

ampersand&

THE MAGAZINE OF THE UK COLLEGE OF
ARTS&SCIENCES

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Ampersand is published twice yearly 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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Front cover photo submitted by Frank Ettensohn

Back cover photo submitted by P.P. Karan

Inside front and back photos by Forrest Payne

COVER PHOTO: UK geology professor Frank Ettensohn and his field assistant, Sudharsen (white hat) met this man and his two children while trekking in the High Himalayas near Langtang, Nepal, north of Kathmandu, at about 10,000 feet. The Langtang River is in the valley below. For some unexplainable reason, the young boy grabbed Ettensohn's leg and wanted to go with him.



features

18 From The Bluegrass To The Land of the Rising Sun

Students immerse themselves in Japanese culture

22 No Such Thing as Easy Research

Embark on a journey through the Himalayas during monsoon season and a revolution

26 The Memory Keeper's Daughter

The story behind the story: How Kim Edwards crafted her tale

30 High-Tech Tutoring

Students take tutoring to the next level utilizing cutting-edge equipment

31 A Life's Work Rewarded

Professor Emeritus William Adams receives highest Sudanese honor

departments

2 Message from the Dean

3 Out & About

8 News & Endeavors

32 Alumni News & Notes

Message from the Dean



Dear A&S Alumni & Friends:

The Spring 2007 semester is well underway and as you pick up this issue of *Ampersand* magazine the college is preparing for one of its largest graduating classes.

As many of you know, UK President Lee T. Todd Jr. had incredible success with the legislature in 2006 in moving forward his Top-20 Business Plan. As a result, the college will be adding 48 new faculty this year – the largest hiring pool in recent memory. The hiring of new faculty also comes at a time when we are experiencing tremendous student growth; another sign that President Todd’s plan is in full swing. As the college

works toward meeting the Top 20 challenge, the increase in faculty will help us continue to strengthen already strong research areas to propel us further into national prominence. Read more about how the college is meeting the challenge of Top 20 on page 10.

This issue of the magazine focuses on cultural awareness. Our students are not only exploring other cultures, as you will see in the story about students who study in Japan each summer, but they are diving into other cultures and making a difference. Some students you will read about are making a difference through research and others through their interaction with people. Alex Heister, an anthropology senior, spent last summer in Veracruz, Mexico, analyzing pottery remnants of a prehistoric Mexican civilization named the Olmec. Ryan Mabry, a math senior, and Tiffany Hall, who is taking graduate courses in math, have helped launch a new online tutoring program for high school students taking college algebra in Appalachia. And Alexandra Thomas, a film studies senior, spent last summer working with kids affected by poverty to create a music video and com-

mercial at the East 7th Street Center in Lexington. From a world away to right in our own backyard, these are just a few examples of how Arts and Sciences students are getting involved in the communities and cultures around them.

You will also have the opportunity to read about faculty whose research has led them to dive into cultures both within and outside of the United States. Frank Eddensohn, an earth and environmental sciences professor and Fulbright scholar, battled leeches, a revolution and monsoon season to conduct research in Nepal and Tibet. Classics professor Ross Scaife has worked with modern technology to unlock the secrets of scrolls that hold literary treasures from ancient Greek and Roman writers. And Kim Edwards, a fixture on the New York Times bestsellers list and UK English professor, explored the culture of children born with Down syndrome in her recent novel “Memory Keeper’s Daughter.”

There are many more examples of cultural awareness within the pages of this issue of *Ampersand*. The student experiences you read about are largely made possible through your generous donations to the college.

Lastly, mark your calendars for the annual A&S Phonathon taking place April 1–26. Alumni giving has brought in more than \$8 million in major gifts since January 2006, a trend I am hopeful will continue. Thank you for your continued support – you are making a difference in the lives of our students.

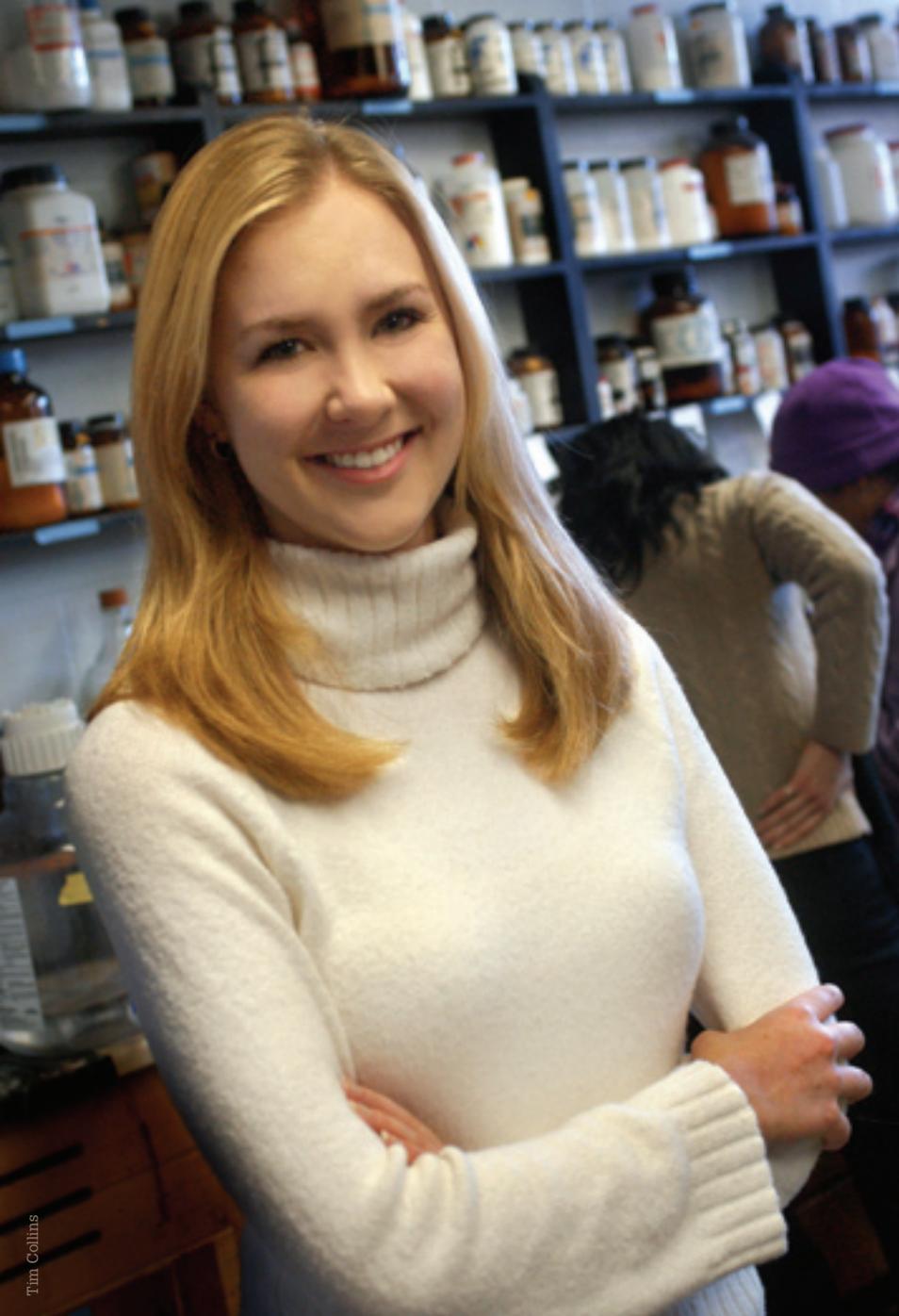
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "St. J. Hoch". The signature is fluid and cursive, written on a white background.

Steven L. Hoch
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INSIDE THIS SECTION:

African American Fraternities
Anthropology Excavation
Think Like an Optimist
Walking & Writing



Tim Collins

Goldwater Scholar Helps Save Lives

By Lisa L. Beeler

While most college students were basking by the pool this summer, Elizabeth Scoville was in a laboratory studying the effects of a new protein that could be used to help improve breathing in premature infants.

This research inspired a paper that won Scoville, a chemistry and agricultural biotechnology junior, a Goldwater Scholarship. Only 323 students in the country are awarded the Goldwater Scholarship each year. Scoville was also just featured in “Glamour Magazine”

as one of their Top Ten College Women of 2006.

Obviously, academics are no laughing matter to Scoville, who holds a 4.0 grade point average at UK, but she still finds time to enjoy herself.

“One of my favorite campus activities is being an Agriculture Ambassador,” she said. “We get to do preview night, where we try and recruit high school kids to our program. My parents, both retired public school teachers, dragged me to preview night when I was in high school. I met some professors from the biotechnology field and I was sold.”

Scoville is not the first sibling in her London, Ky., family to choose UK. Her brother graduated from UK with a dual degree in physics and mathematics.

After graduating in May, Scoville hopes to conquer medical school. She plans to apply to Vanderbilt, Duke and the Mayo Medical School. Her research

this summer has sparked her interest in working with pulmonary pediatrics.

When she leaves UK, Scoville said she will take a lot of memories with her. One being the first day she moved into the honors student dorm.

“I was terrified, no one had moved in yet. I was the only person on my floor, but it didn’t take long to realize that UK wasn’t this huge, unknown world. It was home,” she said.

LEFT: Elizabeth Scoville, a chemistry and agricultural biotechnology junior, is working to help improve breathing in premature infants.



Tim Collins

ABOVE: Alex Heister, a UK anthropology senior, and anthropology professor Chris Pool examine fragments excavated from Veracruz, Mexico.

Anthropology Major Assists in Excavation

By Lisa L. Beeler

Last summer, on Alex Heister's 21st birthday, he was on a plane headed to Veracruz, Mexico. There he would work in a lab 10 hours a day, five days a week to help analyze pottery that had been excavated in 2003. The pottery pieces are remnants of a prehistoric Mexican civilization named the Olmec.

Heister, the son of a UK alum, is currently an anthropology senior.

"Although the experience was amazing," he said, "I'm glad to be back from Mexico, staying in shape at the Johnson Center, and walking around on UK's beautiful campus."

eUreKa!, an undergraduate creativity research grant, allowed Heister to accompany anthropology professor Chris Pool on the trip to Mexico.

After Pool excavated six pits, he concluded that the site was a household. Uncovered fire pits and fragments of obsidian, greenstone and basalt led them to believe that the tenants of the household produced goods.

Heister was assigned to analyze pottery excavated from two of the pits at the site determining the different types and forms of the pottery.

This early research experience gave Heister a good idea of what to expect if he gets accepted to one of his graduate programs of choice. He is considering applying to Vanderbilt, Tulane and the University of Florida.

In the future, Heister hopes to lead his own excavation or work as a cultural resource analyst.



Brad Luntrell

Popkin Receives Hahn Jr. Professorship

It is no surprise that historian Jeremy Popkin recently received the T. Marshall Hahn, Jr. Professorship. Popkin's distinguished research program and service to UK have not gone unnoticed. The Hahn Jr. Professorship is accompanied by an endowment and spans five years.

In addition to dozens of articles, Popkin has written five scholarly monographs with a sixth now in press. Popkin has also received many other major fellowships such as the Fulbright and Guggenheim.

Popkin's research interests include the history of French and Haitian revolutions. He has also published in the field of autobiography studies.

Currently, Popkin teaches classes for the history department in European history and the Holocaust. This will be his 29th year at UK.

