

DAKOTA STATE MAGAZINE

Fall 2018



DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

FOR OUR ALUMNI, PARENTS, AND FRIENDS
This issue features the College of Business and Information Systems

FROM THE PRESIDENT



José-Marie Griffiths

President, Dakota State University

Dear Friends of DSU,

Dakota State University is a unique, and uniquely successful, university. As our success grows, we are grateful for the increased engagement and support of each one of you reading this, as well as so many other students, alumni, government leaders, enthusiasts, collaborators, and partners.

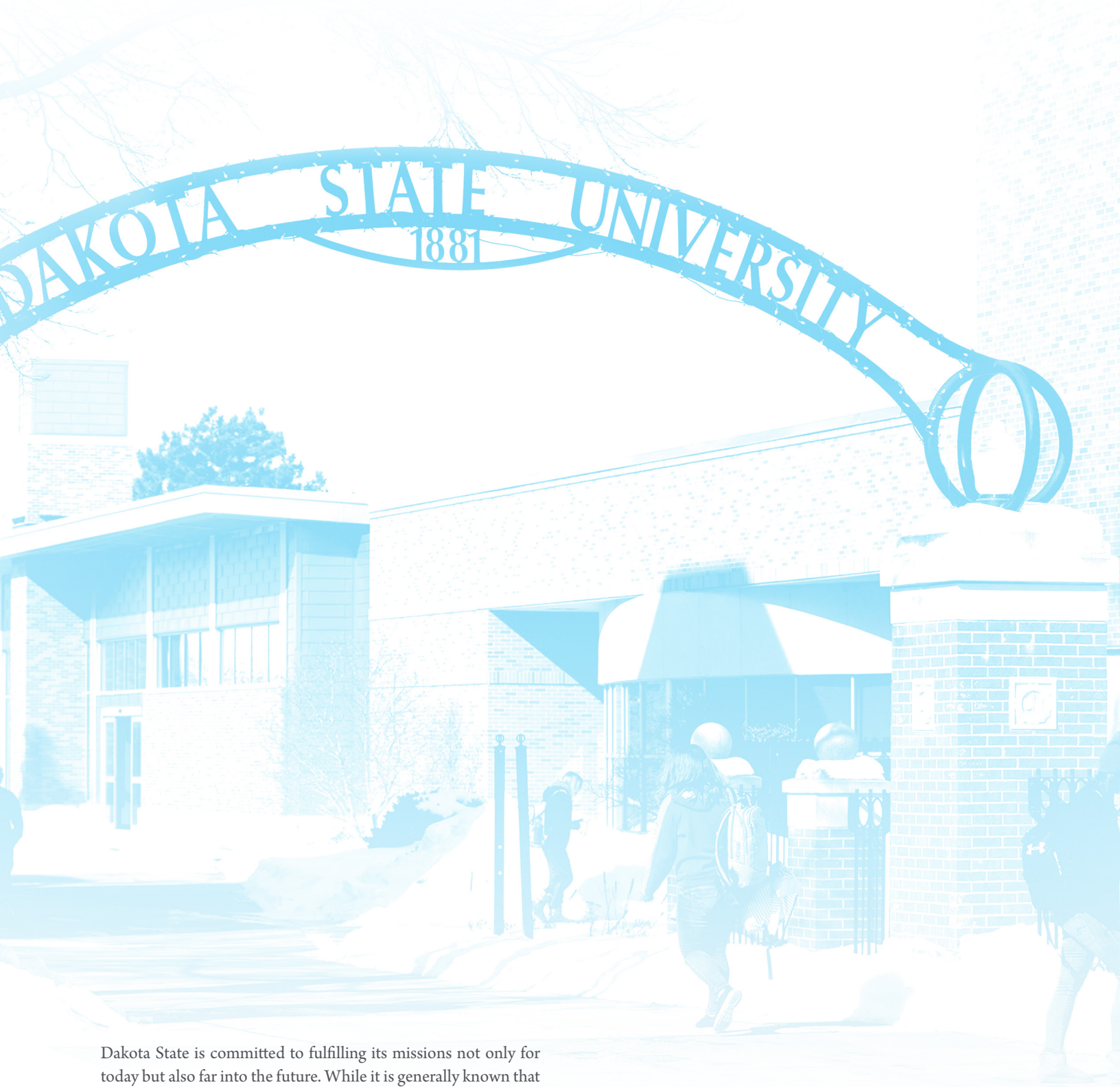
DSU has a long legacy of educational excellence. The richness and strength of our legacy have created a strong and robust institution for today. The university's increasing successes over the last few years are making it possible to launch Dakota State toward a new and exciting role as one of the leading universities in the nation.

Dakota State was founded in 1881, and in 1887, only six years into its history, began offering the forerunners of classes now

offered in our College of Business and Information Systems, the college featured in this issue of our magazine.

According to national statistics, when DSU began there were only about 800 colleges in the United States serving a total population of about 50 million people. Way out here on the prairie, Dakota State was one of those pioneering institutions.

Today, 137 years later, nearly 5,300 U.S. colleges and universities serve a U.S. population of about 330 million people. DSU continues to be a pioneering institution, rapidly moving into a prominent national role as a university providing degree programs that integrate leading-edge technologies in a student's chosen field of study.



Dakota State is committed to fulfilling its missions not only for today but also far into the future. While it is generally known that DSU started out as a teachers' college, few realize that we were also one of the earliest universities to offer business programs. We are pleased that the university continues to be a strong contributor to the economic and workforce development of our region, and we look forward to further expanding that impact in the years to come.

Dakota State University is rising!

Warmly,
Dr. José-Marie Griffiths, President

DSU
DAKOTA STATE

FROM THE DEAN



Dorine Bennett

College of Business and Information Systems

When I accepted the role of the Dean of the College of Business and Information Systems (BIS) in 2017, I believed I would be working with great faculty, staff, and students, and I must say that has certainly been true.

Not only do we have instructional staff with a wealth of expertise and enthusiasm, we have students who are eager to make an impact. The distinct mission of DSU to integrate technology throughout the curriculum means we are preparing graduates who are ready to enter today's workforce with knowledge in their field as well as computer skills. Because of the experiences our students have in class, through internships, student organizations, and more, they also have the "can do" attitude employers are looking for.

I've been pleased to see growth in enrollment in the College of BIS, and I expect the trend to continue for several reasons:

- Our high-quality programs, including certificates and associate degrees, are stackable into the baccalaureate degrees. This provides short-term options while allowing students to progress in their careers as their academic goals change.
- The Fast Track (4+1) graduate program allows outstanding students to start on their master's degrees in information systems, analytics, or health informatics and information management programs while completing the associated baccalaureate degrees.
- Employer and stakeholder advisory boards provide input and feedback, ensuring our curricula in all programs are current and relevant to meet industry needs.
- Our graduates are successful. The computer information systems major, with specializations in business analytics, project management, and software and web development, is popular with employers, and business and health information management students are also in demand. As a matter of fact, the 2017 Outcomes Report from the Career Services Office showed 100 percent placement of 100 percent of the BIS majors who responded to a recent survey. (More on page 17.)
- We have been successful in maintaining the accreditation of our business programs and our undergraduate health information management programs. Dr. Deb Tech serves as the faculty champion for business accreditation processes; other faculty actively volunteer for roles with national accrediting bodies.
- Our faculty and staff have been working on efforts to provide outreach and promote the College of BIS programs through college newsletters, speaking for schools or organizations, participating in professional associations, and with research presentations and publications.

We have a great foundation on which to build future success in the College of Business and Information Systems. We are rising!



The College of Business and Information Systems offers programs which have been accredited or approved by meeting national standards of these organizations:

Accreditation Council for Business Schools & Programs (ACBSP)

National Association for Business Teacher Education (NABTE)

Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIIM)

Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS)



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Cover image: Students from the College of Business and Information Systems include: (back left) Paulina Zach, Marissa Jongeling, Dayln Bakkedahl, Darby Neal, Curt Boeke, Mason Leighton, Brandon Schmit, David Weidler; (middle row, left) Kristen Williams, Christopher Rae, Deonte Randle, Steven Suarez, Cameron Belden, Walker Olivier, Nolan Sonnenburg, DeAnna Robinson; (front left) Michael Cleveland and Marcus Vanden Bosch.

Dakota State Magazine is published by the DSU Foundation and the Alumni Office and distributed at no cost to over 11,000 alumni, donors, and friends.

Send address updates and class notes to: advancement@dsu.edu or DSU Alumni Office, 820 N Washington Ave, Madison, SD 57042

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Dakota State University is hosting or co-hosting national sports championships in 2019 and 2020

