

DAKOTA STATE

FOR OUR ALUMNI, PARENTS AND FRIENDS

MAGAZINE

This issue features the College of Arts & Sciences

SPRING 2018





Dear DSU Community,

This issue of our alumni magazine focuses on the arts and sciences at Dakota State University. Studies in these areas have always been and continue to be key contributors to the success of our DSU graduates.

These days a lot of the conversation around getting a college education focuses on career-readiness and one of the core missions of DSU, digital fluency, or skills in the cyber sciences. A DSU degree leads in both.

However, university graduates today more than ever will be living out their professional careers in a rapidly changing global economy of ever greater diversity and multidisciplinary interdependence. Research has shown that today's graduates will average five to seven career changes in their lifetime. Whatever their chosen career, they will live through swiftly evolving modifications in the skills and knowledge required to continue to be successful in their fields.

A recent survey revealed that 90 percent of all recent college graduates believed they were well prepared for their jobs. Unfortunately, only half of hiring managers agreed with them. Interestingly, the hiring managers were not concerned about their young employees' knowledge of the field in which they had landed a job. No, the companies were most concerned about these graduates' ability to problem solve, critical thinking skills, creativity, writing proficiency, attention to detail, and speaking ability. Those were the skills companies found most lacking in the new grads joining their efforts.

While education in a specific field can contribute to these soft skills, it is study and participation more generally in the arts and sciences that zeroes in on them. In his book, *The World Is Flat: A Brief History of the Twenty-First Century*, Thomas Friedman states that "in an age when parts or all of many jobs are constantly going to be exposed to digitization, automation, and outsourcing...it is not only what you know but how you learn that will set you apart. Because what you know today will be out-of-date sooner than you think."

Albert Einstein said, "The greatest scientists are always artists as well." Decades later, a MacArthur "genius grant" fellow, Robert Bernstein, set out to see if Einstein's statement was true. He examined the biographies of the top 100 scientists who lived over the last 200 years, including those who led the technology revolution that launched us into this Cyber Age. What he found was that Einstein was totally correct: every single one of the 100 scientists was not only accomplished in her or his field, but in one of the creative arts as well.

In this issue of our magazine you will read some thoughtful insights by luminaries in the arts and sciences who are part of our DSU faculty. You will also read about a few highlights of DSU's many activities and achievements in the arts and sciences. Through these endeavors and others like them, DSU students have multiple opportunities to hone their abilities in "learning how to learn," to express and develop their creativity, their problem solving and critical thinking skills, their writing and speaking skills, and their global understanding and insight. These are essential to their future and ongoing success in their careers as well as their contributions to their communities as citizens of the world. The arts and sciences are rising at Dakota State University.

Warmly,

Dr. José-Marie Griffiths
President

Rising programs in the College of Arts & Sciences

The Dakota State University College of Arts and Sciences has seen a great deal of growth and change in the past two years and our students are doing some amazing things. Our digital arts and design program has a great mix of opportunities for students to learn about and create professional quality graphic design work: impressive 2D and 3D animations; audio, music, and sound arts; and we have the only film and cinematic arts program in South Dakota. When the Beacom Institute of Technology opened, it included a state of the art animation lab with all the high-end computing power one might see in a Pixar studio. Our graphics labs expanded, updated their computers, and the studios designed for students to create and collaborate provide an environment that W. L. Dow, Beadle Hall's architect, would appreciate.

But as you might expect, growth and change in the College of Arts and Sciences are more than the technology we use and the buildings in which we teach and learn. In addition to adding the film program, we brought a philosopher back to the faculty. Associate Professor Joseph Bottum came to Dakota State University to teach philosophy and most importantly, ethics, to students learning cyber security. In fact, President Griffiths and I charged him with directing the Classics Institute to do public outreach on the computer revolution's impact. The institute will also develop a professional cyber-ethic for our students and the wider public. Joe writes weekly columns in an online newspaper, *The Free Beacon*, is often invited for radio and TV interviews, and has been asked to speak at other universities around the country. He's a compelling writer and his thoughts on the importance of the liberal arts can

be found in the following pages.

We've also been able to grow our mathematics and art faculty in the past couple years and are pleased to have brought on Mark Spanier, Richard Wicklein, and after many years as an adjunct and instructor, Ms. Angela Behrends to do her amazing work as a tenure track professor of art. Angela's work has been exhibited around the state and her students are constantly inspired by her creativity. Our English for New Media program faculty have begun a graduate certificate in digital humanities and this fall we will begin offering a new interdisciplinary degree program called Cyber Leadership and Intelligence. The focus of this major is to educate students in digital forensics, world affairs, human behavior, and most importantly, leadership.

Speaking of leadership, we know our natural sciences students are leaders as we've had students named as Goldwater Scholars two years in a row. This highly competitive national scholarship demonstrates that our students, even as undergrads, are doing top quality scholarly research and getting noticed at international research conferences and published in scientific journals. Last year's winner, Ms. Hope Juntunen, and this year's winner, Ms. Vaille Swenson, comprise half of South Dakota's Goldwater scholars for the last two years. The expertise and hard work of the biology and chemistry faculty, led by Dale Droge, Michael Gaylor, and Patrick Videau have enabled our students to achieve these prestigious awards. So as you can see, the College of Arts and Sciences faculty, from philosophy to music to art and biology, are guiding our students to new heights. Arts and sciences at DSU are rising.



Dr. Benjamin Jones
Dean, College of Arts & Sciences

Table of Contents

4	Arts & Sciences
14	Campus News
20	Advancing the Mission
25	Athletics
28	Class Notes

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Cover image: Student artwork from the recent DSU French Film Festival. See page 7 for artwork credits.

The Humanities

by Dr. Joseph Bottum, Associate Professor and
Director of the Classics Institute

There's a curious moment in *David Copperfield*, Charles Dickens's classic 1850 novel about how children grow into adults. The young David's mother has remarried after the death of David's father, and the new husband—a handsome man with the ugly name of Mr. Murdstone—is determined to divide his wife from his stepson. Punishing the boy for any imagined slight, he continually locks David in a room that contains little but his dead father's dusty old books.

