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Autumn 2002 Interns

Legal Intern Chris Dove, third-year University of Kansas law student from Topeka, heard about the Kansas Land Trust while doing land use research for school. He sees privately completed conservation easements as an important choice--along with government action--for how to control urban growth. Chris has served KLT since early 2001, taking minutes at board meetings and assisting with various land-protection projects. Chris double-majored in biochemistry and philosophy as an undergraduate at KU. He earned an M.A. in biology at the University of Oregon, with an emphasis on mathematical ecology, studying butterflies in the tropics of Ecuador. Chris says law school "brings him back to the social arena." Chris, having taken more environmental law classes than any other type, is interested in working to keep cities from expanding outward--a trend which he describes as "sucking the life out of the center." He notes how our "car culture" is consuming rural space. Chris hopes to do his part to make 21st century cities more livable.

Yoshi Terai, from Tokyo, Japan, with a degree in economics from Aoyama Gakuin University, worked as an intern for KLT during the spring of 2002 as part of his Master of Urban Planning, which he earned from KU in May. His concentration was in land use and environmental planning. For six years previously, Yoshi worked in Japan as a systems engineer and in business. For his internship, Yoshi assisted KU Architecture & Urban Design Associate Professor and KLT President donna luckey with research on land under consideration for preserving with a conservation easement. He evaluated the suitability of a boundary line of the proposed conservation area. And, he analyzed the watershed as a carrying capacity by using Geographic Information System (GIS) data. Yoshi is pursuing job opportunities in environmental conservation and economic development, especially in the field of sustainable development in eastern Africa.

Lori Kruger, who grew up in Johnson County, earned an undergraduate degree from KU in graphic design. Lori began an internship for KLT in the summer of 2002 and plans to graduate with a Master of Urban Planning in the spring of 2003. She first heard about KLT during one of her KU courses, Planning and the Natural Environment. There, she learned about various growth management tools--both public and private--and their effectiveness in terms of land protection. For her work with KLT, Lori is studying the Kansas River watershed corridor, especially the natural land which will likely be taken away 10 to 20 years from now. She is looking into land use, waterways, and issues surrounding development. Ultimately, she will provide KLT with a report which includes graphics, maps, and text. Lori has worked in several capacities at the Community Mercantile in Lawrence before and during her current college enrollment. Lori's area of concentration in the urban planning graduate program is environmental planning and land use policy. She also has a great interest in historic preservation. Having done a "fair amount" of carpentry over the last 18 years, she prefers renovation and rehabilitation of old buildings to new construction. Future employment situations for Lori ideally will draw on her various experiences.

Samantha Nondorf by Casey Mulligan

Samantha Nondorf is from Hoxie, located in the northwest region of the state. She grew up on a farm raising wheat crops and 300 head of cattle. Samantha arrived at KU and entered into the Journalism School with high expectations. Samantha's strategic

communications major was a good fit for her skills, as she is very creative and loves to write. With her farming background, Samantha knows the importance of land conservation, and knew she would be the right person for a job at Kansas Land Trust. With her classroom experience in marketing, advertising and strategic planning, she knew that her skills would be a welcome addition to the organization. So far at KLT, Samantha has worked on flyer construction and helped with event planning and networking. Samantha never dreamed that so much work went into keeping donors and friends informed of KLT activities. She was surprised at the extent of legal facets that went along with each interaction. After graduating this December, Samantha hopes to focus her writing and marketing skills toward children. She also is considering continuing her education by getting a master's degree in early childhood special education. Samantha is very happy here in Kansas and would like to continue to live in the Lawrence-Kansas City area.

Casey Mulligan by Samantha Nondorf

Casey Mulligan, a fifth-year senior from Overland Park, is a fall intern at the Kansas Land Trust. He is a strategic communications major through the Journalism School at KU. This is a major that includes work in areas such as marketing, public relations, advertising, and sales. He chose this major because it allows him to explore a lot of different areas of interest and widens his choices in looking for a job. Casey contacted KLT when he saw the opening on a school web site and thought it sounded interesting. He grew up in the suburbs of Kansas City and saw the continual expansion development of Kansas. This sparked an interest in Casey in conserving land for natural purposes. During the internship, Casey has made contacts with the local media, helped maintain and organize some KLT data, and also other administrative tasks. Through his work at the KLT, Casey has learned that there's an incredible amount of work that goes into creating a conservation easement and all of its documents. He has also seen what an important part KLT plays in preserving our lands. Casey will graduate from KU in December. He is using this internship as one credit towards his degree. Casey isn't sure what job he would like to pursue, but he would like to travel and maybe work in a sales field.