2009 Kansas Legislature

PRESENTATION TO THE CHANCELLOR’S POLICY COUNCIL

KATHY DAMRON
DECEMBER 19, 2008
## Election Overview

### Senate
- 31 Republicans
- 9 Democrats
  (loss of 1 Democrat seat)

### House
- 77 Republicans
- 48 Democrats
  (gain of 1 Democrat seat)
Meet the New Legislators
New House Members

District 10 – Baldwin City

Tony Brown
Democrat

Tony is a professor at Baker University and served as a member of the Baldwin city council from 2002-2008. He fills the seat vacated by Tom Holland, who ran a successful campaign for the state Senate.

District 19 – Overland Park

Dolores Furtado
Democrat

Dolores received her bachelor of science from Cornell, and her master’s and doctoral degrees from the University of Michigan. She is now retired from her position as a professor at KUMC. She fills the seat of Tim Owens, who ran a successful campaign for the state Senate.
## New House Members (cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District 22 – Overland Park</th>
<th>District 23 – Merriam</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lisa Benlon</strong>&lt;br&gt;Democrat</td>
<td><strong>Milack Talia</strong>&lt;br&gt;Democrat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisa previously served 12 years in the state legislature (1990-2002). After leaving the legislature, she served as the Kansas Government Relations Director for the American Cancer Society. She fills the seat of Sue Storm, who ran a successful campaign for the State Board of Education.</td>
<td>Milack holds degrees in engineering and law. The policy issues that most interest him are health Reform and K-12 education. He fills the seat of Judy Morrison, who did not run again in 2008.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
New House Members (cont.)

District 24 – Mission

Mike Slattery
Democrat

Mike received his bachelors degree from James Madison Univ. with an emphasis in energy and environmental policy. He has worked for the Nat’l Institutes of Health and the Nat’l Human Genome Project. He is currently a project manager for J.E. Dunn Construction. He defeated Ronnie Metsker in the general election.

District 40 – Leavenworth

Melanie Sanders Meier
Democrat

Melanie attended St. Mary’s College and KU, and served as active duty army as well as in the reserves. She currently works at Ft. Leavenworth as a defense contractor and serves as an Inspector General for her reserve unit. She fills the seat vacated by Candy Ruff, who did not seek re-election.
New House Members (cont.)

District 42 – Tonganoxie

Connie O’Brien
Republican

Connie graduated from St. Mary’s College with a B.A. in social studies and secondary education. She is an active member of the parish at Sacred Heart in Tonganoxie, has been very active in 4-H and currently works as a substitute teacher. She fills the seat vacated by Kenny Wilk, who did not seek re-election.

District 48 – Overland Park

Marvin Kleeb
Republican

Marvin grew up in central Neb., and now calls Kansas home. He owns his own business, which helps individuals who are seeking employment find jobs and is very involved in the KC area business community. He fills the seat vacated by Jeff Colyer, who ran a successful campaign for state Senate.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District 49 – Olathe</th>
<th>District 57 – Topeka</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Scott Schwab**  
Republican | **Sean Gatewood**  
Democrat |
| Scott grew up in Great Bend and graduated from Ft. Hays State. He works as medical marketing specialist. Previously, he served in the Kansas House from 2003-2006 and vacated that seat in order to run for Congress. He fills the seat vacated by Ben Hodge, who ran a successful campaign for state Senate. | Sean is a student at Washburn University, and has worked in sales and as a volunteer firefighter. He is interested in improving the educational system, utilizing new energy resources and keeping jobs in Kansas. His wife, Trecia is a pharmacist. He fills the seat vacated by Vaughan Flora. |
### District 59 – Osage City

**William Prescott**  
**Republican**

William grew up in Burlingame and graduated from Burlingame High School. He is a farmer by trade – running the family farm in Wabaunsee County, and has owned small businesses and has served as a member of the county commission. He fills the seat vacated by Joe Humerickhouse.

