

IN THE CENTER

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Kansas Masons Pledge \$15 Million to KCI

The Kansas Masonic Foundation has pledged \$15 million for the Kansas Cancer Institute (KCI), at KUMC, KU Chancellor Robert Hemenway, PhD, announced Nov. 20 at ceremonies in the School of Nursing Atrium. The gift is among the three largest private gifts in KU history.

The Topeka-based foundation's gift to the Kansas University Endowment Association will help KCI in its effort to achieve designation as a National Cancer Institute (NCI) center. A division of the National Institutes of Health, NCI awards the designation to cancer centers for the quality and level of their research, education and patient care. At KUMC, clinical care for cancer patients is provided through The University of Kansas Hospital's



Photo by Earl Richardson

Celebrating the Kansas Masonic Foundation's \$15 million pledge were (from left) Forrest Hogle, campaign chair, KU First: Invest in Excellence; Barbara Atkinson, MD, School of Medicine executive dean and vice chancellor for Clinical Affairs; Jeffrey Sowder, president of the board of the Kansas Masonic Foundation; KU Chancellor Robert Hemenway, PhD; and William Jewell, MD, director, Kansas Cancer Institute.

Cancer Center. Among the 61 NCI-designated cancer centers nationwide are the Mayo Clinic and the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center.

With the addition of the Kansas Masons' latest pledge, the foundation's commitment for KU cancer research and treatment has reached \$20 million since 1974.

"To unravel the mysteries of cancer, we need to create an environment that will attract top researchers and foster collaboration," Hemenway said. "By bringing in additional scientists, the support provided by this gift will help KU increase the amount of federal research grants received and in turn boost the economic development of this region's life sciences initiatives. It is our hope that these

benefits will lead to a higher level of prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cancer throughout the region. This would not be possible without the generosity of the Kansas Masons."

The Kansas Masonic Foundation's commitment includes a \$500,000 gift for the William R. Jewell, MD, Distinguished Kansas Masonic Professorship, which was announced in October. The professorship, which honors the current KCI director, will provide the support to hire a full-time director, one of several requirements to achieve NCI status.

Other NCI requirements include demonstrating broad financial support from federal, state and private sources. A research center also must

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Hagedorn Leads Gastroenterology/Hepatology

With recent front-page headlines in *The Kansas City Star* calling attention to the prevalence of hepatitis C, the arrival of Curt Hagedorn, MD, on the KUMC campus could not have been more timely. Hagedorn is the new division director of Gastroenterology/Hepatology in the Department of Internal Medicine and a leading expert on hepatitis C, the country's most common chronic liver disease.

He's edited the highly regarded book, "The Hepatitis C Viruses," which was published in 2000, and written numerous papers about the blood-borne virus. His clinical studies have focused on how patients with hepatitis C respond to current therapies, while his research has opened the door to developing new treatments, such as HCV polymerase inhibitors. Hagedorn will continue this work at KUMC.

"There has been a renaissance of sorts in the treatments available for hepatitis C in the last few years. It's exciting to be a part of the dis-

covery process," Hagedorn said.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, at least four million Americans are infected with hepatitis C. This year alone, an estimated 10,000 will die from it.

In addition to hepatitis C and other liver diseases, Hagedorn has a special interest in gastrointestinal cancer. He plans to expand the hospital's current GI cancer screening program and work on the development of new techniques for diagnosing malignant forms of the disease.

"KUMC is very fortunate to have someone with Dr. Hagedorn's experience and expertise to lead the division of Gastroenterology/Hepatology. As a hepatologist, he will be very important to all of our liver programs, especially liver transplantation," said Sue Pingleton, MD, chair of Internal Medicine. "He brings a solid clinical background, along with a strong commitment to ongoing research and education."

"I enjoy academic medicine because you're part of a constant



Curt Hagedorn, MD, new division director of Gastroenterology/Hepatology, and Sue Pingleton, MD, chair of Internal Medicine.

learning environment. You have the opportunity to contribute new information that will advance the treatment of diseases and ultimately benefit patients," Hagedorn said.

Before joining KUMC, Hagedorn served as director of Hepatology at Emory University in Atlanta. He graduated from Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis and completed his internship and residency at Vanderbilt University Hospitals in Nashville, Tenn., and fellowships at the National Cancer Institute and Barnes Hospital in St. Louis.

