

FALL 2011

Perspectives

Alumni magazine of the University of Missouri-Kansas City

5 myths of CSI

UMKC experts dissect TV's
portrayal of crime.

PLUS

What it's
really like
on patrol
with campus
police

SHAKY GROUND IN THE MIDWEST » RAKING IN THE PULITZERS » EPPERSON HOUSE STANDS TALL

The UMKC Alumni Association

Celebration 2012

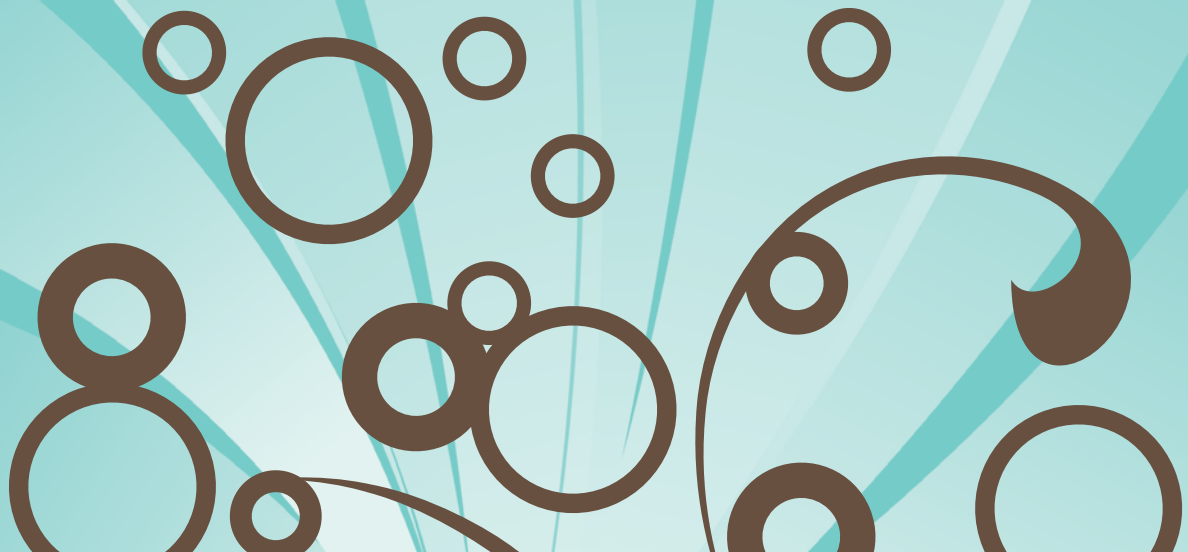
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Learn more about sponsorships by visiting umkcalumni.com.



5 ways TV gets it wrong

Real-life detectives blow holes in crime show myths.

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Perspectives

Fall 2011

Perspectives is published twice a year for alumni and friends of the University of Missouri-Kansas City by the UMKC Office of Alumni and Constituent Relations, 5100 Rockhill Road, 300B Administrative Center, Kansas City, MO, 64110-5189; 816-235-1561, umkcalumni.com, alumni@umkc.edu.

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A bench dedicated to John Willett, M.A. '00, on the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks.



Gone but not forgotten

We all remember where we were. I'd just gotten off the phone with my best friend from high school, an attorney in Manhattan, who'd been on the subway underneath the towers when the first plane hit on Sept. 11, 2001. She told me she was OK and was walking home to Brooklyn. Then my dad called and in an uncharacteristically shaken voice asked if I was sitting down. "We think Karleton was on that plane."



Karleton D.B. Fyfe

My 31-year-old handsome, funny and smart cousin had boarded a flight in Boston that morning, leaving his toddler and pregnant wife behind. Hours later, his name ticked across the bottom of our television screen as the passenger manifest from American Airlines Flight 11 became public.

At the Pentagon that day, UMKC alumnus Lt. Col. Brian Birdwell, MPA '96, was returning to his office when he heard what he thought was a bomb exploding near the corridor outside. Burned by jet fuel over 60 percent of his body, Birdwell was the closest person to the Pentagon attack impact to survive.

Another UMKC alumnus was on the 101st floor of the north tower of the World Trade Center that morning, where he worked for Cantor Fitzgerald. John Willett, M.A. '00, did not survive. Even as I write this 10 years later, the grief of the loss of my cousin and the void it left in our family is still

raw. I marvel at Brian Birdwell and his family's strength through his long healing process. It was a privilege to watch him receive the Henry W. Bloch School of Management's highest alumni honor at the Alumni Awards luncheon last year. He and so many like him—survivors and rescuers alike—are an inspiration and a testament to hope in the face of devastation.

To commemorate the 10th anniversary this month, John Willett's parents joined the UMKC community in dedicating a memorial bench on campus in their son's honor. In a quiet place in the UMKC quadrangle, the plaque on the bench reads, "Dedicated in memory of John Willett, M.A. 2000, gone but not forgotten. 9-11-01." We will continue to mark time from the events of that day, pausing each year to remember. But in the end, there really are no words. So we keep the names, faces and stories etched on our hearts.

LISEN TAMMEUS

Readers respond to the Spring 2011 issue



Cooking up a crush

I just loved the article on Chef Cody Hogan ("Cooking up a masterpiece," Spring 2011). I'm an obsessive cookbook reader and an avid cook. I printed out all of his recipes and can tell by just reading them they will be exceptional. Chef Hogan is my latest crush. My next move is to buy any cookbooks he has written. Even though I live in Boston and Chicago, I can't wait to visit Kansas City and eat at his restaurant, Lidia's. Great article—great job.

—Dr. Dee Groen
D.D.S. '88

7 Cook like a pro

Get the recipes for Chef Hogan's favorite dishes, such as Tuscan fennel and bean soup, at perspectives.umkc.edu.

The little station that could

The article about Communiversity and the reference about the beginnings of KKFI 90.1 FM ("Homegrown improvement," Spring 2011), brought back some wonderful memories. In 1976, after eight years of undergraduate, graduate and law school at UMKC, I was interested in taking on a significant challenge that would benefit the community. In the summer of 1976, Gil Werner and I kicked around the idea for a listener-supported community radio station in Kansas City.

We researched how to start a community radio station. This research included visiting stations in Columbia, Mo., and Telluride, Colo. In the fall of 1976, we decided we had enough information to offer a Communiversity course called Radio Free Kansas City. By offering this course, we hoped to gauge how strong

the community's interest was for our idea. On the first night, 60 people showed up. We were astounded. In less than three months, I had drafted and filed articles of incorporation to form Midcoast Radio Inc., the parent corporation designed to start and operate the radio station. I became the first president and we secured office space at the corner of 39th and Main St., in the old Foolkiller building. Through creative fundraising and grant writing, we sustained the organization through the 10-year process it took to conduct engineering studies, secure a frequency and build the station.

7 Head of the class

For more about Communiversity classes, visit perspectives.umkc.edu.

If it was not for UMKC's Communiversity, I doubt the station would have ever become a reality.

You see, since we had not yet conducted any engineering studies, we did not know that in 1976 there weren't any available frequencies in the Kansas City area for a 100,000-watt radio station. It was pure luck that the FCC changed its rules to protect low-power stations and the energy 60 or so Communiversity class participants generated—we were able to persevere and eventually obtained a broadcast license for KKFI.

—David A. Dye
B.A. '72, J.D. '76

Inspiring alumni

I read the moving story of Mr. Mutuku Mutinga at perspectives.umkc.edu and I was inspired by his will to change his circumstances. Such determination is hard to come by, and more so in an environment such as the one he grew up in. That makes him a true success story. Being a prospective UMKC engineering student, I was also pleased to learn that the president of Black and Veatch is a UMKC alumnus.

—Evans Mutua

Get in touch

Perspectives welcomes letters to the editor. And if we publish your letter, you'll be entered into a drawing for a **free UMKC hat**. We want to hear what's on your mind, so drop us a line. Letters appearing in the magazine may be edited for space and clarity.

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to read alumni profiles.



An inside look

Here's what went into the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts.

25,000 cubic yards of concrete (**225,000** wheelbarrows full)

1.2 million man-hours of work (**600** years)

10.8 million pounds of structural steel (enough to build **7,200** mid-size cars)

1.93 million pounds of plaster (applied **3 inches** thick)

32 megawatts capacity (enough to power **350** houses)

6,000 light fixtures

Find a seat

For a listing of Conservatory events at the Kauffman Center, visit conservatory.umkc.edu.

Lights down, curtains up

The Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts' inaugural season welcomes Conservatory events.

It's time to raise the curtain at the new Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts. This month, Kansas City's newest landmark will be home to UMKC Conservatory Artist Series 2011-12 performances. As part of the series, William D. and Mary Grant/Missouri Professor of Jazz Studies Bobby Watson will conduct "The Gates BBQ Suite" on Sept. 28 with the Conservatory Concert Jazz Band. In addition, the Conservatory Orchestra and Wind Symphony, along with the PRISM Quartet and Carl Orff's Carmina Burana, will perform on later dates throughout the season.

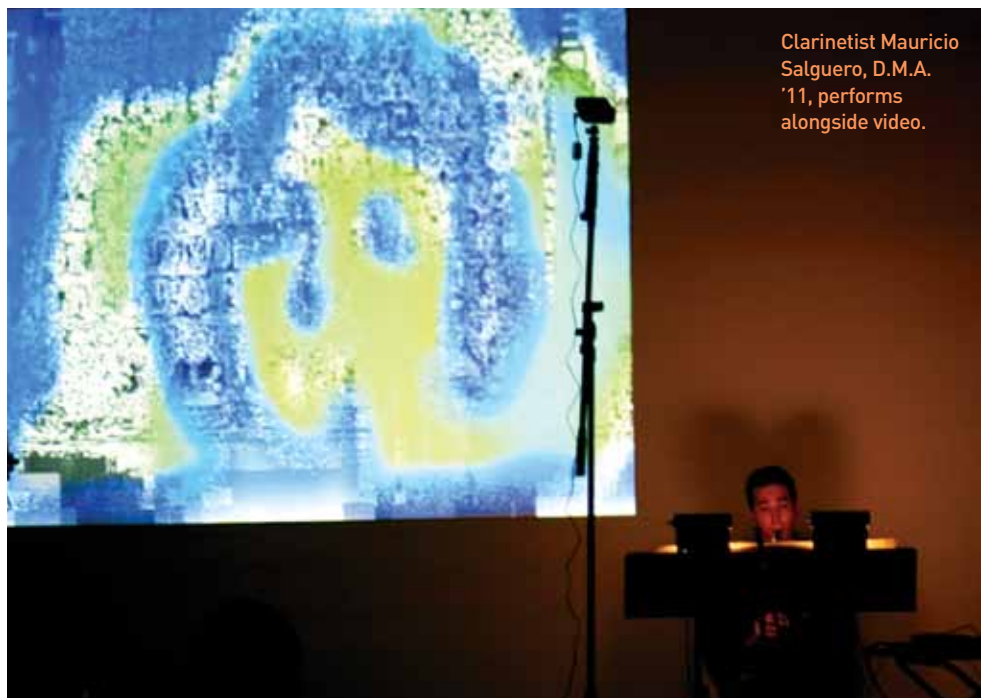
The Kauffman Center was designed to rival some of the most famous venues in the world, including the Sidney Opera House and the Walt Disney Philharmonic Concert Hall in Los Angeles. In addition to its world-class architectural design, the Kauffman Center possesses some of the world's best acoustics. Both halls are adorned with a

system designed by Yasuhisa Toyota, BNIM architecture firm and architect Moshe Safdie. Toyota has also tuned the Walt Disney Philharmonic Concert Hall.

The 285,000-square-foot complex features two halls: the Muriel Kauffman Theatre and the Helzberg Hall, which will be the venue for three of the seven Artist Series dates this season. The Helzberg Hall seats 1,600 concert goers in the round, giving everyone a premium view. Helzberg Hall will be the new home for the Kansas City Symphony.

The Muriel Kauffman Theatre seats 1,800 people with balconies and elevated rows. Each seat is 22 to 24 inches wide with a monitor on the seat back that makes for easier viewing of the show. The theater features a 5,000-square-foot stage and a 74-foot fly tower. The theater will house the Kansas City Ballet and the Lyric Opera of Kansas City. —Mark Linville





Clarinetist Mauricio Salguero, D.M.A. '11, performs alongside video.

A feast for eyes and ears

The Kansas City Electronic Music & Arts Alliance combines visual and musical arts.

It's "highbrow Devo-synth meets Aphex Twin jam," says music reviewer and UMKC alumnus Lee Hartman (M.M. '05, D.M.A. '09). An amplified string quartet and electronics playing the sound of twisting timbers is typical fare for the Kansas City Electronic Music & Arts Alliance (KcEMA). The KcEMA brings diverse sounds and sights to its audiences. Created in 2007, the group helps musicians, poets, dancers, actors and others showcase their talents to the community. Through support and collaboration of electronic artists, KcEMA aims to further the creation of electronic music and arts.