FEB. 28 – MARCH 2, 2019
MARCH 5 – 7, 2020

NAIA Indoor Track & Field
National Championships

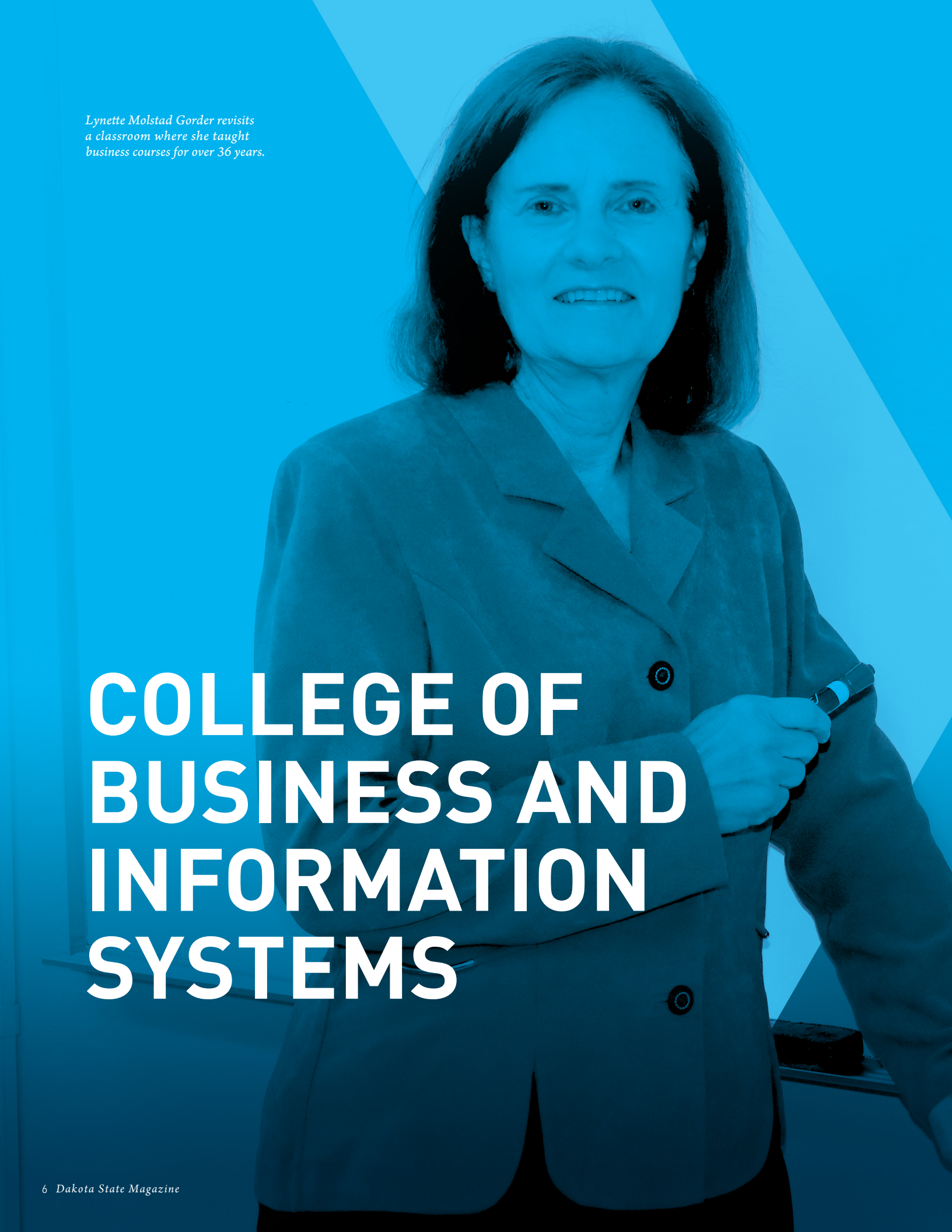
Sanford Jackrabbit Athletic Complex
Brookings, SD

MARCH 6 – 12, 2019
MARCH 11 – 17, 2020

NAIA Division II Men's
Basketball National Tournament

Sanford Pentagon
Sioux Falls, SD

Call the Athletics Department at 605-256-5229 with any questions about the national tournaments.



*Lynette Molstad Gorder revisits
a classroom where she taught
business courses for over 36 years.*

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS



Dr. Cherie Noteboom (third from right) poses with several College of BIS graduate students at the spring 2018 Research Symposium.

137 YEARS of learning and growing in BIS

As an educator, “you have to keep up and learn or you don’t grow,” said Dr. Lynette Molstad Gorder, an emeritus professor in the College of Business and Information Systems (BIS).

The same can be said for many educational institutions, and DSU is no exception.

In 1888, Dakota State Normal School started offering courses in business training, in what was called the Commercial Division. By the middle of the 20th century, the Division of Business, Industry and Public Administration, or BIPA, offered courses in typewriting, shorthand, accounting, office filing, office machines, business law, secretarial practice, and money and banking.

Just before the division was 100 years old, the mission changed for Dakota State College, as it was known at the time. All programs of study were to add a technology focus to their curriculum.

Molstad Gorder remembers that time.

“It used to be transparencies and overheads in the classroom. Then came computers,” she said. “We had to look at technology as a tool.”

The faculty attended a number of technology workshops to learn how to use this new tool, she recalled. In 1984, she and several others traveled to the IBM education center in Texas to learn programming and the various applications and teaching programs available, before revamping the curriculum to incorporate programming.

Every student took Intro to Computers so they knew basic programs like Excel and Webmail. “We told the students computer programming is just solving a problem

with logic,” said Molstad Gorder. “I loved teaching programming.”

One of the biggest changes was the switch from paper to computer course management systems like D2L (Desire to Learn), which DSU uses today. “There were no more stacks of syllabi,” she said.

Over the next 30 years, programs of study developed to the point that “there were 40 or 50 people reporting to one dean,” she said. The divisions of what was now the College of Business and Information Systems—business, information systems (IS), computer science, and health—were all vying for the same resources, but had different needs.

In 2014, the university requested a study to investigate the best way to structure BIS. A recommendation was made to split into two colleges, a change which took place in 2015. (The newly formed College of Computing changed its name in 2017 to The Beacom College of Computer and Cyber Sciences.)

“At the next college meeting, it felt really small,” Molstad Gorder said, “I missed the camaraderie of being together.” The structure is working well now, she acknowledged, with people concentrated in similar areas of study.

“At BIS meetings, we could talk about the resources, curriculum changes, and student needs, and not be bogged down by the relevance to each division.”

Throughout these changes in mission and in structure, some things remained the same.

“Every business needs people in accounting to do payroll, pay bills. It’s all still very relevant. What’s changed is the way you do it,” Molstad Gorder said. “Now the computer

is part of it.” So are the volumes of data created by technology in business. Dakota State has developed unique programs of study to deal with this big data, several at the graduate level.

“Graduate programs play a key role in the development of technology professionals in their career,” said Dr. Cherie Noteboom, associate professor, Center of Excellence Director, and adviser for information systems students. From DSU’s Class of 2017, 16 percent of the graduates opted to continue their education.

“Our master of science degree programs prepare students to deliver innovative business solutions,” said Noteboom. “These programs focus on developing professionals to analyze data, solve crucial business problems and help others make insightful analytics-driven decisions.” A practical example is in the field of health care, where analytics can help improve patient care and control costs.

The doctoral program in information systems “provides a strong command of IS knowledge, IS theory, and research practice to develop the skills necessary to lead innovation and conduct research,” she noted.

At the university’s Research Symposium in 2018, graduate students presented projects on topics such as developing a malaria surveillance system using social media, a method to use neural networks to calculate the probability of heart disease, and ways to improve communication with care providers.

Programs such as these are what make Dakota State’s College of BIS distinct and unique, said Molstad Gorder.

Adam Learing '09 has taken an entrepreneurial route with his business degree. Learn.Create. Build offers technology camps in 15 states.



Learing Turns BIS Education Into **ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

LEARN. CREATE. BUILD.

These three words make up the name of Adam Learing's company, but also accurately describe what the 2009 BIS graduate has done with his Dakota State education.

Learn: Through coursework for a double major in business administration and accounting, he learned about foundational business concepts such as profit and loss statements, and programs like Excel, "which I still use today." By reading the textbooks of his college friend Shane Thomas, a computer science major, he taught himself programming.

Create: After graduation, he and Thomas created a web development company. "You can start a web development company cheap," he said. "You just need a couple computers and a couple people willing to work." That company became successful, but after it was sold and they went to work for the new parent company, "we quickly realized we wanted to be our own bosses again, so we started *Learn.Create.Build* in October 2015." The company runs technology camps for children, events which feature programming, engineering, robotics, and coding. They won first place in the 2016 CenturyLink LaunchPad business pitch competition; two years later they offer camps for students aged 7-14 in 15 states and 52 cities.

Build: They continue to build their business. "We rewrite the curriculum every year," Learing said, "because we want to adapt." To do that, they listen to the students. They are also working to incorporate animation and drones. A new product line is called LCB Live, an online learning platform which allows children who are not geographically close to work together with a teacher online. "It's for those students who want to get into the weeds."

Some people say entrepreneurs like he and Thomas are born. "I don't believe that," Learing said. "I think you fall into it through hard work and dedication."

Learing and Thomas are dedicated to the mission of *Learn.Create.Build* and work hard to make it fun for children. He knows there are negative connotations about computer and video games, but he sees it in a different way.

"This is an opportunity to take something students are passionate about and use it to teach them an educational aspect, making it fun with Minecraft or Roblox. It's why we are growing and successful." *Learn.Create.Build* has a team of four full-time employees, and 40 teachers, who are part-time or full-time, depending on the season.

There are tough days as an entrepreneur, he admits. In fact, "there will probably be more tough days than good days, but the good days will trump all the tough days." To help others face tough days, Learing says it's important to give back and share their story.

"The reason I'm in this position is because of people who helped along the way," he said. "There have been roadblocks we've avoided because we talked to people and asked the right questions. We hope to save someone a heartache we've had to go through."

They also have a good support system through the ZEAL Center for Entrepreneurship, a new business incubator in Sioux Falls, S.D., where *Learn.Create.Build* is one of the Entrepreneur in Residence businesses. "It's good to be with people who are like-minded," said Learing.

It was also good he got his start at DSU.

"In the circles where I run, DSU is the gold standard because everybody wants technology, in any field." Dakota State graduates are more hireable because employers know they have that baseline comfort with technology, he stated, and that is something that is valuable to an employer.

"That's what's huge about DSU."

HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT IS 'Best Profession'

Versatility is draw with HIM jobs

"Health Information Management (HIM), is the best profession because the possibilities are endless," said Stacy Reck. "Students really can go anywhere with that degree." Reck's career in HIM is a perfect example.

After graduating from Dakota State University's HIM program in 2003, she began her career as a coder at Sioux Valley Hospital (now Sanford Health). She moved up to management positions at Sanford, and then to Prairie Lakes Healthcare System in Watertown as coding director.

