for the Gorillas with a loss to top-seeded Central Missouri.

Pitt State finished its season with a 25-11 record, the fourth consecutive 20-win season in school history. Senior Pamela Cartagena finished her career as the career kills leader with 1,836 kills. She finished second on the career digs list with 2,259. Senior Emily Vosseler finished second on the career assists list with 3,497.

For her efforts, Cartagena was named the MIAA player of the year. Cartagena was a unanimous selection to the All-MIAA First Team and five other Gorilla volleyball players were also named to all-conference teams. Cartagena is a four-time First-Team All-MIAA selection. She is the second Gorilla player to be named the conference player of the year.

Cartagena is a native of Bayamon, Puerto Rico and is the daughter of Pedro and Felicita Cartagena.

Senior setter Emily Vosseler and sophomore outside hitter Corrinne Stringer were named to the All-MIAA second team. Junior libero Cassie Wilson was named to the third team, and junior Molly Bergkamp and freshman Brooke Fay, both middle blockers, earned honorable mention.

In addition to conference honors, Cartagena and sophomore Corrinne Stringer were named 2009 All-Americans by the American Volleyball Coaches Association. Cartagena was named to the first team while Stringer earned honorable mention. Cartagena is the only player in PSU history to earn All-America honors three times in her career.

ESPN The Magazine, meanwhile, selected Cassie Wilson for its first team Academic All-District volleyball team. Wilson, a biology major, has a perfect 4.0 GPA.



## Men 2nd, women 3rd in MIAA cross country

The Gorilla Men finished a close second and the Gorilla Women came in third at the MIAA cross country championships in Emporia, Kan., in October 2009.

Seniors Tim Testa, MJ Hassaballa, and Cliff Miles finished fifth through seventh to help the men claim a runner-up finish. Because they each finished in the top 10, Testa, Hassaballa and Miles all went home with All-MIAA honors.

For the women, junior Jennifer Butler was the team's top finisher in ninth place, earning All-MIAA honors.

At the NCAA Division II National Championships in Nov., the men's cross country team placed 18th among

24 competing schools. The Gorillas, making their third straight appearance at nationals, finished with 416 points. Senior MJ Hassaballa led Pitt State with a 60th-place showing in the 10-kilometer race. Senior Cliff Miles placed 83rd while freshman Adam Volkert finished 85th and senior Tim Testa placed 86th. Junior Brad Jochems rounded out the Gorillas' top five finishers, coming in 102nd.

## PSU, Southern announce Sonic Trophy Series

The Sonic Trophy Series launched last fall is an outgrowth of the athletic rivalries between PSU and Missouri Southern. The series is a cooperative effort between MSSU, PSU and Sonic to reward and honor the athletics department that performs the best throughout the course of the year.

"We are very excited to be partnering with MSSU and Pitt State athletics for this year's Trophy Series. This is yet another way Sonic continues to support its local sports teams and we're looking forward to some exciting competition between the two schools," said Katie Buckley, Sonic Field Marketing Representative.

One point will be awarded in each of the 13 sports in which both departments compete. The school with the most points at the end of the year will be presented the Sonic Trophy Series trophy.

"This is an exciting program for Pittsburg State and Missouri Southern," PSU President Steve Scott said. "Also, especially a thanks to Sonic. I think Sonic is going to be a great partner for us and partners are important in everything we do, and certainly they are important in athletics."

## Football players honored

ESPN The Magazine selected five members of the Gorilla football team for its Academic All-District VII squad in November. Senior offensive lineman Jay Nunez, junior defensive back Alex Kuhlman, and senior defensive lineman Brock Lohr and Mike Roberts all earned first-team Academic All-District honors, while sophomore running back Eric Love garnered second-team recognition.

Nunez, from Alva, Okla., has a perfect 4.00 GPA as a history/government major. Kuhlman, from Ness City, Kan., has a 3.45 GPA as a biology (pre-physical therapy) major. Lohr, a Goodland, Kan., native, is in his first semester pursuing a master's degree in communication. He graduated with a 3.57 GPA last May. Roberts, a Holton, Kan., native, has a 3.77 GPA as an accounting major. Love, from Cozad, Neb., has a 3.61 GPA as a construction engineering technology major.

A month after the All-District honors, Nunez was also selected for the magazine's national Academic All-America team.