Masons' Pledge *continued from page 1*

have at least three research programs, each with three researchers, and a research base of \$4 million in peer-reviewed funding. The Kansas Cancer Institute already has almost \$17 million in such funding. The gift from the Kansas Masonic Foundation also will help the institute recruit an associate director for clinical trials and at least six basic and clinical scientists to strengthen

four existing research programs and build new ones.

"This gift enables us to recruit the world's best cancer physicians and scientists," said Barbara Atkinson, MD, executive dean of the School of Medicine and vice chancellor for Clinical Affairs. "The foundation's support fosters cutting-edge research that leads to better prevention, better diagnosis and

better treatment of all cancer patients throughout our region. This gift ensures cancer research and education here at the Kansas Cancer Institute will be the best this region has to offer."

Jeffrey L. Sowder, president of the board of the Kansas Masonic Foundation, said the foundation was confident in the quality of KU's cancer research.

KUMC Forms Center for Healthcare Informatics

The University of Kansas Medical Center has announced the formation of a new Center for Healthcare Informatics on the KUMC campus.

“This will be an interdisciplinary center of excellence in keeping with the concept for all KUMC centers,” said Donald Hagen, MD, KUMC executive vice chancellor. Helen Connors, RN, PhD, associate dean of Academic Affairs at the KU School of Nursing, will serve as executive director.

“The KU School of Nursing, with the help of local business partner Cerner Corporation, has experienced great success in educating nursing students on the use of healthcare informatics,” Hagen said. “I am proud to have Dr. Connors leading KUMC in these efforts, as we provide students with the latest in health care education and lead the way for other educational institutions across the country to do the same.”

Healthcare informatics is generally defined as understanding the meaning, relationships and proper-

ties of health care information as a basis for biomedical knowledge discovery, information retrieval, storage and dissemination for purposes of supporting the process and evaluation of health care.

All KUMC schools – Nursing, Allied Health, Medicine, Pharmacy and Graduate Studies – will be served. In addition, the center will interact with the Lawrence campus. Funding to support the infrastructure for the center comes from the KUMC executive vice chancellor’s office.

The center’s mission is to advance healthcare informatics at KUMC through knowledge, integration, research and empowerment of faculty and students in this expanding field of biomedical science.

KUMC students and faculty will be increasingly responsible for knowledge of healthcare informatics and use of all available and future information systems in clinical practice.

“The creation of the center reflects KUMC’s quest for meeting a recent call to action put forth by the Institute of Medicine,” said Karen

Miller, RN, PhD, dean of the KU Schools of Nursing and Allied Health.

A July 2003 report stated that academic health centers, such as KUMC, have a key role in changing the way health care professionals are educated.

“The end result will be better trained health care providers giving a higher quality of care to patients. Our graduates also will have the ability to customize care for a patient’s particular need,” Miller said.

Through a collaborative project between the SoN and Cerner Corporation, an educational curriculum called Simulated E-hHealth Delivery System (SEEDS), was developed. Within the next year, the SEEDS approach to the curriculum will be rolled out to the Schools of Medicine and Allied Health.

“This program is an excellent example of how education can be responsive to the real needs of the health care industry,” said Irene Cumming, president and chief executive officer of The University of Kansas Hospital.

“The Kansas Cancer Institute is a top-notch program,” he said. “We want the institute to achieve NCI designation, something we’re very excited about. Supporting the Kansas Cancer Institute is something that shows how we look to the future. This gift will allow us, KU and the institute’s researchers to move forward in the fight against cancer.”

Established in 1966, the Kansas

Masonic Foundation Inc. is a non-profit organization that supports charitable, educational and scientific programs. The foundation is funded by voluntary gifts and endowments from Kansas Masons and their families and friends.

The gift from the Masons has put the KU First: Invest in Excellence campaign at \$501.7 million – over its initial goal of \$500 million. The KU

Endowment Association will continue to conduct KU First, the largest campaign in KU history, on behalf of the university through 2004 to raise funds for scholarships, fellowships, professorships, capital projects and program support. KU Endowment is an independent, nonprofit organization serving as the official fund-raising and fund-management organization for KU.