"That was a very good opportunity," she said. "It was great to be at a smaller facility because it was more hands-on and I could see the day-to-day operations." She is now the Director of Clinical Documentation Improvement and Utilization Review for Avera Health.



Jamie Husher '00 is the Director of Health Information Management (Sioux Falls and Bemidji) at Sanford Health.

Her professional colleague and fellow DSU alumna, Jamie Husher, has had a similar career path. After graduating DSU in 2000 with an HIM degree, she also started at Sioux Valley, then worked in compliance at a physician clinic, as a consultant at Good Samaritan Society, and now she is the Director of Health Information Management for Sioux Falls and Bemidji at Sanford Health.

"Once you see the opportunity in HIM and how diverse it is, you can take many paths," said Renae Spohn, Director of HIM programs. Health information employees can start as coding or billing clerks, move to document scanning or work with release of information, or to supervisory roles and high-level leadership, as Reck and Husher have done. HIM professionals can work in the office, or in some cases, from home.

"This story of the profession is not well known, and not well understood," Spohn said, so she and fellow faculty have made a concerted effort to market the program by attending career fairs and walking in area homecoming parades to reach high school students.

"It's easy to promote the advantages of the DSU programs," Spohn said. "We offer 12-credit certificates which give students a taste of the program without a lot of investment." This can be followed up with associate and bachelor's degrees, a 4+1 accelerated program in which students can earn a bachelor's and a master's



Stacy Reck '03 is the Director of Clinical Documentation Improvement and Utilization Review for Avera Health.



degree in five years. There is also an option to earn a Ph.D. with a health care specialization. All programs are stackable, so credits received in the associate degree can be applied to the bachelor's program, for example.

Quality faculty are another advantage to HIM programs. All have experience in the field and take on roles in national professional organizations.

"They are our core," Spohn said, "making sure our courses are interesting, challenging, and delivered appropriately so they are understandable and relatable." Many of the courses are available online, so they are convenient for students, but virtual labs and internship opportunities mean students still get hands-on training and experience working on-site.

The technology focus means DSU is one step ahead of other universities, said Reck. Working with cutting-edge technology gives graduates an advantage, Husher agreed, adding that being exposed to new programs as an undergraduate taught her it's good to be an early adapter of technology.



Renae Spohn is the Director of the HIM programs at Dakota State.

HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AT DSU

Currently, there are about 90 students in the HIM program, but "we'd love to see more students because we need a lot of folks in the profession," said Renae Spohn, director of DSU's HIM programs. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates the employment outlook for health information technicians will grow 13 percent from 2016 to 2026, faster than the average for all occupations.

"Let the technology systems work for you, working smarter not harder," Husher said.

"Our students are more than willing to try new things, such as software, and we expose them to a lot of software," said Spahn. That helped Husher in her career, because "Sanford is very progressive at adopting new things ... and I can now leverage that to our advantage."

There will be bumps in the road with new technology, "but if you get started and work to make improvements, things will get better," Husher said.

Reck agreed. "With the world we live in and the constant changes, we have to continue to learn," she said. "Just keep learning."



Anne Lehman (left) with her internship boss, Sara Schultz, owner and designer at ThisFem.

INTERNSHIPS CAN OPEN OR CLOSE A DOOR

Job experience allows students to step forward in their careers

The details are different, but for three DSU students who spent their summer working at internships, the takeaway was the same—it was a great experience to explore potential career paths.

“That’s the purpose of internships,” said Dr. Deb Tech.

More than 40 students had internships last summer at 25 businesses around the nation. “Internships are an excellent opportunity for students to test out a career,” said Tech, who is associate professor of marketing, and internship coordinator for business, computer information systems, and computer science majors. Jake Hult agreed.

“It’s a great opportunity that everybody should try,” he said, because “it may open a door or close a door.”

For Hult, his summer internship at Northwestern Mutual in Sioux Falls opened a door. The junior finance major from Canton, S.D. “learned how to run a business,” he said, “to work for myself, but not by myself.”

It’s not just about selling policies and making money, said Hult. “As the internship goes on you see that you have an impact on people, and you want to try to help them,” he said. He plans to continue working with the firm after his season with the Trojan football team, and while he continues his education.

Anne Lehman, a marketing and business management major, worked as a brand strategy intern for a Minneapolis-based apparel company *ThisFem*.

“It was a great experience where I was able to take the reins on brand strategy,” she said, “to trust my gut, and plan out real, achievable goals.”

This experience will help as she considers going full-time with her current businesses, Anne Noel Photography, and a blog called “Mindfulness in the Midwest.” The Pipestone, M.N. native will graduate in December 2018.

Erin Newbury spent 10 weeks at the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) in New York state, learning about life as a graduate student. She was one of 10 students from across the country chosen for a new Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) program at RIT. The REU classes and an independent research project about fairness in machine learning gave her an inside look at life as a research graduate student.

“This type of internship is definitely something all students should experience before graduation,” Newbury said.

Before the REU, she had planned to find a job with a small company after she graduates in May 2019; after her internship, she is not closing the door on graduate school. “Maybe one day,”

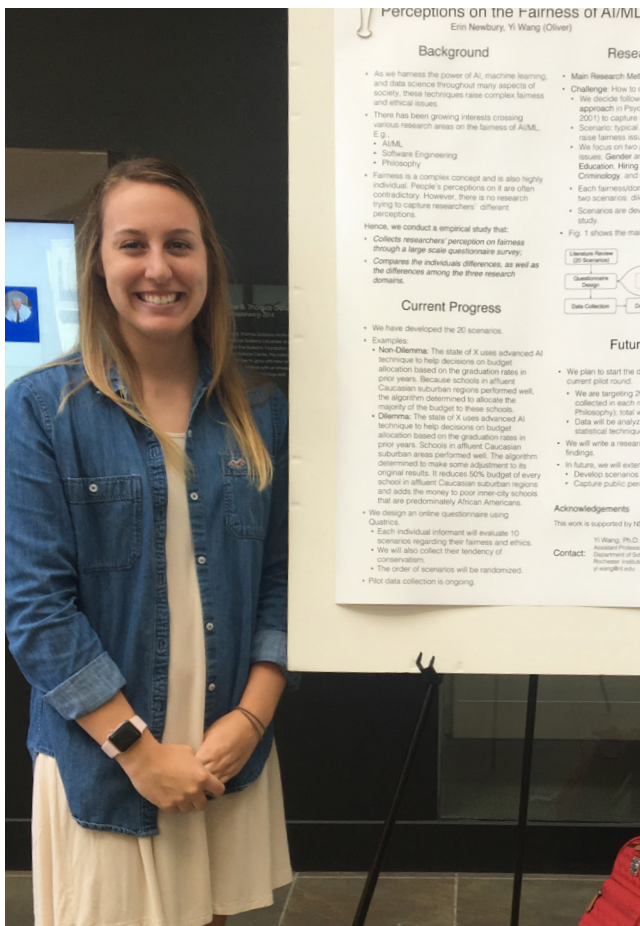
she said. Originally from Otto, I.L., Newbury is a senior majoring in information systems.

Having an internship on your résumé increases a student’s value to an employer, Tech added, and Lehman sees that advantage.

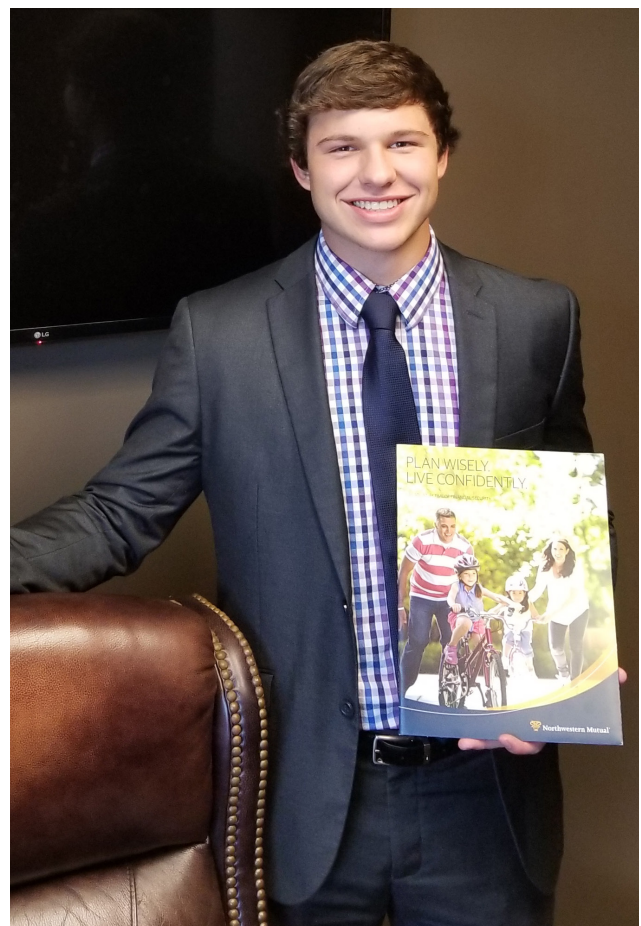
“I think it’s given me a step forward in the field, because especially in social media marketing you need to know all the ins and outs about technology, what’s ‘in’ and how to program and work with the technology,” she said.

It’s also an excellent opportunity for companies to test drive future employees, Tech added. “Many interns have been offered future employment, sometimes part-time while the student is in school – sometimes full-time after graduation.”

For more information about internship opportunities, contact Tech at deb.tech@dsu.edu or Career Services at 605-256-5122.



Erin Newbury poses with her research poster on fairness with machine learning, based on research done at the Rochester Institute of Technology.



Jake Hult said his internship with Northwestern Mutual opened a door to his career.

CAMPUS NEWS

Heather Wilson, secretary of the U.S. Air Force, asked girls attending DSU's GenCyber Girls Camp what they wanted to be when they grew up. Answers ranged from a band director to a pediatric brain surgeon. One young woman said she wanted to be an engineer, "one that makes a difference."

