



From the Arbor

@ Baker University...

Monthly news from Jerry Weakley, VP for Endowment and Planned Giving

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Numbers of Importance:

- *Recommend a student-* 800-873-4282
- *Alumni Office-* 888-781-2586
- *Make a donation-* 800-726-1554
- *Create a planned gift or create an endowed scholarship- 785-594-8332 or 913-449-9540 (Jerry Weakley)*
- *Baker Orange* www.thebakerorange.com

Ivan L. Boyd Center for Collaborative Science Education & Mulvane Construction Begins...

Preliminary construction and work have begun in earnest at Mulvane as workers prepare the site for the 9,000-square-foot addition to Baker's current science building.

Featured below and on page two are a couple of pictures I took while out on campus just before the Thanksgiving break. The first shows an east view of the construction site while the second details the newly constructed greenhouse and a south-east exposure of the site.



Mulvane Work in Progress

Work will continue through the winter with the plan of having the addition completed by next summer. The interior renovation work in the original facility will begin this spring, with the entire project forecast to be completed in late summer of 2012 and prior to the opening of school that fall.

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Please notify me at jerry.weakley@bakeru.edu of any changes to your e-mail address or if you are now able to receive the **Arbor** electronically. It is our hope to have this publication go entirely by e-mail by the beginning of the 2012 fiscal year. Thanks for helping us save \$\$\$!

Mulvane Construction Continued from Page One...



The All New Greenhouse

Fundraising for the entire project continues to progress and the plan is to have all funds necessary to meet the \$700,000 Mabee Challenge Grant in hand far before the July deadline.

A number of naming opportunities for gifts in excess of \$10,000 in the new/newly renovated space are still available. To discuss funding of such space, please contact Patrick Mikesic, Senior Director for Advancement, at 1-800-726-1554 or Patrick.mikesic@bakeru.edu.

Other gifts to the project may be mailed directly to the Office of University Advancement, P.O. Box 65, Baldwin City, Kansas 66006. Thanks for your participation in this most important project!!!

Where Would You Like to Go In 2013???

It's time to begin thinking about where the **Wandering Wildcats** will be traveling in 2013. If you would like to offer a suggestion for consideration please send that to me at jerry.weakley@bakeru.edu.

Several ideas and suggestions sent in just such a fashion have ended up being destinations for this traveling group that is open to anyone-so don't hesitate to let me hear from you!

So far I have two ideas...A cruise that includes stops at countries in the Far East and a trip to the Galapagos Islands and a portion of South America. So...where would you like to go?

Hot Topics...

School of Nursing Receives Max Re-accreditation...

Baker's School of Nursing received the formal letter informing them that they had received the maximum 10-year accreditation for its Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). The School of Nursing, established in 1991, is now reaccredited until December 31, 2021 but will, as do all nursing schools, be required to submit a mid-term continuous improvement progress report in five years.

Baker's School of Nursing is located at the Pozez Education Center at Stormont-Vail HealthCare Center in Topeka, Kansas. Congratulations **Dean Kathy Harr** and all the faculty, students, staff and administration!!!

Teel Selected for Honor...

Susan Richardson Teel '69, longtime Board of Trustee member and former Board chair, is being recognized for her volunteer activities with **Baker** and other organizations she represents so well by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) at the organization's annual conference that will be held in January in Denver. Susanne will receive the annual Volunteer of the Year Award based on her many years of active service and support for **Baker**.

CASE is the largest international organization that represents the areas of Advancement in education and has some 3,000 institutional members and over 22,000 individual members here in the U.S. and abroad.

Congratulations Susanne and thanks so much for all you have done and continue to do for **Baker!!!**

Higher Learning Commission Campus Visit Preliminary Results Outstanding...