Cancer Center and Breast Center Tours

Marty Boyers (left), chief mammography technologist, Breast Center, demonstrated the new digital mammography technology to Gloria Davison, coordinator, Radiation Oncology, during employee tours Nov. 19.



Front & Center

Marcia Bailey, RN (left), nurse manager, Cancer Center, pointed out the new Cancer Center lobby and blown glass sculpture entitled "Field Flow" by Lawrence, Kan., artist Vernon Brejcha to Robyn Setter, RN, and Lila Martin, RN.



A new reception area welcomes patients to the Cancer Center.

School of Medicine students Lindsey Ragland and Carolyn Ley received a tour of the Cancer Center's Patient Resource Center from Madelyn Rudd, RN, education coordinator. On the wall is fiber art by artist Judith Trager.





Atkinson Book Signing

Barbara Atkinson, MD, KU School of Medicine executive dean and vice chancellor for Clinical Affairs, signed copies of her book and greeted guests during a reception Nov. 24 in Murphy Lobby. Donald Hagen, KUMC executive vice chancellor, hosted the book signing and reception in honor of the publication of her book, the second edition of the “Atlas of Diagnostic Cytopathology.”



Burn Speaker

The president of the American Burn Association, Lynn Solem, MD, spoke Nov. 12 on “Treatment of the Massively Burned Patient” in Clendening Auditorium. Solem (right) talks with resident JoAn Monaco, MD, General Surgery.



Diabetes Walk

Karen Miller, RN, PhD, dean of the Schools of Nursing and Allied Health, led a one-mile walk through the KUMC campus on Nov. 25 in recognition of American Diabetes Month and Physical Therapy Month. Showing off their walking shoes before the walk are Miller, Donald Hagen, MD, KUMC executive vice chancellor, and Lisa Stehno-Bittel, PhD, interim chair, Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Sciences.



Abby's Run

The first annual Abby's Run for the Heart, a 5K run/walk benefit event on Oct. 18, attracted 1,100 participants and raised money to support research that will lead to better treatment and prevention of sudden cardiac death in children. The event was sponsored in part by Mid-America Cardiology at The University of Kansas Hospital. Attending were (from left) Lynn Dreier, chief operating officer of Mid-America Cardiology, Kathleen Dalton, RN, Rachel Gray, C.J. Gray, RN, Brian Terry and Quinn Terry.

Homecoming Reason Enough for Giving Thanks

When Lisa McPeak, MD, returned to KUMC earlier this month following a year of active duty in the Kansas Army National Guard, she brought a new perspective on her career as medical director of the Rehabilitation Unit and a new appreciation for family and freedoms.

for further training and then spent two months in Bosnia where she served as the division surgeon for the 35th Infantry Division while working at the U.S. military base hospital. Following her overseas duty, she provided rehabilitation treatment to critically wounded soldiers at Walter

had been wounded in the Iraqi war by land mines and mortar rounds.

At Walter Reed, McPeak was impressed by the “truly excellent care that the wounded received – from surgery through rehabilitation. Amputee patients are given prototype, state-of-the art prosthetic limbs, and there is a real collaborative effort to do everything possible to improve function for these 18-, 19- and 20-year-old wounded soldiers.”

In Bosnia, McPeak was surprised by both the beauty of the country and the devastation that has occurred because of war.

“It was rare to see a house that was not bombed or riddled with gun shots,” she said. “And you can’t go off the roadways or hike because there are an estimated one million mines buried throughout the country.”

As war in Bosnia continues because of religious intolerance between the Serbian Eastern Orthodox, Bosnian Muslims and Croat Roman Catholics, McPeak is mindful of the religious tolerance we enjoy in this country.

“We all need to be more appreciative of our freedoms.”



Celebrating with Lisa McPeak, MD, medical director of the Rehabilitation Unit, on her return from active duty were (from left) Dianna Moser, activity therapist, Cindee Chase, RN, McPeak, Shari Trillo, occupational therapy, William Stiers, PhD, Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Trina Schulz, manager, Occupational Therapy, and Jill Georges, manager, Speech-Language Services.

“I missed my family to a point that I am now re-evaluating my life. I’m going to get home a little earlier and spend more time with my husband and my girls,” said the Army colonel, who is the mother of a two-year-old and six-year-old.

“This Thanksgiving, I will be more appreciative of what we have – what everyone has – in this country.”

