



WESLEYAN
TODAY SUMMER 2019



Grit

Lamer wins
national title

BLUE & WHITE DAYS

TIGERS UNITE



2019

Wednesday, Oct. 2

- **Opperman Lecture**
LARRY YOUNG '94, Gilbert, Ariz.
"Shattering the Leadership Ceiling
Through Faith and Fearlessness"
10 a.m., Tiger Café

Thursday, Oct. 3

- **Legacy Banquet***
Enjoy a formal event honoring donors,
friends and distinguished alumni.
6 p.m., DWU Sherman Center
REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Please stop by:

- **DWU Campus Bookstore**
Monday-Friday: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Saturday: 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
- **McGovern Library**
Visit the McGovern Legacy Museum and
the Tiger Café (serving Starbucks coffee).
- **Dakota Discovery Museum**
Visit the Dakota Discovery Museum
on the east side of campus.

Friday, Oct. 4

- **Alumni Registration**
Sign up for campus tours, pick up schedules
and register for Blue & White Unite
All-alumni Reunion.
9 a.m.-3 p.m., McGovern Library
- **Campus Tours**
Take a guided tour around campus.
10 a.m. and 2 p.m., McGovern Library
- **School of Business
Innovation and Leadership
Groundbreaking**
Attend a celebration of the next step forward
for Dakota Wesleyan.
Noon
- **DWU Volleyball**
DWU Volleyball vs. Briar Cliff University
5 and 7:30 p.m., Christen Family Athletic
Center
- **Blue & White Unite**
Attend an all-alumni reunion and celebrate
classes that end in "4" and "9."
7 p.m., DWU Sherman Center
REGISTRATION REQUESTED

Saturday, Oct. 5

- **Alumni Gathering**
Enjoy coffee and donuts before the parade.
9:30 a.m., CorTrust Bank parking lot,
Mitchell Main Street
- **Blue & White Days Parade**
10 a.m., Mitchell Main Street
- **Tiger Tailgate**
11:30 a.m., Joe Quintal Field
- **Homecoming Football Game**
DWU Football vs. Doane University
1 p.m., Joe Quintal Field

Sunday, Oct. 6

- **Blue & White Unite Concert**
Enjoy a free concert, featuring the Dakota
Wesleyan Choir and Wesleyan Bells.
2 p.m., DWU Sherman Center

The DWU Blue & White Days graphic designed by
Zach Gors.

For more information and to register: www.dwu.edu/register.

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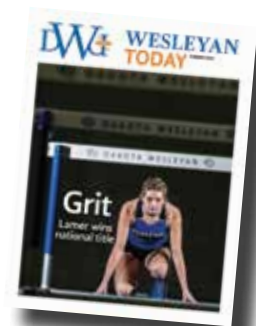


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COVERSTORY

Kamberlyn Lamer solidified her place in Dakota Wesleyan University track and field history with her record-breaking, gritty performances throughout the 2018-19 indoor and outdoor seasons. See pages 18-19.



(Cover photo by Matt Gade/The Daily Republic)

Administration: Amy Novak, president; Theresa Kriese, executive vice president; Joseph Roidt, provost; Kitty Allen, vice president of institutional advancement; Fredel Thomas '14, vice president of admissions and marketing.

Wesleyan Today is designed to communicate news about all facets of the university to its constituents. Send class notes and address changes to: Institutional Advancement, Dakota Wesleyan University, 1200 W. University Ave., Mitchell, SD 57301-4398, call (605) 995-2603 or email alumni@dwu.edu. DWU is an equal opportunity employer and provider.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF GRIT

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

A few months ago, I wrote a guest opinion to The Daily Republic newspaper in Mitchell in which I reflected on the importance of **GRIT**. The public response to this article confirmed a resonance with the idea that our courage to persist, despite challenges and setbacks, distinguishes us as a university, as a community and as individuals.

GRIT, as defined in Angela Duckworth's book, "**GRIT: The Power of Passion and Perseverance**," suggests a firmness of character, an indomitable spirit and a perseverance and passion for achieving long-term goals. Words like valor, fearlessness and strength aid to its description. **GRIT** enables us to respond to critiques, deal with rejection or cope with loss. It supports us in pursuing our degrees, working through the complexities of an academic subject matter, responding to peer criticism or overcoming personal obstacles that often obscure the pathway to graduation. **GRIT** offers reassurance and hope. It may often be the light we discover when standing amid the darkness. **GRIT** can be complemented by our faith as we journey through our difficult and challenging learning experiences to find meaning in our world.

In DWU's history, we can attest that **GRIT** motivated the determination and spirit of our founders. It drove their will to not only exist but also to succeed. It offered foresight to the future and assurance to our prosperity as an institution. Today, we look at the challenges our students face during their time on campus, their growth from learning and their reactions from rejection, and we find that **GRIT** is deeply rooted in their ability to keep moving forward.



This year, we celebrated the graduation of more than 200 students. This class was full of engaged and accomplished learners who will enter their professional careers and graduate schools with robust academic accomplishments. Our graduates hold the powerful knowledge that failure and loss are not barriers to the future, but rather opportunities for transformation.

Throughout this edition of Wesleyan Today, you will have an opportunity to read the stories of **GRIT** – whether it be the story of Eric Chap '18, who had the courage to enroll in the university's new LPN-B.S. in nursing program in Sioux Falls, or the story of the national heptathlon and pentathlon champion, Kamberlyn Lamer, who overcame personal and institutional challenges to claim DWU's first national championship for track and field. The stories of these students' bravery, mental toughness and grace are the powerful and inspiring attributes of **GRIT**, that as leaders, we can all look to model.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Amy C. Novak". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Dr. Amy C. Novak
President

Email: Amy.Novak@dwu.edu
Twitter: @PresidentNovak



Snapshots

COMMENCEMENT 2019

Photo galleries from all graduation events are available at www.flickr.com/dakotawesleyan, and the awards ceremony, as well as Commencement, may be viewed online on the DWU YouTube channel.



Dakota Wesleyan graduated 193 students on May 5 in the Corn Palace with an anticipated 17 more who will complete their degrees by August. From left to right are **Heather Merry**, of Mitchell; **Kassandra Anaya**, of Riverside, Calif.; **Ashton Auch**, of Harrisburg; **Jessica Backes**, of Kimball; and **Nathan Bader**, of Pierre.



Senior **Kelsie King**, of Mission Viejo, Calif., receives her nurse's pin from her mother, **Karina King**, during the DWU Nursing Pinning Ceremony.



Graduating seniors **Nick Garofalo**, of Windsor, Ontario, and **Amber Budmark**, of Antelope, Calif., pose for a photo outside the Corn Palace following Commencement.



Mitchell native **Steve Jardig**, now of Rapid City and Cambridge, Mass., gave the Commencement speech this year, "Creating Giants."

RECRUITING

TODAY'S STUDENT

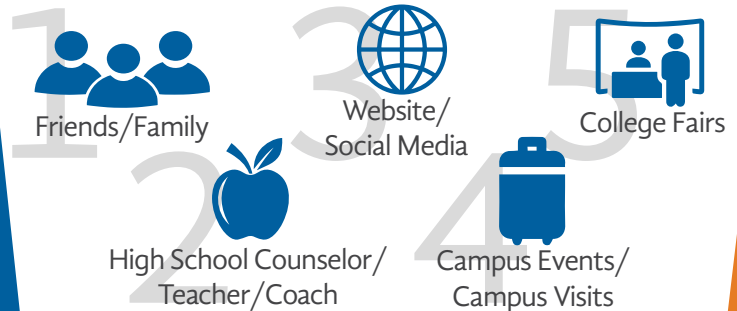
"In order to pick the college that best fits the student, a campus visit is a must. I encourage all students to visit public and private universities to truly understand the difference. A lot of information can still be obtained online, but to get an authentic feel for the campus, it's best to see it in person."

Fredel Thomas '14
Vice President of
Admissions and Marketing

Recruiting today's traditional student has changed over the last 15 years. It requires multiple strategies, but one of the strongest strategies is **hearing directly from alumni what their DWU education meant to them.**

Send comments to admissions@dwu.edu.

Top 5 ways students learn about DWU



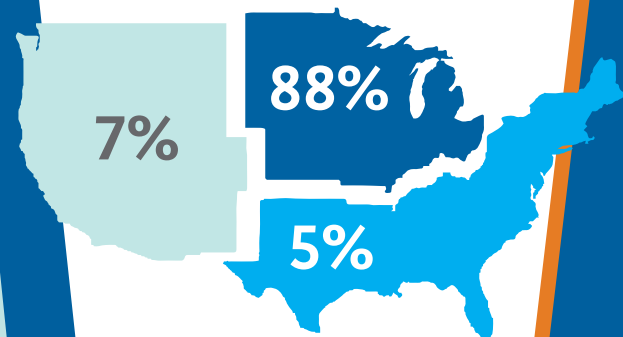
Converting applicants to Tigers

1,000 high school students visit campus each year.

25 events each year target prospective students.

41% of students who come on a recruiting visit end up enrolling at DWU.

DWU students



DWU also has students from Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Cayman Islands, Ghana, Ireland, the United Kingdom and Vietnam.

Service through the years

Dakota Wesleyan takes time each spring to celebrate employees' years of service and their retirements.

This year, **Dr. Dave Mitchell**, business, and **Dr. Michael Farney**, mathematics and sciences, announced their retirements, which were formally celebrated following Commencement (see page 28). Mitchell and Farney celebrated 47 and 40 years of teaching this year and were named professors emeriti. They will each retain offices on campus to continue their work to support DWU initiatives.

They are not the only employees who have given years of service, shown impeccable loyalty and retained decades' worth of institutional memory. More than 20 percent of current DWU employees will have been employed with the university for 15 to 40 years by the end of this year.



Jody Strand '95

40 Years in January
Associate Registrar, Assistant
Director of the Science Fair



Beth Day '82

36 Years
Payroll Specialist



Carol A. Weiss

32 Years
Accounts Receivable Accountant



Dr. Mike Catalano

27 Years
Professor of Mathematics

"Simply put, we stay for the students. It is so rewarding to watch them enter college as young, unsure and impressionable, and then through their experiences, personally and academically at DWU, watch them grow and change as they discover their strengths, weaknesses, possibilities and potential. It is truly an amazing thing to witness and being there along the way to guide and assist them is a gift. When I stop to think that through my work with our South Central South Dakota Science and Engineering Fair, I have the potential of working with students since the sixth grade, it is amazing. With the new year, I will have been here 40 years and throughout all that time, and going forward, it is the students who bring me back day after day. They are our future, and I want to be there for them to ensure they are prepared as they go out into the world."

"I'm not sure that I intended to stay this long, but it's a lovely place to work. I've always enjoyed the people who I work with, and the flexibility we have also worked very well with raising a family. I'm proud to work in a place where the focus is helping people to learn and grow."

"The students – they are truly my lifeblood. When they wave and call out while passing the business office door or stop to say hello, it's the highlight of my day. That reinforces in me that DWU has played a beneficial part to get over that 'shyness' that goes along with being a freshman and a new face on the campus. On the other end of the spectrum is to be able to watch them walk across the stage at the Corn Palace with that look of 'confidence' some four years later. They have bloomed! They are definitely a flower in my garden."