## Lee continues to win honors

Former Pittsburg State cross country/track & field star Venessa Lee was named a 2010 recipient of the NCAA Top VIII Award on Dec. 17.

Lee is the third PSU student-athlete to receive the prestigious recognition, following in the footsteps of former Gorilla greats Christie Allen, cross country/track & field, 1993; and Brian Moorman, football/track & field, 2000. The award recognizes current student-athletes who have completed their athletics eligibility for their success on the fields and courts, in the classroom and in the community.



Venessa Lee





William "Bill" D. Goodson, Dr. Fay Bradley, and Wallace W. Souder.

### PSU honors three alumni for achievement

Three Pittsburg State University alumni were recognized during the 2009 Winter Commencement ceremony with the university's prestigious Meritorious Achievement Award.

The Meritorious Achievement Award is given to select alumni to recognize outstanding achievements in their careers, communities, and lives. Recipients of the award were Dr. Fay Bradley (BA '60), William "Bill" D. Goodson (BS '69), and Wallace W. Souder (BS '60).

Dr. Bradley is a retired physician who now lives in Independence, Kan. Dr. Bradley earned an associate's degree from Independence Community College in 1958 and a bachelor of arts degree in biology from PSU in 1960. He went on to earn a teaching certificate at Wichita State University and both a law degree and a medical degree from Howard University in Washington, D.C.

Goodson is the founder and president of Goodson and Associates, Inc., an electronics technology company in

Lenexa, Kan. The company's best known products, a family of infrared wildlife trail monitoring systems, are manufactured and marketed by Goodson under the Trailmaster name. Goodson and his wife, Vici, live in Shawnee, Kan. They have three children: A. Scott Goodson, Jill M. Goodson and Kent D. Goodson.

Souder is a retired senior petrophysicist and consultant for Phillips Petroleum Company. After receiving a bachelor's degree in physics, he went on to earn a Ph.D. in physics from Iowa State University in 1969. Among his many accomplishments while working at Phillips, Souder developed the first interactive well log analysis software and taught petrophysics to approximately 400 geoscientists and engineers. He also served on two U.S. Department of Energy technology steering committees. Souder and his wife, Mary Fern, live in Bartlesville.

For complete biographies, please go to [www.pittstate.edu/press-media/detail.dot?id=155498](http://www.pittstate.edu/press-media/detail.dot?id=155498)

### Nominations for the 2010-2011 PSU Alumni Association Board of Directors

The PSU Alumni Association nominating committee has nominated seven people for membership on the Alumni Association Board of Directors. Six of those nominated will be elected to serve a three-year term on the board starting on July 1. The board is comprised of 20 elected members and one member appointed by the incoming president of the board. The board advocates on behalf of alumni, facilitates funding for the PSU Office of Alumni and Constituent Relations and advises the office on programs and services.

The nominees are:

- Billie Jo (Franklin) Drake
- Kevin Cofer
- Robert Herron
- Todd Mendon
- Monica (Hartong) Murnan
- Kelly Peak
- Lindsay (Carson) Young

All alumni and association members may vote for six of the nominees, including write-in candidates. To read candidate biographies and to vote electronically, visit [www.pittstate.edu/alumni](http://www.pittstate.edu/alumni). You may also vote by e-mailing [alum@pittstate.edu](mailto:alum@pittstate.edu). Votes by phone or mail will also be accepted.

#### Voting ends April 1.

For more information, or to vote by phone or mail, contact: PSU Office of Alumni and Constituent Relations  
401 E. Ford Avenue  
Pittsburg, KS 66762  
620-235-4758  
or 877-PSU-ALUM



**Spring 2010**

**Gorilla Gatherings**

- March 1..... Joplin, Mo.
- March 3..... Crawford County Lunch
- March 9..... Kansas City
- March 13..... Florida (Sarasota)
- March 19..... Phoenix, Ariz.
- March 20..... Southern California
- March 25..... KC Lunch Series
- April 1 ..... Bartlesville, Okla.  
and Tulsa, Okla.
- April 6 ..... Coffeyville, Kan.
- April 13 ..... Columbus, Kan.
- April 19 ..... Joplin/Webb City, Mo.
- April 20 ..... Springfield, Mo.
- April 22 ..... Northwest Arkansas
- April 24 ..... North Central Texas
- April 29 ..... KC Lunch Series
- May 1..... Denver, Colo.
- May 6..... Wichita, Kan.
- May 8..... Erie, Kan.