As it happens, the books are mostly novels: *Don Quixote*, *Robinson Crusoe*, and the like. In desperate boredom and a child's incapacity to understand why he is being rejected, David begins to read the stories. And in their pages, he receives his inheritance from his true father: the fantastical escape the books offer from his terrible situation and the lessons they teach about human behavior. The young David devours the novels – “reading as if for life,” in Dickens's haunting phrase.

Keep those words in mind for a moment: “reading as if for life.” There are defenses of the humanities one sometimes encounters that argue for the practicality of philosophy, history, and literature. A shockingly high percentage of CEOs of major corporations have undergraduate degrees in the liberal arts, for example. On average, history majors make more money in their careers after college than do those who major in many supposedly more useful fields. Advanced literature courses teach skills in reading and writing that will prove helpful for any analytic field, from law to business, that the students later enter. Students who study Latin and Ancient Greek learn patterns of memorization and thoughtfulness about words that provide them with skills they will use for success in nearly any future job.

All of that is true enough. All of those defenses suggest real benefits to the humanities. And they are all completely beside the point. We would need to teach our undergraduates the liberal arts even if they were not particularly useful. For that matter, we would need to provide a grounding in the humanities even if the practical effect proved negative, actually slowing the students' advance toward good jobs.

The reason is that the liberal arts are only incidentally about practicality in the current job market. We do not teach “reading as if for future employment.” We teach “reading as if for life.” The humanities are not about what our students will do and how they will think when they are 22 years old. The liberal arts are about what our students will do and think when they are 40 or 50 or 70 years old. The name comes from the Latin word *liberalis*: the skills needed to be a free person.

So, for example, in the *Phaedo*, Socrates describes philosophy as the art of dying well. One prays that this is not a skill our undergraduates will need while they are young. But it is a skill they cannot avoid needing in old age, for the humanities tell us to remember that we are mortal creatures, and none of us will get out of this existence alive.

History, too, extends us in time, reminding us that our lives are not as narrow and new as we imagined them when we were teenagers. To be an adult is to know that we received this world from those who went before, and we must leave it to those who come after. Civilization is a contract, Edmund Burke once noted, that joins the dead, the living, and the unborn.

So, too, literature extends us psychologically and socially. When young David Copperfield was reading for his life, he was being shown



glimpses into how other people understand themselves: what goals they seek and what means they are willing to use to achieve their goals. Literature gives us an escape from ordinary life by extending our imagination into other worlds and other lives, even as it extends our understanding into the minds of other people. Literature is a liberal art because that extending of the self into awareness and knowledge of others is something we need to be free as adults.

Dakota State University is not primarily a liberal-arts college. The school has a practical focus on professional programs for careers in education, business, digital arts, technology and cyber sciences. But we at Dakota State teach the humanities—and we at Dakota State insist that liberal-arts courses lie at the core of education—because we know that our students will need more in their lives than the practical skills that will help them immediately after graduation.

Down through the decades, our students will need the arts of living and dying well. They will need an extension of themselves in time. They will need a generous imagination and grasp of human behavior. They will need, in other words, a grounding in the liberal arts as they grow in freedom.

Liberal arts education is important in changing world

"I do think that a general liberal arts education is very important, particularly in an uncertain changing world," said Drew Gilpin Faust, president of Harvard. Professors at Dakota State agreed wholeheartedly with her.

"We teach the particular skills our students will need for exciting careers in teaching, business, and emerging cyber fields," stated Dr. Justin Blessinger, professor of English in the College of Arts and Sciences, "but we add general education in the humanities through our core curriculum, because we know that educated people are extended people who approach new situations with the power to learn—the ability to say, 'I don't know how to do that . . . yet.'"



Dr. Kurt Kemper, professor of history in the College of Arts and Sciences and director of the General Beadle Honors program, also sees that ability as an important skill in the 21st Century.

"Considering that the Department of Labor projects that a sizable number of careers 25 years from now will be in fields that haven't even been invented yet, going to college for one skill or field is nowhere near as valuable as

majoring in a field that will give students the necessary soft skills that are valued in every profession," Kemper said. These skills include analytical writing, evidentiary-based thinking and critical reading.

Kemper said, "No matter what career students pursue, the ability to write well, consume material, think critically, and back up conclusions with evidence are sought after and rewarded."

Steve Jobs, former CEO and founder of Apple, Inc. credited the liberal arts – also called the humanities -- with that company's creativity. "The reason that Apple is able to create products like the iPad is because we've always tried to be at the intersection of technology and the liberal arts."

DSU student Trent Steen sees a great deal of similarity between technology and, for example, the liberal art of musical study. "I like the way systems interact in programming," he said, but "that is also exactly what music is, an interaction of the sound waves and language and other features to create

something that humans enjoy." A computer science major from Emery, S.D., Steen takes vocal and piano lessons, has been a member of the DSU choir, and works with the campus radio station, KDSU.

Director of Music Programs, Sandy Champion notes that music, technology and other disciplines can be blended for problem solving. "There are music hackathons," she said, "where musicians, programmers, and experts from other fields combine their efforts to solve a problem." Topics from the Monthly Music Hackathon NYC include music education, the science of music, and music visualization.

Champion has also developed an interdisciplinary fine arts course through the College of Education, in which education students learn to design thematic units infused with and driven by visual, musical, and dramatic arts.

Study of the liberal arts can also open new avenues for students. Steen notes that while much has been written indicating that people are either analytical right-brain people or creative left-brain, "from what I've read that's not true." By identifying as either right- or left-brain, "I feel like people are boxing themselves in, doing what they think they should do rather than what they could enjoy."

Blessinger said "the liberal arts teach us to see from fresh perspectives—showing us how our ancestors faced problems, for example, and training us to consider human experience in different cultures and places. In essence, the liberal arts extend us beyond ourselves."



The TroGIN & Tonic Big Band at DSU performed at their spring concert, an event which featured New York and Broadway themes. Computer science and math student Justin Jungemann was the featured soloist on "Suit & Tie" by Justin Timberlake.

DSU's tech-savvy students appreciate the liberal arts

Six films feature 'Animation and Inspiration'

"Students at DSU love their technology, but they really want that traditional liberal arts experience as well," said Dr. Susan Conover, professor of speech.