In January, the group was awarded a grant from the Aaron Copland Fund for Music for its contribution to furthering public interest in and appreciation of contemporary American Music. With the Copland grant, the KcEMA will be able to continue its programming and production of a concert series. Caroline Miller, a teaching assistant in the UMKC Conservatory of

Music and Dance, is a member of the artistic committee. "People from all over the world submit their music, videos and ideas, and we vote on what we would like to see performed," Miller says. "Often, we feature a particular performer or ensemble per concert and invite artists to collaborate."

It's electric!

For upcoming show times and events, visit kcema.net.

The selection process brings out the most talented artists, says Miller. In the past, the KcEMA has performed music composed by numerous well-known musicians from all over the world, including recent Pulitzer Prize winner Zhou Long, Conservatory research professor of music composition (for more on Zhou's Pulitzer, see page 18). The KcEMA has also performed pieces by Paul Rudy, professor of music composition, theory and musicology, Zhou Juan, graduate piano student, and Daniel Eichenbaum, a doctoral student at the Conservatory. —Mark Linville

Word

on the

street

» **Pocket some jazz.** Download Grammy-nominated saxophonist Bobby Watson's ringtone, recorded by the Conservatory Jazz Band, at kcur.org/uptodate.

» **In the city.** At the heart of every great city there is a great university. Learn why at umkc.edu/inthecity and see UMKC students in the university's latest commercial campaign.

» **Good as green.** The UMKC Student Union has been certified as a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold project.

» **Top honors.** KCUR 89.3 FM won eight awards for reporting and programming and was named Radio Station of the Year at the 2011 Kansas City Press Club Heart of America Awards.

» **The big 4-0.** The UMKC Women's Center is celebrating its 40th anniversary with events throughout 2011-12.

» **Host with the most.** UMKC will host Summit League championships in 2011-12 for men's soccer, men's and women's tennis and softball.

Q

DEEP THOUGHTS »

Is it better to read what you want or to read what you are told is good for the soul and the intellect?

English lit and philosophy faculty chime in on where to start when your reading list is a mile long.

VIRGINIA BLANTON

English Department co-chair

Reading for pleasure and edification are essential to having a good imagination and to developing intellectual curiosity. There are times to stretch the mind and times to relax the mind. Westerns and romance are but another form of the ancient or medieval romance genre, just as works by Tolstoy and Tolkien are.

CYNTHIA JONES

Lecturer

Why shouldn't what one wants to read coincide with the goal to read literature that's good for the soul and the intellect? When, as academics do, we discuss a work that has captured our soul or imagination, we share it with each other and our larger circle. Thus the "why" is an end unto itself.

KEVIN KINGHORN

Lecturer

Read what you like. I started out by reading Louis L'Amour, Ian Fleming, Alistair MacLean and Jack Higgins. I didn't read these in anticipation that they'd one day lead to greater things that would somehow feed my soul. I read them because they already did that. You either mature as a reader or you don't. Either way, you're reading.

CLANCY MARTIN

Philosophy Department chair

You should never read something you don't want to read—life's too short, and there are too many fine books. But listen to other smart people—especially dead ones—about what might be worth reading. You'll find that the recommendations of the dead are what you'll find yourself loving to read the most.

ANTHONY SHIU

Assistant Professor

As long as someone remains engaged in thinking about how their interests relate to our world, we all benefit from new, challenging ideas; that way, what's "good" for us won't be medicine (or a predetermined list) but, rather, new ways of thinking, imagining and defining our relation to each other and our societies.



Watch
ONLINE

Photo by Matthew Bradbury

A humdinger of an honor

In 2010, UMKC Professor Andrew Wegst, along with a team of photographers, filmed "Hummingbirds: Magic in the Air," for the long-running PBS series *Nature*. By capturing a world the human eye can't see, the team earned a national Emmy award nod for Outstanding Nature Programming. With wings that beat 200 times per second, hummingbirds are the fastest—and smallest—warm-blooded creatures on the planet. To document hummingbirds' athletic prowess, Wegst and the production crew used cutting-edge HD technology and cameras capable of capturing 500 images per second. This fall, Wegst is teaching advanced cinematography, lighting and location sound. Visit perspectives.umkc.edu for a link to the full episode of *Nature*. Emmy winners will be announced this month.

Student patents success

Engineering student invents an iPhone and iPad transmitter.

Somehow Jorge Colman, while juggling classes and homework, found time to invent. The School of Computing and Engineering junior developed an audio/video transmitter that allows iPhone 4 and iPad users to display their device on a TV, monitor or projector. Based on lessons from his Mechanical Engineering 130 course and with support from Assistant Teaching Professor Katherine Bloemker, Colman, who had been contemplating the transmitter idea for a while, decided to bring it to life. "Since we had to present a project for the class, I decided to design the transmitter," he says. And from there, he went to work creating a prototype. According to Bloemker, this project is just the beginning for Colman. "He has a bright future ahead of him," she says.

The transmitter connects to the device as simply as a cable into the charging port, which makes for easy setup. Colman says the wireless transmitter sends information to the receiver, which is connected to a TV set. The current prototype transmits a resolution of 480 pixels (units of an image), which Colman plans on upgrading to full HD 1080p.

With one patent pending, Colman has another transmitter in development, the iCast. The new model will be available for iPads and iPhone, HTC Evo, Droid X, Galaxy Tabs and video

cameras. "Jorge's invention is a testament to the great things our students and alumni can do," Bloemker says. "We have a lot of students with new ideas, and Jorge is the perfect example of what can happen if you believe in your idea and put effort into seeing it realized."

Want one?

The iCast hits shelves on Dec. 5, just in time for the holidays. Preorder yours at iyuyo.com.

Colman, who grew up without much exposure to computers, was inspired to pursue electrical and computer engineering because of his love for robots and electronics. He got his first taste of computers from his neighbor, a TV and radio repairman. "I would bring his

leftover components to my house and experiment with them," Colman says. He also had a knack for dismantling his family's and friends' TV sets at his parents' expense.

Colman will make his transmitter available to the public after he develops a business plan with the help of the Henry W. Bloch School of Management's Entrepreneurship Scholars program. He says he hopes to eventually start his own company and sell the transmitter to the public. Next semester, Colman will present his business idea through the Bloch School's Venture Creation Challenge. —Mark Linville

CAMPUS CURIOSITIES »

A light in the night

If you've happened to visit campus after dark recently, you may have wandered by Miller Nichols Library and wondered, "What is that thing?" Consider it an artistic endeavor to beautify the façade of the library's new addition. "I love this piece of art," says Dean of Libraries Sharon Bostick. "It's mysterious in the daylight, and it's a stunning iconic image in the evening." The piece, "Rivers, Rails and Trails," is a 22-foot-high and 49-foot-wide series of stainless steel panels illuminated with LED lights that depict a 1926 map of Kansas City. A committee chose the map because it followed the theme "flow"—of information, rivers and people.

See the light

View a time-lapse video of "Rivers, Rails and Trails," at perspectives.umkc.edu.



Photo courtesy of UMKC Libraries

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF »

Steve Jenks

From sowing seeds to shoveling snow, UMKC's landscape supervisor beautifies and maintains campus year-round.

by ERICK R. SCHMIDT

Steve Jenks gazes up at a 15-foot-tall blue atlas cedar that he says will quadruple in size someday, though he doubts he'll be alive to see it. On a summer day outside the School of Medicine on the Hospital Hill campus, he points out annuals and describes the growth patterns and watering needs of more than two dozen plants, flowers and trees. He then suggests stopping by the ornamental peach tree for a taste of the fruit, joking that the landscape is edible. "It only tastes OK," he says.

Jenks is the landscape supervisor at UMKC, and he can describe how almost every inch of the Volker and Hospital Hill campuses have transformed over the years. And he would know. In his two decades at UMKC, he's one of the few people who have roamed almost all 190 acres via lawn mower. His team ensures the grass is evenly trimmed in the spring and summer—an unending race that begins every day before dawn.

Presenting the face of campus

Jenks says the creative nature of his work keeps him going every day.



"Creativity is one of the things that's fun about this job," Jenks says. But he must balance creativity with practicality. Each planting comes with a purpose, and Jenks and his team take into consideration the lighting, heat and soil type and make sure everything blends together naturally and environmentally.

In 12 years in his current role, Jenks has stumbled upon a few oddities around the Volker and Hospital Hill campuses. He uncovered a 1912 license plate and a perfectly spherical stone the size of a manhole cover. "That part of the job is pretty neat," Jenks says. "I get to see what people don't even know is around them."

While the hidden gems are a plus for Jenks, the job is about helping UMKC present its best face. "If we don't do what we've been doing, people won't be interested in coming here," he says. "That's our part, and students are attracted to that. They can tell we care, and they feel that we're important."

Team members James Lang, Steve Jenks and Kevin Thomas have more than 60 years of combined experience.



Photos by Michael McClure



7 Take a hike

Thanks to a handy walking map, you can see UMKC's beauty on foot. Download it at perspectives.umkc.edu.

of the job, but he doesn't resent the task. "Snow removal is a must, and we're here to make the campus safe, and we do the best we can," Jenks says.

Because of the range of conditions, Jenks' team members have experience in a variety of areas. Each of them has spent at least three years in landscaping, and most range between 10 and 30 years of experience. They're all experts in a variety of fields, including fertilization, aeration and checking trees for damage or disease. They have their pesticide licenses and attend regular training seminars. "When I started here, we just mowed," Jenks says.

Working as a team

If anyone has studied UMKC's landscapes more closely than Jenks, it's Kevin Thomas. He's been a member of the landscaping crew for 33 years—longer than some of the plants that have been cycled through multiple generations. Jenks credits Thomas for the appearance of the Hospital Hill campus, which is the pride of the department.

Jenks says he and Thomas often share ideas, like when Thomas suggested they use unearthed rocks to protect the buildings from washouts 10 years ago. Those rock formations adorn the landscape today. "It's a small thing, but we think it turned out pretty good."



Must-see spots at UMKC

Here are a few of Steve Jenks' favorite sites around campus.

THE GATEWAY TO EPPERSON HOUSE

"It feels traditional. I wish we could build on that, but students like the new stuff." For more about Epperson House, see page 28.

THE BLOCH SCHOOL'S SOUTH LAWN

"You can tell it was a home before, and they've really worked hard to maintain that."

HOSPITAL HILL CAMPUS

"We put a lot of time and effort into making it different than what people think when they hear we have an urban campus."

HEALTH SCIENCES LAWN

"The lawn on the south side of the Health Sciences Building is the roof of the labs underneath, technically making it the first 'green roof' on campus. You wouldn't know it unless someone told you."

THE UMKC HAWKS

"There's a family of hawks that have been nesting on the northwest side of the soccer complex for 15 or 16 years." To get an up-close look at a campus hawk, see page 36.

Weathering diverse conditions

During the winter, Jenks' focus shifts from campus beautification to campus safety. His team is essential during snowstorms, which often mean 15-hour workdays. During the winter of 2010, the team stayed late one evening after campus had been evacuated. By the time they finished their work, the weather had worsened and they were stranded in their shop overnight.

Even when campus is closed, Jenks and his team shovel and de-ice the miles of sidewalk and more than 500 stairs that wind around campus. It's a challenge that Jenks says is his least favorite part



We are the champions

A successful spring sports season is highlighted by big wins and broken records.



SOFTBALL // Batting a thousand

The softball team set team records for the most wins in a season (38), and most Summit League wins in a season (18). The team also won the 2011 Summit League regular season title with a doubleheader sweep of Southern Utah. It was also the first time the team beat Kansas. In the Summit League Championship tournament, UMKC fell to North Dakota State.

—Photo by Nik Busch

Students Dave Hoffman (left) and Brian Rector braved the heat to test their athletic skills at the Kansas City Warrior Dash in July. More than 10,000 people ran the race, a 5k obstacle course complete with mud and fire pits. —Photo by Sport Photo Inc.

Are you a WARRIOR?



WOMEN'S TENNIS // Game, set, championship match

The women's tennis team closed out its most successful season in school history this spring. The team advanced to its first Summit League Championship final match. Despite losing to Indiana University-Purdue University, Ft. Wayne, the squad set the school record for most wins in a season.

MEN'S TENNIS // Serving up a stellar season

The men's tennis team was crowned the Summit League Regular Season and Summit League Tournament Champions. The 2011 season marked the second straight regular season championship for the Kangaroos. The team ended the season with its fourth men's tennis championship in school history. It was the third time in school history that the Roos claimed the regular season and tournament title. In the NCAA men's Tennis Championship, the team fell to No. 14 national seed Texas.





DANCE TEAM //

So you think you can dance?

