



# LETTERS

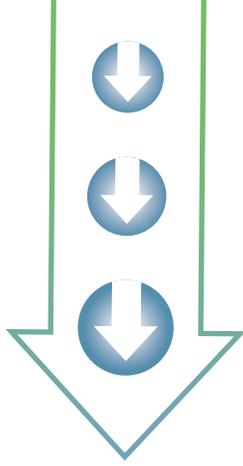
WINTER 2012



## World Ready

The College's national scholarship winners reach for big dreams, while faculty and administrators cheer them on

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF  
ARTS & SCIENCES



## Dear Alumni and Friends,

I'm privileged to reach out to you for the first time in my new position as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Although I just officially became dean in January, I already feel very much a part of the K-State family and, in particular, the College. Everyone I've met has welcomed me warmly. Even more importantly, they've given me the distinct impression that those in the K-State College of Arts and Sciences are true professionals.

There are extremely talented people here who work endlessly to better *themselves* through scholarship and research, and to better *the University* and the learning experiences for our students.

Our newly renamed alumni magazine, *A&S Letters*, speaks to the intent of this publication: to share stories of great people and achievements in the College.

Case in point: In the 2010-2011 school year, our College had an impressive nine national scholarship winners, including three Fulbrights, a Truman, and a Goldwater, many of whom have brought their unique experiences back to campus. They have traversed the globe — from Germany and Jordan to Tanzania and Iceland. They are learning new languages so they can serve globally, or exploring research questions that may change people's lives for the better. You can get to know each one of them, through their own words, starting on page 8.

You'll also meet some remarkable students from the Ebony Theatre program (page 4). These young people put in countless hours of work with Ebony — on top of their schoolwork, K-State Theatre productions, and extracurricular



Dean Peter Dorhout

**"I already feel very much a part of the K-State family and, in particular, the College."**

activities. They do it to infuse diversity into the theatre, and to share culturally rich performances with the K-State and Manhattan communities. Their commitment is admirable and we all benefit from it.

I'm still becoming acquainted with all the wonderful things that are happening here on campus, but suffice it to say that I like what I see so far. Moreover, the family of alumni and

friends that I have met who support K-State and the College with their gifts and talents cannot be compared with any university

alumni family with which I have been associated. I look forward to learning more about what makes this College — and all of you — such a success.

All the best,

Peter  
Go Cats!



**LEARN MORE ABOUT**  
Dean Dorhout on page 19.

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# EBONY THEATRE ENCORE

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*Students reenergize Ebony Theatre 35 years after its founding*

Upon first glance, Ebony Theatre president Nahshon Ruffin and vice president Eric Brown seem strikingly different. Ruffin, Overland Park senior in theatre with minors in Spanish and music, is a big personality in a small package. Comedy is her forte. She laughs openly and smiles broadly, and isn't afraid to show just how excited she is about each task she undertakes. Brown, a junior in political science and pre-law from Liberal, is a (much) taller and slightly mellower counterpart, with a quiet thoughtfulness about him. He's well suited to dramatic roles.

But they both have loads of presence, some of which they bring themselves...and some of which the theatre has helped them develop.

"The reason I like Ebony, and acting in general, is because it allows you to be things you could never be in real life," Brown said. "That is, in a lot of ways, really, really fun and empowering."

Ebony Theatre, which celebrates African-American playwrights and encourages students to find themselves on stage, is a three decades-old program that's getting an infusion of new life, courtesy of students like these.

Marci Maullar — associate professor of theatre and Ebony Theatre advisor — couldn't be happier to see the program and its students thriving. Maullar has had success as an actor; managing professional companies and theatre festivals; and since 1988, as a teacher at K-State. Having been a professional in several areas of theatre, she knows exactly how powerful a program like Ebony can be for students.

"Being in Ebony, they learn self-confidence, a sense of poise,

discipline and public speaking skills," Maullar said.

"They also get to entertain and educate. Even though they're performing someone else's work, they're making it come alive for other people."

## The History

"Ebony was originally started at a time when there was less of an African-American presence on campus," Maullar said. "It was really a way to tell stories about the lives of African-Americans through mostly African-American playwrights."

Program membership has ebbed and waned since Ebony's founding in 1977. But the program is enjoying an impressive resurgence as of late. Maullar attributes it entirely to the tenacity and commitment of the students.

"We've done a lot of recruiting in the last two years, and we have a bigger membership now than we've ever had. There are 33 members, and others that support it by working on shows and coming to shows," she said.

