



Magazine of the  
**College of Arts & Sciences**

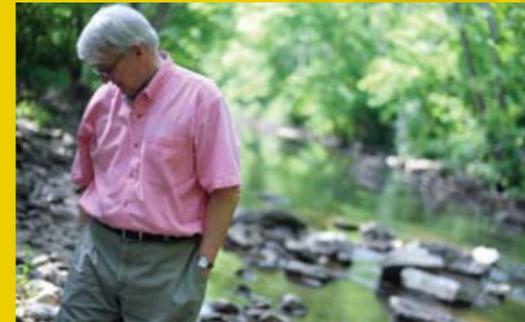


**LEADERSHIP & CHANGE**  
Tomorrow's Solutions for Today's Challenges

**Gender & Women's Studies** **32**  
officially became a department in June 2009. This fall, the department began offering bachelor's degrees.



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LEADERSHIP & CHANGE



The Magazine Of The UK  
College Of Arts & Sciences

**Dean**

Mark Lawrence Kornbluh  
kornbluh@uky.edu

**Editor**

Jennifer T. Allen '00  
jennifer.allen@uky.edu

**Director of Advancement**

Mimi H. Ward '80  
mhward2@email.uky.edu

**Major Gifts Officer**

Lauren Kidd  
klambl2@uky.edu

**Advancement Officer**

Roy Lowdenback  
roy.lowdenback@uky.edu

**Designer**

Influx Studio  
Matthew Banton and Karen Lewis

**Contributing Writers**

Brianna Bodine '09  
Allison Elliott  
Jessica Fisher '05  
Keith Hautala  
Stephanie Lang '01, '04, '09  
Brian Connors Manke  
Robin Roenker '98  
Rebekah Tilley

**Contributing Photographers**

Tim Collins '87  
Mark Cornelison  
Brian Connors Manke  
Shaun Ring '02  
Lee Thomas '75  
Richie Wireman

Direct comments or questions to:  
Director of External Relations  
UK College of Arts and Sciences  
213 Patterson Office Tower  
Lexington, KY 40506-0027

Ampersand is published twice a year for alumni, faculty and friends of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Kentucky.

We'd like to hear from you. Send letters and story ideas to, Ampersand, at the address on back cover or by fax to (859) 323-1073.

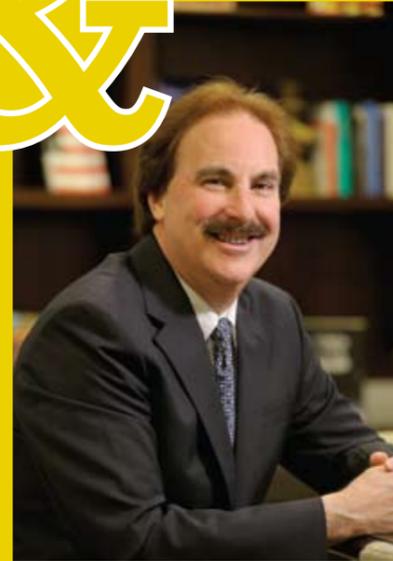
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The photo that appeared on page 10 of the Spring 2009 issue is a Day of the Dead "calavera" (skeleton) by local Lexington artist, Bob Morgan.

**Front and back cover illustration**

Cricket Press, Lexington, Ky.

# & letter from the dean



Dear Friends,

Greetings from the Bluegrass! I am excited to be writing you as the college's new dean. The academic year is underway and with it comes new faces and renewed energy. This fall, we welcome almost 1,000 new first-

year students; 19 new faculty members; and one new department – the Department of Gender and Women's Studies.

In the excitement of the new academic year, I want to be sure to thank those who have continued to support us during these economic times. Last spring the college had a record-breaking phonathon – an increase of almost 20 percent. These new funds will help us maintain our standard of excellence in classrooms and in the research laboratories while we all weather the current financial crisis. I hope that you are able to review the college's Honor Roll ([www.as.uky.edu/honorroll](http://www.as.uky.edu/honorroll)) as we give thanks to these generous alumni and friends.

Although the theme of this issue of *Ampersand* is "Change," the college remains grounded by some of its best traditions, most notably our Homecoming and Hall of Fame weekend. The weekend will start off with our annual Blazer Lecture, which will be delivered by Professor Manil Suri (University of Maryland – Baltimore County) on Thursday, Oct. 29, at 7:30 p.m. in Memorial Hall. Dr. Suri is the embodiment of the arts and sciences – he is both a mathematician and an award-winning fiction writer. His talk is titled "The Mathematics of Fiction." The

event is free and open to the public. On the following evening, Friday, Oct. 30, we will induct four alumni in the A&S Hall of Fame: Sandra L. Helton (BS '71), Dr. Olson Huff (BA '57), Dr. William H. Jansen, II (BA '71), and Ernest C. Steele (BS '48, MS '50). We will also be starting a new tradition – inducting an inaugural class in the newly-created A&S Faculty Hall of Fame. Dr. William Y. Adams (anthropology) and Dr. Wimberly C. Royster (mathematics) will be honored for their outstanding careers and life-long contributions to the college. We will conclude the weekend with the A&S Alumni Tailgate before the Homecoming game (UK vs Mississippi State). For information on any of these events or to make a reservation, contact our development office at 859.257.8124.

One change I want to highlight is the creation of the Dean's Blog, which will be housed on the college's website. I plan to use the blog to highlight the activities of our college, spotlight the accomplishments of our faculty, students, and graduates, and encourage discussions about our work and the challenges that we face. I hope that you will be able to visit it, and us, in the near future. Finally, I want to end by thanking each of you for your continued support to the College of Arts & Sciences.

All the best,

Mark Lawrence Kornbluh  
Dean, College of Arts & Sciences  
kornbluh@uky.edu  
[www.as.uky.edu](http://www.as.uky.edu)



UK junior and founder of *The Cat's Figment*, Eric Schlich

Richie Wireman

## A HOME FOR YOUR POEM

Student starts publication to give undergraduates a creative outlet.

By Brianna Bodine

The University of Kentucky and the greater Lexington community have tragically few publishing outlets for creative writing, leaving the prose, poems and lyrics produced by hundreds of UK undergraduates each semester bereft of a home, according to junior **Eric Schlich**, an English and Spanish double major.

"I had written several short stories in writing workshops, but they never really existed outside those workshops," Schlich said. "Some students read them and professors comment on them, but then those works are never shared with a larger community."

As a writer and aspiring professional author, Schlich has long been frustrated with the transience and isolation of his written work, which largely exists as no more than 0s and 1s etched into the aluminum innards of a hard drive. Craving more substance and impact, he went in search of creative writing publications on campus. He found that the only places to publish at UK were in *Jar*, an annual Honors Department publication, or *Limestone*, an annual creative writing journal published by graduate students in the English department. There were no undergraduate-produced or -focused writing journals.

To fill this publication void, Schlich conceived *The Cat's Figment*, a monthly journal focused entirely on sharing the creative output of undergraduate writers and artists with the wider Lexington and campus community. As part of a fellowship from the Gaines Center for the Humanities, he orchestrated and executed the publication as editor-in-chief for his Jury project, which enhances the civic culture of Lexington or a nearby hometown.

"Eric couldn't have been more practical in his choice of projects," said Ph.D. candidate Leah Bayens, who works as an academic advisor and was a former editor-in-chief of *Limestone*. "Many students come to me looking for advice on where to publish and where to get experiential learning, so *The Cat's Figment* fulfilled a real need in the English department and the wider campus community."

Initially, the project began as a one man show, with Schlich doing most of the footwork to solicit faculty, student and community participation. By April of 2009, he had collaborated with more than 25 students, numerous faculty members and on- and off-campus organizations, including the English Department's literary group W.O.R.D. (Writers', Orators', and Readers' Discussion), to

*continued on page 8*

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produce three issues of *The Cat's Figment*.

"Eric doesn't just have a collaborative spirit; he makes collaboration happen," Bayens said. "He pulled all the infrastructural elements together for the publication in a very short time."

The Cat's Figment accepted open submissions from UK students and the Lexington community with a rolling submission policy, meaning no deadlines were imposed on submissions. Schlich said he didn't want people to feel pressured by deadlines, and hoped to give unpublished or newer writers a chance to boost their confidence and gain valuable publishing experience.

"The English Department has been looking for ways to involve students and engage them in the campus community," Schlich asserted. "There's never been anything like this on campus, and it was an experiment all around."

While the publication managed to print three issues in the Spring 2009 semester, it struggled with funding and sporadic participation. However, the endeavor was hardly a failure.

Schlich's project will serve as a catalyst for future student engagement and community outreach efforts within the English Department and across campus. He hopes that his efforts will pave the way for undergraduate writers and artists looking to publish on campus and in Lexington.

