

# Presidential REFLECTIONS

*Now in my fifth year as president  
 of Dakota Wesleyan University,  
 I am more excited, passionate  
 and committed than ever to the  
 strategic importance of a Dakota  
 Wesleyan education.*

**Consider the following:**

- In the last year we hired Dr. Don Watt as our vice president for academic affairs and dean. Don is not only an ordained elder in the United Methodist Church, but he also holds a Ph.D. in political science from an Ivy League institution, the University of Pennsylvania. Don embodies exactly what Wesleyan is all about. He is highly committed to the life of the mind as well as to the mission of the church.
- We have made significant academic progress this past year. Dr. Watt's efforts, as well as those of the faculty, are leading us to be a much better academic institution. We are making significant progress in the assessment of our programs. Assessment is more than just a term; it is an intentional effort to ensure that what we say about our academic programs can be demonstrated in actions and results.
- Our faculty members – Sean Flynn, Joe Ditta, Bob Tatina, Diane Sundstrom, Mike Albright and Don Watt – continue to publish.
- Penn State University recently looked to Dakota Wesleyan University for intellectual depth and perspective. Dr. Albright, a new faculty member, served on a Ph.D. dissertation committee for a student there because no one on that faculty had the requisite expertise. Dr. Albright's expertise in academic technology made him the best candidate to serve as a dissertation adviser.
- We continue to work on the health care needs of our region. We are working with Southeast Technical Institute in Sioux Falls on a program to upgrade LPNs to RNs on their campus, expanding the Wesleyan experience beyond Mitchell.
- We are pleased to have hired Bryan Hisel as director of the Kelley Center for Entrepreneurship. Bryan is the executive



**Bob Duffett**  
 DWU President

director of the Mitchell Area Chamber of Commerce and Mitchell Area Development Corporation. We think his experience will enhance free enterprise in our region, as well as help our students think entrepreneurially about health care, education and even ministry.

- In 2003, we celebrated the opening of the first new campus residence in nearly 40 years. Our student apartments fill a need for juniors and seniors who are interested in more space and more freedom. The apartments have been well received.
- From a fund-raising standpoint, 2003-04 was the best year in the history of Dakota Wesleyan University; we received more than \$5 million in gifts and commitments. I am particularly pleased that these results came in a very uneven market.
- Over the last couple of years we have worked on strategic planning to enhance academic quality, better live out our Christian mission and enhance the student experience. We have written seven strategic imperatives, things that we are absolutely committed to and the board has approved:
  1. Provide a vibrant, student-centered experience.
  2. Deliver academic quality and rigor in our students' pursuit of a liberal arts education.
  3. Promote a shared commitment to the university's vision.
  4. Perpetuate financial viability.
  5. Unite knowledge, reason and Christian faith in curricular and cocurricular activities.
  6. Build a population of students that fits the DWU profile.
  7. Challenge our students, faculty and staff to be servant leaders, maximizing their talents for the common good.
- Finally, we ended the 2003-04 year with a black budget for the 10th year in a row. This will continue to be one of my personal priorities as we look to the future.

## Cumulative Giving Awards 2003-04

*Dakota Wesleyan University  
 recognizes donors for  
 milestones in their support.*

*Cumulative gift awards recognize  
 total giving since 1986.*

### William I. Graham Award (\$500,000)

Roger and Vicki Musick

### Sacrifice or Service Award (\$100,000)

Moira Ambrose  
 John and Vicki Clarke  
 Dwight D. Opperman  
 Evan Tessier  
 Wallace Genetic Foundation

### President's Award (\$50,000)

Dale and Mildred Hosmer  
 Don and Phyllis Klarup  
 Herbert and Edythe Kurz  
 Anson and Ada May Yeager

### Tumbleweed Award (\$25,000)

Amos Blombeck  
 Marion Garrison  
 Jim and Marlys Loomer

### Scotchman Award (\$10,000)

BEVERLY BECK  
 Robert and Ree Benson  
 Joel and Linda Black  
 Don and Gerry Bohning  
 Dick and Marilyn Chapman  
 Bob and Connie Duffett  
 Marvin and Janet Henzlik  
 Brad and Lois Patten  
 Keith and Gloria Thompson

Though incomplete, this string of accomplishments is amazing given the difficulties in higher education across America.