Ruffin took over as president in fall 2011.

"I love people, and being able to encourage others to make a difference," she said. "This is me helping to change the way the Theatre Department is seen, and how diversity is seen as well."

## Ebony for All

Ebony is a place for students to hone their craft and, more than anything, learn about themselves. If you ask Ruffin and Brown, having that forum — that place for students of color to build each other up and share ideas — is invaluable.

# ATRE

*Eric Brown and  
Jasmine Walker in the  
Feb. 2011 production  
of "Broke-ology."*

## EMPOWER EBONY



### THE NEED:

Funding for productions, on-campus events,  
travel to theatre festivals

### TO HELP:

Tracy Robinson, development officer,  
[tracyr@found.ksu.edu](mailto:tracyr@found.ksu.edu), 800-432-1578



Nabsbon Ruffin plays the Lady in Purple in “For Colored Girls” at Nichols Theatre, Feb. 2011.

But they aren’t just in *Ebony* for themselves. They are boundlessly enthusiastic about what *Ebony* can do for others — students of any ethnicity or major.

“*Ebony* is not just for African-Americans; it’s to give opportunities to all students,” Ruffin said.

“We don’t want it to just be theatre students; we don’t want it to just be African-Americans. We want everyone to be involved. We want everybody to understand art and diversity and — when it comes down to it — just people.”

Through theatre, students of any major gain a belief in themselves and their ability to make something happen from start to finish. And those intangible benefits translate into very real career skills. Among them: public speaking, interviewing and teamwork.

Brown has experienced it for himself, joining *Ebony* as a political science major.

“In acting, you learn things about yourself that you never would have figured out,” he said. “You learn what you do when you get nervous. You get coached in how to act around people. I’ve

realized that I want to act for my career, but a person could learn just as much even if they don’t want to go into acting.”

## Taking the Stage

The group puts on a fully produced show every February, in honor of Black History Month. On top of that, they often produce a staged reading, along with other events as time and money allow.

Last year saw Ruffin take the stage in “*For Colored Girls*,” a 1970s experimental work by Ntozake Shange, while Brown acted in “*Broke-ology*,” a show by K-State and *Ebony* alum Nathan Jackson.

“‘*Broke-ology*’ was my favorite show that I’ve been a part of. I love to perform. There’s a part of me that loves to get up in front of people in a dark room and impress them,” Brown said with a laugh.

So far, the efforts to impress are working. According to Maullar, the shows are nearly always sellouts.

“I think it reaches out to the Manhattan community. It has a certain cultural aspect that you don’t get anywhere else,” Maullar said.

This February, *Ebony* will showcase “*Crumbs from the Table of Joy*,” a story of family, love and religion by prolific female playwright Lynn Nottage (see box on page 7 for details).

## A Great Example

Nathan Jackson, ’03 B.A. theatre, started out just like Ruffin and Brown. He was a K-State undergraduate, president of *Ebony*, and simply following a passion. Today, Jackson is a Julliard graduate, professional playwright, and television writer for Showtime’s “*Shameless*” and TNT’s “*Southland*.” His latest work, “*When I Come to Die*,” about a death-row inmate who survives a lethal injection, finished a run at Lincoln Center Theater in New York last year.

In February 2011, Jackson returned to K-State, looking on as *today’s* *Ebony* students — Brown included — performed *his* award-winning play “*Broke-ology*.”

“I remember talking to Nathan about ‘*Broke-ology*’ and how I really enjoyed it. And he said, ‘You did good; you really nailed the role,’” Brown said. “I was kind of starstruck. These were *his* words, and



*Nathan Jackson, with wife Megan, during their 2011 campus visit.*

he thought I carried them out in a good way. I was really inspired by that.”

To meet someone who has made it in such a competitive field was nothing short of invigorating to Ruffin and Brown.

“He started in *Ebony* as well. I’m sure *Ebony* helped him along the way, and it’s helping us,” Ruffin said. “It’s just so motivating for me as an actor. I can do it — even being a minority, it doesn’t matter. It pushes me more; it helps me reach for my goals instead of doubting myself.”

Brown agreed: “He’s a guy like me, that decided what he wanted to do, and the next thing you know, he’s going to one of the best schools, and he’s writing plays, and he’s being shown at Lincoln Center. This is a guy who’s actually out there doing it. He’s achieved amazing things. And if he can do it, I know we can do it.”