"It's always a lot of work translating the idea to reality. You have to improvise, and a huge part is knowing and finding the right people to collaborate," Schlich said. "We set a precedent, so someone can use our work as a guide to establish something more permanent."

The future of *The Cat's Figment* is now in the hands of three new editors – English majors and brothers Chris and John McCurry and English alumnus Nick Walters. The trio stepped in and took over the operation when the publication faced an imminent premature death, saying, "If the magazine was not saved, not only would the dream have failed, but the voices of those who need support in their artistic endeavors would also be exhausted."

The new editorial board would like to incorporate as many art forms as possible in the journal.

"The university has a vast pool of talent that develops from art studio classes to theatre and creative writing workshops. Offering those students a chance to display their work outside of the classroom is a great benefit to UK," the editorial board said. "We are determined to make this project a success not only for ourselves but for the entire literary community."



Richie Wireman



UK junior **Jermey Taylor** plans to help build healthier communities

photo credit

## BODY, MIND AND SOUL

Through his numerous activities, Jermey Taylor takes into account all aspects of a community's well-being.

By Stephanie Lang

Jermey Taylor lends his talented voice to more than just the Black Voices Gospel Choir. Taylor, a junior Spanish major and biology minor, is involved in a bevy of extracurricular activities on UK's campus that emphasize empowerment, respect and diversity.

"Being involved is a vital part of my campus life that I utterly enjoy," said Taylor. "Currently, I'm a member of the student government, UK Karate Club, CARES Mentoring Program, the Violence Intervention & Prevention center (VIP), Vanity Fashion Group and a UK 101 peer instructor. I help to actively promote diversity through student government, spread the gospel to the community with the choir, mentor with CARES, design and model in Vanity, stay fit in karate and strive to end power-based personal violence with the VIP center. Participating in programs that you like helps you to make friends, build relationships, learn new things and gain connections."

Inspired by his experiences with helping others through this impressive list of campus activities, Taylor opted for a career field that would allow him to continue to give a voice to those who are in need.

"I chose the two paths of language

and biology, one, because I am always intrigued by different languages, and two, because of my fascination with science," Taylor explained. "After graduating, I plan to pursue my Ph.D. in public health. I want to focus on community health to educate and encourage individuals to adjust their health behaviors and live healthier. My ultimate goal is to work for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to help eliminate health disparities and build healthier communities."

While Taylor attributes his success in the classroom to the dedicated faculty and staff at UK, he also credits his professors with giving him the confidence to move forward with a rigorous graduate school plan.

"The most beneficial aspect of my education so far is simply being able to form positive relationships with my professors," Taylor said. "I believe that the connections I've made with the UK staff allow me to succeed. They offer advice, wisdom, comfort and support, so getting my education is a positive experience."

His untiring drive also earned him a nomination from one of his professors for the Main Street Salute Award, given by UK's regional office in Louisville in conjunction with UK's

Office of Undergraduate Admissions in recognition of volunteerism, commitment to diversity and achievement.

"I am honored that the university takes the time to recognize individuals, through this and many other awards, who help contribute to making it a better place," Taylor said.

Inspired by his experiences on campus, Taylor decided to branch out and enroll in the study abroad program. He will first go to Germany for one month during the 2009 fall semester. In the spring of 2010, Taylor will put his language skills to the test as he heads to Puerto Rico, where he hopes to learn more about Hispanic culture.

"I chose to study abroad because of my interest in experiencing other cultures," Taylor said. "I believe that an important part of getting along with others is to understand each other's culture and backgrounds. Studying abroad will give me this opportunity to learn more about the Hispanic culture and will also allow me to help educate others when I return about my experiences."

Regardless of his busy schedule, Taylor stresses the importance these activities have had on his life thus far, and he encourages other students to find their creative outlets and inspirations.

"I simply find it a pleasure to just walk on campus and see students happy," Taylor said. "In everything that I do, my main goal is to make sure that those around me are experiencing something that's positive and necessary for their physical, mental, spiritual, social or educational well-being."

## AN IMPRESSIVE TRACK RECORD

By Brianna Bodine



Maryjean Wall made history – now she's studying it

Mark Cornelison

Among the eight 2009 inductees to the Kentucky Athletic Hall of Fame, Maryjean Wall, a writer and a doctoral student in the UK History Department, seems a conspicuous anomaly.

At first glance.

“Frankly, I didn’t know the Hall of Fame accepted journalists,” Wall said. “I thought it was all about athletes, so it was a total shock to be chosen.”

Wall served as a reporter on the horse racing beat for the Lexington Herald-Leader in the 1970s, a time when women writers were an uncommon spectacle at the tracks, especially behind the scenes.

“There was no other woman interviewing or covering the horse races, so it wasn’t as easy as just walking into it,” Wall recalled. “I had to persuade some people in the press boxes that I needed to be in there, because they didn’t believe that I was a writer. Security guards were a real problem, especially when I needed access to jockeys’ rooms and different restricted areas. You had to work 200 times harder to prove yourself.”

Her efforts paved the way for other women writers to come on the scene in later years, gradually infiltrating the predominantly male world of turf and thoroughbreds. Originally a history major at UK, Wall still hesitates to call

herself a pioneer (though plenty have said it for her), drawing attention to historical evidence she has uncovered of a woman who published horse racing stories under a man’s name in the 19th century. “You never say you were ‘the first,’” Wall said. “You’ll always find someone who was there before you.”

Although she might not have been the first woman to cover horse racing, when she began her career, she was the only woman in the United States writing about the tracks for a newspaper full time. She is an award-winning journalist, having been honored with three Media Eclipse Awards for excellence in thoroughbred racing and three John Hervey Awards for excellence in harness racing reporting during her 35-year career.

Wall cites covering Secretariat’s rise to fame at Triple Crown and his subsequent death years later as particularly memorable moments in her reporting career. She also enjoyed watching Keeneland evolve from a small, regional racetrack to surpass and outstrip tracks around the country.

Wall returned to the History Department in 2000 as a part-time master’s student before going straight into the Ph.D. program. “I came in as a journalist, and they turned me into a historian,” she said. “I hope I retain my journalistic skills, but they had to work with me and I had a lot to learn when I came into the master’s program. As a whole, my department has been so open and welcoming, supportive of all their students and me. It was a good fit.”

Historical writing has helped Wall to synthesize her thoughts, formulate sound arguments, enhance her research and sleuthing skills and sharpen her

prose. “People think historical writing is boring, especially in academia, but it doesn’t have to be and I haven’t let it be,” she said. “I am just in awe of my history professors and what they have done in their careers – the good writing they’ve done. Learning from them is a privilege.”

Though her dissertation focuses on the history of the horse industry in Kentucky, Wall has interest in several other areas of study, such as the South, Appalachia, and general Kentucky history. She is also fascinated by the generational differences between herself and the women who came

“I had to persuade some people in the press boxes that I needed to be in there, because they didn’t believe that I was a writer.”

before and after her. “Today, women fail to understand that the way had to be paved for them, and perhaps I failed to understand that someone else had to pave it for me,” Wall said. “I think that’s typical of generational differences – that we don’t look beyond our own time.”

While she doesn’t plan to return to full-time reporting, Wall said she has hope for the future of journalism. “There will always be a need for journalistic-style writing,” she asserted. “It’s a skill that many writers do not have – to be concise, to be readable and to reach out to the average person – that’s a real art form.”

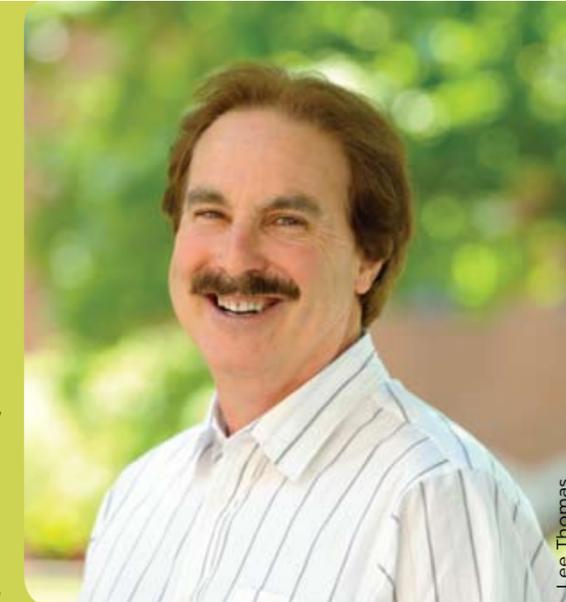
Wall sees the form of journalism as changing, not fading, as new media technologies dominate the industry “What shape will journalism take 10 years from now?” Wall speculated. “Don’t know. Hopefully, not in tweets.”

LITTLE KNOWN FACTS ABOUT

## MARK KORNBLOH

Mark Kornbluh, a scholar who unites the arts and sciences through his dual expertise in history and technology, is the College of Arts & Sciences new dean. Kornbluh took the reins of the college at the beginning of the 2009-10 academic year.