**Mark your calendars for these other great alumni events:**

- March 4..... Apple Day Convocation
- March 28..... Kite Fly
- April 17 ..... Fishing Derby
- May 4..... Retired Faculty/Staff Brunch
- June ..... Wichita Wingnuts baseball and KC T-Bones baseball games (TBA)

For more information on these and other events, contact Alumni and Constituent Relations at 620-235-4758 or visit their Web site at [www.pittstate.edu/alumni](http://www.pittstate.edu/alumni).



Tailgating at GorillaFest before home football games is one of the many activities that celebrate Pitt State spirit.

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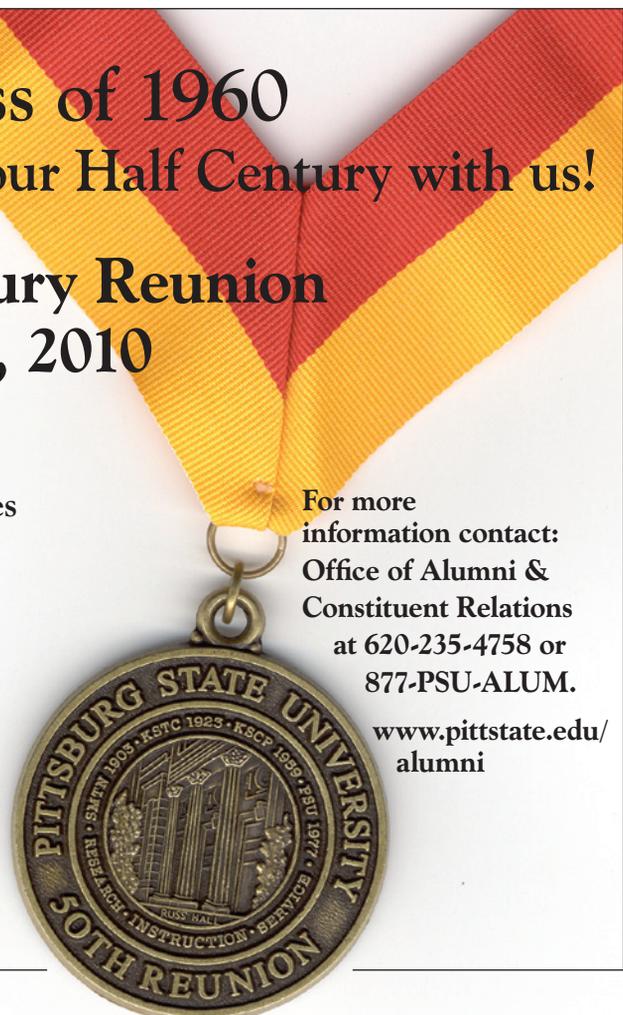
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more activities

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**Office of Alumni & Constituent Relations**  
at 620-235-4758 or  
877-PSU-ALUM.

[www.pittstate.edu/alumni](http://www.pittstate.edu/alumni)





## It's a family thing!

The PSU Office of Alumni and Constituent Relations has planned events this spring for alumni to bring the whole family and enjoy the company of fellow Gorillas!

Johnna Schremmer, director of Alumni and Constituent Relations said, "We know that being a graduate of PSU means more than just earning a degree. Alumni become part of the institution and a bigger family."

On March 28, alumni, friends and family will meet for the annual Kite Fly from 2-4 p.m. on the band practice field, directly east of the president's home. This event is free and participants are asked to bring their own kites.

The annual Fishing Derby will be from 8:30-11:30 a.m. on April 17 at the University Lake. This "catch and release" fishing contest is also free and participants are asked to bring their own equipment. Prizes will be awarded in two different age categories.

Family alumni gatherings are also planned for June at a Wichita Wingnuts game and a Kansas City T-Bones game.

"From Gorilla Gatherings to the Fishing Derby, we hope that these events offer more opportunities for alumni to bring family and friends and find a new way of staying connected to Pitt State," Schremmer said.

For more information or to register for these events, call 620-235-4758 or visit [www.pittstate.edu/alumni](http://www.pittstate.edu/alumni).





