

## NEWS RELEASE

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# Gov. Sebelius Declares June 5-9 Kansas Private College Week

(Leavenworth, Kan.)— Governor Kathleen Sebelius has declared June 5-9, 2006, Kansas Private College Week, celebrating the wide range of choices among the state's higher education offerings.

The 18 private colleges in the state will mark the week with a special campus visit event, encouraging interested students and their guests to spend time at any or all of the schools.

Participating in Kansas Private College Week are University of Saint Mary (Leavenworth), Baker University (Baldwin City), Benedictine College (Atchison), Bethany College (Lindsborg), Bethel College (North Newton), Central Christian College (McPherson), Donnelly College (Kansas City), Friends University (Wichita), Hesston College, Kansas Wesleyan University (Salina), Manhattan Christian College, McPherson College, MidAmerica Nazarene University (Olathe), Newman University (Wichita), Ottawa University, Southwestern College (Winfield), Sterling College, and Tabor College (Hillsboro).

"We are hoping that high school students take advantage of this week to begin to explore their opportunities in Kansas private colleges and universities," says Doug Penner, president of the Kansas Independent Colleges Association. "For the student who hopes to combine outstanding academic achievement with a personalized, relationship-intensive college experience, we believe the private colleges are ideal."

Penner adds that opportunities to participate in varied activities and intercollegiate athletics are available to students at all of the schools.

About 22,000 students from across the nation enroll at the Kansas private colleges each year. These schools annually award about 21 percent of the state's bachelor's degrees, and about 27 percent of the state's master's degrees.

The institutions support their students through generous financial aid, awarding more than \$57 million each year in institutional grants and scholarships to supplement grants and scholarships from the federal and state governments.

For more information on Kansas private colleges, or on Kansas Private College Week, contact Mark Millikan at (785) 235-9877 or visit [www.kscolleges.org](http://www.kscolleges.org).

The University of Saint Mary is a private, co-educational applied liberal arts university founded by the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth. The University of Saint Mary is located at 4100 South 4th Street, Leavenworth, Kan., with additional locations at 11413 Pflumm in Overland Park and inside Providence Medical Center at 8929 Parallel Parkway in Kansas City, Kan.

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