After clinching 4th place at the National Collegiate Cheer and Dance Championship and returning home in April, the UMKC Dance Team held auditions to see who would make the cut for the 2011-12 squad. This fall, the team will perform at UMKC basketball games and other events.

—Photo by Dan Videtich

Catch the action

Don't miss out on a single point, putt or penalty kick. View the fall sports schedules and scores at perspectives.umkc.edu.



Project Roo-nway

A project manager's firsthand account of Kasey's sometimes stinky evolution.

The stench of five years of public appearances wafted throughout the office as Jessica Dickson, associate athletics director for external affairs, pulled Kasey's costume from a bag. It was then that I knew this wouldn't be a typical job. The mascot needed an update and it was about more than just freshening things up—it was time to update the face of the university.

CHALLENGE 1: MOBILITY

Our graphic designer sketched a sleeker version of Kasey and developed a tail with an arch so it wouldn't drag on the ground.

CHALLENGE 2: REALITY

The second round of sketches featured a narrower snout and larger ears. Even

though the costume is realistic, you'll never see Kasey without a shirt. Male kangaroos don't have pouches, Dickson explained. "And if people see that he doesn't have a pouch, they'll point and wonder." So please don't point. We don't want Kasey to develop a complex.

CHALLENGE 3: BREATHABILITY

The previous costume had taken on an aroma not unlike real animals in the wild. The costume's materials soaked up sweat like a sponge, so we focused on breathable materials that won't harbor scents.

CHALLENGE 4: FUNCTIONALITY

We focused on making a suit that was capable of throwing, catching, shooting, rolling and dancing (even Roos dance). To give Kasey some grip, football gloves were sewn into the hands.

Kasey's new ensemble will be ready for the basketball team's first practice of the 2011-12 season. And now you know exactly what goes on under the suit. —Erick R. Schmidt



Sketch by Scollon Productions Inc.

OUTDOOR TRACK AND FIELD //

Racing to break records

At the 2011 Summit League Outdoor Championships, the Roos earned one silver and two bronze medals, and had 18 student-athletes score points. The men's team took 5th overall with 74 points and the women's team finished 6th with 52 points. To finish out the season, the team sent four student-athletes to the NCAA Preliminary West Round. Cosmas Ayabei, Oscar Emegano, Kimoya Harriott and D.C. Okonta all qualified. Ayabei broke three school records during the season.

—Photo by Brooke Orcutt

MEN'S GOLF //

First and fore-most

The men's golf team won the Summit League Championship for the first time. Will Robson played the 6th-best individual single round score in school history, posting a second round score of 67. He finished seven under par, posting a score of 209 (72-67-70). The team closed out the season with its best showing in the NCAA Men's Golf Championships, posting a round three score of 295 the final day. The Kangaroos finished 13th overall with 907 strokes.



OUR SQUAD
GETS IT
RIGHT

THE LAW

Ted Hunt, J.D. '92
Jackson County,
Mo., prosecutor

THE INVESTIGATOR

Frank Booth, B.S. '80
Former director of the
Kansas City, Mo., Police
Department Crime Lab



THE BADGE

Al Lomax, B.S.A.J. '75
U.S. Marshal

When the bodies are cold and the paperwork's filed, being a real-life crime solver is a far cry from what's portrayed on TV.

5 ways CSI gets it wrong

by AMANDA BERTHOLF

OUTSIDE A MIAMI NIGHTCLUB AFTER A FIRE >>

QUENTIN HAID: The club was grandfathered in—built pre-code.

LT. HORATIO CAINE: Yeah, I bet you those chained exit doors were grandfathered in, too, huh?

HAID: What'd you expect me to do? People were sneaking in.

LT. CAINE: And dying to get out.

In 2009, the TV show *CSI: Crime Scene Investigation* topped more than 73.8 million viewers worldwide. *CSI* has been going strong for 11 seasons and has spun off several series. Today, more than 250 episodes of the show have aired. While we probably don't tune in for the riveting dialogue—like that from an episode of *CSI: Miami*, above—there's something about bullet-proof vests, guns, murder, DNA, exotic locales and car chases that keep us coming back for more. Clearly, we're hooked.



THE ACADEMIC
Alex Holsinger
 Associate professor,
 criminal justice and
 criminology at UMKC

This desire to tune in stems from a fascination with a system that could control and ruin people's lives—and the crime genre feeds that obsession, according to our experts. "We like fairy tales, and that's what these shows are," says Alex Holsinger, associate professor of criminal justice and criminology at UMKC. They portray the idea of good versus evil, and in the end, more often than not, good wins. The struggle of good versus evil playing out on TV opens a window to stark contrasts in society, and the result is a morality tale wrapped up neatly into 45 minutes. There's a victim, a villain and a vindicator, and that's what makes crime so addictive, says Ted Hunt, J.D. '92, chief trial attorney in the Jackson County prosecutor's office in Kansas City, Mo.

People are also fascinated by crime because they fear it. "When we're watching these shows, we want to know: How did that person get victimized, what put him or her in that situation, how did that person become vulnerable and how can I avoid that in the future?" Hunt says. In addition to feeding society's curiosity, the shows provide finality and answers to life's questions. And viewers get that finality when a show ends with an arrest or conviction. "We get as close to truth with a capital 'T' as we can get," Hunt says. "The crime genre plays on that."

But too often audiences see a depiction of the criminal justice system that isn't realistic. "It doesn't give you a true picture of what happens, but it's close," says Al Lomax, B.S.A.J. '75, who was appointed by President Barack Obama to be a U.S. Marshal and was sworn in this summer. Lomax says some shows, like CSI, are sometimes accurate but the main goal isn't accuracy—it's to get you to tune in again. "Most of it is strictly drama," he says.

At the end of the day, viewers want to forget the stress of the office and be entertained, and that's the goal of this genre. But how do viewers separate fact from fiction? Our experts dissect the five myths of Hollywood glitz and what's real.



1951-59
77 Dragnet
 Jack Webb played
 Sgt. Joe Friday.



1957-66
77 Sunset Strip
 Efrem Zimbalist Jr.
 played private detective
 Stuart Bailey.

1961-63
Car 54, Where Are You?
 Joe E. Ross and Fred
 Gwynne were Officers
 Gunther Toody and Francis
 Muldoon. The sitcom
 featured an ethnically-
 diverse cast.



1965-68
I Spy
 Bill Cosby became the
 first African American
 to co-star in a dramatic
 television series with his
 role as Alexander Scott.

On the beat with campus patrol

If you thought a patrol for campus police was anything like the TV show *Cops* or the recent *Campus PD*, then it's time for a ride-along. This summer, I took a ride with UMKC Police Officer J. Brooks Kraft, who has been on the force for several years. According to Kraft, each shift is different. "It's really hit or miss," he says. And on this day, it was "miss." UMKC does have one of the lowest rates of serious crime of any university in the U.S., and nothing crazy happened during my three-hour ride through campus and along Kansas City's Troost Avenue.

Kraft had three calls on his 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. shift. The first was about a car leaking oil by the Spencer chemistry building. Kraft didn't see the urgency or the necessity for a police response. The next call came at 10:30 a.m. about a couple of vans blocking the loading dock at the Student Union. I know, boring, right?

As we rode, I asked Kraft about the strangest call he'd had. It wasn't a drug bust or a car accident, but a woman who had locked her kids and herself inside her car. Kraft says the car battery died and the lady panicked, which may have caused her to not think

and pull up on the lock. He also told me about the time a man on Troost Avenue broke into a Rockhurst University officer's personal car and stole a gun. The man sped off in his own vehicle, firing the gun in the air as he went.

The third call came in at 12:02 p.m. and was about a suspicious character asking a woman for change in her office at 4747 Troost Avenue. The man left before Kraft and another patrol car arrived.



Perspectives Editorial Intern Mark Linville (right) spent an afternoon riding shotgun with UMKC Police Officer J. Brooks Kraft.

The afternoon wasn't a total bust. A bald, shirtless man pushing a shopping cart down Troost Avenue flashed us the peace sign. —Mark Linville

1 Prison guards instigate violence

The amount of violence in prisons is exaggerated and so is the interaction between inmates and prison guards, Holsinger says. Guards do not walk around prison like sheriffs carrying sidearms, he adds. "There are no firearms in prison with the possible exception of guards in a tower or along a catwalk," Holsinger says. "You'd never see a firearm on anyone circulating in a prison. Someone's going to end up shot, and typically it's not the inmate."

Also, Holsinger says, if you asked the general public what it would be most afraid of in prison, most would say sexual victimization. "I'm not going to say victimization never happens, it does," he says, "but the extent to which you see that kind of violence on TV is exaggerated."

2 Every case has DNA evidence

Crime lab technology appears in TV and movies to be more plentiful than it really is. The technology is expensive, Holsinger says, and some states are considering suspending the death penalty because they're dealing with years-long backlogs of cases. And then there's the so-called CSI effect on jurors, who might think every case must have a component of DNA evidence. "With DNA profiles, these shows take artistic license with a kernel of truth and make it something that we're not even close to being ready to do in actuality," Hunt says.

To head it off in court, Hunt asks potential jurors questions like, "Is there anyone here who would expect or demand or require the state to produce DNA evidence in a case where

1965-66
Honey West
Played by Anne Francis, Honey West was one of the first female private eyes on television.



1971-2003
Columbo
"Just one more thing ..."
Peter Falk as Lt. Columbo.

1973-78
Kojak
Telly Savalas was lollipop fan Lt. Theo Kojak.

1973-80
Barnaby Jones
Buddy Ebsen played the title role.

1974-80
The Rockford Files
James Garner played Jim Rockford.

1975-78
Baretta
Robert Blake as Det. Tony Baretta (with pet cockatoo, Fred).



1979-84
Hart to Hart
Robert Wagner and Stefanie Powers were the crime-solving duo Jonathan and Jennifer.

1980-88
Magnum P.I.
Tom Selleck played the mustachioed private eye Thomas Magnum.



1981-87
Hill Street Blues
This original ensemble drama chronicled the lives of the staff of a police precinct in an unnamed American city.

Come on, we know you watch ...

We asked UMKC alumni and faculty if they're consumers of crime shows.

ALEX HOLSINGER: Yes. I recommend the book *Shots in the Mirror*, by Nicole Rafter; the movies *Young Mr. Lincoln*, *Anatomy of a Murder*, *Kiss the Girls* and *The Shawshank Redemption*; and the TV shows *Hill Street Blues*, *NYPD Blue*, *The Wire* and *Breaking Bad*.

FRANK BOOTH: I watch once in a while. It's over-dramatized and over-simplified. But the shows are like that so the information is presented to an audience in a way that makes sense.

TED HUNT: Not usually. My wife won't watch a courtroom drama with me because I'm constantly jumping in and saying, "That's not real!" or "That objection is bogus, the judge wouldn't allow that!" I find it hard to watch. Not because it's bad in terms of plot but because it's a silly, ridiculous portrayal of what's real.

AL LOMAX: I've always watched the old P.I.-type shows. That's one aspect of law enforcement that really gets a different twist—it really isn't law enforcement. Back in the day, they didn't film the person actually being shot or hit. They intimated it. You'd hear a bang, but you never saw the person get hit, you'd see him fall.



there's no reasonable expectation that there should be DNA?" For example, at a gas station robbery, a suspect might not leave behind blood or other biological material. Because of that, Hunt says a juror might think the state didn't meet its burden of proof by not producing DNA evidence to link the suspect to the crime.

To combat the CSI effect, the state brings in experts who can explain the reasons why police wouldn't find DNA. "You may obtain a DNA profile by swabbing a surface," Hunt says, "but when you do it in a public place and it turns out not to be the suspect's DNA—does that mean that he was never there or he didn't commit the crime? No."

3

The crime lab is luxurious

Besides the overblown use of DNA to solve cases, the crime labs in Hollywood tend to have more lavish facilities than most labs in real life. Take, for example, an episode of *CSI* where officers investigated a boating accident. "They had a swimming pool that they used to recreate the boating path," says Frank Booth, B.S. '80, the former director of the Kansas City Police Department Crime Lab. Booth says it wasn't the reconstruction of the scene that was inaccurate—that's becoming a major deal in the forensic community. "It's that they had all that space in the lab to have a huge pool to do those things," he says. "Most labs don't have quite that much space."

Another less-than-glamorous aspect of life in the crime lab that TV doesn't portray is the smell. "You lose perspective of that when you're watching TV," says Michael McCunniff, D.D.S. '83, associate professor of dentistry at UMKC and a dental forensics investigator for Jackson County. "The olfactory part of this job—they don't depict that at all. Many aspects of this job aren't pleasant."

4

Investigations are fast-paced

McCunniff sees the actors on TV use equipment that he's familiar with, like a handheld portable X-ray unit. But even with the same technology, investigations in real life just don't come together quite so quickly. "The things they do between commercials take days to do in real life," he says.