Student Combines the Arts & Community

By Lisa L. Beeler

In UK senior Alexandra Thomas's newest short film, the main character, Georgia Anne Presley, wants to be a star but is stuck in Kentucky. The exaggerated personalities in the play were born out of her experiences at UK.

The William C. Parker academic scholarship and a love for the arts and film brought this Frankfort native to Lexington. Here, with the help of an advisor, Thomas was able to design her own topical degree in film studies.

"I have an opportunity here at UK to take so many interesting classes in English, telecommunications and art. The hands-on experience I have gained here at UK is amazing," Thomas said.

Thomas is also active as the Philanthropy Chair of College Democrats and is currently working as a Team Leader with Dance Blue. Her involvement in groups such as these has helped her learn about Lexington.

"I have discovered a lot of opportunities about Lexington outside of the classroom. Seeking community service opportunities here at UK and meeting new people has helped me grow as a person," she said.

When asked where she'll be in the future, Thomas was quick to answer. "Art and community service, that's where I'm headed. I hope that one day they will converge for me."

Also, while most film students dream of ending up in a big city, Thomas hopes to return to Frankfort after she has made name for herself in the film industry.

Thomas spent last summer working with children 18 and under at the East 7th Street Center, which offers free



Tim Collins

services to youth, families, and residents of the North East Lexington area. With her help, the children created and produced a music video and a commercial.

"It's essential to show children the importance of the arts. I believe that many different art forms can be instrumental in engaging youth to learn about a wide range of subjects: writing, computer technology, and community involvement as they relate to film specifically," Thomas said.

ABOVE: Alexandra Thomas, a UK film studies senior, worked with youth at the Lexington East 7th Street Center to create a music video and commercial.

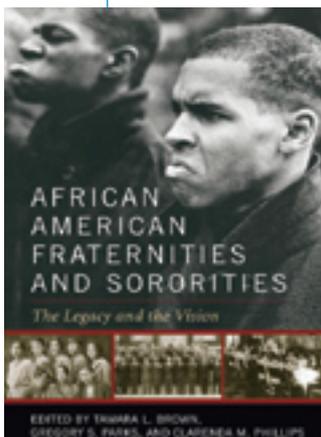
Book About Black Greek Groups Provides Insight, History

Referred to by one reviewer as an "honorable and courageous history," Psychology Associate Professor Tamara Brown's "African American Fraternities and Sororities," has been praised since it was published in 2005.

Brown co-edited the book with Gregory S. Parks and Clarendia M. Phillips. Brown is a founding member of the Pi Mu chapter of the Delta Sigma Theta sorority at Virginia's Longwood College.

A collection of essays, this book offers a comprehensive introduction to the historical, political and cultural contexts of black Greek-letter organizations and initiates informed discussion about the issues that members of these organizations continue to face today.

Named a best book of 2005 by Black Issues Book Review, "African American Fraternities and Sororities" was described in the publication: "Descriptions of courageous and steadfast men and women who labored long and hard to develop a spirit of cooperation among collegiates and a commitment to building 'a better society for all' emblazon each chapter. This book is a resource that every college library and every chapter of every BGLO should own and circulate to keep its history alive."





Third Generation Student Makes His Home at UK

ABOVE: Grant Harris, a UK psychology junior, collects data in the psychology lab on campus.

By Lisa L. Beeler

"I'm just carrying on a tradition," said Grant Harris, a psychology junior and soon-to-be third generation UK graduate that credits his family for his success.

Harris is pursuing his dream of becoming a scientist practitioner in the field of psychology. Looking forward to exploring what is a somewhat new field of science, Harris has already begun his long research career by assisting Lawrence Gottlob, a UK psychology professor.

The research Harris participates in focuses on the differences of cognition as it relates to age. Harris helps collect and analyze data from groups of young adults and elders. Comparing these two groups gives insight into the difference in response times and accuracy rates of information, among other issues.

Harris' reference to UK's psychology program as outstanding explains why he is now beginning his application to the graduate program in hopes of receiving his doctorate.

"The research done at UK as innovative, exciting, and led by top-notch psychologists," he said.

An internship at the Jesse G. Harris Psychology Center helped Harris experience all the different types of tasks and patients he might be introduced to in his future endeavors. This opportunity has turned into a guiding light for Harris' possible graduate research concentration. Harris hopes his involvement in Psi Chi, a national honor society for psychology majors and minors, helps prepare him for the future.

Reasons Harris chose UK include receiving the KEE (Kentucky Educational Excellence) Scholarship, the College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Scholarship, and the Academic Excellence Scholarship. Having his tightly knitted family an hour away, in Louisville, was another deciding factor.

His relationship with his family has ignited a desire to help others. "I hope to one day apply what I am learning at UK to make some form of contribution to society. My family has helped me immensely. Now I want to help others."

Book Shows Pessimists How to Reap Benefits of Optimistic Thinking

By Jennifer T. Allen

University of Kentucky College of Arts and Sciences psychology professor Suzanne Segerstrom has a new way of looking at the glass half empty or half full question. "It's not whether you look on the bright side that matters, it's what you do afterward," she said.

Segerstrom explores how optimists get what they want from life and how pessimists can too in her new book "Breaking Murphy's Law" which hit the sales racks last fall. In the book, Segerstrom sheds light on the practical habits and skills optimists use to get what they want from life. Along the way, she challenges everyone else to learn from them.

"Dispositional optimists are people who naturally believe that more good things will happen to them than bad," she said. "Because success seems like a sure bet, they don't hesitate to spend time and energy chasing their dreams."

In "Breaking Murphy's Law," Segerstrom shows pessimists how to join the "positive feedback loop." "The more success you achieve through optimistic action, the more likely you are to believe and behave optimistically in the future," she said.

Segerstrom lays out examples, guidelines and practical tips to undo optimism-suppressing thoughts, break free from the inertia of self-doubt, pay attention to unexpected positives, plan well and work hard, resist the temptation to give up, and celebrate small achievements. The benefits might not be immediately obvious, but Segerstrom tells skeptics to stick with the program until they see results. "Exercising personal strengths, making progress toward goals, and tasting success are addictive," she said.

Still, there are a few risks.

"Optimism is powerful stuff," Segerstrom said. "Friends and coworkers can find optimists and their positive expectations about the future irresistible."

Segerstrom has conducted extensive research into psychological influences on the immune system, and on the relationship between optimism and well-being. She is also the winner of the Templeton Positive Psychology Prize, awarded in recognition of her work on optimism.



Handwritten MLK Papers Published for First Time

By Allison Elliott

A new volume from the King Papers Project presents the never-before-published sermon file of Martin Luther King Jr., and its editors include a College of Arts and Sciences faculty member and one of his former graduate students. Gerald Smith, an associate professor in the Department of History, and Troy Jackson, who received his doctorate from UK, worked with other scholars to bring to light the words of Martin Luther King Jr. as discovered while examining his private papers.

In 1997 Coretta Scott King, the widow of Martin Luther King Jr., granted the King Papers Project permission to sort through boxes of documents in her home. In a cardboard box in the basement were found more than two hundred folders, containing writings King used to prepare his sermons. These handwritten documents from King's private collection, kept by him in his study, reveal concerns about poverty, human rights and social justice. His writings chart his life journey through his years as a seminary student, then pastor of Dexter Avenue Baptist Church, then a leader of the Montgomery bus boycott, and ultimately, as a human rights activist who continued to think of himself primarily as a preacher and "advocate of the social gospel."



Forrest Payne

Smith and Jackson worked with fellow volume editors Susan Carson and Susan Englander, and series editor Clayborne Carson. Both Smith and Jackson are also pastors.

The Papers of Martin Luther King, Jr., Volume VI: Advocate of the Social Gospel, September 1948 – March 1963, is available from the University of California Press, (www.ucpress.edu or (800) 777-4726).

ABOVE: Gerald Smith, UK associate professor in the Department of History, and Troy Jackson, who received his doctorate from UK, worked with other scholars to bring to light papers from the private collection of Martin Luther King Jr.

ENG 336-001: Nonfiction Literature: Walking & Writing

INSTRUCTOR: Erik Reece, English Lecturer

Syllabus

Few English classes require students to bring along a good pair of shoes. But last semester, lecturer Erik Reece's "Walking and Writing" did just that.

This "ambulatory course," as Reece calls it, introduced students to American literature in which the focus is, well, walking, of course.

"The class has its genesis in Henry David Thoreau's great essay, 'Walking.' I began to think of all the great American writers who have worked in this nonfiction sub-genre," Reece said. "John Borroughs called his walks 'rambles,' and the essays that were based on these walks became very popular at the time. Then there's John Muir's 'Thousand Mile Walk to the Gulf,' which actually starts in Kentucky. We even considered Norman Mailer's book, 'Armies of the Night,' which is about a protest march to the Pentagon during Vietnam, as a kind of walking narrative."

Reece and his students didn't stop at the reading list. Students kept reading and walking journals, and then wrote essays based on two of their own walks – one urban and the other rural. Reece also asked that his students try to walk to school as much as possible.

Reece aimed to teach his class about literature but he also hopes the students got something extra out of the experience.

"Philosophically, walking and writing serve a similar purpose – they each make you slow down and consider something more thoughtfully, whether it is something you're looking at or something you're thinking about," Reece said. "In the end, I suppose, this was a course in paying attention. For an iPod, cell phone generation, that's something we often forget to do."

ENG 336-001 Reading List:

Henry David Thoreau's "Walking"

Myla Golberg's "Time's Magpie: A Walk in Prague"

John Muir's "Thousand Mile Walk to the Gulf"

Norman Mailer's "Armies of the Night"



Using the New to Plumb the Old

Classics professor works with computer science researchers to unlock ancient materials

By Dan Adkins

They were discovered three centuries ago, and they already were hundreds of years old: dozens and dozens of scrolls that held the promise of literary treasure from ancient Greek and Roman writers.

The problem was – and remains – the effects of the passing decades since they were stored in the library of a home left eerily preserved by the First Century eruption of Mount Vesuvius. The scrolls and other materials became carbonized, a condition that left them brittle and subject to crumbling.

The knowledge that the scrolls and manuscripts contained valuable information was recognized at the time of their discovery at Herculaneum, Italy, a few miles from Pompeii and Mount Vesuvius, in 1765. Many were destroyed when 18th Century scholars attempted to unroll them for study.

Ross Scaife hopes he can unlock the secrets of the scrolls. The key: 21st Century technology.

Scaife, a University of Kentucky College of Arts and Sciences classics professor, is working with UK computer science professors Brent Seales and Jim Griffioen to evaluate the effectiveness of software to virtually “unroll” scrolls and other ancient manuscripts to read their contents.

“If these technologies pan out and produce results, they could lead to additional excavations and produce more materials we could look at. What would be really neat would be to use these virtual techniques and discover something we’d thought was lost,” Scaife said.

Scaife, Seales and Griffioen are working together under a \$1.2 million grant from the National Science Foundation, and have partnered with Iowa State University physics professor Joseph Gray, whose laboratory has a special X-ray machine that can perform specialized scans. The project is called “EDUCE: Enhanced Digital Unwrapping for Conservation and Exploration.”

“When you go to the doctor, he can tell you what your kidney looks like without opening you up. They use imaging devices that ‘slice’ you up and then put those images back together,” Seales said.

Seales and Scaife began wondering years ago if the same approach could be applied to ancient materials like scrolls.