"DWU has been a great place to have a career. I believe in the mission, and I get to work with wonderful colleagues day in, day out who put students first."



Opioid abuse in South Dakota:

A PANEL DISCUSSION

By Mari Olson

Demystifying a problem is often the first step in understanding it – and education is the best tool.

With this in mind, several DWU students and faculty organized a forum on campus to discuss a topic that is prevalent in the news but often misunderstood – opioid abuse.

“The Cost of Opioid Abuse: A Forum on Opioid Abuse in South Dakota,” took place in the DWU Sherman Center on Jan. 14 with roughly 750 people in attendance and more tuning in online.

The keynote speaker, Angela Kennecke, is a mother of an overdose victim. Since the death of her daughter, Emily, Kennecke has used her platform as a news anchor for Sioux Falls-based KELOLAND News to educate others on opioid abuse, both on her program and at various public speaking events. The Kennecke family has also founded Emily’s Hope Foundation in her daughter’s name. The foundation helps to offset the cost of treatment for people struggling with addiction.

Following her talk, Kennecke joined a panel discussion on opioid abuse. The other panelists included Police Chief Lyndon Overweg ’88, Mitchell Department of Public Safety; Dr. Matthew Stanley, Avera Hospital Network; and Joel Van Dover, an addiction survivor.

Van Dover, of Mitchell, had never shared his recovery story publicly before, and his message



Angela Kennecke, KELOLAND News anchor and reporter, speaks about her daughter’s opioid overdose and passing.

of hope resulted in many questions from the audience and numerous people staying to speak with him following the event. Van Dover was best known as “Big J” on KMIT radio in Mitchell, where he worked for about 36 years before passing away on March 8 from complications due to influenza A and pneumonia.

“We cannot express how much it meant to us that Big J came out that night and shared his story – it was brave and it was obvious that his story touched a lot of people,” said Joel Reinesch, assistant professor of criminal justice at DWU. Reinesch was the lead faculty member in charge of organizing the event. “You could see in the audience how everyone was responding to Big J and to Angela (Kennecke). They were the ones telling deeply personal stories,

and the response we saw that night, and heard about after, proved that opioid abuse is a topic that needs more attention and more people like Joel and Angela who are willing to use their platforms to draw attention to the epidemic.”

Reinesch, a 2013 DWU graduate, is also a former patrol sergeant and investigator with

the Mitchell Police Department. He joined the DWU staff last fall.

“The topic of opioid abuse is not new to anyone in law enforcement, but there has been a lot more media attention the past year on just how widespread its abuse is,” Reinesch said. “The attention it’s receiving is actually a

good thing. I think that talking about a problem is a far more effective way of dealing with it than treating the subject as taboo. As a former police officer, I’ve seen what drug abuse does to families, and I’ve also seen what happens when people commit to treatment. There can be a positive outcome.”



Left to right: **Dr. Matthew Stanley**, **Angela Kennecke**, **Joel Van Dover** and **Lyndon Overweg ’88**

Further Resources

Emily’s Hope Foundation: www.paintingapath torecovery.org

Addiction Resource Center: www.addictionresourcecenter.org



Honor Band

Five DWU students were chosen for the National Association North Central Division Intercollegiate Band in March. Those selected were: junior **Kelsey Buchmann**, of Tripp, clarinet; seniors **Bryce Blank**, of Rapid City, baritone saxophone; **Peter Novak**, of Mitchell, soprano saxophone; and **Sam Weller**, of Mitchell, clarinet; and sophomore **Lacey Wipf**, of Freeman, French horn. The concert was held at Northern State University and included the South Dakota premier of **James Barnes' "Ninth Symphony for Band."** In addition, Novak, Blank and Weller were principal players in their respective sections and had solos throughout the performance.



DWU Job Fair

The first DWU Job Fair was organized on March 26 in the DWU/Avera Sports and Wellness Complex. There were 38 businesses looking for employees and interns at the complex, and the DWU marketing team took free professional headshots for anyone interested. Nearly 100 DWU students attended the event.



Flood Buckets

Dakota Wesleyan University Campus Ministry students spearheaded a drive to collect supplies for flood victims on the Pine Ridge Reservation and in Nebraska this April. They were able to collect \$175 and enough supplies for seven flood buckets and five hygiene kits. Shown here are members of the Send Team for Campus Ministry who organized the event: **Sierra Crater**, senior, of Cavour; **Nathan Bader**, senior, of Pierre; **Mikayla Street**, junior, of Revillo; **Lily Jones**, senior, of Omaha, Neb.; and **Jessica Kidder**, sophomore, of San Antonio.



DWU president **Dr. Amy Novak** accepts the 2019 Courageous Leadership Award from **Tom Gavic**, president/CEO of Credo. (Submitted Photo)

Novak receives Courageous Leadership Award

For her progressive leadership and innovative steps toward partnerships, educational outreach and overall growth, **Dr. Amy Novak**, president of Dakota Wesleyan University, was awarded the 2019 Courageous Leadership Award by Credo in January.

Credo is a comprehensive higher education consulting firm and publisher of "Pivot: A Vision for the New University," in which Novak and DWU are spotlighted.

The award was given during Credo's annual dinner at the CIC Presidents Institute in Scottsdale, Ariz. Introducing Novak during the ceremony was Rita Johnson '70, vice chair of the DWU Board of Trustees.

"As president, Dr. Novak set out to make DWU an active leader, community partner, and incubator for economic growth and entrepreneurial thinking in South Dakota with an explicit connection to serving rural communities and students," Credo stated in its announcement. "DWU is now a leader in rural workforce development, contributing to the sustainable growth of communities, a healthier South Dakota and their graduates' future job security. ... DWU stands as a compelling model for other small, rural colleges to examine."

Novak is quick to credit the university, as a whole, for its successes.

"The award truly recognizes the entire university's efforts to be entrepreneurial and innovative in our rural region," Novak said. "Our staff and faculty have worked to strengthen the curriculum to enhance student outcomes and career readiness. This, along with the addition of new program offerings, the partnerships and collaborations with businesses and industries across the state and region, and the support of a tremendous community of donors, all reflect our commitment to not endorse the status quo, but instead embrace our roots and become a leader in responding to the workforce and leadership needs of our region."



LEARNING, LEADERSHIP, FAITH and

SERVICE

DWU Marks 10th Day of Service

For nearly a decade, Dakota Wesleyan University has spent one morning each spring celebrating its long history of "Sacrifice or Service" and thanking the community that has been its home for the past 134 years. DWU's 10th annual Great Wesleyan Giveback took place on April 30 across the Mitchell community. Despite the rain, groups dispatched throughout town, from nonprofits to schools to retirement homes to sports fields to trash pickup around Lake Mitchell and Dry Run Creek. The very first Great Wesleyan Giveback, originally known as Service Day, was held on April 27, 2010, on the 125th anniversary of the university's charter signing – April 27, 1885. The date conveniently fell on what used to be known as "Reading Day," which was a study day during finals week without classes. The university has since organized community-wide service projects each year as a way to put to practice the school's belief in service, but also as a way to give back to the Mitchell community that has supported the university all these years.



Juniors **Macey Claussen**, of Howard, and **McKenna Rogers**, of St. Michael, Minn., pick up trash along Dry Run Creek in Mitchell during DWU's annual Great Wesleyan Giveback.

"The Great Wesleyan Giveback is a day many of us look forward to. It's a day when we come together as a whole university for a great cause and have an opportunity to meet community members from nonprofits, churches, schools – anyone who says they need our help," said Dr. Amy Novak, DWU president. "Mitchell is our home – as a university and for those of us who work here – but it also becomes the hometown to each student who chooses to come here for what is probably the most influential years of his or her life. It means something to all of us to give back."

Opperman Lecture

"Shattering the Leadership Ceiling Through Faith and Fearlessness"

Larry Young '94

Gilbert, Ariz.

Oct. 2, 2019 • 10 a.m.

Tiger Café, McGovern Library
This event is free and open to the public.

Larry Young is a professional speaker, author and entrepreneur and founder of Boiling Frog Development and has spent his career helping organizations reimagine their success. Before launching his own business, Young was a market president within a Top Fortune 50 company. In two decades, his leadership built and grew \$300-million business lines from scratch.





DATELINES

Feb. 12: The 17th annual Around the World Cultural Festival is held at DWU.

Feb. 23: The DWU Future Teachers Organization hosts its 21st annual Dr. Seuss Carnival at L.B. Williams Elementary School.

Feb. 24: The Ron and Sheilah Gates Department of Music performs its Winter Concert with the Dakota Wesleyan Choir, Wesleyan Band and LyricWood ensembles.

Feb. 27: DWU hosts the 24th and final Custer Battlefield Highway Academic Festival. The festival's co-op is disbanded.

March: James Gritzner '69, of Clive, Iowa, joins the DWU Board of Trustees.

March 1-8: The Ron and Sheilah Gates Department of Music's Highlanders and Wesleyan Bells make a spring tour to the Southwest, performing in Nebraska, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona and Wyoming.

March 15: Women Poets Collective, a group of eight South Dakota poets, including Dr. Barbara Duffey, DWU associate professor of English, all give readings on campus.

March 15-16: Joshua Fredenburg, a nationally recognized speaker and author, gives two leadership talks on campus during Student Leadership Day.

March 20: Dr. Jerry Walls, author of "Wisdom From the Hardwood: Defining a Success Worth Shooting For," gives the Stark Lecture on campus.

April 14: The Ron and Sheilah Gates Department of Music presents its Palm Sunday Concert.

April 15: Educators Rising holds its first state convention in Sioux Falls. DWU is one of 11 colleges and high schools participating.

April 16: Dr. Donovan Williams gives the talk, "Health and Native Peoples From a Native Physician's Perspective," an event hosted by the Student Diversity Council.

April 23: Louie Schoenfelder '06, university physical plant director, is presented with the Presidential Award for Outstanding Service.

April 23: Derric Ludens '10, English instructor, and Ian McClanahan '16, sports information director, are winners of the Professional Excellence Awards for the spring term.

April 26: Jessica Jarding, of Hartford, and Tracy Hadler, of Sioux Falls, both LPN-B.S. co-directors at DWU's Sioux Falls campus, are given the 2019 Exemplary Teacher Awards during the Honors Banquet.

April 27: "The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention DWU Out of the Darkness" campus walk is held at DWU with 16 teams and 156 participants. They raised \$4,479 for suicide prevention and awareness.

April 28: The Ron and Sheilah Gates Department of Music performs its Spring Music Concert.

COLLEGE BRIEFS

Langland, Flynn elected to South Dakota State Historical Society Board of Trustees

Two Dakota Wesleyan University employees were elected to the South Dakota State Historical Society Board of Trustees.



Laurie Langland

Laurie Langland, DWU's archivist, was re-elected unopposed to the professional archivist position. Dr. Sean Flynn, history professor, was elected to the member-at-large seat, running against six other candidates.



Dr. Sean Flynn

The State Historical Society was created by the State Legislature in 1901, and the society was governed by an executive committee until a reorganization in 1985 and the establishment of the current board of trustees structure. The board also serves as the State Review Board under federal law.

DWU named Bronze Military Friendly® School

Dakota Wesleyan University was once again named a Bronze Military Friendly® School for 2019-20.