"It is important to give our students access to traditional arts and humanities experiences," she stated, "and they love it!"

Through a \$2,200 Tournées (pronounced tour-nay) French Film Festival grant which Conover received in 2017, the university provided such an experience on campus Feb. 23-25.

Five of the six films chosen by Conover and co-director Tim Orme, assistant professor of animation, were animated, so the festival was titled "Animation and Inspiration," to interest animation and film and cinematic arts students. The event also appealed to the greater campus community and the Madison area.

"The festival gave everyone a chance to experience a little trip to France to brighten up their late February," Conover said, and provided "an opportunity to develop a clearer understanding and appreciation for our European friends and neighbors."

Each of the films' animation style and subject matter was very different, Conover stated, "political, social, heartwarming,

sad, funny -- a little bit of everything, from aging women to disabled children to Cambodia's Khmer Rouge." The final film, a 1946 version of "Beauty and the Beast," was live action. "It was interesting to see one of the inspirations for the Disney film of the same name," she said.

The Tournées Film Festival is a program of the FACE Foundation (French-American Cultural Exchange), an American nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting French-American relations through innovative cultural and educational projects.

Founded in 1995, the Tournées Film Festival has partnered with over 500 universities, reaching an audience of over 500,000 students and community members all across the United States.

DSU was the only school in South Dakota to sponsor a Tournées Festival this year.

"We extend a big thank you to the professors who put on these festivals that inspire us, through exploring another culture, to become more tolerant, more curious, and more available to others," said Alejandra Norambuena Skira, director general of the Franco-American Cultural Fund.



Vive La France – to set the mood at the venues for the DSU French Film Festival in February, photography and art students supplied photos and artwork which represented the country.

The College of Arts and Sciences, the Department of Digital Arts and Design and the Animation and Film Programs at Dakota State University Present:

Animation and Inspiration

THE TOURNÉES FILM FESTIVAL

February 23-25, 2018 DSU Campus

Friday, February 23 - Festival Opens
5:00pm Beacom Building
Opening Festivities - Photography Show of French Travels,
French Cuisine, Opening Activities
6:30pm Guest Speaker on French Culture and Film
SDSU Professor of Modern Languages & Global Studies, Marie-Pierre Baggett



Phantom Boy
Beacom Building
Friday, February 23
7:00pm



My Life as a Zucchini
Habeger Science Center Auditorium
Saturday, February 24
7:00pm



The Missing Picture
Habeger Science Center Auditorium
Saturday, February 24
3:30pm



April and the Extraordinary World
Habeger Science Center Auditorium
Saturday, February 24
7:00pm



Louise by the Shore
Habeger Science Center Auditorium
Sunday, February 25
3:30pm



Beauty and the Beast
Habeger Science Center Auditorium
Sunday, February 25
7:00pm

*Tournées Film Festival made possible with the support of the Cultural Services of the French Embassy in the U.S., the Centre National du Cinéma et de l'Image Animée (CNC), the French American Cultural Fund, the Lucie Gould Foundation and Highbrow Entertainment.

DSU
DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

Event poster (left) created by Hannah Knock '18, a graphic design graduate from Willow Lake, S.D.

Cover artwork for this edition of the Alumni Magazine created by the following students in Angela Behrends' ART122 Design 2-D Color class:

(left column, from top) Trudy Jones, production animation, Sioux Falls, S.D.; Andrew Field, graphic design, Albert Lea, Minn.; Haley Frank, production animation, Tyndall, S.D.;

(second column from left, from top) Justin Ave, production animation, Tabor, S.D.; Rebekah Amussen, computer graphics, Sioux Falls, S.D.; Bryceton Hehn, graphic design, Sioux Falls, S.D.; Mackenzie Miller, production animation, Worthington, Minn.

(third column from left, from top); Vanessa Renteria, digital arts and design, Flandreau, S.D.; Korinne Roggenbuck, computer graphics, Milbank, S.D.; Shelby Gary, production animation, Harrisburg, S.D.; Caitlyn Palmquist, production animation, Howard, S.D.;

(right column, from top) Victorie Wilson, computer graphics, Laurens, Iowa; Andrew Bender, graphic design, Rapid City, S.D., Gabrielle Herlyn, production animation, Parker, S.D.



COMIC ARTIST DYLAN JACOBSON EMPOWERED BY DSU COMMUNITY

2012 alumnus tells stories through comics, school residencies

“The things you learn from other people are incredibly empowering.”
~ Dylan Jacobson

For comic artist, storyteller and educator Dylan Jacobson, Dakota State University provided an empowering learning community when he was a digital arts and design student.

“I owe a lot to DSU for those friendships,” Jacobson said. “All the people integral to getting things done came from DSU.”

Jacobson has succeeded at numerous endeavors since graduating in 2012. He is a successful comic book artist, storyteller, and an in-demand artist-in-residence at area schools with the South Dakota Arts Council (SDAC).

Through the SDAC Artist in Schools and Communities program, he has visited 10 schools since 2015, from Sisseton to Gregory to Sioux Falls, leading students through the process of creating a comic book.

“In a week, I try to give the students the tools to tell a great story,” he said. The students become very engaged in the process, he notes, “and it’s interesting to me that regardless of age the kids find power in knowing that cartooning could be a job for them.”

Relationship-building is part of his advice to the students: “Find the thing that matches what you want to do and get to know the people who will help you get there.”

Fellow DSU students helped Jacobson get to this point in his career. He and Travis Bentley ’11 (a colorist) were friendly rivals in college. “I always wanted to do better than Travis,” Jacobson said, but now they

work together as creator and illustrator, supporting each other’s careers.

Galatia Barton ’13, “a fantastic digital painter,” is another student who has helped with Jacobson’s current comic “Champions.”

He plans for this to be a series of six comics; two editions have been published, the third is on display at Coffea Roasterie and Espresso Bar on Louise Avenue in Sioux Falls, S.D. The fourth edition is in the works.

“Relationships are paramount,” Jacobson said. “DSU was able to do that with the staff and the culture. It felt like a great community,” he said.

