



FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY



FHSU Shooting Sports ribbon cutting

Fort Hays State University community members, alumni, and friends gathered for a ribbon cutting at the Hays City Sportsmen’s Club to celebrate the newly completed Wilmer and Lorena Kellogg Training Center, home of the FHSU Shotgun Team, during FHSU homecoming weekend.

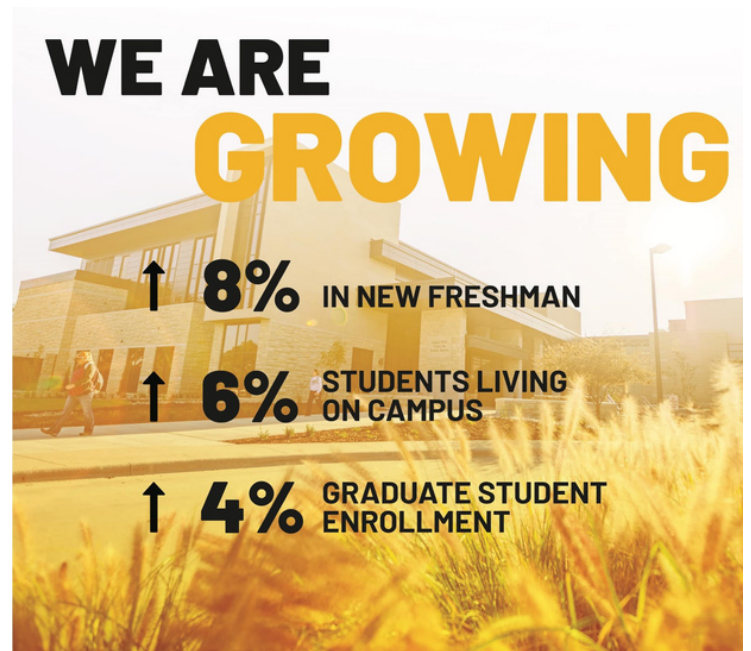
The facility would not have been possible without a generous lead gift from Lorena Kellogg and her late husband, Wilmer. Other individuals and businesses followed suit and contributed to bring the project to fruition.

The Kellogg Training Center will provide additional resources to build upon the team’s past accomplishments. Not only will the team’s new head coach, Jerrod Lies, an FHSU Shotgun Team alum and former assistant coach, have an on-site office to provide mentorship to those currently on the team, but he can also meet and recruit future members in the new space. In addition, its new reloading room and equipment will allow multiple members at a time to efficiently reload shells.

Unlike previous winters when team members shoveled several feet of snow to practice for upcoming competitions, the new indoor shooting simulations allow students to implement current technology to practice and improve their abilities year-round. Additionally, students living on campus have a place to store their shotguns and ammunition in the training center’s on-site storage.

Fall enrollment at FHSU reflects growth in several key areas

Despite a continuing decline in Kansas’ rural population and the number of college-going students in our state - a number expected to reach 15 percent by 2029 - enrollment at FHSU grew in several key areas. Fall enrollment at Kansas’ largest comprehensive regional public university was 12,843 students and includes students enrolled in on-campus, online, and international partner-hosted campus courses.



“Recruiting and retaining students is definitely an ‘all-hands’ effort at Fort Hays State University,” said Dr. Dennis King, assistant vice president for enrollment leadership. “We are now in the fourth year of our five-year strategic plan, and we are seeing the plan’s focus on advancing academic excellence, student success, growth, infrastructure, and community and global engagement is delivering the results we targeted at the outset.”

Cybersecurity conference provides vital information for Kansas businesses

The Kansas Small Business Development Center at Fort Hays State University offered its first cybersecurity conference, Cybersecurity 101 for Any Business, on Oct. 3 at the Robbins Alumni Center at FHSU.

Business owners and employees attended in person or with remote viewing groups available in Dodge City, Liberal, and Goodland.

Focusing on real-life examples, the conference helped business owners and support staff learn more about cybersecurity, enabling an understanding of the importance of risk mitigation and actionable steps.

“One of our goals for this conference is to help small businesses be informed and confident in taking proactive steps to protect their digital environments.,” said Laurie Pieper, assistant director of KSBDC. “We are very excited about the partners that have come together to provide training and resources to support our business communities in Western and North Central Kansas.”

Speakers from the Department of Homeland Security, FBI, Tree Top Security, Nex-Tech, FHSU, the U.S. SBA, and USD 489 provided valuable information and opportunities to connect with resources.

FHSU's Applied Technology career fair expands its impact

The Applied Technology Career Day, now in its eighth year, brought a record number of 67 companies to campus to meet, discuss career opportunities, and interview applied technology students. A special addition to this year's career fair was the participation of students from FHSU's affiliation initiative partners NCK Tech and Northwest Tech.

FHSU's strategic affiliation initiative with NCK Tech and Northwest Tech, announced last January, was launched to forge strong connections between the three institutions, their students, and the communities and businesses of western Kansas. Participation in the career fair enabled faculty and staff to develop new synergies and explore opportunities for collaboration.

“I think students from the affiliation schools are enjoying the day,” said Kim Stewart, FHSU's Department of Applied Technology chair. “What I'm hoping is that they not only find some internships or full-time employment, but maybe we can entice them to see the other opportunities at Fort Hays as well.”

Stewart said he looks forward to the career fair, which he has seen grow over its eight-year history, as a highly rewarding event each year.

“It's good when we can get students connected to so many businesses,” he said. “These companies are looking for hard-working young men and women. It's a fun day when we get everybody in the same place, let them talk together, and make connections. This is what it's all about.”



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