After years of planning, a rendering for the new Sabatini Multicultural Resource Center has been unveiled. The new MRC, designed by Gould Evans will have more than 7,000 square feet, twice the size of its current facility. The new building will have the appearance of a one-story building with its top floor dedicated to the Center. Two basement floors will provide space for Union operations and student organization offices.

The building's brick, stone and metal trim will match the adjoining Kansas Union. “Stepped planters and trees will adorn a raised plaza in front of the entrance”, said Jim Long, Vice Provost for Facilities Planning and Management. A ramped sidewalk and stairs will provide access from Jayhawk Boulevard.

The new Sabatini Multicultural Resource Center will feature updated technology, more programming space for student organizations and more academic resources. The updated facility includes additional study areas for the MRC’s tutoring program (stEp), as well as informal study groups. With the growth of changing demographics and the appreciation of cultural programming, an updated facility will accommodate the influx of inclusive programming at KU, and would also allow for programming sponsored by various campus departments and organizations.

Inside the building will be a large multi-purpose classroom overlooking the Campanile, work space for student organizations, an open space for art and receptions, more office space, a meeting room along with several study areas to accommodate the center’s academic programs. The interior color scheme has been selected based on the skin tones of people worldwide. The new MRC will provide a modern, student centered facility that aligns itself with the mission of the University and promotes multicultural education.

(continued on next page)
The Office of Multicultural Affairs along with several other University offices will once again host the Mi Familia, Mi Futuro: Dia del Colegio Program. The program will take place March 24-25th in three locations: Garden City, Dodge City and Liberal, Kansas.

The goal of this program is to provide information on college preparation and leadership development, in Spanish, to the growing Latino population in Southwest Kansas. The program will address issues of social adjustment, higher education and preparation for Latino college bound students and their families. Last year’s program was well received in Garden and Dodge City; this year’s plans include expanding the program to a third location in Liberal, Kansas.

“Mi Familia” is a collaborative effort with Garden City Community College, Dodge City Community College, Seward County Community College, KU Hispanic American Leadership Organization (HALO) and the following offices: Academic Achievement and Access Center, Dean of Students Office, Department of Student Housing, Freshman-Sophomore Advising Center, KU Writing Center, Office of Admissions and Scholarships, Office of Student Financial Aid, Student Involvement and Leadership Center, and the University Career Center.

Outcomes for the program are to: educate the Latino population in Southwest Kansas of the importance of college, encourage students to consider the University of Kansas as a transfer student, and answer questions, in Spanish, regarding higher education with a family perspective in mind.
Student Success Through Scientific Research

Two undergraduate student researchers in the Bioscience Initiative program received awards for their poster presentations at the national SACNAS (Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science) conference this fall. Ryan Grigsby presented a poster on his research on Echinacea with Dr. Susan Lunte. Ryan is a chemistry major and Haskell transfer student. Rachel Galimidi’s poster was based on her internship this past summer at Northwestern University. Rachel, a human biology major, has just completed her undergraduate degree and is applying to internships at the National Institutes of Health and medical school at New York University, the University of Chicago, and the University of Illinois.

The Bioscience Initiative is a federally funded initiative at the University of Kansas to promote diversity in biomedical research and increase the number of students that obtain advanced degrees and enter biomedical-related fields as researchers. The program introduces the students to the world of scientific research by connecting each participant with a faculty mentor. The student learns research techniques by working on a research project; each spring the students present their research results at an annual symposium held jointly with Haskell Indian Nations University.

The program also helps prepare students academically for graduate work. Participants may enroll in specialized seminar courses, enhanced math courses, and free tutoring programs for core science courses. The program provides laptop computers, funding for travel to scientific meetings, as well as assistance in seeking and applying for internships and scholarships.

Participants are undergraduate students who are U.S. citizens and members of a group underrepresented in the sciences. They represent a broad range of majors (including biology, chemistry, exercise physiology, environmental studies, geology, psychology, mathematics, engineering, social welfare, and speech, language and hearing), but all share an interest in attending graduate school to pursue a career in research.

For more information, please visit the program website, [http://www.ku.edu/~imsd](http://www.ku.edu/~imsd), or contact Marian Hukle at hukle@math.ku.edu or 864-3641.
KU Celebrates Black History Month

This year’s Black History Month kicks off on January 25th with “Hip-Hop/Rap’s Influence on African American Consumer Trends: Art Imitating Life”, a presentation by Dr. Joe Seabrooks, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at the University of Arkansas. The month continues with different activities such as poetry readings, current affairs discussions, seminars, receptions, games and dancing. Activities are sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs, the Multicultural Resource Center, African Student Association, Black Men of Today, Black Student Union, National Pan-Hellenic Council, Student Union Activities, the University Career Center, and others. For more details, please visit our website at http://www.mrc.ku.edu/bhm.pdf

HAWK Link Begins the New Year with Much Success!