Jacobson came to the university after graduating from Sioux Falls Washington, because “the technology was on the cutting edge, and I got a computer to use and internet,” he said. “Becoming acclimated with a computer

was a big deal, and now the internet is a tremendous part of my career.”

He launched his first web comic from his dorm room in 2011. “There is a sheer power of being naïve to something,” he said. “I didn’t know what was technically right or wrong when making the web comic, so I just made it.”

His second web comic, “The Tide that Returns,” is set to return as a print series in 2019.

After graduating from DSU, he worked at a web design company, but knew he eventually wanted to work for himself. Self-employed artists need several income streams, so in addition to the “Champions” series, he has a weblog and sells merchandise at area comic conventions (comic-cons). His work is also available on the membership platform Patreon.



Dylan Jacobson’s third edition of “Champions” is on display at the Louise Avenue location of Coffea Roasterie and Espresso Bar in Sioux Falls.

LEFT: An art piece Jacobson created specifically for this magazine.

Drive pays off for animation graduate

DSU education helps Butters '16 in 'dream' internship

Breanne Butters was one of Ryan English's most driven students at Dakota State University. The assistant professor in the College of Arts and Sciences said, "for her, it paid off."

Butters '16 spent the summer of 2017 as a production intern at DreamWorks TV Studio in Glendale, Calif.

DreamWorks Studios, along with Pixar and Walt Disney Animation Studios, are the top three animation companies in the world. DreamWorks TV is that company's television distribution and production division, and is now owned by Amblin Partners.

DreamWorks Studio has earned 22 Emmy Awards and three Academy Awards for work with franchises including "Shrek," "How to Train Your Dragon" and "Madagascar."

Butters worked on two spin-offs from these features, "All Hail King Julien," featuring a character from the Madagascar movies, and "Puss in Boots," from the Shrek series.

"My internship in the production department was designed for me

to learn," said the Des Moines, Iowa native, so she had a variety of duties which supported production assistants and coordinators, including taking notes in production meetings, coordinating and logging incoming and outgoing materials, and maintaining a database to track work progress.

"The internship was especially great to learn about the animation pipeline and see where I might fit in someday."

Lessons Butters learned at Dakota State were helpful to the DreamWorks job. "I was able to come out of my shell a bit and improve my ability to socialize with all kinds of people. I think it's been helpful in my internship to have developed enough confidence to be myself, which has helped me to become a good communicator."

Some experiences were in class, others were inspiring out-of-class activities such as for-fun projects with other animation students, or meeting and building relationships with new people through games of Humans versus Zombies (a live-action game



played with Nerf guns). A chance to study in Los Angeles for a summer with the National Student Exchange program through DSU was "very inspiring and rewarding."

Butters is now working towards a master of fine arts degree in digital animation and interactive media at The Ohio State University ACCAD (Advanced Computing Center for the Arts and Design), a program recommended to her by Dr. English.

After graduate school, Butters hopes to find a job in the animation industry as a storyboard artist.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics says multimedia artists and animators held about 64,400 jobs in 2014, and predicts the demand for animation and visual effects in video games, movies and television will lead to growth in the industry.

CHILD OF ALUMNI IN-STATE TUITION FOR OUT-OF-STATE TROJANS

Children of Dakota State University alumni can pay in-state tuition for their undergraduate degrees regardless of where they live.

The program, approved by the South Dakota Board of Regents, is limited to incoming freshmen or transfer students who attend the same university from which a parent or legal guardian received a degree.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: dsu.edu/admissions

'Small School, Big Science' teaches real-world skills

Problem-solving is paramount to career success: Kayli Rageth '15



Kayli Rageth didn't know how to answer when her DSU chemistry professor asked her what she wanted to do with her life.

The 22-year-old transfer student from Kimball, Nebraska had come to Dakota State University as the assistant women's basketball coach, and was finishing her bachelor's degree in biology.

A biochemistry project assigned by Dr. Michael Gaylor "impacted my research in a big way," she said. "It was very thought-provoking, very rigorous, and you needed to be innovative to get from point A to point B."

Students weren't given the answers, the concepts were not in the textbook, and it wasn't an exercise in memorization. Instead, "the project taught us to be problem-solvers," Rageth said.

"This was a tough assignment," she admitted, "but it prepared me for my career more than any other class in my undergraduate years, because to be successful in the world of science you must have the ability to think outside the box to solve real-world problems. These skills are paramount to career success."

After graduating in 2015 with a biology degree, her career began at Sioux Falls' Sanford Imaginetics, where she is currently a clinical computational epidemiologist. This program integrates genetic medicine into primary care in a field which can be referred to as

prevention and precision public health. She will also receive a master's degree in public health from SDSU this May, and is considering additional graduate work.

One thing that often goes unnoticed in science, Rageth said, is how the discipline goes hand-in-hand with technology in the real world. Gaylor's teaching methods help connect innovative science with technology, a fit with the signature technology mission at DSU.

"If students can be educated with the pairing of technology and science, it prepares them for great career paths in fields such as data science or computational mathematics," Rageth said.

Current students are on paths to promising careers, including five students who attended a 2018 Gordon Conference; all five were invited to the Sorbonne University in Paris (see page 8), and several have invitations to prestigious summer research opportunities.

"How many students at a small college get a chance like that as undergrads?" Rageth queried, noting the huge significance of such invitations.

"Being an alumna, it's nice to see a small school getting recognition in the science world."

She credited the university with the ability to create a community that has such connections. "Dr. Gaylor was a tough teacher, but those are the faculty members who cause you to grow."

Five DSU undergrads invited to Gordon Research Conference

Participation leads to Sorbonne invitation

Five Dakota State University undergraduate students started 2018 with a rare opportunity, attending an international Gordon Research Conference on the Origins of Life.

Gordon Conferences are based on the principles of free and open discussion of research at the frontiers of science, said Dr. Michael Gaylor, assistant professor of chemistry. The conferences maintain a set of core principles, including a “no publication” policy on ideas discussed at the meetings.

“The idea behind Gordon Conferences is to create an environment where scientists can freely think and talk about the most extreme possibilities in a number of scientific fields,” he stated.