## Tomorrow’s *Ebony*

Ruffin is set to graduate in May 2012, Brown one year later. Both plan to pursue acting professionally. Ruffin hopes to move to Chicago and try her hand at

improv for a couple of years.

“There are so many of our alumni who move to New York and Chicago, who stay connected, and who are willing to help other students. It makes it easier and easier as the years go by,” she said.

With the remainder of their time at K-State, Brown and Ruffin want to make certain that *Ebony* is on even more solid ground than it is today. Slowly, says Ruffin, they’re getting there — transforming *Ebony* from a place for African-American actors to a place for everyone.

“I think now diversity has changed. It used to be, ‘We’re going to be really involved by ourselves.’ But we want to push the actual meaning of diversity, and get more people mixed in, and do different things. And encourage other African-American students to try different things.”

Marci Maullar sums it up: “I think we just keep building possibilities, as long as there are students here who really believe in *Ebony* and want to put the energy and time behind it.”

## UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

### “CRUMBS FROM THE TABLE OF JOY”

by Lynn Nottage

#### WHEN:

FEB. 23 TO 25, 7:30 p.m.

FEB. 26, 2:30 p.m.

#### WHERE:

Purple Masque Theatre,  
East Stadium

#### THEMES:

Family, interracial love,  
communism, religion

#### FEATURING:

Nahshon Ruffin, *Ebony* Theatre  
president, and Eric Brown, *Ebony*  
Theatre vice president

#### FOR TICKETS:

McCain Box Office  
785-532-6428

[www.k-state.edu/mccain](http://www.k-state.edu/mccain)

# THE WORLD AT THEIR FINGERTIPS

*Introducing the College's national scholarship winners  
— in their own words*



**M**iddle East policy. Water contamination testing. Environmental protection. Autism treatment. Women's rights. Rapid disease detection. Cross-cultural understanding. Preparation for natural disasters.

K-State's current Arts and Sciences national scholarship winners don't have fuzzy notions about how they will influence the world. And thanks, at least in part, to support from K-State's top administrators and faculty members, they have all taken very big leaps toward reaching their goals.

All these standout students had at least one and usually several K-State mentors who gave them a hand, in ways both big and small. In particular, every

student warmly discussed Jim Hohenbary, assistant dean for nationally competitive scholarships, as key to reaching his or her dreams.

Perhaps Gage Brummer said it best: "Jim Hohenbary is the heart and soul of why everyone here gets so many scholarships. He's always pushing us, and he never gets upset. It's just unreal how much he knows about all this, and how much effort he's willing to put into it."

Take a look at how these amazing young people will change the world, and be proud they're part of the K-State College of Arts and Sciences family. And keep an eye out for them in the not-too-distant future. You'll be seeing them around.



*Back, L to R: Dean Peter Dorhout, Rachel Hoppins, Provost April Mason, Sean Webeck, Gage Brummer, President Kirk Schulz*

*Front, L to R: Nathan Owens, Sophia Ford*

## RECRUIT TOP STUDENTS



### THE NEED:

Scholarships to recruit talented students like these

### WHY:

To allow them time for research, study abroad, and pursuing national-level opportunities

### TO HELP:

Sheila Walker, director of development, [sheilaw@found.ksu.edu](mailto:sheilaw@found.ksu.edu), 800-432-1578

# GAGE BRUMMER GOLDWATER SCHOLAR



“When I was a freshman, I received a competitive scholarship called the K-INBRE (Kansas IDeA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence) Scholarship. I'd come to K-State not thinking of myself as a stellar student, but then working really hard and getting that scholarship definitely boosted my self-confidence. And the Mark Chapman Scholarship paid for me to do another internship in Maine, which was so cool.

Dr. Gary Conrad in the Division of Biology is a huge part of my research career. He's the one that really picked me out and ran with me. He was the reason I was able to go to Maine (for summer research experiences), he's the reason I became connected to Dr. John Forrest (at Yale, for teaching and research experiences), he's the reason I received first-author credit on a paper.

Now I'm doing more work in Dr. Christopher Culbertson's lab. And that was just a beautiful accident. I went in and talked to him one day to get advice on classes and started talking to him about my research interests, and he basically said, 'I know you're working in another lab too, but you could work here for maybe five hours a week.' Dr. Culbertson's knowledge is ridiculous. He'll

be sitting there describing to me how an enzyme works, and then he'll go over to the computer and design a program to manipulate vacuum valves.

