Welcome from Dean Sue Maes

WELCOME TO THE KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY Global Campus Link magazine, our newest effort to connect with alumni and friends around the globe. In 2014 we updated our name to more appropriately reflect the reach of our programs and that K-State Global Campus truly serves students around the world. We are proud to work with the Kansas State University academic colleges to extend programs taught on campus to those of you who are place-bound, making possible the connection between K-State faculty and students.

We constantly strive to provide the same services offered on campus to K-State distance students. We know many of you will not have the opportunity to step foot on one of the physical K-State campuses in Manhattan, Salina or Olathe, and thus we have created a Virtual Open House so you can get a sense of the campuses, colleges and faculty who provide the programs offered through K-State Global Campus. If you ever do find yourself on campus, please contact us, as we are always happy to connect with students in person.

In this issue you will meet Jan Freeby, a 1976 graduate of what was then called the nontraditional studies program and is now our bachelor’s degree completion program. Jan credits her motivation to complete a degree with the desire to advance in her career.

Fast forwarding to 2014, we are proud to have partnered with Linda Yarrow, assistant professor of human nutrition, to offer Kansas State University’s first massive open online course, or MOOC. Offered at no cost, the six-week course, Health and Wellness 101: Everyday Small Changes, was wildly popular in its first offering, attracting more than 2,100 students.

And, speaking of students, they are the focus of much of what we do. Since distance students often enroll part time, balancing work, families and other responsibilities, they are often not eligible for traditional scholarships. We have worked with our academic colleges and with donors to begin to build scholarships to help distance students persist as they work toward their degree. Evidence shows that these scholarships have resulted in fewer stop-outs or drop-outs, contributing to each student’s success.

We hope you will consider supporting distance students through a contribution to K-State Global Campus scholarships. In addition, we would like to invite you to give of your time and talent, which is also meaningful to the students. See the article about how you, as a distance alumnus, can link with students to provide mentoring, encouragement and enhance their education.

Through this Link magazine, we are making concerted efforts to share news and events and to continue the connection between distance alumni, friends and K-State Global Campus. We hope you will contact us to share your story, and we look forward to hearing from you.

Warm wishes,

Sue C. Maes
Dean
K-State Global Campus
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## COVER
Janet Freeby, ’76, one of the university's first nontraditional program graduates, in front of the K-State Alumni Center.
NEARLY 500,000 KANSANS HAVE SOME COLLEGE experience but no bachelor’s degree, according to the Kansas Board of Regents. Kansas State University Global Campus is working to change these statistics by helping community members in the K-State area complete a degree.

The On Track campaign showcases the value and flexibility of finishing a degree through the university’s convenient course schedules, student services and campus resources.

“While we’ve worked throughout the world to help students complete degrees, On Track focuses on adult learners in our own backyard,” said Jo Maseberg-Tomlinson, program coordinator at K-State Global Campus. “We want everyone in our community to be able to finish their degree for future advancement and career success.”

Ron Jackson, program coordinator at K-State Global Campus, says more individuals with bachelor’s degrees in the state help strengthen the Kansas workforce.

“An educated workforce is essential to increasing our economic viability in the ever-competitive global economy,” Jackson said. “The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that median earnings for adults with a bachelor’s degree are significantly higher than those with an associate degree or less.”

Over their lifetime, a high school graduate can expect to earn $1.2 million, while a bachelor’s degree holder can expect to earn $2.1 million, according to the U.S. government. Focusing on degree completion for adults specifically in the Manhattan, Kansas, area strengthens the community academically and economically.

To help residents get on track to their degree, K-State Global Campus hosted informational sessions on campus and in the community, answering questions about financial aid and tuition assistance, degree and class options, the K-State application process and more. On Track sessions expanded to Salina, Kansas, through collaboration with K-State Salina.

“All Kansans — and all adult students — can finish their degree,” Maseberg-Tomlinson said. “We’ll do everything we can to help them get there.”

STAY ON TRACK

Continue your K-State education with an online graduate program or professional development to enhance your degree. View available programs at global.k-state.edu.
Former K-State basketball player turned actor and model, Reggie Britt always felt the need to finish his degree. He knew it was time to get back on track and finish what he started 20 years earlier.