Rest assured, Dakota Wesleyan University will continue to offer unique and transforming experiences for our students, always focused on our values of learning, leadership, faith and service.

**Robert Duffett, DWU President**

# Year in Review

*What a difference a year makes...*

## Advancement

- Officials broke ground for the long-awaited Sherman Center. Fund raising had been completed in the spring and trustees voted to move ahead with the project.
- Dakota Wesleyan University ranked in the top three among South Dakota universities and colleges in fund raising for the second consecutive year, according to *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. Wesleyan raised more than \$2.3 million.
- The Kresge Foundation of Troy, Mich., and The Bush Foundation of St. Paul, Minn., awarded challenge grants to DWU totaling \$1,125,000 to complete the final phase of fund raising for the construction of the George and Eleanor McGovern Library and Center for Public Service. DWU has a deadline of Oct. 1, 2005, to raise more than \$1 million for the library project.
- By signing the fiscal year 2004 Omnibus Appropriation Bill, President George Bush paved the way for \$1 million in funding for the George and Eleanor McGovern Library and Center for Public Service project at DWU.



Faculty, staff, administrators, former university presidents and trustees attended the groundbreaking ceremony to mark the start of construction on the Sherman Center. (photo by Gloria Hanson)



Fall convocation was held outside on the spot where the Sherman Center has since been built. Faculty marched from Smith Hall to the site. (photo by Gloria Hanson)



The official ribbon cutting for the new student apartments was in October. Pictured are Amy Atkins, left, Jennifer Nebelsick, Heather Hall, Barry Schramm, Sarah Viedt, President Bob Duffett, Katie Peugh, Stacy Kaas and Leah Radway. (photo by Gloria Hanson)

## Admissions

Enrollment for fall semester 2003 increased to 751 students, or 34 more students than in 2002 when there were 717. Thirteen of the 34 students are enrolled in the master's program. In 2001, the fall semester headcount was 687 students. Officials say the increase in student enrollment is because of high recruiting goals the university set.

## Academics

- The North Central Association of Colleges and Schools approved extending DWU's accreditation to include a Master of Arts degree in education.
- Sean Flynn, author and assistant history professor at Dakota Wesleyan University, was recognized as a leading regional author along with 26 other writers at the 17th annual Regional Author's Autograph Party at Augustana College, sponsored by the Center for Western Studies.



The homecoming game drew a large crowd. (photo by Lori Essig)

## Athletics

- Dakota Wesleyan University received the 2003-04 Champions of Character Institutional Award for the third consecutive year. This award recognizes NAIA member institutions that have embraced the program by promoting or implementing activities related to the five core character values of the initiative.
- The Dakota Wesleyan University women's basketball team returned to the NAIA Division II National Tournament in Sioux City, Iowa, for the third consecutive season in March 2004. The women lost in the quarterfinal round to the University of Mary in double overtime, 82-91.



George McGovern takes to the stage during the 2003 McGovern Center Conference. (photo by Gloria Hanson)

2003-04

## With Gratitude...

2003-04

Dakota Wesleyan University recognizes donors for contributions from June 1, 2003 through May 31, 2004.

### More than \$25,000

Moira Ambrose  
 Andreas Family Foundation  
 Archer Daniels Midland Co.  
 Bush Foundation  
 Cassidy & Associates  
 Fritz and Glenda Corrigan  
 County Fair Food Store  
 John and Vicki Clarke  
 Cutler Fund of the Sioux Falls  
 Area Community Foundation  
 Richard and Sharon Cutler  
 Dakotas Conference of the UMC  
 First Western Bancorp Inc.  
 Paul and Donna Christen  
 Grace Horman Estate  
 Henry L. and Charlotte  
 Kimelman  
 Roger and Vicki Musick  
 Paul & Mayme Green Memorial  
 Foundation  
 Bernard and Audre Rapoport  
 Edwin and Ruth Rice  
 Otto Schroeder Estate  
 Evan Tessier  
 Wallace Genetic Foundation Inc.

