

DECEMBER 2008

Volume 1, Number 5



# College of Education

WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY

## NEWS and NOTES

### Message from the dean

The Fall 2008 semester is winding down as students and faculty prepare for finals. It has been a busy and challenging semester for all of us and we have achieved many accomplishments.

The Department of Curriculum and Instruction has its highest enrollment in 10 years. We are partnering with the university for new technology systems for the college. Our PET and UTPP programs with Cowley and Butler Counties are filled and our student teaching opportunities with new community partners are growing. In another partnership development, the Department of Human Performance Studies has formalized an academic exchange agreement with Nagoya City University in Japan.



Dean Sharon Hartin Iorio

Some of our students are at the happy end of a long journey to graduation. I encourage all students to study for their finals, keep up the good work until the end, and finish the semester with your best effort.

### Study tips for less-stress finals

Finals week can be an incredibly stressful time for many students. A little stress is good—it motivates you to kick into high gear. Too much stress can adversely affect your health, attitude and grades. Here are a few tips to help you reduce the possibility of a finals week fiasco (and more tips at [http://collegeuniversity.suite101.com/article.cfm/study\\_tips\\_for\\_final\\_exams](http://collegeuniversity.suite101.com/article.cfm/study_tips_for_final_exams)):

- **Organize** - you know which finals you'll sail through and which will be bears. Plan your study time accordingly. Organize notes and make study guides.
- **Study groups** - studying together with classmates can be helpful—or not. It's best to study with students who are motivated to do well, but even helping someone who doesn't quite "get it" can further your understanding.
- **Sleep, exercise, eat well** - you can't expect to do well on tests when you're sleep deprived, sluggish from junk food, and/or hyped up on caffeine.

### Congratulations to Dr. Nikki Currie

After much hard work and many long hours, Nikki Currie, assistant professor in the Department of Counseling, Educational and School Psychology has earned a PhD in Counseling Education and Supervision from Kansas State University.

Dr. Currie conducted a six-month qualitative case study of incarcerated males participating in a canine training program at the Ellsworth Correctional Facility. As the owner of the amiable Keanu, a therapy dog who frequents Hubbard Hall, Dr. Currie is an advocate of the use of therapy dogs within schools and other institutions.

Watch for  
the new LCD  
screens in Corbin  
north and south.  
They'll keep you  
up-to-date and  
informed!

### Upcoming Events

**Finals**  
**December 13—19**  
**Go to MyWSU**  
**For a schedule of**  
**dates and times**

**Commencement**  
**Sunday, Dec. 14**  
**2:30 p.m.**  
**Charles Koch Arena**

Check-in time for  
Graduates is 1:30 p.m.

Click [here](#) for more info

**Winter Break**  
December 20—  
January 20



The Department of Sport Management recognized several award winners at its annual Recognition Night.

Congratulations to:  
Russell Wilkins,  
undergraduate major of  
the year;

Candace Friedrich,  
graduate major of the  
year;

Kari Samora of Disney  
Sports and Recreation,  
practitioner of the year;

and James Nicas of the  
University of Houston,  
alumnus of the year.

Click [here](#) to  
check out updated  
info on the  
WSU  
College of  
Education  
Web site

December 2008

## Help the College of Education continue the tradition

The COE Technology Center is accepting items again this year to be taken to the Wichita Children's Home. The tech center has been making these donations during the holidays for the last several years and would like to continue the tradition with your help. Every donation helps tremendously!

The Wichita Children's Home is a temporary, emergency shelter for children in crisis. It is accessible 24 hours a day to innocent victims of abuse, neglect, abandonment and homelessness. The Children's Home has many year-round needs including:

### Clothing

- underwear, especially adult sizes
- socks, especially adult sizes
- sweat shirts & pants, all sizes
- jeans, all sizes
- tennis & dress shoes, all sizes

### Personal Hygiene Supplies

- hair products for all hair types
- deodorant
- lotion
- hair brushes and combs

### Birthday Presents

- snap together model cars
- top-40 CDs and cassettes  
(no parental advisories)
- gift certificates  
(malls, music stores, discount stores)

### Entertainment Passes

- skating
- movies
- video rental coupons
- bowling
- Cosmosphere
- Exploration Place

### Miscellaneous

- duffel bags
- stationery
- arts & crafts kits

### This year, the WCH has specifically requested:

- gift certificates from Wal-Mart, Target, Dillons and McDonalds
- diapers (sizes 4-6)
- baby formula (Similac)
- hygiene items such as toothbrushes, hair brushes, deodorant and bar soap
- adult-sized sweatshirts and sweatpants

You can find more information about the Children's Home, the services they provide, opportunities to volunteer, and a list of needed items at <http://www.wch.org>.

**Bring items for the  
Children's Home  
to the tech center by  
Thursday, December 18**

## Many eyes make awesome data sets

It might be too late for this semester's projects and reports, but students and faculty might like to check out this website over winter break and be ready to WOW people with data visualizations next semester:

<http://manyeyes.alphaworks.ibm.com/manyeyes/>