When seeking new employment, Lydell Cox realized the necessity of having a bachelor’s degree. He decided to get back on track and is pursuing a degree in general business.

While working in the Office of Admissions at K-State, Barbara Wells realized her passion for higher education but knew she needed a degree. She is now on track to finish her education.

Robyn Dreher, a human resources professional at K-State, is getting her education back on track. Going back to school was always on her mind, and as a university employee, now was the perfect time.

Elsa Toburen came to the United States from Peru without a college education. Inspired by students she works with at K-State, Elsa decided to get on track and earn her bachelor’s degree.
PORTRAIT OF A PIONEER

A look at one of K-State’s first nontraditional program graduates

By Rosanna Vail

WHEN JANET FREEBY, ’76, TOOK HER FIRST CLASS, Women in History, she didn’t know that she’d be making history, too. She was one of the first graduates of Kansas State University’s nontraditional studies program, now called the bachelor’s degree completion program. Forty years later, more than 1,300 students have followed her lead.

Freeby met John Steffen, the first director of the nontraditional studies program, at a reception. He told her K-State was starting a program for nontraditional students, and she was just the person he was looking for — a working professional with a few years of college but no bachelor’s degree.

“I don’t know if anybody’s interested in my story, but it’s been a journey.”

Freeby said. “John knew that I worked for Kansas Farm Bureau life insurance and told me this program would allow me to keep my position and study independently,” Freeby said. “I thought that was wonderful.”

Along with the challenges also came strong support from K-State instructors who went the extra mile for the sake of her success. For one assignment, Freeby’s instructor insisted she meet him in the hospital, where he had just undergone surgery but was still willing to review her work.

“In those days, the instructor would give an assignment and when I had it completed, I would call him and we would meet. I thought surely he wouldn’t want to have a class in the hospital room, but he did,” Freeby said. “And then he gave me another assignment.”

Freeby completed her bachelor’s degree in humanities and minored in history — a field she is passionate about and suits her story perfectly.

“History is one of my loves,” she said. “I was president of the Riley County Historical Society.”

Freeby also served as a leader in the community as president of the Pilot Club of Manhattan and the American Association of University Women. After more than four decades at the Kansas Farm Bureau and her accomplishments at K-State and within the community, she remains modest about her success.

“I’m 85 years old, from a small town called Wilsey, Kansas,” she said. “I don’t know if anybody’s interested in my story, but it’s been a journey.”

SHARE YOUR STORY

Inspire others with the path that led to your K-State degree. Contact us to share your K-State distance education story at global@k-state.edu.
WHEN YOU WANT TO LEARN ABOUT SOMETHING TODAY, IT SEEMS LIKE ALL you need is an interest and an Internet connection. But as more and more people have access to create information online, an expert approach from a trusted source is critical.

Over the past few years, MOOCs, or massive open online courses, have delivered online coursework from expert instructors to anyone in the world — at no cost.

Kansas State University joined the MOOC movement in fall 2014 with the course Health and Wellness 101: Everyday Small Changes. Offered through K-State Global Campus and the College of Human Ecology, the course teaches students about the small, realistic changes that can be made in their daily lives to improve health, physical fitness and overall well-being.

2,100 students across six continents
The Idea
When Diana Wilson, a registered dietitian and K-State distance program graduate, expressed interest in offering a MOOC, she and Linda Yarrow, assistant professor of human nutrition, started investigating how to make it happen. Yarrow, an experienced instructor of online classes through K-State Global Campus, led the development team for the course.

“MOOCs can reach people anywhere around the world in an efficient and asynchronous manner, making them ideal for outreach education in ways the traditional classroom can’t achieve,” Yarrow said.

The Implementation
Development of the MOOC was possible through a K-State Global Campus grant process that provides K-State faculty with funding to develop new online programs or courses.

“K-State Global Campus got excited about the idea of exploring new ways to educate, and they supported us in the start-up,” Yarrow said.

Yarrow worked with Ben Ward, instructional designer at K-State, to develop the course design. The format of the health and wellness MOOC includes six modules with fun, engaging activities such as videos and interactive games. It utilizes message boards for student communication and weekly real-time chats with a registered dietitian to discuss how students can apply what they are learning.

