

## Enrollment growth spurs construction

Continuing enrollment growth at Fort Hays State University has created the need for four new capital projects.

One project that has drawn a lot of interest is new student housing on the site of the former and outdated Agnew Hall, which was demolished last year. Increased enrollment has created a need for more on-campus housing, and the first phase of Tiger Place Suites is scheduled to open with 123 beds for the fall 2012 semester.

The second phase, which will provide 107 beds, will open in fall 2013. The cost for the project is \$9.2 million. That includes not only construction but also architectural fees, furnishings and other expenses. Paul-Wertenberger Construction Inc., a Hays company, is the developer/contractor for the project.

The total cost of the four projects is about \$24 million.

One project will change the face of the FHSU campus. A new road will be built along the dike by Big Creek, connecting Dwight Drive to Gustad Drive. At present, Dwight Drive passes between units of the Wooster Place housing complex and ends at the pedestrian bridge across Big Creek. Gustad Drive is the road that goes from the main campus to Gross Memorial Coliseum.

A third project is a new academic building, which will be part of the redesign of the campus. The build-

See "Construction" on page 4

Construction on Tiger Place Suites was well under way by Thanksgiving. The new student housing is on the site of former Agnew Hall, below. The first phase, expected to be completed for fall 2012, will have 123 beds, with another 107 to follow by fall 2013.

*Photos by Jessica Marston, Great Bend junior*



## New classroom designed for innovative learning

Fort Hays State University has a history of integrating new technology into the classroom, and a new kind of classroom demonstrates that spirit of innovation. Redesigned classrooms allow for flexibility and will increase the ease of use of technology for communication and collaboration.

Dr. David Schmidt, director of FHSU's Computing and Telecommunications Center, said "there is no single solution that fits all needs, so we targeted different solutions for different classrooms." Schmidt talked first about a classroom in Rarick Hall that was the site of a news conference to show off the new design. It features three kinds of chairs and tables made by Herman Miller, an innovative Michigan company.

"Students can choose among movable lounge chairs, barstool chairs or movable desk chairs," Schmidt said. The tables, square and round, are movable. Instructors can use a mobile lectern with wireless projector, and dual projectors show input from multiple sources onto a large area of the wall that has reflective paint.

The news conference took place during a class taught by Dr. Cheryl Hofstetter Duffy, professor of English. "Compared to students in a more traditional classroom, these writing students are relaxed and engaged," she said. "As I move from projected images on one side of the room to the white board on the opposite wall, or from table to table during writing workshops, students can't hide at the back of the room. There is no back of the room!"

A large lecture room in Albertson Hall has also been equipped with dual projectors so that one continuous image can be projected onto a new large screen. The image can be single or multiple from an Excel spreadsheet, the Internet, a YouTube video or other application.

A classroom in McCartney Hall also has dual projectors and special reflective paint. The room has a unique kind of chair on wheels, a chair with a surface for a laptop and book and storage underneath. Students can wheel their chairs to share desktop space in a variety of configurations.

## ■ The President's View

Fort Hays State University, along with the other universities, community colleges and technical colleges in the Kansas Board of Regents system, has not been immune to the challenges resulting from the economic collapse in fall 2008.

However, by growing our enrollment and implementing an array of efficiencies to deal with the economic downturn, we have maintained our academic excellence and are in the process of making several physical improvements that will enhance the learning experience for our students, including your son or daughter.

The efficiencies have included moving to a 10-hour-a-day, four-day summer workweek; developing Virtual College classes in-house; reorganizing our academic structure; and developing our own student record system. As a result, FHSU is the only Regents university that reduced its cost of producing a credit hour over the past five years.

We also continue to offer the lowest tuition in the 17 states of the Midwest at \$105.20 per credit hour. As a result, Kansas high school graduates are voting with their feet. FHSU has more than doubled its enrollment over the past decade, and we announced another all-time record this fall of 12,802 students. That makes us the eighth largest four-year school in our broad service area, from the Eisenhower Tunnel on the west to the Truman Library on the east.