WILSON SPEAKS AT GENCYBER GIRLS CAMP, CLASSICS INSTITUTE EVENT

Air Force secretary encourages girls, discusses effect of technology on war

It's not news that the world is changing. For the 40 years since the computer revolution began, technology's effects have become evident in all facets of life.

For young people this means that, "What was good enough for your parents is not good enough for you. You're going to need a lot more education," said Heather Wilson, the Secretary of the U.S. Air Force.

She offered this advice to 125 middle school girls at Dakota State University on June 26. The talk was also broadcast in real time to 30 young students at Washington D.C.'s George Washington University.

The young women will need more education because things will continue to change, with Wilson predicting that "you and your

generation are going to have the opportunity to live on the moon in preparation for going to Mars. It's going to happen." One of the campers in Madison shouted out, "I hope so."

Wilson told the girls "you can be anything you want to be. Not society's dream for who you should be, but your own very personal dream for who you want to become."

Because of these options, many of which have not been envisioned yet, she advised the girls, "There are a lot of opportunities out there that you may not even know about yet, so keep building your skills... and be open to the possibilities."



U.S. Air Force Secretary Heather Wilson took time to visit campers in their coding classes and at lunch. Here she visits one-on-one with Hannah Meyer, an 8th grade student from Madison, S.D.

On June 25, Wilson addressed an audience in Rapid City on the changes brought to warfare by the computer revolution. Her lecture was one of a series sponsored by the DSU Classics Institute, titled the Cultural Consequences of Computing. "Computing has changed how we fight," she said, creating consideration of the question: "How do we, and how should we, think about computing in the use of force, and our warfare."



Demolition of Lowry Hall has made way for the new Madison Cyber Labs.



A schematic rendering of the Madison Cyber Labs which will be completed in 2019.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE ON THE MADISON CYBER LABS

April snow delayed the demolition of Dakota State University's Lowry Hall, but on May 10, the 60-year old building came down, making way for construction of the Madison Cyber Labs.

"Demolition of the building went smoothly," said Facilities Management Director Corey Braskamp, "and contractors are working hard to make up some of the scheduling difference." Local crews working on the project include Reinicke Construction, Johnson Brothers Construction, and Amert Construction. Completion date is expected to be August 2019.

Construction schedules are always fluid, Braskamp pointed out, but offered this recap of the project's progress in September:

- A majority of the structural steel installation was completed.
- Some of the interior concrete floors were poured in mid-September.
- Exterior wall framing began in late September.
- Roofing installation began in late September.
- The goal is to have the building enclosed by mid-November.

DAKOTA STATE HOSTS Q&A WITH INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION

“Dakota State University... welcome onboard the International Space Station.”

Those words gave a thrill to the 250 people who crowded into the Beacom Institute of Technology for the keynote event of the university's first-ever Space Day.

Astronaut Richard R. Arnold II, a flight engineer for Expedition 56 onboard the International Space Station (ISS), spoke to the DSU audience for about 20 minutes, answering questions on a variety of topics about life onboard the station. Arnold was a former middle school teacher, and this is the Year of Education on Station.

Dakota State students, Madison Central School eighth graders, and one kindergarten student asked questions during the

session, called a downlink. Topics ranged from how radiation affects equipment on the ISS to what Arnold misses most (his answer: pizza).

“This once-in-a-lifetime chance to speak with an astronaut in space was an amazing source of inspiration for students from both DSU and the Madison Central School District,” said Dr. James Maloney, assistant professor of physics, and the event organizer. Viewers across the nation were able to watch on NASA-TV, and the video is still available for viewing at <http://bit.ly/2018SpaceDay>.

Arnold answered questions on the effects of microgravity on astronauts' muscle mass, how they grow plants in space, and what backup systems are on station. He also included interesting statistics: the station's orbit is 240 miles above earth; each orbit takes 90 minutes, so they see 16 sunrises and sunsets every day; the station operates on Greenwich Mean Time.

Arnold also responded to a question about emergencies on the station, such as fires. He said they are trained to respond to emergencies and fix them. Two days after the downlink, a tiny leak was discovered in the station, and the small hole was repaired.

He told the students why he became an astronaut: “I was inspired to go to space from watching other people do this,” he said. “I hope Space Day will have an impact on you.”

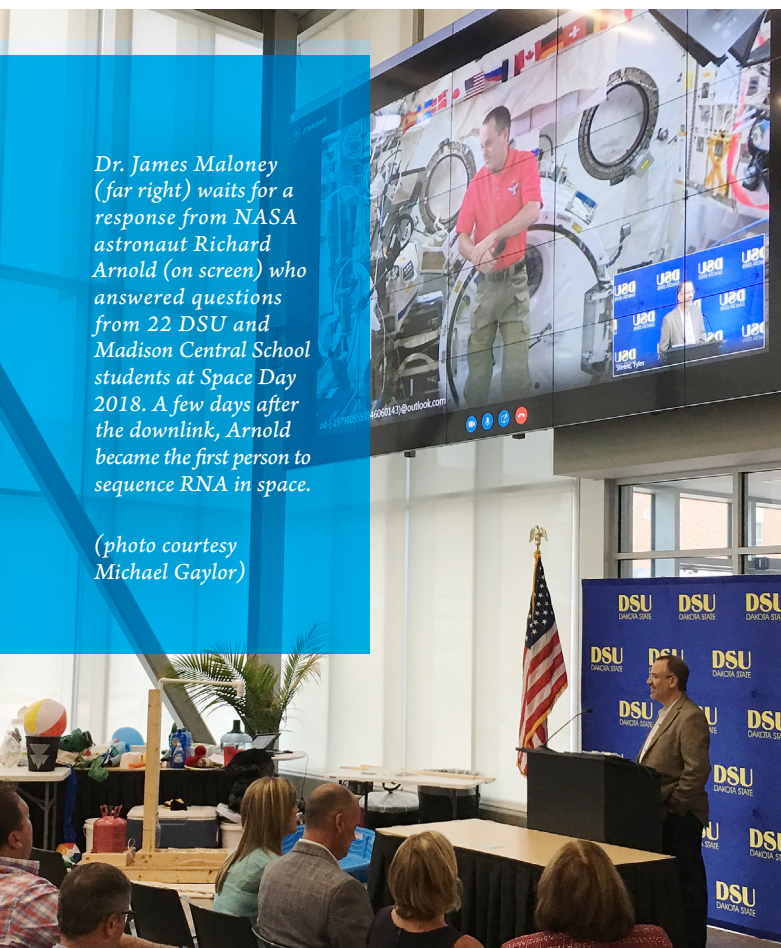
The downlink was not the only item on the agenda for Space Day 2018.

“STEM fields are critically important to our economy and a great source of career opportunities for our students,” Maloney stated. Presenters and guest speakers highlighted the importance of math, science, technology, and engineering in many different contexts.

“Our partners at Raven Industries, the USGS-EROS Center, Sanford Underground Research Labs, and South Dakota Public Broadcasting really helped make the day very special for our students,” Maloney said.

Dr. James Maloney (far right) waits for a response from NASA astronaut Richard Arnold (on screen) who answered questions from 22 DSU and Madison Central School students at Space Day 2018. A few days after the downlink, Arnold became the first person to sequence RNA in space.

(photo courtesy Michael Gaylor)



Nolan Schmidt, a local kindergarten student, reacts with surprise as he and his mom Amber help with an experiment at Space Day.



Dakota State University's Class of 2017 saw a 99% placement rate.

NEW DATA SHOW DSU PLACEMENT AT

99%

Some majors report 100 percent placement in job or grad school

Graduates of Dakota State University have no problem finding jobs or placement in competitive graduate programs.

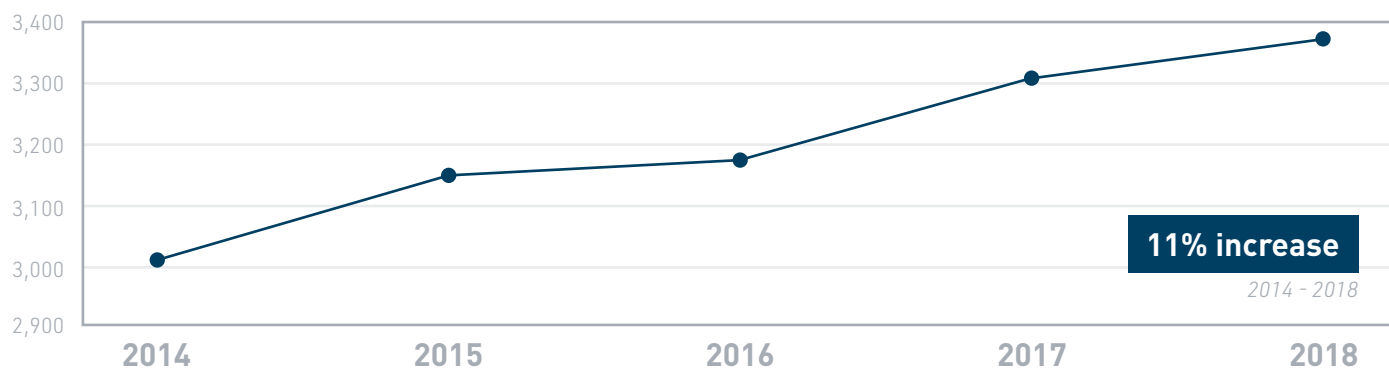
Ninety-nine percent of students in the Class of 2017 who responded to a DSU Career Services survey reported finding employment or continuing their education. Students in the Class of 2017 graduated in 26 of DSU's 31 undergraduate degree programs, and 22 of those 26 reported 100 percent placement.

"Every industry—from education to health care to banking—expects the power of technology to transform their impact and success in their field, and they look to our graduates to innovate their processes," said José-Marie Griffiths, president of Dakota State University.