- Professor and chair of the **Department of History at Michigan State University** with an appointment in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering
- Deeply involved in a wide range of international projects, particularly in **West and South Africa**, that utilize **Internet technologies for democracy and development**
- Convinced of the power of the digital revolution and the effect the Internet has on **transforming both local and global communities**
- Completed the **New York Marathon**
- Founding director of **MATRIX: the Center for the Humane Arts, Letters and Social Sciences** at Michigan State, one of the nation’s largest humanities technology centers
- Appeared in **Rolling Stone Magazine’s** 1991 Honor Roll of Top College Professors
- Flew more than **100,000 miles last year**
- Believes **cross-cultural understanding is essential to peace**, sustainable economic growth is essential to prosperity, and scientific advancement is essential to public health
- **Married to Miriam (Mimi) Behar**, a pediatrician — Mimi will join the Department of Pediatrics at the UK Medical Center as a clinical professor.
- Two children: **Evan Behar Kornbluh** (22) recently graduated from Harvard University magna cum laude and is spending a year teaching western history at Peking University while working on his Chinese language skills. **Alexandra (Allie) Behar Kornbluh** (20) is a junior neuroscience major at The Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Md.
- Graduated **Phi Beta Kappa with honors from the University of California-Berkeley** in 1977, earning a bachelor’s degree in history and political science, and earned a master’s degree (1979) and doctorate (1988) in **American history from The Johns Hopkins University**.



Lee Thomas

## 14 AND FORGING AHEAD

By Keith Hautala

**G**raduating from college summa cum laude is a noteworthy accomplishment for anybody. To do it while still a teenager is nothing short of remarkable.

But for Kelsey Curd Ladit, who this year became one of UK's youngest and most distinguished alumni at age 14, finishing her Bachelor of Science degree in biology is just one milestone in her academic journey.

"As much as I enjoyed my experience at UK, I'm glad to be

finished with my undergraduate work," Kelsey said. "Now I can focus on getting ready to apply to doctoral programs."

Kelsey plans to apply to several competitive M.D./Ph.D programs. Such programs comprise about eight years of rigorous scientific and medical training, culminating in the simultaneous awarding of twin doctoral degrees. The challenging course of study is geared toward graduates who want to make careers out of medical research at both the basic scientific and applied clinical levels.

Although these programs are highly selective, Kelsey is likely to be a very attractive candidate. She has already acquired considerable research experience. While earning her bachelor's degree, she worked at UK in the laboratory of Dr. Joe Springer in the Department of Rehabilitation Medicine examining the molecular mechanisms underlying spinal cord injuries. Specifically, Kelsey was looking at the expression of an enzyme called cyclooxygenase-2 (COX-2) in the injured spinal cord, with an emphasis

on a type of nerve cell called reactive astrocytes.

"Reactive astrocytes are very important in the healing of the spinal cord," Kelsey said. "Unfortunately, they eventually end up hurting the spinal cord, in part by inhibiting regeneration. If COX-2 has a causative role, then it may be possible to significantly reduce the effects of secondary injury by using COX-2 inhibitors."

Kelsey is currently working on an article about her project, which she hopes will be accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal. In the meantime, any medical schools that want to recruit her will have to wait until 2010 at the earliest. For at least the next year, Kelsey will be in Bethesda, Md., where she has accepted a post-baccalaureate fellowship to do neurobiological research at the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS), part of the National Institutes of Health.

She should already know her way around the place. Kelsey spent last summer at NINDS as a participant in the Summer Program in the Neurological Sciences. She received an Exceptional Summer Student Award for her work there, which involved using magnetic stimulation to better understand how the brain evaluates events in the environment and makes decisions.

While Kelsey's work so far has been focused in the field of neurobiology, she says she's keeping her options open career-wise.

"I have enjoyed this area thoroughly," she said. "However, I want to keep an open mind for other potential fields."

## Growing Organically

By Allison L. Elliott



Lee Thomas

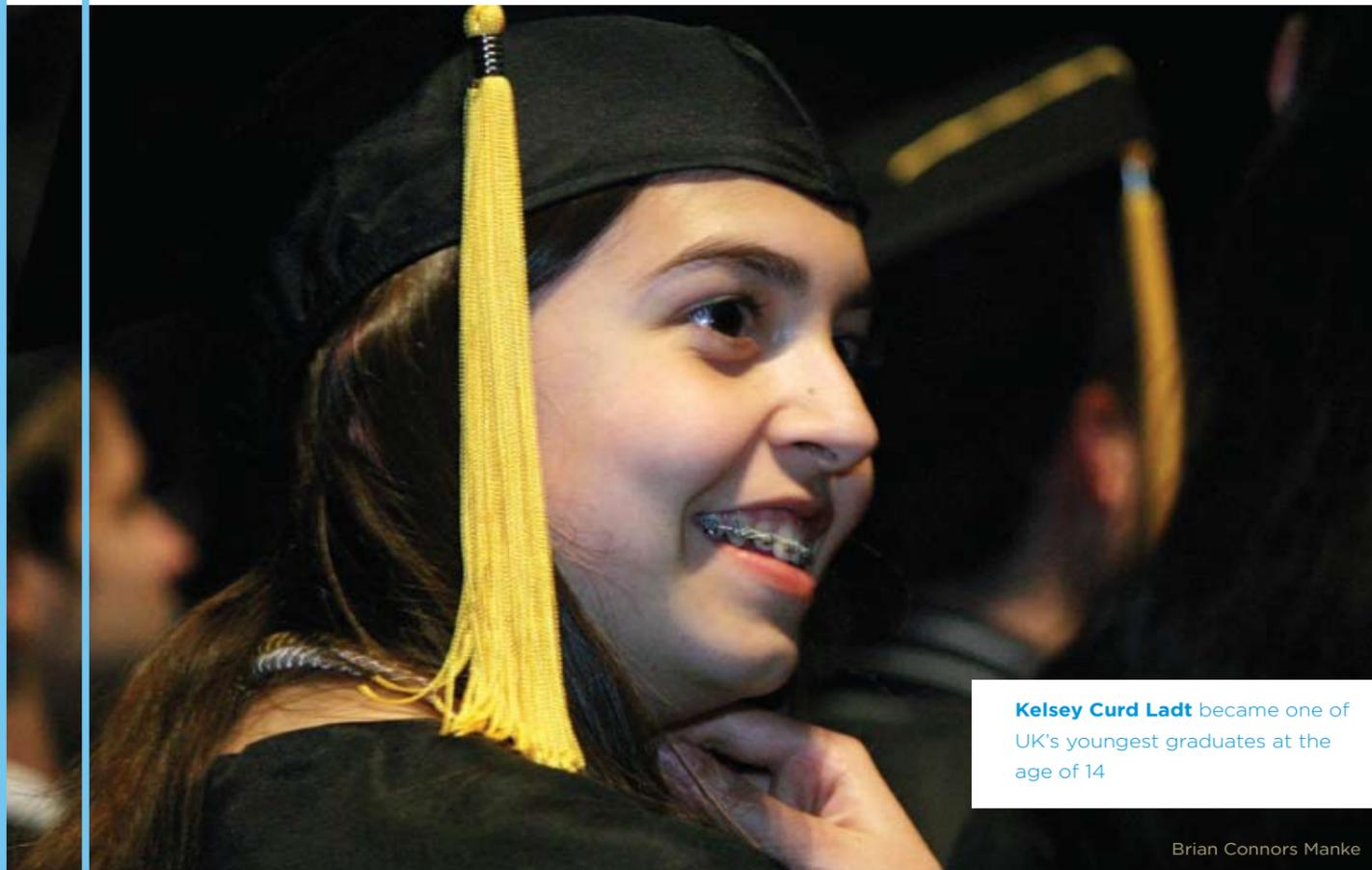
**T**he Department of Biology, under the leadership of new chair **Vincent M. Cassone**, is rethinking how it teaches science to a new generation of students. Cassone, known to friends and colleagues as Vinnie, wants to see UK become a national model for undergraduate education in biology. He plans to pursue that goal by revolutionizing the curriculum and adjusting teaching methods to make maximum use of the university's resources.

Biology is the most popular major in the College of Arts and Sciences, and even those not majoring in the sciences usually take an introductory biology course. When most alumni think about their undergraduate biology classes, they likely remember attending lab sessions, looking at plant cells under microscopes and memorizing the equation for photosynthesis. This observational model, traditional at most colleges, involves a lot of simple lab work and rote memorization. Cassone wants to move beyond observational teaching into conceptual work that helps students leverage technology to better understand the principles of biology.

"We need to phase out antiquated observational labs for freshmen and change how we teach biology to introductory students to maximize students' skills. Students are computer savvy. We have the entire literature of biology – genome sequences, data sets for genomics and proteomic analyses at our fingertips from any computer on earth. By employing computer-based models, we can introduce students to advanced principles of 21st century biology," said Cassone.

