



Courtesy of Charles Rice

Charles RICE

Agronomy
Kansas State University

Charles RICE current

- Observes the millions of micro-organisms, many too small to see with the naked eye, that live in soil, to explain how they work together to make good soil that grows healthy plants. Healthy plants release oxygen into the air.
- Studies how soil, plants and low-till farm practices help store one of the global warming gasses, carbon dioxide, in the soil instead of the air.
- Researches how agriculture can adapt and provide a solution to climate change.

EXTRA COOL: Rice was a member of a United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on climate change that received the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize.

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2011 **SCIENCE in KANSAS**
150 years and counting

Kansas Sesquicentennial 2011

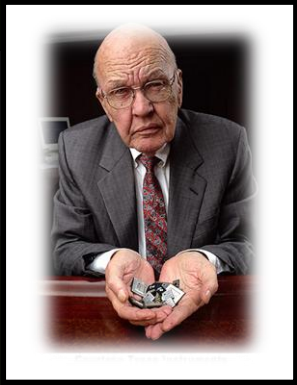


Photo: Wikipedia

JACK St. CLAIR KILBY

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

Texas Instruments



Jack St. Clair Kilby 1923-2005

- Grew up in Great Bend and graduated from Great Bend High School.
- Was interested in ham radios and electronics as a teen.
- Earned degrees in electrical engineering.
- In 1958, as a new employee at Texas Instruments, he invented the microchip.
- Microchips are used in things like computers and cell phones and are why today's electronics can be so small. Pacemakers use microchips to keep the heart beating regularly.

EXTRA COOL: Kilby won the 2000 Nobel Prize in Physics for his invention.

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Courtesy of KU Medical Center Archives

WALTER SUTTON

MEDICINE

University of Kansas
School of Medicine

Walter Sutton 1877-1916

- Grew up on a ranch near Russell.
- Started at KU in engineering, switched to biology and became a doctor after his brother died of typhus.
- Famous for his theory which explains that hereditary information, such as eye or hair color, is carried in a part of the cell called the chromosome.
- As a surgeon, he developed many surgical instruments and was a pioneer in the use of x-ray localization.

EXTRA COOL: While at KU, he played for Dr. James Naismith, the inventor of basketball.

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Courtesy KU University Relations

Judy Z. WU

Physics / Astronomy
University of Kansas

Judy Z. WU current

- Fell in love with physics and math in seventh grade.
- Wu is a University Distinguished Professor at KU and is leading a NanoTechnology for Renewable Energy Team.
- The team is devising improved and less costly solar panels and cells for capturing the sun's energy.
- By working with the atoms and molecules that make up materials, the goal is to make materials that will better hold on to the sun's energy so it can be used to light our homes or provide other power in the future.

EXTRA COOL: Received a KU Kemper Award for Teaching Excellence in 2006.

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