

# The Leading Edge

a newsletter for k-state distance students

Volume 2  
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November 2009

## Union Program Council



### Spotlight on Student Services

#### Union Program Council

The Union Program Council (UPC) in the K-State Student Union helps bring campus events and resources to both on-campus and distance education students.

Each year, UPC student volunteers plan more than 180 events, with more and more becoming accessible to distance students. Below are a few of the Union's events and services that are available online:

**Art and educational exhibits** can be viewed at <http://union.k-state.edu/art> and include items from permanent collections like Ohno blown glass sculptures, Chinese Warrior exhibit, and Red Skelton paintings.

**The Union Computer Store**, an authorized Apple Campus Store, allows you to shop online anytime at <http://union.k-state.edu/shop/computer-store>. Distance students can take advantage of lower pricing on select Microsoft and Adobe titles with their Wildcat ID (WID) number.

**Partnership with University Life Café** allows UPC to offer online art contests and exhibits while helping to promote emotional wellness for all students through a blog, a gallery of user-submitted artwork and writings, and a network of mental health professionals. Visit University Life Café at [www.universitylifecafe.org](http://www.universitylifecafe.org).

Check out the new Student Union website at <http://union.k-state.edu> or visit the Union Program Council website at [www.k-state.edu/upc](http://www.k-state.edu/upc).

**Office Location:**  
K-State Student Union

**Hours:**  
Monday–Friday  
8 a.m.–5 p.m.

**Website:**  
[www.k-state.edu/upc](http://www.k-state.edu/upc)

**E-mail:**  
[upc@k-state.edu](mailto:upc@k-state.edu)

**Phone:**  
785-532-6571



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## Highlights and recognition

### Meet the Instructor

**Terrie R. McCants**  
Program Coordinator and Instructor  
School of Family Studies and Human Services



Terrie R. McCants is the Program Coordinator for the Conflict Resolution Graduate and Undergraduate Certificates in the K-State School of Family Studies and Human Services.

Professor McCants teaches courses in conflict resolution, including a faculty-led study abroad course on Peace and Conflict in Northern Ireland. She is also a state-approved mediator and mediation trainer at K-State's Campus Creek Complex.

Professor McCants is an expert in Conflict Analysis and Resolution and has advanced training in workplace, public policy, divorce and child-custody, and parent/adolescent mediation.

She also focuses on Conflict Coaching—a process where a coach and client communicate one-on-one to develop the client's conflict-related understanding, interaction strategies, and interaction skills.

Visit [www.dce.k-state.edu/humanecology/conflictresolution](http://www.dce.k-state.edu/humanecology/conflictresolution) to learn more about the conflict resolution certificates.

### Record Number of Awards

Fall 2009 Continuing Education Awards  
Division of Continuing Education  
Kansas State University



Kansas State University received five regional awards from the University Continuing Education Association, the most the university has received in a given year. Awards were received for:

**Innovations and Contributions:**  
ELATEwiki: Electronic Learning and Teaching Exchange Wiki (committee featured in above photo)

**Outstanding Leadership:**  
A. David Stewart, Assistant Dean of Continuing Education

**Research and Scholarship in Adult and Continuing Education:**  
Royce Ann Collins, Assistant Professor of Educational Leadership

**Outstanding Support Specialist:**  
Leonard Leeling, Duplication/Mail Center Manager, Continuing Education

**Outstanding Non-Credit Program:**  
K-State Sustainability Conference

Read the press release at [www.dce.k-state.edu/about/news/2009/october-30.shtml](http://www.dce.k-state.edu/about/news/2009/october-30.shtml)

### Web Feature

Interactive Monthly Calendar  
Consider K-State Website  
Kansas State University



With both the holidays and your finals approaching—not to mention work and personal events—you've got a lot on your plate this season!

Keep track of your busy academic and personal schedule with K-State's interactive monthly calendar. Fun, colorful graphics are provided so you can customize your calendar and type in text for each day's events.

Some K-State information is included automatically so you can stay in the know about university holidays and important dates without having to look them up yourself.

Since the customized calendar cannot be saved, remember to print it out before venturing to another website.

Visit <http://consider.k-state.edu/interactive/customcalendar.htm> to create your customized monthly calendar for December 2009. The 2010 months will be added to the website soon.

## Announcements and upcoming dates

### Enroll now for January Intersession and Spring 2010 term!

Search for classes and find the ones that work best for you:  
[www.dce.k-state.edu/courses](http://www.dce.k-state.edu/courses)

### Wondering about University holiday hours?

The Division of Continuing Education is officially closed for the holidays starting on December 25, 2009 and will reopen on January 4, 2010. View the University calendar at:  
<http://consider.k-state.edu/calendar>

### Celebrate the 35th anniversary of the Bachelor's Degree Completion Program!

View the news story about how this program has reached its milestone:  
<http://www.dce.k-state.edu/courses/bachelorsdegree/35th-anniversary.shtml>

### Stay connected via our Facebook and Twitter pages!

Remember to check back for updates and contribute to the conversation:  
Facebook fan page: [K-State Distance Students](#); Twitter account: [KStateDistance](#)

### **\*\*Please note\*\***

Varney's Book Store in Manhattan, Kansas, where many distance students purchase their textbooks and course materials, is adapting to the wave of digital textbooks used in many K-State courses.

The store now offers Jumpbooks, digital alternatives to textbooks. Students interested in a Jumpbook can purchase a tag from Varney's and use the access code on the receipt to download the book online. This helps both on-campus and distance students economically, as e-books are generally about half the price of hardcover textbooks.

Students choosing digital textbooks can also print them so they have a hard copy. Varney's will offer on-demand printing services for e-books for the Spring 2010 term. Visit Varney's website at [www.shopvarneys.com](http://www.shopvarneys.com)

\* Fall 2009 Graduation: Dec. 11 and 12  
\* University holidays: Dec. 25; Jan. 1, 18

\* January Intersession: Dec. 28–Jan. 13  
\* Spring 2010 term begins: Jan. 14