Due to the extreme hard work in addition to everyone's normal "day job" the University received an extremely positive report from the Peer Visitation Team in their exit interview with members of our combined campus communities. While the final written report is yet several months away, the chair of the visitation team revealed that it would be the team's recommendation that **Baker** should receive a 10 year reaccreditation! The following is a letter sent from **President Pat Long** to the University Community following the departure of the visitation team.

"Dear University Community:

As most of you know by now, the Chair of the Peer Review Team announced this morning that it is recommending to HLC the highest level of reaccreditation – 10 full years. This is a truly incredible accomplishment as we have heard many institutions are receiving far less during this time of transition to the Pathways model. The results of the Commission's visit did not surprise me. I have known since the day I stepped onto **Baker's** campus almost six years ago that we have something special, but it is always wonderful to hear that reiterated and validated by these experts in higher education.

I want to personally thank each and every one of you for your participation in this process. Our HLC Self Study contained a level of honesty and awareness that I believe was crucial in achieving this excellent reaccreditation news, and everyone at the University – whether directly or indirectly – had a hand in its results. Thank you for being gracious hosts to our visitors this week. Like everyone who visits our campus, the team was impressed by our University's collective intellect, passion and embodiment of our mission. Most importantly, I want to thank you for your hard work and dedication to our students every single day.

Now is the time to celebrate and be thankful for the one great university in Kansas. The progress we have made and the relationships we have fostered should be cherished. **Rob (Flaherty), Simon (Maxwell)** and I are smiling today because of the results from your hard work and diligence. Enjoy this wonderful day!" Congratulations, Dr. Pat!!!

Baker Trivia for **December**...

True or false...Prior to the 1960s there was a road into the Baldwin City campus that ran essentially from the south-east to the northwest...Any memories or comments any of you have will be appreciated!!! (Pictures of proof with date—also welcome!)

The answer will be found in next month's **Arbor**.

Wandering Wildcats Trip: June 17-29, 2012...

This great Greek Islands adventure that is up next for the **Wandering Wildcats** has been featured each month for the past several here in the **Arbor**. With over 30 individuals signed up and a few more still expressing interest it is certain to be a most memorable trip. Each month I am highlighting one of the ports of call on the trip. To date I have written about Venice Italy, Dubrovnik Croatia and Corfu, Olympia, Athens and Mykonos, Greece. The next stop the Crown Princess will make is Kusadasi (Ephesus) Turkey.

"From the port of Kusadasi on Turkey's Anatolian Coast, one travels into the past. Nearby stand the ruins of ancient Ephesus, a major site of archeological excavation. The city was once a Roman provincial capital and trading center. Ephesus is also home to several of Christendom's holiest sites. St. Paul preached at the Great Theater and the ruins of Ephesus' Basilica cover the tomb of Christ's most beloved disciple, St. John the Apostle. In Kusadasi, whitewashed stone houses rise in tiers behind the market district. The palm-lined esplanade is the center of town life, with thousands of merchants offering wares to rival the Grand Bazaar in Istanbul."

For further details or pricing on this trip and the air arrangements that are now available you may contact **John Novotny**, our travel agent at Traveller's in Lawrence, Kansas at 785-749-0700 or 800-382-6700 . As of about 8-9 years ago we discontinued printing color brochures and letters for mailing to our travelers due to the extreme costs that we were forced to recover. You can always access the information on the ports and the specific ship at www.princess.com. I hope you will join us!!!

Alumni/Campus Activities...

December 17:...Winter Commencement...SPGS/ SOE Masters and Doctoral Programs...Collins Center, Baldwin Campus.

18:...Winter Commencement...CAS/SOE/SON/ SPGS undergraduate degrees...Collins Center, Baldwin Campus.

January 9:...Denver Co...**Baker** After Hours ...The 9th Door, 1808 Blake St. 5:30-7:30p.m. Dr. Long is attending.

February 22:...Green Valley, AZ...Dinner TBA

23:...Sun City Luncheon and After Hours event in either Phoenix or Scottsdale...TBA

March: 3...The 4th Annual Scholarship Gala Sheraton Convention Center and Hotel, Overland Park, KS. 6:00 p.m. \$150 per person.