## Letters

We always enjoy hearing from our readers. Suggestions for stories, thoughts on ways in which we can improve the magazine are always welcome. Send your letters to PSU Public Relations, 106 Russ Hall, Pittsburg State University, Pittsburg, KS 66762 or e-mail them to us at [psumag@pittstate.edu](mailto:psumag@pittstate.edu).

### To the editor:

The PSU MAG is a pleasant surprise. Congratulations to Dr Scott and Cathy (you have a major role). A summer school 1960 graduate (BS Chem), GUS and PSU have remained distant.

Favorite teachers' names reach out and touch: (Jack) Overman fed and entertained us; Dr Heckert ran the chemistry department with an outstanding professor, Dr Pauley, was instrumental in convincing me to (pursue) an Army career; Dr Cornish was lauded for Civil War knowledge (some believed he participated). His experiences at the Army Command and General Staff College are legendary; Dr Haggard did more than teach math, he helped us live it (and to enjoy); Dr Wright was more than Dean of Men. He formed a men's dorm disciplinary committee and joined us as we deliberated. His counsel and fairness, were life leadership teaching moments. There is balance between fair, reasonable, strict, and doing what's right (Wright).

The mention of the success of the ROTC Cadets at Fort Riley summer camp is a joy. LTC Brandon, professor of Military Science, Reserve Officers Training Course, ran a tight boot camp for second lieutenants (Butter Bars). LTC B was ably assisted by a superb staff. One, Cpt. Joseph Tandy Cullpepper, (was) significantly outstanding. CPT JTC was famous for "shade tree training" in the small area

beneath the home football stand. Shade tree is when students informally train for a few minutes rather than stand under the shade tree. "Do something, Lt., even if it's wrong."

KSTC (PSU) is famous for football. The fame rests upon head Coach Carney Smith, Coach Joe Murphy, Trainer Al Ortolani (The Wizard of Gauze), and many other graduate assistants.

Many errors made 1956-1960. The greatest was driving to KC, Kan., each weekend except one in three years.

Study, learn basics, and learn your fellow students (network). They are on call later in life. I learned the hard way. Ex-roomie Tom Coyle is the only classmate with frequent contact. A shame!

**Ed (Tim) Gripkey**  
COL (USA Ret)  
Irmo, S.C.

### To the editor:

I just finished reading the latest issue of Pitt State Magazine... It was wonderful. There was so much information about Pitt State of all kinds that I just couldn't put it down. The photography and printing were terrific as well. Each issue I have received has been great. I think presenting so much information packed into this publication is just what we need to keep in touch.

Congratulations and ... thanks for a job well done.

**Bob Johnson**  
Dallas, Texas

### Class of 1962

**Dr. Paul Page**, (BS communication, MA '64 communication) and his wife, Jeannie, made trips to Kenya and Cabo San Lucas to celebrate both their 40th wedding anniversary and his third retirement after having been called back to several university educational administration positions.

### Class of 1965

**John Hall**, '65-'67, had his book "How to Get a Gorilla Out of Your Bathtub" selected for the 2009 Bill Martin Jr. Picture Book Award. Established in 1996 by the Kansas Reading Association, this award serves to honor internationally renowned Kansas author Bill Martin, Jr., as well as commend outstanding authors/illustrators. It also promotes in young children an appreciation for literature and encourages involvement in promoting quality picture books. Hall will receive the award at the KRA fall conference this year. The book was written by Hall and illustrated by Stephen Gilpen.

**Carl Parker**, (MA) retired from theater direction and teaching at Northeast Oklahoma State at Tahlequah, continues to be active in theater and was inducted this year into the Hall of Fame of Oklahoma Arts group.

**Ever wonder what's going on with the kids you were on campus with?**

**They're wondering the same thing about you!**

Share your news – births, weddings, promotions, etc. – and we'll put it in the next issue of the magazine.

Submit class notes to:  
[psumag@pittstate.edu](mailto:psumag@pittstate.edu)



### Class of 1970

Dr. Jan Schuetz, (MA communication) is a faculty member in the Communication Department at the University of New Mexico. She received a grant to fund videotaping a series of interviews of women leaders in the communication field. She has already completed interviews with women professors (several now retired) at the universities of Minnesota, Massachusetts-Amerherst, Louisiana State, George Mason and Pittsburg State.