The HAWK Link students have had a fantastic fall semester and we’re looking forward to a great spring semester. Students have been busy attending workshops, events, organizational meetings, and several conferences.

This semester, we look forward to the following Success Seminars: Financial Aid, Career Exploration, and the Sophomore Transition. During the spring semester we also invite several KU faculty members to get involved as Faculty Mentors, serving as liaisons to academic life at KU.

Successful participation within HAWK Link is recognized as the annual HAWK Link Graduation Banquet. Joining the students will be Chancellor Hemenway, who is also the keynote speaker at the Graduation Banquet. With attendance and involvement, participants graduate from HAWK Link as successful students and soon to be sophomores that can navigate the KU campus with ease.

And what better way to give back to HAWK Link as new sophomores than to become HAWK Link Guides. Guides work throughout the summer orientation program, recruiting future students to HAWK Link, providing assistance during summer enrollment, and helping plan for HAWK Week in August. Applications are due to the FSAC by February 10th and interested students can apply through the University Career Center.

A great first semester equals an incredible second semester. If you have any questions about HAWK Link, please call us at 864-4351 or email us at hawklink@ku.edu.
The Third Annual Latino Greek Leadership Conference will take place on March 31-April 1st, 2006 on The University of Kansas campus. The Conference is designed to address issues that face Latino/a Greek lettered organizations. Latino Greeks are the fastest growing organizations in the country and have relevant issues that must be addressed through collaboration and education.

Workshops, keynote speakers, and student interaction will provide useful information for the expected Conference participants to be utilized at their respective schools. Participants in the past have represented several local and national organizations from both coasts and the Midwest. This year’s theme is “Ahora Es El Tiempo: El Proximo Paso, The Next Step.”

For more information about the Latino Greek Leadership Conference, please visit the website at www.oma.ku.edu/lglc.

Transitions, the Sophomore year component of HAWK Link, had a successful debut last semester with academic success seminars, tutoring, and joint efforts with HAWK Link students. Transitions is designed to provide academic support and guidance as sophomores matriculate through the college experience. In addition, one of the core components of Transitions is reaching out to the freshman HAWK Link students.

Victoria Faulkner, a current pre-medicine and pre-education student joined Transitions so that she could continue to have the support she needed when they enter a new environment their freshman year. Victoria has benefited from the program in that it has shown her how to research and find resources that most people don’t know how to access. One of the things she most enjoys about Transitions is the interaction with HAWK Link students as the sophomores are able to serve as role models and mentors to the freshman students. Victoria says that Transitions is important, because it “will help keep students on track and it will help HAWK Link to improve because students will be able to relate to each other on an equal level since the students are a year apart in their college experience.”

If you would like more information on Transitions, please contact Aida A. Garcia, in the Office of Multicultural Affairs at 785-864-4351 or via e-mail at aidaagf@ku.edu.

Participants of the 2nd Annual Latino Greek Leadership Conference
KU Majors Fair

It is time for the Majors Fair. This year’s theme is Fishin’ for a Major, so help us increase our absolute recruitment by coming out to support your friends and our students on March 29, 2006 in the Kansas Union from 11:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. As usual, faculty, alumni, and current students from diverse departments will advertise themselves to undecided students looking for majors.

Last year 63 departments and representatives from the University Career Center, Multicultural Resource Center, and the Academic Achievement & Access Center helped make the Majors Fair crackle with electricity for the over 400 students casting their options. Each year the number of participants has increased, and we believe that this year will only be better.

KU Writing Center and the MRC Join Forces

The Multicultural Resource Center (MRC) and the KU Writing Center have teamed up to bring students a new Writer’s Roost location. Hours for the Writer’s Roost at the MRC are, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6pm-9pm. For more information please call 785-864-4350 or e-mail mrc@ku.edu

One Community is...

a publication of the Office of Multicultural Affairs and the Multicultural Resource Center at the University of Kansas. One Community is designed to highlight the activities and achievements of KU’s diverse population. Articles, editorials, photographs, and drawings are welcome from students, faculty, and staff at the University of Kansas. This issue was edited by, Aida A. Garcia, Program Assistant.

Comments may be sent to the Office of Multicultural Affairs, 145 Strong Hall, 864-4351