After leaving KUMC Nov. 1, 2002, McPeak went to Ft. Riley, Kan., to train for her trip overseas. She later was stationed in Germany

Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C. There she treated many multiple-limb amputees who

Retirement Choice Reminder

Hospital employees who are eligible to choose between the new University of Kansas Hospital Retirement Savings Plan and the KPERS Plan must return their decision forms by Monday, Dec. 1, at 4:30 p.m. Place the forms in drop boxes at these locations: outside Hospital Human Resources at 5040 Delp, the cafeteria, hospital lobby, Broadmoor Building and Support Services Building. Employees who do not return their forms will automatically remain with KPERS.

WHAT'S NEWS

AT KUMC

Friendship Inn Events

Friendship Inn is hosting an open house on Tuesday, Dec. 2, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., in the Wyandotte Room. Members of the Friendship Inn board, staff and volunteers will present a continuous PowerPoint presentation and answer questions about the facility.

Friendship Inn, located at 4106 State Line, provides affordable lodging, a fully equipped kitchen, emotional support and a home-like environment to out-of-town families of patients at The University of Kansas Hospital. The not-for-profit organization has provided lodging for more than 700 guests since it opened about 18 months ago.

Friendship Inn also will host a fundraiser on Sunday, Dec. 7, 2:30-

6:30 p.m., at Lucky Brewgrille in Mission, Kan., during the Chiefs vs. Denver Broncos game. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door. The event includes a private party with an appetizer buffet, silent auction, door prizes, drink specials and the Chiefs game on a big screen TV.

For more information on Friendship Inn or these events, contact Chuck Andres, president, at 913-782-8298, or Sharon Wilson, house manager, at 816-506-6339.

Holiday Giving

KUMC Alumni and Community Relations is sponsoring two programs to help make the holidays more enjoyable for area children and their families.

There are more than 400 children and families of Project EAGLE and the Developmental Disabilities Center to "adopt" this holiday season. Employees, students and departments are encouraged to "Adopt a Child" by

visiting the Alumni and Community Relations office, 1028 Murphy, and picking up a child's wish list. All gifts must be delivered to 1028 Murphy by Dec. 15.

KUMC is also sponsoring a blanket drive for needy families in Wyandotte County. The goal is to collect 250 new blankets. Donations should be brought to 1028 Murphy by 5 p.m., Dec. 5. For more information on both programs, call 8-1255.

Tuition Assistance

State of Kansas employees who have worked fulltime at KUMC for at least six months are eligible to apply for tuition assistance. For information about the program and to print an application form, go to kumc.edu/hr/training/tuition. Forms are also available in the Benefits Office, 1044 Delp.

Completed applications should be returned to 1044 Delp or 1024 Murphy. The deadline for spring 2004 tuition assistance is Dec. 5.

Improvements Planned for Dykes Library

Signs apologize for the construction, but big improvements are in store for Dykes Library. It's all part of a two-year, \$1.8 million renovation project that will consolidate resources and greatly increase the library's uses and services for students and faculty, explained Karen Cole, library director.

The Instructional Technology Center will move to the library. Plans call for the addition of more than 200 computer workstations, 105 study seats, a 90-seat student testing area on the first floor, study spaces to accom-

modate individual as well as small to large group learning, and two fully-equipped technology classrooms, one with wireless, laptop computers.

"These changes are all in response to needs expressed by students and faculty over the past few years," Cole said.

Effective immediately, library hours have been extended. The library is now open Monday-Thursday, 7:30 a.m.-11 p.m.; Friday, 7:30 a.m.-8 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; and Sunday, 1-11 p.m. By

fall 2005 when the project is scheduled for completion, students, faculty and other KUMC personnel will have access 24 hours a day, seven days a week, except for major holidays.

Additional plans call for self-service, network printing and photocopying; new high-density electric shelving to house the print collection and allow for future growth; and expanded computer connectivity, allowing access to Web-based resources as well as library resources.

Classifieds, etc.

Automotive:

2002 Nissan Altima, silver, 3.5 liter, V6, 5-speed, loaded, sunroof, 26K, excellent condition, \$18,500. 816-468-0082.

1998 GMC truck Sportside, red, loaded, 76K, good condition, \$11,500. 913-208-0536.

1995 Mitsubishi Mirage, blue, 2-door, 82K, AM/FM/CD/cassette player, good condition, very reliable transportation, \$2,800 OBO. 913-722-0135 evenings or leave message.