### Class of 1974

Bob Finney, (BA communication, MA '80 communication) now teaches customer assistance logistics for the Defense Logistics Agency. His wife, Virginia (MA '79 in English) has become the chief of training and procedures at the Defense Finance and Accounting Service in Columbus, Ohio.

### Class of 1976

Marie Tonn, (BS English, MA '82 communication) who has been a professor of communication for several years at the University of Maryland,

is now a faculty member in the Communication Department at the University of Richmond.

### Class of 1980

Marcia McIntire, (BSED) recently became the assistant principal at Winfield Intermediate School in Winfield, Kan. She has taught in the Winfield Public Schools since she graduated from PSU. McIntire received her master's degree in school leadership through Baker University.

### Class of 1984

Beth (Rygh) Lamoureux, (MA communication) was named outstanding faculty member at Buena Vista College in Storm Lake, Iowa. She is the assistant director of education administration at Buena Vista.

### Class of 1993

Bridget Schell, (MS) opened her own family law practice in Olathe this year. She had served as a prosecutor in Wichita and Kansas City, Kan., and had worked as a divorce lawyer prior to opening her own firm. She also is recently engaged to get married.



Drew Suddock, BST '08 in Construction Management, was driving a truck last fall from his post in Kuwait to a destination in Iraq when he saw a familiar image. This larger-than-life PSU Gorilla logo, painted by members of the 891st, was a reminder that Pitt State alumni are never far away. Suddock is serving his second tour of duty and is expected home this spring.

**What was his name?**

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## In Memory

(Deaths are reported based on information received from families or reported in local newspapers. Listed by date of graduation/attendance.)

Eugene M. Frank, 1930, Kansas City, Mo.  
Ruth E. Gribben, 1934, Parsons, Kan.  
Marjorie (Casper) Harwood, 1938,  
Grand Lake, Okla.  
Florence M. Lewis, 1938,  
Fort Smith, Ark.  
Lysle C. Mason, 1938, Englewood, Colo.  
Garth J. Thomas, 1938, Rochester, N.Y.  
Velma V. Birkhead, 1939,  
Warrensburg, Mo.  
Veda Mae (Brown) Lenhart, 1939  
Helen M. Seabough, 1939,  
Apple Valley, Calif.  
Orlin Ard, Sr., 1940, Wichita, Kan.  
Hazel A. Dewey, 1941, Boerne, Texas  
Donna L. Hammick, 1941,  
New Port Richey, Fla.  
Jane E. (Bowron) McElroy, 1942,  
Hutchinson, Kan.  
Irene (Northway) Peckham, 1942  
Louise Spillers, 1943, Bartlesville, Okla.  
J. Paul McCollough, 1944,  
Bartlesville Okla.  
Henry Neeley, 1944, Augusta, Kan.  
Hugh D. Kelley, 1945, Aiken, S.C.  
Dorothy D. Ozburn, 1945,  
Kansas City, Mo.  
Margaret C. (Bower) Cox, 1947,  
Loveland, Colo.  
Imogene I. (Grubb) Hummel, 1947,  
Geneseo, Kan.  
Velma M. (Rank) Bogina, 1948,  
Lenexa, Kan.  
Louis Martin, Jr., 1948  
James O. Yates, 1948,  
Shawnee Mission, Kan.  
Robert L. Adams, 1949, Pittsburg, Kan.  
Harold C. Schnackenberg, 1949,  
Tustin, Calif.  
E. Keith Allmon, 1950, Sarasota, Fla.  
Helen E. (McLaughlin) Fulton, 1950,  
Fort Scott, Kan.  
Ernest T. Nelson, 1950, Concord, N.C.  
Manuel C. Perez, 1950, Parsons, Kan.