In addition to the quick resolution, most crime shows are action packed—shootouts, shootings and fights are commonplace. But in real



1981-88
Cagney and Lacey
Tyne Daly and Sharon Gless played Det. Mary Beth Lacey and Det. Sgt. Christine Cagney.

1982-87
Remington Steele
Pierce Brosnan played the title role.

1984-1990
Miami Vice
Don Johnson and Philip Michael Thomas starred as



Dets. James "Sonny" Crockett and Ricardo "Rico" Tubbs.

1984-96
Murder, She Wrote
Angela Lansbury played a crime writer (and solver) Jessica Fletcher.



1987-91
21 Jump Street
Johnny Depp played undercover cop Officer Tom Hanson.

1989-present
Agatha Christie's Poirot
David Suchet plays the Belgian detective.



1989-present
Cops
A reality-TV series featuring cops on patrol.

1990-91
Twin Peaks
Kyle MacLachlan played FBI Agent Dale Cooper.



1990-2010
Law & Order
At the time of its cancellation, *Law & Order* was the longest-running crime drama on American primetime television. It spawned the spin-offs *Law & Order: SVU*, *Criminal Intent* and *L.A.*, and produced many of the beloved characters of the genre, notably Det. Lenny Briscoe, played by Jerry Orbach.

life, police officers don't draw their weapons, Holsinger says, unless they're open to the possibility of ending someone's life. "When a gun is drawn, that's a rare, important event," he says. "Cops aren't sitting around in coffee shops twirling their guns." Police officers spend a lot of time in an office doing paperwork and it can be deadly boring, he says. There are also actions that police officers perform in the field that in turn require them to submit paperwork—something rarely depicted on TV.

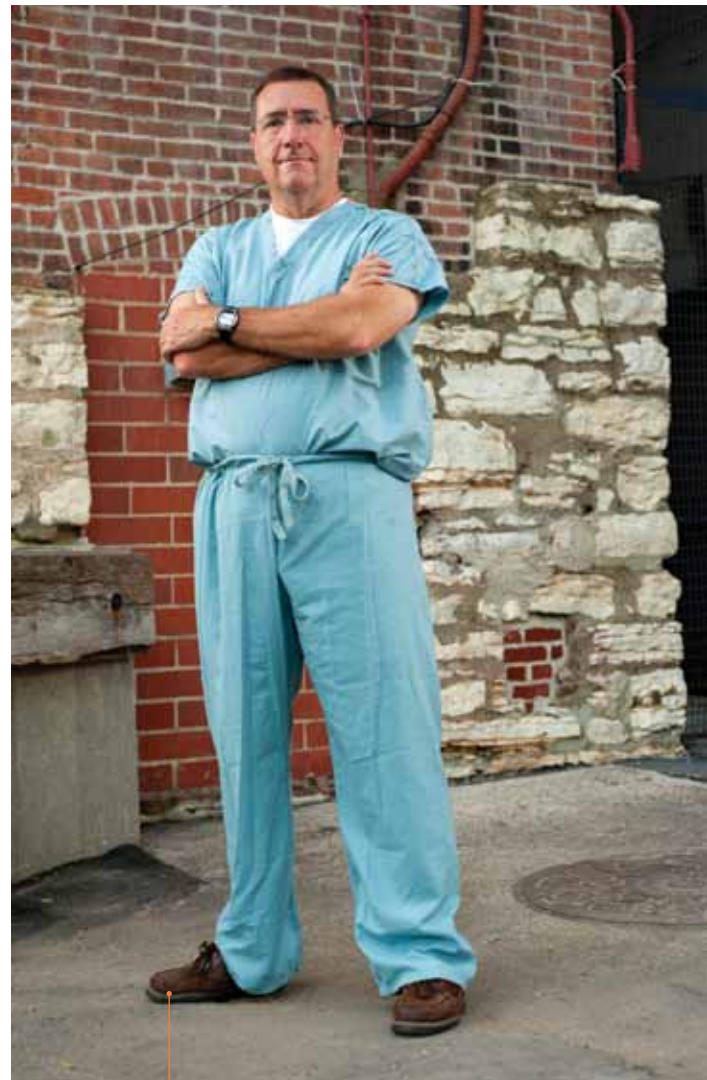
In reality, when an officer draws a weapon and discharges a shell, he or she must complete paperwork. The officer has to document exactly what happened and where the bullet went. "Those shows with the superstar cop—the guy that is always shooting or shot at and never hit—that's unrealistic, but it's entertaining," Lomax says.

5

The courtroom is full of drama

Objections, screaming, crying and general acts of disorderly conduct are common scenes that play out in courtroom dramas like *Law & Order*. But in these shows, things are said and done for the sake of drama that would never happen in an actual court of law, Hunt says. The majority of cases in the court system get settled without going to trial. "A case gets disposed of and it should," Holsinger says. "There's nothing exciting about two attorneys and a judge coming to an agreement behind closed doors and walking out of a room. You can't make a story out of that." Hunt says the yelling and shouting viewers see in court on TV rarely happens and is never allowed in real life. "It's a controlled atmosphere, and it's the judge's job to keep it under control," he says. "We just don't have the screaming and shouting and the Perry Mason moment where someone admits his guilt."

The bottom line is that crime on television can be harmless entertainment. But keeping it in perspective helps society understand it, especially because the genre isn't going anywhere. The beast will continue to feed itself. "The genre makes criminal justice more visible, therefore, we will continue to see it in our entertainment," Holsinger says. "Crime will continue to be a dominant part of our culture. We have a long way to go before we see crime shrink." Despite the inaccuracies TV portrays, the genre consistently puts forth one kernel of truth: crime doesn't pay. "The TV cops use all this fancy equipment to catch the suspect—and the suspect gets caught," Lomax says. "That's a boost for real-life law enforcement." —Photos by Dan Videtich



THE SCIENTIST

Michael McCunniff, D.D.S. '83
Associate professor of dentistry at UMKC; dental forensics investigator for Jackson County, Mo.



1993-99
Homicide: Life on the Street
Shift Lieutenant Al "Gee" Giardello, played by Yaphet Kotto, lead the ensemble drama about Baltimore cops.

1993-2005
NYPD Blue
Dennis Franz played the iconic Det. Andy Sipowicz.



2000-present
CSI: Crime Scene Investigation
George Eads plays Las Vegas crime lab analyst Nick Stokes. The CSI franchise also includes shows set in New York and Miami.

2002-09
Monk
Tony Shalub played the OCD-afflicted sleuth Adrian Monk.



2002-08
The Wire
Dominic West played Det. Jimmy McNulty. Universities offer classes on *The Wire* in disciplines ranging from law to sociology to film studies.

2005-11
The Closer
Kyra Sedgwick as L.A. Deputy Chief Brenda Leigh Johnson.



2009-present
Southland
Michael Cudlitz plays Officer John Cooper.

2010-present
Rizzoli & Isles
Angie Harmon and Sasha Alexander play Det. Jane Rizzoli and medical examiner Dr. Maura Isles.



Gold standard

St. Louis Post Dispatch founder Joseph Pulitzer's will required the establishment of a set of awards to encourage and honor excellence. The first awards were presented in 1917, six years after Pulitzer's death.

Today, there are 21 Pulitzer Prize categories, ranging from investigative reporting and photography to poetry. The Pulitzer

Board picks the

winners and Columbia University administers the process. Past honorees include John F. Kennedy, Ernest Hemingway, Aaron Copland and Tennessee Williams. The Kansas City Star has won eight Pulitzers in its 131-year history.

In 2011, two of the 21 awards went to members of the UMKC family.

by PAT McSPARIN



Music to his ears

Zhou Long's Pulitzer Prize came as a surprise to him. The UMKC Conservatory of Music and Dance research professor of music composition didn't know he'd won, even after he received his first congratulations. "I heard the news in a phone call from the American Music Center," he says. "They asked for comments they could put on the news, but I didn't know what they were talking about. They said, 'Congratulations,' and hung up." Within hours, news outlets from Beijing to New York City broke the story: Zhou won the 2011 Pulitzer Prize for music. He is the first Asian American to do so.

Earning commissions and awards for his work—including the American Academy of Arts and Letters' lifetime achievement award—is nothing new to Zhou. But he says this award is particularly special. "The Pulitzer Prize is a quintessential American award, and I am proud to be the first Asian American to win it for music."

It was an opera version of *Madame*

White Snake that brought Zhou the Pulitzer. A folk tale about a snake that takes the form of a beautiful woman, the story of *Madame White Snake* has been passed on for generations through Chinese oral tradition and later in movies, television and novels. Zhou learned the story the same way kids from the West hear fairy tales. "I'm familiar with the legend from my childhood," he says.

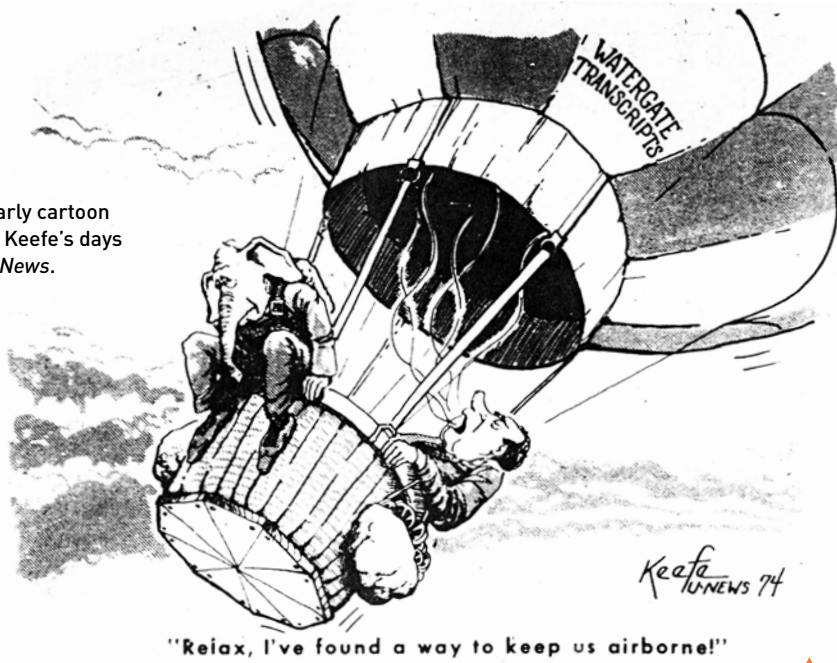
Born to a creative family (his father was a painter and his mother a pianist), Zhou began piano lessons at a young age. But China's Cultural Revolution interrupted his path when the government sent him to the country to work on a farm.

Driving a tractor wasn't Zhou's choice, but his friend Carl St. Clair, music director of the Pacific Symphony, later suggested he look back at his time in the countryside from a different light. "He told me he grew up on a farm and said he also drove a tractor. I learned to look at it as not punishment, but a life experience," Zhou says.

Ying Huang as Madame White Snake and Peter Tantsits as Xu Xian.
—Photo by Clive Grainger



An early cartoon from Keefe's days at *U-News*.



Bringing home the hardware

UMKC alumni and faculty have been well-represented in Pulitzer Prize voting through the years.

JAMES B. STEELE, B.A. '67,
Hon. Deg. '04
1975 and 1989,
National Reporting

JAMES TATE, attended '63, '64
1992, Poetry
Selected Poems

EDWARD P. JONES
2008 Cocke Chair
Writer-in-Residence
2004, Fiction
The Known World

ERIC ROSEN
(In collaboration
with Doug Wright)
Faculty
2004, Drama
I Am My Own Wife

Don't see your name on the list? Email us at perspectives@umkc.edu to tell us about your Pulitzer Prize victory.

Drawing up a win

The weekend before the Pulitzers were announced, Mike Keefe (B.S. '73, M.S. '74) received a cryptic text message about a mandatory meeting that Monday at the *Denver Post*. With the state of the newspaper industry, he thought it must be bad news. "I called my wife and told her I might be packing my desk," he says. It wasn't until just before that meeting that Keefe realized he wasn't being let go—he was being honored.

🎨 Comic relief

View Mike Keefe's Pulitzer-winning portfolio at perspectives.umkc.edu.

Keefe's career path had some curves, including a swing through the Marine Corps and a stop at a Chevy

factory. But he came to the proverbial fork in the road and had to make a choice: use his education and go into science and math, or go where his natural ability, his hobby and the economy led him.

His dad was a truck driver and had a friend who was a commercial artist. "My dad thought that was the life compared to driving a truck, so he always tried to convince me to do something with art," Keefe says. "I was interested in science and math. Art was a nice hobby, but not where I thought I'd end up."

While serving in the Marine Corps, Keefe took a correspondence course in physics "because I was interested in that sort of thing," he says. After his service, he completed his degree in math at UMKC and was working on his Ph.D. But when he realized the job market wasn't promising, he looked another direction.