The Impact
More than 2,100 people enrolled for the MOOC, with participants in North and South America, Europe, Asia, Africa and Australia. Several employers across Kansas and the United States encouraged their employees to complete the course as personal development or promoted it to their clients.

“We had very positive comments about K-State,” Yarrow said. “Many students stated they loved getting information from such a reputable source. One student even said she Googled the reputation of the university first and was impressed so she signed up. K-State is well known within the United States, so it was great to be able to promote the university worldwide,” Yarrow said.

SUGGEST A COURSE TOPIC
Contact us with ideas for a MOOC in your field of study or profession at global@k-state.edu.
ECUADORIANS MAKE UP ONE OF THE LARGEST international student populations at Kansas State University thanks to a partnership between K-State and the government of Ecuador. Through this partnership, Ecuador is closer to reaching its goal of providing more educational development for its teachers.

“In order to become a knowledge-based society, human talent is at the core of our model for national development,” said Nathalie Cely, Ecuadorian ambassador to the United States. “To achieve the levels of innovation that the country requires, to become that learning society, education is at the core and center of that strategy.”

K-State is helping Ecuador implement its education strategy. The Go Teacher program brings Ecuadorian teachers to campus to enhance their proficiency in teaching English as a second language. Teachers apply what they learn upon returning to Ecuador to teach English to their own students. The program is funded by the Ecuadorian government, with more than 400 teachers completing the program at K-State and additional cohorts on the way.

Yolanda Molineros, graduate of the first Go Teacher cohort, returned to campus last year to complete K-State’s newly launched Go Teacher master’s program. In this accelerated program, Ecuadorian teachers complete a Master of Science in Curriculum and Instruction with specialization in Teaching English as a Second Language. Molineros says students in the program have made many sacrifices to come to the United States because of their motivation to better the Ecuadorian education system.

“I have a 5-year-old son who is at home with my mom,” Molineros said. “It’s difficult, but to me it’s worth it because somehow he will see the benefit of this when I get back. I want us to make a big change in Ecuador. We have big plans for education in Ecuador. We want everybody to benefit from this great opportunity, and that’s why we’re here.”

To help foster more global discourse about Ecuadorian higher education, K-State Global Campus hosted a Day of Ecuador last summer, a forum to exchange and discuss ideas, approaches and research findings about the role of education in generating human development in a global era. Cely and Molineros attended the day’s events on the K-State campus, along with more than 300 students, faculty, administrators, community members and Ecuadorian officials.

The impact of the Go Teacher program within the Ecuadorian education system — and within the K-State community — is featured in a video documentary launching this spring, titled “Vale la Pena: Revolutionizing Hearts, Minds, and Communities.” The documentary, produced by the K-State College of Education and K-State Global Campus, shares the inspirational stories of Ecuadorians and K-Staters in making the Go Teacher program a global success.

WATCH THE DOCUMENTARY

View the video online at coe.k-state.edu/vale-la-pena.
From left: Socorro Herrera, professor of education; Debbie Mercer, dean, College of Education; Nathalie Cely, Ecuadorian ambassador to the U.S.; and Sue Maes, dean, K-State Global Campus during Day of Ecuador events.

Ecuadorian jazz fusion band Papaya Dada performs during the Day of Ecuador.

Socorro Herrera leads a Go Teacher classroom activity.

Judith Mena, Go Teacher master’s student, presents on advocacy beyond the classroom.

Go Teacher master’s students participate in a Day of Ecuador panel session.

Yolanda Molineros, Go Teacher master’s student, presents information to event attendees.
SOME OF THE MOST DEDICATED, die-hard, decked-out-in-purple Wildcats are distance program graduates who have never visited the campuses of Kansas State University. Now there are more ways than ever to feel a sense of place at K-State, no matter where you are in the world.

The K-State Global Campus Virtual Open House helps distance students and alumni experience campus by simulating a face-to-face open house for those who are unable to visit in person. It is accessible year-round as a central hub for learning about the university’s distance programs as well as the K-State campus and culture.