Robert Sommerfield, Sr., 1950,  
Leavenworth, Kan.  
Joe E. Mefford, 1952, Lyons, Kan.  
Florence M. (Krone) Carlson, 1953,  
Chanute, Kan.  
Mary G. Hughes, 1953,  
Bonner Springs, Kan.  
David H. Kubler, 1954, Aurora, Colo.  
Juanita L. Rimmer, 1954,  
Springfield, Mo.  
Barbara J. (Spencer) Bruner, 1955,  
Owasso, Okla.  
Earl Lee Corbin, 1955, Raytown, Mo.  
Patricia M. Gowing, 1955, Parker, Kan.  
Richard 'Bud' L. Kohler, 1955,  
Kansas City, Kan.  
Thomas J. Lebar, 1955, Maitland, Fla.  
Mildred P. (McClanahan) Van Ness,  
1955, Tucson, Ariz.  
J.R. Duding, 1956, Orlando, Fla.  
Charles J. Dugone, 1957,  
Croweburg, Kan.  
Carl Hohmann, 1957, Deer Creek, Okla.  
Anna M. Burkey, 1958, Sarcoxie, Mo.  
Frank C. Byrd, Jr., 1958,  
Bakersfield, Calif.  
Oliver Ray Minor, 1958, Joplin, Mo.  
Robert L. Wilson, 1958, Pittsburg, Kan.  
Jerry Lee Zwahlen, 1958,  
Farlington, Kan.  
Martha O. (Phipps) Armstrong, 1959,  
Nevada, Mo.  
Betty L. Cikanek, 1959, Peculiar, Mo.  
Marjorie C. Ensminger, 1959,  
Moran, Kan.  
Albert C. Jones, 1959, Shawnee, Kan.  
Raymond V. Lehr, 1959,  
Kansas City, Mo.  
Charles R. Ales, 1960, Pittsburg, Kan.  
Sarah I. Dawson, 1960, Joplin, Mo.  
Jerry A. Elder, 1960, Joplin, Mo.  
Sybil S. Jobe, 1960, Reno, Nev.  
Claudine F. Long, 1960  
Eldon L. Storer, 1960, Tahlequah, Okla.  
Jim Woestman, 1960, Crown Point, Ind.  
Gilbert D. Endicott, 1961, Mora, Minn.  
Cecil H. Farley, 1962, The Villages, Fla.  
Homer H. Morris, 1962, Aberdeen, Md.  
Monty L. Phipps, 1962, Galena, Kan.

Wilbern Ramsey, Sr., 1962  
Charles R. 'Dick' Webb, 1962,  
Pittsburg, Kan.  
Madeline (Ginardi) Buckliew, 1963,  
Batesville, Ark.  
Lawrence D. 'Larry' Murphy, 1963  
Marilyn F. Caldwell, 1964, Clever, Mo.  
Donald L. Cope, 1964, Neosho, Mo.  
Richard L. Bournonville, 1964,  
Lenexa, Kan.  
Clare (Blake) Rancatore, 1964,  
St. Louis, Mo.  
Clurcy L. Riggle, 1964, Neosho, Mo.  
Terry L. Roth, 1964,  
Overland Park, Kan.  
Edmund A. Stoddard, Jr., 1964,  
Bryant, Ark.  
Dan Thomas, 1964, Nevada, Mo.  
James H. Spoon, 1966, Miami, Okla.  
John M. Glenn, 1967, Olathe, Kan.  
Charles J. McGeever, Jr., 1967,  
Martinsburg, W.Va.  
Larry E. Rover, 1967, Bentonville, Ark.  
William Alton York, 1967, St. Paul, Kan.  
Gary Diebolt, 1968, Seaside, Ore.  
Effie (Torrey) Foster, 1968,  
Cedar Vale, Kan.  
Ralph Edward Frizzell, 1968,  
Webb City, Mo.  
Michael A. Orfitelli, 1968,  
Davenport, Iowa  
Linda E. Cain, 1969, Wichita, Kan.  
Jamshed R. Khan, 1969, Dix Hills, N.Y.  
Thomas Knight, 1969, Pine Bluff, Ark.  
Sharon K. Boyer, 1970,  
Stony Point, N.C.  
Joe Dressler, 1970, Topeka, Kan.  
Charles A. Lemmond, 1970, Tulsa, Okla.  
Carl G. Lewton, 1970, Carthage, Mo.  
Richard A. Newton, 1970, Joplin, Mo.  
Julie A. Richardson, 1970,  
Grandview, Mo.  
Jack L. Silvey, 1970,  
Shawnee Mission, Kan.  
Harry D. Beggerly, 1971, Miami, Okla.  
Gary J. Bevins, 1972, Joplin, Mo.  
John R. Hardie, 1972, Naples, Fla.  
Ronald E. Heilman, 1972, Wichita, Kan.  
Cecil 'Larry' Hurst, 1972, Girard, Kan.