Noting that the study of biology is implicitly quantitative, Cassone believes that using computer technology to teach biology will help students to understand the complex mathematical models that govern life. He lays out a vision for the future of biology education at UK that will have undergraduates spending more time wrestling with high-level principles of biology and less time practicing microscope slide preparation. He describes the shift as analogous to an English student moving beyond simple book reports and into critical analysis

*continued on page 14*



**Kelsey Curd Ladit** became one of UK's youngest graduates at the age of 14

Brian Connors Manke

continued from page 13

of literature. In an approach that fits well with the dedication to well-rounded education in the College of Arts and Sciences, Cassone says he wants to see students engaged in critical reading and writing about science.

Moving lower-level students into technologically-aided conceptual studies will also free up lab space for upper-level and graduate students. Cassone is committed to attracting talented graduate students. To that end, he sees faculty development as an area of critical importance.

"We need to attract top-notch young scientists to join the faculty," said Cassone. He sees investment in research and facilities as key elements that can aid in the recruitment and retention of talented professors. One unique facility currently under development by the department is the Ecological Research Facility (ERF), an urban field station located in and behind the former Lexington Public Library Northside Branch. The ERF and the undeveloped land nearby provide a place for UK faculty and students to conduct research on native plant and animal species. Future plans for the field station include opening it to classes from neighboring colleges and high schools.

Cassone's path to the professoriate was not a conventional one. A graduate of Colby College in Maine, Cassone double majored in English literature and biology. He found work as a science writer, and after a couple of years decided to take some advanced courses at the University of Connecticut to expand his scientific knowledge beyond memorized facts to the conceptual understanding he believed would make him a better writer.

At that point, Cassone says, "Science as a creative process attracted me." He went on to earn a master's in pharmacology from Connecticut, then a doctorate in neuroscience from the University of Oregon. After completing a post-doctoral fellowship at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, he ventured to Australia for another post-doc. Once back in the U.S., Cassone joined the faculty at Texas A&M, eventually rising to become chair of the biology department. From there, he was recruited to UK, where he assumed leadership of the department in August 2008.

Cassone, who maintains that a "romantic notion" of life in Kentucky was a key factor in his decision to come to UK, sees his job here as an opportunity to bring interdisciplinarity to the study of biology. Noting that UK has a wide breadth of scientific expertise spread across its 16 colleges, he says that he hopes to reach out to other departments and colleges within the university to leverage existing resources in order to create educational opportunities.

Other plans for the Department of Biology include the creation of a lecture series named for the Nobel prize-winning geneticist (and UK alumnus) Thomas Hunt Morgan, as well as an ongoing commitment to research. "Top 20 universities have Top 20-level biology departments," says Cassone. "This is our chance to be bold and move up the line."

**"Top 20 universities have Top 20-level biology departments. This is our chance to be bold and move up the line."**



Shaun Ring



## LANGUAGE + CULTURE = PRESERVATION

By Jessica Fisher

If you think that linguistics is just about learning a bunch of different languages, then frankly, you have been misinformed.

But don't take it to heart – most people share this misconception. Luckily, one of UK's finest linguistics students, Jessica Holman, is able to clarify what the major really entails and why she is so proud of her Eastern Kentucky roots, accent and all.

Born in London, Ky., right in the foothills of Appalachia, Holman developed a love for language at an early age – her native Appalachian English, unique in its own right. After all, there is Standard English, which Holman said "we all need to learn so everyone can understand each other," but which she also points out "is normally different than the way people actually speak."

Her undergraduate research is broadly focused on sociolinguistics, which Holman defined as the grey area between linguistics and sociology – the place where language and people cross.

Rather than studying language separate from the culture and the people to which it is attached, sociolinguists travel a bit further, beyond verbs, nouns and syntax, by looking at "how the language is affected by the culture

and how the culture is affected by the language," said Holman.

After moving from London to Danville, Ky., she graduated from Boyle County High School in 1999. From there, she went on to Berea College, where in hopes to facilitate her love of language she pursued English. However, to Holman's surprise, she soon realized that studying English was more about the study of English literature and less about the actual language. It wasn't until she entered the University of Kentucky that she found what she had been looking for all along.

"I was excited when I found out UK offered linguistics – I've always been more interested in the grammatical side of English: the language itself and how it's actually used ... I learned there is no right or wrong in language," she explained. "There is only what you can say and what you can't say, what is acceptable to the listener, what they understand and what they don't understand. If you get your point across then it is not wrong."

As a student of North and South American indigenous languages, Holman has also had to grapple with a sense of loss – from the disappearance of language. "There are a lot of languages disappearing, native speakers are

becoming fewer and fewer, and language documentation and revitalization is a huge issue in the field right now." Preserving a culture's language is of the utmost importance because "language can hold people together; it is something they definitely share."

And Holman noted that language is different than other cultural factors. "People might change the way they dress, change the way they live, but you can always speak the same language."

Furthermore, language is often lost in translation. What may exist in true form in one's native language has a diluted meaning in another, and from a purely scientific standpoint, Holman suggested, "There could be millions of plants and animals (flora, fauna) that we haven't discovered or identified yet in western science, but someone has a name for them, someone has seen them."

Language is a window to the unknown: the loss of it in any culture is detrimental to the next and makes the transparency of its roots harder to regain.

Holman learned first hand the importance of reviving endangered languages when she had the rare opportunity to take a class on K'iche', part of the Mayan language family, taught by Rusty Barrett.

"What solidified my interest in going on in the field, furthering my education and trying to really stay with it, was the K'iche' class. We got to do field work in class with a native K'iche' speaker [Manual Tahay Gomez] and work with him," Holman proclaimed with excitement. "It was tiring and kind of scary and intimidating at first, but it was so much fun, and that is the kind of experience that you have out in the field if you work as a linguist. How many undergraduates in other programs would get to do that?"

And the truth is, not many. UK's linguistics program is the only one of its kind in the Commonwealth.

Looking forward, Holman is on track to graduate in May 2010, and while she may move elsewhere to attend graduate school, ultimately she hopes her work in the field will bring her back home. "I am really interested in Appalachian English. So many people think if you're from Kentucky there is a certain way you sound," she said. "Slowly but surely, it feels like there is a movement among our culture and this country to not judge people based on one aspect or another, to not be prejudiced towards people on something that makes them unique, and I don't think language should be separate from that."



**DAN SMITH** (ABOVE), an Emmy Award-winning writer and Arts and Sciences historian, has started production on a documentary film project called *Kentucky – An American Story*. The documentary will include interviews with distinguished scholars and leading figures in Kentucky's history. Ashley Judd will narrate the film project, with Paul Wagner, Academy Award-winning director, directing. The documentary is anticipated to be ready for broadcast in the summer of 2010.



Two professors from the University of Kentucky – **D. ALLAN BUTTERFIELD** and **WILLIAM R. MARKESBERY** – are ranked among the top 100 researchers in the world for the productivity and impact of their scientific study of Alzheimer's disease. The study ranking the researchers is published in the current issue of the *Journal of Alzheimer's Disease*. Butterfield (ranked #39

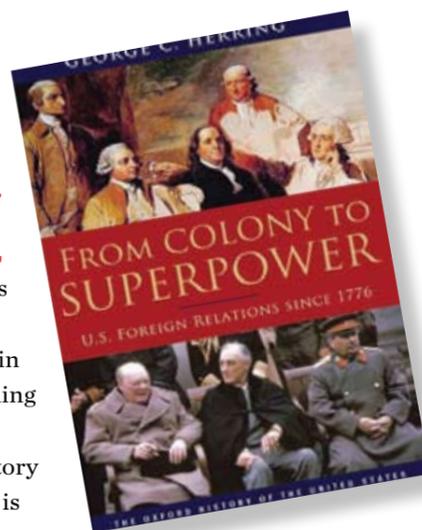
on the list) is the UK Alumni Association Endowed Professor of Biological Chemistry and director of the UK Center of Membrane Sciences. Markesbery (ranked #23 on the list) is a professor of pathology and neurology and Commonwealth Endowed Chair in Aging.

**GEORGE C. HERRING**, alumni professor emeritus of history, may have officially retired from UK in 2005 after a 36-year teaching career, but his days as a leading scholar of U.S. history are far from over. Herring is the author of *From Colony*

to *Superpower: U.S. Foreign Relations Since 1776* (Oxford University Press, 2008). The 1,035-page volume is part of the Oxford History of the United States series, described by Amazon.com as "the most respected multi-volume history of our nation in print."

## \$1.7

**MARK PRENDERGAST**, a professor in psychology, received a \$1.7 million dollar grant from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. Prendergast's work focuses on addiction and the development of new and more effective medications for the treatment of alcohol dependence.