The efficiencies and growth have allowed us to maintain excellence in the face of dwindling financial support from the state of Kansas. One example is the student financial planning team, which won first place at the Financial Planning Challenge national competition in September at San Diego. Also, two members of our faculty, Dr. Pelgy Vaz, associate professor of sociology, and Dr. Avi Kempinski, assistant professor of modern languages, have been recognized recently as Fulbright scholars.

Excellence also depends on providing a first-class learning environment.

We recently announced four new capital projects with a total cost of \$30 million and a projected economic impact on the region and state of nearly \$45 million. The construction projects include the two-phase Tiger Place residential facility on the site of the former Agnew Hall. The first phase will open for students next fall. We are also building a new road that will create improved access in the center of campus. Another project, which will begin construction in the spring, is an indoor sports facility that will be available to all our student athletes. We have also received approval from the Regents to construct a new academic building, called the Center for Networked Learning, which will house the Virtual College and some other departments and offices.

In addition to those capital projects, we are in the process of renovating several classrooms on campus.

Today's generation is a more connected generation, and today's businesses require more teamwork and collaboration. Therefore we are in the process of creating redesigned classrooms that provide tools tailored to meet these new challenges. Our goal is to build classrooms that allow for a lot of flexibility and increase the ease of use of technology for communication and collaboration.

Two classrooms were built with mobility and collaboration in mind, and a large lecture classroom was enhanced to increase presentation options and interaction. These classrooms will improve learning and will help to increase retention, which is one of our priorities. The new classrooms were funded as

See "President's View" on page 4



## ■ FHSU seeks dental bachelor's program

With approval from the Kansas Legislature and the Kansas Board of Regents, Fort Hays State University will soon be able to offer a baccalaureate degree program to train registered dental practitioners (RDPs).

RDPs are mid-level dental care providers who perform preventative and routine services like cleanings and fillings. By training and licensing RDPs, the hope is to expand the availability of quality dental care in Kansas, where, in many areas, adults and children have difficulty gaining access to dental care.

The RDP program is a proposal by the Kansas Dental Project. Senate Bill 192 and House Bill 2280 are in committee in their respective houses of the legislature and await further action in 2012.

## ■ Enrollment hits 12,802 – a new record

Fort Hays State University, which has more than doubled its enrollment over the past decade, announced yet another all-time headcount record of 12,802 for the official 20th-day of the fall semester, which was Sept. 19. That was a 919-student, 7.7-percent increase from last year.

The Kansas Board of Regents uses the 20th day of classes as the official enrollment day to provide a standard basis for comparison from year to year. On-campus headcount this fall is 4,683 students, an increase of 268, or 6.1 percent, from last fall's 4,415. Enrollment at partner universities in China this fall is 3,615, up 156, or 4.5 percent, from 3,459 students last fall. Virtual College headcount is 4,504, up from 4,009 students last fall, an increase of 495, or 12.3 percent.

## ■ University retains military-friendly ranking

For the fourth consecutive year, Fort Hays State University has been recognized by *G.I. Jobs Magazine* as a military-friendly school. This honor ranks FHSU in the top 20 percent of all colleges, universities and trade schools nationwide. More than 8,000 schools were researched and surveyed.

"The major factors on FHSU being deemed military friendly are our services offered to service members, the degrees we have to offer, the support staff and the processes we have in place, and the number of military students we have," said Dennis King, director of the Virtual College and learning technologies.

## ■ Fall enrollment sets another record

The Transition to Teaching Program at Fort Hays State University was recently awarded a five-year sub-award totaling more than \$400,000. The sub-award is a component of Ohio State University's \$5 million grant to build a network of partner universities that will support alternative licensure, especially through recruiting and training individuals with a bachelor's degree in a content area seeking a career change to enter the teaching profession.

Dr. Germaine Taggart, chair of the Department of Teacher Education, said the grant will help the program support new T2T teachers through scholarships and provide money to develop mentoring and supervisor modules that can be used anywhere.