“We try to provide new ways to help students and alumni make a personal connection to K-State, to actually feel like they are walking through campus and seeing the buildings where their classes are housed,” said Jason Maseberg-Tomlinson, director of student and faculty services at K-State Global Campus. “Although it serves as an informational resource, the main goal of the Virtual Open House is all about bringing the K-State experience to distance students and alumni as part of our Wildcat family.”

Along the lines of K-State’s on-campus open house events, the Virtual Open House offers online-accessible giveaways and games for a chance to win K-State distance prizes. Students and alumni can take advantage of these activities and more during their virtual visit.

1. **Go on a campus photo tour.**

An interactive photo tour and Google Street View feature let you roam the university up close to see notable, historical campus locations and landmarks. Take a look at the buildings where classes are held, the beautiful campus scenery and more.

2. **View videos about K-State colleges, services and culture.**

Videos featuring online course instructors from various programs and colleges, as well as distance student services videos, provide insight into what distance learning is like at K-State. Additional videos showcase K-State history and traditions.
VISIT VIRTUALLY
Access the Virtual Open House at global.k-state.edu/openhouse.

VISIT IN PERSON
Learn more about the All-University Open House at k-state.edu/openhouse, or schedule an on-campus visit any time of year at k-state.edu/admissions/visit.

3. Chat with us live or schedule a video chat.
Chat live with distance student services staff Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. CST, to ask questions about programs, courses, scholarships or anything else about K-State. Video chat sessions using Zoom are available for more direct, personalized conversation.

4. Plan a trip to campus.
Make Manhattan, Kansas, a vacation destination and come see campus in person for a football game, homecoming or other events. At K-State’s All-University Open House each spring, visitors can explore the campus, find out about academic programs and opportunities for students, and participate in fun, family-friendly activities. The Manhattan area also has much to offer with lodging, dining and recreation for a great vacation in the Flint Hills.

“Open House is a great time for distance students and alumni to plan a visit,” Maseberg-Tomlinson said. “But for those who can’t, the Virtual Open House brings an open house experience that is relevant and engaging for them. Wherever our students and alumni live, we hope they will always connect to K-State.”
Scholarship IMPACT

Scholarships are often a deciding factor in pursuing a degree. Through support from alumni as well as university and corporate partners, Kansas State University Global Campus scholarship funds are on the rise.

“Your scholarship has given me hope that I will be able to complete the program financially. As you are aware, graduate tuition is very high and scholarships and grants are few. This scholarship is helping to guarantee my completion for a program that will enable me to assist underserved nontraditional students in a high-quality and professional manner.”

– Kathleen O’Leary, academic advising master’s student

Scholarship funds more than doubled in the past year

250

In partnership with EdAssist, a company working with corporations for employee tuition assistance, K-State offered a $250 scholarship per student, per term for employees of EdAssist clients.

Summer semester scholarships available

6

Six new scholarships between $600 and $1,000 launched during the fall semester for degree-seeking students in the following online program areas:

• College of Agriculture
• College of Arts and Sciences
• College of Business Administration
• College of Education
• College of Technology and Aviation
• Department of Human Nutrition

59

scholarships awarded totaling $61,300 to students in 17 states

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Contribute to a scholarship fund or develop your own scholarship by contacting Tracy Robinson, development officer, at 785-532-7568 or tracyr@found.ksu.edu.
WAYS TO GIVE

your time and your talent

By Ashley Nietfeld

Whenever we talk to distance alumni like you, we see how much you love Kansas State University — even if you’ve never been to campus. Many times, you want to show support for K-State Global Campus and its mission to reach students worldwide, but you may not know all the ways you can contribute.

Some of the most popular ways for alumni to support students are through annual gifts made online, pledges payable over time, life insurance policies naming K-State as a beneficiary, or making a gift go further through an employer’s matching donation policy. There are many other ways to show support, the simplest of which is to share your K-State story. You could inspire someone who might be thinking of taking the next step to go back to school.

See the reasons to give back or get more involved as alumni at www.found.ksu.edu/global-campus.

Get your own byline.
Contribute your expertise by writing an article for one of our publications.

Shout from the rooftops.
Or talk in a normal tone as a guest speaker for one of your favorite classes.

Buddy up, like the old school days.
Mentor a current student in the program you completed, or recommend K-State to a colleague.