Ultimately, the research that I want to do is to work in a lab at MIT where they

use microfluidic devices. Their goal is to provide really cheap, really quick analysis so you can go into a third-world country, take a sample of everyone in a town, load it onto a chip, and then one hour later, say, 'OK, this person has this disease, this person has that disease.' You can start to treat more quickly. And you can start designing drugs for that purpose.”

When I won the Goldwater, I tried to call everyone in my family and no one answered! I just remember I went and sat on the steps somewhere and just soaked it in.

Prairie Village, Kan.

B.S., biochemistry and pre-medicine, 2012

Dennis C. and Sally A. von Waaden Nationally and Internationally Competitive Scholars Program Fund

Mark A. Chapman Scholars Program

The J.S. Hughes Memorial Scholarship

Roy A. Johnson Cancer Memorial Fund

June D. Hull Sherrid Cancer Center Scholarship and Education Fund

Will pursue a combined doctorate of medicine and doctoral degree



# SOPHIA FORD GILMAN SCHOLAR

Wilson, Kan.

Studied at University of Iceland, 2011

B.S., geology and political science, 2013

Richard and Carolyn Roby Unrestricted Geology Department Support Fund

J.R. Chelikowsky Scholarship

The Ronald D. Schulz Memorial Scholarship

Topeka Gem & Mineral Society, Inc. Scholarship

Elden E. II and Sylvia H. Leasure Student Field Geology Fund

“Originally, I was in engineering, and I chose K-State because of its reputation in that field. Then I eventually realized engineering wasn't right for me so I changed to a minor in political science, and a major in geology. I had taken Introduction to Geology and loved it, and I realized: This is what I need to be doing.



I'd never been exposed to geology as a career. I think often when you go to a small high school, it's difficult to realize what all is out there. Even when I went into geology at K-State, all of it was so fascinating to me, I didn't know what I wanted to specialize in, so that's why I wanted to study abroad: to narrow my choices.

I'm interested in how the environment and policy interact. You can study something, but it's something else to get that policy approved, like for clean water or air pollution.

I love that the earth is mysterious and that we're still exploring its history, and future.

Scholarships have made a tremendous difference. I couldn't do this without them. I wouldn't be able to go to school without the scholarships.

I was ecstatic when I received the Gilman Scholarship because it meant I would be able to study at the University of Iceland. Iceland is one of the most geologically active places in the world. Geysers, geothermal energy, glaciers, volcanoes — there's everything to explore there. I took courses in glaciology, volcanology, and environmental geochemistry.

In Iceland, they waste a lot of water since they have a lot of water. And in places like India, they have so little clean water. Water is a really interesting topic. So since I've been back, I've been working with Saugata Datta (Department of Geology) in hydrogeology and measuring contamination of water.

I will be going to India for three weeks with Dr. Datta to study groundwater contamination. That will be phenomenal. When you find something you are passionate about, things seem to really take off.



# KYLE VAN HORN FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR



I don't come from a family with a lot of money, and as a financially independent young adult, grants and scholarships are a fundamental part of getting an education in the United States. I really appreciate my scholarships!

I was overjoyed to win the Fulbright. It's a tremendous opportunity, not to mention that it's a prestigious scholarship, a great thing to have in your background. It's a great stepping-stone to further opportunities.

I'm in Germany for 10 months — through June 2012. One of my goals this year is to master the language. I'm in a small town, teaching English to middle school and high school kids. I've been trying to figure out how everything works. The students seem excited. They want to learn from what I've experienced. I hope this experience will help me clarify whether I want to teach or not.

I think I can maybe change people's perspective on the American school system and Americans in general, and maybe break down some stereotypes they have of us. I want to help eliminate long-standing prejudices people have against each other. I want to promote interconnectedness.

I've been handed a really amazing opportunity, and I'm excited to see where it all ends up!

Jim Hohenbary (assistant dean for nationally competitive scholarships) is an amazing person to have on your team! He is very knowledgeable and understanding. He helped me out so much with my application. And all of my German

professors — Dr. Jennifer Askey, Dr. Derek Hillard, Dr. Emma Betz — were very supportive and helpful. I could go to any of them, with whatever I needed. It was a very motivating environment.

I know I'm going to end up changing, and I feel like I'm going to come out a better person. I'm looking forward to making some really solid relationships and connections in Germany.

Abilene, Kan.

