

K-STATE Educate. Motivate. Activate.



Wildcats for Higher Education - Dec. 12, 2016

Gearing Up Wildcats for Higher Education Advocacy in 2017

As the year 2016 draws to a close, we wanted to let you know we are gearing up our higher education advocacy efforts for the 2017 Kansas legislative session. As Wildcats for Higher Education, your past support in letting our legislators know how important K-State and higher education are to the state of Kansas has been greatly appreciated.

We know the state's budget issues will continue to challenge our state legislators in 2017. In addition, as a result of recent elections, we will have 50 new state senators and representatives in the Kansas Legislature. Our work is cut out for us to make sure everyone understands the impact higher education has on the state's economy, quality of life and future prosperity.

It's important that the Kansas Legislature hears, early on, our message to prioritize higher education as they make decisions in this new legislative session.

In working with the Kansas Board of Regents and the six other Board of Regents universities, we are making plans to hold a "Higher Education Day" in the state capitol building on Jan. 19. Not only will our messages be important that day but also the visible support we have from alumni, friends and the citizens of Kansas.

We are finalizing details for the Higher Education Day with our partners and collectively planning ideas for exhibits, speakers, one-on-one meetings with legislators and other activities. The day will include a breakfast and we will definitely have Call Hall ice cream at the K-State exhibit.

To help us in planning this event, we would like to get a general idea of how many WHE advocates would be available to attend some or all of the events at the state capitol on Jan. 19. We know it's a significant commitment of time but we believe the visibility and the interaction of our advocates with the legislators will have a significant impact on their decisions regarding higher education.

This is not a commitment on your part at this time but, if you would reply to this email and let us know if you would be willing to commit time and support K-State on Jan. 19, it will help us in planning details for the event.

We'll be in touch as more information becomes available on the details for Higher Education Day at the State Capitol. Have a Happy Holiday Season!

Go 'Cats!

Sue Peterson '76, '05 **Director, Government Relations** Amy Button Renz '76, '86 President and CEO

Kansas State University

K-State Alumni Association

K-State alumni and friends are encouraged to ask their state legislators to support higher education. Please visit the K-State Alumni Association's <u>Wildcats for Higher Education</u> web page for more information on the messages and facts to support higher education.

If you know of other K-State alumni and friends who would like to receive Wildcats for Higher Education updates, please forward this message.

If this message was forwarded to you and you would like to receive Wildcats for Higher Education updates, please <u>sign up here</u>.

The Kansas State University Office of Government Relations also provides weekly updates on legislative issues important to K-State and higher education. <u>View updates</u> when the Legislature is in session.

Brought to you by the K-State Alumni Association

100 Alumni Center, 1720 Anderson Avenue, Manhattan, KS 66506-1001 | 800-600-ALUM | 785-532-6260

<u>Update your information</u> and start receiving notifications from K-State.