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WILLIAM ALLEN WHITE SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM & MASS COMMUNICATIONS  
University of Kansas  
Fall 1998

## Technology Update: The Digital Jayhawk, Web Site Redesign and KJHK Power

A \$75,000 gift from the Freedom Forum has provided funds to hire a professional-in-residence for the year and begin developing **The Digital Jayhawk**, an online multimedia product that will offer news, sports, entertainment and other items of interest to KU students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends. The professional is **Chris Ryan**, from the *Fort Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel*. The Digital Jayhawk should be up and running this winter, providing students with experience in web design and production, streaming of audio and video, and other Web-related technologies. The Freedom Forum selected the School as one of three recipients for its annual professional-in-residence awards. Ryan also will teach while at the School, offering a course in online journalism.

The School is currently redesigning its Web site. The new site should be up in December. The URL is [www.ukans.edu/~jschool](http://www.ukans.edu/~jschool).

Radio station **KJHK** and the School received news in September that the FCC had granted the station's application for a power increase to 2900 watts. Construction is due to be completed before year-end. The station's signal should reach the state line to the east and near Manhattan to the west.



## Journalism Faculty/Staff in the News

The Kansas Association of Broadcasters elected **Gary Hawke**, general manager of the School's integrated media labs, to its board of directors during its October convention in Topeka. The Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication elected Associate Professor **Carol E. Holstead** secretary of the magazine division during its August convention in Baltimore.

Associate Professor **Adrienne Rivers** was selected for the 1998-99 Vice Chancellors Fellows Program. She is one of four KU faculty members selected to learn more about university administration. Associate Professor **Linda Davis** has been named head of the advertising and business communications sequences.

**Timothy Bengtson**, associate professor, was one of this year's 20 recipients of a William T. Kemper Fellowship for Teaching Excellence. A "KU Surprise Patrol" visited classrooms in September and presented a \$5,000 check to each recipient selected by a committee of KU students, faculty and alumni.



KU Provost David Shulenburg (right) visits the School to present a \$5,000 award to Associate Professor Timothy Bengtson.

Professor **Ted Frederickson** and Associate Professor **Tom Volek** have been named William Allen White Foundation Teaching Professors. The Del Brinkman Teaching Professor for 1998-99 is Associate Professor **John Katich**. The three professorships recognize teaching excellence.

A 1995 journalism graduate and former *Detroit News* reporter, **Manny Lopez** has joined the School as the new coordinator of recruiting and retention. **Lavonne Seifert**, a KU English grad who was vice president and director of communications for American Century Investments in Kansas City, has been named coordinator of career development. **Lynne Tidwell**, with the School's records office since 1981, has been named coordinator of undergraduate advising.

Student Services Director Emeritus **Dana Leibengood** is recuperating from successful knee-replacement surgery. Professor Emeritus **Bruce Linton** is writing a history of the School.

## Accreditation Moves Forward

A team from the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications visited the School in October and recommended the School for reaccreditation. This visit was the first step in a three-step process for reaccreditation. The team identified a number of strengths at the School, including faculty, excellence in teaching, student body, administrative leadership, private support and "pioneering curricular efforts to prepare students for media convergence." The entire reaccreditation process should be completed by May.



## 1997-98 Dean's Club

*The School of Journalism appreciates the generous support alumni and friends have provided through annual gifts to The Kansas University Endowment Association.*

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(\$5,000 or more)

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## Alumni News and Events

**John Frazee**, vice president of news services for CBS News, received the School's Radio-TV Journalism Alumni Honor Citation in October. Frazee is a member of KU's class of 1975. He is responsible for CBS News' Newspath, a continuous video and live news-gathering service for CBS affiliates and foreign broadcasters, and for *Up to the Minute*, CBS News' overnight broadcast.

Topeka broadcaster **Kent M. Cornish** received the 1998 Grover Cobb Award, presented by the School to recognize long-term, continuous service to the state of Kansas in the field of broadcasting. Cornish, a 1976 KU journalism graduate, has been general manager of Topeka's ABC-TV affiliate, KTKA-TV, since 1991.

A reception for **Kansas City journalism alumni** was held in October. Dean **Jimmy Gentry** and 20 faculty/staff joined 150 alumni in one of the largest academic receptions held in Kansas City by the KU Alumni Association. Dean Gentry also visited with **Houston journalism alumni** in October at an all-university donor reception sponsored by the KU Endowment Association. Receptions for journalism alumni in **Chicago** and **Wichita** are tentatively scheduled for spring 1999.

## Gifts Enhance Journalism Programs; Donors Visit Campus

Private support provided supplementary resources for nearly every program of the School during the 1997-98 academic year, particularly enhancing the School's ability to upgrade technology, hire student lab assistants and provide academic scholarships. Fund-raising efforts generated \$291,046 last year, up 22 percent from the previous year. An additional \$43,462 was received from realized estate gifts.

**Jerry Knudson**, professor emeritus of communications at Temple University and a 1956 graduate of the KU School of Journalism, has created an estate plan that will provide the KU Endowment Association with funds for scholarships for news students who show exceptional professional promise.

**Ralph "Bud" and Barbara Weir** visited the School in October to tour the Weir Production Center in the Dole Building. The couple's 1980 gift provided the resources for the School's lab, classroom and office space in the Dole Building.

**Norris and Helena Wooldridge** visited campus in October to host the 24th annual Wooldridge Scholars Dinner. The scholarships memorialize the couple's son, Roger N. Wooldridge.

## Regents Approve New Global Center

The Kansas Board of Regents approved in October a request to establish a **Global Center for Marketing Communications** in the School of Journalism. To be funded through foundation and federal grants, the center will be linked to KU's four international centers — Russian and East European Studies, Latin American Studies, African and African-American Studies and East Asian Studies—to provide classroom and workshop instruction, training for media professionals and curricular counseling. The center also would facilitate international exchanges among faculty and students. Associate Professor **Tom Volek** is coordinator of international initiatives.

In October, the School hosted 91 international military officers from Ft. Leavenworth's Command & General Staff College. Officers attended seminars and provided interview opportunities for reporting classes.

## Mark Your Calendar

**William Allen White Day** will be held **Feb. 5**, with presentation of the William Allen White medallion followed by the recipient's speech. Albert Hunt of *The Wall Street Journal* will be the 1999 recipient.

The School once again will sponsor a table at the **Rock Chalk Ball**. The Kansas City event will be held on the evening of **Feb. 5**.

The School's annual **Scholarships and Awards Ceremony** will be **April 30**.

~Jschool LINKS was designed and edited by Tony Johnson, a senior in advertising from Lawrence, KS.

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