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The 1<sup>st</sup> 100 years were just  
the beginning.

# Apple Day 2007

Convocation

Thursday, March 1, 2007

3:00 PM

McCray Hall

Pittsburg State University



# THE STORY OF APPLE DAY

On February 21, 1903, Governor William J. Bailey signed the bill creating the Kansas State Manual Training Normal School Auxiliary, the first name of what is today Pittsburg State University. Classes began the following September in the city-owned Central School building at the northwest corner of Fifth and Walnut. Very soon the growing enrollment created a need for a larger facility. Senator Ebenezer F. Porter of Pittsburg led a successful fight for a building appropriation with the assistance of Principal Russell Station Russ, the faculty, and community leaders. After the funding bill was passed, Clarence Price, then mayor of Pittsburg, was fined a barrel of apples for lobbying on the floor of the legislature. Senator Porter, it should be noted, graciously donated two boxes of cigars to the house for passing the bill. Upon their triumphal return to Pittsburg, the story of the fine was told. In those days, students were disciplined for their absences. In the spirit of the celebration, Principal Russ and members of his faculty were fined a barrel of apples by the students because they had been gone to Topeka to help lobby. Thus, with the funding of the building we now call Russ Hall by the Kansas Legislature, the tradition of Apple Day was established in 1907.



# Convocation Program

## Welcome & Introductions

*Ginger Niemann, President, Student Government Association*

## Historical Presentation

*Randy Roberts*

## Commemoration Day Address

*Ruth Stinson*

## Musical Selection by PSU Chorale

*Directed by Dr. Susan Marchant*

*Over the Rainbow*

*Harold Arlen, arr. Guy Turner*

## University Committee on Energy and Resource Conservation Announcement

*Dr. Jim Triplett, UCERC Co-Chair*

## Presentation of the 2007 Dr. Ralf J. Thomas

### Distinguished Service Awards

*Dr. Tom Bryant, President, Pittsburg State University*

*Joe Levens, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, PSU Alumni Association*

## Presentation of the 2007 Dr. Robert K. Ratzlaff

### Outstanding Faculty Awards

*Jeremy Johnson, Academic Affairs, Student Government Association*

## Golden Gorilla Awards Presentation

*Dr. Tom Bryant, President, Pittsburg State University*

*Ginger Niemann, Past Golden Gorilla Recipient*

## Alma Mater

## STAT Recycling Drive Prize Announcement

*Amy Bartlow, President, STAT*

## Centennial Scholarships Presentation

*Nick Dellasega, PSU Homecoming King*

*Jodi Smardo, PSU Homecoming Queen*

## Apple Distribution

*Faculty Association*

## Centennial Tower Bell Ringing by Award Winners

## Ruth Stinson

Ruth Stinson was one of the first graduates of PSU's Environmental Studies major, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in 1978. She spent several years with Burns and McDonnell Engineering Company in Kansas City. She then attended the Colorado School of Mines, where she was one of the first women to receive a Master of Science degree in mining engineering.

Stinson practiced environmental consulting in Colorado and Texas before moving to France. In 2003 she returned to Lenexa, Kansas, where she started the Stinson Environmental Group. Stinson is a registered, professional engineer with more than 25 years experience in environmental management and consulting.

The Stinson Environmental Group provides experienced scientists and engineers to work with companies to obtain and comply with environmental permits. Their services include environmental plans and permits, engineering and compliance projects. The Stinson Environmental Group works with electric utilities, quarries, landfills, manufacturing facilities and local governments throughout Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska. They are currently launching a new software product to help firms manage environmental, health and safety requirements.



## **Ralf J. Thomas Distinguished Service Award Winners**

**Dr. Ray Baird** is a retired PSU vice president. He joined the PSU faculty in 1947 and in 1953 became director of admissions. Baird was named executive vice president in 1968. He retired from the university in 1986 after 39 years of service to the university. Baird's service to the university has continued since his retirement. He is a member of the PSU Foundation's Heritage Society. Currently a senior trustee of the PSU Foundation, Baird served on the Foundation Board from 1997 until 2003. He supports many activities on campus, including the Music Department, and has established the Baird Music Scholarship. Baird lives in Pittsburg. His wife, Ann, died in 2006. They have one daughter, Catherine Anne Baird.

**Richard "Dick" L. Chitty** is a retired executive from Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., where he rose to become senior vice president before his retirement. Chitty, who earned a bachelor of science degree in industrial technology from PSU in 1967, has been a long-time supporter of PSU. He has served on the College of Technology Advisory Board and has been an advocate on behalf of PSU with Toyota, resulting in corporate support for the construction of the Kansas Technology Center. Because of Chitty's involvement, the Toyota T-Ten program was developed in the auto service area. Chitty encouraged Toyota in the hiring of many PSU graduates who have also gone on to successful careers with the company. Chitty has served as a University Councilor to the President. He is a past president of the Southern California Chapter of the PSU Alumni Association and is currently a trustee of the PSU Foundation. Chitty is a recipient of the PSU Outstanding Alumni and Meritorious Achievement awards. Chitty and his wife, Janet, live in Ocala, Florida.