Eugene T. Tomrell, 1972,  
Leavenworth, Kan.  
Rosa Mae (Schwindt) Carlson, 1973,  
Chanute, Kan.  
C. Wesley Filkel, 1973, Parsons, Kan.  
Walter Roschitz, 1974,  
Kansas City, Kan.  
Shirley L. Zortz, 1974, Pittsburg, Kan.  
Given M. Steinbauer, 1975  
Pittsburg, Kan.  
Richard L. Rhodes, 1976,  
Kansas City, Kan.  
Randy R. Steeves, 1976, McCune, Kan.  
Richard T. Hammersley, 1977,  
Wichita, Kan.  
Norma J. Leigh, 1977, Nevada, Mo.  
William D. Snow, 1977,  
Kansas City, Kan.  
James A. Robinson, 1978, Topeka, Kan.

Bill J. Jameson, 1979, Girard, Kan.  
Eugene C. Clark, 1980,  
Prairie Village, Kan.  
Trenda G. (Furse) Mace, 1980,  
St. Joseph, Mo.  
Erin B. Murphy, 1980, Ft. Scott, Kan.  
John Edward White, 1980,  
Columbus, Kan.  
Jan E. (Justice) Barbee, 1981,  
Rogers, Ark.  
Gerald D. McNeely, 1981,  
Phoenix, Ariz.  
Jack Rucker, 1981, Miami, Okla.  
John E. White, 1981, Columbus, Kan.  
Robert Craddock, 1983, Galena, Kan.  
Donald L. Kerr, 1983, Kansas City Kan.  
Wilma J. Meacham, 1983,  
Frontenac, Kan.  
Annette L. Molina, 1984, St. Louis, Mo.

Kenneth V. Herman, 1985,  
Chesterfield, Va.  
Karin K. Visnosky, 1985,  
St. Petersburg, Fla.  
Erma J. Davis, 1986, Scottsdale, Ariz.  
Anita L. Lizotte, 1987,  
Kansas City, Mo.  
Ronnie D. Engle, 1989, Liberal, Mo.  
Marion C. Warbritton, 1990,  
Concrete, Wash.  
James H. Smiley, 1992, Arcadia, Kan.  
Robert K. Shaw, 1993, Parsons, Kan.  
Ladonna M. Sumler, 1993,  
Fort Scott, Kan.  
Joyce E. Allmon, 1995, Pittsburg, Kan.  
Lisa K. Fiatte, 2000,  
Weatherby Lake, Mo.  
Chad K. Wampler, 2002, Carthage, Mo.  
Michael P. Early, 2009, Olathe, Kan.

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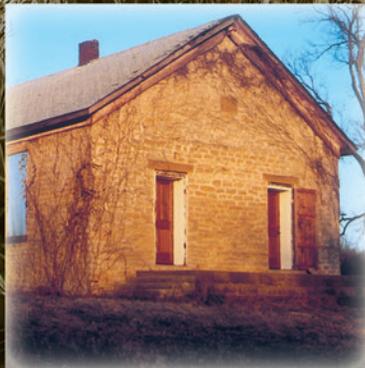
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## PSU Foundation Spotlight—*Dr. Mary Roberts*

Dr. Mary Roberts is a vivacious communicator who isn't afraid to speak her mind – an endearing quality to the thousands of students she mentored at Pittsburg State before retiring in 1990, after a 33-year career as a professor of communication.

She considers one of her more valuable assets as a university professor her ability to “sense potential.” Roberts grew up in a family of debaters in Decorah, Iowa. After teaching briefly at PSU in the early 1950s, she left southeast Kansas to earn her doctorate but then she returned to Pitt State to recruit for and build the Master of Arts in communication program.

Roberts chose to begin supporting PSU with her personal philanthropy nearly 30 years ago because she believes that “PSU is not just average – it takes an above average interest in students and gives them so many opportunities.” She is very clear that “what makes PSU great is the concern about students. Building individual relationships is important, and faculty know that.” To this day, she personally stays in touch with many of the graduate students she mentored while at PSU.

More than 20 years ago, Roberts established a scholarship fund in nursing at PSU in honor of her sister, Col. Lucille M. Roberts, who retired after 30 years in the U.S. Army Nursing Corps. She established the scholarship fund in nursing in both her and her sister's names because she knew there would always be a tremendous need for well qualified nurses. She has made provisions to further support the scholarship fund through a charitable gift annuity.

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