### District 70 – Marion

**Robert Brookens**  
**Republican**

Robert graduated from Westmoreland High School, the University of Kansas and earned his law degree from Washburn. He is very active in the Boy Scouts and the Kiwanis Club and works as an attorney. He fills the seat vacated by Don Dahl.
New House Members (cont.)

District 81 – Mulvane

Peter Degraaf Republican

Pete was born in Holland and naturalized as a U.S. citizen at age 8. He graduated from the Air Force Academy and served in the Air Force. He is currently the president and founder of Shepherd’s Staff Ministries, a faith-based financial counseling organization. He fills the seat vacated by Ted Powers who passed away earlier this year.

District 84 – Wichita

Gail Finney Democrat

Gail holds a masters degree in business administration from Friends University and a bachelors degree from Wichita State. She is a small business owner and is concerned about rising health care costs, education, and other workforce issues. She fills the seat vacated by Oletha Faust-Goudeau who ran a successful campaign for state Senate.
New House Members (cont.)

District 93 – Garden Plain

Dan Kerschen
Republican

Dan was born and raised in Garden Plain, where he continues to live. He is a dairy and grain farmer and is very active in the organizations that support these industries. His wife, Noreen, is a nurse and they have 5 children. Dan fills the seat vacated by Dick Kelsey.

District 96 – Wichita

Phil Hermanson
Republican

Phil is currently a human resources manager at Coldwell Banker Stuckey & Associates. He served as a deep sea diver in the Navy from 1983-88, is a licensed realtor, and a motivational speaker. Phil fills the seat vacated by Terry McLachlan.
New House Members (cont.)

District 99 - Andover

Aaron Jack
Republican

Aaron is a financial consultant and fills the seat vacated by Ty Masterson.

District 101 – Pretty Prairie

Joe Seiwert
Republican

Joe is retired from his jobs with Southwestern Bell and John Deere and lives on a farm just west of Pretty Prairie where he raises livestock, grain and hay. He is involved with the local school system, his church and other community services. Joe fills the seat vacated by Mark Treaster.
New House Members (cont.)

District 118 – Dighton

Don Hineman
Republican

Don and his son run Hineman Farms and Hineman Ranch where they produce wheat, grain, sorghum and beef cattle. He is very active in his community – serving as Lane County Commissioner for 16 years. Don fills the seat vacated by Virginia Beamer.
New Senate Members

District 3 – Baldwin City

Tom Holland
Democrat

Tom has served in the House for 6 years prior to being elected to the Senate. He lives in Baldwin City and owns a small business – Holland Technologies, Inc. Tom fills the seat vacated by Roger Pine who lost in the 2008 general election.

District 5 – Kansas City

Kelly Kultala
Democrat

Kelly was born in Leavenworth and holds a degree in political science from KU. She is the community outreach organizer for Youthville, an organization that specializes in foster care, adoption and counseling. She fills the seat vacated by Mark Gilstrap, who lost in the 2008 primary election.
Tim Owens
Republican

Tim served in the House from 2001-2008, a seat to which he was appointed to fill after Phill Kline’s departure. He is an attorney and former active duty Army. He has also served as a member and as president of the Overland Park city council. Tim fills the seat vacated by Barbara Allen.

Mary Pilcher Cook
Republican

Mary served in the House from 2004-2008. She served as president of the Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women from 2003-2005. Mary was employed as a software engineer and in the high-tech financial news industry. She earned her bachelors degree from Avila University. Mary fills the seat vacated by Nick Jordan.
New Senate Members (cont.)

District 13 – Fort Scott

Bob Marshall
Republican

Bob has most recently been the athletic director at Fort Scott Community College, which follows his retirement from service in the Marine Corps and many years as a commercial airline pilot. He is very involved in the community – including service as the chair of the Fort Scott Chamber of Commerce. Bob fills the seat vacated by Jim Barone.