Teaching English in Germany

B.A. German and pre-medicine, minor in biology, 2011

Megan Elizabeth Taylor Memorial Scholarship in Modern Languages

KSU Leadership Scholarship

Hopes to pursue a career in postsecondary education and German



# RACHEL HOPPINS UDALL SCHOLAR

Wichita, Kan.

B.S., biology, 2013

Arts & Sciences  
Fund for Excellence

The Carl F. and Sarah  
Boell Muckenhoupt  
Scholarship

June D. Hull Sherrid  
Cancer Center  
Scholarship and  
Education Fund

Hopes to attend  
George Mason  
University for a  
master's in zoo and  
aquarium leadership

“The scholarships I received helped me make the decision to attend K-State, which was definitely a very good decision. They also allowed me to pursue a lot of other opportunities. The financial obligation would have been a lot harder to deal with, had I not had those scholarships.



My mom worked at the Sedgwick County Zoo, so I basically grew up there. I discovered I had a natural skill for understanding the natural world, and I really connected with people who work to save the environment.

We have a whole host of environmental problems, and I'm now sure I'm doing what I need to do to help.

My passion is to see people light up when they learn more about an animal. I remember when I was 5 or 6, just thinking there was nothing cooler, and I don't understand why we lose that as we get older.

I want to see more people connected with the natural environment they live in: protecting it, restoring it, and just appreciating it.

My main career goal is to promote community involvement with zoos. There's a cultural component to conservation that more biologists need to understand.

I found out I received the Udall about midnight one night, during spring break. I screamed bloody murder and woke up my whole family. I couldn't believe it was me, out of all the amazing people who applied. The scholarship has definitely solidified my path. It was a dream. Now it's a goal.

I'm currently involved in Help Us Learn, Give Us Hope, (a charity) which collects supplies and donations for Iraqi and Afghan students so they can receive an education. Servicemen and women distribute the supplies as they see fit.”



## CHRIS LEMON FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR



I came to K-State for a visit, and I just felt like it was the right fit, and everyone was really nice and helpful. Everything I felt I wanted, K-State had.

My freshman year, one of my really good friends was taking German, and we decided to take it together. After I started taking classes, I just became more and more interested in the language and culture, and decided that I wanted to go abroad. My first study-abroad experience (in 2006-2007) was really great, and it basically led me to apply for the Fulbright.

The faculty played a huge role in my winning a Fulbright. Jennifer Askey and Emma Betz were great. They were amazing when it came to filling out forms, getting language certification, letters of recommendation, things like that. They were wonderful with helping out with the whole process, even to the extent of proofreading.

I was really excited when I received the Fulbright. I turned in the original application in late October, and then I didn't hear anything until April. I really wasn't expecting to be chosen, given the number of candidates, but it's what I really wanted to do, so I was *very* excited about it.

With the election coming up in the U.S., everybody here is really interested in that. So you sort of become a *de facto* expert and ambassador.

I'm an English teaching assistant at a middle school in Germany. I'll help out in all the different English classes they have, and I'll be giving presentations about different parts of the U.S., trying to teach a little about American culture.

This experience gives you more of a worldview. It shows you there are people who think differently than you do and have their own set of problems, as a nation. I grew up in the middle of Kansas, where eight hours in any direction isn't that different. Here, you go an hour in any direction and there's something different to experience.

Larned, Kan.

Teaching English in Germany

B.S., finance, 2009

M.A., German and second language acquisition, 2011



# MEL HALL TRUMAN SCHOLAR

Junction City, Kan.

B.S., psychology and pre-medicine, 2011

Student Opportunity Awards: K-State Proud

Nancy Twiss Scholarship

Plans to pursue Ph.D. in educational psychology

“I was 24 when I started school at K-State. Before, I was intimidated by the idea of college. Then as I grew up, and became a mom, I realized I could be a good student if I wanted to be, so I worked hard and excelled at the tech school and as a radiology tech. I was around doctors a lot in that job, and I realized there wasn't that much difference between them and me, and a lot of those negative thoughts — that I wasn't good enough — just went away.



In my Principles of Learning class, I learned about applied behavioral analysis. It's a data-driven approach to treating autism. I'd ultimately like to be a pediatric neuropsychologist. I'm very interested in kids who have autism or behavioral issues.

I volunteered in Africa (in Tanzania), and I worked with kids with autism there. Autism itself creates a communication barrier, and being able to teach those children — even though I don't speak Swahili — reinforced how unimportant words can be, and how important actions are.

I went to Northern Ireland to study abroad for spring break 2009, studying peace and conflict. I earned my certification in conflict resolution as a result of that trip.