Psychology professor **MARK FILMORE**, whose work focuses on substance abuse and behavioral neuroscience, was quoted in



*Time* magazine on the dangers of mixing alcoholic drinks with large doses of caffeine. Filmore examined the dangers of mixing new energy drinks with alcohol and the impact this has on young people.

## \$100,400

Two A&S faculty members have been named recipients of National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowships. **DANIEL BREAZEALE**, professor in the Department of Philosophy, and **PETER KALLINEY**, associate professor in the Department of English, were both awarded individual research fellowships for university teachers. Together their grants total \$100,400. UK is the only institution in Kentucky to have more than one faculty member awarded an NEH grant or fellowship this year.



## No Butts About It

[www.uky.edu/TobaccoFree](http://www.uky.edu/TobaccoFree)

The University of Kentucky campus will become completely tobacco-free on all campus grounds and parking areas on **November 19, 2009**, coinciding with the American Cancer Society's Great American Smokeout®, which is held annually on the third Thursday in November. A tobacco-free policy, which prohibits the use of all tobacco products (cigarettes, chew, pipes, cigars, snuff, etc.) on all grounds and parking areas, has already been in effect at the UK Medical Center and all UK HealthCare-owned facilities within Fayette County since November 20, 2008. Beginning November 19, the policy will apply to all areas of the contiguous UK campus in Lexington, indoors and out.

Currently, smoking is not allowed in any UK building, anywhere on the grounds of the UK Medical Center or within 20 feet of any university building or residence hall on the remainder of campus.

When the change is enacted on November 19, UK will join more than 255 other United States colleges and universities with tobacco-free policies in place for the entire campus.

"Enacting the tobacco-free policy at the University of Kentucky in November will greatly improve the campus atmosphere for all members of our community," said UK President Lee T. Todd Jr. "This policy has already created a healthier environment for patients, workers and visitors at the UK HealthCare Medical Campus, and we look forward to the long-term benefits of its implementation throughout all areas of the UK campus."



# PARENTS' ROOTS NURTURE BLOSSOMING SISTERS

## Ese and Ade Ighodaro excel on campus and off

BY BRIANNA BODINE

PHOTOS BY MARK CORNELISON

The Ighodaro sisters have never settled for half measures.

“Because our parents are immigrants from Nigeria, they always tell this story about how they came to the U.S. with no money,” Eseosa “Ese” Ighodaro said. “They had to work from the bottom to get to the top. If they can do it, there’s no excuse for us not to, because we don’t have to work from scratch.”

Freshman Adesuwa “Ade” Ighodaro and sophomore Ese are recognized by their peers and their professors as leaders in their class studies, their workplaces and their community. They share nearly identical academic lives at the University of Kentucky. Both students are studying in the natural sciences—biochemistry and biology, respectively; both participate in the Chellgren Fellowship Program and the Honors Program; and both are on the Dean’s List. They even live within shouting distance in the dorms on the north side of campus.

While they have been going to the same schools since they were in grade school, coming to UK simultaneously was unintentional. “Scholarships brought us to UK together,” Ade confessed. “It’s a huge comfort having my sister on campus. The transition from high school to college is overwhelming. For me, it was a blessing having someone here, having someone I could call.”

Ade attributes her drive to succeed to her father, who always pushed her to do better, and her mother, who chose

to be a social worker to help people. “UK is helping me [be] the best that I can be, so that can enable me to help the most people in the end. When I am a doctor, I can do more for the community.”

Her empathy is present in the classroom, as well. “Ade understands that people who have opposing views might have some reasons for those opposing views, and you cannot engage them intellectually or socially without actually understanding where they are coming from,” history professor David Olster said. “She is a leader in promoting

**“IF THEY CAN DO IT, THERE’S  
NO EXCUSE FOR US NOT TO.”**

dialogue and creating a classroom space where people can give opinions and explain why they hold them.”

Ese blazed the trail on campus for her younger sister, recommending programs and extracurricular activities. “We have to take advantage of what UK has to offer us, like volunteer work and professional enhancement,” she said. “You come to university to learn, but learning isn’t isolated to the classroom. You’re learning common sense, self-discipline, how to interact with other people and more about yourself, as well. College is not just book work and knowledge and facts.”

As part of her Chellgren Fellowship, Ese works under the

*continued on page 20*



ABOVE: Ade and Ese Ighodaro  
PREVIOUS SPREAD & FACING: Ese Ighodaro prepares a sample in the lab.

*continued from page 19*

direction of chemistry professor Dr. Fitzgerald B. Bramwell editing and composing video clips of chemistry experiments that will be used as teaching and instructional aids for professors. "Her work is very impressive," Bramwell said. "I have not helped her at all making the decisions on how to

**"VOLUNTEERING GETS YOU OUT OF YOUR OWN COMFORT ZONE, YOUR OWN REALITY."**

present the video, which is a pretty big deal, because she's actually making pedagogical decisions."

Ese synthesizes raw footage, edits the video clips, conducts voiceovers with professors and then adds chemical

equations, references and footnotes to the finished product. The video clips will be featured in the display case at the Funkhouser Drive entrance of the Chemistry-Physics Building.

Ade has followed in her sister's footsteps and joined the Chellgren Program this semester.

In addition, both sisters are committed to volunteer work. They participated together in the UK Alternate Spring Break Program in 2008, traveling to Atlanta, Ga., to work with poverty-stricken and disadvantaged students. Each has her own individual volunteer projects, as well. As a Singletary Scholar, Ade volunteered for Professional Education Preparation Program Awareness Day. She was also a member of the Alto Choir, which performs at local

*continued on page 23*





ABOVE: Ade and Ese Ighodaro  
LEFT: Ade at the UK Children's Hospital

*continued from page 20*

churches and concerts. To complement her interest in pediatrics, Ade currently volunteers at the UK Twilight Children's Clinic, where she shadows pediatric doctors and residents. Ese has worked as a volunteer in the UK Hospital Emergency Room, as the student representative for the College of Arts and Science Dean Search Committee, and as a math and chemistry tutor.

"Volunteering gets you out of your own comfort zone, your own reality," Ade said. "College is just where it starts. Eventually you're going to leave this setting and go out into the community, so it's really important to learn how to be a part of the community in conjunction with the whole academic education."

Ese echoes her sister's sentiments: "Sometimes students, including myself, are so focused on our exams, our tests, our grades, that we forget that there's a world outside of

our own little college campus," she said. "By volunteering in the community, you can see how to apply the knowledge from your university experience to help correct some of those injustices that do exist. It keeps you grounded—and appreciative."

Over the summer, Ade traveled to Yale University for the Summer Medical and Dental Educational Program (SMDEP), and Ese went to Stanford University for the Stanford Summer Research Program (SSRP), also called the Amgen Scholars Program. In the future, they both plan to travel to Nigeria for the first time to meet the majority of a family they've never before seen.

"All our lives we've lived in the U.S.," Ade said. "It just feels like there's another half out there that needs to be explored and known." &





Suzanne Lenhart

Lenhart, who earned her doctorate in mathematics from UK in 1981, went directly from graduate school to a job as an assistant professor at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Named a full professor in 1992, Lenhart has also been a part-time researcher at Oak Ridge National Laboratory since 1987, earning a patent for a mathematical model application (which are rarely patented). The patent was for “applying optimal control theory to a model of cardiopulmonary resuscitation” to develop better chest compression patterns. Today, Lenhart is also the associate director for outreach, education and diversity at the National Institute for Mathematical and Biological Synthesis (NIMBioS). The institute, housed at UT, officially opened in March 2009.

NIMBioS is funded by the National Science Foundation, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The interdisciplinary institute brings together experts in math, computer science, biology, veterinary medicine, wildlife, fishery and other areas. The varied projects of the institute use mathematical and quantitative methods to describe, predict and understand biological phenomena. NIMBioS also partners with Great Smoky Mountains National Park to analyze real-world biological issues ranging from invasive species management to disease spread. Using mathematical models, they can predict and understand how best to control biological threats. Scientists, mathematicians and others are gathered into working groups to focus on particular problems.

Lenhart, who co-authored the 2007 book *Optimal Control Applied to Biological Models* (Chapman & Hall, 2007), applies optimal control to her research problems. For the non-mathematicians among us, Lenhart describes the application of optimal control as “writing a system to represent a biological situation and adjusting specific terms to reach a goal.” For example, she is currently working with a research group focusing on feral swine, an invasive species in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The swine carry a disease known as pseudo-rabies. Lenhart and her fellow researchers are studying mathematical models of the hog population to determine how best to control the animals and the disease.

Lenhart and her collaborators have also been working on managing the spread of rabies in raccoons – a problem throughout much of the Eastern United States. This work concentrates on finding optimal locations and timing to distribute vaccine baits, a type of food packet containing vaccine that imparts immunity to rabies.