“Brent and I showed up at UK at around the same time in 1991. We’ve had conversations about cultural heritage materials issues for years,” Scaife said.

As it turns out, the approach used by medical technology could be used on centuries-old scrolls and manuscripts.

“We’ve done samples and we’ve made a software prototype that actually works,” Seales said.

The process “slices” a scroll into layers that can be “unrolled” and “laid flat.”

But a major issue, it turns out, involves the kinds of ink used in antiquity – ink that may or may not have left traces that can be read today.

“The ink used in some scrolls didn’t have the iron content that inks used later on had. Those inks were vegetable-based, and they may not show up as well as the inks with iron content,” Scaife said.

A few months ago, the team tested the technology, traveling to Iowa State to scan and analyze an artifact provided by the University of Michigan Library. The item was comprised of layers of papyrus that had been pressed into cardboard for use as a book cover centuries before.

After scanning it with Gray’s x-ray equipment, Seales performed an analysis with the software. “We were able to flip layers over and show there was writing there that you can see,” Seales said.

Scaife, meanwhile, is excited by the technology as it exists – and by what future technological development promises.

“You want to do what you can today, while not destroying something. The chances are good that future developments will be able to unlock secrets,” he said. “By using this technology, that lets us see inside the scroll without opening it and risk its crumbling into bits, we’re still being ingenuous, we hope, but much less destructive.” &

INSIDE THIS SECTION:

Reading Ancient Scrolls
Attaining Top 20 by 2020
A&S Distinguished Professor



ABOVE: A piece of the scrolls from ancient Greek and Roman writers.

OPPOSITE PAGE: Brent Seales, UK associate professor of computer science, Ross Scaife, professor of classics in the UK Department of Modern and Classical Languages, and Dirk Obbink, director of Imaging Papyri, faculty of Classics at the University of Oxford, discuss advanced techniques for imaging text written on damaged and fragile papyrus at the University of Oxford.

Meeting the Challenge of Top 20 by 2020

By Jennifer T. Allen

The University of Kentucky is working hard to meet its Top 20 goal by 2020. The College of Arts and Sciences knows it holds an integral part in the university's success. Here is how we are answering the call.

Home to 24 majors and 33 minors, the College of Arts and Sciences is a main player in university undergraduate education. In fact, new freshman to the university on average take 75 percent of their classes from the college. Not only is Arts and Sciences serving thousands of students each semester, it is growing at an unprecedented rate.

"Arts and Sciences enrollment has grown by more than 1,000 students between fall 2003 and fall 2006 semesters and has seen steady growth since 2000," said Steven L. Hoch, dean of the college.

UK is working toward the goal of Top 20 status by the year 2020 and the College of Arts and Sciences is poised to help the university meet that goal. When UK President Lee T. Todd Jr. took his business plan to the legislature, he was able to successfully increase state funding for the university – which had a direct effect on the college.

"In response to student growth in Arts and Sciences, we will be adding 48 new faculty to the college this year," Hoch said. "No one can remember such a large hiring pool – this is a major victory in helping us accommodate the growth of the college and provide the quality of education expected of a Top 20 institution."

As the College of Arts and Sciences works toward meeting the Top 20 challenge, it is strategically looking at current research strengths on which to build and attain national prominence, as well as areas that will help respond to state needs.

A specific way the college is addressing the future of research is through growing "cluster" hires in strategic areas; areas that not only have local or regional reach, but hold national and international importance. Two such cluster hires will take place over the next two years: one in bio-inspired nanotechnologies and the other focused on children at risk, Hoch said.



FAR LEFT: Students and professors work closely throughout the academic year. **LEFT:** Michael Kennedy, a UK geography professor, worked with a student in UK's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) lab.

Forrest Payne

The bio-inspired nanotechnology cluster is led by chemistry professor Sylvia Daunert, whose research has focused on developing responsive drug delivery systems – an innovative device that dispenses medicine from within the body. Such a device, once it passes regulatory approval, could provide immediate relief to

diabetics and those who suffer from chronic pain. The interdisciplinary cluster will have five positions in biology and chemistry, and will collaborate with the College of Engineering, College of Agriculture and College of Medicine.

“We are building strength in strategic areas to take the College of Arts and Sciences to the next level,” Hoch said. “We are working to put the college and UK on the map.”

The children at risk cluster is led by psychology professors Elizabeth and Robert Lorch and focuses on addressing “Kentucky Uglies,” Todd’s term for long-entrenched problems that are holding back the state’s economic and cultural progress, with intervention strategies. The cluster will have five positions in psychology and sociology, and will eventually collaborate with the College of Communications and Information Studies, College of Social Work and College of Education.

“Through this cluster, we are building on one of our strengths as a college – the clinical psychology program which is already ranked in the Top 20,” Hoch said.

Along with lofty expectations comes a lofty price tag. This year the College of Arts and Sciences faculty received \$45 million in collaborative external grant totals, and is second only to the College of Medicine in producing total indirect costs (IDC) to the university. Arts and Sciences leads the university in the number of University

Research Professorships, and the college’s Department of Statistics is the number one department in the university in the amount of collaborative external grant totals per faculty member (\$1.5 million per faculty). The college has also brought in more than \$8 million in major gifts since January 2006, which includes an endowed faculty chair in Catholic Studies.

“The College of Arts and Sciences continues to play a vital role in our quest to become a Top 20 public research university,” said Todd. “The college has done an amazing job managing its rapid student growth and it is clearly on a track that will lead this university in our Top 20 mission.”

An Arts and Sciences basis to education builds students who are flexible in thinking and able to have a well-rounded approach to address challenges in work and life, Hoch said. In keeping with the mission of the college, a college-wide curriculum innovation discussion is taking place looking at how to improve undergraduate education. Along with an increase in students comes the need for a dedicated career counselor and 2006 marked the first year Arts and Sciences had a career satellite office housed within the college.

And the changes are paying off. Recently the college’s Hispanic Studies Department was ranked No. 1 nationally in its field and the college also ranked highly in philosophy and religious studies. The 2005 Faculty Scholarly Activity Index was published in the Jan. 12 edition of “The Chronicle” of Higher Education. The ranking was based on the number of published books and articles, in addition to the number of times faculty research was cited in journal articles. The rating also took into account faculty’s awards, honors and grants.

“We are working to manage our growth in innovative ways,” Hoch said. “The college is definitely growing and we are addressing that growth in very strategic ways that will not only better the college and our students’ educational opportunities, but also the university as it moves forward on its quest of attaining Top 20 status.” &



Professor Thomas Leinbach

Department of Geography
Arts & Sciences Distinguished Professor 2006-07

One of the world's leading experts in Southeast Asian development, Thomas Leinbach has spent the last three decades using his research experiences in classroom undergraduate teaching and developing the research capability of graduate students. In addition, his work has aided a number of international universities and communities. The geography professor was named the Arts & Sciences Distinguished Professor for 2006-07.

Leinbach received his bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees from Pennsylvania State University. He came to the University of Kentucky in 1977. Leinbach's work traverses a wide range of issues in economic geography including transportation, global production networks, e-commerce and development. His research and teaching have taken him to Malaysia (Penang and Kuala Lumpur), Singapore, Indonesia (Java, Sumatra, Sulawesi and the Moluccas), Vietnam, and the Philippines as well as New Zealand, Italy and the Netherlands. During his career, Leinbach has received research awards from the National Science Foundation, National Geographic Society, Ford Foundation and Fulbright Hays. In addition he has served as Program Director in Geography and Regional Science at the National Science Foundation. He has consulted for the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank (ADB). In 1996 he was recognized as a Centennial Fellow at his alma mater, Penn State, for his career accomplishments and in 2001 he was awarded the honor of

Advanced Research Fellow at the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies in Singapore. In 2002 the UK Board of Trustees named him a University Research Professor. Over the course of his career, he has received more than 25 grants and awards to support his research.

At UK, he has served several terms on the University's Research Committee and has been Director of Graduate Studies on a number of occasions in the Department of Geography. Since 1990, Leinbach has been the editor of the journal "Growth and Change: A Journal of Urban and Regional Policy" which is published by Blackwell.

After being named the Arts & Sciences Distinguished Professor for 2006-07, Leinbach answered some questions about himself and his work.

AMPERSAND&: *How can the study of geography help people?*

LEINBACH: First of all (and obviously) geography can help others appreciate the location and nature of places and cultures. Geographers do this in a variety of ways: their teaching and service outreach in schools, through their

professional associations, and perhaps most important through the Association of American Geographers, Regional Science Association International and the National Geographic Society.

In addition geography has a critical applied facet. Geographers routinely work on problems associated with the impact of the Internet on businesses, the role of globalization and multi-nation firms in commerce, the location of facilities, environmental degradation, landscape change, historical preservation, urban transit planning, ethnic conflicts, and trans-national boundary/border controversies. By focusing on both short and long term local and international migration and employment issues geographers have brought new insights to government policy makers and non-governmental agencies. A major thrust in geography today is the use of GPS, geographical positioning systems (that are satellite based for use in navigation) and especially the application of GIS (geographical information systems) whereby place locations may be digitized and various forms of data can be mapped and analyzed at all scales. Many application examples exist but to name a few, the mapping of the incidence of crime and crime rates, the variation in property assessments, and the mapping of disease are important. In addition, GIS has emerged as a useful tool for forestry, agriculture, transportation analyses, and in contemporary and historical urban geography.

AMPERSAND&: *Considering much of your work centers around conversations about globalization, could you explain what “globalization” means?*

LEINBACH: Globalization to me means, simply put, the way in which the interaction between distant places (national states, regions, and cities) has been gradually impacted and often facilitated by advances in communications and transport so that it is now possible to engage in especially commercial transactions. In this the role of the multi-national firm has become paramount. But globalization carries more than an economic connotation. The diffusion and use of cultural symbols and practices as well as social and political ramifications are extremely important as well.

AMPERSAND&: *You are scheduled to go on sabbatical next year. How will you and where will you spend that time?*

LEINBACH: I have several plans which are being developed for this sabbatical period. My main objective is to continue an aspect of my previous National Science Foundation funded work on the impact of air cargo services on the electronics industry in Southeast Asia. In this context it is important that we understand more completely the ways in which supply chains and their logistical bases are strategized. The focus of the work will take place in Penang, Malaysia, where the electronics sector has become a very important driver of development with firms such as Dell, Intel, Panasonic, Sony, Samsung and a variety of others carrying out assembly and production. My work will focus on the learning that

takes place between these multi-national enterprises and their local and more distance source or supplier firms.

In addition I have ongoing funding from the National Geographic Society to study the rural labor process in Indonesia. This work began by investigating the ways in which families maintained their livelihoods in South Sumatra province through off-farm employment on the transmigration schemes. The transmigration program involved the subsidized movement of mainly Javanese families from very poor areas on that island to the Outer Islands where they had opportunity to gain title to land and earn better incomes through agriculture. The current phase of this involves extending the work into non-transmigration rural settings on Java to examine the idea and characteristics of rural entrepreneurship. How do villagers acquire capital to start up businesses and are these successful? A portion of this work will be carried out in Indonesia and at the Institute of Southeast Asia Studies at the National University of Singapore.