## ■ Student video wins regional award

"What Would You Do?," a three-minute anti-bullying video made by and starring residence hall assistants at Fort Hays State University, has won a regional computer software publications award from NASPA, the international professional organization for student affairs administrators in higher education. The video revolves around the poem "What Would You Do?," written by Dallas, Texas, sophomore Jamison Green especially for the video and narrated by him during the video. The video is available on YouTube at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=jKvtkc7550](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jKvtkc7550)

## FORPARENTSONLY

is published semi-annually for the parents of full-time, on-campus students by the  
Office of University Relations, Sheridan Hall 204, Hays, KS 67601-4099.  
Telephone: (785) 628-4206 Email: [universityrelations@fhsu.edu](mailto:universityrelations@fhsu.edu)  
[www.fhsu.edu](http://www.fhsu.edu)

Comments about the publication are welcome.

Publisher: Kent Steward Editor: Kurt Beyers Designer: Mary Ridgway

Writers: Ellie Albert, Jade Boyer, Kara Hackney, Chelsea Ives, Jessica Marston, Breanna Velez

## From Student Affairs Myth busters, FHSU edition

By Shana Warkentine Meyer

In the wee hours of the night, the Blue Lantern lady crosses the highway to haunt unsuspecting art students toiling over their latest creations. New students can avoid the “freshman 15” by swimming laps in the heated pool of the penthouse suite in Wiest Hall. Ninja squirrels hide behind trees, waiting and anticipating your next move, ready to leap out, nibble your ankles and scamper off with your coveted iPod. Oh, and did I mention they fly?

Heading off to college can be nerve-racking enough without having to constantly look over your shoulder for the next swooping rodent. Of course these are ridiculous stories – not so much different than many other myths that swirl around campus as new students make the transition from high school to college. So students, sit back, relax, and arm yourself with the campus knowledge that will help you discern college myths from campus realities. Thus, I present to you: MythBusters: FHSU Edition.

**Myth No. 1:** Fraternities and Sororities=Animal House. Reality: If you’re looking for life-long friends, a nation-wide network of contacts and an emphasis on academics, philanthropy, leadership and involvement – Greek Life is for you. If you’re looking to party like Lindsay Lohan, head to Hollywood. Want to make a difference on campus? Go Greek. Last year alone, Greek members reported 4,179 hours of community service. The two FHSU sororities and four fraternities, representing 135 students, donated almost \$12,000 to local and national philanthropies in 2010-2011. But it’s not all hard work. Those involved in Greek Life get to know other campus leaders, plan events like the Homecoming Bonfire and Greek Week, and yes, they do have parties – just not the epic-style free-for-alls too often depicted in the movies.

**Myth No. 2:** Fort Hays State University Is the Top Party School. Reality: College is what you make of it. In every college town, you’ll find scholars, partiers, leaders, athletes, and slackers. College is a new start, a chance to experience freedoms and discover who you were meant to be. For most students, that means making the transition from high school to college, making new friends, facing tough decisions, and oh, yeah, studying and going to class. As for that rumor that Playboy named FHSU a Top Party School back in the ‘80s? They’ve only published a “party” list six times: 1987, 2002, 2006, 2009, 2010, and 2011. Guess what? No FHSU.

**Myth No. 3:** Local Teens Know FHSU. Reality: Quick – where is the Writing Center located? Who offers free tutoring? Where can I go for a late-night snack? For many incoming students from Hays and the Hays area, it is easy to get lulled into a sense of security, feeling since they’ve been on campus, they KNOW campus. While many students have taken concurrent credit hours, have they attended a lecture on campus? Played in intramurals? Lived in the residence halls? Studied abroad? Made new friends from all over the world? Researched with a professor? The services, classes, opportunities, and experiences at Fort Hays State University are limitless – unless one limits himself or herself. The attitude of “I DON’T know it all” goes a lot further than “I know it already.” And by the way, The Writing Center is in 020 Forsyth Library, the Kelly Center offers free tutoring, and snacks are available

See “From Student Affairs” on page 4

## Financial planning team wins a third national championship for FHSU

Three business students have won for FHSU a third national championship in the prestigious Ameriprise Financial Planning Challenge.

Nolan Kempke, Claflin senior, Layne Krizek (pronounced KREE-zek), Hays senior, and Cameron Werth, Hays senior, won the Financial Planning Association’s Financial Planning Challenge national competition in San Diego on Sept. 17, running away with the challenge’s final competition, a game-show contest called “The How Do You Know Challenge.”

