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Introduction and Table of Contents

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Perspectives



S u m m e r 2 0 1 3

Message from President Kirk Schulz and Vice President for Research Ron Trewyn



Excellence across the academy defines a great university. At Kansas State University, we continue to make strides toward our goal of becoming a Top 50 public research university. Our faculty members are producing award-winning books, websites and course materials. They are creating art and music recognized nationwide. Regional, national and international groups honor them for excellence in their teaching, research and other endeavors.

As a university we are having a positive impact on the nation and the world, and teaching our students to do the same. For example, Assistant Professor Nathan Howe and students researched and designed a water park for Seger Park in Philadelphia. The initial design was entered in an international competition, which the group won. Now Seger Park is working on getting a water park constructed — a great example of the real-world design research being undertaken in the College of Architecture, Planning and Design.

Two of our colleges are working to assist veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. Our nation's wounded warriors sustain traumatic injury affecting reintegration with American society and their families. The statistics are alarming: more than 33 suicides per month; 72 percent experience some hearing loss; and one in three suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, or traumatic brain injury.

College of Architecture, Planning and Design students researched the implications of the various disorders, interpreted them in terms of spatial implications, and applied that to the design of rehabilitation facilities with Associate Professor Vibhavari Jani.

These are just a few examples of what Kansas State University faculty, staff and students are doing to bring about positive change in the state, nation and the world. We hope you enjoy this issue.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kirk Schulz". The signature is fluid and cursive.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron Trewyn". The signature is fluid and cursive.

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A researcher's efforts to develop guidelines for designing the gold standard in rehabilitation centers for wounded veterans could someday save lives.

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Visit k-state.edu/perspectives to see videos from this issue.

Front cover: An interdisciplinary team of graduate students from Kansas State University's College of Architecture, Planning and Design joined students from the University of Kansas and University of Missouri-Kansas City to win the Urban Land Institute's Gerald D. Hines Student Urban Design Competition with the entry "The Armory." The award includes \$50,000 for the students.

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