AMPERSAND&: *How have changes in security procedures and travel restrictions affected your research?*

LEINBACH: Unfortunately my work in Southeast Asia (especially in Indonesia) has been affected by travel restrictions which were medical and terrorist related. The SARS (severe acute respiratory syndrome) epidemic several years ago forced a delay in plans to work in Singapore. But over the past four years the nearly continuous State Department travel warnings for Indonesia due to terrorist activity (e.g. bombing of Bali nightclub and Hyatt Regency in Jakarta) where westerners have become targets has forced me to cancel plans to carry out field work in Java. My hope is that this threat is lessening and that the planned work will soon be possible.

AMPERSAND&: *Do you bring back souvenirs from your travels and research? If you do, what are your favorites?*

LEINBACH: We do often bring back items from our travels. We have a number of batik paintings and wall hangings from Indonesia and Malaysia as well as some wood carvings from an aboriginal tribe in Malaysia. While in Singapore in 1985 we started collecting Oriental rugs.

We also have numerous pieces of antique Chinese ceramics: several were uncovered on a beach in the Philippines by local villagers using old car antennas as probes; others were pulled up with muck from the bottom of the Chao Phraya River in Bangkok.

On our first trip to Malaysia in 1969, we bought a heavy stone mortar and pestle to grind spices and continue to use it today. We were amused a number of years ago when a visitor from Vietnam was surprised that we were still using it and asked if we had ever considered purchasing a blender.

AMPERSAND&: *What do you do in your free time? Do you have any hobbies?*

LEINBACH: I have several leisure time passions. One is fly fishing, which I enjoy very much. I learned to fly fish over twenty years ago and began practicing on the



LEFT: A&S Distinguished Professor Thomas Leinbach fly fishes in Washington's Yakima River last September. When he's not too busy with teaching and research, fly fishing is one of his favorite hobbies.

trout streams of Pennsylvania and New York. My experience continued when I was a faculty member at the University of Vermont and fished many streams in the state and region including the Battenkill River. Over time I have had the opportunity to fish numerous rivers in the west, especially Montana where I have enjoyed fishing for trout on the Big Horn, near Hardin, and more recently the Bitterroot and Clark Fork Rivers south of Missoula. I am interested in extending this fishing to salt water and have already done this in Florida for redfish and sea trout—with only marginal success. My goal is to try my luck for bonefish and permit in Belize in the near future!

My other hobby is wine—Marge and I have a walk-in wine cellar and we collect wine from all regions to 'lay down' for aging. We enjoy visiting Kentucky wineries and others in California and elsewhere. We attempt to find excellent wines while catering to a small pocket-book as increasingly, premium vintage wines are quite pricey. However excellent wines from Argentina, Chile, and Australia are being marketed in the U.S. and are reasonably priced.

Marge and I also enjoy visiting our daughter, Amy, who works for the National Parks Conservation Association in Washington, D.C., and our son-in-law, in Reston, Virginia.

AMPERSAND&: *Could you tell us about a professor of yours who continues to stand out from the rest in your own education?*

LEINBACH: Peter Gould, my adviser in graduate school for my M.S. and Ph.D at Penn State, was a model scholar. He was an excellent teacher, researcher and mentor. His writing skills were absolutely wonderful; he had the ability to explain difficult subject matter simply and to make sentences and paragraphs blend together in unique expression. A little story associated with this is that we first met in a coffee room at the beginning of my master's degree first semester. He was very young looking and introduced myself to him thinking for sure he was another graduate student. We learned we had common interests in development — only he was the newest young faculty member to come to Penn State having been lured from Syracuse and had just returned from fieldwork in Africa.

AMPERSAND&: *What advice would you give to students interested in your field?*

LEINBACH: Students interested in geography should develop a strong grounding in the social sciences with courses related to their chosen area of specialization. For students who are interested in economic and social development, for example, related courses in economics, sociology and political science are important. Courses in methodology both qualitative and quantitative (mathematics, statistics, remote sensing, GIS) are also critical. Finally the study of a country's culture and preparation in a second language is essential. &

An aerial photograph of a tropical coastline. The water is a vibrant turquoise color, transitioning to a deeper blue further out. A small white boat is visible in the middle of the water. The land is a mix of green and brown, with a dark, rocky shoreline in the foreground. The background shows a range of mountains under a hazy sky.

CULTURAL AWARENESS

From the mountains of the Gokanosho region in Japan to the mountains in Eastern Kentucky, this issue of Ampersand tackles our faculty and students exploration of cultural awareness. Readers will journey through the Himalayas with geology professor Frank Ettensohn, trek across Japan through the eyes of Arts & Sciences' student travelers, and pay a visit to Eastern Kentucky through cyberspace.

So sit back and prepare for take-off. **Enjoy your trip.**



INSIDE THIS SECTION:

Trek Across Japan

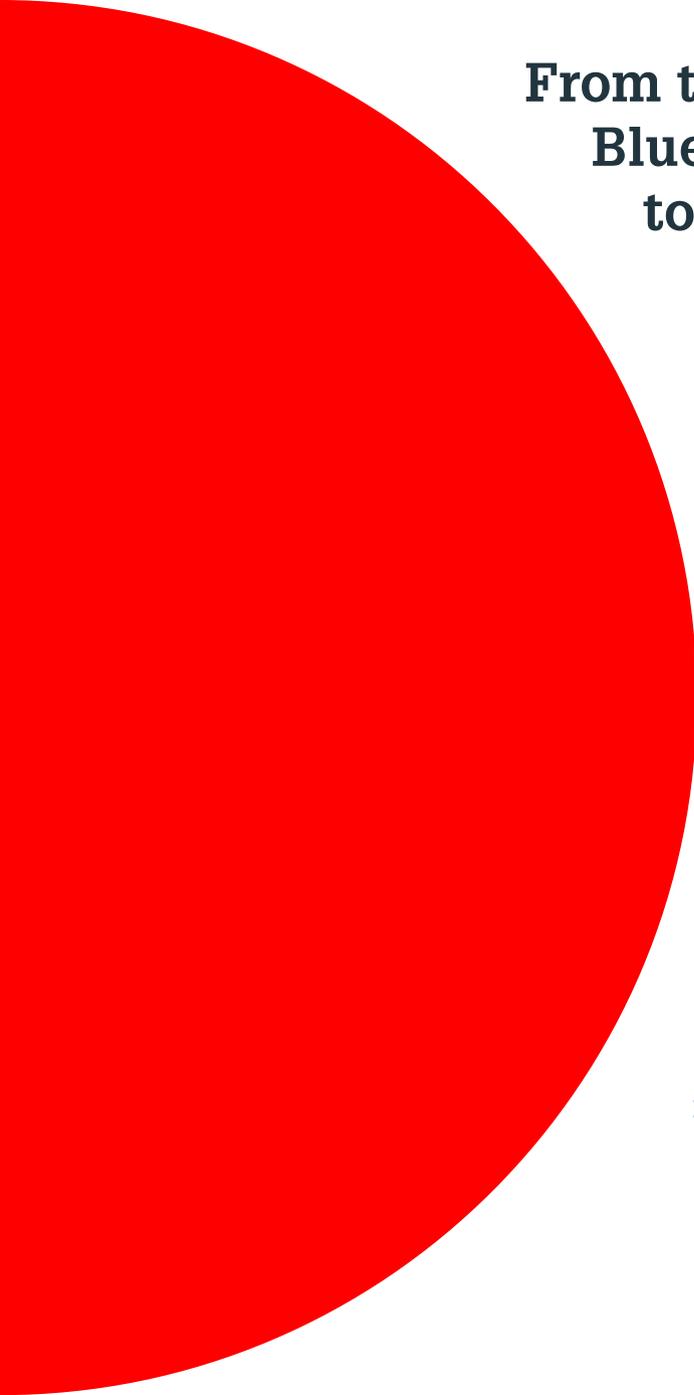
Research in Nepal

**Writing “The Memory
Keeper’s Daughter”**

High-Tech Tutoring



Summer 2006 study abroad students Derek Miller and Adam Peach pose in front of a Maneki Neko in Takayama. This is the largest Maneki Neko in Japan.



**From the
Bluegrass
to the**

**Land
of the
Rising Sun**

**Students Immerse
Themselves in
Japanese
Culture**

By Sara Cunningham

THE PASSING OUT OF “FLIGHT READING MATERIAL AT O’HARE AIRPORT” IS NOT A TYPICAL PART of class syllabi. But then again, this is hardly a typical class.

For the past 10 years two geography professors, University of Kentucky’s P.P. Karan and University of Wisconsin, Platteville’s H. Todd Stradford, have offered their students a once in a lifetime learning opportunity.

Six weeks of intensive cultural exposure and field research training – in Japan.

Students spend part of their summers earning college credit by exploring a tiny island that lies a world away.

“It is designed to improve their ability to observe things in the field,” Karan said. “Most people look at things but they don’t see them. We want to teach students to do more than just look. This means a certain level of interpretation and learning to read the landscape.”

The trip always starts with a railway journey from one end of Japan to the other as students spend a couple weeks “looking around” and answering questions about what they see.

“I was able to travel from Hokkaido (northern Japan) to Kyushu (southern Japan) in about two weeks via trains and ferry boats,” said Adam Peach, a UK international economics and foreign language (Japanese) junior who went on the trip last summer. Peach is from Ft. Mitchell, Ky.

“Along the way we stayed in about eight different cities where we were able to sight see, explore and study,” Peach said. “Looking back at my pictures, it seems we saw six months of Japan in just six weeks.”

After the tour, students temporarily settle with host families near the campus of IEC Kyushu Kokusai College in Yatsushiro, Kumamoto (near Nagasaki), Kyushu. The rest of the trip is spent working on individual research projects under the direction of Karan and Stradford. Past projects have included topics surrounding the retail economy, high technology semiconductor industry, farming and economic development of the region, Karan said.

Peach studied a strip mall in Yatsushiro City where small family-owned shops were struggling because new outlet malls had recently been built in the area. He was able to paint a clearer picture of how the small businesses were being affected.

The intense work schedule is paired with cultural excursions designed to further students’ understanding of Japan and its people.

While the cap on the number of students is set at seven, there are few restrictions in terms of study major, university or age. Past trip groups have even included students from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, Oklahoma, George Washington and Calgary in Canada, Karan said.

In choosing participants academic performance is considered but the most important requirement, Karan said, is having the right attitude.

The trip can be a difficult lesson in cultural immersion. Students must spend a month and a half eating new foods, dealing with language barriers and leaving home behind. Cultural differences like sleeping on mats on the floor may seem like adventures for some students and trials to others, Karan said.

“It is intellectually and culturally rigorous,” he said. “It requires a certain attitude to deal with the difficulties and if you don’t have it, you miss out. We only take those students we think will be successful.”



Those students who find themselves on the trip have the rare opportunity to experience Japan as a whole and gain practical experience for their futures.

“It’s important to prepare our students to research in the real world and this program does that,” Karan said. “It’s a good socialization for them.”

Peach calls the experience “extraordinary.”

“It gave me an opportunity to be entrenched in a culture that I was interested in studying,” he said. “I was able to hear and practice the language I was learning in the native country. I was also able to study a specific topic I was interested in, and pursue my first hands-on research project. The finishing product of my research was something that I took pride in.” &

Geography professor celebrates 50 years at UK

Today, P. P. Karan teaches geography courses concentrating on Japan, the non-western world, the environment and the Indian sub-continent. Karan came to the United States from India to further his graduate education.

He now has his own office in Patterson Office Tower. But when he first came to UK, he shared an office with someone who was helping to start the Chandler Medical Center and they were in what was known as Splinter Hall. That building was destroyed by a fire in the summer of 1967. It used to be located where the Lucille Little Fine Arts Library is now.