Military Friendly® is in its 10th year and this list provides a comprehensive guide for veterans and their families using data sources from federal agencies and proprietary survey information from participating organizations. The 2019-20 list will be published in the May issue of G.I. Jobs magazine and can also be found online at www.militaryfriendly.com.

"This designation means a great deal to us," said Fredel Thomas, vice president of admissions and marketing at DWU. "Dakota Wesleyan is founded in service to others, and if we can make the process easier for veterans and their families to attend college, then that is a service we can be proud of."

DWU online programs ranked as some of U.S. News & World Report's Best

Dakota Wesleyan University's online bachelor's programs, Master of Arts in Education degree and Master of Business Administration degree have each been named as one of the 2019 Best Online Programs by U.S. News & World Report.



This is the fourth year that Dakota Wesleyan's online bachelor's program has been ranked and the second year for both the M.A.-education and MBA degrees.

From high school dropout to college grad, *passion for family creates pathway to dream*

ERIC CHAP '18



The Callison and Chap family, left to right, back row: **Peter Chap, Thomas Chap, Eric Chap '18, JoJean Callison**; front row: **Callison Chap, Elise Chap and Thomas Chap.**

By Jan Larson

ERIC CHAP '18 attributes good timing as the reason he enrolled in Dakota Wesleyan University's first LPN-Bachelor of Science degree in nursing cohort in Sioux Falls. He had just graduated from Southeast Technical Institute in Sioux Falls with a licensed practical nursing degree and knew that continuing his education was the right decision.

"I walked straight out of getting my LPN degree and license into starting DWU's new program," Chap said. "The DWU program was a godsend. It was a wonderful experience the whole way through."

Chap found the nursing program to be all too perfect of a connection as three generations of his family have graduated from DWU, including his grandparents, Adair '50 and Sylvia '48 Callison, and his aunt, Jill Callison '77. His passion for nursing developed when

family members encouraged him to look into nursing after caring for Adair and Sylvia.

"My drive to become a nurse was discovered while caring for my grandparents in their end-of-life stages," he said. "I had family members say that if you can help your grandparents like this, you need to be a nurse. So, to get my degree from a school that my grandparents attended was a really touching moment."

Family members like Jill Callison were instrumental in his decision. He recalls Callison pleading that she would do anything to see him become a nurse.

"That was really what pushed me forward to go, 'OK, this is maybe a dream I should follow,'" he said.

Chap had previously worked in healthcare settings and for the Sioux Falls School District, working with adults and children with behavioral disabilities. He knew he was at his best when working with people, and nursing seemed to be a

good fit. Yet, it was a steep path to follow.

At the age of 17, Chap dropped out of high school during his junior year. He recalls feeling bored and not having the drive to complete his education, but not lacking ambition, he worked a full-time job. As a promise to his mother, JoJean Callison, who was a middle school administrator and lifelong educator, he attended Killian Community College and earned his General Education Development certificate by the age of 18.

Coincidentally, Killian Community College was located in the same building of downtown Sioux Falls that Dakota Wesleyan University houses its current Bachelor of Science in nursing program. Eighteen years after earning his GED certificate, Chap found himself back in the same building, but this time enrolled at DWU for his bachelor's degree.

"I feel very proud and fortunate that I was able to choose the path that I did – to go from being a high school dropout to now a bachelor's degree-prepared nurse," he said.

Dropping out of high school was not the only obstacle in his educational journey. In 2013, Chap had gone through a divorce, and at that point, he was taking care of three young children.

"I was determined that school was what I needed to do in order to protect my children's future and my own, and to demonstrate to my three children that no matter what life throws at you, you can still set goals and jump the hurdles as they

come," he said.

Chap's children also encouraged him along the way.

"I would tell my children good night, and they would say, 'Dad, we're proud of you for what you're doing. You go do your school work now,'" he said.

That encouragement was necessary.

"Every four weeks or so, I would have to really dig down and go, 'Forget about any financial struggles you have at this moment and realize that your passion and your dream is what you are going after, and it will pay off in the long run,'" he said.

Chap has been working at Sanford Canton-Inwood Medical Center, a rural critical access hospital in Canton, for nearly four months. He is working to obtain trauma nurse certifications.

What's next for Chap? He acknowledges that his educational journey will never stop. In the meantime, he will concentrate on raising his children, spending time with family and finding any spare moments exploring the outdoors and playing his guitar.



Eric Chap '18 pictured with his aunt, **Jill Callison '77.**

DWU students champion bill to require clergy to become mandatory abuse reporters



By Mari Olson

A group of seven public policy students at Dakota Wesleyan University championed a legislative bill this semester, requiring members of the clergy to be mandatory reporters for abuse and neglect.

"South Dakota suffers when children are trapped in cycles of abuse and neglect," states a fact sheet for [Clergy for Kids House Bill 1230](#). "Empowering clergy to report suspected abuse frees them to speak for the voiceless and contributes to the well-being of our faith and our future."

Students in Dr. Alisha Vincent's public policy class took up the issue, researched it and found a sponsor to bring it forward – South Dakota House Minority Whip Erin Healy-D, of Sioux Falls. Next, they organized testimony on the bill's behalf and created a grassroots campaign to see it

through. They also secured the support of Bishop Bruce Ough HD'16 of the Dakotas Conference, as well as the Board of Ordained Ministry of the South Dakota Conference of the United Methodist Church.

"What I loved about Clergy for Kids is that it brought the public policy and advocacy process to life for students in a very real way," Vincent said. "It made everything we were talking about in class and reading in the textbook literally come to life for them. And the feedback I got from them afterward were things like, 'I always ran away from anything that sounded like politics because I didn't think it was for me, but it's a lot more doable than I thought it was and I'm way more interested in this than I thought I would be.' That's a win for me as a teacher."

HB1230 went before a judiciary committee hearing on Feb. 20 and was narrowly defeated by just a few votes.

"It did not pass, but we received great feedback from legislators who wish to work with our students next year rewriting the policy in hopes that it will pass," Vincent said. "There was also an overwhelming response in the online comments section of a Sioux Falls TV station's story that showed us that a lot of people want to see this bill go through."

In addition to learning a valuable lesson in how not everything succeeds its first time, students learned just how easy it is to inspire change.

"I learned so much about policymaking while working on HB1230 Clergy for Kids," said junior Jacinda Biberdorf, of Watertown. Biberdorf is a double major in psychology and nonprofit administration. "A lot more goes into the process than what you would think, and the little things go a long way. It definitely changed my perspective on how I look at the government and made me more interested in it."

Vincent's class learned a lot about public policy research, writing and advocacy, as well as how to approach

the process from a non-bias perspective.

"There were bumps in the road," Vincent said. "I was very clear that students didn't have to be proponents of this bill. We do have students who are either on the fence or opposed, and that is great. It actually really helped us think more critically about the language in the bill, itself, and that to be a really effective lobbyist or lawmaker, you have to be diligent about listening to the perspective of others."

QUICK FACTS about HB1230:

- South Dakota is one of only eight states in the U.S. which does not include clergy in mandatory reporting laws.
- HB1230 would have still granted clergy the privilege to keep information confidential when a communication about abuse is received privately as part of a religious or sacramental practice, such as confession.
- Reporting suspected abuse does not result in automatic punishment. It means that a qualified professional will investigate.
- Teachers, counselors, healthcare practitioners and social welfare workers are just some of the professions that are included in mandatory reporting.

In addition to the bill's language and fact sheets, the students created a website and other public relations materials as part of their campaign.

www.clergyforkids.org



Seven public policy students in **Dr. Alisha Vincent's** class championed a legislative bill requiring members of the clergy to be mandatory reporters for abuse and neglect this semester and learned that influencing change is more doable than they thought. Shown, left to right, front row: senior **Thanael Certa-Werner**, of Superior, Wis.; junior **Macey Bohl**, of Garretson; senior **Gaston Miteff**, of Buenos Aires, Argentina. Middle row: juniors **James Anderson**, of Plankinton, and **Jacinda Biberdorf**, of Watertown. Back row: seniors **Darren Fallis**, of Corsica, and **Kelsey Bauer**, of Mitchell; and Vincent.

campuscameraclicks

a look at the DWU Campus Community



The trees were flowering in mid-May and framed Dakota Hall perfectly.



It was "March (1st) of the Penguins" around the fountain in front of the McGovern Library.



Capstone Day at Dakota Wesleyan is an opportunity for DWU seniors to present their senior thesis projects, whether it be scientific research, literary projects, theatre projects, business simulations or music demonstrations – graduating seniors in most majors present their capstone projects as either a formal presentation or as a poster project. Here, sport, exercise and wellness major **Ashton Auch**, of Harrisburg, gives her poster presentation, "Exercise Prescription."



Seniors like **Kristen Longville**, of Lake Preston, signed up for door prizes, submitted info to the alumni office and received their caps and gowns during Countdown to Commencement in April.



The Ron and Sheilah Gates Department of Theatre at DWU presented its spring production, a comedy, "The Game's Afoot," in March with a stunning set and hilarious cast. From left to right: **Jamie McGowan**, junior, of White River; **Jess Huber**, sophomore, of Elk Point; **Brennan Bence**, freshman, of Kennewick, Wash.; **Melissa Vatter-Miller**, of Mitchell; **Jonathan Freeman**, sophomore, of Mitchell; and **Brittney Kaufmann**, of Mitchell, make a toast to their host, played by Bence. Not shown are **Morgan Taft**, junior, of Norris, and **Dani Geis**, senior, of Parker. (Photo by Dan Miller)



The Arlene Gates Department of Nursing at Dakota Wesleyan hosted a health fair for students at L.B. Williams Elementary School in the Christen Family Athletic Center on campus. The elementary students engaged in fun learning activities from anatomy lessons to stretching to games. (Photo by Hannah Bowes)

Pivoting

a New Vision

DWU leads by example in higher ed publication

wt feature

By Jan Larson

A new book hit the Amazon marketplace in February which largely features **Dakota Wesleyan University** as one of four universities in the United States to demonstrate a revolutionary approach to higher education.

The book, "Pivot: A Vision for the New University," written by Joanne Soliday and Dr. Mark Lombardi in partnership with Credo, a higher education consulting firm, challenges traditional institutional thinking and calls

for a flexible and intentional focus where students and their learning are at the center of education.

"The university of the future – the new university – will lead this era as a center for innovation, where new ideas are continuously piloted, applied, and implemented; where higher education partners with businesses, school districts, and organizations solve societal needs across a wide array of issues." — "Pivot"

The concept of the new university is revealed by stories and examples collected from four universities. In addition to Dakota Wesleyan, "Pivot" features Marian University, Indianapolis; Maryville University, St. Louis; and Spelman College, Atlanta. Each of these institutions has achieved great accolades of change – emphasizing how a new university can be attained and how others can follow. Their unique challenges aid to strengthen the meaning of the new university. Each in its own respect can be viewed as trailblazers that have uncovered robust solutions to address current workforce needs, the adaptation of new technologies, and the shifting learning styles and methods of today's students. Yet, this is no easy task, as the institution that models the new university has to bravely face risk, radically seek innovation and boldly **PIVOT** forward.