**My son is the reason I chase after everything I love. My son is the reason I excel.**

When I found out I received the Truman, I couldn't stop smiling for the rest of the day. They have this leadership week with all the other people who won it throughout the U.S. You get plugged into this network of Truman Scholars. It's this hub of social capital.

There's something a little intimidating in all this for me, because it's not a world I'm familiar with, but at the same time, I know I have people to go to for guidance. I mean, I'm almost 30 years old, and to be around that many young people who are 20 to 22 and so accomplished, is very impressive to me.”



## SEAN WEBECK BOREN FELLOW



“I was overseas when September 11 happened, in Spain (as an undergraduate). I was getting to see the world from a different perspective, but also, when I came back to the States, I had a different perspective because I’d been away and hadn’t been involved in everything that had happened here.

After graduation, I knew I wasn’t done with exploring on my own. Teaching English in China definitely fit the bill. In China, I began to see my interests in things international corresponding to an interest in things related to security and defense.

I knew about the Defense Language Institute, but I could only go there if I was in the military, and I was looking for a way to learn a language in a formal way. I enlisted to become a linguist in Arabic. I was in the Army from 2005 to 2010.

Some people like doing daredevil things. Those things don’t get me excited, but I do get excited about trying to learn more about who I am and where I fit in the world.

I’ve been very happy with the support I’ve received from K-State faculty, both in terms of this fellowship, plus just our entire experience here at K-State. It’s been a wonderful blessing for my family.

In Jordan (through the Boren Fellowship), I’m going to be looking at Arab civil-military relations, trying to develop some research or start a project on that subject.

My wife knows Arabic, so she’ll be able to provide me with insights into the culture that I wouldn’t be able to get if I was just going by myself. Arab culture is very family-friendly, very family-oriented, so we believe that’s going to give us some opportunities to mingle and get involved that some young, single students might not have.

Having kids helps me understand the importance of trying to do little things right all the time. The best thing I can do is try to be a good person, wherever I am and whatever I’m doing.”

West Lafayette, Ind.

Studying Arabic and civil-military relations in Jordan

B.A., political science and Spanish, Wabash College, 2003

A.A., Arabic, Defense Language Institute, 2006

M.P.A., national security affairs, Troy University, 2010

M.A., security studies, 2012

Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani Scholarship Fund

American Soldier Project Grant



# SOFIA PABLO-HOSHINO FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR

San Francisco, Calif.

Teaching English in Uruguay

B.S., mathematics, Syracuse University, 2009

M.A., political science, 2011

Nicolas Salgo Political Science Scholarship

“ I had some mentors during my undergrad at Syracuse who were from K-State and had really great experiences. Coming to K-State was one of the best decisions I could have made. Originally, I was very culture-shocked, being from the West Coast and living four years on the East Coast. But the K-State people are amazing.



A college education is supposed to give you opportunities to talk with people from many different areas of study, with many interests, and definitely this College provides that, with the wide variety of programs and students, with all their different ideas and interests.

I have this math background, but I'm also very interested in international politics and how events abroad are affecting us locally.

I received a political science scholarship, and one campus-wide one. Since I was paying for my master's program myself, it definitely relieved some stress and helped me be calmer about my financial situation.

When I learned I received the Fulbright, I was jumping up and down and screaming. The Fulbright gives me the opportunity to be abroad and immersed in another culture. This scholarship gives me the opportunity to put my knowledge into practice. I think my studies in women's rights and global issues will really become strong parts of what I do in Uruguay.

I'll be spending three months in a rural area teaching English to children ages 8 to 12, and five months in Montevideo teaching English at a university in the city. And I'll be working with a community organization, maybe a women's organization.

I want to do things that are sustainable, something grassroots, and really learn from the community, to have a true exchange and feel connected.”

A big part of going abroad is going into someone else's culture, knowing that it's not just a matter of what I bring, but a matter of how I can really help.



# NATHAN OWENS HOLLINGS SCHOLAR



“I grew up in the Manhattan area. When we moved to Wamego, we were up on a ridge between Manhattan and Wamego. Basically you could see every storm in the area. And I was already interested, so that sort of sealed the deal. With this being Kansas, my interests are particularly in severe storms and tornadoes.

I’ve been working for Mary Knapp (state climatologist, with the K-State Weather Data Library) since the summer before my freshman year. A lot of people call in for weather data, including the Kansas Department of Agriculture. We send out reports once a month to individual offices here on campus, all the way to Senator Jerry Moran’s office. Just working with a climatologist, you pick up on how they think about the dynamics of the atmosphere.