Karan said he was nervous about coming to UK at first because the focus of the geography department at the time didn’t reach very far beyond Kentucky and there was no doctoral geography program. But he came anyway because he saw a chance to help the program grow.

“I felt like it was a place where things were going to happen and I liked the idea of being a big part of building something,” Karan said. “Now we have a strong graduate program that has been nationally ranked for the past 10 years.”

Karan travels often. He takes a group of students to Japan each summer to study and he conducts some of his research there.

“When you can pull those experiences in rather than sticking with just the books it enlivens your teaching,” he said. “Then you are drinking from the fresh fountain.”

During his time at UK, Karan has seen big changes in the world and his life.

He was at UK during the Vietnam War and the protests on UK’s campus that led to the burning of the ROTC building. He’s created maps for use around the world and won many awards.

But when he talks about his time at UK, he talks about his students the most.

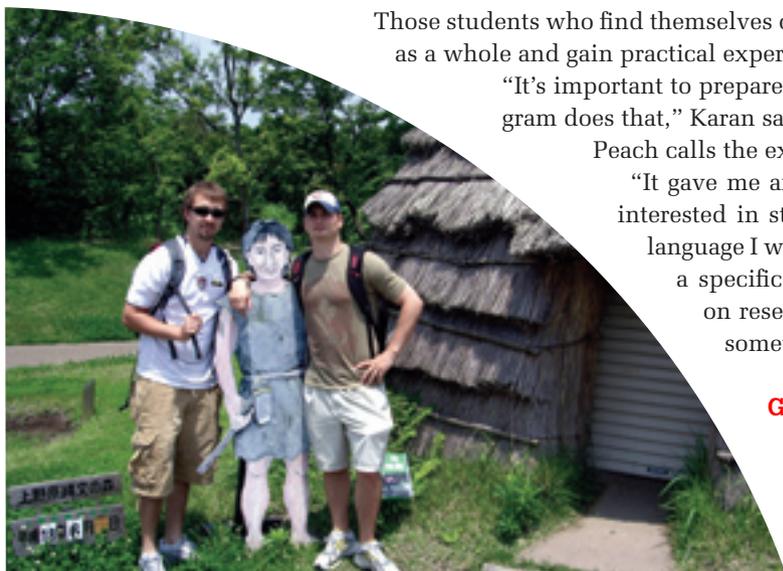
“You have a chance to make or break a career and a life,” Karan said. “To be part of helping someone else succeed – that is a gift. It’s been a good half-century.”

TOP, LEFT: UK students Derek Miller and Adam Peach examine gravel deposits in the mountainous Gokanosho region. These deposits were left by typhoons in 2004 and 2005. **TOP, RIGHT:** 2006 study abroad students Miller and Peach introduce themselves to their new Jomon friend, who is made out of cardboard.

MIDDLE, LEFT: Peach and Miller traveled to Hida no Sato during their summer 2006 trip to see old folk houses in the area. **MIDDLE, RIGHT:** Miller and Peach visit the Shikotsu National Park on their summer 2006 trip.

BOTTOM: The 2004 group visits the Kyushu construction site where the connection to the Shinkansen is being built. Shinkansen is what Japanese high-speed trains or bullet trains are called.

BELOW: P. P. Karan, UK Geography professor





NO SUCH
THING AS
EASY RESEA

Geology Professor Frank Ettensohn in Nepal

By Lisa L. Beeler

He dodged leeches.
He avoided violent rebels.
He adhered to a 24-hour shoot-to-kill curfew.
This scene sounds like a James Bond movie.
Instead, this was geologist Frank Ettensohn's
experience during a recent research trip to Nepal.

RCH

Ettensohn instructing a group of freshman Nepali geology majors in the use of the Brunton compass; Lesser Himalayas, Dakchhinkali, Nepal.



ABOVE, TOP: View of an ophiolite complex beyond the Tibetan town of Old Lhatze. Ophiolites are unusual rocks that represent fragments of old ocean crust that get caught between colliding continents. **BOT-TOM:** Ettensohn squeezing through the entrance to Bat Cave in Balichaur, northwest of Pokhara, Nepal.

ETTENSOHN, AN EARTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES PROFESSOR in UK's College of Arts and Sciences, received a Fulbright award that allowed him to travel to Ecuador, Nepal, India, Pakistan, Tibet, China and Russia. These awards are extremely competitive, but Ettensohn has received two, including the current one. His first was awarded in 1989 allowing him to travel to Siberia.

Ettensohn's specialty is foreland basins. These are the depressed area of the earth's crust in front of a mountain chain. Ettensohn has thoroughly studied an Appalachian foreland basin located in Kentucky, but the Appalachians have been inactive for more than 230 million years.

Going to Nepal gave Ettensohn a chance to see a foreland basin of an active mountain chain — the Himalayas.

"This was the most amazing part of the trip. To actually see an active version of what I have studied so long in Kentucky was absolutely astounding. I believe that the past is the key to the present. And there I stood looking at the past, still alive," he said.

Being able to stand before the mighty Himalayas was no easy task for Ettensohn, neither was his intended research. At the time of Ettensohn's trip to Nepal, the Jana Andolan, or "People's Revolution," was gaining momentum and beginning to peak. The people were not happy with the current king and wanted change.

A combination of the influence of Nepal's political parties and fear appeal of the Maoist Rebels led the country into a strike. Shops closed in fear of being fire bombed by Maoist Rebels. No gasoline was allowed in the country. No buses were running, except for tourist buses, which loudly proclaimed it with a sign so that Maoist Rebels would let them pass. The country was at a halt and so was Ettensohn.

Between the violent demonstrations and 24-hour shoot-to-kill curfews, Ettensohn was unable to get to the location where he planned to do his field-work. When Ettensohn was finally able to visit the site, monsoon season had brought with it flooding, malaria and leeches.



“I was walking through the jungle. Leeches are falling from the trees and landing on my neck, grabbing onto my skin,” he recalled as he scanned his leg for any marks left from the bites.

Ettensohn also recalls numerous times of being stopped by Maoist Rebels while traveling, including one time he was fined.

“My son had come to visit me and we were on bus that was pulled over by Maoist Rebels. They charged us both 1000 Rupees a piece, which is the equivalent of 14 American dollars. It was a common practice to be pulled over while traveling,” he said.

The traveling conditions alone were less than desirable. Ettensohn’s trek to the Himalayas proved to be an interesting one. “The bus was full of animals, people sitting on your laps and hanging out the windows. As we crept up the mountain, I looked out the windows at the deep drop offs. These weren’t normal drop offs. These were thousands of feet. It took over twelve hours to go 100 miles,” he said.

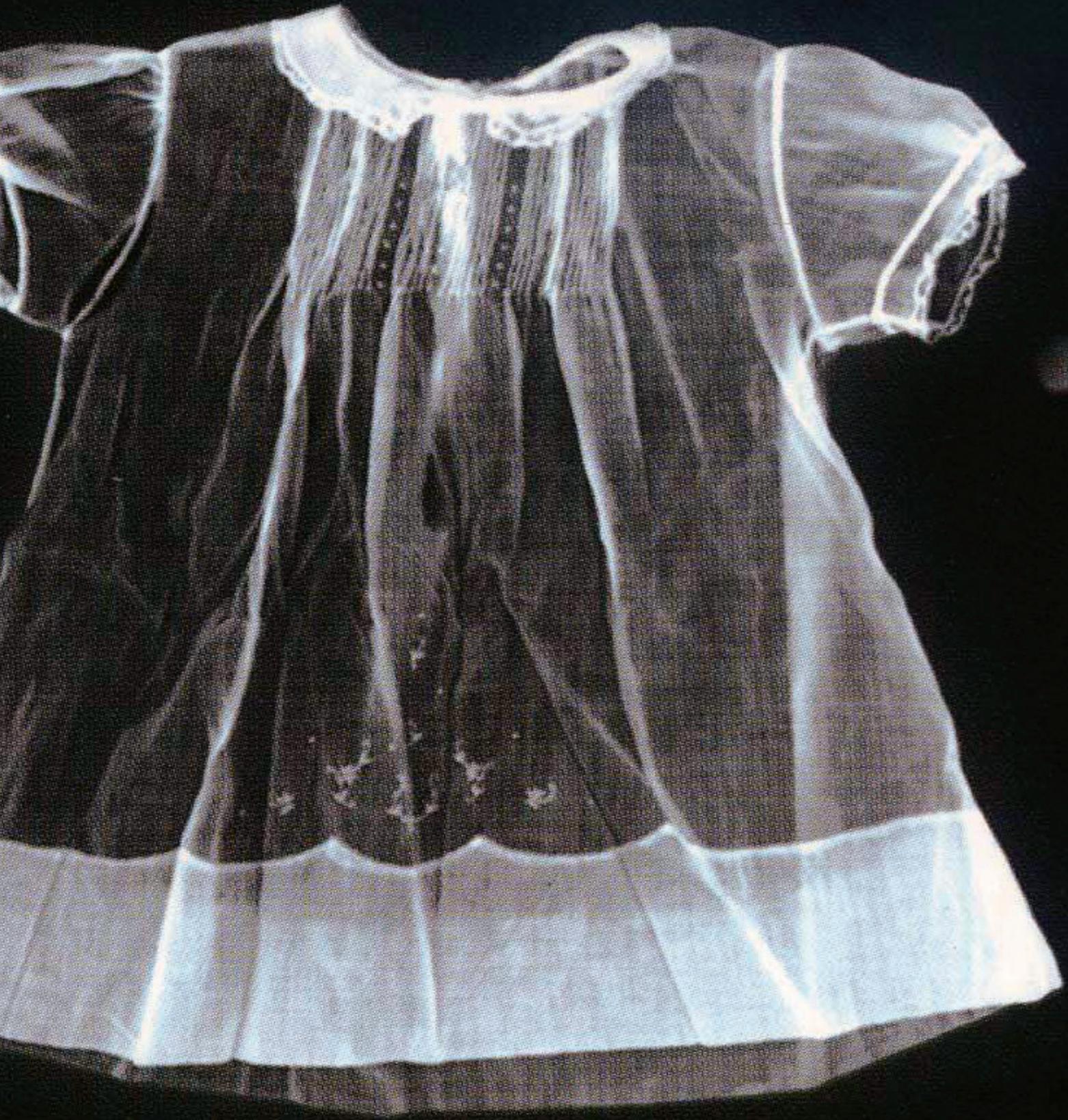
In the middle of this same bus trip, the driver went on strike. After hours of trying to find another way back to Katmandu, Ettensohn and his guide found three men with motorbikes. Ettensohn jumped on the back and rode six hours in the pouring rain back to Katmandu.

This trip was like no other trip Ettensohn had ever taken. Even after his struggles, Ettensohn is anxious to return to Nepal and continue his studies. He has made friends in Nepal that he is looking forward to working with again.

“I was told that after being there during monsoon season and the revolution, that I really know Nepal now. This is so important to me. I want to get to know the people. I want to immerse myself in their culture,” Ettensohn said. “I feel as if in third-world countries, Westerners can give people a sense of hope. Let them know what could be.” &



ABOVE: River terraces on the Seti Khola River northwest of Pokhara, Nepal. Ettensohn ran into a group of 50 armed Maoist rebels near the little village on the opposite side of the river. Fortunately, they honored the ongoing truce at the time; in other places they did not. **LEFT:** Ettensohn standing on the snout of the rapidly retreating Bolshoi Aktru glacier in the Gorno Altai Mountains of southern Siberia, Russia. Rapid retreat is thought to be related to global warming.