Dr. Tom Johansen, professor of economics, finance and accounting and team coach, noted that this is the 10th year that FHSU has competed in the national championship. Out of those 10 years, FHSU has been in the top five every year, placed in the top three in seven years and this is the third year that FHSU has won outright.

Krizek explained that the team spent three weeks in June putting together a 150-page financial plan based on a case study of a fictitious family. “Our preparation for this competition came from the cumulative work of three years of education. Fort Hays State’s Economics, Finance and Accounting Department and the instructors in the College of Business and Leadership are top-tier and without a doubt prepared us for this competition and prepares our students to excel in their career goals.”

Kempke said the final two stages of the competition were a 20-minute oral presentation over the recommendations made in the financial plan and the “How Do You Know Challenge,” in which the teams each answer 30 questions covering the six areas of financial planning.

Both of these are at the FPA’s national conference, which was in San Diego this year. Werth was on last year’s team, which placed second nationally.

“My teammates and I put countless hours into preparing the written plan this year, and it is rewarding to see our hard work pay off. Our teachers do a phenomenal job preparing us for the competition,” he said.

All three named the challenge as their favorite part of the entire contest. It is a “Jeopardy” style format with 30 questions covering six categories of financial planning: financial position (calculation); protection planning (insurance); investment planning; retirement planning; estate planning; and tax planning. Questions are worth from 100 to 500 points, and every team gets a crack at points on every question. A bonus question is 750 points.

“We started out by getting the first seven or eight questions right,” said Kempke. “From the first question we had the lead and never lost it. It was a good feeling to know that the other teams were all looking up at us.”

This year’s competitors, chosen by the FPA from all the written plans submitted at the end of June, were, in addition to Fort Hays State, Colorado State University, Boulder; two teams from Kansas State University; Metropolitan State College, Denver; the University of Northern Colorado, Greeley; Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, N.C.; and William Paterson University, Wayne N.J.

The team received the Career Coach Award, which provides each team member a one-hour career coaching session from a financial planning expert in addition to \$10,000 in scholarship money for the university.



Photos by Kent Steward, University Relations

### Promoting education

For a week in November, FHSU President Edward H. Hammond toured the state to take the message of higher education’s role in economic recovery to news media and events such as the gathering of alumni in Overland Park, above. Hammond cited efficiencies in operations at FHSU that have allowed it to lower the cost of producing a credit hour over the past five years while doubling enrollment. He also promoted a Kansas Board of Regents study which shows that Kansas gets \$12 in economic return for every \$1 invested in higher education.

## ■ From Student Affairs

Continued from page 3

in the Memorial Union and the Wiest Hall Outtakes.

**Myth No. 4:** Parents Are Today's 911. Reality: Parents – think back to when you first moved from home. In order to call your folks, what did you have to do? Use a payphone? Wait for a commons area phone to open up? Make the trek to your apartment or house? These days, mom and dad are as close as our students' hands, one button away, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. In the amount of time it took us to find a phone back in the day, we had calmed down or figured out what to do. Today's students regularly

call home in the heat of the moment, and too often mom or dad swoop in to save the day. It's okay to support your student, but it's also okay to let them make the call, figure things out and (gasp) sometimes fail. Students learn an awful lot in the classroom – but the personal growth that students can achieve is many times as equal an education one might receive from their professors – IF students are allowed the chance.

**Myth No. 5:** There's Nothing to Do in Hays. Reality: New students can kick things off with our Tiger Impact events, designed to help students make new

friends, learn about social issues, prepare for collegiate academic success, and learn about campus resources. Augustfest events are created by various groups, student organizations, and departments across campus to welcome students to FHSU. Students learn about campus, meet other new Tigers, make the adjustment to "back to school," and get acquainted – or reacquainted – with FHSU. Throughout the year, Tigers can participate in our many intramurals events, cheer on our Tiger athletes, attend lectures and events in the union, see Broadway-style performances in Beach/Schmidt Performing Arts Center, get involved in student organizations, attend programs in our residence

halls, and oh, yeah, study and go to class. And that's just on campus. Bowling, Frisbee golf, movies, dancing, shopping, trying new restaurants, and hanging out with friends are also some of the "nothing" available in Hays. So now you're ready to succeed, armed with the knowledge of myth vs. reality. We welcome all students, new and returning, to Fort Hays State University and look forward to seeing them get involved, avoiding the ninja squirrels, succeeding in the classroom, and making many positive friendships and memories as a Tiger.