Defining Pivot

A pivot can be defined as moving from a central, stationary point and turning to change course. The imagery comes to mind of a basketball player moving to get an open shot or to pass the ball to a teammate. Pivot can be used to describe a significant moment – a pivotal moment in a person's life – graduation, new job, marriage or perhaps a national championship. It can also suggest a dependence on a person or structure, denoting that when something is pivotal, it is fundamental, and everything associated with it will depend upon it.

"Pivot" challenges universities to discover the right time in which to change direction, with the understanding and disposition that the institution and its students are dependent on that change. There's an opportunity for universities to seize a transformation by asking **"Why?"** when it's needed and necessary, and then allowing grassroots efforts to shift and bring forth change. Universities should rethink institutional ethos as a response to address student needs and refuse to let long-standing practices get in the way of new ideas.

The act of pivoting calls leaders to become pioneers, with the spirit and the ability to adapt and modify what education can and

The book, "Pivot: A Vision for the New University," which features President Amy Novak and DWU, is available for purchase on www.amazon.com.



should look like. This means looking in all directions to adopt a new way of thinking, reinforced with the dispositions of risk, hope and the almighty grit.

As “Pivot” suggests, to make a pivot a reality, universities must commit to acting with agility and focus on five key areas: championing courageous leadership with disruption, risk and innovation; putting students at the center by transforming learning for the future; strategically running a university in the black with a clear, developed business plan; exploring educational possibilities for adult students to meet society’s needs; and lastly, finding opportunities for inclusion in order to diversify the campus culture.

DWU’s Pivot

Dakota Wesleyan University’s unapologetic attitude demonstrates that revolutionizing higher education doesn’t always start with big initiatives.

“One of the greatest lessons we can learn from DWU is that you don’t have to understand exactly how an initiative will finish in order to bring energy to the start. So often we are tempted to believe that it takes ‘big’ efforts to be successful; instead, what we know about DWU is that it was an aggregation of changes, with clear vision at the center, that built toward a powerful institutional shift.” — “Pivot”

That shift is a fierce approach to sharpen DWU’s focus on its community, region and state, with a purposeful appreciation and resilient attitude for urgency and accountability. By operating with a true entrepreneurial spirit of and for the community, accompanied with a fearless mindset, DWU can position itself as a leader of strategic initiatives that positively affects the region and responds to emerging needs.



As part of the Digital DWU initiative, iPads are incorporated into coursework to provide students with a hands-on and kinetic approach to learning.



Students in DWU’s digital media and design program learn typography, page layout and webpage design to prepare for careers as graphic designers, mobile app developers or motion animators.

Here are examples of how DWU is pivoting forward:

NEW STRATEGIC VISION

Dakota Wesleyan University will be recognized as a national model of higher education’s innovation and impact on rural America.

MISSION

As an inclusive educational community, Dakota Wesleyan University provides a transformative learning experience that cultivates enduring intellectual growth, ethically grounded leadership, intentional faith exploration and meaningful service.

UNIQUE RESPONSIVE MARKET PROGRAMS

Graduate certificate in nonprofit church leadership: designed to strengthen pastors’ knowledge and abilities in finance, governance, personnel management and communications.

Graduate certificate in trust management: created to address the demanding needs for South Dakota’s growing financial trust industry.

Digital media and design undergraduate program: established to respond to one of the fastest growing fields. DWU students focus on web and graphic design techniques with opportunities to intern and assist regional businesses with projects.

LPN-B.S. in nursing: built to offer a solution to the shortage of nursing professionals in our region and to provide practicing LPNs an opportunity to complete a bachelor’s degree program in Sioux Falls and Mitchell as of January 2020. Turn to page 25 for more information.

COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

DWU continues to strengthen relationships with area businesses, nonprofit organizations and high schools, as well as hold articulation agreements with regional technical institutes, community colleges and a pathway to the Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Digital DWU, a collaboration with Apple, was set into motion in 2018 as a way to improve digital literacy and equip the next generation of leaders with access to technology. Every full-time student on campus receives a new iPad to use in the classroom with a variety of curriculum.

CAMPUS CULTURE

In 2018, Dakota Wesleyan was named as one of 50 best places to work by Prairie Business magazine. DWU was selected from a pool of 1,300 nominations and was the only university to make the list.

POSITIVE MARGINS

For the past nine years, DWU has operated with a budget in the black, even while new online programs targeted to address labor-force demands have increased by more than 250 percent in the last three years.

CORE CURRICULUM

Courses at DWU are focused on including concepts of innovation, problem-solving and creativity, which translate into applied learning opportunities. Capstone Day debuted in the spring of 2018 as a day for undergraduate seniors to deliver oral project presentations.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

A \$40-million capital campaign was completed three years early and raised an additional \$1.5 million in the fall of 2017.

BUILDING PROJECTS

Since 2013, four major building projects have arisen on campus, including the 50,000-square foot Corrigan Health Sciences Center, the 90,000-square foot DWU/Avera Sports and Wellness Complex, the 20,000-square foot DWU theatre addition, and Dakota Hall, the 30,000-square foot residence facility. In addition, the athletic center, dining area, admissions and alumni offices have all had major renovations which were paid for almost entirely through donor contributions. A groundbreaking for the School of Business Innovation and Leadership will be held this fall during Blue & White Days.

QUICK STATS:

- 250 percent increase in online learners since 2013.
- 100 percent of nursing and athletic training graduates find employment in their professions.
- 96 percent of staff and faculty financially give back to the university.
- 95 percent overall job placement rate for graduates.
- 90 percent placement rate for graduates in medical and other healthcare-related programs.
- 85 percent of students conduct independent research, intern or present at a professional conference.
- 80 percent of students engage in applied learning experiences, such as clinical or mission work.
- 77 percent graduation rate for first-generation, low-income students who participate in TRIO Student Support Services.
- 44 percent of the student body consists of first-generation students.
- 45 percent of the student body consists of low-income students.
- 24 percent increase to traditional, undergraduate enrollment since 2014.
- 15 percent increase to retention in the past decade.

NATIONAL RECOGNITION:

- U.S. News & World Report Best Value Schools – Midwest (2019)
- U.S. News & World Report Best Regional Colleges – Midwest (2019)
- U.S. News & World Report Best Online Programs – Master of Arts in Education and Master of Business Administration (2019)
- No. 2 Top Consensus Ranked School in South Dakota (2018)
- Perfect Score/Highest Rated NAIA Champions of Character Five-Star Institution – Gold (2018)
- The Best Master's Degrees – Most Affordable – Online Master's in Education (2018)
- OnlineU – Most Affordable Online Colleges for MBA Programs (2018)
- Best Nursing Programs – Best RN to B.S.N. Programs (2018)

In January, President Dr. Amy Novak was honored with the 2019 Courageous Leadership Award by Credo for her fearless leadership and passionate commitment to propel DWU forward. Novak's attitude and ideals echo the crucial elements that a leader must confidently exemplify in order to pivot. She has demonstrated the ability to gracefully disrupt tradition, resiliently endorse failure as a transformative experience, and ultimately, create a growing momentum for strategic initiatives that address our regional needs; therefore, positioning Dakota Wesleyan as an active leader, collaborative partner and incubator for economic growth and entrepreneurial thinking for Mitchell, the state of South Dakota and beyond.

"DWU's President Novak has always believed that linking hands with the region is vital to honoring the university's mission as well as to its growth and sustainability of both enrollment and philanthropic giving. Presidential time dedicated to regional relationships in South Dakota and the Great Plains has been instrumental to shifting the trajectory of DWU's future." — "Pivot"

About Credo

Credo is a comprehensive higher education consulting firm, formed in 2002, operating with the mission to serve independent educational institutions from offices in Whitsett, N.C., and De Pere, Wis.

"Pivot" was released by Credo Press, written by Joanne Soliday, Credo co-founder, and Dr. Mark Lombardi, president of Maryville University, St. Louis, and published by Advantage, Charleston, S.C., a member of Advantage Media Group. It can be purchased online at www.amazon.com.

President Dr. Amy Novak was awarded the 2019 Courageous Leadership Award by Credo for her commitment to make DWU an active leader, community partner and incubator for economic growth. See the full story of Novak's award on page 9.

Grit

Lamer wins national title

By Ian McClanahan '16
Sports Contributor
Photo by Matt Gade/The Daily Republic

“I created an amazing family and support group from DWU, and that will never be forgotten.”



With a historic career coming to a close in May, senior **KAMBERLYN LAMER** solidified her place in the Dakota Wesleyan University track and field history books with her record-breaking, gritty performances throughout the 2018-19 indoor and outdoor seasons.

The memorable season for Lamer saw the first pair of national championships in DWU track and field history, along with a handful of individual awards for her efforts at the conference and national meets. At the Great Plains Athletic Conference Track and Field Indoor Championships, Lamer won the

60-meter hurdles with a personal-best time of 8.92 seconds. She also won the triple jump with another personal-best mark of 39-5 feet. Lamer secured both the top women's track and field performances as she was named the Female GPAC Athlete-of-the-Meet after scoring 32 points.

At the NAIA Track and Field Indoor National Championships, Lamer finished the pentathlon with a total of 3,678 points, 156 points ahead of the second-place finisher from Indiana Tech University. In the individual events of the pentathlon, Lamer won the high jump, while taking second in the 60-meter hurdles and the long jump. The Hartford native was not done after the pentathlon, as she took fourth in the triple jump with a mark of 38-9.75. With the pair of top-eight finishes, Lamer secured two All-American finishes during the indoor season. The awards did not stop there; she was named the 2019

NAIA Women's Field Athlete-of-the-Year and the Female Field Athlete-of-the-Year by the U.S. Track and Field and Cross-Country Coaches Association.

“It has meant the entire world to have achieved my goals I have set for myself this year,” Lamer said. “Coming back from an injury was hard and transitioning coaches after three years was also very hard, but I knew the potential I always had and that was to be an All-American in any event I put my heart into. However, winning a national title was a blessing and winning it in the pentathlon was even more special. It was all mental and a lot of self-motivation to move on to the next event with the five events of the pentathlon. Then coming back after those five events to keep competing was another mental game. I was raised to be mentally strong and to never give up when things get hard. My training was all there to



prove that I deserved every bit of my achievements.”

Lamer carried that momentum into the outdoor season where she broke records or set personal bests at nearly every meet. In the second meet of the outdoor season at the Dordt College Outdoor Invitational, she set a personal best in the long jump with a leap of 19-4, taking first in the event along with a first-place finish in the triple jump.

One meet later, Lamer won the heptathlon with a point total of 5,001, setting a personal best up to that point of her career. In the events of the heptathlon, she won the high jump, shot put, long jump and javelin throw, while taking second place in the 100-meter hurdles and long jump.

“She has shown tremendous growth in both the shot put and javelin,” said Zach Lurz, head track and field coach. “Her mark (in the javelin throw) is nearly a 12-meter improvement from any of her previous seasons. She has a natural feel for it, and while she isn’t the physically largest multi-event athlete, she now is one of the best javelin throwers in the NAIA.”

The records did not stand long as Lamer shattered the GPAC Championships heptathlon record with a total of 5,017 points and a first-place finish. She dominated the event, winning the 100-meter hurdles, 200-meter dash, long jump and javelin throw, while placing

second in the high jump and third in the shot put. In the same meet, Lamer set a personal best in the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 14.26, taking first place. She also broke numerous conference records for the women’s heptathlon 100-meter hurdles with a time of 14.28, women’s heptathlon long jump with a leap of 17-11.5 and the women’s heptathlon point total. For her efforts at the conference championships, Lamer was named the 2019 GPAC Female Outstanding Athlete-of-the-Meet and the 2019 Hauff Mid-America Sports GPAC Outdoor Track and Field Outstanding Athlete-of-the-Year.