Scientists, graduate students and post-doctoral fellows typically make up the 30,000 attendees at the 300 Gordon Research Conferences

held each year around the world. A Gordon Conference, he pointed out, “is generally not a venue for undergraduates.” However, after Gaylor participated in the 2016 Origins of Life conference, he was invited back to chair a session at the 2018 event. He was also asked to bring some of his undergraduate students.

He took five, including: Lucas Leinen '19 from Aberdeen, S.D., Hope Juntunen '19 from Hayti, S.D., Vaille Swenson '19 from Nederland, Colo., Briann Pitts '19 from Colman, S.D., and Alexis Vander Wilt '20 from Mitchell, S.D.

The students so impressed others at the conference that they were invited to attend a week-long course in computational chemistry and molecular modeling at the Paris-Sorbonne University later this summer. They were also invited to submit their work

for publication in a special issue of the Public Library of Science - Biology, which will focus on the origins of life.

They continue to impress even Gaylor himself. Juntunen, who is DSU's first ever Goldwater Scholar, published her first peer-reviewed journal article in February in the Journal of Chromatographic Science.

Swenson is the university's second Goldwater Scholar, and presented at the South Dakota Legislature Undergraduate Research Poster Session this winter.

The students have also received numerous summer research invitations, to institutions including Penn State, Columbia University, the Mayo Clinic, the University of Texas Medical Center, the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, and fellowships with the NASA South Dakota Space Grant Consortium.



These five DSU undergraduate students attended a January 2018 Gordon Research Conference on the origins of life, which resulted in an invitation to attend a week-long workshop at the Paris Sorbonne University. Pictured at the 2018 DSU Gala are: Lucas Leinen (left), Vaille Swenson, Alexis Vander Wilt, Briann Pitts, and Hope Juntunen.

Nelson finds professional growth in small places

DSU alumna working on Alumend project now in clinical trials

Professional growth happens best in small places, said Dakota State alumna Markie Nelson.

After the Madison, S.D., native graduated in 2015 with a biology for information systems degree, she went to work as a chemist at Alumend, LLC, Avera Health's medical research and development company.

"I could have started at a big hospital or manufacturing company," she said, but "I prefer starting small." At a bigger organization "I wouldn't have been able to grow like I am here. This has fast-tracked me to being a better scientist," she explained.

This is also fast-tracking her to be a successful scientist. In 2017, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved Phase 1 first-in-man clinical trials for Alumend's drug/device therapy for peripheral vascular disease. The novel procedure, called natural vascular scaffolding (NVS), combines balloon angioplasty with a pharmaceutical process to build a natural scaffolding which keeps blocked arteries open.

Nelson's part in the research process has included much of the synthesis of the drug component of NVS.

"I didn't think I would be at a company like this when I graduated, and I didn't anticipate being a part of something so significant," she said. Alumend's NVS is the first vascular drug/device therapy to be approved by the FDA for human clinical trials.

"We're at a milestone with the company, and it's going to be interesting the next couple of years," as the company conducts the trials, she said.

At Alumend, she likes the versatility of the work. "I get to wear a lot of hats here and I get a lot of experience, so it is a great place to start growing, to hone my skills and to develop skills I never had before," such as mastering her knowledge of high-pressure liquid chromatography (HPLC). HPLC is an analytical chemistry process used for separating, identifying and quantifying chemical components in a sample.

Some of her job duties are "definitely more chemistry-focused," but her biology degree means "I'm comfortable



doing anything biology-related. I don't get squeamish."

Technology skill is another DSU strength she brings to the company. "I do quite a bit of IT (at Alumend)," she said. She is in charge of a temperature monitoring system which uses a computer program that is quite user-friendly but complex.

"It's nice to apply what I learned from DSU and my research background to get this system going and maintained," she said.

Nelson appreciated the small school for its personability. "You can grow in these kinds of places," she said, with a good deal of credit going to the faculty. "You know your teachers," Nelson said. "You were able to go to them when you were struggling with either your personal life or with academic issues. They were understanding and always there to help," she explained.

European Union Ambassador to U.S. visits DSU

David O'Sullivan meets with faculty, students, community members

Citizens of the European Union (EU) speak many different languages, but lack of a common language is not a hinderance to unity among the 28 member states in the international entity, said Dr. David O'Sullivan, the EU Ambassador to the United States.

"Not everyone has to speak the same language," he said at a public forum at Dakota State University, to be able to communicate. O'Sullivan's visit to DSU allowed him to communicate with many South Dakotans at a series of meetings and forums on April 9.

"The ambassador was very good at explaining the similarities and differences in the operation of our United States and the member states of the European Union," said Madison's mayor Roy Lindsay.

O'Sullivan, a native of Dublin, Ireland, also fielded questions on global topics including tariffs and China, dealings with Russia, the possibility of Turkey joining the EU, and the shared roles between the EU and NATO. He also discussed cyber security and privacy issues at a forum with faculty, staff, and students.

"The cyber work at DSU is something I haven't seen anywhere else," he said. "I'm terribly impressed with what you're doing here, training a whole new generation of young people."

Dr. Sirje Kiin, a Madison resident who is a native of Estonia, said "It was an important visit to create future contacts between U.S. colleges and European colleges and other institutions about cyber security, because this is a world-wide problem, not just an issue for one or a few countries."

DSU President José-Marie Griffiths had invited the ambassador so that DSU students and the community would be exposed to another part of the world that many people don't necessarily know anything about.



"That's an important lesson for our students," she said.

Several students in DSU's General Beadle Honors Program met with the ambassador for a question and answer session, discussing issues such as global economic policies and territorial disputes with the South China Sea islands.

"In a day where we too often seek to simplify and reduce international events, his visit was an important reminder that the world is a very complex place and that real lasting solutions require statesmen and women who can move beyond the simplistic to see nuance and sophistication," said Dr. Kurt Kemper, professor in the College of Arts and Sciences. Kemper is director of the General Beadle Honors Program.

College of Education Dean Crystal Pauli was able to join several of the sessions and learned something at each.

"I am always interested in school systems and found it intriguing that students from one country are able to attend university in other countries, and their education is recognized in a universal way across boundaries."