The principles of optimal control can be applied to a number of biological situations, including disease spread in humans. Lenhart, with some collaborators, has looked at the spread of cholera, using mathematical tools to determine what combination of vaccination programs, water treatment and medical intervention can best mitigate the spread of the disease.

In her role as the head of education, outreach and diversity at NIMBioS, Lenhart coordinates a variety of programs, including undergraduate research endeavors and conferences,

educational workshops, and outreach to groups including math teachers and girls interested in math and science careers.

Lenhart has always been active in outreach. From 2001 to 2002, Lenhart served as the president of the Association for Women in Mathematics. She remains active with the organization, serving as co-organizer of the Teacher Partnership Program, which matches math teachers with mathematicians working in academia, industry and government. In two and a half years, the program has matched 70 teacher/mathematician pairs who meet to discuss math, teaching and how best to reach students.

From 1990 to 2005, Lenhart served as the director of research experiences for undergraduates at UT. She currently directs a new research experiences program for undergraduates and veterinary students through NIMBioS. She is on the board of trustees of the Society for Industrial Applied Mathematics, a member of the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Mathematical Biosciences Institute at Ohio State University, and sits on a number of editorial boards for academic journals.

## Lenhart is the type of unmistakable leader who inspires others through example.

Once a week, Lenhart visits a Knoxville high school to mentor and coach students in the math club. She is involved with Mu Alpha Theta, the national high school math honors society, and is working with the organization to plan its upcoming national convention in Tennessee. She has also worked with math students at the Tennessee School for the Deaf.

With her packed schedule, what does Lenhart love the most about her work? “Working with students,” she says. “Teaching is very important to me. I feel like I was born to be a teacher.”

With all her commitments to NIMBioS and professional organizations, Lenhart continues to teach undergraduate

and graduate students. She will teach the course Mathematics for the Life Sciences to undergraduate biology majors during the fall 2009 semester. Lenhart also serves as the principal advisor to four doctoral candidates and one master’s student.

Lenhart herself was influenced by great teachers. From childhood, she encountered teachers who recognized her abilities and encouraged her to explore her interest in mathematics. She credits her interest in applying math to biological problems to the influence of two UK professors—Tom Hayden (emeritus) of the math department, and Phillip Crowley in biology. Does she have any advice for students considering a career in mathematics?

“I think what’s helped me a lot in my career is to be flexible about possible interests—to keep your mind open about possible directions to go for study or research. Try to look at various possibilities. First of all, try to get well-informed about what type of possible opportunities are there, and be flexible and try to consider lots of opportunities. Don’t close doors. Be ready to try something new.”

Just by virtue of her role as a tenured professor in mathematics, a field that has traditionally seen an underrepresentation of women, Lenhart is unmistakably a leader. Add in her position at NIMBioS; her teaching, publishing and professional contributions; and her commitment to outreach at all levels, and she emerges as the kind of leader who inspires others through example. When asked her philosophy of leadership, she responds: “I see myself as more of a service person. To be a leader you have to be willing to step forth and do the service. You can’t do everything yourself—you have to be willing to recruit people to help you see your ideas through. As I see it, the things I’m doing are a service to some part of the community.” &

The Confluence of

# NATURE ART

Gurney Norman is named the new  
Kentucky Poet Laureate.

*By Brian Connors Manke*

*photos by Shaun Ring*





*Gurney Norman on a recent trip to Boone Creek, one of his favorite places in the Bluegrass.*

“**F**OR ME, TO STAND AT THE CONFLUENCE of two streams of flowing water, no matter how small, is a moment of feeling integrated. To be in one of those sweet spots in nature silences you—standing there in awe, there is nothing to say.”

Gurney Norman understands the delicate beauty of awe—but as Kentucky’s new Poet Laureate, the longtime teacher, outdoorsman and, of course, writer, has always been drawn to sharing his lifelong mediations of nature into words.

Norman’s relationship with the Kentucky landscape, and in particular, the flowing waters that dance, carve, rush or just mosey along, are embedded in his consciousness from his childhood play in the creeks and along the riverbanks near Hazard, in Eastern Kentucky.

“When I was a kid, in the 1940s, in the summer time, local people would bring their quilts and picnic baskets

*continued on page 32*

## Ancient Creek

*The water is amber-colored now. I see minnows in it, I see a perch swim by, I see brilliant pebbles on the bottom, and green waving grass. I see a sandbar reaching out from shore, my feet sink into it. Planted there, I rise from the water like a tree, a flowering shrub with gnarled branches, thick with leaves and blossoms, white as clouds, moist with the dew of a brand new April evening.*

© Gurney Norman

A 1959 graduate of the University of Kentucky, Norman has been a member of UK’s Department of English faculty since 1979. He presently directs the department’s Creative Writing Program.



*continued from page 30*

and spend the afternoon on the riverbank and in the water. There were many sandy beaches along the Kentucky River in those days. It was a picture of health—a healthy river, a healthy social community. People ate the fish they caught. Coal mining in those days caused very little damage to the water.”

Decades later, the destruction to Eastern Kentucky’s waterways has mounted. “You accept the damage to nature

as tragic but you must not let that immobilize you,” Norman said. His work and teaching over the years crystallizes that fact. “There are so many ways to be creative – including public activism, political effort, and the work that artists of all kinds do.”

Branch to creek, creek to stream and stream to river, Norman will continue to follow the indefinable paths of the water in awe—and occasionally when the moment is right, he’ll put it into words. **&**

## *selected works*

*Divine Right’s Trip*  
*Kinfolks*

Watch Gurney Norman’s KET documentaries @ ket.org  
produced/directed by John Morgan

*Time on the River*  
*From This Valley*  
*Wilderness Road*

# Taking the Next Step

**Gender & Women's Studies reaches departmental status**

*By Rebekah Tilley*

**IN A CERTAIN MAIN ACADEMIC OFFICE ON CAMPUS IS** a picture of a half-undressed young woman – breast exposed, smoking, with cigarette butts littered around her enticingly draped bed. It is the cover of a pamphlet dated 1905 that loudly asks the loaded question, “Is College Bad for Girls?” and insinuates that a college education leads young women to such deadly sins as “flirting” and “speaking to male students without Proper Introduction or Chaperone.” The pamphlet cover, now a relic in the newly created Department of Gender and Women’s Studies, is a visual reminder of how far women in the academy have come in the last 100 years.

Women's studies as an academic discipline was born in the 1970s and came to the University of Kentucky in the 1980s thanks largely to the efforts of Nancy Dye, then Assistant Dean of Arts and Sciences and now President of Oberlin College. At that time, Dye was looking for a way to support faculty with teaching and research interests in this emerging field. What was dubbed the Women's Studies Program formally began in 1989, and by 1994 the program had a lively special topics undergraduate major and began awarding graduate certificates. "Over the years, we began to function more and more like a department in that our courses drew lots of students, we had many connections with other departments across campus and we were very much a central part of campus life," said Susan Bordo, who served as interim director of the program from 2008-09.

## BIRTH OF A DEPARTMENT

For many years, scholars studying topics in gender and women's studies were fragmented across the disciplines, much like history and English scholars were in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. But intellectually, more and more scholars were in fact crossing disciplinary boundaries in their work. "There comes a time when areas that people have been working in, in a very dispersed way, develop the intellectual coherence, influence and scholarly heft to become fields in their own right. And that's where gender and women's studies is now. It has become a powerful, interdisciplinary field," says Bordo. "Becoming a department allows students to pursue the study of gender in a way that honors the contributions of many disciplines and that seeks points of integration among them."

The journey toward department status formally began in 2002, when then College of Arts and Sciences former dean Steve Hoch made transforming the Women's Studies Program to a department part of his strategic plan for the college. By then, the Women's Studies Program had

revised its name to Gender and Women's Studies, a change that reflected the broader, more inclusive approach of the GWS faculty. Seven years later, the transformation is accomplished: Gender and Women's Studies officially became a department in June 2009. In fall 2009, the department began offering bachelor's degrees.

Department status allows for the hiring and tenuring of top scholars who have made gender and women's studies their life work. "The movement from a program to a department is a way of shoring up institutional commitment to a form of inquiry and to the faculty and students who focus on that inquiry," said Joan Callahan, director of the program from 1996 to 2007. "Having department status for gender and women's studies helps to make sure that faculty whose main interests are interdisciplinary have a tenure home that prizes that kind of work."

Why is a tenure home so important for faculty? "We have seen fantastic scholars struggle because they are doing work that appears in journals that members of their department are unfamiliar with," Bordo explained. "They publish in top-notch journals, but no one in their department has read them because they are gender studies journals. Those people are going to have trouble when it hits tenure time."

**"AND THAT'S WHERE GENDER AND WOMEN'S STUDIES IS NOW. IT HAS BECOME A POWERFUL, INTERDISCIPLINARY FIELD."**

"In a department consciously established to recognize such work," said Callahan, "the question of the validity of the area of research simply doesn't arise. The kinds of trouble Bordo alludes to completely go away, and tenure consideration can focus, as it should, on the quality of a faculty member's work."

