

## GRANTS:

**Mugur Geana** visited Texas Tech University between Oct. 26 and Nov. 1 as a recipient of the Big 12 Conference Travel Grant. Geana had meetings with scholars and administrators from the College of Mass Communications and he established a framework for research collaboration between the Experimental Research Media Lab from KU and the Center for Communications Research from TTU. The first joint research project is expected to start before the end of the Fall 2008 semester and will focus on exploring relationships between visual media, health messages and obesity. Geana is also working with scholars from KUMC and Texas Tech to prepare a collaborative grant proposal to be submitted to the National Institutes of Health in 2009.

**Doug Ward** has been awarded the School's General Research Fund grant for 2009.

## OTHER RECOGNITION:

**Susanne Shaw** received the Gerald Sass Award for Distinguished Service to Journalism and Mass Communication from the Association of Schools of Journalism and Mass Communication for her dedication to accreditation as executive director of the Accrediting Council since 1986. (AEJMC 2008)

**Jimmy Gentry** was presented with the Media Management and Economics Division's Barry Sherman Teaching Award on Aug. 7. The award recognizes excellence and innovation in the teaching of media management and economics. Over the past 25 years, Gentry has taught thousands of communicators and journalists how to understand the language of business.

**Simran Sethi's** videos on environmental justice in Southeast Los Angeles launched on Sundance Channel's "The Good Fight." She also interviewed Nobel Laureate Wangari Maathai for the series.

**Simran Sethi** was nominated as a potential delegate for the Asia Society's upcoming Asia 21 Young Leaders Summit held in Tokyo, Japan, November 14-16.

**Simran Sethi** was featured in the June issue of *Natural Health* in a feature on green weddings.

**Kelly Crane** was featured in the Business Section of *the KC Star* in an article entitled "Relevance is key for grad school" on June 11. She discussed the growth of the program and trend toward more specific degrees. **Dennis Gagnon** (alum) and **Joshua Vaughn** (current student) of the Marketing Communications graduate program were also featured [online](#).

**David Perlmutter** was profiled for his blogging research and experience in *The Lawrence Journal-World's* KU section on Aug. 16.

**Kelly Crane** was featured in this week's *Oread* in the article "Curious collections, unique hobbies abound on the hill." Crane has played guitar since she was 12, and is a member of an all-female acoustic trio, "East of Eden."

**Doug Ward's** paper "Inside Journalism History: Some Assumptions and Ideas That Shape the Field" was a runner-up for outstanding faculty paper at the American Journalism Historians Association convention in Seattle Oct. 1-4.

**Simran Sethi** was featured in November's *Travel and Leisure* magazine alongside Joseph Stiglitz, Adam Werbach, and Alice Waters as part of the Global Vision Awards on eco-tourism.

**Simran Sethi** was nominated for a 2008 Sustainability Leadership Award. The KU Center for Sustainability gives these awards to recognize the achievements of individuals, programs and projects making important contributions to sustainability at KU by promoting the values of environmental, economic and social responsibility.

A review of **David Perlmutter's** book "Picturing China in the American Press: The Visual Portrayal of Sino- American Relations in *Time Magazine*; 1949-1973" (Lanham, MD: Lexington, 2007) appeared in the International Journal of Communication.

**Kerry Benson** was a finalist for the 2008 H.O.P.E. Award. **Doug Ward** was chosen as a semifinalist. Mary Klayder, a KU honors lecturer in English, received the award on Nov. 15 in the second half of the Jayhawks' home game against Texas.

**Jerry Crawford** was awarded the "Outstanding New Faculty Facilitator" award for his work this semester with students in the LA&S Learning Communities Program. The Learning Communities Program is an innovative academic initiative designed for first-time freshmen, as well as upper-level students at KU. Each LC is typically composed of a group of 20 students who are co-enrolled in two core courses and a seminar course that focuses on a particular theme. These courses fulfill requirements of majors and the professional schools. The LC Program invites students into small interactive learning groups with faculty and staff, and includes interesting co-curricular events, such as speakers, cultural and social activities. LCs offer both residential and non-residential options, creating enhanced academic support and opportunities for friendships.