The Memory Keeper's Daughter

The story behind the story: How Kim Edwards crafted her tale

By Sara Cunningham

THERE ARE SOME STORIES WRITERS JUST NEED TO TELL.

The story that lives within the pages of “The Memory Keeper’s Daughter” was one such story for its author Kim Edwards.

“I think when you write stories you need to tell the ones that linger with you,” said Edwards, a University of Kentucky creative writing assistant professor.

The novel that has brought Edwards national recognition started with a very simple tale relayed to her by a friend.

Shortly after moving to Lexington about 10 years ago, Edwards’ pastor told her she had a true story to give Edwards. This pastor’s story was about a man in his 40s who had just discovered he had a brother. The man’s brother, born with Down syndrome, was institutionalized and kept secret from most of his family.

For some reason, the story lingered with Edwards.

“I remember thinking that that was a powerful idea,” Edwards said, “the idea of a secret in the middle of a family that changes them forever.”

Then, about three years ago Edwards participated in a workshop with a group of adults who have mental disabilities.

“They made a deep impression on me,” she said.

These powerful ideas and memories drive the plotline of “The Memory Keeper’s Daughter.”

In the novel, a doctor is forced to deliver his own twins in the middle of a snow storm. Upon realizing that

one of the twins has Down syndrome the doctor gives the baby away – but he tells his wife that the baby died. The father’s lie deeply affects the life of every character in the book.

In turn, the book deeply affects its readers. The level of success Edwards’ writing has found among readers and critics in the past year is good evidence of the book’s power.

But the impressive recognition didn’t come right away.

Somewhat of a sleeper hit, “The Memory Keeper’s Daughter” was actually published in 2005.

As is the case for most first novels, the publishers didn’t make a big initial push for it. It got good reviews and was a Barnes and Noble Discovery Selection, but there were no big publicity campaigns or media events.

Sales steadily grew as people spread recommendations “by word of mouth,” Edwards said. She had already started to move on and began writing her second novel.

The book’s publisher, Viking Penguin, planned for a big paperback release, but no one could have predicted the stunning impact of “The Memory Keeper’s Daughter” in paperback. Within five weeks it debuted on The New York Times best seller list, where it has remained ever since. Edwards was in high-demand all of a sudden, bombarded by interviews and book tours. Now, there’s even buzz about a movie being made.

But Edwards seems to prefer talking about the story

OPPOSITE PAGE:
Detail of dress from
“The Memory Keeper’s
Daughter” book cover.

On a winter night in 1964, Dr. David Henry is forced by a blizzard to deliver his own twins. His son, born first, is perfectly healthy. Yet when his daughter is born, he sees immediately that she has Down's syndrome. Realizing it as a cruel twist of fate, Dr. Henry makes a split-second decision that will alter all of their lives forever. He asks his nurse to take the baby away to an institution and never to reveal the secret. But Caroline, the nurse, cannot leave the infant. Instead, she disappears into another city to raise the child herself. So begins this beautifully told story that unfolds over a page-turner, The Memory Keeper's Daughter captures the way life takes unexpected turns and how the mysterious ties that hold a family together help us survive the heartache that occurs when long-buried secrets burst into the open. It is an astonishing tale of redemptive love. On a winter night in 1964, Dr. David Henry is forced by a blizzard to deliver his own twins. His son, born first, is perfectly healthy. Yet when his daughter is born, he sees immediately that she has Down's

No. 1 on the New York Times list of best-selling paperback fiction.

No. 1 on Publishers Weekly's list of best-selling trade paperbacks

2.5 million paperback copies in print

"THE MEMORY KEEPER'S DAUGHTER unfolds from an absolutely mesmerizing premise, drawing you deeply and irrevocably into the entangled lives of two families and the devastating secret that shapes them both. I loved this riveting story with its intricate characters and beautiful language."

— Sue Monk Kidd

"[It's] the kind of book you all love because it means that not only is word of mouth happening, but you know that something mysterious about this book is really seeping into people's hearts and minds."

**— Susan Petersen Kennedy
president of Penguin Group USA**

UK English professor Kim Edwards' became a "New York Times" best-selling author with her first novel "The Memory Keeper's Daughter."



UK Public Relations / Tim Collins

rather than all of the press and attention she has gotten.

The novel, her first, took a lot more than time to come to the surface. It took a lot of work.

Readers who have been to the Lexington area or those who live there will recognize much of the history and landmarks mentioned in Edwards' book. One of the characters actually participates in a Vietnam War protest that leads to a fire on UK's campus. In real life, there was a May 1970 protest in which UK's ROTC building burned to the ground.

Edwards' description of the area as it was at different points in the past few decades is so vivid, it's hard to miss the research that went into her novel.

Edwards spent time reading old newspapers in the public library to help "get a sense of the flavor of the time."

The protest and burning of the armory was important to include in Edwards' eyes.

"It was a very significant event in Lexington at a time of great social upheaval," she said. "It just naturally grew into the book."

A lot of research about photography, Kentucky geography and Down syndrome is reflected in the book as well.

Diving into the research and then working the research into writing changes a person, Edwards said.

"Writing anything changes you," she said. "It's an interfacing with the world."

While this is certainly her most high-profile success, Edwards has had other literary successes. Her collection of short stories, "The Secrets of the Fire King," was an alternate for the 1998 PEN/Hemingway Award. Edwards has also won the Whiting Award and the Nelson Algren Award.

"I've been writing for a long time – 20 years – and along the way I've had other successes, quieter successes," Edwards said, seemingly still surprised at all the attention.

The native of upstate New York grew up with a love of stories.

No. 3 on Amazon.com's
list of best-selling
literature and fiction

55,000
hardcover
copies

USA Today's "Book of the
Year" for 2006 & The Louisville
Courier-Journal's list of the
"Best in Print" for 2006

"THE MEMORY KEEPER'S DAUGHTER
is a paean to such persistence and
power, rich with psychological detail
and the nuances of human connection."

— The Chicago Tribune

"THE MEMORY KEEPER'S DAUGHTER
is a little bit Anne Tyler, a smidgen of
Russell Banks and a bit of Ann Beattie,
topped off with a dash of Bobbie Ann
Mason. In other words, it's all Kim
Edwards, and it's just about perfect."

— The Lexington Herald-Leader

"THE MEMORY KEEPER'S DAUGHTER is a
gift, filled with radiant mystery. Kim Edwards
writes with great wisdom and compassion about
family, choices, secrets, and redemption. This is a
wonderful, heartbreaking, heart-healing, novel."

— Luanne Rice

"I discovered any number of quiet heroes, people who made a difference in individual lives and also inspired social change. I remain very grateful to all the people who... {helped} me gain a deep appreciation for their struggles and their joys."

— Kim Edwards while writing
The Memory Keeper's Daughter

She graduated from Colgate University and the University of Iowa with a Master of Fine Arts degree in fiction and a Master of Arts degree in linguistics. Edwards then went to Asia with her husband, Thomas Clayton. They spent five years teaching on the coast of Malaysia, near Tokyo and then in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

It was in Asia that Edwards wrote "The Secrets of a Fire King," which will be reissued this year by Penguin. She returned to the United States and eventually came to Kentucky. Her husband is now the chair of the English department at UK.

To help herself deal with all of the questions and demands from people about "The Memory Keeper's Daughter" Edwards created a Web site (www.memory-keepersdaughter.com) where frequently asked questions about the book and about Edwards are answered.

On the Web site Edwards is asked: "What was the most surprising thing you discovered while researching 'The Memory Keeper's Daughter?'"

Her answer reflects the depth of her character as a writer and as a person.

"...I also learned a tremendous amount about Down syndrome, as well as about the difficult landscape parents of children with Down syndrome faced when they started questioning conventional thinking, which recommended institutionalizing children, and opted to raise

their children at home instead. I discovered any number of quiet heroes, people who made a difference in individual lives and also inspired social change. I remain very grateful to all the people who shared their own experiences and perceptions with me while I was writing 'The Memory Keeper's Daughter,' helping me gain a deep appreciation for their struggles and their joys."

When speaking about her writing, Edwards is humble. She is determined to keep her recent success from changing how she continues to write.

"To have all of this happen is really wonderful but it doesn't change who I am in terms of writing," she said. "I still sit down with my pages and with the same motivations I had before."

The novel she is currently working on will come from a similar place as her first; though she's tight-lipped about what this second novel is about.

The reasons she sits down to write in the mornings – in the room with "wonderful windows" built for her by her husband – are the same as they have always been. These reasons are also the same ones she tries to pass on to her students.

"I tell my students that it needs to be for the love of the act of writing," Edwards said, "Rather than worrying about what happens to it once it goes out into the world." &



On a winter night in 1964, Dr. David Henry is forced by a blizzard to deliver his own twins. His son, born first, is perfectly healthy. Yet when his daughter is born, he sees immediately that she has Down's syndrome. Rationalizing it as a need to protect Norah, his wife, he makes a split second decision that will alter all of their lives forever. He asks his nurse to take the baby away to an institution and never to reveal the secret. But Caroline, the nurse, cannot leave the infant. Instead, she disappears into another city to raise the child herself. So begins this beautifully told story that unfolds over a quarter of a century in which these two families, ignorant of each other, are yet bound by David Henry's fateful decision that long-ago winter night.

A rich and deeply moving page-turner. "The Memory Keeper's Daughter" captures the way life takes unexpected turns and how the mysterious ties that hold a family together help us survive the heartache that occurs when long-buried secrets burst into the open. It is an astonishing tale of redemptive love. (book review from Amazon.com)

High-Tech Tutoring

Students take math tutoring to the next level by utilizing cutting-edge equipment to tutor high school students across Kentucky – all from the comfort of UK's campus

By Jennifer T. Allen

When Ryan Mabry began tutoring college students in math as part of the “Teaching Explorers Program,” he didn’t realize how far of reach he would end up having.

Mabry, a College of Arts and Sciences math senior, is one of six students participating in an Appalachian Math and Science Partnership (AMSP) online tutoring program benefiting high school students across the state.

“It’s really rewarding to help someone understand a concept,” Mabry said. “It’s great to open the gates of knowledge for a math student and encourage them to take more math classes.”

The high school tutoring program began during the fall 2006 semester with 37 students participating from high schools across the state. Advanced math students from each high school take College Algebra from UK through independent study. High school math teachers volunteer as onsite sponsors. UK’s students offer tutoring at various hours during the week utilizing special online software. The students are able to talk to and see the high school students by using headsets and web cameras; they also use special pens that transcribe what they write into a document on the computer that both students can view.

“The technology makes tutoring so much easier,” said Tiffany Hall, a tutor who holds her bachelor’s degree in secondary math education and is taking graduate courses in math. “As the students get older, this is the kind of technology they will see become more and more prominent. Taking a class this way really prepares them for further education and the workplace.”

High school students use UK textbooks, do the same homework and take the same exams as students on campus.

“The impact for high school students is to better prepare them for college and

have high school students entering college with a strong math background, with them hopefully going into a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) discipline,” said Lee Roher, a math education doctoral student and or-

are potential first generation college students and this program can inspire them to attend college and take the edge off of their experience as freshman,” Mabry said.

AMSP is supported by the National



Tiffany Hall and Ryan Mabry, both participating in an online tutoring program benefiting high school math students across the state, utilize technology that allows them to interact with students virtually.