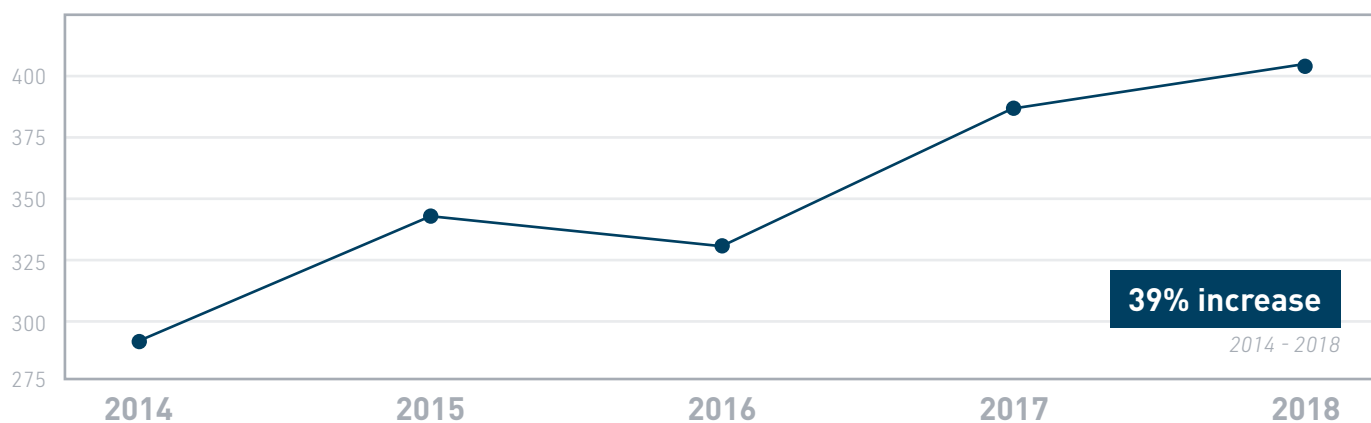
"Our faculty have designed cutting-edge curricula that include learning and doing, and these hands-on projects and research opportunities mean our students are career ready upon graduation," she stated.

Majors which had 100 percent placement include several cyber science degrees; the College of Arts and Sciences programs including respiratory care and biology also had 100 percent placement. The College of Education had 100 percent placement for graduates in exercise science, and elementary, secondary, and special education programs. The College of Business and Information Systems graduates with a bachelor's degree in computer information systems had 100 percent placement.

DSU Total Student Fall - Enrollment



DSU First Year Students - Fall Enrollment



DSU REPORTS *enrollment growth* 18 OUT OF LAST 20 YEARS

Total enrollment now almost 3,400

For 18 of the last 20 years, Dakota State University has been able to report increasing enrollment. This year is no different; total headcount enrollment for Fall 2018 is up 2.27 percent, to 3,382 students.

This steady, measured growth indicates a strong future for the Madison institution.

“The growth of Dakota State University is indicative of its many strengths—quality programs of study, highly educated and experienced faculty, supportive staff, and a motivated student body—all of which are built on DSU’s unique, technology-centric mission,” said President José-Marie Griffiths.

The 2018 fall enrollment numbers, released by the South Dakota Board of Regents on September 20, showed growth in several categories at DSU, including the following:

- FTE students (a term based on total credit hours generated by all students) are up 2.42 percent.
- First-time student enrollment is up 6 percent (not including transfer students). These 405 students make up the largest freshmen class in history.
- The number of South Dakota resident students is also up by 4 percent.
- The headcount of internet-only students and those who take a portion of their classes online both increased this fall. Roughly half of the students are on campus, while the other half only take classes online.

Much of the growth is in The Beacom College of Computer and Cyber Sciences. The 9 percent growth translates into 95 more students than fall of 2017; 40 percent of those 95 new students are women students studying the cyber sciences.

The largest increase for Fall 2018 is a 13 percent hike in graduate student enrollment over last year. Dakota State University offers two doctoral programs, seven master's programs, and five graduate certificates.

"We are no longer simply a small teacher's college on the prairie," said Griffiths. "Two decades of enrollment growth means our programs have grown and developed as well, through the efforts of our dedicated faculty and staff, and high-achieving students."

Dr. Mark Hawkes, dean of graduate studies and research, said, "our graduate programs are highly desirable because of a strong faculty presence and a fast-growing DSU reputation for providing excellent graduate opportunities."

Griffiths stated: "This reputation will only continue to grow, with construction progressing on our new research and development building on campus, the Madison Cyber Labs." The building is slated to open in late summer 2019.

Number of Women in The Beacom College is up 296%

Cyber sciences may be a male-dominated field, but the number of women majoring in technology programs at Dakota State University is on the rise. Over the last five years, there has been a 296 percent increase in the number of women enrolled in programs of The Beacom College of Computer and Cyber Sciences, majors including computer science, cyber operations, and network security and administration.

Growth in the number of programs and overall awareness of DSU's offerings has contributed to the increase, said Dr. Pam Rowland, assistant professor of computer science and cyber security, but another associated factor is CybHER. Rowland and fellow faculty member Dr. Ashley Podhradsky developed the program in 2013 to empower, motivate, educate, and change the perception of women and girls in cybersecurity fields. They have since held 60 outreach events in the region, free camps, school visits, and exploration days, impacting over 10,000 girls from preschool through high school age.

ADVANCING THE MISSION



*The mission of the DSU Institutional Advancement division
is to provide scholarships and support for our students.*



FROM FIELD to *Foundation*

For donors who actively engage in farming on a cash basis, gifting commodities directly to the Dakota State University Foundation—rather than selling the commodity and making a gift from the proceeds—may provide farm operators with more significant tax savings, including federal, state, and self-employment tax.

Here's how it works:

- Contact your accountant or tax attorney to verify that this type of gift is right for you.
- Contact the DSU Foundation to see if we have an account at your elevator or sale barn. If so, you can proceed with the gift; if not, we will contact the elevator or sale barn and establish an account.
- When you deliver the commodity to the elevator or sale barn, make sure they deposit the portion you wish to gift into the account for Dakota State University.
- Do not give the elevator or sale barn permission to sell the commodity. Instead, let us know you made the gift. We will contact the elevator or sale barn to authorize immediate sale of the commodity to avoid storage fees.
- Keep a record of your gift and the acknowledgement letter you will receive from us for FSA yield verification of donated bushels, as the settlement sheet will list the DSU Foundation as the seller.

Want more information? Contact the Dakota State University Foundation at 605-256-5693 or advancement@dsu.edu.

new staff

INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT



Mark Millage

Vice President for Institutional Advancement, Marketing and Communications

mark.millage@dsu.edu :: 605-256-7327

First Day on the Job: August 20, 2018

Job Duties: As a member of the DSU President's Cabinet, I serve as a leader and a liaison. My position is responsible for the work of the DSU Foundation team which includes fundraising, alumni relations, and board development. In addition, I oversee the university's marketing and communications initiatives which help tell the story of this dynamic institution.

Goals as Vice President: To raise the profile of DSU throughout South Dakota and the nation. This goes hand-in-hand with our strategic need to grow scholarship endowments in order to facilitate continued enrollment growth. I am honored to have this opportunity at this time, in this place, with this team of professionals all working toward the same goals and outcomes.

DSU's Most Impressive Characteristic: Its positive energy and momentum. That starts with leadership and a vision shared throughout campus by everyone from experienced faculty to first semester freshmen. It's a great time to be a Trojan!

Previous Work Experience: Extensive journalism and leadership experience in television news, higher education as a community college president, as well as public relations and fundraising in the non-profit sector.

What is one thing about you that would surprise people: I am an only child whose "introvert" appreciates the relaxed, daily commute on Highway 19. That said, however, I am energized by the many new friends I have already made in the DSU family. I am eager to meet many more of you on campus, in the Madison community, and at our alumni events in the coming months!



Jona Schmidt

Director of Major and Planned Gifts

jona.schmidt@dsu.edu :: 605-256-5857

First Day on the Job: July 1, 2018

Job Duties: The main focus of my job as part of the development team is to cultivate and manage planned giving. This entails everything from making personal planned giving asks, to helping the branded planned giving program. I also work with higher-end donors in cultivation, asks, and stewardship.

Goal as a Director: My goal is to build on the nearly quarter-century of relationships I have built with alumni and friends of DSU to encourage legacy support for the university. This will be done through educational programs, targeted marketing, and most importantly, personal visits.

DSU's Most Impressive Characteristic: DSU's most impressive characteristic is the integrity that is a core value of the DSU family. We put the

best interests of the university above all and hold each other accountable for our actions. We have a passion for this university and its significance, historical, current, and future.

Previous Work Experience: 23 years as Director of Alumni Relations at Dakota State. Before that I worked under a grant in the Custer School District and served as the GED/ESL instructor for a large swath of western South Dakota.

What is one thing about you that would surprise people: Although I have never been to England, I have been collecting British royalty memorabilia for over 30 years. I have books and news clippings starting from the time Princess Diana came on the scene in 1980. My collection includes plates, dolls, the Princess Diana Beanie Baby, and much more.



Wendy McDonnel

Development Officer

wendy.mcdonnel@dsu.edu :: 605-256-5063

First Day on the Job: June 4, 2018

Job Duties: Responsible for expanding the development, mission, and educational footprint to DSU donors, alumni, and supporters in Sioux Falls and the surrounding area.

Goals as Development Officer: Re-engage and educate DSU donors and alumni in Sioux Falls and the surrounding area; project a stronger DSU presence in Sioux Falls and the surrounding area; increase the scholarship capacity to accommodate enrollment and athletic growth; be a valuable team member to all DSU faculty/staff for future projects, campaigns, and events.

DSU's Most Impressive Characteristic: Its rich history and its vision for the future. What an amazing time to be a part of DSU!

Previous Work Experience: 10+ years in nonprofit development work between the Sioux Empire Red Cross and Kilian Community College; 2+ years working in a sports environment as Director of Operations.