District 10 – Andover

Ty Masterson
Republican

Ty served in the House from 2005-2008. He was born and raised in Butler County and served as an Andover City Council member. He owns his own general contracting business and is a licensed real estate agent. Ty fills the seat vacated by Peggy Palmer.
## New Senate Members (cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District 26 – Goddard</th>
<th>District 29 – Wichita</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dick Kelsey</strong></td>
<td><strong>Oletha Faust-Goudeau</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republican</td>
<td>Republican</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dick served in the House from 2005-2008 and is the president of King’s Camp &amp; Retreat Center, Inc. He and his wife live in Goddard. Dick fills the seat vacated by Phil Journey.</td>
<td>Oletha, a lifelong Wichitan, served in the house since 2003 and is the first African American woman to serve in the Senate. She is an advocate for the disenfranchised and has supported many initiatives that help the less fortunate. Oletha fills the seat vacated by Don Betts.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
New Senate Members (cont.)

District 32 – Arkansas City

Steve Abrams
Republican

Steve earned his degree in veterinary medicine from the K-State and has served on the State Board of Education for 14 years. He also served as chair of the Kansas Republican party and is active in his church. Steve fills the seat vacated by Great Goodwin.

District 37 – Overland Park

Jeff Colyer
Republican

Jeff served in the House in 2007 and 2008. He earned his M.D. from KU and is one of only 200 plastic surgeons who specialize in craniofacial surgery. He has spent time around the world working as a surgeon in times of crisis and conflict. Jeff fills the seat vacated by Dennis Wilson.
House & Senate Leadership
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Speaker of the House</th>
<th>House Minority Leader</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mike O’Neal</td>
<td>Paul Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-Hutchinson</td>
<td>D-Lawrence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rep. O’Neal has</td>
<td>Rep. Davis has</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>been a member</td>
<td>been a member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of the House</td>
<td>of the House</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>since 1985 and is</td>
<td>since 2003 and is</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>an attorney.</td>
<td>an attorney.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Senate Leadership

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Senate President</th>
<th>Senate Vice President</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Steve Morris</strong>&lt;br&gt;R-Hugoton</td>
<td><strong>John Vratil</strong>&lt;br&gt;R-Leawood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sen. Morris has been a member of the Senate since 1993 and is a farmer.</td>
<td>Sen. Vratil has been a member of the Senate since 1998 and is an attorney.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senate Minority Leader</td>
<td>Assistant Minority Leader</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Anthony Hensley</strong></td>
<td><strong>Janis Lee</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-Topeka</td>
<td>D-Kensington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sen. Hensley has been</td>
<td>Sen. Lee has been</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a member of the Senate</td>
<td>a member of the Senate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>since 1992 and is a</td>
<td>since 1989 and is a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>special education</td>
<td>farmer and rancher.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>teacher.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senate Majority Leader</td>
<td>House Majority Leader</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Derek Schmidt</td>
<td>Ray Merrick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-Independence</td>
<td>R-Stilwell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sen. Schmidt has</td>
<td>Rep. Merrick has</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>been a member of</td>
<td>been a member of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the Senate since</td>
<td>has been a member of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001 and is an</td>
<td>the House since</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>attorney.</td>
<td>2000 and owns a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>small business.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Committee Leadership
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

CHAIR
Jay Emler, R-Lindsborg

VICE-CHAIRS
John Vratil, R-Leawood
Carolyn McGinn, R-Sedgwick

RANKING DEMOCRAT
Laura Kelly, D-Topeka
Senate Education Committee

CHAIR
Jean Schodor, R-Wichita

VICE-CHAIR
John Vratil, R-Leawood

RANKING DEMOCRAT
Anthony Hensley, D-Topeka
House Higher Education Committee

CHAIR
Terrie Huntington, R-Fairway

VICE-CHAIR
Marc Rhoades, R-Newton

RANKING DEMOCRAT
Ann Mah, D-Topeka
House Budget Education Committee

CHAIR
Joe McLeland, R-Wichita

Vice-Chair
Clay Aurand, R-Courtland

Ranking Democrat
Tom Sawyer, D-Wichita
2009 Key Legislative Issues

- BUDGET
- ENERGY/COAL PLANTS
- HEALTHCARE
- TAXES
- TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM
- WORKFORCE SHORTAGE
- WORKERS COMPENSATION
- TORT REFORM