Lee Thomas

ganizer of the program. “We are trying to get incoming freshman to have a strong math background.”

The idea for the tutoring program, funded through AMSP, came about at the “Communicating Mathematics Institute 2006 – Access to Algebra” meeting, Roher said. The institute is made up of high school teachers who were looking for a way to challenge advanced math students at their schools. UK supplies the online tutors, textbooks, hardware and programs needed to make the program a success. At the end of the semester high schools can be awarded with a UK transcript for college credit.

“A lot of students from Appalachia

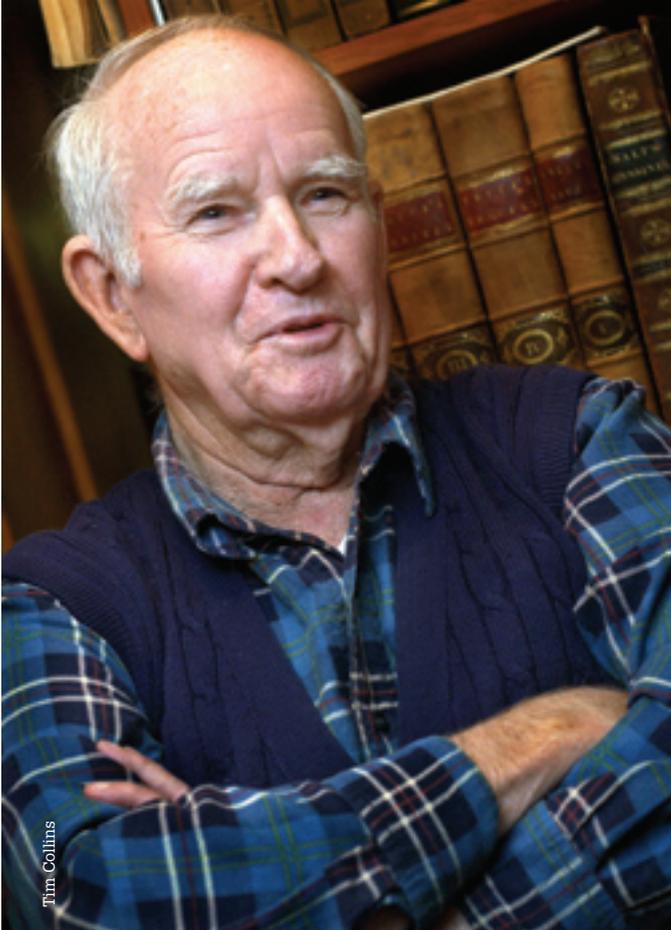
Science Foundation and focuses on activities designed to strengthen science and math education in pre-K through 12th grade in participating districts in Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia.

“College students are helping to further a young student’s education while earning money for their time; instead of getting a part-time job somewhere else. And the high school students are adding another math class to their resume after they may have already exhausted the math options offered at their school,” Mabry said. “This program is a good chance for math students, both in college and high school, to do something meaningful with their time.” &

A Life's Work Rewarded

Professor Emeritus William Adams receives highest Sudanese honor

By Lisa L. Beeler



UK Professor Emeritus William Adams writes and conducts research in his attic in Lexington.

When Professor Emeritus William Adams signed a contract to do a 9,000-word book called “Nubia Corridor to Africa,” he had no clue that it would turn into 450,000 words and Sudan’s national epic.

“I found out again that I just cannot write a short book,” Adams said.

Adams’s “Nubia Corridor to Africa” took over a decade to finish, but earned him Sudan’s highest honor, Order of the Two Niles. The Order of the Two Niles is a coveted award that is given to people who have made a substantial contribution to Sudan and its people.

Adams was awarded the medal in 2005 by the president of Sudan, Omar al-Bashir. Adams and his wife Nettie first went to Sudan in 1959, with plans to work for the Sudan Government Antiquities Service. He would be in charge of the excavation and preservation of archaeological sites in a soon to be flooded area of the Nile. His four-month contract with the Sudan government turned into seven years. Although he and his wife moved back to the states to allow their children to attend school, Adams continued to do work in Sudan until 1979. His last visit was in 2005, to receive his award.

Some of the artifacts unveiled in Adams’s excavations are currently on display in the British Museum in England. Nine volumes of excavation memoirs have been published on Adams’s work in Sudan, with two more in the works. This is just a small number of the more than 250 books, articles and other publications Adams has published.

“I am not a collector of things. I am a collector and publisher of information. My favorite thing I brought back from the Sudan was a head full of information to share. I am primarily a teacher; secondarily, a researcher,” Adams said.

There is no doubt Adams is passionate about sharing information, having taught more than 33 courses in anthropology at UK, three courses at Peking University in China, and four courses at Amati State University in Kazakhstan.

“Working at Peking University in 1989 was probably the most interesting and dramatic experience of my life with the demonstrations and Tiananmen Square protests. I learned more in these four months than any other four months of my life,” he said.

While at Peking University, Adams taught Ancient Egyptian Civilizations, Current Theory and Practice in American anthropology, and North American Indians.

“It seems that I am always asked to teach a course on North American Indians because they are beautifully colorful people and I have a deep love for them, having grown up on a Navajo Indian reservation in Arizona,” he said.

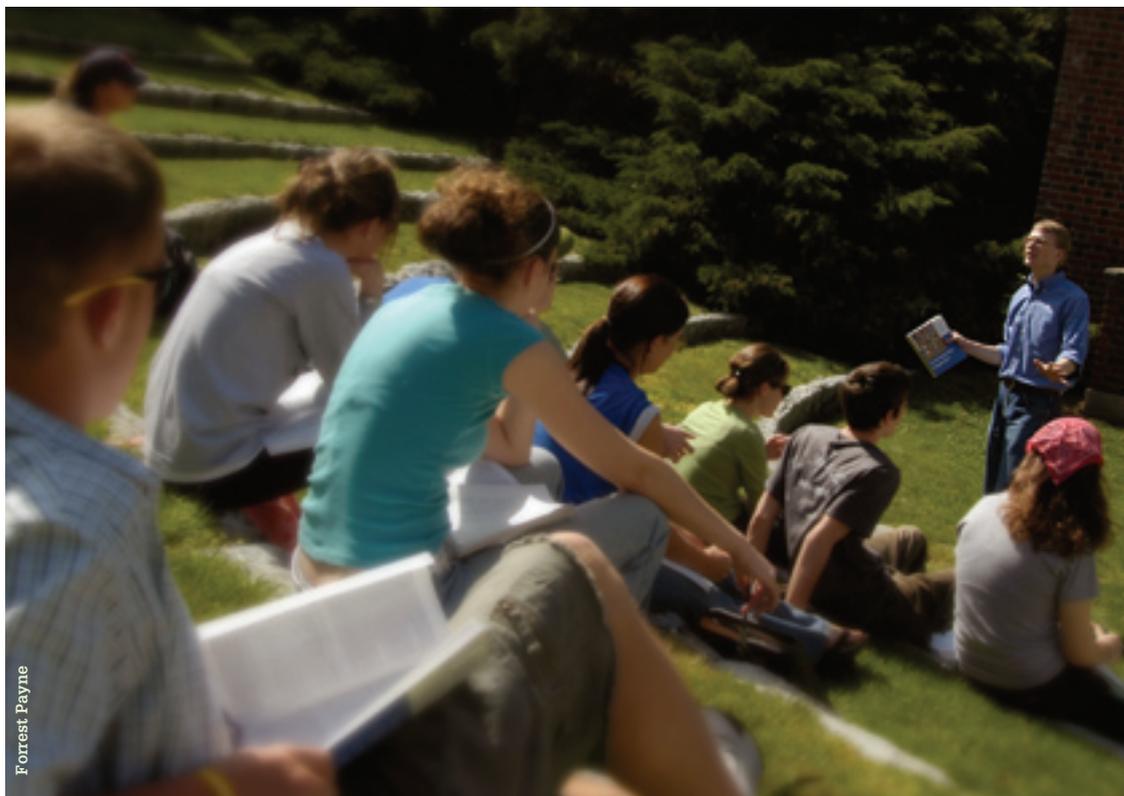
After receiving his Bachelor of Arts in anthropology, Adams returned to the Navajo Reservation to work as a trader. This job funded his doctorate in anthropology in 1958 and was the basis for his dissertation.

Adams spends his time now the same as he has his whole life—writing. Adams suggests that he may have physical limitations, now that he is nearing 80, but that won’t stop him from publishing.

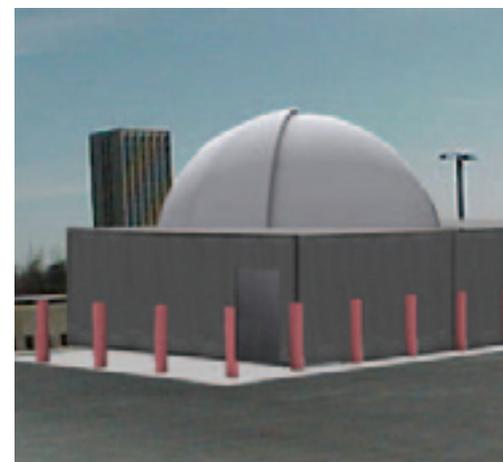
“Archeology is a young man’s career. I don’t dig anymore, but I am still working on publishing my past digs,” he said. “If you dig a site and then don’t publish, all that you have done is destroyed it.” &

The Power of Giving

Altruism. Philanthropy. Civic Virtue. These aren't just words tossed around in A&S classrooms. Instead, they're ideals upheld by our generous alumni and friends. In 2006, due to their boundless generosity with gifts and pledges, A&S received more than \$8 million. That made 2006 the biggest year for giving in over a decade.



Forrest Payne



A rendering of the new UK Instructional Observatory

ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIPS

The difference between good and great has occurred for many Arts and Sciences professors this past year. Well over \$3 million was raised from private sources and matched with the Bucks for Brains money to initiate, support and reward outstanding professors in the college. This support came from young alumni, older alumni, bequests, faculty and foundations.

Of particular note, Earth and Environmental Sciences made an appeal to their alumni to make a difference – and they responded with the initiation and funding of a \$100,000 Earth and Environmental Sciences Endowed Alumni Professorship. This funding will provide salary and research support for an existing professor to examine research coupled with the generation of new ideas and concepts in the areas of geology and earth and environmental sciences.

OBSERVATORY BECOMES A REALITY

After three years of planning and fundraising, a new UK Instructional Observatory is finally becoming a reality for the Department of Physics and Astronomy. More than \$1 million has been raised to make studying the stars bigger and brighter for UK students, K-12 students throughout the state, and the Lexington community. The Observatory is expected to be complete by May 2007 and will be located on top of Parking Structure #2 off Hilltop Ave (across from K-Lair).

It's through the generosity of A&S alumni and friends that the college has been able to improve the level of education that today's Arts & Sciences student receive. For a few examples, read on. And, get ready for the Spring Phonathon on April 1-26 — an opportunity to get started on breaking last year's record for philanthropy.

INSIDE THIS SECTION:

- Ashley Judd at Blazer Lecture
- A&S Alum Serves Country
- Alumni Gifts Make Impression
- Homecoming Tailgate Highlights



Students gain hands-on experience in labs across campus.

Professors and students enjoy holding classes outside on campus once the warmer temperatures of spring arrive.