*Shana Warkentine Meyer is the assistant vice president for student affairs at Fort Hays State University.*

## ■ CAMPUS CALENDAR

### ■ December

- 16 Semester ends
- 17-18 Encore Series: Prairie Nutcracker, 7:30 p.m., Beach/Schmidt PAC

### ■ January

- 16 Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday, university closed
- 17 Classes begin

### ■ February

- 10-12 FHSU Family Weekend

### ■ March

- 2 Mid-semester
- 19-25 Spring break
- 26 Classes resume
- 26 Summer pre-enrollment begins

### ■ April

- 2 Fall pre-enrollment begins

### ■ May

- 5 Final exams begin
- 11 Graduate School Commencement, 7 p.m., Gross Memorial Coliseum
- 12 Undergraduate Commencement, 10 a.m., Gross Memorial Coliseum
- 28 Memorial Day Holiday, university closed

### ■ June

- 4 Classes begin

### ■ July

- 2 Second session (4-week) courses begin
- 4 Independence Day Holiday, university closed
- 5 Classes resume
- 27 Summer term ends

*For more specific information on individual events, go to the FHSU Master Calendar at [www.fhsu.edu/calendar/](http://www.fhsu.edu/calendar/)*

## ■ President's View

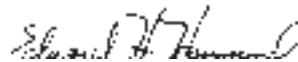
Continued from page 2

a pilot project with action plan money through the FHSU strategic plan. We plan to renovate an additional 3 classrooms by 2012.

Everything we do at FHSU is based on one core principle, which is to provide the best possible learning experience for our students. I hope you share my excitement at the improvements I have outlined.

I invite you to visit campus and see first-hand the living and learning environment we provide for your son or daughter. You are welcome to stop by my office in Sheridan Hall, call me at (785) 628-4231 or e-mail me at [ehammond@fhsu.edu](mailto:ehammond@fhsu.edu).

Sincerely yours,



Edward H. Hammond, Ph.D.  
President

## ■ Construction

Continued from page 1

ing, which has received approval from the Kansas Board of Regents, will house the Virtual College, the Center for Teaching Excellence and Learning Technology and the Department of Informatics. The building would be located in the area between the dike and Tomanek Hall. The effect would be to create a second Quad in addition to the traditional Quad. If the building is approved, bids would be taken in late 2012 with a completion date of June 2014. The project cost for the new academic building has been estimated at \$10.25 million.

The fourth project is a new indoor sports facility to be located at the southeast corner of the FHSU campus, near Lewis Field Stadium. Plans were unveiled last June. At the time, Don and Chris Bickle and Bob and Pat Schmidt announced that their families would each donate a million dollars to the project.

The project cost for the 71,000-square-foot facility is about \$4 million. "We are hoping to take bids, start construction next spring and begin using the facility in January 2013," said FHSU President Edward H. Hammond.

## Shooting team wins Prairie Circuit Classic

FHSU shot down the competition when the Shooting Club brought back a first-place trophy from the Prairie Circuit Classic Championship held in North Platte, Neb. The Prairie Circuit Championship, a regional championship for all schools in Nebraska, Oklahoma, Colorado, Wyoming, and Kansas, was hosted this year by FHSU in North Platte. This championship was established to allow another chance to compete in a high-level competition.

"We were chosen to host the championship because of our desire to make it into one of the premier events in the nation," said Dr. Duane Shepard, associate professor of health and human performance and team coach. FHSU shooters were first in all five events and had the high overall winner in the men's division, Damian Giles, North Platte, Neb., junior. The team was also the overall winner.

FHSU will attend the Association of College Unions International national event in San Antonio at the end of March. The team is 19 members – six women and 13 men.