What is one thing about you that would surprise people: I have been a bridesmaid 13 times. Luckily the phrase "Always a bridesmaid, never a bride" did not come to fruition in my world.



Wade Merry '79

Development Officer

wade.merry@dsu.edu :: 605-256-5064

First Day on the Job: August 1, 2018

Job Duties: Establish relationships with alumni, listen and learn about their experiences while attending school here, share with them the story of what Dakota State University is today and will be tomorrow, and hopefully solicit gifts to help support all that we have going on in Madison.

Goals as Development Officer: To share our story with as many alumni and friends as I can.

DSU's Most Impressive Characteristic: Even though this university is one of the most technologically-advanced institutions in the country, the school has never forgotten its roots

as a school which began many, many years ago to train students to become educators. As was the case in 1881, our students still come from small towns across South Dakota, western Minnesota, and northwest Iowa.

Previous Work Experience: Executive Director of the South Dakota Golf Association (2005-2018); Sportswriter/Sports Editor, Argus Leader (1989-2005); Director of Correctional Industries, State Penitentiary (1987-1992).

What is one thing about you that would surprise people: I am a huge fan of Dawes, an American indie rock band based out of Los Angeles. I have seen them in concert multiple times.

Are you over 70 ½ years of age?

Do you have an IRA subject to required minimum distributions?

Do we have a QCD for you!

You can make a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) up to \$100,000 directly from your IRA to Dakota State University.

With few individuals expected to itemize under the new tax laws, the income tax deduction for contributions to charities will be lost for many people. However, if you make a QCD, you will get full exclusion for that income from taxes.

Making a QCD has two main advantages: The QCD counts toward satisfying the individual's required minimum distribution for the year, and the distribution is excluded from the taxpayer's income.

Check with your financial planner or tax attorney to verify if this is the right charitable contribution for you.

Contact the Dakota State University Foundation for more information.

DSU
DAKOTA STATE
FOUNDATION

605-256-5693
advancement@dsu.edu

new staff

MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS



Kelli Koepsell

Director of Marketing and Communications

kelli.koepsell@dsu.edu :: 605-256-5106

First Day on the Job: June 12, 2018

Job Duties: *I am responsible for leading a team in marketing and communications for the university.*

Goals as Director: *A consistent brand is a driver for all of our marketing efforts. Our department will raise awareness and build our reputation locally, regionally, and nationally.*

DSU's Most Impressive Characteristic: *Its people.*

Previous Work Experience: *I spent 15 years in marketing at Sanford Health. Prior to that, I spent 10 years at Dakota State University in marketing and public relations.*

What is one thing about you that would surprise people: *I am a breast cancer survivor. I was diagnosed at age 45 with a routine mammogram. I am an advocate for mammograms for all women starting at age 40. I am also a Bright Pink health educator, where I present to various groups about breast and ovarian health.*



Shannon Steffke

Marketing and Branding Coordinator

shannon.carder@dsu.edu :: 605-256-5126

First Day on the Job: October 1, 2018

Job Duties: *I am responsible for helping set marketing strategy for DSU and managing the DSU brand. I will work to provide creative direction within the marketing and communications department.*

Goals as Marketing and Branding Coordinator: *My goal is to capture the spirit of DSU and share that spirit through meaningful and strategic marketing and promotion.*

DSU's Most Impressive Characteristic: *I'm incredibly impressed by the nationally-recognized programming that is happening right here in*

Madison, South Dakota. Not only that, I am a product of an all-women's high school education and am always excited to see women entering fields like math and science, which have typically been dominated by men.

Previous Work Experience: *I bring a variety of experience with me to DSU. I have a background in journalism, marketing, advertising, public affairs, fundraising, and copywriting.*

What is one thing about you that would surprise people: *I have flown with the U.S. Navy Blue Angels. As a reporter at KSFY-TV in Sioux Falls, I was awarded the opportunity to go up in the plane and experience the thrills of an FA-18 Hornet.*



Jen Burris

Strategic Communications Coordinator
jennifer.burris@dsu.edu :: 605-256-5120

First Day on the Job: September 12, 2018

Job Duties: Raising awareness about Dakota State University and creating content to be shared internally and externally that communicates what is happening at DSU through news releases, media pitches, articles, and social media.

Goals as Communications Coordinator: One of my goals as a communications coordinator is to share stories of students, staff, and faculty members. I will also strive to highlight the many positive changes and accomplishments that occur on this campus regularly. I plan to help promote DSU and bring awareness to all the wonderful people involved with this university.

DSU's Most Impressive Characteristic: DSU's most impressive characteristic to me is the friendliness and openness of the faculty, staff, and students, combined with the drive to continuously improve and embrace technology in every area of the university.

Previous Work Experience: Prior to starting my position at Dakota State University I was a reporter/photographer/social media admin. at Pipestone Publishing in Pipestone, Minn.

What is one thing about you that would surprise people: I enjoy watching classic movies from the '40s, '50s, and '60s.



Joelle Johnson

Web Editor
joelle.johnson@dsu.edu

First Day on the Job: October 23, 2018

Job Duties: The web editor is responsible for the successful management of digital strategy for Dakota State University to help build awareness of the brand while promoting specific programs and services to facilitate engagement and interaction with our target audiences.

Goals as Web Editor: My goals with this position will be to: leverage technology to meet brand objectives based on consumer insight and data; lead the development of results-driven digital marketing strategies; drive the analysis of marketing campaigns and initiatives; and to

identify tactics for optimizing marketing and marketing effectiveness to support the execution of digital marketing strategies.

DSU's Most Impressive Characteristic: I've been most impressed with how passionate the faculty, administration, staff, and students are for DSU.

Previous Work Experience: My previous roles were at Sanford Health. The most recent role was as IT Support Services Manager, and prior to that, I was the Digital Marketing Manager.

What is one thing about you that would surprise people: People would be surprised that I own and captain a houseboat on the Missouri River.



Brittnei Shoup-Owens

Content Writer
brittnei.shoup-owens@dsu.edu

First Day on the Job: October 29, 2018

Job Duties: Write about a wide variety of topics for multiple platforms, create engaging and innovating headlines and body copy, proofread content for errors or additions, collaborate with team members for new ideas and strategies, research and organize facts and sources.

Goals as Content Writer: As a content writer, it is my goal to help DSU achieve content that is innovating, engaging, and original.

DSU's Most Impressive Characteristic: I think that DSU's most impressive characteristic is having professors who care about their students and want their students to succeed. Having been a student, I know how hard college can be, however, the professors at DSU really care and are always willing to lend a helping hand.

Previous Work Experience: Quality Control Specialist at Bulldog Media Group.

What is one thing about you that would surprise people: My dad and sister also work at DSU.

Junior running back Brodie Frederiksen runs the ball in a 49-33 victory over Briar Cliff University.

ATHLETICS

new staff

DSU TROJAN ATHLETICS



Richard Speas

Assistant Athletic Director

richard.speas@dsu.edu :: 515-720-3198

First Day on the Job: July 30, 2018

Job Duties: I assist with the DSU athletic administration with an emphasis on fundraising.

Goals as Assistant Athletic Director: My goal is to support the mission and vision of the institution and the athletics department.

DSU's Most Impressive Characteristic: The vision of the institution and also the excellent relationship between the university and the community.

Previous Work Experience: I have spent 40 years in education, including extensive experience as a college coach, HPE faculty, athletic administration, and admissions.

What is one thing about you that would surprise people: I once had a full head of hair.



Melanie Hiller

Events Coordinator/Senior Secretary

melanie.hiller@dsu.edu :: 605-256-5066

First Day on the Job: July 9, 2018

Job Duties: As event coordinator for athletic events, I organize pre-game shows, half-time programs, and hospitality rooms. I also oversee Trojan concession with hiring, training, inventory, and sales. I work with the Trojan Athletic Club organizing clothing, member cards, benefits, perks, selling and promoting memberships, and work with Future Trojan activities. As senior secretary, I assist with purchasing, contracts, invoicing, and help athletic staff organize activities within their particular sport.

Goals as Event Coordinator and Senior Secretary: One goal is to do whatever I can to make our department succeed to its best ability. With event coordinating, I want everyone to walk away saying "that was a great experience."

Finally, I want to make sure I do my best to help my co-workers have successful events and seasons and bring a positive attitude to our work environment every day.

DSU's Most Impressive Characteristic: The most impressive characteristic is how welcoming everyone has been. There has been such a positive outlook and excitement with DSU's future. So many have put so much time and energy into making DSU great. It is really impressive!

Previous Work Experience: Banquet supervisor and guest coordinator at Grand Targhee Resort; event coordinator at Scheels in Sioux Falls, and owner of Verde Vines N Stones in Colman, S.D.

What is one thing about you that would surprise people: I beat cancer two years ago. "Fight Like A Girl."



Cross Country Head Coach Anthony Drealan, winner of the 2018 NSAA Men's Cross Country Coach of the Year award.



Amy Veenhof, DSU's volleyball coach, and NSAA Volleyball Coach of the Year for 2018.

DSU COACHES AND ATHLETES EARN FALL SPORTS HONORS

Drealan, Veenhof named NSAA coaches of the year

Dakota State University Coaches, athletes, and programs earned several honors during the fall sports season.

Cross Country

Cross Country Head coach Anthony Drealan was selected as the North Star Athletic Association (NSAA) Men's Cross Country Coach of the Year after guiding the Trojans to its second North Star conference title in program history.

Three members of the men's team also earned NSAA honors. Braden Curnow was named NSAA Men's Cross Country All-Conference for his third straight season, Maxwell Cruse for his second consecutive year, and Matthew Dunn earned his first all-conference honor. The men's team also earned the NSAA's automatic team bid for the NAIA Men's Cross Country National Championships, the first time since 2009.