STUDY ABROAD SCHOLARSHIPS

Since 2003, the College of Arts and Sciences has worked hard to increase study abroad opportunities for its students. It is essential in today's world that graduates have a large cultural knowledge base – and the college's friends and alumni have answered that need in a resounding way. Since 2005, no less than six new study abroad scholarships have been created.

GRADUATE STUDENT FELLOWSHIPS

Supporting Graduate Student Fellowships in Arts and Sciences attracted more than \$1 million in support from alumni and friends during the 2006 year. Outright gifts, bequests and pledges were generously given to support this area of higher graduate study in the college. Graduate students in geology, history, geography, physics and astronomy and gender and women's studies will specifically benefit.

UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS

Helping undergraduates succeed in the College of Arts and Sciences is a marker of success not only for the college, but for the university as well. Nearly \$1.8 million raised in 2006 will support undergraduate scholarships. This will allow A&S students to concentrate more on their studies, expand their cultural experiences, and investigate and research specific areas of interest.

Blazer Lecture 2006

Ashley Judd appealed for social justice, feminism and spirituality

“Our world needs to be a place where girls are valued just as much as boys, for only then will there be peace. And, in this work, that is my prayer, above all: May there be peace. May there be peace. May there be peace.”

MARK THE DATE:
Oct. 25, 2007, at
7:30 p.m., Blazer
Lecture with
Pulitzer Prize-
winning journalist
Ellen Goodman

“...My need and desire to be with the despised, the outcasts, disempowered, exploited and poor, and to do my part in remembering we are all one. They are not “those people,” they are me.”

To view Ashley Judd's complete lecture, visit www.uky.edu/AS/womenstudies



Alumni Provide Lasting Impressions Through Gifts, Contact

By Sara Cunningham

Knowing that there are people who have enough confidence in you to help you pay for college goes a long way when it comes to motivation, said John-Paul Volk. Volk, an English senior, has been

a scholarship recipient of the Robert B. and Helen P. Jewell Scholarship Foundation, Inc., since he was a freshman.

The Jewell Scholarship Foundation provides each of its students with about \$20,000 over the course of eight semesters.

“It definitely encourages you to put forth a stronger effort,” Volk said.

The motivation increases when those who fund scholarships take as personal of an interest as Linda Strojan, the daughter of the Jewells.

The foundation was created in the 1980s by her parents. Strojan’s brother went to the University of Kentucky and the family lived in Lexington so there were strong ties to UK.

Some of the foundation’s 15 current student recipients come from other schools but many are UK students and are part of a wide variety of programs, Strojan said. Since 1987 the foundation has given out about 60 scholarships, each running for four years, she said.

Strojan eventually took over running the foundation from her parents.

She and the foundation’s four other board members have carried on many of the traditions that were once important to her parents. One particular tradition keeps them close to scholarship recipients.

The students are supposed to write letters once a semester to the foundation board members about themselves and their college experiences.

“At first you don’t get very detailed in the letters, you know,” Volk said. “But now I like writing to Ms. Strojan about my life and my family – not just school stuff.”

Volk works as a resident advisor and plans to attend law school at some point after he graduates from UK in May. But first he’ll head off to an internship at a law firm.

Volk jokes about sending her samples of his class writing and assignments but he hasn’t done that quite yet.

She loves all of the letters she gets from her “kids,” Strojan said, but Volk’s letters are among her favorites.

“We just love getting his letters,” she said. “He writes so much more than ‘thank you very much.’ All of my kids are just so great and it’s nice to think that we have a small part in their lives.”

Strojan has also met most of the students as she travels to Lexington from her Aiken, S.C., home at least four or five times a year. She is a guidance counselor at an Aiken high school, is married and has a son who will attend college in the next couple years. She never attended UK but grew up in Lexington and has strong ties to the school.

And of course, letters like Volk’s help keep her tied to the places she says will always feel like home.

Strojan said the foundation members love it when students remember them later. Volk said he plans to continue writing after he leaves UK and Strojan was happy to hear it.

“We wouldn’t be doing this if we weren’t interested in their lives and what happens to them in their futures,” Strojan said. “If we can say we had just a tiny part in where (Volk) ends up and what he does, then it’s worthwhile.”

ABOVE: John-Paul Volk, a UK English senior, spoke at the 2006 A&S Hall of Fame induction ceremony about his gratitude of receiving a scholarship given by The Jewell Scholarship Foundation.

Former UK Quarterback Home in Lexington

By Lisa L. Beeler

UK College of Arts & Sciences’ alumni Derrick Ramsey is proof that being a college athlete builds skills that are price-

less. In 1976, Ramsey led the Cats as quarterback to a 9-3 record that included a 21-0 win over North Carolina in the Peach Bowl. Ramsey was the first African-American quarterback at UK.

“It was such a privilege to play with the greatest assembled team in UK history. But I am most excited about what has occurred since my former teammates and I have left the game. Our experience at UK prepared us for healthy competition and gave us an outstanding education to stand on,” Ramsey said.

Ramsey is currently the Deputy Secretary of the Commerce

Cabinet for the state of Kentucky. He was appointed by the governor of Kentucky in December 2003. His responsibilities are connected to the beating heart of Kentucky—horse farming. In broader terms, Ramsey oversees commerce concerning wildlife and fisheries.

After graduating in 1983 with a Bachelor of Arts in general studies, Ramsey imagined his future continuing in the field of athletics. Although his prediction has not panned out yet, his interests in politics and decision making make working for the state of Kentucky a joy. But, he is not letting his athletic dreams die.

“I would love to one day be the Athletic Director at UK,” he said. “I still have a deep love for UK and am proud that UK is an institution that continues to achieve academic excellence and one day rank in the top 20.”





Capt. Mickey Jordan joins other Air Force personnel on a walk down the road to get lunch at a site in Tikrit, Iraq. TOP, RIGHT: Jordan hops aboard a Blackhawk helicopter on a logistics run. Flying in Blackhawks is the fastest way from site to site in Iraq.



“The past few years have given me a glimpse at how broad your military career can be and the difference you can make from day one,” Jordan said. “It’s not like any job I have ever heard of.”

He has served six years of active duty and has been stationed out of the Shaw base for close to three years. At Shaw, Jordan is a part of an organization of about 400 communicators. His team is

in charge of the standardization and evaluation of personnel and operations of 1,300 soldiers in 27 countries in the Middle East. These countries run from the Horn of Africa to Pakistan.

This involves making sure everything is up to spec according to the U.S. Department of Defense and to International law, Jordan said.

“I’ve had such a scattering of roles and assignments in the past six years,” he said. “That’s part of what makes being in the Air Force exciting.”

After four years, Jordan’s required service time was up but he’s planning on staying for “a full career.” In another year and a half he will get a chance to request a new role and location within the Air Force. Jordan’s not sure where he’ll end up next but a goal of his is to someday be stationed where he could teach at a college or Air Force training center, he said.

“I will get a chance to request something but I will go wherever the Air Force needs me next,” Jordan said. “It’s just an adventure to be able to do this full-time.”

A&S Alum Serves Country

By Sara Cunningham

Capt Mickey Jordan left Kentucky six years ago as a proud graduate of the University of Kentucky and Air Force ROTC.

He remembers many of his fellow AFROTC cadets and many of his instructors.

“For me it was a great school, a great community and a great experience,” Jordan said.

It was also the starting point for an already eventful military career for the telecommunications major and ninth-generation military member.

Since leaving UK, Jordan has served active duty in Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, and United Arab Emirates, among other places. He has worked with ground and air traffic control radio systems, world-wide computer networks and unmanned aerial vehicles. Jordan is currently stationed at the Shaw Air Force Base in South Carolina.



Air Force ROTC Offers Different Approach to Education

Air Force ROTC is an “educational program designed to give men and women an opportunity to become Air Force officers and complete a college degree at the same time,”

said Capt. Ron Horn, a UK AFROTC instructor.

Students register for classes they need for their individual degrees with the addition of two AFROTC classes: an aerospace studies class and a leadership lab.

There is no obligation to serve in the military until cadets sign contracts as scholarship recipients or after attending field training after their sophomore year, Horn said.

First and second year students not on scholarship have time to explore whether they would like to be in the Air Force.

At the end of the first two years, students who have decided to continue must compete for spots in a summer field-training program. This is the equivalent of basic training, Horn said.

When they return to school, cadets then

have to decide whether they will sign a contract to serve active duty. If they decide yes, then they will serve four to eight years after graduation, depending on their commissioned job.

For those who know they are interested in the Air Force, AFROTC is a good option because upon graduation students are commissioned as second lieutenants and sent to active duty where they are immediately assigned leadership and management positions. This means they outrank 82 percent of those in the Air Force.

“It’s nice to know you will have a guaranteed job and it’s a great position you are called for,” said Capt. Mickey Jordan, who is a UK AFROTC graduate stationed at the Shaw Air Force Base in South Carolina.

Homecoming Tailgate 2006

We hope to see many more Arts & Sciences Alumni at next year's Tailgate on Oct. 27th. Go Cats!



“I try to get back as much as I can, but not as often as I like. With the Alumni Tailgate, A&S created a family-like environment that brought back all the old memories and excitement of being a UK student.”

– Donald L. Harmon
BA, English, '60



All photos by Tim Collins

Can You Give Now?



**Legislative Alert:
NEW LAW PERMITS
GIFTS FROM IRAS**

Congress has given new meaning to the phrase "senior discount."

Congress has revised the tax laws to permit donors over age 70½ to make charitable gifts through their IRAs.

The new law says that people age 70½ and older can instruct IRA trustees to make transfers to organization they support without incurring taxable income on those amounts. Up to \$100,000 can be given in this manner in 2007.

No income tax deductions are available for IRA gifts, but IRA donors can still save significant taxes by removing taxable income from their asset base.

Note: The IRA trustee must transfer all gift amounts—you should not make withdrawals yourself and then write checks to charity.

Please call (859) 257-8124 if you would like more information about planning gifts of any kind, including IRA contributions.

Spring Phonathon - April 1-26, 2007

Just as alumni assisted you as a student with their gifts and donations, you can do the same. Annual gifts go to scholarships, student research opportunities, and innovative educational and service programs. Every gift makes a difference. This April support the network - your College of Arts & Sciences!

UK UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
College of Arts and Sciences

Distinguished Hall of Fame

Award presentation is Friday, October 26, 2007

**College of Arts & Sciences
Call for Nominations**

CRITERIA

Nominee must:

1. Have earned a degree from the University of Kentucky College of Arts and Sciences.
2. Have obtained significant achievement personally or professionally.
3. Have demonstrated distinguished professional accomplishments, outstanding character, and commitment to community service.
4. Have shown evidence of actual merit of work in their chosen field of endeavor and community leadership.

The nominator must submit a brief letter describing their candidates' qualifications and any other pertinent information, such as resume, professional biosketch, or vitae, as well as 3 other persons listed as references.

NOMINATION FORM

Name
Street Address
City State Zip
Home Phone Daytime Phone E-mail

NOMINEE (please provide as much information as possible)

Name
Street Address
City State Zip
Home Phone E-mail
Year of Graduation Degree Major
Employer Position or Title
Address of Employer Work Phone
City State Zip

Please return to: Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame, College of Arts and Sciences, 231 Patterson Office Tower, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506-0027
Additional forms are available by calling 859.257.8124 or online at www.uky.edu/AS/Alumni/recognition.html
Nomination forms must be post-marked no later than MAY 1, 2007.