## A COMMUNITY LIKE FEW OTHERS

The GWS community at UK is unlike any academic department I have been a part of," said Lisa Schroot, a doctoral candidate in English who completed a graduate certificate in gender and women's studies. "Department meetings are relaxed, comfortable and yet productive. Faculty members are always willing to meet with students, and to provide guidance to students, even those they have not had in class. And social functions always include children, which gives the program a family-like quality that is all too rare in academia. In a word, the department community is supportive."

The core faculty of the Department of Gender and Women's Studies is housed in Breckenridge Hall next door to the Funkhouser Building, which provides the physical space for the community and scholarly collaboration that has become the trademark of the department. It's a quality that the department's first chairperson, Patricia Cooper, plans to continue to nurture as the department moves forward. "One of the most important things is creating a department that is an exciting and enjoyable place to be," Cooper said. "I really want students to feel welcome. We have so much to offer in the way of new courses, global perspectives, and cutting edge scholarship that students will find it to be an ideal intellectual environment."

This past summer, the GWS faculty community came together to collectively create a curriculum for a new class to be offered for the first time in fall 2010 on the transnational history of feminist thought. "Planning that course was a collaborative and exciting effort," said Bordo. And in a move that demonstrates the department's entrepreneurial spirit, Bordo submitted a proposal to the University of California Press to develop a textbook from the course. The advance the department received went toward compensating faculty members for their summer service time, and ultimately, the effort will conclude with a textbook produced by the UK Department of Gender and Women's Studies. "It will become, hopefully, not just the textbook that we use, but that will be used elsewhere, too," said Bordo.

## BA AND BEYOND

So what does one do with a degree in gender and women's studies?

Bordo smiled. "The question used to be, what are you going to do with a degree in English? It's not so much that there are very particular things that you can do with a degree in English. It has more to do with the person you become, and the skills you develop, and the perspective you have, that whatever area you go into is going to be impressive. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, somebody who is comfortable talking about cultural difference, someone who understands racial dynamics, who has worked in an interdisciplinary way, is someone who can bring something really appealing to any number of jobs."

**"FRANKLY, I THINK WE'RE GOING TO PUT THIS SCHOOL ON THE MAP."**

— Susan Bordo, 2008-09 Interim Director, Gender & Women's Studies Program

Plans are well under way for the department to begin offering master's and doctoral degrees in the near future. There are still only a handful of colleges and universities offering graduate-level degrees in the field, giving the University of Kentucky the opportunity to be ahead of the curve in addition to enriching its undergraduate program with everything that a graduate program provides.

"Implementing a Ph.D. program will help us attract new faculty to the department and will help keep us on our toes with fresh ideas and lively discussions," said Cooper. "Graduate students can be great mentors for undergraduates, and their energy and enthusiasm will affect all of us in positive ways. I really see the undergraduate and graduate programs working together. Further, a Ph.D. program will help us establish our reputation as a first-rate gender and women's studies program nationally and internationally."

"Frankly, I think we're going to put this school on the map," said Bordo. &



## A&S TAILGATE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31

Two hours before kickoff  
Next to E.S. Good Barn

The College of Arts & Sciences Tailgate Party activities will begin two hours prior to the Kentucky vs. Mississippi State football game. Enjoy food from Billy's Bar-B-Q and live bluegrass music at the college's tent located next to the E.S. Good Barn at 1451 University Drive across from Commonwealth Stadium.

Only 175 football game tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Limit four tickets per alum.

Online registration is available at [www.UKalumni.net/AStailgate](http://www.UKalumni.net/AStailgate) or contact the Development Office for more information at 859-257-8124.

Tim Collins

## PHILANTHROPISTS CHEER THEIR CAUSES TO VICTORY

The Perrys believe in the value of a liberal arts education.

By Robin Roenker

**Y**ou know you're a UK fan when you propose to your girlfriend in the parking lot of Commonwealth Stadium before a UK-Florida football game.

Turns out, **David Perry** had luck on his side that day back in 1986: fellow UK alumna **Lauri Sullivan** said yes and UK won the game.

Happily married after 22 years and parents of sons Clark, 10, and Owen, 7, the Perrys—1984 graduates who met at UK as marketing majors—are still just as wild about UK.

From their Seattle home, David starts each morning by checking the Kentucky sports fan blog "A Sea of Blue." And he occasionally rushes home from his job as vice president of marketing and communications at Seattle Children's Hospital early to be able to catch the Wildcats play live in what's often late afternoon Seattle time.

But the family's devotion to UK doesn't stop at sports: since the late 1990s, a scholarship in their name, the David and Lauri Perry Scholarship, has provided financial assistance to a single Arts and Sciences student for their four years of study at UK.

"The key reason for the scholarship is I almost didn't get to go to college," David Perry said. "I depended on loans and grants. I never forgot that. If it hadn't been for some form of financial aid, I

couldn't have gone. There was one year, my junior year, that I was very close to not being able to go.

But the financial aid office worked with me, and it all came together."

David, who lived in Louisville and Portsmouth, Ohio, as a child, helped pay his own way at UK through the college's work-study program, assisting with both Handicapped Student Services and the career placement center. While at UK, he was active in Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity, serving as both rush chairman and president, and was also involved in student government.

Louisville native Lauri, who transferred to UK her sophomore year from Miami University of Ohio, was active in UK's Marketing Society and Kappa Delta Sorority.

After UK, David attended business school at Northwestern's Kellogg School of Management. It was the chance for both to work at Microsoft—David in the consumer division, working as a product manager on Microsoft Publisher, and Lauri as a paralegal for Microsoft's multimedia products like Encarta—that took the couple to Seattle in 1990.

The pair worked at Microsoft throughout the 1990s, including a two-year stint in Paris at the company's European headquarters.

Since 1999, Lauri has been a full-time



stay-at-home mom. David left Microsoft in 2000 and worked in high tech until joining Seattle Children's in 2007. For the last 18 months, through their establishment and work with the Seattle Children's Autism Guild, the couple has played a key role in pushing for the launch of the new

Seattle Children's Autism Center, which opened in August. Their older son, Clark, has autism, and their two philanthropic focuses will always remain education and support of autism research and patient clinical services, the couple said.

In addition to their UK scholarship and their work with the new Seattle Children's Autism Center, they have also begun a scholarship at Lindsey Wilson College in Columbia, Ky., an endowment at Northwestern's Kellogg School and a fellowship at the University of Washington to support autism research.

While both Perrys enjoyed their experiences in UK's College of Business and Economics, they wanted their scholarship to support an Arts and Sciences student, David said, because they both realized the value of a liberal arts education after college.

"We knew we'd reach a broader array of students in Arts and Sciences," Lauri said.

"I wouldn't want any student to have to suffer through not knowing if they can afford to pay for college," said David. "Hopefully, our scholarship will encourage others to give, as well."

## NEW YEAR, NEW PLACES, NEW PERSPECTIVE

By Robin Roenker

**J**ason Hope will never forget New Year's Eve 2008. As the clock ticked toward midnight and the first moments of 2009 approached, Hope joined throngs of revelers along London's Thames River. He was just feet away from Big Ben as the famous clock struck twelve and fireworks lit up the nighttime sky.

"It was pretty cool," said Hope, a Louisville native and UK senior pursuing a double major in international studies and Spanish.

Hope was one of five UK students to receive a College of Arts and Sciences International Scholarship for travel during the 2008-09 winter holiday. The scholarships are earmarked for international studies majors and offer an award of up to \$1,500 for a minimum 10-day stay in London, Paris or Berlin over the winter break. Applicants must visit at least two of the three cities

during their European trip, and they have a list of required sites to see during their stay.

Hope spent four days in London and six days in Paris, where his French minor came in handy. His mother joined him on the trip. Visiting some of the required sites—like London's British Museum, Westminster Abbey and St. Paul's Cathedral, as well as Paris' Musée d'Orsay and Louvre—was a memorable part of the trip. "The museums in Paris are in a class of their own," he said.

Hope, a self-described "Anglophile," also enjoyed touring places rich in British history like the site of the original Globe Theatre and the former residence of the Bishop of Winchester. But the days when he opted just to wander without any specific destination in mind ended up being some of his favorites.