The Trojan women's team earned its highest-place finish in the NSAA cross country conference meet with a third-place finish. Jacia Christiansen was named NSAA Women's Cross Country All-Conference for the first time in her Trojan career.

Football

Curt Boeke was selected as the 2018 Co-Dacotah Bank/NSAA Football Defensive Player-of-the-Year. Boeke, a senior defensive lineman, shared the award with Dickinson State's (N.D.) Jay Liggins. He completed his impressive career at Dakota State with 290 tackles, 19 quarterback sacks, five pass break-ups, and an interception.

A total of twelve players were listed on the 2018 Dacotah Bank/NSAA Football All-Conference teams. Six were named to the first team (Curt Boeke, Ryan Dozier, Brodie Frederiksen, Mason Leighton, Caleb Nielsen, and Brandon Schmit); two to the Second Team All-Conference (John Trout and Marcus Vanden Bosch); four made the Honorable Mention All-Conference team (David Bond, Michael Cleveland, Mitchell Galloway, and Alexander Maxey).

The DSU football team also kept the Chamber of Commerce traveling trophy in Madison for another year. The Chamber of Commerce in both Madison and Mitchell established a

football traveling cup in 2017 between rivals Dakota State and Dakota Wesleyan. The winner of the annual contest keeps the trophy in their respective city until the next meeting.

The Trojans won the cup August 24, 2017, defeating the Tigers 56-39 at Trojan Field; they will keep it for a second straight year after beating DWU 27-18 in the teams' 73rd all-time meeting on August 23, 2018 in Mitchell.

Volleyball

Tenth-year head coach Amy Veenhof was selected as the North Star Volleyball Coach of the Year. She guided the Trojans to their first winning season, home court winning record, and most conference wins since 2015.

Senior Barbara Briceno and junior Samantha Zell were selected as the NSAA Volleyball All-Conference First Team players.

The team ended their regular season with a 19-13 overall record. One of those wins was against Viterbo University (W.I.). DSU beat the nationally-ranked No. 7 team on Senior Day, ending the V-Hawks' 53-game North Star conference winning streak. Viterbo later bested the Trojans in the post-season conference tournament championship match, a contest that was DSU's first-ever appearance in the NSAA championship final.



Dennis and Donna Rensch of rural Ramona, S.D. helped celebrate the area's ag heritage as honorary captains of DSU's third annual Ag Bowl.

(photo courtesy Donald Weidler)

RENSCH FAMILY NAMED HONORARY AG BOWL CAPTAINS FOR 2018

DSU Athletics honors Ramona farm family

Dennis and Donna Rensch, farmers from Ramona, S.D., were the honorary captains for the 2018 Ag Bowl on Sept. 6.

"Area farm families have been the backbone of our region for generations," said Jeff Dittman, athletic director. The Rensch family has farmed since 1974, taking over Donna's family farm when her father, Harold Minnaert, retired. This family history made them an ideal choice as 2018 honorary captains.

DSU started the Ag Bowl three years ago as a way to spotlight the contributions of families like the Rensch family. Dennis and Donna have four children, Jena Thornton, Jill Reents, Jon Rensch, and Jeff Rensch, who is a 1992 alumnus of the business administration program.

Jeff was also an All-American athlete for Trojan football. A defensive back (free safety), he still holds the all-time record of 18 interceptions from 1988-91. He also tied the single-season school record of seven interceptions in his senior season (1991). He was honored in 1991 as an NAIA Football Honorable Mention player,

and was a three-time SDIC All-Conference player (1989, 1990, and 1991).

Jeff now works in the Twin Cities for a commercial construction company. His job involves HR work, purchasing, accounting, and management/scheduling, and he credits his DSU degree for his career success because "there's technology in all of it."

Farming is the same way, Jeff said.

"My parents are the perfect example of how technology is helping farmers," said Jeff. "If it weren't for technology, there'd be no way they'd still be farming. That's true for our family, and a lot of other farmers."

Dennis recalled when technology in ag equipment first came out. "We said we didn't need it," he remembered, but Donna stated, "now we wouldn't be without it."

"We're just scratching the surface," with tech innovations in modern farming practices and ag equipment, said Jeff. "I can't wait to see where it goes."

The same is true for the future of DSU. "It's limitless," said Donna, "and it's exciting to be right next door."

JOIN THE TROJAN ATHLETIC CLUB



The "team behind the teams" is made up of alumni and supporters interested in supporting DSU Athletics.

Membership dues provide scholarship and program support for DSU's 12 varsity teams, and can be specified for a particular team or distributed to the general athletic fund.

The TAC mission:

Raise scholarship dollars for the DSU Athletics Department.

Increase fan attendance & enthusiasm for athletics.

Sign up at dsuathletics.com or call 605.256.5229

Ray Peterson '68 was the 2018 Homecoming parade marshal.

CLASS NOTES



KLOSTERMAN NAMED *National Civil Air Patrol Cadet of the Year*

Joshua Klosterman '17, '18

(BS Network and Security Administration)

(MS Information Assurance and Computer Security)

Klosterman was named the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Cadet of the Year for 2017, selected from over 30,000 CAP cadets as the most outstanding in the nation. He is a lieutenant colonel with the South Dakota Wing Civil Air Patrol, and a member of the Big Sioux Composite Squadron in Brookings.

Since joining Civil Air Patrol as a 12-year-old cadet, he has been a consistently high achiever, rapidly rising through the ranks and earning numerous awards, achievements, and qualifications. While a cadet, he qualified as a ground branch director, a position normally held by an adult officer, on a CAP Emergency Services Incident Command Team.

In addition, he qualified as a ground search and rescue team leader and has participated in numerous real-world searches and in training events. He was a member of his squadron's award-winning Big Sioux CyberPatriot computer cyber-defense team for several years. Joshua has served on several Cadet Advisory Councils, first representing his squadron to the wing, then the South Dakota Wing to the North Central Region, and finally the North Central Region to national level council.

This August, Klosterman began working at the MITRE Corporation in Maryland doing cybersecurity research. He plans to continue his service with the Civil Air Patrol by transferring from South Dakota Wing to one of the CAP squadrons in the Maryland Wing.

The South Dakota Wing of the Civil Air Patrol, with squadrons in Sioux Falls, Brookings, Rapid City, Pierre, Custer, and Spearfish, has approximately 300 members, seven light aircraft, and 17 multi-purpose vehicles. Civil Air Patrol, the longtime all-volunteer U.S. Air Force auxiliary, is the newest member of the Air Force's total force. In this role, CAP operates a fleet of 560 aircraft, performs about 90 percent of continental U.S. inland search and rescue missions as tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center, and is credited by the AFRCC with saving an average of 80 lives annually. CAP's 58,000 members also perform homeland security, disaster relief, and drug interdiction missions at the request of federal, state, and local agencies.

SIX ALUMNI HONORED FOR OUTSTANDING ACCOMPLISHMENTS

When the Homecoming committee chose a space-related theme last April for the Sept. 24-29 celebration, little did they know how accurate the theme “Dakota Space: Infinite Possibilities” would prove to be.

At the same time, plans were in the works for another space-themed event at DSU, Space Day 2018. The focal point of the August 27 event was a live Q&A session with an astronaut onboard the International Space Station. At least 250 people watched the event live in the Beacom Institute of Technology; others were able to watch online (See page 16).

While Space Day focused on the world far away from campus, Homecoming festivities focused on the infinite possibilities of the space near to DSU and its students. The DSU Foundation also honored several alumni who make a difference in their space.

“These individuals are representative of so many of our alumni, people who take the infinite possibilities made available to them through their DSU education and create positive changes in the space where they live and work. We were pleased to honor six individuals for their accomplishments at this year’s Homecoming,” said Jona Schmidt, former director of alumni relations.



Derek Barrios '08

Young Alumnus

Barrios has served as teacher, coach, principal, and superintendent in South Dakota since graduating from Dakota State University. He is currently superintendent for the Elk Point/Jefferson School District. A native of Brookings, Barrios' passion is to educate students

to their highest potential. He also acts as a servant leader for educators in his school districts. A member of the Trojan football team, Barrios was named an All-DAC player in 2005 and 2006. His parents, Phil and Maria Barrios, are also DSU alumni, as is his wife Amanda (Kaufmann). He and Amanda have two children, Addilyn (7) and Kroy (3).



Shelly Rawstern '93

Service to Alma Mater

Rawstern began working at Dakota State University in 1985, and used her work environment to her advantage, receiving a degree in modern office systems from DSU in 1992 by taking classes part-time. Over the years she has held various positions in the College of Education,

ranging from secretary to her current role as assessment coordinator. Rawstern has been involved with a variety of projects such as accreditation, student success, and continuous quality improvement. Additionally, Rawstern has served as the state representative for the Civil Service Association since 2003. Rawstern and her husband Kory have one son, Remington, who is in the sixth grade this year.



Cheryl Angle '93

Outstanding Educator

Angle received a secretarial certification in 1977 from Dakota State College, but returned to school and went on to graduate with an education degree in the spring of 1993. The Wakonda native has spent her years since educating and advising students, coaching

volleyball, basketball, and cheerleading, in Kadoka and Colman-Egan. Working with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) is another important, passion-filled responsibility in her life. Angle and her husband Dean have one daughter, Linnie, who graduated from DSU in 2017. She is now a graduate student at Maryville University, St. Charles, M.O., studying to be an occupational therapist.



Chris Lather '12

Alumni Coach of the Year

Lather has served as a K-12 special education teacher at Castlewood since graduating. During that time, he has taken on Special Olympics coaching duties in bowling, basketball, soccer, track, and bocce. This past July, Lather coached the Special Olympics High School

Unified Basketball team that represented South Dakota at the USA Games in Seattle, Wash., where they defeated a team from Minnesota in the championship game.

Additionally, he has served as assistant varsity football coach in Hamlin, winning the 9B Championship in 2014. He has also coached boys' basketball and teener baseball.