“I have kept myself motivated by setting goals and having my supporters by my side,” Lamer said on how she stays motivated throughout the long season. “My family has always been there for me when I had a bad practice and told me to keep my head up, and they helped me remember why I love this sport as much as I do. Every coach I ever had has always been there for me because they believed in me and knew my potential in this sport. I was so lucky to have such an amazing support group.”

Lamer was almost not allowed to compete at the NAIA Outdoor Track and Field National Championships this year following a technological error. DWU was able to appeal and qualify her to compete in the national meet.

Lamer left no doubt that she belonged in the heptathlon as the event kicked off with the 100-meter hurdles, where she took second place with a time of 14.5. Just 30



minutes later, she participated in the high jump and tied for second, following a leap of 5-3.25.

Lamer took the lead in the heptathlon after the shot put event, where she took fourth with a throw of 37-1.25. She finished the opening day with a third-place finish in the 200-meter dash in 25.91, giving her 3,077 points after one day.

She picked up Friday where she left off the previous day in the long jump. She tallied a second-place finish after a mark of 17-7.5, extending her lead. Lamer took second in the javelin throw with a toss of 139-8, giving her a large advantage heading to the final event. Lamer was able to coast in the 800-meter run, placing 13th with a time of 2:36.95 minutes. However, thanks to her large lead heading into the final event, Lamer became a national champion in the heptathlon with a total of 5,065 points.

Lamer was named the NAIA Midwest Regional Women’s Field Athlete-of-the-Year for the outdoor season following her heptathlon win.

“Something I will take away from my career here at DWU is no matter how hard something gets I will never give up,” Lamer said. “I will set goals and find a way to finish what I started. I won’t forget to ask for help from my family and coaches if I need a little pick-me-up. I created an amazing family and support group from DWU, and that will never be forgotten.”

Dominique Boerger

completed a standout junior campaign in 2019 on the mound for the DWU baseball team. The Milbank native not only led the Tigers with a 1.74 ERA, he also led the Great Plains Athletic Conference in the same category. Boerger led the team with 77 strikeouts on the season and was ranked fourth in the conference. He finished the regular season ranked seventh in the NAIA in runs allowed with 17 and eighth in ERA. For his efforts on the mound, Boerger was named the GPAC Pitcher-of-the-Year and earned NAIA All-American Honorable Mention.



TIGER

BASEBALL





SHORTS

Visit www.dwuathletics.com for sports updates.

Baseball

The Tiger baseball team began the season picked 10th in the GPAC preseason polls. DWU finished the season with a 23-23 overall record and a 16-12 GPAC record to finish fourth in the conference. The Tigers finished with nine All-Conference members, including GPAC Pitcher-of-the-Year Dominique Boerger. Joining Boerger on All-GPAC First Team was Wes Anderson who batted .346 this season. On the All-GPAC Second Team, Reed Harter and Drew DeMers were tagged with the honors as Harter hit for .305, while DeMers finished at .358. Kyle Bailey, Gunnar Johnson, Ethan Davis, Gavin Reichmuth and Chandler Bakley all grabbed All-GPAC Honorable Mention nods, while Boerger earned NAIA All-American Honorable Mention status.

Men's Basketball

The Tigers began the season 6-0 until dropping consecutive home games to Dordt and Hastings. After winning six out of seven games in December, the Tigers picked up arguably their biggest win of the season against No. 2 Morningside 86-82. DWU collected another big win on Jan. 23 against No. 10 Briar Cliff. The Tigers ended the season strong with four straight wins. After its GPAC semifinal loss to Morningside, DWU returned to the national tournament for the fifth consecutive season.

In the second round of the national tournament, the Tigers fell in a heart-wrenching game to No. 1 overall seed Indiana Wesleyan 87-86. Ty Hognlund and Nick Harden were named All-Conference First Team, while Aaron Ahmadu was tagged with honorable mention accolades. Harden and Hognlund were also named to the NAIA All-American Team, as Hognlund was an All-American First-Team member, and Harden was tabbed as an All-American Honorable Mention.

Women's Basketball

The DWU women's basketball team made a return trip to the Fab Four in 2018-19. The Tigers rattled off 13 straight wins and earned a No. 1 ranking in the nation in the beginning of the season. After a home loss to Concordia, DWU won six games straight. The Tigers finished the regular season strong and appeared in the GPAC Championship game for the fourth consecutive season. The year concluded in the national semifinals in a double-overtime heartbreaker to Southeastern (Fla.) 78-75. Juniors Kynedi Cheeseman and Sarah Carr surpassed 1,000 points in their careers, while senior guard Rylie Osthus also joined the 1,000-point club and was named the GPAC Defensive Player-of-the-Year for the second straight year. Cheeseman and Carr were tabbed to the All-GPAC First Team. DWU also secured three

members to the All-American list as Cheeseman, Carr and Osthus all were honored for the first time in their careers.

Men's Golf

The DWU men's golf team finished in eighth place in the GPAC Championships at the Dakota Dunes Country Club. Nolan Wiegel finished in ninth place after firing a 69 in the third round, followed by an 85 in the final round which secured a top-10 finish. He was named to the All-GPAC Team. Other golfers who competed at the GPAC Championships were Cade Carpenter who finished 24th, Justice Morrison who placed 34th and Bennett Lundy who finished in 39th place.

Women's Golf

The Tiger women's golf team finished the season at the GPAC Championships finishing third out of 12 teams. Freshman Jade Burr finished in second place after being tied for the lead going into the final round. Burr shot a 79 in the third round and an 87 in the second round to secure second place. Burr was named to the All-GPAC Team. The finish was the highest at the conference meet by a DWU women's golfer since Lauren Fitts in the 2015-16 season. Other golfers who competed were senior Niki Nelson who finished tied for 16th, Megan Hinker who took 22nd place, Jayden Bormann who tied for 26th and Kaitlyn Greenhoff who did not compete in the fall qualifier but carded a two-day total of 177 in the spring.

Softball

For the first time since the 2015 season, the DWU softball team narrowly missed the GPAC Tournament. The Tigers finished 12-30 overall. Amber Budmark had a career-high nine homeruns, while also collecting 26 RBIs. Adriana Thomason led the team in batting average at .367, while senior Sierra Haage led the team in the circle, picking up eight wins in 24 games with an

ERA of 4.71. Andriana Sprakel collected All-GPAC Second-Team honors for consecutive years, and four Tigers made All-GPAC Honorable Mention, including Budmark, Karly Severance, Alyson VanderPol and Thomason.

Track and Field

The DWU track and field teams had a record-setting indoor season. Kamberlyn Lamer became the first national champion in program history in the pentathlon. Lamer secured the national championship along with being named the 2019 Women's Field National Athlete-of-the-Year. The program saw three athletes earn All-American status throughout the indoor season. Mikaela Stofferahn earned All-American honors in the shot put event after an eighth-place finish. Tyson Jenkins took sixth in the shot put and secured All-American status. In the outdoor season, several athletes broke records, including Lamer who set a GPAC record in the heptathlon, scoring 5,017 points at the GPAC Championships and was named the GPAC Female Outstanding Athlete-of-the-Meet. At the NAIA Outdoor National Championships, Lamer won the pentathlon with a total of 5,065 points. Jared Rabenberg was named All-American after a third-place finish in the high jump with a mark of 6-9.75. Jenkins earned All-American honors in the hammer throw with a mark of 192-5, finishing eighth. Stofferahn was the final Tiger to earn All-American accolades with a sixth-place finish in the shot put with a toss of 46-8.25.

Wrestling

The DWU wrestling team made strides under first-year head coach Casey Mouw in the 2018-19 season. Marcus Urban finished in third place at the GPAC Championships. Urban narrowly missed an individual NAIA National Wrestling Championships berth at the end of the season. He was also named to the All-GPAC Second Team.



DWU Athletic

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

2019



Josh Endres '13 completed his career with 3,329 rushing yards, 35 rushing touchdowns and averaged 87.6 rushing yards per game for the DWU football team. He tallied 93 receptions, 972 receiving yards and six receiving touchdowns. He notched two 1,000-yard rushing seasons in 2010 and 2012, while averaging 100.1 yards and 130.2 yards per game during those two seasons, respectively. When Endres graduated from DWU, he ranked first in school history in all-time career rushing yards and rushing yards in a single season with 1,302. He was tabbed with three consecutive All-GPAC First-Team honors. Endres finished his senior season ranked fourth in the NAIA in rushing yards per game (130.2), while also leading the conference in rushing in 2012. He is only the second player in school history to receive three consecutive All-GPAC First-Team honors.



Amanda Hart '14, '15 played in 124 games throughout her career and was honored with All-GPAC honors in each of her four seasons on the DWU women's basketball team. She tallied 1,406 points, 305 rebounds, 186 assists, 73 steals, 391 made 3-pointers and 479 made field goals in her career. She was seventh on the all-time scoring list in DWU women's basketball history when she graduated, and her 391 career made 3-pointers is still a school record. Hart holds the school record with 112 made 3-pointers in one season, which also led the NAIA in 3-pointers made per game and 3-pointers made in a season. She was a two-time NAIA-Daktronics Scholar-Athlete and the GPAC nominee for the Liston Award. Hart also received Capital One CoSIDA Academic All-District honors. She was awarded the Matthew D. Smith Award and the KMIT Award her senior year.



Brock Seim '07 played in 56 career games on the DWU men's basketball team, tallying 1,271 points, 546 rebounds, 145 made 3-pointers, 122 assists and 121 steals in two seasons. He averaged 45.6 percent shooting from the field, 39.5 percent shooting from 3-point range, 82.2 percent from the free-throw line, 22.7 points and 9.8 rebounds per game. Seim sat at 27th in the all-time scoring list in DWU men's basketball history upon his graduation. He was a two-time All-GPAC First-Team selection and an NAIA All-American First-Team and Second-Team honoree. Seim was named the GPAC Player-of-the-Year in the 2006-07 season.



Jalen Voss '15 collected 2,059 points, 897 rebounds and 827 made field goals in his career with the DWU men's basketball team. He ranks fourth in the all-time scoring list in DWU men's basketball history. The Worthington, Minn., native was a three-time NAIA All-American nominee as well as a four-time All-GPAC member. Voss earned All-American First-Team honors his senior season after averaging 21 points and 5.8 rebounds per contest. He also became the fifth player in DWU men's basketball history to reach 2,000 career points. Voss was honored as the 2014-15 GPAC Player-of-the-Year and was a member of the 2014-15 NAIA National Runner-Up team. He was a three-time All-GPAC First-Team member.



Don '68 and Barb Young are faithful supporters of Dakota Wesleyan athletics. Don graduated from DWU in 1968. They both regularly attend games to cheer on DWU student-athletes. The Young family created the Donald and Barbara Young Family Scholarship to help student-athletes of Dakota Wesleyan. This scholarship is handed out annually to a student who exemplifies extraordinary leadership both on and off the playing field/court.



class notes.

We welcome alumni news for the **Class Notes** section of *Wesleyan Today*.

