



From the Arbor

@ Baker University...

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

Scientific Research Project on Baldwin City Campus...

Over the summer, Biology Professor Dr. William (Randy) Miller conducted a most interesting summer research program right on Baker's Baldwin City Campus. The research project was a collaborative research project with 7 students from universities from around the country joined by Baker student Brandon Haefke. The study participants spent nine weeks on the Baker campus and one week at the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences in Raleigh.

The project was funded through a grant from the National Science Foundation and centered on investigation of the hypothesis of uniformity in the density, diversity, and distribution of the little known animals of the phylum Tardigrada in the canopy of Kansas. The research participants used double rope climbing technique to ascend into the unexplored canopy of the oak-hickory deciduous forest on the edge of Baldwin's tall grass prairie. In the field, they climbed up to 20 meters (65 feet) into 117 trees representing 19 species. They collected 574 samples from two different habitats (mosses & lichens) at four different levels above the ground. In the lab, they extracted and imaged 4,253 tardigrades of 16 species of which four appear to be new to science.



The results were presented to the biology faculty of Baker and the science staff at the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences. The project also included conducting public outreach with "Water Bear Hunts" at the Overland Park Arboretum and the North Carolina Museum. The team included two students with ambulatory disabilities who actually climbed into the canopy from their wheelchairs! Baker President Dr. Pat Long also made the journey up into the canopy of a tree and enjoyed the opportunity immensely!!!

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Numbers of Importance:

- Admissions 785.594.8325
- Alumni Office- 888-781-2586
- Make a donation- 800-726-1554
- Create a planned gift or create an endowed scholarship- 785-594-8332 /913-449-9540 (Jerry Weakley)
- Baker Orange www.thebakerorange.com

Former First Lady Honored...

A special Tree Planting ceremony was held at Osborne Chapel on Sunday, September 29th at 5:15 p.m. The planting was in honor and memory of former Baker First Lady Carolyn Lambert, who passed away this summer. The planting commemorated Carolyn's founding of Baker's parMentor service organization and was organized by current members of that Baldwin City campus group.



MapleLeaf Festival Nears...56 Highway Reopens Just in Time.

The weekend of October 18-20 is the Annual MapleLeaf Festival. If you are planning to attend and have been aware that 56 H.W. west of town has been closed for improvements and widening over the last several months, there is good news! 56 HW reopened the weekend prior and traffic east and west on the road is back to "better than normal". Hope to see you at Maple Leaf...Look for me in the parade driving a white '95 Olds Cutlass Convertible!!!

Wandering Wildcats...2014...New York and Bermuda!!! Pricing Now Available ...

I have been writing for several months about the next opportunity for travel with the University's fun travel group, **The Wandering Wildcats**. In case you have missed the previous information supplied in the **Arbor** the basics of the trip are as follows:

Part A...Saturday, May 31st, 2014, fly to New York City from Kansas City or your own home town. Spend one night in New York at the New York Hilton Midtown. The next day board the new NCL cruise ship the Breakaway...bound for Bermuda.

The cruise is two relaxing days at sea followed by harboring at the famous King's Wharf. The ship remains your sleeping and dining locale while providing a jumping off point for tours and activities that abound. After three days, the ship returns to New York City. Those not continuing on to **Part B** will fly home later that day (Sunday the 8th of **June**).

Part B...Those remaining in New York, will stay for two nights at the New York Hilton Midtown...near Rockefeller Center, and convenient to Times Square and Broadway. A special tour is being planned one of the days in NYC to the World Trade Center memorial led by **Baker** graduate Charles Agro '79.

The second optional experience while in New York will be "Dine Around Manhattan" on a ship specially designed as a gourmet restaurant. This tour is being coordinated through Rick Quattrini '75, the original owner and founder of World Yacht Inc.!

Flights home will be on **June** 10th.

Contact me now for basic questions and general pricing. Or, you may contact our travel consultant **John Novotny** of Travelers in Lawrence, Kansas, for specific questions, information on the costs of flights from cities other than Kansas City and to book your travel.

Dr. Pat and Dennis Long, along with my wife, Patti, and I certainly hope you will plan to join us for a wonderful and fun trip!

Board of Trustees Meet...Topics of Discussion...