1995 Honda Civic DX, 4-door, gray, automatic, A/C, power windows/doors, 1-owner, 100K (mostly highway), great condition, impeccably maintained, \$4,800. 913-220-7770.

1994 Honda Civic hatchback, white, 146K, fair condition, needs minor work, best offer. 816-531-4762.

1963 Chevrolet Impala, body ready to paint, inside OK, condition good, \$2,500. 913-321-4342.

For Sale:

Antique oak wardrobe, approximately 7' tall, drawers for storage, shelf for TV/stereo, perfect for bedroom or living room, \$600. 816-276-3799.

Electric range, 3 years old, double oven, white and black, \$170 OBO. 913-208-0536.

House in West Plaza, 4721 Wyoming, 3 blocks east of State Line, 1 mile to KUMC, 3 BR, 1 BA, 2-car basement garage, all stone/vinyl siding, park view, \$169,500. 816-561-4415.

Yamaha P22 studio piano, oak, beautiful tone, excellent condition, \$3,300. 913-962-0986.

2 china cabinets: 1950's Duncan Phyfe mahogany, \$650; 1930's Victorian oak, \$450; mahogany dining table, \$350; e-mail kcherman@earthlink.net for photos and dimensions. 913-269-7006.

33-gallon 6-hp twin-piston 220 Craftsman air compressor, lay-down model, hardly used, \$250. 816-763-1082.

Dining room table, 6 chairs, serving table, all in good condition, \$200. 913-362-2141.

1 aluminum storm door and 7 (32" x 52") storm windows, \$35; infant car seat with carrier, \$20. 913-789-7239.

Queen mattress and box spring, excellent condition, \$75. 816-741-8295.

Coming Up

Thursday, Nov. 27

- Thanksgiving Holiday

Tuesday, Dec. 2

- "Bladder Cancer – Of Mice and Men," Derek Raghavan, MD, PhD, University of Southern California Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center, 11 a.m., School of Nursing Auditorium.

Wednesday, Dec. 3

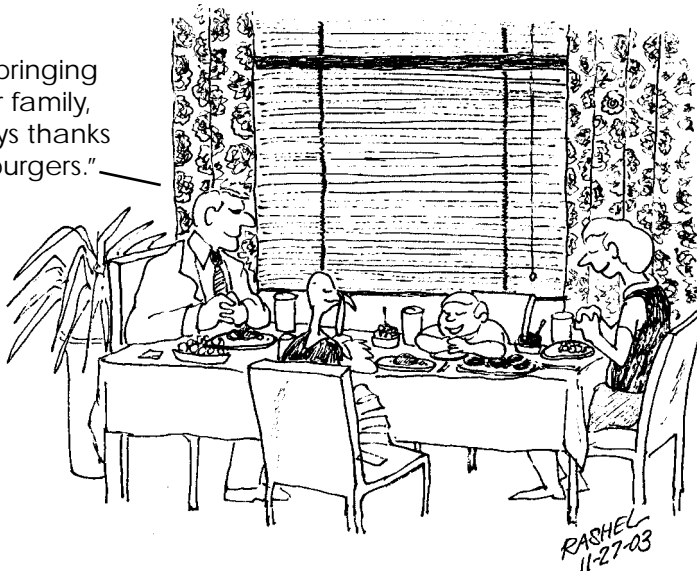
- Visiting Scholar Lecture, "Globalization of Prevention," Ronald LaPorte, PhD, noon-12:50 p.m., B018, School of Nursing.
- Final oral examination for PhD in biochemistry and molecular biology for Scott Falke, "Structural Effects of Binding Denatured Glutamine Synthetase to GroEL," 1 p.m., 1014 Orr-Major.
- Delta Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau Nursing Honor Society, reception, 3:30-5:30 p.m., Stoland Lounge.

Thursday, Dec. 4

- KUMC Auxiliary Tupperware sale, 7 a.m.-4 p.m., outside the cafeteria.

Off Center

"Thanks for bringing 'Tom' to our family, and 'Tom' says thanks for the soy burgers."



IN THE CENTER

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