Please note that we edit Class Notes for length, with priority given to news specifically about alumni of Dakota Wesleyan. Go to the www.dwu.edu/alumni-visitors to tell us what's new with you.

1950s

Del Black ex'56, of Independence, Mo., finished the second printing of his book, "The History of Kansas City Baseball."

1960s

Hallie Gregory '62, of Salisbury, Md., was honored by the United States Coast Guard Academy in New London, Conn., on April 6, 2019, with the naming of the Dr. Hallie Gregory Field House in the Roland Hall gymnasium. Gregory was the first African American head coach at any service academy. He died Sept. 17, 2017.

DeeDee Karabetsos '64 and her spouse, Jim, of Denton, Texas, have moved from Rapid City to Texas.

Judie Van Winkle Stewart '65, of Kalispell, Mont., was named the Montana State TOPS Queen and traveled to Montreal, Canada, to participate in the TOPS International Recognition Days Convention. Stewart also spent time traveling to England, Wales and Scotland.

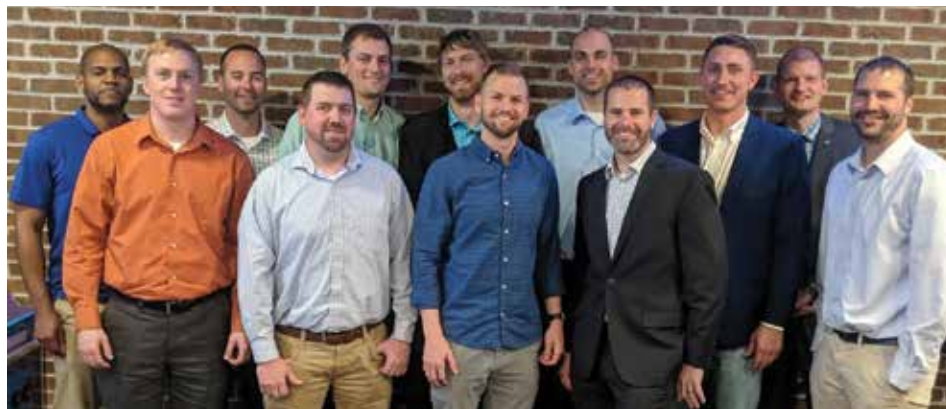
Bob Benson III '67, of Castle Rock, Colo., retired at the end of 2018 after selling his business, American Business Advisors Inc. Benson founded the business in 1984 and served as its president for 35 years.

Norma Heuer Najacht '68, of Custer, was juried into the International Guild of Realism (IGOR) and into IGOR's Winter Salon Online Exhibition, which includes 196 paintings from all over the world. Najacht's oil painting of her grandson, "The Vigil," will be on three major art websites this spring, International Guild of Realism, American Art Collector and QC Fine Arts.



2019 DWU Athletic Hall of Fame Winners

Members of the 2019 DWU Athletic Hall of Fame, shown from left to right: **Jalen Voss '15**, **Brock Seim '07**, **Amanda Hart '14, '15**, **Barbara Young**, **Don Young '68** and **Josh Endres '13**.



Alumni Gathering at the 2019 DWU Athletic Hall of Fame

Dakota Wesleyan basketball alumni gathered in Mitchell to celebrate teammate **Brock Seim's** induction into the DWU Athletic Hall of Fame. Shown here, from left to right, front row: **Jered Hokenson '07**, **Rocky Nelson '10**, **Steven Deibert '07**, **Andrew Lasche '11**, **Jesse Block '07** and **Marcus Vontz '08**; back row: **Kevin Talley '08**, **Chris Haynes '06**, **Preston Broughton '10**, **Elliot Neuheisel '07**, **Brock Seim '07** and **Jory Hansen '07, '09**.

Jeanne Carlsen Nelson '69, of Bonesteel, retired after a 45-year career as a business FACS instructor. During her career, Nelson earned a master's degree in secondary administration from South Dakota State University.

1970s

Dave '70 and **Bev Freeman '68 Morse**, of Menifee, Calif., are now both retired and recently took a trip to Alaska and Yukon Territory. Dave is active in his HOA community and was appointed by the city of Menifee to the Senior Advisory Committee. Bev is active in her church hand bell choir and knits dolls and hats for various charity groups.

class notes.

class notes.

Rex Piercy '71, of Madison, Wis., continues to serve as interim transitional minister at Hanapepe United Church of Christ on the island of Kauai, Hawaii.

Larry Goins '75, of Pahrump, Nev., was inducted into the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association's Hall of Fame on April 25, 2019. Goins served as the athletic director and coach at Pahrump Valley, Sierra Vista and Desert Oasis high schools and was the administrator for the Nevada Athletic Directors Association.

Scott Peterson '76, of Mahtomedi, Minn., continues to serve the Minnesota Department of Transportation as the assistant commissioner for policy and government affairs. Peterson has been with the Minnesota DOT for 23 years.

1980s

Lyndon Overweg '88, of Mitchell, public safety chief with the Mitchell Public Safety Department, retired in June 2019. Overweg has served 31 years for MPS with 12 of them as chief of public safety.

Sue Jacoway Schoenfelder '88, of Blue Earth, Minn., was named the 2019 Teacher of the Year at Blue Earth Area. Schoenfelder has taught for 31 years and is currently teaching first grade.

Kathy Van Cleave Riedy '89, of Pierre, began a new position as administrator of K-12 and higher education accreditation.

1990s

Jared Budenski '99, of Midland, Ga., was recently promoted to the rank of major in the U.S. Army. He is currently stationed at Fort Benning, Ga.

Heather Kundert '99, of Chicago, was recently named executive director of Special Children's Charities and Special Olympics Chicago.

2000s

Olivia Puffer Reuter '01, and her spouse, David, of Humboldt, Neb., welcomed a daughter, Layla Rose, on Nov. 15, 2018.



Scotchman and Ms. Wesleyan

Bryce Blank, of Rapid City, and **Maria Koenen**, of Rock Valley, Iowa, graduating seniors at DWU, were named the 2019 Scotchman and Ms. Wesleyan, the university's highest honors, during the Honors Banquet.



Clarke Award for Teaching Excellence

Dr. Alisha Vincent, program chair for the nonprofit administration program and director of special academic projects and initiatives, was awarded the prestigious Clarke Award for Teaching Excellence during Dakota Wesleyan University's Commencement services at the Corn Palace.



Bishop Armstrong Peace and Justice Award

Lily Jones, of Omaha, Neb., was named this year's recipient of the Bishop Armstrong Peace and Justice Award. Jones graduated in May with a Bachelor of Arts degree in theatre and Christian leadership with minors in creative writing and behavioral sciences.



Honorary Doctorate

Bill Farris '69, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla., received an Honorary Doctor of Business Administration degree from Dakota Wesleyan during Commencement. Farris is originally from Mitchell and played basketball for the DWU Tigers. He retired from the banking industry in 2010 and lives in Ponte Vedra Beach with his wife, Noelle '69, with whom he shares two daughters. His full biography is available at www.dwu.edu under "News."

class notes.

Jerilyn Basol Fischer-Arnold '06, of Moorhead, Minn., and John Arnold were married in July 2015. Jerilyn graduated with her master's degree in 2009 and is currently working as a licensed marriage and family therapist in Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota.

2010s

Kyle Meier '09 and **Mallory Gould Meier '11**, of Pierre, welcomed a son, Lukas Jeffrey, on April 29, 2019. Kyle is a journeyman technician for the South Dakota Department of Transportation, and Mallory teaches at Georgia Morse Middle School. Lukas joins an older brother, Creedence.

Alli Clarke Muilenburg '11 and her spouse, Tim, of Sioux Falls, welcomed a son, Macallister Jay, on March 14, 2019. Macallister was also welcomed by older sisters, Molly and Susannah.

Nicole Anderson '12, of Vermillion, was ordained as an elder in the United Methodist Church on June 7, 2019. She is a pastor at the Vermillion FUMC.

Sarah Weidler '12, of Sioux Falls, graduated with her Doctor of Chiropractic degree last November from Northwestern Health Sciences University. Weidler currently works for the Center of Movement in Golden Valley, Minn.

Jasmin Vant '14, of Mitchell, graduated with her Master of Science in education degree this spring from Southwest Minnesota State University, Marshall, Minn. Vant is a social studies teacher at Second Chance High School, Mitchell.

Andrew DeVaney '15, of Denver, graduated from Denver Seminary with a Master of Divinity on May 18, 2019.

Beau Byrd '16, of White Lake, has been appointed as the South Dakota Military and Veterans' Services representative for U.S. Rep. Dusty Johnson-R.

Madison-Ainsley Miller '16, of Mitchell, is the new education program coordinator at the Black Hills Playhouse in Custer.

Adam Bormann '17, of Stickney, recently passed his CPA exam.

Friends

Greg Aune, of St. Peter, Minn., retired after 24 years as the choir conductor at Gustavus Adolphus College. Aune was a former assistant professor and director of music and activities at Dakota Wesleyan University.

In Memoriam

Hazel Schliemann Eggers '34, of Brandon, died March 19, 2019.

Dean Nauman '41, of Littleton, Colo., died April 3, 2019. He is preceded in death by his brother, **Ralph Nauman '38**.

Mary Louise Moller Weiland '43, of Mitchell, died Jan. 29, 2019.

Jay Berkley ex'44, of Minneapolis, died April 20, 2019. He is preceded in death by his brother, **Dean Berkley '48, HD'80**.

Marcene Eberhard Usher ex'44, of Mitchell, died Jan. 18, 2019. She is survived by her son, **Robert Usher ex'70**.

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class notes.

Margaret Beck Haugan ex'45, of Sioux Falls, died Jan. 31, 2019.

Barbara Simmons Skrovig ex'46, of Colton, died Feb. 16, 2019.

Tom Long '51, of Centennial, Colo., died Jan. 25, 2019. He is preceded in death by his brother, **Al Long '50**.

Alice Rogers Wagstrom MH'51, of Palmview, Texas, died May 17, 2018.

Beverly Oberembt Olson MH'52, of Wichita Falls, Texas, died Jan. 1, 2019.

Helen Marshall Roddewig MH'52, of Pierre, died Dec. 17, 2018. She is survived by her daughter, **Paula Roddewig Ruedebusch '79**.

Gail Perry Clark '55, of Rapid City, died Feb. 22, 2019. She is survived by her spouse, **Jack Clark '57**.

Gloria Hille Hoffman MH'55, of Sioux Falls, died April 11, 2019.

Gerald Cummins '56, of Arnolds Park, Iowa, died March 8, 2019.

Bert Perez Pancorbo '56, of St. Charles, Ill., died Dec. 9, 2018.

JoAnn Kjerulff Chandler ex'57, of Pierre, died April 15, 2019.

Roy Engel '57, of Le Center, Minn., died Nov. 23, 2018. He is survived by his son, **Kurt Engel ex'78**.

Lila Feistner Thompson MH'57, of Bellevue, Neb., died April 18, 2019.

Joan Pollard Young MH'57, of Alamo, Texas, died Nov. 18, 2018.

Russell Nash ex'58, of Pierre, died March 21, 2019.

Ivan Hall '59, of Wagner, died Dec. 17, 2018. He is survived by his spouse, **Glenda Hawley Hall '58**.