Bask in the limelight.
Share your K-State story. All of it. Your triumphs and challenges can inspire others to go for their goals.

Eat, drink and be merry.
Attend a K-State Global Campus alumni reception in your area and network with Wildcat graduates and staff.

Tell your congressmen what you think.
About higher education, at least. Be a voice for groups like Wildcats for Higher Education.
HAWAII. PUERTO RICO. BRAZIL. These are just a few places where distance students began the journey to celebrate their Kansas State University graduation in person. For many, the graduation trip to K-State was their first visit to campus.

To help celebrate the milestone, K-State Global Campus hosted a graduation reception for distance students. Twenty-five graduates who completed degrees in summer or fall 2014, along with their guests, attended the reception at the K-State Alumni Center in Manhattan, Kansas.

Graduates enjoyed meeting some of their online course instructors and advisors face to face, as well as K-State Global Campus staff who helped them during their education. Willie the Wildcat also joined the celebration, posing in photos with graduates and their guests.

For graduates who are unable to travel to Manhattan for commencement ceremonies, K-State Global Campus offers a virtual commencement, including graduation addresses that are specific to distance students. Friends and family of graduates can post congratulatory messages through the virtual reception.

SUPPORT THE STUDENTS
You can help future classes of distance students reach graduation. Contact us to contribute to K-State Global Campus scholarships at global@k-state.edu.
In the past year, 476 students completed degrees through distance education at K-State.
ANNUAL STATISTICS

K-State Global Campus:
A year in numbers*

11,580
total enrollments in online, evening and intersession courses

4,832
total enrollments by students who attend only by distance

K-State Global Campus students by location:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kansas</td>
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<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>2,242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7
new programs launched

Professional Master of Business Administration
Financial Therapy graduate certificate
Teaching English as a Second Language for Adult Learners graduate certificate
Primary Texts undergraduate certificate
Bakery Science minor
Feed Science minor
Grain Handling Operations minor

476
Completed degrees

147
Bachelor’s degrees

323
Master’s degrees

6
Doctoral degrees

*DATA FROM ACADEMIC YEAR 2013-2014.
K-State Global Campus received the following awards and recognition for outstanding individuals and programs.

REGIONAL

UPCEA Professional Continuing Educator Award:
Ron Jackson, program coordinator

UPCEA Mature Credit Program Award:
Master of Agribusiness

UPCEA Support Specialist Award:
Mary Emerson-Bowen, Master of Agribusiness program associate

UPCEA John L. Christopher Outstanding Leadership Award:
Debbie Hagenmaier, assistant director of Conferences and Noncredit Programs

Colleague to Colleague Innovation in Teaching Award:
Linda Yarrow, assistant professor of human nutrition

NATIONAL

ACHE Leadership Award:
Jeff Zacharakis, associate professor of educational leadership

ACHE Rising Star Award:
Kathryn Harth, Conferences and Noncredit Programs coordinator

ACHE Distinguished Credit Program Award:
Academic Advising Program

ACHE Outstanding Services to Underserved Populations Award:
Go Teacher Program

ACHE Creative Use of Technology Award:
Virtual Open House

Kansas World Language Association Teacher of the Year:
Chuck Thorpe, SVS Spanish instructor, K-State Global Campus

Loren Alexander Award for Pre-Service Teachers:
Annika Schneider, SVS Spanish student assistant, K-State Global Campus

MILITARY

2015 Military Advanced Education Top Military-Friendly Colleges and Universities

2015 G.I. Jobs Top Military-Friendly Colleges and Universities

STUDENT RECOGNITIONS

2014 National Distance Learning Week Essay Winner:
Rebecca Sombatchareun, family studies and human services, ‘14
CONTINUE YOUR LINK WITH K-STATE GLOBAL CAMPUS

Contact our development staff today to learn how you can make a difference.

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Melinda Sinn, Director, Marketing and Communication Services
Linda Teener, Executive Director, UFM Community Learning Center
Harry Williamson, Director, Administration and Finance
Jeff Wolfe, Director, Conferences and Noncredit Programs

Link joins thousands of students, alumni and supporters of distance education who want to learn online, grow professionally and connect globally through Kansas State University.