Led by Board Chair, **Richard Howell** '74, The Board of Trustees held their fall meeting on the Baldwin City campus on Friday, **October** 11th. The main topics of the meeting included:

- Progress reports on Strategic Plan Initiatives
- The 2013-2014 University Budget
- Enrollment
- New and proposed academic programs
- The Presidential Search update
- Meetings of and reports from several Board committees
- The University's Leadership Distinctive
- Funding updates on University goals and capital projects

Harris and Sarna Announce Retirement Plans...

Two of the University's longtime staff members have announced plans to retire over the coming months. Joining President **Pat Long** and University Minister Rev. Dr. **Ira DeSpain** '70 who had earlier announced similar plans and went on the "retirement list" over the course of the next several months are the Director of the University's Health Services **Ruth Sarna** and **Baker's** Vice President and Dean of the School of Education, **Peggy Harris**.

"Dr. Ruth" as she is affectionately referred to by students, faculty and staff will officially leave us at the end of this semester. Dean Harris has indicated that she intends to remain in place until the end of the academic/fiscal year on June 30, 2014. Executive VP for Academic Affairs and Dean of the College of Arts and Science, **Brian Posler**, will soon begin the process of establishing a procedure for the searches to replace these positions.

I am certain that Ruth, who is also known as one of **Baker's** most avid (and vociferous) sports fans, and Peggy, who is married to former director of athletics, **Dan Harris**, will be seen at **Baker** athletic contests well into the future.

Best wishes to both of these outstanding individuals and colleagues who each, in their own way, have contributed so much to our students and to the overall excellence of our University! You will both be missed by everyone connected with **Baker**!!!

How To Nominate an Individual for the Athletic Hall of Fame...

Send nominations for individuals to the Athletic Hall of Fame to my attention at: **Jerry Weakley**, Athletic Hall of Fame Committee, P.O. Box 65, Baldwin City KS. 66006 or by e-mail to Jerry.weakley@bakeru.edu. Include as much biographic information on your candidate as possible i.e. class in school, sports they participated in, records, honors, coaching records and teams/schools at which they coached etc. The more information the committee has, the better chance the candidate will have of being elected. We currently have over 50 who have been nominated!

Baker Trivia Answer For September...

The Question...

There were several important connections between Missouri Wesleyan College of Cameron, Missouri and Baker University??? Name a minimum of three such connections:

The Answer(s)...

1. Both institutions were Methodist Colleges.
2. A Missouri Wesleyan College graduate was a former president of Baker, Nelson Paxson Horn.
3. Upon the closing of Missouri Wesleyan in 1930, Baker received all of the records/transcripts of former students and graduates and managed them through the years just as though they were graduates of Baker.
4. Several MW students who wished to complete their studies at Baker eventually graduated at BU.
5. Until the 1990s, Baker held meetings of and for alumni of the school in the former university's home town of Cameron, Mo.

Several of these correct answers as usual were provided in part by Jim Foreman '79...thank you, Jim!

New Masters in Organizational Leadership...

This new program which has been in the planning and recruiting stage now for several months has finally launched! An on-ground class set off on its way in September and an online class has just recently begun.

To look at all the individual classes which comprise this new degree you can visit the following web address:

<http://www.bakeru.edu/spgs-prospective2/degrees-and-programs/maol/courses>

Printing on Baldwin City Campus Tracked...

In an effort to help save money and at the same time, help the environment, Andy Jett, Chief Information Officer is doing a weekly report that details university printing. It is hoped that the report will better sensitize students, faculty and staff to the number of copies they individually and the campus as a whole runs each week and to encourage cutbacks wherever possible.

New Publication Being Readied...

A new University magazine is being written and assembled and will be mailed sometime in December to all CAS former students, alumni and donors whose address is in the University's database. The new publication "*Baker Proud*" will be published four times a year. Plans for the new publication will include in-depth articles of interest, photos, The Annual Honor Roll of Donors (this will be sent to donors as an annual inclusion to the December issue), the President's Report and information on all upcoming University events. The new publication will replace the current *Baker Pride* and will perform an expanded role of informing and communicating from another former publication, *The Baker World*. "*The World*" has for the past few years been only available online.

We certainly hope you will enjoy the new publication. Doug Barth '91, Director of Alumni Relations, will welcome comments regarding your thoughts and opinions about the future magazine as well as ideas and suggestions for potential articles for in-depth coverage.

Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees...

Baker inducted five new individuals to join the 132 that had previously gained entrance to this esteemed group at services held on Friday, October 4th in Overland Park. Pictured below are the newest inductees taken in the Hall of Fame on Homecoming. L to R: Jim Dick '63, Coach Jerry Jones '64, Meghan Lewis Houtsma '02, George Robert (Bob) Peters '70 and Johnie Seals '80.

Congratulations one and all!



2013 Hall of Fame Inductees (L to R):

Jim Dick '63, Coach Jerry Jones '64, Meghan Lewis Houtsma '02, George Robert (Bob) Peters '70 and Johnie Seals '80.

Alumni/Campus Activities...

October 11...Fall Meeting of the Board of Trustees...Baldwin City Campus.

October 18-19-20...Annual Maple Leaf Festival...Baldwin City.

December 8...Christmas Vespers Programs...Rice Auditorium, Baldwin City Campus. 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. (**Make note...these times are new**)

February 14-15...Winter Meeting of the Board of Trustees and Board Retreat.

April 12...The Annual Scholarship Auction Gala...The Sheraton Convention Center Hotel, Overland Park, KS. 6:00 p.m.

Presidential Search Update...

The Presidential Search Committee continues its important work and has narrowed the number of candidates active in the search process to 9 individuals from the original 72. These 9 individuals are now being invited to participate in an "off-site" interview in person with members of the search committee. These interviews are scheduled from now until sometime in **November**. Following these interviews the committee hopes to identify three finalists who will be invited to participate in "on-campus" interviews with members of the larger university community. The committee plans to be in a position to send its recommendation on to the full Board of Trustees by **December** with a goal of naming the University's next president by the end of that month.

Baker Booth at KS State Fair Popular...

More people visited **Baker's** booth at the Kansas State Fair earlier last month in Hutchinson, Kan., than in previous years with nearly 200 student inquiries. The breakdown was the College of Arts and Sciences (109), School of Nursing (BSN 19, RN to BSN 22), School of Education (Ed.D. 2, MAEd 1, Continuing Education 1), School of Professional and Graduate Studies (AAB 1, BBA 7, Graduate 4) and unknown (22). Thanks to the several individuals who staffed the booth!!!

Trivia Question For **October...**

The Question:

Who is the person for whom the town of Baldwin City was named. What was the person's relationship to the town?

The Answer:

Will be revealed and detailed in the next issue of *From the Arbor*.



Find us on
Facebook

Friend the **Baker** "Official" Face Book site and receive all the news as it happens on the University's several campuses, athletic fields or with students/alumni!!!

Have a great month of **October...**

I'll write again in November...

Jerry L. Weakley '70/MBA '92

Vice President for
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Baker is proud to be affiliated with the
United Methodist Church.



What is “University Advancement”???

Recently I have been asked by more than one alumnus about the reason for the name “University Advancement”. What is it? What functions does it provide?

Never one to avoid a history lesson, I decided this month’s space normally reserved more for items related to the area of Planned Giving or the Endowment, would (and probably should) be turned over to a more general “class” on University Advancement 101.

When I first came to **Baker** in a capacity outside that of being a student, I was hired into a department then known only as Development...the department that was charged with the responsibility of raising money for the University. Through the years, **Baker**, along side of brethren institutions of higher learning (big and small) throughout the country moved Development activities inside of a more general area known as University Relations. Also co-located under that department name were Alumni Relations and Marketing/Communications. For many years, this was the configuration and name for this area here at **Baker**.

Then, as things often do, someone had a “better” idea and the name University Advancement began the spread from institution to institution. Often the new organizations had morphed to a support for the school-minus the marketing and communications arms than were segmented out. Again, **Baker** followed that lead and thus today, we have the office of University Advancement that attempts to “Advance” (move forward...not remain static) the cause of the University through building friends for it through alumni activities and through the raising of money which supports capital projects, general budget items, scholarship, endowment etc.

So, there you have it! If you would like to visit with me in person regarding any specific question relative to any specific area of Advancement or to investigate making a planned gift of any nature to the scholarship fund or to a capitol project please contact me so we can discuss alternatives have. You may reach me 785-594-8332, or by email at jerry.weakley@bakeru.edu. Hoping to talk with you soon!



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”. 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 plan!*