In the future, I’m leaning toward something to do with severe weather, or with hydrology, like water wells or water systems. It seems like improving water systems helps people in a lot of different ways. That’s one reason why I added natural resources to my degree program.

If I wind up working with mesoscale storms, I think the overall goal would be to improve warning times. *Meso* means medium, so it’s the area of meteorology that tornadoes fit into, things that happen along fronts.

The Hollings Scholarship will be a huge foot in the door. There’s a database of internships and projects. I’ll have to look at the projects that are available, then pick the ones that sound interesting to me, then start contacting people.

Even if my internship through the scholarship (in summer 2012) isn’t exactly what I wind up going into, it will still introduce me to people, and introduce me to experiences in NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration), which are really important to have.”

Wamego, Kan.

B.S., geography,  
secondary major in  
natural resources  
and environmental  
sciences, 2013

Geography  
Department Fund

David Tim Havley  
Department  
of Geography  
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Arts & Sciences  
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Plans to attend  
grad school in  
meteorology

I’m interested in improving our ability to get warnings to the public, because that can save lives.





*Dean Dorhout (center) with  
President Kirk Schulz and  
Provost April Mason.*

## DEAN PETER DORHOUT

Became dean  
Jan. 2012

Former vice provost  
for graduate affairs  
and assistant  
vice president for  
research, Colorado  
State University

Helped create  
Undergraduate  
Research Institute at  
Colorado State

Ph.D., inorganic  
chemistry, University  
of Wisconsin-  
Madison

Author, 110+ peer-  
reviewed articles,  
edited books and  
book chapters

Research funded by  
the National Science  
Foundation and  
Department of State

“K-State faculty and staff are well known for having taught and mentored and influenced great students over the years. Great faculty have the most direct impact on students. Students see them as role models, mentors — people who are helping them achieve their goals.

Opportunities for undergraduate research are so crucial. When I was an undergraduate, the chemistry department (at the University of Illinois) offered me the opportunity to spend the summer in a lab, and I never looked back. It was a chance to learn at a much deeper level, and I really became jazzed about the possibilities for my career.

And I’m not just talking about what happens in science, when we talk about undergraduate opportunities. This means getting excited about learning new techniques in art, or creating a composition in music, or working with faculty in *any* field. If a student can become a partner with a faculty member, he or she learns firsthand what it’s like to be a practicing professional.

On top of that, students get a mentor. I really like hearing from former students who bring me up to date on their lives. It’s just a tremendous rush for me to know that I have helped them out.

Every time someone is introduced as being from Kansas State University, and they’ve won the Truman or Goldwater or Fulbright, they build our name recognition.

I was really excited to learn last fall that K-State was looking for a new dean of Arts and Sciences. From my personal history as an associate dean at Colorado State, I knew that not only was K-State a great university, but that this was a great opportunity to move into leadership with people I’ve worked with in the past. I’d worked very closely with K-State’s dean of Human Ecology, Virginia Moxley, the associate dean of Agriculture, Don Boggs, as well as the current provost, April Mason, and I thought: This is an opportunity I can’t pass up.

My goal is to remove all the barriers to success. Great administrators collect the vision of the group, then help lead them where they want to go.”



# ARTS AND SCIENCES

**THANK YOU** for being a part of the College's continued success! Everyone who contributed \$250 or more to the College of Arts and Sciences between July 1, 2010, and June 30, 2011, is a member of the *Eisenhower Circle*. Your membership helps sustain excellence in the College. Annual, undesignated gifts allow College leaders to respond to emerging opportunities as well as ongoing needs that are not fully funded through state sources.

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No matter the size of the gift, all investments in K-State are very much appreciated. If there are any questions, please contact Sheila Walker, director of development for the College of Arts and Sciences, at [sheilaw@found.ksu.edu](mailto:sheilaw@found.ksu.edu) or 800-432-1578.

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*Jim Haymaker (right) with Dean Peter Dorbout.*

## 2011 ALUMNI MERIT AWARD

# JIM HAYMAKER

### Proud Alumnus:

'69 B.S. economics, B.A. modern languages  
(French and Spanish)

### Other Education:

'71 M.B.A. finance/international business,  
University of Chicago

### Career Highlights:

Haymaker retired in 2011 after 38 years with Cargill, an international producer and marketer of food, agricultural, financial and industrial products and services. He served the company as corporate vice president of strategy and business development since 2000, and worked in Minneapolis, as well as Germany and Spain.

