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WILLIAM ALLEN WHITE SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM & MASS COMMUNICATIONS  
University of Kansas  
Summer 1999

## KU Journalism Reaccredited

The William Allen White School of Journalism and Mass Communications was granted reaccreditation in April by the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications. An accrediting team visited the School in October. It identified the strengths of the program as faculty, excellence in teaching, student body, administrative leadership, private support and pioneering efforts to prepare students for media convergence.

"I am heartened by the accreditation team's visit," said University of Kansas Chancellor Robert Hemenway. "They clearly were impressed with the School, its faculty and the dean. As one of them said in our interview, 'The students are getting as good an educational experience at KU as anywhere in the country.'"

## Linda Lee Davis Moves to School's Associate Dean Post



Linda Lee Davis(left) advises a journalism student.

Linda Lee Davis has been named associate dean of the School. Davis, who has been chair of the School's Advertising and Business Communications sequences, began teaching at the University of Kansas 15 years ago.

"Linda's work at the School has been excellent," said Dean Jimmy Gentry. "Her teaching wins awards and her scholarship is outstanding, publishing in Spanish and English. She has excellent preparation for academic administration."

Before coming to the School, she was director of corporate public relations for Home Box Office. She received a B.S. degree in journalism from the University of Florida and a master's degree in journalism from the University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill.

A position search was conducted among internal candidates. Davis succeeds Susanne Shaw in the position.

## Faculty Notes and News

**Gerry Cain** has accepted a tenure-track assistant professorship at the School. Cain, a Kansas City advertising professional, has been involved with the School since 1994, teaching at the Edwards Campus in Johnson County and on the Lawrence campus.

**Tom Volek** was honored in May at the second annual Teacher Appreciation Banquet sponsored by the the KU Center for Teaching Excellence. He was selected by graduate students as the teacher who best exemplified outstanding teaching in journalism.

**Gary Hawke**, general manager of the School's Integrated Media Laboratory, is president-elect of the Kansas Broadcast Education Association, a new arm of the Kansas Association of Broadcasters.

## Students Earn Scholarships and Awards

The School presented 118 scholarships worth \$178,000 during its annual recognition ceremony in April. Twenty-seven cash awards totalling nearly \$7,000 also were presented. New scholarships included the **Byron and Eulalia T. Guise Scholarship** and scholarships presented in memory of **William J. Andrews** and **Kenneth L. Simons**. A reception after the ceremony provided an opportunity for donors to meet the recipients of their scholarships.

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**Dean's Club Provides Computers, Student Assistants and Scholarships**

Unrestricted funds from Dean's Club members provided computers, audio-visual equipment and furniture for the computer labs during the past year. These resources also were used to hire student assistants in the labs and provide scholarships critical to recruiting top students, retaining minority students and assisting students with financial need.

"The Dean's Club provides resources for positive and rapid change at the School," said Dean Jimmy Gentry, "from short-term needs not funded by the state budget to major initiatives that expand the School's programs."

**Technology Upgrades Continue**

The University of Kansas provided two special grants to the School during the spring semester. A \$53,000 grant is being used to totally upgrade one of the School's computer labs, to purchase computers to drive scanners and for a character generator for closed captioning in the TV lab. To upgrade faculty computing, KU funded \$57,000 in enhancements, primarily for desktop and laptop computers.

The **Journalism Career Center's Job and Internship List** is now available online to students. The site was developed as a special project by Bob Basow and Cade Cruickshank. Permanent positions and internships can be listed by contacting Patty Noland, the School's career development coordinator, at 785-864-7630.

**Student News and Honors**

Students received journalism degrees at the May 23 **University of Kansas Commencement**. The School also honored its graduates at a recognition ceremony and reception earlier that day. Twenty-four students received master's degrees, and 186 students received bachelor's degrees.

KU Journalism took fifth place in the print category of the annual **William Randolph Hearst Foundation's Journalism Awards Program**. Five students received individual awards in the national competition. More than 100 journalism schools and departments participate in the competition. "We've been in the top five the last three or four years," said Rick Musser, who directs the KU contestants.

The advertising staff of the *University Daily Kansan* won three first-place awards at the **College Newspaper Business and Advertising Managers** convention in April. The awards were for full-color ad, retail promotion and house ad campaign.

The *University Daily Kansan* Editorial Board earned first-place recognition in the **Society of Professional Journalists Region 7 Mark of Excellence Awards**. Individual students received three additional first-place designations and one second-place award.

**Mark Your Calendar**

A cookout and reception at the home of Dean Gentry is planned for **Dean's Club** members and major gift donors. It will be held immediately after the **Oct. 2 Homecoming** game. Invitations with additional information will be mailed at the end of summer.

A *University Daily Kansan* reunion is planned for **Oct. 2**. For additional information contact Tom Eblen, *Kansan* general manager, at 785-864-7667. The reunion includes a dinner and open house.