Keefe was drawing editorial cartoons for the UMKC student newspaper, *U-News*, as a hobby when he met Bill Shore, a cartoonist for the *Kansas City Star*. Keefe hastily drew up a cartoon on typewriter paper and showed it to Shore, who was impressed enough to encourage Keefe to follow through on it.

Keefe also sent some cartoons to Bill Sanders, another former *Star* cartoonist. Sanders liked his work so much he took the liberty of forwarding it to the *Denver Post*. The *Post* called him in for an interview and hired him in 1975. He's been there ever since.

In the end, Keefe's career choice wasn't necessarily the easier path. Readers bombard him with constant and unapologetic criticism. "It's brutal," he says, "but if I didn't get that kind of criticism, then I'm probably not saying much."



TERRA

NO

FIRMA

Massive earthquakes caused damage in an area from St. Louis to Charleston, S.C., 200 years ago.
Researchers anticipate it will happen again.

by AMANDA BERTHOLF

In the gray, early morning hours of Dec. 16, 1811, the sparse population in northeast Arkansas was rattled awake by a magnitude 7 earthquake. It was the first of three major earthquakes to strike the area. According to the U.S. Geological Survey, the ground rose, fell and cracked, trees snapped and uprooted, and landslides were abundant on the future site of Memphis, Tenn. Along the Mississippi River, large waves washed boats ashore and a sudden uplift beneath the river caused it to overflow its banks and briefly flow upstream. The seismic activity lasted until February 1812 in an area that would become known as the New Madrid Seismic Zone (NMSZ). This area was named for the New Madrid, Mo., frontier-trading town that was severely damaged and evacuated during the 1811-12 events.

The earthquakes, ranging in magnitude from 7 to 7.7, caused alarm from Detroit to New Orleans. Chimneys were knocked down as far as Cincinnati, about 350 miles from the epicenter. Homes were destroyed in St. Louis. "There was damage in Charleston, S.C., and it was felt as far away as Boston," says Harold Sprague, BSCiE '80, a seismic specialist engineer with Black & Veatch in Kansas City, Mo., and an adjunct engineering instructor in the Department of Civil and Mechanical Engineering at UMKC.



Photo by Dan Vidulich

Now, 200 years after the earthquakes hit the NMSZ, there's renewed focus on studying the area. Researchers are investigating why there's seismicity in the middle of the continent, why it's still active and when an event will happen again—and a pattern is developing. "There's a fault zone there that's had earthquakes in the past, and it's having earthquakes now," says Tina Niemi, professor of geosciences in the College

of Arts and Sciences at UMKC. Niemi, who studies paleoearthquakes, will be visiting the NMSZ this fall. "Researchers are now looking at the site of the 1811 rupture in Arkansas, and we're finding

evidence of earthquakes that are thousands of years old."

The geological evidence of past earthquakes, such as features in the river valleys that show liquefaction (when saturated soil loses strength and stiffness) and sand blows

(when sand moves up to the surface), is what leads researchers and scientists to believe an event like the one of 1811-12 will strike the region again.

"We know that earthquakes repeat, but they don't repeat on the same day or the same year," says Randall Updike, B.S. '66, regional geologist with the U.S. Geological Survey in Denver. "It's in a range where sometimes they occur more frequently, other times more distantly." So it's not a matter of if the NMSZ will be hit again—it's a matter of when.



Tina Niemi, above, sports a T-shirt from a New Madrid, Mo., museum. Randall Updike, left, on the job for the USGS near the U.S.-Mexico border.

EYEWITNESS ACCOUNT »

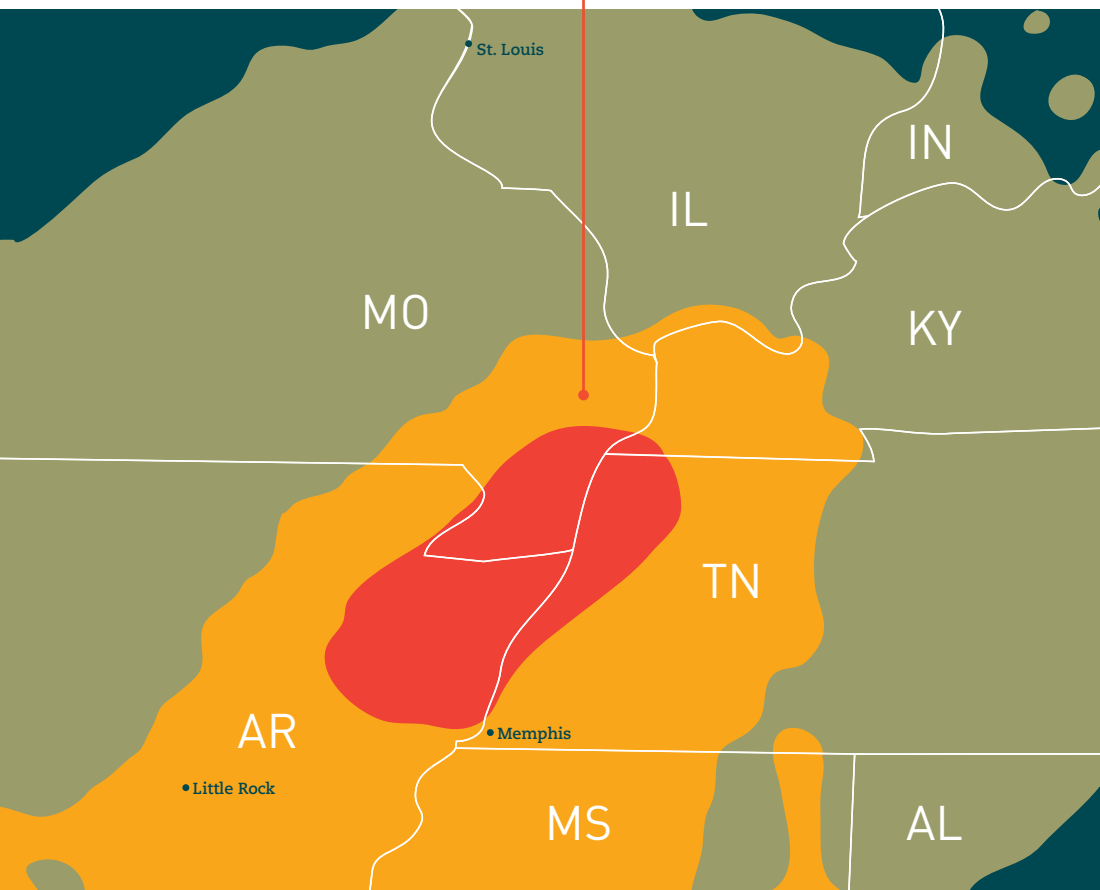
At about two o'clock, A.M., we were visited by a violent shock of an earthquake, accompanied by a very awful noise resembling loud but distant thunder, but more hoarse and vibrating, which was followed in a few minutes by the complete saturation of the atmosphere, with sulphurous vapor, causing total darkness. The screams of the affrighted inhabitants running to and fro, not knowing where to go, or what to do—the cries of the fowls and beasts of every species—the cracking of trees falling, and the roaring of the Mississippi ... the current of which was retrograde for a few minutes, owing as is supposed, to an irruption in its bed ... formed a scene truly horrible. In one person, a female, the alarm was so great that she fainted, and could not be recovered.

—Eliza Bryan
New Madrid, Territory of Missouri, 1811

Examining the past

Niemi studies earthquakes by looking at buried features and dating the surfaces where earthquakes are recorded in the subsurface sediments. “In the Mississippi Valley and surrounding areas, the data researchers collected along the NMSZ show earthquakes occurred around 1450 A.D. and 900 A.D.,” she says. Native Americans lived on some of the earthquake features during this time, helping researchers date the surface because of the artifacts and materials they left behind. The next earthquake came along and buried it. In the NMSZ, researchers have found artifacts on the surface of the sand blows located along the swampy bottomland of the Mississippi River.

This kind of geologic evidence means the earthquakes were large. “A magnitude 4 earthquake won’t leave evidence in the soil,” Updike says. “But if it’s a magnitude 7, it will leave fingerprints in the sediments that scientists can recognize.” Because there’s physical evidence of the 1811-12 earthquakes along with others in the soil, that means large earthquakes have occurred multiple times.



ON SHAKY GROUND

This map shows the scope of a hypothetical 7.7 magnitude earthquake in the New Madrid Seismic Zone today. It represents what the shaking would feel like during such an event and the amount of damage that could occur.

PERCEIVED SHAKING	POTENTIAL DAMAGE
Strong	Light
Very strong	Moderate
Severe	Moderate to heavy
Violent	Heavy

Source: U.S. Geological Survey

Looking at the future

Today, the areas potentially affected by a modern earthquake event in the NMSZ include Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Arkansas, Kentucky, Tennessee and Mississippi. "Whether it's going to occur in the next two years or 20 years, we don't know," Updike says. "But it's important that everyone who lives in that region has an understanding and is prepared."

Updike monitors earthquakes occurring all over the United States. He says there's a pattern of small concentrations of earthquakes occurring every year in the Mississippi Valley from Ohio and southern Illinois to Louisiana. "These earthquakes aren't occurring in patterns like that in other places," he says. To come to that conclusion, Updike adds evidence he collects to what was recorded in 1811-12. Then he combines that information with the ancient geologic evidence and careful measurements of changes in the earth's crust and its dimensions. "All those things together give a strong indication that this is a place where big earthquakes can occur again," he says.

When an event does strike the region, it will be different than what the public generally associates with another earthquake-prone area: California. The seismic energy in the NMSZ will travel greater distances because the sediment in the rock underneath the surface is composed of flat layers. Those layers transport seismic energy farther than in California, where the rocks are more contorted and not as uniformly solidified. "So in the central U.S., an earthquake could occur in southeast Missouri and be felt strongly in Kansas City or in St. Louis, but in California, at those distances, you wouldn't feel as much," Updike says. "There would be a bigger area affected in New Madrid, and a magnitude 7 there could be more destructive than a magnitude 7 in California."

The level of destruction would also be different, because in California, codes demand that buildings withstand such an event. In most places along the NMSZ, the buildings were built without any consideration of earthquakes. "So they will not do as well in general," Updike says. "They won't withstand an earthquake and that means it's more dangerous for the people living there."

Destruction and response

So what would the NMSZ look like if a magnitude 7 or 8 earthquake hit? Sprague's expertise lies in creating building designs that resist blasts or seismic shocks. He examines what happens when ground motions are translated to a building to see how that building would perform. He has developed seismic building codes and has studied the Murrah Building in Oklahoma City, the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon in Washington, D.C.

"If it was like 1811 or 1812, we'd see huge amounts of damage—a minimum cost of \$32 billion for Memphis alone, according to studies by FEMA," Sprague says. "There would be

(((EARTHQUAKE))) survival guide

This spring, UMKC's Department of Geosciences took part in the Great Central U.S. ShakeOut, a multi-state earthquake drill. Organizers estimated that more than 1 million people participated in the 11-state exercise. The ShakeOut was designed to help people in the region prepare for damaging earthquakes, practice protecting themselves and prevent disasters from becoming catastrophes. Here's what you can do if you find yourself in the middle of the next big one:



Randall Updike, B.S. '66, regional geologist with the U.S. Geological Survey in Denver, says if you sense the ground or the building is beginning to shake, the intensity may increase from what you initially feel. So it's critical to act instantly because the whole thing will be over in a few minutes.

The first thing to consider is your location. What can fall on you? "You're not going to die from the earthquake itself," Updike says. "You're going to die or get hurt from what could fall on you. So be aware what's around you." Items such as light fixtures, computers, filing cabinets and brick walls can be dangerous.

Also, remember that you can't run away from the shaking, Updike says. So the second thing you need to do is to escape from what's falling. "Go where you feel like there's a lot of support, like an archway or hallway," he says. Or exit to an outdoor space—that's the best approach. When you get outside, look around and to make sure there aren't overhead wires and cables that could fall. Avoid elevators or anything that could trap you. If you can't get out of where you are, dive under a table or a desk. It just may help you survive.

—Illustrations by Art Center College of Design

major infrastructural losses, pipelines and railroads that cross the Mississippi River would be damaged. The city of Memphis would be hit hard.” Memphis, the most populated city in the NMSZ, would be hard-hit because of the city’s lack of design for seismic energy. Memphis has a large inventory of buildings constructed prior to the use of modern seismic codes. The city didn’t begin to retrofit buildings or build new buildings to a code to withstand a major seismic event until the 1990s.

A few hospitals in Memphis are the notable exceptions: Two hospitals were redesigned, retrofitted or rebuilt using modern seismic design methodology and should weather an earthquake quite well, Sprague says. Some bridges have been rehabilitated, too. But because of the large earth-to-ground motions that could occur, damage in Memphis would still be massive.