### A Few Words:

"Jim's contributions sharply increased Cargill's earnings and the company was also able to implement a variety of new services and innovations to benefit customers."

— *Bill Blankenau, professor and head of K-State's Department of Economics, who nominated Haymaker*

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## 2011 YOUNG ALUMNI AWARD



Jeff Fabrick (left) with Dean Peter Dorbout.

# JEFF FABRICK

**Proud Alumnus:**  
'95 B.S. biochemistry,  
'03 Ph.D. biochemistry

**Current Position:**  
Research entomologist at the U.S. Department  
of Agriculture's Arid-Land Agricultural Research  
Center in Maricopa, Ariz.

**A Few Words:**  
"Jeff has made significant contributions to the  
area of insect immunity. Jeff has excelled as an  
independent scientist, continuing to work on basic  
studies of insect biochemistry with important  
implications for agriculture, particularly in insect  
pests of cotton."

— Mike Kanost, University Distinguished Professor  
and head of K-State's Department of  
Biochemistry, who nominated Fabrick

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# MIKE GOSS



Mike Goss, 2011 alumni fellow, is well traveled, to say the least. As managing director of Bain Capital in Boston, he is in charge of fundraising and internal affairs for the global investment firm, which manages \$65 billion for its investors. That means regular trips to the firm's international offices in London, Munich, Hong Kong, and Tokyo, to name a few.

But for Goss, '81 B.S. economics, one of his favorite spots to visit is his old college stomping grounds.

"I've been teaching economics and finance courses at K-State for probably about five years," Goss said. "It's really gratifying. I've even developed kind of a mentor relationship with a couple of the students who stay in touch with me. They've written and asked for career advice and personal advice."

He enjoys it so much, in fact, that he wanted to make sure K-State students received more than just the benefit of *his* 25 years of experience. He and his wife, Becky, wanted them to gain some world experience of their own.

"Becky and I just sponsored a new Kansas State scholarship program, which is going to provide scholarships for 25 kids to study abroad. It's just getting started, but I'm really proud of that. I realize how much my life has been enriched by international travel, and I wanted kids from K-State to have the same opportunity."

For Goss, establishing the scholarship was a no-brainer — because he is still very much connected to his alma mater.

"It's something I care about. You know, I'm very proud of Kansas State, and I want it to be successful. So anything I can do to help, I try to do."

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The Land Grant Legacy Society represents the past, present and future of Kansas State University. The society, which is part of the KSU Foundation Presidents Club, honors alumni and friends who have chosen to support the University by including K-State in their estate plans. By remembering the College of Arts and Sciences in their estate plans or deferred gift arrangements last fiscal year, these alumni ensure future opportunities for the students and faculty of tomorrow.

- Dan Griffin and Fran Pearson
- Marie and Raymond Long
- Vickie Longenecker
- Varena Mechsner
- Kenneth Mosely
- Eileen and David Simmons
- Steve Smethers
- Charley and Kay Smith

## 2011 ALUMNI FELLOW

### THE HONORABLE HENRY GREEN JR.

Judge Henry Green Jr. — with the Kansas Court of Appeals in Topeka — was honored when he found out he was one of two College of Arts and Sciences 2011 alumni fellows. But more exciting than the award itself was the chance to get back to campus...and the students.

"The best part of the visit was meeting with history classes and political science classes, and having students ask me about what I do — being able to explain why the judicial branch is an important function of our government," said Green, '72 B.S. political science and history.

"I've developed a relationship with the students, because I had been coming down for Constitution Day the last three years. So when I came down in February as an alumni fellow, I knew them all! And they felt really comfortable with me."

Green's visit also gave him a chance to impress upon students the seriousness of being in the legal field.

"As a judge, or even as an attorney, the cases you are involved with...you don't know how many people they will have an effect on," said Green, who was a practicing attorney for 18 years prior to becoming a judge. "It's a huge responsibility."

According to Green, it's a responsibility that K-State groomed him for.

"I got an excellent liberal arts education at K-State. And that prepared me for the field I'm in, as an attorney, and as a judge," Green said.

"Many K-State students at that time — and I think they still do — demonstrated a spirit of humility. That is very important in anything you do in life. If you think you know it all, you can't learn. When you're willing to admit that your thinking might be wrong, then you're willing to accept another idea. I've carried that with me all my life."