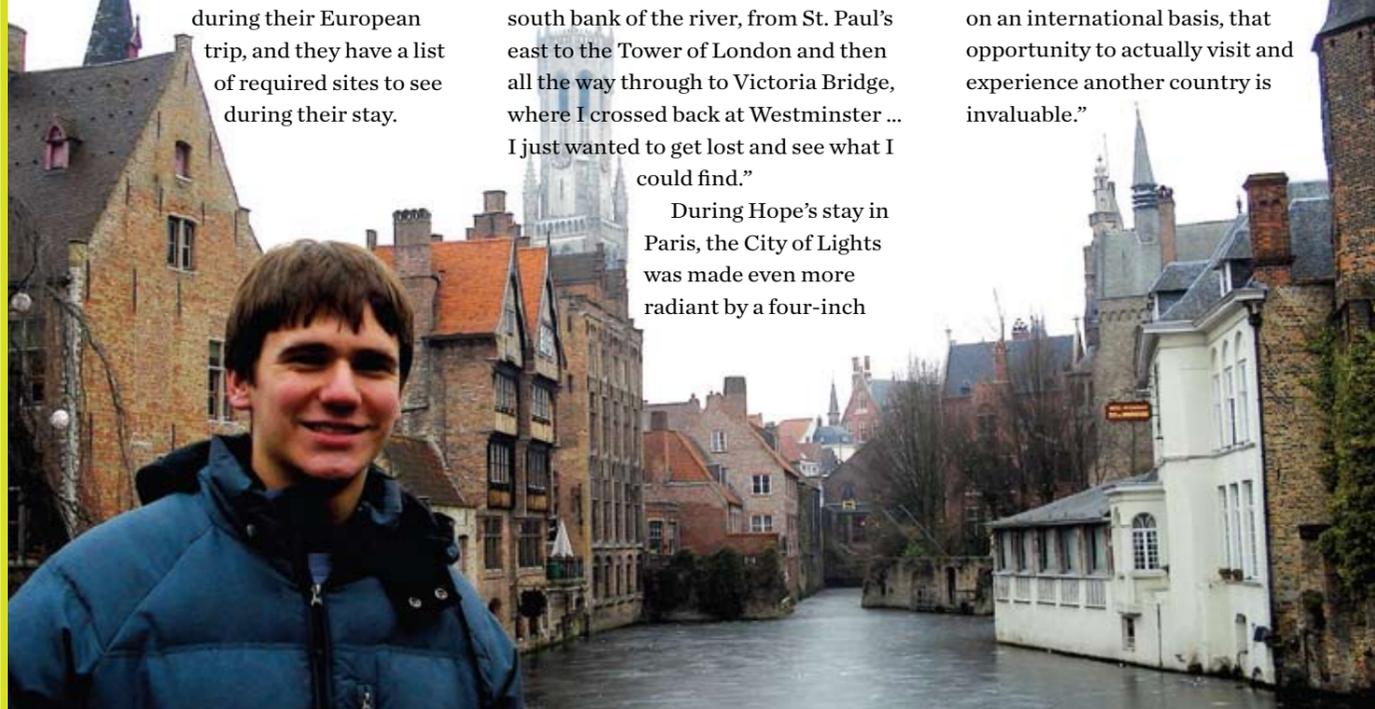
"One day, my mom wanted to go shopping, which really wasn't for me," said Hope, "So I spent the whole day basically just wandering around on the south bank of the river, from St. Paul's east to the Tower of London and then all the way through to Victoria Bridge, where I crossed back at Westminster ... I just wanted to get lost and see what I could find."

During Hope's stay in Paris, the City of Lights was made even more radiant by a four-inch

snowfall. "There was snow covering all the buttresses of the old cathedrals. And Notre Dame still had Christmas trees outside. It was beautiful," Hope said.

While his entire stay was only 10 days long, Hope was abroad long enough to get a feel for the cultures of both countries—and to talk politics. It seemed that everywhere he went, whether to London pubs or French bakeries, people wanted to discuss the recent American presidential election.

"It was just stuff that you can never learn in a classroom," said Hope, who plans to pursue a graduate degree in either law or diplomacy. "Anytime you go to another country, even if it's relatively similar countries [to the United States] like England and France, it's still a different world. People act differently, and their outlook on things is different. For anyone studying anything on an international basis, that opportunity to actually visit and experience another country is invaluable."



COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES  
2009 BLAZER LECTURE

# MANIL SURI

## THE MATHEMATICS OF FICTION

Thursday, October 29  
7:30 p.m.  
Memorial Hall



Join the College of Arts & Sciences as we welcome **Manil Suri**, author of *"The Death of Vishnu"* and *"The Age of Shiva"* and mathematics professor at the University of Maryland-Baltimore County. Suri's mathematical research is in the field of numerical analysis, but he also spends time devising ways to bring mathematics to the general public. Suri will be speaking on "The Mathematics of Fiction."

THE LECTURE IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

## HALL OF FAME

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30

Reception 5:30 p.m.  
Dinner 7 p.m.  
Lexington Convention Center  
Thoroughbred Ballroom

Don't miss this year's Hall of Fame Induction and Scholarship Ceremony for the College of Arts & Sciences. Four A&S alumni will be inducted: Sandra L. Helton (BS '71), Dr. Olson Huff (BA '57), Dr. William H. Jansen, II (BA '71), and Ernest C. Steele (BS '48, MS '50). This is also the first year we are inducting A&S faculty into the Hall of Fame. Two faculty members will be recognized: William Y. Adams (anthropology) and Wimberly C. Royster (mathematics). Reservations are required. Contact the Development Office at 859-257-8124, or visit [www.as.uky.edu/alumni/homecoming](http://www.as.uky.edu/alumni/homecoming) for more information.

## North Carolina Governor **Beverly Perdue '69**

A&S Alumna

### **You earned a bachelor's degree in history at UK, and now you're making history as the first female Governor of North Carolina. How do you think your background in history shapes your view of your job in public office?**

George Bernard Shaw said, "We are made wise not by the recollection of our past, but by the responsibility for our future." Not since the 1930s has a governor faced the tremendous budgetary challenges that I am looking at in my first year as governor. As a student of history, my thoughts turn to the past leaders who found the resolve, strength and moxie to drive North Carolina through tough times.

### **Earlier in your career, you worked in both education and health care administration. What inspired you to make the leap into public service?**

Growing up, I never knew that I wanted to be involved in public service, but service was in my nature. I volunteered as a UK student, and I worked as a teacher before going back to school to earn a doctoral degree in education administration. It was while working in a community hospital in New Bern, N.C., that I witnessed firsthand how public policy decisions affect real people. It was my desire to better the lives of the senior citizens I saw in my hospital that led me to run for office that first time.

### **This issue of Ampersand is about leadership. What is your philosophy of leadership?**

A leader shouldn't be afraid to act boldly, to set high expectations, and to be hands-on. It will take bold leadership to guide North Carolina and America out of the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression.

### **What do you consider your greatest policy achievement?**

As chair of the North Carolina Health and Wellness Trust Fund Commission, I led efforts to reduce teen tobacco use. Thanks to the Commission's work, all of North Carolina's school districts are tobacco-free, and there are 34,000 fewer child smokers. That accomplishment marked a sea change in North Carolina, our country's number one tobacco-producing state.

### **On election night, when you realized you had won, what was your first thought?**

My first thought after winning on election night was that the people of the Tar Heel state have entrusted me with a great responsibility, and it is now up to me to live up to that obligation with honesty, integrity and openness. Somewhere in the midst of the excitement that evening, I first envisioned what have become the tenets of my administration – accessibility, accountability, transparency and high expectations.

### **What has been your greatest challenge as Governor?**

Since my first day in office, I have worked to push North Carolina forward despite a nearly \$5 billion shortfall in the state budget expected next year. Even in these tough times, I believe we must ensure every North Carolinian has access to high quality and affordable education. We must also make sure that we grow our economy and help put people back to work. My JobsNOW initiative creates jobs while training and retraining our workforce for the 21st century jobs we're bringing to North Carolina.

### **What is your advice for current UK students considering a career in public service and government?**

With a lot of hard work, determination and faith, there are no limits to what you can accomplish. Public service is an opportunity to use those hard-earned accomplishments to give something back to your community, state and country. I hope UK students, no matter the career path they choose, dedicate themselves to their work and refuse to give up when things get tough.

### **Do you see yourself as a role model?**

On my first day as governor, I opened the Executive Mansion to nearly 5,000 people who stood in line waiting to come inside. At the end of the day, when it was clear that the sun would go down before I could welcome everyone in, I walked outside to greet those still waiting in line. One little girl had a big cardboard sign around her neck that said, "Yes, I can be a female governor." That's what this is all about. As the first female governor of North Carolina, I hope I can be an example for both young women and men. I hope that when people see me, they see how determination and hard work can help them achieve any goal.

### **Finally ... do you still cheer for the Wildcats?**

The Wildcats men's basketball team has won more games than any other team in the history of Division I college basketball. I'm proud to have attended a school with such a great academic and sports program. I also take pride in serving a state that just brought home the 2009 NCAA men's national championship title with Coach Roy Williams and his Tar Heel team. So let's just say I have a lot of blue in my closet.



213 Patterson Office Tower  
Lexington, Kentucky 40506-0027

Visit the A&S website:  
[www.as.uky.edu](http://www.as.uky.edu)

