



# Endacott Society

Retired Faculty and Staff [endacottsociety.org](http://endacottsociety.org) September 2020



Almost six months into the COVID-19 pandemic, the Endacott Society still perseveres to provide ways to socialize and educate its members while keeping us safe from infection. We knew from the beginning it would be difficult to do these things when we can't meet in the central location we are used to in the Alumni Center, or anywhere else where large groups make social distancing impossible. Thankfully, we have Zoom conferencing as a tool to overcome some of our difficulties via our computers from home. In last month's newsletter we highlighted some of the interest groups that have used Zoom to bring members together for discussions of topics they wish to pursue. This month we try to add a few more of the fifteen groups to show what interesting programs are going to be featured.

In August a taskforce consisting of the Endacott executive officers and two past presidents met with Heath Peterson and several of his staff from the Alumni Center on Zoom to view architectural renderings, including blueprints of floor plans, for the Jayhawk Welcome Center and changes to the Adams Alumni Center. Heath plans to present the same materials in a Zoom conference to the Endacott Society Wednesday Coffee at a yet to be specified date in the near future.

Reconfiguration of existing spaces in the Alumni Center was of most interest to the Endacott officers. Some of the key features were: 1) removing the reception desk in the lobby and having reception centralized in the Welcome Center. 2) removal of the curved staircase and positioning a straight staircase in the center of the lobby (atrium) about where Laurie's old office was 3) combining our computer center/office with our library in a room in the southwest corner of the building 4) a hearing loop system for all meeting rooms 5) AV monitors built into the walls of rooms so no more pushing carts between rooms 6) new windows throughout the building 7) new glassed in entrance 8) two class-sized meeting rooms on first floor along with the Summerfield room for Wednesday coffee meetings 9) elevators in same location and additional elevators in Welcome Center 10) Bruckmiller room available for potluck dinners 11) parking in garage across Jayhawk Blvd with loss of the lot next to the building for the addition of Welcome Center

The Alumni Association has no immediate plans to host Endacott or any other outside events in the building through December. We have been charged with creating an inventory of Endacott materials and boxing up and storing what we don't want moved into long term storage during

the expected 18 month construction period for the new addition. To that end we have begun to remove some items from the computer room and library that we might need or protect during the time we are out of the building. We are also exploring our options for meeting rooms on campus once it is prudent to meet again safely as a group. We will provide updates when they become available. *Jo Cink- President*

**Paul Endacott Birthday-** The Endacott Society usually celebrates the birthday of Paul Endacott in September (even though his real birth date is in July) to remember the man from whom our society takes its name. Congratulations to all who celebrate their birthdays in September!

The **Arts and Sciences Lecture** series is a new addition to our Zoom offerings. Mary Jane Dunlap and Karen Heintzen originally scheduled Steve Lerner and Don Stull to talk to Endacott in April about the documentary *STRANGERS IN TOWN*. This lecture will now be on Zoom, September 24 at 1:30 p.m. See *the September Zoom Guide* for the link to this lecture. The documentary focuses on Garden City, the most ethnically diverse community in Kansas. Garden City has long had a Hispanic population but in the 1980's the meatpacking industry created a population boom that brought immigrants from Central America, Myanmar, Somalia, Uganda, Vietnam and other countries. More than 20 languages are spoken in the city's schools. Lerner's 2018 film explores how the city views immigration and diversity as an opportunity. The story provides an inspiring view of human possibility in the face of change. Lerner and his friend, Reuben Aaronson of NGO films, produced and directed the documentary. Lerner is a clinical psychologist and filmmaker. Don Stull, KU professor emeritus in anthropology, who researched Garden City's

growth for 30 years, was a consultant on the film.

Paul Lim's **Cinema Studies** is co-sponsoring several films in September. Contact [plim@ku.edu](mailto:plim@ku.edu) for Zoom links One of these is Ron Schorr's **Armchair Travel** which is showing the Documentary Film *Endless Summer* on Friday Sept, 4 at 1:30PM. A round-the-world surfing epic which premiered in Wichita, KS at the height of a blizzard in February 1964 and sold out every seat for a week. A second co-sponsored offering is Tom Huber's **Public Affairs Forum** which is showing another Documentary Film, *Putin's Revenge* on Thur. Sept.10<sup>th</sup> at 1:30PM. This is the two-hour PBS Frontline documentary which takes an in-depth-look at what makes Putin tick. PAF Chair Tom Huber and Jake Kipp will moderate the discussion after the screening.

**Drama Study** has two programs in September. First is **Proof**, Film Adaptation Sept. 1, at 1:30 PM A 2005 film adaptation of the play *PROOF*, featuring Gwyneth Paltrow as the daughter of a brilliant but mentally disturbed mathematician, recently deceased. She tries to come to grips with her possible inheritance: his insanity. Second is **Bacchae** Sept 15, at 1:30PM. **Bacchae**, by Euripides is a tragedy based on the myth of King Pentheus of Thebes and his mother Agave, who refused to acknowledge and worship Dionysus or Bacchus as a divinity. Dionysus, also the god of wine and ecstasy, exerted a terrible vengeance for their disrespect. See the September Zoom Guide for the links to join these meetings.

Sandra Wiechert would still like to have Endacott members stop by the Allen Wiechert memorial at the Lied Center and have their pictures taken on the memorial bench. Here are a few of your friends who have made the trip.



Janis Hutchinson



Martha and Ray Souza



Vic Wallace and best friend



Paul Lim taking it easy