And the effects on Memphis would be felt in cities that are not directly impacted by an earthquake. “FEMA studies indicate that Memphis would have to call on all areas, including those that would be relatively undamaged, like Kansas City,” Sprague says. “The hospitals in Kansas City would be maxed out. Most hospitals in the area of Memphis couldn’t take the influx

of patients, or the hospitals would be damaged to a degree that they couldn’t handle patients.” Combine the maxed out hospitals with the destruction of buildings, and there’s a potential for a large amount of casualties.

Kansas City would be mostly protected, Sprague says, and the ground shaking would not be as severe because of the way the earthquake transmits through the ground to surrounding areas. The Ozark Plateau in southern Missouri acts as a shock absorber between Kansas City and the NMSZ, and it would minimize the movement to the west.

Preparedness and readiness

A look at the sociology of various earthquake-prone areas may reveal why there’s a lack of preparedness in the NMSZ. Sprague compares the NMSZ to the work the state and local government carried out in the Wasatch Fault Zone in Salt Lake City. Once seismologists and engineers predicted what was going to happen there, the community was proactive and began to take measures to mitigate earthquake damage.

The government rebuilt all the bridges prior to the 2002 Winter

Olympics and retrofitted the government buildings. Compare that to Memphis, Sprague says, where there has not been that level of effort to rehabilitate the facilities. “It’s to the detriment of that city,” he says. “There’s been some degree of response in St. Louis, but there’s an enormous number of buildings that were constructed without seismic design and the government hasn’t rehabilitated structures to resist the ground motions they’re going to see in St. Louis.” There are many areas in St. Louis where the soil is poor and loose and it will exacerbate the effects of the ground motion on the city.

Harold Sprague, BSCiE ’80, says an event like the earthquakes that hit in 1811-12 will cost Memphis upwards of \$32 billion in damage.

Sprague says the lack of preparedness is a local cultural issue. “Salt Lake City government is proactive and engaged in the science and engineering community,” he says. “In St. Louis and Memphis, the culture is: ‘What’s this going to cost me?’ They also think, ‘it’s not going to happen in my life here,’ so there’s a myopic view.” Cost is a major factor. It’s expensive to retrofit or rebuild buildings and bridges to withstand a seismic event. But there are studies that show the mitigation is significantly less in cost than the repair and response to such a disaster. “And the cost to human life ... it goes without saying,” Sprague says. “The risk is there for a falling building to kill or injure people. We’ve seen that time and again.”



Photo by Dan Videtich



Katrina Burch and her dog Kya stand on a mound that insulates seismic equipment. The solar panels provide power to the equipment buried deep below the surface.

Photo by Michael McClure



Investigating what lies beneath

Grad student helps install seismic-monitoring components.

Much of what happens below the Earth's surface is a mystery to scientists. So to help give them a better understanding of the planet's tectonic processes and to map the Earth's interior, the National Science Foundation (NSF) funded the Earthscope Project, which includes a transportable array system that moves across the country from west to east. This system is a network of 400 broadband seismographs located in temporary sites across the United States. The seismographs are laid in a grid pattern about 40 miles apart. After two years, each instrument is picked up and moved to the next location on the eastern edge of the array. When the project is complete, nearly 2,000 locations will have been occupied during the program. According to the NSF, the goal of the project is to collect data that helps assess and mitigate the risks from earthquakes. The data will advance researchers' knowledge of the mechanics of earthquakes and increases the possibility of earthquake prediction.

Katrina Burch, a graduate student in the Geosciences Department at UMKC, worked on scouting a location and installing the station that is housed near Smithville Lake in Missouri. Burch worked carefully to choose the site. "It had to be so many feet from road, and so many feet from houses in an area with cellular service," she says. "It also had to be accessible by the construction vehicles and in a secure area

so nobody could come and steal anything." As Burch scouted the site, she snapped photos for the construction team to help with the installation process.

During installation, the construction team dug a giant hole, placed a culvert and filled the bottom with concrete. Then they installed a seismograph in the bottom and isolated it so it wouldn't record extra noise. Two weeks later, the team returned and installed an electronic system to monitor and record the data the seismograph collects. Each site has its own solar power source and a modem that transmits the data.

2 Dig deep
View maps and real-time seismic data from stations near you. Visit earthscope.org for details.

When they're fully functioning, the instruments pick up the wave paths of the energy approaching them, and the data tells researchers about what's happening down below. "Two years isn't a big window of time to observe something," Burch says. "But it allows a better understanding of what's underground."

Data from each station are continuously transmitted to the Array Network Facility at the University of California, San Diego, where a team performs initial operational and quality checks. Then the team archives the data, and the public can view web pages for each station and review the data the instruments collect.

Finding the final frontier

There's a world of unexplored terrain out there. For example, after a decade in the works, an international census of marine life revealed just how much we have to learn about our planet's oceans. Scientists in more than 80 countries collaborated to study marine biodiversity—from microbes to whales. In addition to discovering and describing more than 1,200 new species, the census documented oceans richer in diversity than previously thought. This got us thinking: Does the final frontier exist? Will humankind ever know everything there is to know? Three experts with ties to UMKC weigh in.

by AMANDA BERTHOLF

PERSPECTIVES: *What's left for us to discover?*

DIANE BEATTY (DB): Technology has continually improved, and we're able to see various aspects of our own world that we didn't know existed before. That same technology allows us to look at what's beyond our world.

JOHN KHUNS (JK): We know more about the surface of the moon than we do about the depths of our oceans, and in many ways it's easier and safer to get to the moon. The ocean census

up from the depths of the ocean is hard. A fish will explode or decompress. If you're going to work on a specimen in a lab, you've got to be able to keep it alive.

JEFF RYDBERG-COX (JRC): What strikes me is the similarity between what these scientists are facing and what people who conduct literary and historical research are running into. As we digitize things, we're creating more information in the world than we can possibly digest.

they do that?" How did they build the pyramids? The ancient Egyptians had limited technology, but look at what they did with it. We can learn from our past.

JRC: Ancient technology is amazing. Look at the Colosseum in the center of Rome. It's basically sitting in a swamp that's been drained. If we were to build a new stadium, we'd have trucks and heavy machinery hauling out loads of dirt. They had the power of an empire and forced human labor.

PERSPECTIVES: *Are we as creative and inventive as the ancient civilizations were?*

DB: You do with what knowledge and resources you have, and if you're working as a team with that goal, you'll obtain something productive out of those resources.

JRC: It's fundamental. Being creative is part of being human. We may be able to do very different things now, but whatever part of our humanity that makes us want to create is similar to and as fundamental as it was thousands of years ago.

JK: I'd hate for us to be in a position that our civilization was devastated to the point of sending us back to the Stone Age because there are many people who don't know how to survive. If we had to go back and recreate the

"Scientists discovered a 20-foot-long squid. How did we miss that before?"

—Diane Beatty

blew me away. One thing that struck me was the discovery of a shrimp that was thought to have gone extinct during the Jurassic Period.

DB: Also in this census, scientists discovered a 20-foot-long squid. How did we miss that before?

JK: There are many things yet to be found in our oceans. There's the potential to discover cures for what ails humankind. But bringing something

JK: I just read in *Science* that a Russian team in Antarctica was drilling into a deep lake under the ice. They've been drilling for two years. They got within 39 feet of their goal and had to leave because winter was coming. But they're convinced that there are organisms living there that they've never seen before.

DB: There's a lot of technology that we now look back at and say, "How'd

stuff we needed, we'd be hard-pressed. It's not just skills, but all the things we need to survive: purifying water, preserving food, creating medicine.

PERSPECTIVES: *Does the final frontier exist? What are the possibilities for it?*

JK: I don't think there is a final frontier. Albert Einstein liked to believe there was. It's a comforting thought to think the universe is finite. We'll fly out there and run into the wall. But it would be in our nature to ask, "What's behind that wall?"

DB: What's the size of space? It's unknown. You hit your final frontier when you cease to explore. By nature we're creative and we're going to continue to explore and we're going to continue to do things that haven't been done before because that's our nature.

PERSPECTIVES: *What does that tell us about ourselves?*

DB: What comes to mind is the story of *Horton Hears a Who* by Dr. Seuss. It's about a tiny universe on a clover. We're very small in the big world of creation.

JK: If you do mental gymnastics and you think about all this—when the sun blows up it's all going to be lost. So what we're doing it for is us now and foreseeable generations to come, but eventually all of our knowledge will be lost unless we can figure out a way to translate it into a universal scale. But by that time, whoever or whatever could look at our knowledge and say, "So what?"

PERSPECTIVES: *How will further exploration impact our lives?*

JK: The more we know about the oceans, the more we're going to gain a better understanding of why we shot ourselves in the foot and the reasons why we are where we are in 50 to 100 years. And we'll be mad.

DB: It could help us make better

medicines. There's a lot happening now in pushing for the use of biologics in medicine for therapies. These new discoveries might lead us to better take care of ourselves.

JRC: There's an author who said:

"We've always been confident we know something about the history of the novel." But if you were to read every novel published in the English language during the 19th century, you'd have to read one novel a day for 125 years. How can you look at that totality of the novel or the totality of all the periodicals that have been published in the U.S. since the founding? It's an undigestible, unreadable group of things. The problem that these oceanographers are dealing with is the same problem a lot of other people are dealing with. You have to get a handle on the volume of information that's there and work with a lot of people to get through it.

Dive in

Visit perspectives.umkc.edu to see more Census of Marine Life photos.

Photo of tube anemone by Karen Gowlett-Holmes

MEET THE PANEL //



DIANE BEATTY

Ph.D. in Chemistry/
Biochemistry '94
B.S. in Biology with
Chemistry minor '87

Vice president of pharmaceutical sciences at Beckloff Associates, a pharmaceutical research and development consulting company in Overland Park, Kan.



JOHN KUHN

B.S. in Chemistry '69
Owner of H.M.S.
Beagle, a retail store
in Parkville, Mo., that

sells scientific and science-related goods and educational toys.



JEFF RYDBERG-COX

Chair, Department of
English and director
of the classical
studies program

at UMKC. Also a Greek and Latin classicist. —Photos by Michael McClure



House on the hill

Epperson House has weathered many changes during its 88 years perched on the hill. From musical galas and wartime preparations, to the deaths of its owners and the birth of a university, the house has stood steadfast. Its evolution from home to dormitory to classroom has filled its residents with both adoration and aversion for the house, but the prominent emotion is fear—of its past and for its future.

Industrialist and philanthropist Uriah S. Epperson and his wife, Elizabeth, began construction on a sprawling Tudor-Gothic mansion in 1919. When it was completed four years later, it had 56 rooms, a basement swimming pool, marble fireplaces, ornately carved staircases, and an octagonal turret that overlooks campus. Today, no student orientation is complete without a ghost story and a backward glance at one of the house's darkened windows.

Bumps in the night

Tales about hauntings in the house are well known, ranging from the vague—strange lights and mysterious footsteps—to the darkly detailed, such as the disembodied, blue-suited arm that reaches out from nowhere to turn off the lights. One of the often-retold ghost stories involves Harriet Evelyn Barse, who lived with the Eppersons while she attended the Kansas City Conservatory of Music. Uriah and Elizabeth referred to Barse as their adopted daughter, even though she was 10 years older than Elizabeth. According to legend, Barse designed a custom organ that would reside in the balcony overlooking the living room. But she died at age 47, soon after she moved into the house and before the organ was completed.

Peek at the past
Visit perspectives.umkc.edu to view archive photos of the Eppersons and the house.

Over the years, students reported seeing Barse in the house wearing an evening gown. There are also stories of phantom organ music in the home, and a visible mark on the floor of the balcony shows where Barse's organ once sat in spite of efforts over the years to remove the mark. Other stories describe the wandering spirits of Uriah Epperson and a daughter who

allegedly died in the home. But Stuart Hinds of the LaBudde Department of Special Collections in the Miller Nichols Library, which houses the U.S. Epperson collection, points out that the Eppersons had no children.

Throughout the years, reports of mysterious activity have come from UMKC faculty, staff and students who have witnessed strange happenings while they were in the house. UMKC employee Boyd Breedlove is one such witness. He's been working for the university for about 10 years, and during that time he has become familiar with the intricacies of Epperson House. Breedlove says the house is usually quiet, but one night he wasn't sure what to make of what appeared to be a dark figure in the corner of the basement. "When I walked up on it and hit the corner with the flashlight, nothing was there," he says.



During his 10 years as a UMKC employee, Boyd Breedlove has encountered a few mysteries within the dark corners of Epperson House.

Breedlove is not the only one to experience strange occurrences. Other employees and students have had unusual experiences in the house, too, from digital recorder batteries mysteriously draining, to odd noises emanating from under a manhole cover. Some folks around campus believe the house is haunted, but until he sees solid proof, Breedlove says he's withholding judgment.

