

AgReport

Spring 2013

College of Agriculture
and the
Kansas State University
Agricultural Experiment Station
and Cooperative Extension Service

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From the Dean and Director



K-State Research and Extension photographer Dan Donnert prepares to record dean and director John Floros and professor emeritus Miles McKee at the Beach Museum. The video can be viewed at www.ksre.ksu.edu/agreport.

I'm honored to serve as dean and director during such an important time in Kansas State University history.

On February 14, the university launched a nine-month 150th anniversary celebration. K-State was the nation's first operational land-grant university under the Morrill Act, which was signed into law by President Abraham Lincoln on July 2, 1862.

The College of Agriculture and K-State Research and Extension are participating in many of the sesquicentennial events, including displays at the opening reception in Ahearn Field House; exhibits in the Beach Museum; the Aggie Cat shown on the cover, which will be auctioned in September to benefit scholarships; the creation of the Wildcat Birthday 150 ice cream; and the development of a new wheat variety named 1863 for the year K-State was established.

This issue highlights the importance of the tripartite mission of teaching, research, and extension efforts throughout K-State's history; however, as we acknowledge our history, we must also plan for the future.

To align with the university's goal to become a Top 50 research university by 2025, we are developing

a comprehensive strategic plan. The Office of Educational Innovation and Evaluation facilitated meetings with the seven committees involved with the process. We also solicited feedback from many sources to draft the plan. I encourage you to go to the website, www.strategicplan.ag.ksu.edu, to review the plan and offer your comments. The site will be open for comments throughout April.

K-State now ranks No. 1 in Association of Public and Land-grant Universities teaching awards. We have received 13 national or regional Excellence in College and University Teaching in the Food and Agricultural Sciences awards, more than any other university. Congratulations to Candice Shoemaker, our most recent national winner.

On March 1, we dedicated the Stanley Stout Center. This \$2 million facility — built entirely with private funding — will enhance the annual Bull and Heifer Legacy Sale, enrich the student-learning experience, and provide much needed space for a variety of programs.

John D. Floros
Dean and Director