15:...Dallas, TX...After Hours event...TBA

April 12...Washington DC...After Hours event...TBA

19:...Leawood, KS...After Hours...Trezio Vino...5:30-7:30 p.m.

June, 17-29, 2012...Italy, Croatia, Greece and Turkey cruise with the **Wandering Wildcats**.

Facebook Helps You Keep in Touch...

Join hundreds of other former **Baker** students and alumni on Facebook! Find out nearly instantaneously what's happening at your University. During the school year you can get scores from all the teams almost as they happen by signing onto and "friending" the various departments and athletic teams that are represented on Facebook. Get up to the minute notifications on events and happenings with the Alumni Association as well. (You might even find an "old friend"!!!



SPGS just developed a new Facebook site-so you may wish to check that out!

November Trivia Question...

The Question...

To what building on the Baldwin campus are the CAS offices of Admissions and Financial Aid moving in late **November** or in **December**???

The Answer...

Denious Hall is continuing to undergo construction and renovation to fully accommodate the move of the offices listed above. When finished the facility will form the basis of a "one-stop-shop" for the convenience of **Baker** Students. **Jan Boyd '69** was first with the right answer!!!

Thursday Chapel Services From Osborne Chapel Are Being Recorded And Are Available To Everyone Now On YouTube...

Rev. Dr. Ira DeSpain '70, Minister to the University, reports that chapel services are now being recorded each week and are available for viewing from your home or anywhere you have a connection to the internet. The live link to the services will be at:

<http://www.youtube.com/user/BakerUChapel>

Have a Great Month of
December...I'll write
again in January...

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Advantages of a Deferred Charitable Gift Annuity...

I am often asked if there is a way for a person who is interested in making a gift to **Baker** now and receive annuity type returns from the gift...but **JUST NOT NOW**. The answer is Yes! The **HOW** is through creating a Deferred Charitable Gift Annuity with the University.

A Deferred Charitable Gift Annuity has these immediate and future benefits.

- A donor or donor couple gifts an amount that is irrevocable to the University. In consideration for that gift they will receive an immediate charitable gift receipt for the Deferred Gift Annuity based upon the amount of the gift, the age(s) of the donor and the number of years until the Charitable Gift Annuity will begin making payments back to the donor(s). This receipt indicates the amount of the Charitable deduction the donor can take against taxes in that current year...provided they itemize deductions.
- In a future year selected by the donor, the Deferred Charitable Annuity begins returning regular payments (monthly-quarterly-semi-annually or annually) to the donor at a higher percentage rate than if the Charitable Annuity began making payments in the year of the actual donation.
- These payments are comprised of non-taxable return of principle and ordinary income based upon the age(s) of the donor.
- If an appreciated asset such as stock or real property is used to fund the annuity then there can be an added benefit of avoiding capital gains taxes or having the return payments taxed at a lower rate due to treatment of capital gains.
- Receiving these payments in a deferred nature can provide a steady stream of income and produce tax savings due to the donor's tax bracket being reduced due to (for example) being retired. These payments continue until the death of the survivor annuitant.
- The Charitable Remainder (the portion in annuity remaining after the death of the survivor) may be directed for a specific cause or used to create a permanent endowment fund.

If you would like to receive an example of what a Deferred Charitable Gift can do for your retirement planning please contact me by phone at 785-594-8332 or by e-mail at jerry.weakley@bakeru.edu.



Jerry L. Weakley
VP Endowment & Planned Giving

P.S. * The Above information is provided only for your consideration and should not be construed as “Legal or Tax Advice”. You should always consult your own professional advisor before acting upon this or similar information.

*As Dr. James Chubb '22 used to say when he visited classmates and alumni while on the road for **Baker**... “Please remember to leave something for **Baker** in your will!”...and if you do-please let us know your plans!*