An architectural jewel

Although the building has had a variety of academic inhabitants through the decades, including the Conservatory of Music and Dance, the Henry W. Bloch School of Management and most recently the Department of Architecture, Urban Planning + Design (AUP+D), it was built to be a home. And even though they had no children of their own, the Eppersons' love for the

A HOME'S HISTORY

Throughout the years, Epperson House has served as a cornerstone of UMKC's campus. Here's a look at the home's storied history.

1919

Construction on the house began

1923

Construction was completed at a cost of \$450,000

1927

Uriah Epperson died

1942

50 naval cadets moved into the house

The home's architectural elements, such as the intricately carved moldings, are still intact today.

community and the arts meant the home was always alive with activity. They even had the home's architect, Horace LaPierre, include a stage and the organ balcony in the home's living room for performances, galas and balls.

Epperson House features several architectural styles that span centuries, lending it an architectural elegance that would otherwise take time to evolve. According to the Historic Kansas City Foundation, LaPierre designed the home to symbolize generations of additions to an ancestral British home. The house represents Tudor-Gothic, Elizabethan and Early Jacobean styles. The walnut dining room is Georgian,

with a bountiful harvest of fruit and vegetables cast in the crown molding, and rich oak paneling makes the spacious living room feel warm and comforting.

"The house is a real jewel in Kansas City," says Joy Swallow, chair of AUP+D. "It speaks to our history and culture in the

Midwest." AUP+D called Epperson its home from 1988 until the department relocated to the renovated Katz Hall in 2010. The architecture students loved the house, and they were disappointed to learn about the move to Katz. "It felt like home," she says.

With age comes problems

While Swallow says Epperson House has a life of its own, she didn't always consider that a good thing—people would forget her department was there. People immediately recognize the Bloch School of Management when they see the Bloch building, but AUP+D was often overshadowed by the house because of its history and the legends that surround it.

The home's legendary past may be charming, but it's also filled with problems. The AUP+D faculty, staff and students dealt with difficulties in the house many times, including during the department's first public event. The weekend before school started, the department invited more than 100 students and parents to attend.

A torrential storm hit, and rain came in the building from every direction. Then the electricity went out. "Students

mopped up water, and they were coming at me like they were on a ship that was going down," Swallow says. "They ran all over the house trying to pull things out of the water that was coming in."

That was the water. Then there was fire. While a technician was updating the home's HVAC system, he set the insulation in the attic on fire. Fortunately, the sprinkler system worked and saved the home. Unfortunately, the sprinkler system's success caused massive amounts of water to flow from floor to floor, damaging everything in its wake.

What the future holds

Now that Epperson House doesn't have any occupants, the home's fans wonder what will happen to it next. Assistant Vice Chancellor of Campus Facilities Management Bob Simmons gives his assurances that the university is protecting the building. "We're running the systems at a minimum level, we do walk-throughs to make sure there aren't any maintenance issues, and we continue to protect the building's skin at a basic level," he says.

However, Simmons says the university will not move any academic or administrative functions into Epperson House until accessibility issues are addressed. The inability to completely comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is one of the reasons the AUP+D had to relocate to Katz Hall. "You can't walk more than 10 steps in that building without hitting a couple of stairs," Simmons says. The estimated cost to bring the house up to ADA standards and make it habitable is between \$8 million and \$10 million.

The university made emergency repairs to stop the worst of the water infiltration, but Simmons says the house is solid. "Structurally, it's in fine shape," he says. "But it has lots of building skin issues. Many of the windows are original to the house and still have the original leaded glass panes, and they leak air like a sieve."

Despite that, Simmons has a message for UMKC's friends and neighbors who fear for the future of Epperson House: The university is properly caring for it. He believes the house is an opportunity waiting for the right investor and the right use. "The university is always open to discussions around that opportunity," he says. Eventually, the right person will fall in love with Epperson House and restore it to a state befitting a neighborhood jewel.



1943

Epperson's wife donated the house to the university and dental school freshmen moved in

1956

Epperson House was remodeled and the School of Education moved in

1969

School of Education moved out

1970s

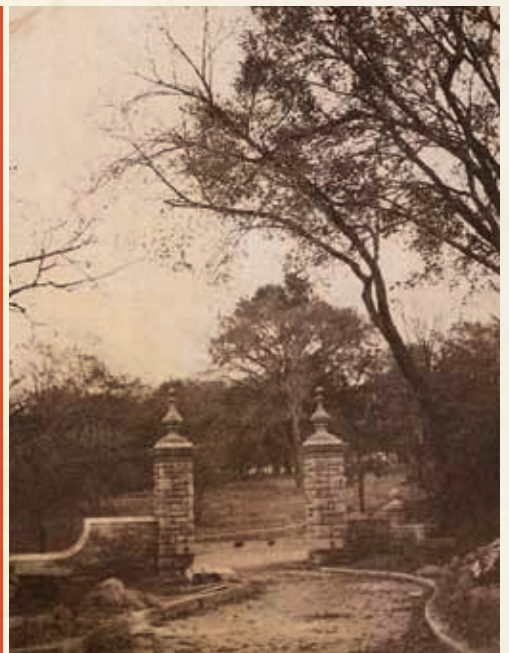
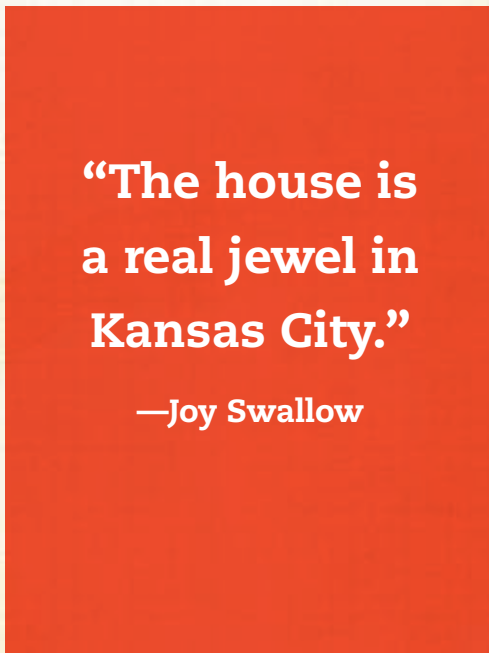
Conservatory of Music and Dance held adjunct classes in the home

1988

The Department of Architecture, Urban Planning + Design moved in

2010

AUP+D moved out and the home is now without a permanent resident



Class notes

>> 2000s

David Ebbrecht (M.B.A. '08, Business and Public Admin) of Kansas City, Mo., has been appointed senior vice president of operations for Kansas City Southern Industries (KCS) and its subsidiaries. Ebbrecht closely coordinates operations with KCS in Mexico (KCSM).

Brent Miles (B.A. '03, College of Arts and Sciences) of Wyandotte, Kan., is president of the Wyandotte Economic Development Council. He administers a program that focuses on business recruitment, business retention, marketing and workforce development. Since his employment in Dec. 2008, he has helped to create more than \$600 million in capital investment with the county, as well as more than 3,000 new and

retained jobs. Miles also helped bring Google fiber to Wyandotte County, Kan.

Joseph Seabrooks Jr. (B.A. '96, M.A. '95, Ed.Spec. '96, Ph.D. '01, Graduate Studies/Education) of Kansas City, Mo., and former president of Metropolitan Community College-Blue River, has been appointed president of Metropolitan Community College-Penn Valley. He became interim president in December 2010.

Tuan Tran (B.A. '08, Henry W. Bloch School of Management), of Olathe, Kan., is a Farmers Insurance agent working with auto coverage and casualty claims. He first heard of the job through a career fair at UMKC in 2008.

>> 1990s

Kristine Merrell (B.A. '92, School of Education) of

Lee's Summit, Mo., has been named the 2011-12 Lee's Summit R-7 Teacher of the Year. Merrell, a third grade teacher, began in the R-7 district in 2004. She has received 13 teaching grants in seven years of teaching. With her title of Teacher of the Year, she will be nominated for the 2011-12 Missouri Teacher of the Year.

Scott Noren (Ph.D. '97, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Truman Medical Center) of Ithaca, N.Y., is running for U.S. Senate in New York State. After pursuing his Ph.D., he completed six years of active duty Army service. He lobbied for medical issues concerning peer review in Washington, D.C., and became active in the political process.

>> 1980s

James T. Lane (M.D. '84, School of Medicine) has joined the University of

Oklahoma Health Sciences Center as the Harold Hamm Chair in Clinical Diabetes Research. Lane will also serve as professor of endocrinology and diabetes in the College of Medicine at the University of Oklahoma.

Joseph Volpe (B.A. '80, M.A. '92, Ph.D. '10, College of Arts and Sciences) of Raytown, Mo., will celebrate 12 years as a political science instructor at the Metropolitan Community College of Kansas City.

>> 1970s

Alfred Lomax (B.S.A.J. '75, College of Arts and Sciences) was confirmed by the U.S. Senate and sworn in by President Barack Obama in July to become U.S. Marshal for the Western District of Missouri. Lomax is a veteran Kansas City, Mo., law enforcement officer. He served nearly 30 years with the Kansas City Police Department, retiring as deputy chief of the department's investigation bureau in 1992. After he retired from the KCPD, Lomax led the Airport Police department at Kansas City International Airport.

Douglas Niedt (B.M. '74, Conservatory of Music and Dance) of Kansas City, Mo., and associate professor of instrumental studies has published a book, *How to Make a Million Dollars Playing the Guitar*, a memoir about the reality of mixing business with talent. He now serves as chair for the guitar program of the Conservatory of Music and Dance at UMKC.

Whatever you've been up to, we want to hear about it.

Visit umkcalumni.com or email us at perspectives@umkc.edu to submit your class note. If you prefer snail mail, send it to: Perspectives, UMKC, 5100 Rockhill Road, 300 Administrative Center, Kansas City, MO 64110-2499. Please include your daytime phone number, home address, email address, degree and year. Due to space limitations, we reserve the right to edit submitted text as space allows.



Appointments

Richard Evans, M.D., was appointed the chair of the Departments of Orthopaedic Surgery at the UMKC School of Medicine and the Truman Medical Centers in Kansas City, Mo.

Sharon Lindenbaum was appointed vice chancellor of finance and administration. Prior to joining the university, she was senior director of finance at Time Warner Cable in Kansas City, Mo.

Wayne Vaught, associate professor of philosophy, medicine and bioethics and director of the Center for Applied and Professional Ethics, was appointed interim dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Former dean Karen Vorst stepped down in April. The university is conducting a national search for dean.

Passings

Bill Anderson, professor, Jan. 5, 2011. As associate dean at the School of Law, he was instrumental in the development of the UMKC School of Law building. He had been a professor emeritus since 1992.

Hubert H. Bell, M.D., March 31, 2011. Bell served as chairman of the St. Luke's Hospital Cardiovascular Department and as cardiology section chief of the internal medicine residency program for St. Luke's Hospital and UMKC. He was a clinical professor at UMKC.



Elizabeth J. "BJ" Confer, April 29, 2011. Confer taught junior high school in Hot Springs, Ark., and later was the State Facilitator for the Arkansas Department of Education. After moving to Kansas City, she taught at UMKC's School of Education until she retired in 2007.

James J. Mongan, M.D., former dean of the School of Medicine, May 3, 2011. In addition to his deanship from 1987 to 1996, he was executive director at the Truman Medical Center for 15 years.

Clement Keith Schmitt, Feb. 5, 2011. He became a professor of surgery at the UMKC School of Dentistry and was subsequently honored with the Elmer F. Pierson Excellence in Teaching Award.

Warren H. Wheelock, professor emeritus of education and psychology, July 10, 2011. Robert B. Rogers, president of the Ewing M. Kauffman Foundation, endowed the Warren H. Wheelock Reading Education Scholarship in 1995 at UMKC in honor of Wheelock's clinical

work and service to students with dyslexia and learning disorders. UMKC granted him professor emeritus status in 2007. Wheelock and his wife made a \$1 million commitment to the School of Education last year.

James Peter Youngblood, M.D., March 9, 2011. In 1983, he left private practice to become the chair of the obstetrics and gynecology program at UMKC and Truman Medical Center. The James P. Youngblood Society, an alumni affiliate of the UMKC School of Medicine, named a medical simulation laboratory after Dr. Youngblood, who was present at its inauguration.



A HELPING HAND

Hampton Williams, a third-year law student, spent two months in Joplin, Mo. Williams worked with the Missouri Attorney General's Office at a temporary facility. At the Resource, Recovery & Rebuilding Center, Williams assisted in filing, investigating and resolving more than 200 consumer complaints resulting from the storm. He handled complaints ranging from issues with towing companies to landlords.

BY THE NUMBERS »

UMKC Alumni Fund

2011 Alumni Fund's highest fundraising year ever.

\$721,627 Record amount the Alumni Fund secured for students.