Registrar Kathy Callies was moved by the ambassador's comments about peace in Europe. "I was taken by his comments of Europe's sensitivity to the cost of events such as World War I, World War II, and the Holocaust." These historical events influence the EU's approach to freedom of speech and privacy, she said, and frames their thinking.

"The EU brings people to the table instead of to the battlefield to settle differences," Callies said.

O'Sullivan said, "The key message is respect for national identity," and that respect is important both within the EU, and with countries outside the organization.

"Ambassador O'Sullivan's emphasis of the size and importance of the EU – US trade relationship was a powerful reminder of how important each is to the other's economic success and prosperity," said Dr. Jack Walters, professor of business at DSU.

"That's what the EU is all about," O'Sullivan said, "building something for the future."

Pauli said, "I hope we are able to host more events like this at DSU. It really makes the world seem a smaller place."

DSU hosts Nigerian art professor

Art is a family affair for the Layiwolas



Dr. Peju Layiwola is a professor of art history and current head of the Department of Creative Arts at the University of Lagos, Nigeria. Her son, Obatola, is a graphic design student at Dakota State. Dr. Layiwola's mother, Princess Elizabeth Olowu (daughter of Oba Akenzua II, King of Benin who reigned from 1933 to 1978), became renowned as the first female to cast bronze in Nigeria.

Her mother's work inspired Dr. Layiwola, who majored in metal design at the University of Benin; she went on to earn master's and doctoral degrees in visual arts from the University of Ibadan, Nigeria.

Obatola was likewise inspired by his mother. "I always looked up to my mom," he said. "I was definitely inspired by her at a young age."

Although he had an interest in computer science, he started his university education in his mother's art department at the University of Lagos. That program provides more of a traditional art education, and Obatola still had a desire to incorporate technology with art, so he and his mother researched U.S. schools and discovered Dakota State University. Obatola is now a junior at DSU.

When DSU art instructor Angela Behrends learned that Dr. Layiwola would be visiting Madison in February, she invited her to speak to the 3-D design class. However, "it seemed to me that a lot more people should be exposed to her artwork and experience," Behrends said, so Dr. Layiwola presented a public lecture titled "Art Advocacy: Two Women Artists from Nigeria."

Dr. Layiwola's works have been exhibited around the world. Her most documented solo exhibition is titled "Benin1897." She is also the founder of the Women and Youth Art Foundation (Wy Art Foundation), an organization committed to empowering women, young girls and youth through the arts.

Dr. Layiwola has won several grants and nominations, such as the U.S. Department of State grant for the International Visitors Leadership Program on Cultural Preservation (2011) and the U.S. State Department's SmARTpower Project in 2012. In 2017, she was the recipient of the U.S. Consulate Grant and the Goethe Resident Artist Grant in Düsseldorf, Germany (2017).

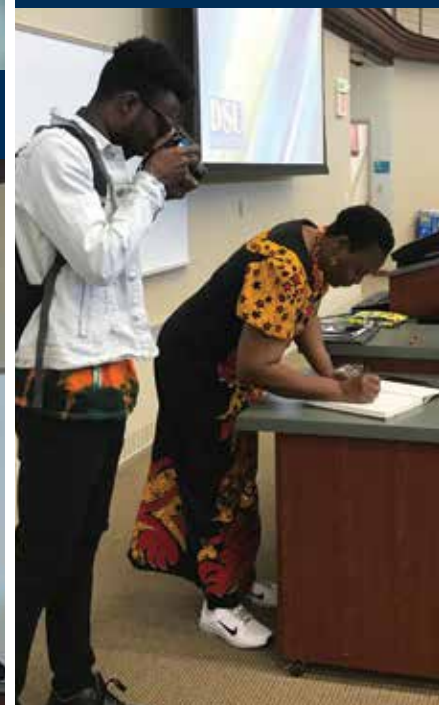


View Dr. Peju Layiwola's "Benin1897" artwork and project information at <http://benin1897.com/>.



Above: Dr. Peju Layiwola donates her book, *Benin1897.com: Art and the Restitution Question*, to the DSU Karl E. Mundt Library. DSU librarian Vaughan Hennen accepted the donation.

Below: Dr. Layiwola signs her donated book for the DSU library, while her son, Obatola Layiwola, takes her photo. Obatola is a graphic design student at DSU.





LOWRY HALL: In 1923, the Lowry Hall site was originally an outdoor theater. The Garden Theater development cost \$5,000 and could seat 2,000 people. In 1959, Lowry Hall was built as a 70-bed dormitory for men. Lowry and Higbie Halls were closed in 1974 due to low enrollment. During the next 20 years, the hall was rented to various community agencies until 2001 when Computing Services relocated here. Now referred to as ITS, the computer services department moved to its new permanent location in the Karl Mundt Library over the 2017 Christmas break.

GENERAL WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON BEADLE was DSU's third president, from 1889-1905. The school bore his name from 1947 to 1969. The bronze statue on campus was erected in 1937, with contributions from alumni, faculty and friends. A marble statue of the same likeness stands in the South Dakota State Capitol; a third is in the U.S. National Statuary Hall in Washington D.C., a bronze statue given by the state in 1938.

WORLD WAR I MEMORIAL: Alumni and community members raised the funds for this monument which was dedicated in 1921 on the location south of Lowry Hall. The bronze plaque reads "The Great War Honor Roll of Madison State Normal School." Elmer Davis died in his country's service; an additional 86 men and women who served are listed.

Beadle statue, memorial moved on DSU campus

Trojan statue to be moved to the athletic complex

Two long-time monuments on the Dakota State University campus were moved in advance of the upcoming construction of the Madison Cyber Labs (MadLabs).

Both the World War I Memorial and statue of General Beadle had been located south of Lowry Hall, which was demolished in May to make way for the new research and development facility. The statue was moved on February 22, the memorial February 27.

“These memorials serve as a testament to Dakota State University’s proud and diverse history,” said President José-Marie Griffiths. “We are committed to maintaining them in highly-visible locations so that students, alumni, and visitors to campus will be reminded of the dedication and sacrifice of these university pioneers.”

