

May 2008

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 e-newsletter, learn how a partnership with the Cleveland Botanical Garden is using liquid crystal technology to create more energy-efficient greenhouses, a unique collaboration is propelling minority business growth, the grand opening of Franklin Hall is providing School of Journalism and Mass Communication students with a state-of-the-art facility and two generous gifts are offering new opportunities for Kent State students.

'Smart' Greenhouse Research Partnership Unveiled



University Circle now has a fourth university. Cleveland Botanical Garden and Kent State University's Liquid Crystal Institute officially launched a pioneering research project to explore the potential of liquid crystal

technology for creating more sustainable, energy-efficient greenhouses. [Read more about the greenhouses.](#)

New Business Accelerator to Aid Minority Businesses



[The College of Nursing's Olga A. Mural Simulation Laboratory emulates the conditions and situations nurses encounter in realistic settings. Read more.](#)

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Akron Urban League, Akron SCORE and Kent State University recently formed a collaboration to propel minority business growth in Northeast Ohio. [Read more about the program.](#)



Journalism Home Celebrates Grand Opening

The grand opening of Franklin Hall celebrates the completion of a \$21 million restoration project, providing students in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication with a state-of-the-art facility that enhances the quality of their education and helps prepare them for jobs in a fast-changing media environment. [Read more about the facility.](#)



Gifts Create Opportunities for Kent State Students



A \$2 million gift from Akron businessman Harry Jackson will support the first endowment for scholarships and programming for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender students at

Kent State, while Eagles guitarist Joe Walsh has funded the university's first talent-based scholarship. Read about the [Jackson](#) and [Walsh](#) gifts.

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