Since **Mattye E. Foxx** retired as a social worker, she has devoted much of her life to making the community of Pittsburg a better place. Foxx, who earned a bachelor of science degree from PSU in 1969, has been a volunteer for PSU, as well. She served as an Alumni Association board member from 1990 until 1996 and as secretary for the board from 1993 until 1996. Foxx has been a volunteer for numerous PSU Community Campaigns and Phonathons. She is a former member of the Business Advisory Board and the PSU Friends of Music. In Pittsburg, she has many years of service to Meals on Wheels, the YMCA and the Red Cross Bloodmobile. Foxx lives in Pittsburg. She has three sons: Marvin, Melvin and Robert.

## Robert K. Ratzlaff Outstanding Faculty Award Winners

Dr. Brenda LeTendre  
Associate Professor, Special Services  
and Leadership Studies

"I love the 'ah-has' students experience in and outside of class as they discover the connections between what they are learning and their current lives and future careers. I'm particularly pleased when I see a student go from saying 'I can't' to 'I can and I will' because of something we've done in class."

Dr. Mark Peterson  
Assistant Professor, Social Sciences

"I cannot imagine an occupation that offers the fulfillment [that I experience] watching students grow intellectually and appreciate how this can enrich them for a lifetime. [This continues to be] an extraordinary professional reward and motivation."

Tysha Potter  
Instructor, Psychology and Counseling

"I strongly believe that each student should leave PSU with more than just an academic education. I want my students to also have the skills and knowledge to live life deeply and richly, to find meaning in their life, and to serve their family, community, state, or country with passionate endeavor and with whatever skill and knowledge they uniquely possess."



# Golden Gorilla Student Leadership Award

The Golden Gorilla Award was established in 1997 to honor students who have made exemplary contributions in community service, academic excellence and campus involvement. According to tradition, 2007 recipients are introduced at Apple Day and recognized at the Spring Leadership Banquet. Students may receive this honor at any time during their tenure at Pittsburg State University but are only eligible to receive the award once.

Congratulations to this year's nominees and recipients!

## 2007 Golden Gorilla Recipients

Rye Addis

Amy Bartlow

Kayla Carter

Aril Commons

Nick Dellasega

Rebekah Grieb

Danielle Herman

Shauna Hillman

Jeremy Johnson

Cherrelle Jones

Meghan Kranz

Casey Kuhn

Joy Leek

Ashley Lopez

Anthony Moreno

Elizabeth Perrey

Samantha Pinkal

Jodi Smardo

Audra Tope

Michelle Vosters

Christa Weber

Ashley Weis

Erin Wells



## PSU Chorale

Scott Allison  
Casey Brown  
Richard Cook  
Rebekah Dallman  
Jonathan Eastman  
Bryan Ganer  
Mary Jo Harper  
Richard Harper  
Megan Hizey  
Sonya Lawson  
Mary Helen McCloud  
Calli Montgomery

Robin Nobles  
Sean O'Laughlin  
Krista Ohmie  
Sean Parks  
Dustin Rau  
Karsten Reilly  
Karrie Ross  
Bryan Spires  
William Stalcup  
William Vance  
Brandon Wade  
Rebekah Wells

## PSU Alma Mater

On the plains of Southeast Kansas,  
    'Neath an ever cloudless sky,  
Far away from surging ocean,  
And the storm-bird's plaintive cry;  
With her prairies rolling Westward,  
Where the buffalo once were great,  
With her ensign proudly waiving,  
Stands our own Pittsburg State.

### Refrain

Let us greet the Gold and Crimson  
With a strong and cordial cheer,  
Let our hearts be ever loyal  
To our Alma Mater dear.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Lindsey Baumann  
Dr. Becky Brannock  
Aaron Cadman  
Joan Cleland  
Crimson Club  
Nick Dellasega  
Jenny Durkin  
Steve Erwin  
Jeremy Johnson  
JT Knoll  
Ashlee Matthews  
Dr. Susan Marchant

Ginger Niemann  
Jill Pjesky  
Cathy Pentola  
Randy Roberts  
Johnna Schremmer  
Jodi Smardo  
Travis Smith  
Sodexho  
Dr. Jim Triplett  
Ed Wirthwein  
Ron Womble

*Apples are compliments of Faculty Association  
and Marrone's.*

*Following the Convocation, Award Recipients will  
proceed to the Centennial Bell Tower to announce  
their achievements by ringing the bell.*

The Centennial Scholarships presented today are  
courtesy of the PSU Foundation, Inc. and are made  
available through funds received during PSU's  
Centennial celebration.

Any full-time undergraduate student enrolled at  
Pittsburg State University during the Spring 2007  
semester is eligible to participate. The recipient must  
be present here today and must enroll as a full-time  
undergraduate student in the Fall 2007 semester.



# **Upcoming Events:**

## **An Inconvenient Truth**

Today and Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>

12:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 7:00 pm

U-Club Mini Theater

## **University Recycling Center Open House**

Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>

9:00 am – 11:00 am

206 Whitesitt Hall

(Adjacent to Quick Print)

*Free refreshments*

Sponsored by University Committee on Energy  
and Resource Conservation

## **Nick Motil**

Acoustic Singer/Songwriter

Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>

9:00 pm

Crimson & Gold Ballroom

*Free refreshments*

Sponsored by Student Activities Council