DWU: A Look Back

MATILDA TARLETON BARKER VALANDRA

*not just **BOB BARKER'S** mother*



Compiled by Laurie Langland, DWU Archivist

Matilda Tarleton, of Miller, was a graduate of Arlington High School. At DWU she majored in biology and German and was a member of the Philomathean Literary Society. An intercollegiate debater, she was honored with membership in Pi Kappa Delta, the national forensic

fraternity. She also served as vice president of the Students' Association of Dakota Wesleyan.

(1919 Tumbleweed)

In 1918, **Matilda Tarleton** graduated from Dakota Wesleyan. Known as "Tillie" to her classmates, she became school superintendent of Todd County. Matilda wrote "Our State" (1937), a popular history of South Dakota for sixth graders. She married **Byron Barker** in 1921, and their son, **Bob**, later became the famous host of the game shows "Truth or Consequences" and "The Price Is Right."

(James D. McLaird, "The Dakota Wesleyan University Memory Book," p. 78)

- Tillie's father, **the Rev. Robert E. Tarleton**, served Methodist churches in South Dakota at Garretson, Mellette, Springfield, Arlington and Miller, as well as the Federated Church at Hot Springs. He passed away in January 1925.
- In later years, Tillie lived with Bob and his wife, **Dorothy Jo Barker**, in their home in Hollywood, Calif.
- Matilda Tarleton Barker Valandra died in February 1989.

Shirley Kinyon Lohnes ex'59, of Mitchell, died Feb. 20, 2019.

Rich Tschetter '60, of Bridgewater, died Jan. 7, 2019.

James Boyle ex'61, of Phoenix, died Oct. 17, 2018.

Clarence Kurtenbach '61, of Norfolk, Neb., died April 27, 2019.

Evelyn McConkey Roduner '61, of Wessington Springs, died Sept. 4, 2015.

Jackie Lalley Wray ex'62, of Yankton, died Nov. 4, 2018. She is preceded in death by her spouse, **Pat Wray '60**.

Terrance Kranzler '63, of Watertown, died March 26, 2019. He is preceded in death by his mother, **Ruby Weelheyer Fitzpatrick '61**.

The Boston Marathon

The 2019 Boston Marathon had two Dakota Wesleyan employees and alumni running in it this year. **Lisa Larson '95, '18** and **Thomas Madut '10, '11** both finished the race. Larson is a visit coordinator at DWU, and Madut is a TRIO Student Success adviser and peer mentor coordinator. This was Madut's fifth time qualifying for the Boston Marathon, and he finished 353th overall out of 26,632 runners with a time of 2:39:34. A current photo was unavailable, but this shows Madut in 2012.



Thomas Madut '10, '11



Lisa Larson '95, '18

"Because of the stringent parameters to qualify for the Boston Marathon, I solely went into this race with no finish time in mind," said Lisa Larson. "My only goal was to absorb the atmosphere and tremendous opportunity, and that I did!"

Bob Roth '63, of Spearfish, died March 16, 2019. He is survived by his son, **Tom Roth ex'74**.

Khalil AbuRish '64, of Falls Church, Va., died March 6, 2018. He is survived by his brothers, **Fathi AbuRish '76**, **Salah AbuRish '80** and **Samiha AbuRish '80**.

Jerry Mohr ex'64, of Mitchell, died May 4, 2019. He is survived by his granddaughter, **Taylor Mohr '17**.

Ruby Hofer '65, of Bridgewater, died Feb. 21, 2019.

Neil Pasco ex'65, of Miami, Okla., died March 3, 2018.

Nyla Harrington Hilfinger '67, of Tully, N.Y., died March 2, 2019. She is survived by her brother, **Bernie Harrington '72**.

Bill Gallipo '69, of Sartell, Minn., died Feb. 3, 2019. He is survived by his spouse, **Sheri Bierre Gallipo '67**.

Larry Larsen '69, of Stickney, died May 6, 2019.

Frederic Smith ex'69, of Sioux Falls, died Nov. 1, 2018.

Douglas Baldwin ex'70, of Mitchell, died Feb. 14, 2019.

John Graves ex'70, of Raymond, died Dec. 22, 2018.

Alice Wrage Krueger '70, of Sioux Falls, died Dec. 23, 2018.

Molly Giese McGinty '70, of Rapid City, died Feb. 23, 2019.

Edward Naworol ex'72, of Bel Air, Md., died Feb. 10, 2019.

Steven Ridley ex'74, of Nobleboro, Maine, died Aug. 12, 2018.

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Retirements

class notes.

Arlene Vockradt Remmers '78, of Watertown, died Feb. 13, 2019.

Maxine Jungwirth Pfister Schmidt '82, of Redfield, died Feb. 26, 2019.

Rich Cutler HD'86, of Sioux Falls, died May 8, 2019. He is survived by his son, **Christopher Cutler ex'93**. Rich served on the DWU Board of Trustees from 1974 to 1986, serving as chair from 1984 to 1986.

Wendy Runestad '89, of Latrobe, Pa., died March 5, 2019.

Cynthia Knudsen St. Pierre ex'89, of Ravinia, died July 28, 2018.

Mike Rogers '90, of South Sioux City, Neb., died March 7, 2019. Mike served on the DWU Board of Trustees from 2002 to 2014.

Brenda Gunderson Kaufman '93, of Sioux Falls, died Feb. 10, 2019.

Lisa Mentele Hoffman '96, of Howard, died Dec. 21, 2018.

John Thomson '05, of Sioux Falls, died Jan. 16, 2019.

2019 Date Book

- **Aug. 16-18** – New Student Orientation
- **Aug. 18** – All College Church
- **Aug. 22** – Opening Convocation
- **Oct. 2** – Opperman Lecture, Larry Young '94
- **Oct. 2-6** – Blue & White Days
- **Oct. 4** – School of Business Innovation and Leadership Groundbreaking
- **Oct. 4** – Blue & White Unite All-alumni Reunion
- **Oct. 6** – Blue & White Unite Concert
- **Oct. 14** – Fall Break
- **Oct. 27** – Wesleyan Band and LyricWood Concert
- **Nov. 8-10, Nov. 15-17** – “Mamma Mia” – theatre/music production
- **Nov. 25-29** – Thanksgiving Break
- **Dec. 7-8** – Christmas at Dakota Wesleyan

www.dwu.edu/events



*Dr. Michael Farney
and Dr. Dave Mitchell*

Dakota Wesleyan University celebrated the service of two retiring faculty members this spring, **Dr. Dave Mitchell** and **Dr. Michael Farney**, during a special luncheon in their honor. Dr. Amy Novak, DWU president, gave speeches about both professors and gifted each with a handmade quilt befitting their personalities – Mitchell's filled with photos of his life and Farney's designed with mathematically and astrologically patterned fabrics. The presentation can be viewed online at the Dakota Wesleyan YouTube channel.

DR. DAVE MITCHELL, professor emeritus, retired as professor of business administration and economics after 47 years of service to Dakota Wesleyan. The New York native was the longest serving faculty member at the university, having begun at DWU in 1972. During his time here, he served both officially and unofficially as director of the core program, institutional researcher, interim director of academic affairs, academic advising coordinator, chief financial officer, budget manager, workload evaluator, transcript decipherer, articulation agreement liaison, and faculty member in business, economics, religion, political science, nonprofit administration, social science, ethics, research methods and sociology.

He also won many awards during his time teaching, some include: The Bishop Armstrong Peace and Justice Award, Sears Award for Teaching Excellence, Clarke Award for Teaching Excellence, Mitchell Community Service Award, and the Cross and Flame Award from DWU for financial contributions. (To view a full feature on Dr. Mitchell, see pages 30-31 of the Winter 2018 Wesleyan Today online at www.dwu.edu under “Alumni & Visitors.”)

“Dr. Dave Mitchell, thank you for your dedication, your sincerity in keeping intellectual curiosity and social engagement at the center of your teaching, and thank you for your ability to teach all of us that there is another roller coaster we haven't tried yet, and collectively, we are better off trying the roller coaster and seeing how long we can make the ride last,” Novak said.

DR. MICHAEL FARNEY, professor emeritus, retired after 40 years of teaching at Dakota Wesleyan as a professor in the mathematics and science departments. The California native came to DWU in 1979 and has been challenging young minds in both the classroom as well as at the South Central South Dakota Regional Science and Engineering Fair, which he began 27 years ago. (Please see pages 30-31 of this edition to read a full feature on Dr. Farney.)

“Mike was an active faculty member, serving on committees, leading the honors program, creating interdisciplinary courses like ‘Ha and Kaboom,’ leading the science fair, hosting public astronomy nights, and helping lead the university's core program, all the while maintaining a laser focus on teaching excellence,” Novak said.

2019

Distinguished Alumni Awards



Mike Rogers '90

COLLEGE OF LEADERSHIP AND PUBLIC SERVICE

Mike Rogers '90 *South Sioux City, Neb.*

Dakota Wesleyan lost a valued friend and alumnus, and the entire community of Sioux City, Iowa, lost a distinguished leader this year when **Mike Rogers** lost his battle with cancer on March 7, 2019.

Rogers graduated from DWU in 1990 with an individualized major and received his Master of Arts degree from the University of Nebraska at Omaha and earned a Doctor in Education from the University of South Dakota, Vermillion.

He was a highly respected school administrator in the Sioux City Community School District for 26 years. He also served on the DWU Board of Trustees for 12 years and was named to the DWU Athletic Hall of Fame for his success on the Tiger basketball team, scoring 1,050 points in just two seasons and being selected to the SDIC All-Conference Team as a junior and senior. Rogers was also named the 1990 Scotchman, which is the most prestigious university award given to a graduating male senior.

In 2005, he was named one of the Alumni of the Year by Central Community College in Nebraska, and other accolades would follow – in 2016, Rogers was named the Iowa After School Program Principal of the Year, and in 2017, he received the Courage to Teach Award.

He was a youth sports coach and “all-time quarterback” at recess, a Sunday school teacher, a children’s program leader and an active church member. Rogers also continued to support Dakota Wesleyan through his experience and counsel, as well as giving to the university for the past 24 years.

“He was a man of deep faith with a commitment to serving those most in need,” said President Amy Novak. “I fondly recall countless conversations with Mike where he advocated and relayed stories with pride of students who overcame challenges and found success through education. To have known Mike was to know generous love and radical hospitality. His patience was boundless, and his spirit was filled with deep hope for all whom he encountered.”



Paul Carlson '62

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES

Paul Carlson '62 *Ransom Canyon, Texas*

Paul Carlson is a retired history professor and a noted Western historian with 23 published books and more than 240 articles, essays and book reviews.

After graduating from DWU in 1962, he went on to obtain a Master of Science degree from Mankato State University in 1967 and a Ph.D. from Texas Tech University in 1973.

He began his teaching career at Texas Lutheran University and was the history department chair when he left in 1985. He then accepted a position at Texas Tech, where he served as the associate department chair, as well as the founding director for the Texas Tech Center for the Southwest, which dissolved a few years following his retirement. He has received six university teaching awards over the years and retired from teaching in 2008. He is a professor emeritus at Texas Tech.

Carlson’s research and writing have received numerous awards. Just this year, he received the Rupert N. Richardson Prize for his work, “Comanche Jack Stilwell: Army Scout and Plainsman.” He received the same prize in 1998, 2001 and 2011 for other works.