### \$10,000-\$24,999

Bill and Noelle Farris  
 Dale and Mildred Hosmer  
 Carol Johnson Hassebroek  
 Estate  
 The Rollie R. Kelley Family  
 Foundation  
 Herbert and Edythe Kurz  
 Iva Lindley Fleming  
 Keith Miller  
 Bob and Carolyn Odegard  
 Dwight D. Opperman  
 Bob Parkinson  
 Byrt Ptak Estate  
 Gordon Rollins  
 Bruce and Judith Schreiman  
 Vic and Kathy Sharp  
 Bob and Beverly Sorensen  
 South Dakota Community  
 Foundation  
 Flossie Stechmann  
 Toshiba America Business  
 Solutions  
 Marty Cunningham  
 Anson and Ada May Yeager

### \$5,000-\$9,999

Sandy and Susan Berger  
 Joel and Linda Black  
 Amos Blombeck  
 Arden and Pat Brower

Mark and Chris Buche  
 CorTrust Bank  
 Boyd Jr. and Dody Hopkins  
 Mary Cottingham  
 First National Bank South  
 Dakota  
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 Ken and Stephanie Haines  
 Pat Hanna  
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 Church  
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 Puetz Corporation  
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 Marc and Lisa Rentschler  
 Les Roberts  
 Miles and Nancy Rubin  
 Bob Shrum and Mary Louise  
 Oates  
 Dean and Rita Sorenson  
 V. Hale Starr  
 Jerry and Pat Walton  
 Tom and Kathy Wiper

### \$2,500-\$4,999

Andover First UMC  
 Aramark Corporation  
 Miriam "Sally" Bauman Harrison  
 Jay and Nadine Berkley  
 Jack and Deb Billion  
 Elton and Jody Byre  
 Crazy Horse Memorial  
 Reba Cupp Estate  
 Bob and Connie Duffett  
 Florence Fristad  
 Steve Gardener  
 Brooke and Kathy Haurberg  
 Donna Jares  
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 Robert McWhirter  
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 John and Scott Kranz  
 Randy and Donna Pence  
 Don and Lyn Rahn  
 Maurice and Mary Rollins  
 SD Foundation of Independent  
 Colleges  
 St. Joseph's Indian School  
 The TR Family Trust  
 Tom Hanks and Rita Wilson  
 Wild Oak Golf Club



The Rev. **Cody Schuler '98**, campus pastor, conducts the first worship service in the new Wagner Chapel in February. (photo by Gloria Hanson)

## Alumni Gatherings

2003-04

Dakota Wesleyan University hosts gatherings around the state and nation each year to bring alumni and friends together. In the past year, gatherings were held at Nyack, N.Y.; Sioux Falls; Portland, Ore.; Mitchell; Minneapolis, Minn.; Spearfish; Fargo, N.D.; Denver, Colo.; Bismarck, N.D.; Yankton; Palm Springs, Calif.; Sioux City, Iowa; and Rapid City.

Visit [www.dwu.edu/alumni/gatherings/previous.htm](http://www.dwu.edu/alumni/gatherings/previous.htm) to view Web photo galleries of the gatherings.



**Denver Alumni Gathering at the Home of Don '63 and Bonnie Messer:** (front row, left) Wayne Albert '66, Walter Lesiw '46, Mildred Cork Thorp '41, Ree Benson and Bob Benson '67; (second row) David Wilson '72, Bonnie Messer and Don Messer '63; (back row) Greg Christy and Larry Lienemann '60. (submitted photo)



**Habitat for Humanity Project:** DWU alumni volunteered their time at a Habitat for Humanity house in the Twin Cities on Oct. 18, 2003. (submitted photo)



**Nyack, N.Y., Alumni Gathering:** (left) Andrew Boyajian '65, Irena Kandybowicz '80, Phil Gates '75, Connie Coyne Lipset '65, John Kilbride '71, Annette Rollins Ransom '69, Mark Lipset and Jeff Ransom. (submitted photo)

## Annual Report

2003-04

ONLINE EDITION

For a complete list of all of Dakota Wesleyan University's donors, visit DWU's Web site at

[www.dwu.edu/alumni/annualreport](http://www.dwu.edu/alumni/annualreport)

# Looking ahead



**Greg Christy**  
Vice President for  
Institutional Advancement

**Greg Christy**  
*Vice President for Institutional Advancement*

2005 marks the 120th year of Dakota Wesleyan University's rich history as an institution of higher education. Early indications are that 2005 may be our best year ever.