**Simran Sethi** received the Smith College Medal, an award presented each February on Rally Day, to outstanding alumni. The Smith College Medal was established in 1962 to recognize alumni "who, in the judgment of the trustees, exemplify in their lives and work the true purpose of a liberal arts education." [Read the news release.](#)

**Doug Ward** was a nominee for the Outstanding Educator Award given by the KU chapter of the Mortar Board national honor society. Nominees are chosen based

on their devotion to academics, teaching style, accessibility, knowledge of their subjects and other qualities identified by the KU chapter. The five winners, from art history, molecular biosciences, business, political science and biology, were announced in December.

**Pam Fine** was quoted in the latest edition of *American Editor*, the magazine of the American Society of Newspaper Editors, in an article on the impact news industry changes are having on J-Schools.

The summary of **David Guth's** study, "Untapped Potential: Evaluating State Emergency Management Web Sites 2008," will be reprinted in the next issue of *TsuInfo Alert*, the newsletter of the National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program. It is distributed to approximately 600 emergency managers, legislators and tsunami scientists of the five Pacific coast states, the Pacific Rim and worldwide.

**Kim Callahan** won first place for Best Front Page design in the Suburban Newspapers of America Awards contest. [View...](#)

**Simran Sethi** was featured in the January/February issue of *Sierra Club* magazine, discussing environmental media.

**Simran Sethi's** environmental justice series "The Good Fight," for Sundance Channel was a finalist in the News & Politics: Series category in the 13th Annual Webby Awards.

**Barbara Barnett** and **Tien Lee** have been recommended for promotion and tenure at the University of Kansas by the provost. The final decision will be made at the end of the month by the chancellor. Following that official decision, the School will host a gathering in their honor.

**Simran Sethi**, Lacy C. Haynes professional-in-residence, has been appointed as an associate professor at the J-School.

**Jerry Crawford**, Hearst visiting assistant professor, was appointed as an assistant professor at the J-School.

**Doug Ward** received this year's John Katich Creativity Award from the School of Journalism. Bob Basow and Barbara Barnett, previous winners of the award, selected Ward, noting "His nominators made a strong case for him, offering evidence of his creativity and imagination in the classroom and his dedication to working with students as a coach and mentor. Doug Ward is an 'evangelist for editing.' His nominators praise his imaginative approach to teaching, reporting that his creative continuum extends from 'obiter dicta,' (a periodic compilation of journalists ups and downs) to crossword puzzles on AP style. Doug's teaching strengthens students' foundation in the most fundamental of journalistic skills. Known to students as an expert with an open door, he serves as both mentor and coach inside and outside the classroom, helping students develop high standards of fairness and accuracy. His knowledge of copy editing and his

passion for teaching make him an exemplary choice for the Katich Creativity Award.” The \$1,000 award is named in honor of John Katich, a dedicated teacher who loved students and inspired them to excel. He was on the J-School faculty from 1986 until his death in Oct. 2001. He valued ideas that helped students learn and get excited about learning. Among his achievements were the establishment of the sales curriculum, the enhancement of the professionalism of KJHK and the creation of KUJH-TV. John’s commitment to students and accomplishments as a teacher inspired the school, his family and friends to establish this award. Previous recipients include: Rick Musser, 2006; Bob Basow, 2007; and Barbara Barnett, 2008.

**Kelly Crane** has been selected as a 2009-10 KU Staff Fellow. She is one of twelve fellows who have been invited to participate. The fellows represent a variety of units, interests, and job classifications from the Lawrence and Edwards Campuses. The purpose of the program is to make KU a stronger institution by providing opportunities for selected staff to take part in a structured program of professional development that includes skill and leadership development, the opportunity to gain broader knowledge of KU, and the completion of an individual project of interest that enhances the Staff Fellow’s home unit.

**David Perlmutter** will be the new director of the School of Journalism and Mass Communication in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Iowa. He begins the appointment June 30.

**Kerry Benson** is one of five finalists for the Del Shankel Teaching Excellence Award given by KU student athletes.