He is a member of the DWU President’s Circle, as well as Texas Institute of Letters, the Philosophical Society of Texas, and Phi Alpha Theta and Pi Kappa Delta national honor societies. He has also been named a West Texas Historical Association fellow and a Texas State Historical Association fellow.



Audrey Van Genderen '59, '65

DONNA STARR CHRISTEN COLLEGE OF HEALTHCARE, FITNESS AND SCIENCES

Audrey Van Genderen '59, '65 *Stickney*

Audrey Kuyper Van Genderen enrolled at Dakota Wesleyan in 1958. By taking a heavy course load, she earned an Associate of Arts degree in education just one year later. She taught in area rural schools for five years and returned to DWU to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1965, graduating cum laude with majors in biology and education, and minors in government and psychology. She was honored with the E.O. Lawrence Medal in Biology. She also earned a Master of Science degree in zoology from the University of South Dakota, Vermillion.

Van Genderen spent 39 years teaching high school science in Mount Vernon, Plankinton and Stickney and served as an adjunct professor at DWU. She retired in 2004 but was summoned to return to the high school science classroom a few years later to teach upper-level science courses and direct the local science fair at Stickney. She entered her second retirement in 2014.

She is a 40-year member of the South Dakota Education Association, serving as president for 20 years. She also served as the Aurora County commissioner, is a past member of the DWU Alumni Association Board and directed her church choir.

She is a member of the DWU Heritage Roll of Honor for including DWU in her estate plans. She is also a member of the President’s Circle and has given to DWU for the past 30 years.

In 2012, she established the Kuyper Van Genderen Endowed Scholarship to be awarded annually to South Dakota students with majors or minors in biology or government. She believes that education is the key to achieving one’s goals in every area of life and hopes to assist future generations in their pursuit of knowledge and success as contributing citizens.

FACEvalue

DR. MICHAEL FARNEY

By Hannah Bowes
DWU sophomore marketing major

BORN: San Francisco **AWARDS:** The Phillip G. Laurson Professor of Mathematics Award in 1998, The DWU Presidential Award for Outstanding Service for 2010-11

PROFESSOR RETIRES, LEAVING LEGACY OF KNOWLEDGE AND LOVE FOR LEARNING

For 40 years, Dr. Michael Farney has brought his knowledge and experience to Dakota Wesleyan to advance and build the science department and inspire students to explore the world around them.

In the early years, his expertise in computers was influential, but soon he realized his true love was teaching mathematics, and eventually physics, so he shifted away from the computers and back to the classroom.

With his love for expanding young minds, he took on a massive project. In 1992, he began the South Central South Dakota Regional Science and Engineering Fair, which is hosted at DWU – for which he thanks the college for its support both fiscally and operationally. The science fair continues to attract young scientists and engineers from throughout the region. Each year, the best of the best are sent to international competition.

“Bringing new knowledge into the world is my favorite part about science fairs,” Farney said. “Once in a while, we get a student who brings important, new knowledge into the world, and of course, they win at the regional fair and sometimes at the international level.”

The California native received his Bachelor of Science and Master of Arts degrees in physics from the University of California, Santa Cruz, and California State College, San Jose. In 1980, he earned his Ph.D. from Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, Fla. He began teaching at DWU in 1979.

FACEvalue

He is all about hands-on experiences and is a firm believer in owning your knowledge and figuring things out for yourself.

“Bringing new knowledge into the world and figuring it out by myself is so much better than looking in the back of a book for the answer and writing it down,” he said. “Such things tell students how learning is in the real world. How the knowledge in their books came to be. I can’t think of much else more important than a student learning how the knowledge that they read is gathered.”

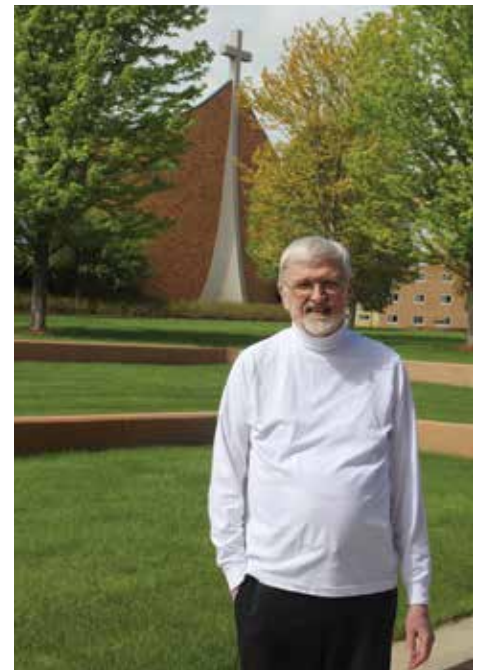
When students think of Farney, they remember his outrageous costumes – dressing up as Plato or Galileo – and his amazing experiments in the classroom.

“I took his classes nearly 30 years ago, and to this day I can remember the sense of awe I felt in learning science from him,” said Randi Bocanegra, Class of 1995. “I recount the stories of his shenanigans to my own children. What a legacy he leaves behind.”

From dressing up like Aristotle to stargazing through his telescope, he always tried to create a fun learning environment for his students. Farney’s teachings would always go above and beyond expectations to ensure a positive learning environment for all types of learners in the classroom. He is extremely humble about his work and acknowledges how each professor is different and will teach with students’ best interests at heart.

“There is no good way to define a teacher,” Farney said. “Every one of the teachers here is hugely different from the next. Good teachers come in all types of varieties. That’s something I see here at Wesleyan and one of the reasons I stayed. I see so many fine teachers of all types, each one teaching a different style and a different method, and they have a passion for different things.”

The grit and determination of administration, faculty, staff and students has kept Wesleyan strong. The science

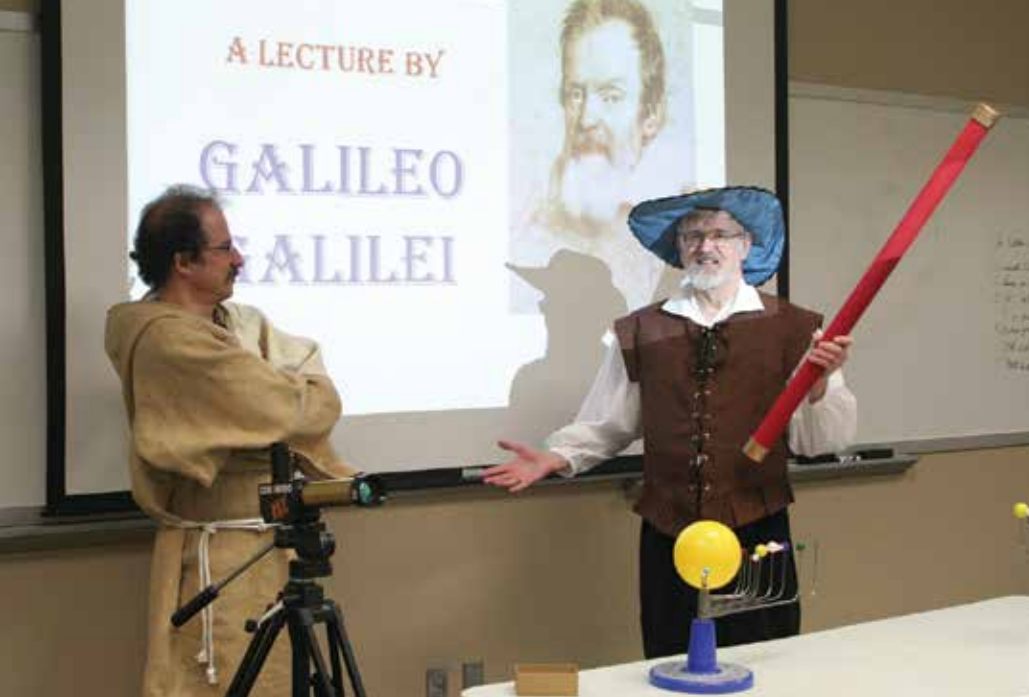


department owes a great deal to Farney and his willingness to continue to advance the department over the decades, but according to him, DWU thrives because its community takes care of one another.

“We support each other,” he said. “We do not compete. We teach our students that we share what we know – I think that is a very good thing. It makes it a fun place to be in and fun to go to work in the morning. We have students who go off and do great things and make the world a better place. My own science fair has raised up paleontologists, engineers, mathematicians, medical personnel and many more. I like working with people who share my basic beliefs that teaching is important. The world needs good teachers, and that is why I am here.”

DWU president Dr. Amy Novak has worked with Dr. Farney in one capacity or another on campus since she took her first position at DWU 15 years ago.

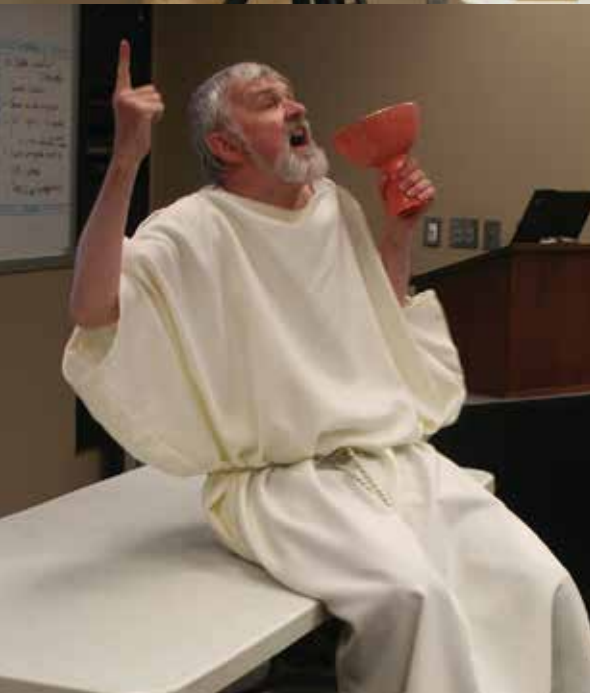
“Inventive, imaginative and original



describe Dr. Michael Farney's 40-year contribution to teaching at Dakota Wesleyan University," Novak said. "Mike's ability to simplify the complex, to make opaque concepts more visible, to challenge one to think unconventionally, characterized his significant contributions to the growth and development of countless students.

"Few instructors have the genius to speak Plato, Aristotle, Cicero, Shakespeare, Tolstoy, Einstein, Rahner and Hawking by invoking a 'Bill Nye the Science Guy' spirit. Always demonstrating, acting, singing, dancing, swinging from the ceiling, laying on a bed of nails, diving off merry-go-rounds, Mike Farney sought to not merely present science through a textbook lens, but rather to have students experience the beauty of science, the beauty of thinking, the beauty of the great thinkers of the universe. Mike is the essence of an excellent teacher, and DWU will long be indebted to his creative contributions to teaching, learning, thinking and doing."

FACE*value*
MICHAEL FARNEY



WHY YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS



“I wouldn’t have been able to come to DWU if it wasn’t for the scholarships that I received. Fortunately, with the support, I could pursue the things I was passionate about and focus on academics, cross-country, track and music.”

Bryce Blank '19

Rapid City, 2019 Scotchman

Bryce will pursue his Master of Divinity this fall at Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University in Dallas.

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