With the Sherman Center and Wagner Chapel opening in 2004, the university realized a dream come true. This wonderful facility is a great addition, not only to DWU, but also to the greater Mitchell community.

In 2005, the campaign for the George and Eleanor McGovern Library and Center for Public Service will in all likelihood reach its goal of \$8.5 million in gifts and commitments. Soon after the \$8.5 million goal is met, a groundbreaking ceremony will be held and construction of the McGovern Library and Center will be begin. What a great day that will be!

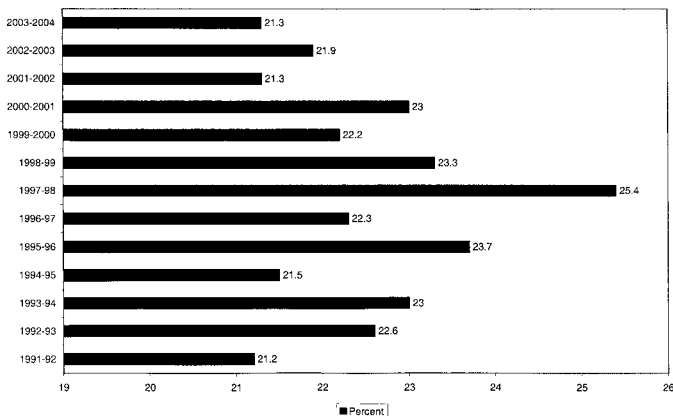
The advancement efforts for the past several years have concentrated on implementing the university's campus master plan, which contains three phases. When construction of the McGovern Library is underway, most of the Phase I projects will have been completed. We will then be able to turn our attention to Phase II items. The three largest capital projects slated for Phase II are the expansion of the Christen Family Recreation/Wellness Center to include a field house addition, renovation of Hughes Science Hall and the reconfiguration of the Layne Library space in Smith Hall.

Each of these projects will be dependent on private funding. The project the university focuses on first will most likely be decided by two key factors: 1) the project that has the greatest likelihood of being funded in a timely manner; and 2) the project that will have the greatest impact on student recruitment and retention. Those are issues the board of trustees and administrators are already considering.

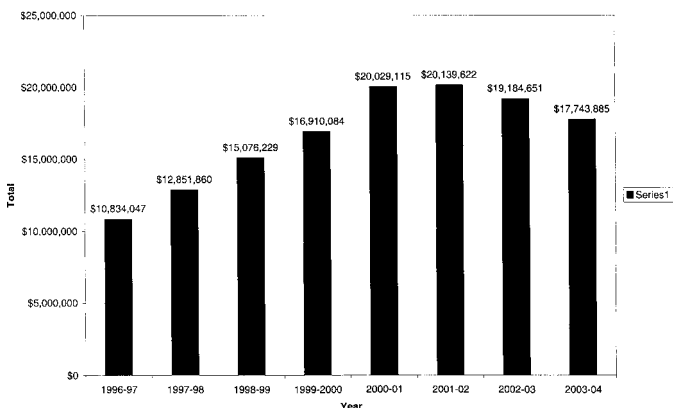
Much of our focus has been and will continue to be on improving the buildings and grounds of the DWU campus. However, support of the annual Wesleyan Fund is of great importance as are annual and endowed scholarships, TeamMakers and deferred estate gifts. Every gift, regardless of the size or purpose, truly makes a difference in the lives of our students.

Thank you for your generous support of our students and programs. We look forward to visiting with you about our remaining efforts to move Dakota Wesleyan forward as a leading university that educates students to identify and develop their individual talents for successful lives in service to God and the common good.

## Alumni Giving



## Endowment



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