

Profiles of Excellence in Action October 2009

News and Events from Kent State University

Welcome to *Profiles of Excellence in Action*, a monthly e-newsletter showcasing news and events from Kent State University. In this month's issue, learn about a major new discovery in the history of human evolution, the launch of the Centennial Campaign and how one professor earned the university's highest honor for her study of language translation. Also, learn about grand openings in downtown Kent's Acorn Alley and check out the 43rd annual Folk Festival schedule.

Lovejoy Helps Reveal Findings That Revise Human Evolution Timeline



Throw out all those posters and books that depict an ape evolving into a human being, says Dr. **C. Owen Lovejoy**, distinguished University Professor. An internationally recognized biological anthropologist who specializes in the study of human origins, Lovejoy is one of the primary authors who revealed their research findings on *Ardipithecus ramidus*, a hominid species that lived 4.4 million years ago. [Read more.](#)

Centennial Campaign Launches

Kent State launched the public phase of its \$250 million fundraising campaign, the largest in the university's history. The campaign formally kicked off on the eve of Homecoming festivities, with a gala event that featured student performances. [Read more about the initiative.](#)



Revitalization of Downtown Kent Furthered With Acorn Alley



On the evening of Sept. 25, community leaders, Kent State University officials, business leaders and local elected officials gathered in Acorn Alley for a grand opening celebration. The \$6.5 million redevelopment project, which was completed in 18 months and ahead of schedule, consists of shops, food vendors and office space. Many of the business operators are Kent State graduates. [Read more about the projects.](#)



The Kent State Folk Festival kicks off soon; tickets are available now. Edwin Colon Zayas (above) opens the festival Nov. 5. [Read more.](#)

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Translation Expert Receives University's Highest Honor

Carol Maier was one of three recipients of the 2009 Distinguished Scholar Award. The award, sponsored by the University Research Council, honors notable faculty members whose scholarly contributions and accomplishments have set them above par to receive high recognition from the university. [Read more about Maier.](#)



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