14.8% increase over last year.

\$93,149 more dollars raised than last year.

10% Percentage of alumni who gave back—a new record.

SHE'S A WINNER

Janet Sharp (B.A. '80, College of Arts and Sciences) won an iPad from the College of Arts & Sciences for making an online gift to the UMKC Alumni Association's Proud campaign. David Hawes (BSCiE '86, Computing and Engineering) also won an iPad. For more about the Alumni Fund, visit umkcalumni.com.

The view from the top

UMKC's business school brings home top rankings.

As the new school year kicks off, the Henry W. Bloch School of Management is celebrating a major rankings jump. For the first time in the School's history, undergraduate and graduate programs both made the national top 25 ranking of business schools. Out of about 2,500 entrepreneurship programs, the Bloch School is one of only 11 to have both the undergraduate and graduate programs nationally ranked.

BY THE NUMBERS »

Henry W. Bloch School of Management

25 First time in the school's history the undergraduate and graduate programs are nationally ranked in the top 25.

11 Number of schools to have both programs ranked.

2,500 Number of entrepreneurship programs in the U.S.

In 2009, The Princeton Review ranked the Bloch School's Institute for Entrepreneurship and Innovation among the top 25 graduate entrepreneurship programs nationally. With both programs making the list, UMKC and the Bloch School are celebrating a spot in the top tier of entrepreneurial colleges and business schools in the country, says Dean Teng-Kee Tan.

One of the influencing factors on this acceleration in status—and the undergraduate program ranking—is the School's E Scholars program, which graduated its inaugural class in Spring 2011. This program prepares student entrepreneurs with the skills and knowledge they will need to launch business ventures upon graduating from the program. "The goal is to accelerate the formation of globally scalable ventures that will have higher success rates—businesses that

will make over \$50,000 in revenue the first year and more than \$1 million in revenue in five years," says Institute Executive Director Michael Song.

The program is open to UMKC students from any area of study who have an idea for a business or product. Students participate in an intensive program in which they learn to write a business plan, work closely with entrepreneurs and business people from the Kansas City community, and take classes with entrepreneurship faculty at the Bloch School.

As a member of the first class to graduate from the program, law student Kristin Kenny created a productivity tool that aids legal professionals in effective organization of research material. The tool decreases time legal professionals spend on legal research and writing and saves attorneys an average of 500 billable hours per year.

In addition to the E Scholars program, the Bloch School has debuted new degree programs to help it stay ahead of the competition, including a master's degree in finance. The School has also created a master's degree in global entrepreneurship and innovation, master's of entrepreneurial real estate and an executive master's in public administration.

According to a 2011 data report from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB), there are 9,667 business degree programs available in the United States—more than any country in the world. And many of those programs compete with the Bloch School for the top spot in the rankings. —Mark Linville



PARDON OUR DUST »

New garage in the works

The university has demolished the 40-year-old Oak Street Parking Structure and will replace it with a new facility that has more than double the capacity. The new garage will open next fall and include elevators and elevated pedestrian bridges to provide a safe and accessible route to different areas on campus. The structure will include sustainable design features, such as covered and secure bike storage, showers for bike riders and a dozen electric vehicle charging stations. Visitors are asked to give themselves extra time when parking on campus during construction. For up-to-date construction and parking information, visit umkc.edu/transportation.

FACE TO FACE »

Dentist on wheels

Alumna delivers care to children in need.

Sarah Cimino (D.D.S. '08) works on the Tooth Truck, the Ronald McDonald House of the Ozarks Care Mobile in Springfield, Mo. This dental unit is a computerized, self-contained dentist's office on wheels. The truck travels the city and surrounding areas five days a week to reach kids who qualify for free and reduced lunches and don't have dental insurance.



Q: What was it like making the move from private practice to the Tooth Truck?

I thought this might be a temporary job, but I'm loving it so much I could see myself staying for a while. It's rewarding.

Q: What's your patients' background with dental care?

We see kids who've maybe had an experience with a dentist, but it's been years and they have unmet needs. For us, being the first exposure a lot of these kids have to dental care is paramount. They don't know about flossing. Some of them don't have toothbrushes.

Q: How do you describe your role?

These kids come in and whether it's their teeth that are bothering them or situations at home, they don't feel special. When we bring

them onto the truck, they're our No. 1 priority and they look forward to coming back to see the results.

Q: Is education important?

Once you explain in their terms how a cavity works, it makes sense to them. Their parents weren't educated when they were younger, or a lot of them have had bad experiences with a dentist. Without us, that's being passed on to the kids.

Q: Does it require some convincing to get kids onto the truck?

Most kids are receptive to it. They want to show you that they brushed their teeth that day, or they're embarrassed that they didn't. They'll run onto the truck and ask if they can brush their teeth.

Q: How similar is the truck to a typical dentist's office?

Every one of our patients gets a cleaning, X-rays and a treatment plan. We have an office manager, a program director, two full-time dental assistants and one part-time dental assistant.

Q: How does your current job compare to private practice?

I don't have to worry about insurance or what kind of payment we're going to get because we have private donors and funding. We're never worried about what Medicaid is going to give us.

Q: What makes this job ideal?

I'm just the dentist. I get to come in every day and do dentistry. I get to deal with kids and put them at ease. That comes naturally to me. —Erick R. Schmidt



2012 Alumni Awards

CAMPUS-WIDE AWARDEES »

ALUMNA OF THE YEAR

Catherine Spong, School of Medicine (B.A., M.D. '91)

SPOTLIGHT AWARD

Yvonne Wilson, School of Education (M.A. '71, Ed.Sp. '76)

BILL FRENCH SERVICE AWARD

Lajuana Counts, School of Law (J.D. '88)

LEGACY AWARD

The Hartwig Family, School of Pharmacy

DEFYING THE ODDS

David Westbrook, College of Arts and Sciences (B.A. '71)

ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARDEES »

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
Michelle Wimes (B.A. '88)

SCHOOL OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES
Kamlesh Patel (B.S. '00)

BLOCH SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT
Esther George (M.B.A. '00)

SCHOOL OF COMPUTING AND ENGINEERING
Hagos Andebrhan (BSCiE '78)

CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC AND DANCE
John Leavitt (D.M.A. '90)

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY
William Giannobile (M.S., D.D.S. '91)

DENTAL HYGIENE
Patricia Walters (B.S. D.H. '89, M.S. '91)

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
Suzanne McCandles (M.A. '97)

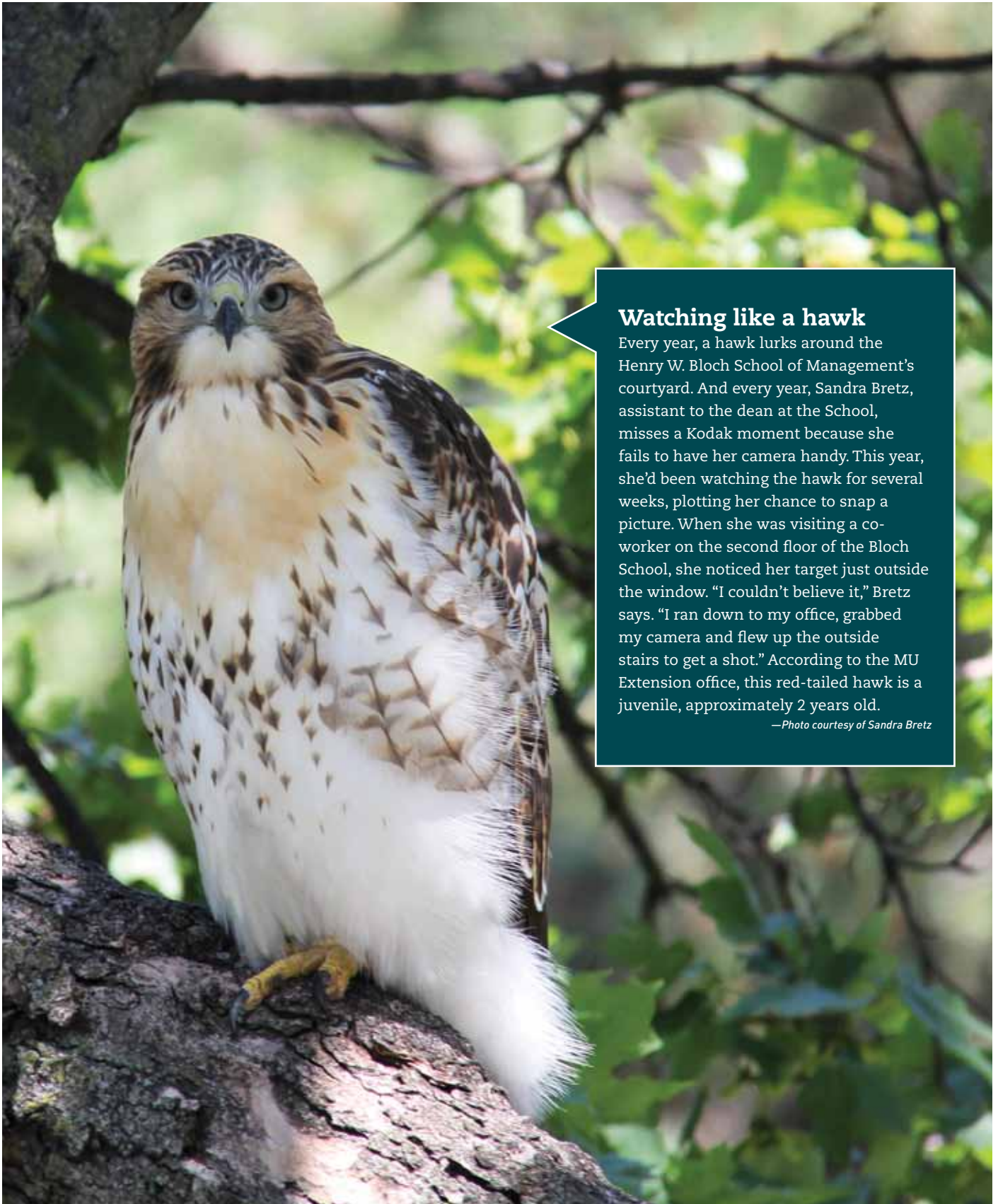
SCHOOL OF LAW
Frances Tydingco-Gatewood (J.D. '83)

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
Alexander Norbash (B.A. '85, M.D. '86)

SCHOOL OF NURSING
Rennae Ellis (B.S.N. '98)

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY
David Sater (B.S.P. '72)

Learn about the April 26 awards luncheon at umkcalumni.com.



Watching like a hawk

Every year, a hawk lurks around the Henry W. Bloch School of Management's courtyard. And every year, Sandra Bretz, assistant to the dean at the School, misses a Kodak moment because she fails to have her camera handy. This year, she'd been watching the hawk for several weeks, plotting her chance to snap a picture. When she was visiting a co-worker on the second floor of the Bloch School, she noticed her target just outside the window. "I couldn't believe it," Bretz says. "I ran down to my office, grabbed my camera and flew up the outside stairs to get a shot." According to the MU Extension office, this red-tailed hawk is a juvenile, approximately 2 years old.

—Photo courtesy of Sandra Bretz

PROUD

CITY STRONG UNIVERSITY PROUD

This was the highest fundraising year ever for the UMKC Alumni Fund—alumni and friends contributed \$721,627 to student aid. Alumni also set a record this year, with more giving back than ever before. Thank you for showing how proud you are to be a Roo.



umkcalumni.com

Check out these great offers available to UMKC alumni and friends



Online Alumni Store
From shirts and hats to high-end gifts, find the perfect UMKC Alumni gear.



Come travel with us!

This exclusive program offers opportunities to see the world. Whether embarking on an educational experience or traveling to exotic locales, you'll be with UMKC alumni and friends.



Rewarding credit card offer

UMKC and UMB offer the Alumni Association Platinum Visa® Rewards Card. The bank will donate \$75 and a percentage of all purchases on the card to the UMKC Alumni Association. Personalize it with the look of your school or your own design.

Stationery and invitations

Receive discounts on personalized greetings cards, invitations, announcements and more through the UMKC Alumni Print Store, where a portion of purchases benefit the UMKC Alumni Association.

More opportunities are available at umkcalumni.com/benefits.



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HOMECOMING 2011

**MAKE YOUR RETURN TO CAMPUS
SATURDAY, OCT. 1**

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

10 a.m. - noon

National Kidney Foundation Walk on the
Volker campus

11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Block Party - Celebrate UMKC with urban food trucks,
carnival games, music, and tours of the Student Union
and Miller Nichols Library renovations.

5 p.m.

Alumni Happy Hour at the Chancellor's Residence

7 p.m.

UMKC men's soccer vs. Oakland at Durwood Stadium

For a complete list of UMKC's homecoming festivities, visit umkc.edu/homecoming.