Charlie Kludt '93

Professional Service

Kludt has held a variety of roles since graduating in 1993 with a degree in vocational technical teacher education. He currently serves as a station captain and fire prevention inspector at Joe Foss Field in Sioux Falls and is a member of several associations and volunteer positions. Prior

to his positions at Joe Foss Field, Kludt spent several years at Viborg school teaching industrial technology and computers, along with coaching. Additionally, Kludt served as mayor of Viborg for 14 years. He has also been a member of the volunteer fire department and EMT for the ambulance since 1993. Kludt and his wife Dawn, who graduated from DSU in 1990, have four children, three boys and a girl, ranging in age from 17 to 27.



Deana Hueners-Nelson '93

Service to Alma Mater

Hueners-Nelson has served her alma mater in teaching and advising with excellence since 1997. An instructor of academic skills, she has taught in a variety of programs: English, the China student exchange program, the Tamagawa student exchange

program, the Dakota Language Institute, and the Technology for Teaching and Learning Academy. She has also served as a campus club advisor for Sigma Tau Delta English honor society and the American Association for University Women (AAUW). Hueners-Nelson was awarded the 2008 Alexander "Sandy" Davidson Award for Excellence in Advising.

She served as a representative on the Community Center Board and is a co-founder of the Madison Area Stands Together (MAST) community action group. She lives in Madison with her husband, Dr. John Nelson.



Angela Nelson, Jessica Bauer, and Mackenzie Jensen take part in Alumni Day in Harrisburg, SD.

Angela Nelson '02
(Elementary Education),

Jessica (Honermann) Bauer '03
(Elementary Education),

Mackenzie (Hallberg) Jensen '07
(Elementary Education)

took part in Alumni Day at Journey Elementary in Harrisburg (S.D.). Nelson is an interventionist/instructional coach, Bauer is a 1st grade facilitator, and Jensen is a kindergarten facilitator at Journey Elementary, where DSU alumnus **Rob Sylliaasen '02** (Education) is the principal.

June Havelaar Carlson '47
(Education)

is living in Omaha N.E. Carlson worked for U.S. West Telephone Co. for 22 years, retiring in 1986.

Tom Lorang '66
(History and English)

was awarded an honorary doctorate of humane letters from Mount Marty College in Yankton (S.D.) at their spring commencement. Lorang served as interim president for Mount Marty from 2014-15. He previously served as superintendent of Sioux Falls Catholic Schools, retiring after 35 years.

Pat Maroney '67
(History)

a longtime Howard resident, and his family made an endowment on July 10, to the Horizon Health Foundation. This is the first endowment established through the Horizon Health Foundation since the foundation's conception in 2016. It will be used to support the needs of Horizon Health Care's patients residing in Miner County.

David Spolum '67
(Art)

has retired after 51 years of teaching art. A Watertown native, he taught in Colorado for 24 years, and at the Flandreau (S.D.) schools since 1991. He reported in a May 9, 2018 Moody County Enterprise article that he is rewarded when students start believing they can create something good. Some of his students have become professional artists, art educators, and entered their original pieces in art shows. In retirement, he plans to work on his own projects, and spend time with family.

Larry Leeds '79
(Education)

received the 2017 Entringer Hall of Fame award. The award is given annually during the Entringer Classic basketball tournament, named after the late Michael Entringer, a long-time South Dakota sports official.

Wade Merry '79
(Business Administration)

is a new development officer at Dakota State University, having stepped down from his position as Executive Director of the South Dakota Golf Association. Merry had been with SDGA since 2004.

Mary Jo Vance '88
(BIS)

is a project manager and senior management advisor at The Weston Group in Sioux Falls (S.D.). Vance is certified as a senior professional in human resources. She was previously at Wells Fargo.



Rob Van Laecken '74
(Industrial Arts)

former coach of the Parkston (S.D.) Trojans girls basketball team, was inducted into the National High School Coaches Association Hall of Fame at a June 26 ceremony in Sioux Falls, S.D. He retired in 2014 after 37 years with Parkston, having recorded 595 wins with the Trojans. He is also a member of the S.D. High School Coaches Association Hall of Fame, the Dakota State University Hall of Fame, South Dakota Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Shrine. At his retirement, he was the winningest high school girls' basketball coach in state history.

Julie Wulf Plimpton '92, '14
(BS Medical Records Admin)
(MS Health Informatics)

is an assistant professor of health information management at DSU. She was recently selected to serve a three-year term on the Health Informatics Practice Council for the American Health Information Management Association.

David Hanen '96
(Biology)

is superintendent at the award-winning Buffalo Lake-Hector-Stewart Schools in Hutchinson, Minn. BHLS recently received "Reward School" status for 2015 and 2016 for test results in math and reading, and received excellence in math and reading recognition from the State of Minnesota in 2017 and 2018. This past fall, BLHS was awarded the "Great Places to Work" award from the Hutchinson Leader, and was named a Blue Ribbon School in the fall of 2018.

Meranda Sylliaasen '99
(English Information Systems)

has been promoted to director of digital publishing at First PREMIER Bank. She oversees all digital communication on behalf of First PREMIER. Sylliaasen has been with First PREMIER Bank for over eight years.

Luke Hutcheson '01, '05
(BS, MS Information Systems)

was promoted within AVP Software Development in Sioux Falls (S.D.) at PREMIER Bankcard.

Angi Kappenman '01
(Marketing)

was promoted to Vice President for Human Resources at DSU. Kappenman has been with DSU since 2014.

Josh Pauli '02 BS, '03 MS
(Information Systems)

was named the Vice President for Research and Economic Development at DSU. Pauli is also a professor in The Beacom College of Computer and Cyber Sciences.

Rodney Heetland '03

(Business Information Systems)
was promoted at MetaBank in Sioux Falls (S.D.) to application administration manager, where he oversees a team who provides support for Meta's critical business applications. Heetland has been at Meta for five years.

Nick Thompson '04

(Elementary Education)

is a broker associate with Keller William Realty in Sioux Falls. He and his family live in Canton (S.D.) where Nick is a volunteer firefighter and a member of the Canton Economic Development Corporation board.

Scott Headrick '05, '09

(BS Business Education)

(MS Educational Technology)

was honored in April with the Honorable Mention Award for teachers from NCWIT Aspirations in Computing. Headrick is the technology integrationist and high school personal finance and business teacher for K-12 students in the Dell Rapids (S.D.) School District.

**Lindsey Tellinghuisen '08**

(Elementary Education)

received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics this summer. She was honored at the federal Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Summit in Washington, D.C. in June. Tellinghuisen is a fourth grade teacher at Willow Lake School. She initiated a Crazy 8's after school math club in her district, is a member of the South Dakota Council of Teachers of Mathematics and National Council of Teachers of Mathematics member, and has been a teacher leader with South Dakota Counts.

Matt Paulson '08

(Computer Science)

was awarded the 2017 Spirit of Enterprise award by the Brookings-based Enterprise Institute. Paulson is chairman of the Falls Angel Fund, founder of MarketBet, and involved in the Sioux Falls start-up scene as an entrepreneur-in-residence at the Zeal Center for Entrepreneurship.

Brock Wittrock '11

(Computer Science)

is a network administrator at Concrete Materials, a division of Sweetman Construction, Co., in Sioux Falls (S.D.). Wittrock was previously the senior Windows system administrator and technical area lead at EROS.

Mowe Simpson '12

(MS Health Informatics)

had an article published in the Feb. 2018 edition of the Journal of American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA). He also has an AHIMA-published video on YouTube:
youtu.be/yue2c-kYwXY.

Patrick Gilmore '14

(Computer Game Design)

has been promoted to the position of application analyst by Jennie-O Turkey Store in Willmar, M.N. In his new role he will be leading his own projects and coordinating the efforts for them. Gilmore has worked for Jennie-O since 2015.

**Tina Boldt-Belden '16**

(MS Educational Technology)

was honored in April with the 2018 NCWIT Aspirations in Computing – Educator Award. The award is sponsored by AT&T and designed to celebrate educators who encourage high school women's interest and participation in technology. Boldt-Belden is the technology coordinator and middle school computer teacher in Ipswich, S.D.

IN MEMORIUM

Olga (Gorder) Lenander '39

LaVina Jane (Drake) Anderson '40

Lenore B. (Ebeling) Parry '40

Lorraine Bertha (Haak)
Laufmann '41

Stella Beatrice (Lenander)
Graham '41

Marguerite L. (Fritz) Atkins '42

Byrne M. (Haak) Crisp '43

Leoris Joy (Uthe) Fallon '44

Delores A. (Voegeli) Welch '47

Marian Geneva Huber '50

Jean Kay (Tyrrell) Turner '53

Neva (Benz) Holter '56

Carol Jean (Tollefson) Myers '56

Mona L. (Nielson) Nelson '58

Robert J. Campbell '60

Douglas D. Groce '62

Wesley B. Gunnare '62

Ronald Elmer Lembcke '62

Carol Jean (Callihan) Fairbanks '65

Robert Eugene Thompson '65

Thomas L. Warren '66

Willard L. Riley '67

Nancy Jean (Goeman)
McGowan '67

Lynn Fredrich Richter '69

Joy (Hafner) Fischer '70

Bonnie (Berg) Henry '71

Mary Eileen (Winker) Ferry '71

Dexter R. Johnson '75

Robert James Lynch '75

Cynthia Jo (Merrill) Elliott '75

Mike Kerns
(attended from 1974-1978)

Elizabeth (Oakley) Klingbile '78

James A. Aisenbrey '80

Roma E. Larson '82

Patrick B. Bjork '84

Leroy Rodgers '89

William M. Nealy '98

Casey Tollefson '08

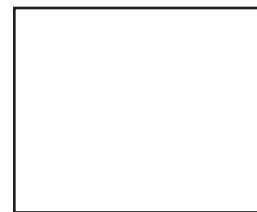
Lindsee Renee Kennerly '10



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