General Beadle’s statue will be located north of the Tunheim Classroom Building (TCB), east of the “Walk of Honor” sidewalk.

Beadle was the university’s third president, from 1889-1905. The school bore his name from 1947 to 1969, as General Beadle State Teachers College and General Beadle State College.

Originally placed on campus in 1937, the statue will now face west, in tribute to his work opening Dakota Territory.

The World War I Memorial will be placed on the campus green south of the rose garden and flag poles. Additional open space in this area may allow for future memorials to be placed nearby. The 9,800-pound granite boulder, dedicated in 1921, bears the names of students who served in “The Great War.”

The DSU Facilities Management staff is working with a landscape designer from Stockwell Engineers to determine the exact placement for these monuments. Once those details have been finalized, the memorial and statue will be relocated as soon as the ground is fit, said Corey Braskamp, facilities management director.



Another campus icon, the wooden Trojan statue which was located just south of the Trojan Center, was moved into storage in 2016 before construction began on the Trojan Center. This will be placed in a covered or semi-covered area in the athletic complex.

The statue, carved out of a tree trunk in 2012, had suffered some degradation from the elements in its previous location, prompting the need to place it under shelter. After restoration work, Braskamp hopes it will be in place by August 2018.

A committee of faculty, staff, students, administration, alumni and community members was created to determine the best locations for these monuments. “The committee’s thoughtful work serves the university’s resolve to respect our history while building a strong and impactful future for DSU,” said Griffiths.



TROJAN STATUE: After a storm damaged a tree on the Montgomery Plaza just south of the Trojan Center in 2012, local wood carver Brad Hodne carved the tree trunk into a likeness of the Trojan mascot. The carving was moved into storage in 2016 when construction and remodeling work began on the Trojan Center.

Lowry Hall's final chapter sets stage for the future

Mundt Library now houses ITS staff

With a quick signature, South Dakota Governor Dennis Daugaard made possible the demolition of Lowry Hall to make way for the new Madison Cyber Labs, or MadLabs.

House Bill 1057 had passed both the Senate and House of Representatives quickly and unanimously, and on January 20 became the first bill signed by the governor during the 2018 Legislative Session. This legislation allows for the demolition of Lowry Hall and construction of the new building.

Lowry Hall was demolished in May and construction then began on the \$18 million, 40,000 sq. ft. MadLabs.

This R&D facility will build on DSU's expanding technology capabilities and strengths by creating a hub of cybersecurity and cyber operations expertise for research application and economic development in South Dakota.

There is currently no such facility in the region, so MadLabs will be a powerful catalyst for research-driven

economic development. This work will generate a well-educated workforce, well-paying professional jobs, and new businesses in the top growth sector of the 21st century, that of cyber.

"The research resulting from the MadLabs will become an economic development engine for South Dakota," said President José-Marie Griffiths.

"The facility will add many jobs in the research areas, along with support jobs in the region, and additional jobs with new business partners created as a result of the research. We also hope to draw alumni back to the state," she stated.

The signing, pictured below, took place on Madison/DSU Hosts the Legislature Day at the capital, with about 50 local people in attendance.

"What an impressive and historical event for everybody in attendance today to witness," said Eric Hortness, executive director of the Greater Madison Area Chamber of Commerce. "Every time those in attendance see the MadLabs building, they will remember

that they witnessed the signing of the bill that put everything into motion," Hortness said.

Funding for the construction of MadLabs comes from private sources, DSU alumnus Miles Beacom and his wife Lisa, and philanthropist Denny Sanford, and a grant from the SD Future Fund authorized by Governor Daugaard.

The former residents of Lowry Hall – Information Technology Services (ITS), Help Desk, and K-12 Data Center – were moved to the Karl Mundt Library over Christmas break.

DSU is not the first university library to integrate IT and library services, said Jan Enright, director of the Mundt Library.

"This will be a very good partnership because we are all in the business of serving students," she said. Having ITS in the Mundt will provide creative ways for students and faculty to get to more information. With MadLabs across the parking lot, "this will make the west side the research side of campus."



DSU named #3 cyber security school by the *Military Times*

Reduced tuition for current military available this summer



Dakota State University has the third best cyber security program in the nation for veterans and military students, ranked from more than 600 colleges and universities that participated in a 2018 survey by the *Military Times*. The university was also ranked as a *Military Times* Best (formerly Best for Vets) school in November 2017, placing 32nd out of a pool of 218.

"The greatest cyber security issue in our nation is that there are too many threats and too few cyber security professionals," said President José-Marie Griffiths. "By combining their military experience with the skills gained through our strong cyber security program, the men and women in our nation's military are ideally suited to join the ranks as 'cyber warriors,' working for government entities and businesses across the nation," she said.

Dakota State is also leading the way with reduced tuition rates for student-soldiers. In December 2017, the university received regental approval to offer reduced tuition for active military members taking online courses; in March 2018, the Board of Regents approved the rate for the other five state regental schools.

Beginning officially in summer 2018, current military service members, including National Guard and Reservists will pay \$250/credit hour instead of the current \$335/credit hour. Also, any online delivery fees will not apply to these students.

James B. May has spent 24 years with the U.S. Navy, and is currently based in Charleston, S.C. as an MMACS(SS) at a nuclear power training unit. With plans to transition to civilian life in a few years, "it will be more important than ever to focus on financial stability for my family," said May. "Having affordable tuition will play a big part in planning for the future."

After completing his double major in computer science and cyber operations and minor in computer forensics, May plans to continue serving his country by joining the National Security Agency (NSA).

"DSU's cyber operations program will help me achieve that milestone," he said.

Austin Slaughter, veteran affairs coordinator, said, "This new rate will help eliminate the out-of-pocket cost for service members, allowing them to pursue a college degree while they are in the military." Slaughter is also a member of the South Dakota Army National Guard.

"This online active military rate will make DSU a competitive option," he continued, "and will easily make us one of the best schools for military students."

For more details on the reduced tuition rate, military members may call Slaughter at 1-888-378-9988, or go to dsu.edu/admissions/veteran-benefits.

DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY VETERAN AFFAIRS



DSU Veteran
Affairs Office



AUSTIN SLAUGHTER
Veteran Affairs Coordinator

Work: 605.256.5742 | Cell: 605.270.0664
Toll Free 1-888-378-9988 | dsu.edu/admissions/veteran-benefits



Interim VP named for Institutional Advancement

Dakota State University has hired Bob Preloger as interim vice president for institutional advancement.

Recently retired from Augustana University, Preloger will be leading both the DSU Foundation and the communications and marketing department.

"We are very fortunate to have Mr. Preloger in this interim position," said José-Marie Griffiths, president. "His experience with institutional advancement and marketing at the university level will be very valuable to Dakota State during this time of transition."

Preloger was most recently the vice president for advancement at Augustana University, and has also served as Augie's vice president for marketing and vice president for enrollment. Previously he served as associate dean of enrollment at North Dakota State University; he worked with admissions and college relations at his alma mater, Concordia University Chicago, where he earned his B.A. and M.A.

"I have always been intrigued by DSU's unique academic mission and have since been inspired by the momentum that has been created through President Griffiths' vision for the university," said Preloger.

"I look forward to assisting her and her leadership team in maintaining the momentum through enhanced philanthropic efforts of the DSU Foundation and its board in raising charitable gifts, engaging alumni and special friends of the university."

Preloger began his duties on March 12, 2018, and he will continue in the 60 percent appointment until the vice president position is permanently filled.

The university will conduct national searches for permanent replacements for the vice president for institutional advancement, and for a director of marketing and communications.

Mark Johnston was the former vice president for institutional advancement; he resigned in February to become Senator Mike Rounds' Washington, D.C. deputy chief of staff.

Algood is recipient of DSU Endowed Scholarship

Meet Samantha Algood, an English education major at Dakota State, and the recipient of the Alumni Association Endowed Scholarship. Samantha's hometown is Volga, S.D., where she was a 2015 graduate of Sioux Valley High School.

Why did you choose DSU for your college education?

I first came to DSU seeking a degree in psychology. I wanted to have the ability to help people work out their problems. After taking Introduction to Psychology, I realized it wasn't really meant for me. That's when I looked into an educational degree. The moment I realized the difference I could make in a person's future through education, it was just a matter of finding which level of education I wished to teach. This led me to my passions of reading and writing. Both are wonderful hobbies of mine and I chose to incorporate that into my future with English education. I could have gone somewhere else for this education, but I already had my heart set on DSU, and so I just switched majors here.

Did your parent being an alumna play any role in your decision?

My mom is an alumna (Karen, '89, elementary education). The summer before my senior year of high school, my mom and dad decided we needed to tour some colleges to get me thinking about where I wanted to go. After visiting a few schools, none really stuck out to me. I could have made any of them work, but not necessarily

loved the place. One day before the end of the summer, my mom realized that we hadn't checked out DSU and she figured I should see it before deciding. Upon my visit and tour, I fell in love the campus. Right then I knew I wanted to attend DSU.



What are your plans when you graduate?

Upon graduation, I wish to find a job teaching at the high school level. While teaching I plan to work towards my master's and then a doctoral degree. After finishing graduate school, I wish to move from high school students to teaching college students. As to where I wish to teach, it would have to probably be South Dakota, or another place that isn't too far from friends and family.

Do you have a dream job in mind?

My dream job is to eventually be teaching at the college level, as well as writing novels that will inspire future generations.

Why give to your alma mater?

A college education can cost thousands of dollars, and yet many alumni voluntarily continue to give money to their alma mater after graduation. Here are some of the reasons Dakota State alumni find it important to give:

Our Strong Reputation

It means something when a job interviewer sees that an applicant is a graduate of Dakota State, as they recognize the strong reputation of this institution. This merit comes from the faculty who receive national and international acclaim for work in their field. It also is a result of student accomplishments, those who thrive on the opportunities provided to them in an environment that encourages creativity and collaboration. Career successes of alumni are another factor, accomplishments which trace back to strong beginnings at DSU. Graduates give in order to continue that notability.

An Investment in the Future

The average cost of attending Dakota State is around \$15,000 per year. The Champion Scholarship Program provided over \$618,000 in scholarships last year, helping students manage the costs of attending college. For alumni, a DSU diploma was an investment in their future; a gift becomes an investment in the future of current students, fellow alums who will become contributing members of society in the nation and around the world.

Cornerstones That Make Us Stronger

Gifts can be used to fund new buildings, new programs and other initiatives that increase student success. For example, private donations helped DSU build the new Beacom Institute of Technology, contributed to the transformation of the former Madison hospital into the Learning Engagement Center and Courtyard Hall, and will help cover the \$18 million in construction costs for the new Madison Cyber Labs, or MadLabs.

Last but not Least

For many alumni, giving demonstrates a sense of gratitude to the university that gave them their start. They fondly remember their friends and professors, and lessons learned in and outside of the classroom. A gift becomes a tangible way to show appreciation and support for Dakota State.

The Alumni Association is grateful for the number of alumni who donate each year. To learn more about giving, visit dsu.edu/alumni-and-friends/give-a-gift.

Planned Giving options have many benefits

A planned gift is a contribution that is arranged in the present and allocated at a future date. Commonly donated through a will or trust, planned gifts are most often granted once the donor has passed away. Planned gifts are an advantageous way to make a legacy investment in Dakota State University while also meeting your lifetime needs.

The process for planned giving involves providing for your personal goals, financial goals, estate planning goals, and your charitable goals. There are many financial tools and strategies available that will allow you to:

- Provide for you or your loved ones;
- Entitle you to charitable income and/or gift or estate tax deductions;
- Enable you to leave a legacy for Dakota State.

Speak to your financial professional or a DSU Foundation development officer today about how you can meet your lifetime needs and secure a lasting legacy at DSU.

Heritage Society

Join others who have decided to include the university in their estate plans by becoming members of Dakota State's honorary society, the Heritage Society.

*William and *Neva Arneson
Dr. Michael and Artyce Brooke
Linda and Marlin Brozik
*Lydia M Bidwell
*William and *Evelyn Brinker
*Orrión and *Edith Barger
Ethelle Bean
*Agnes Berther
*Genevieve Beardsley
Shirley and *George Blankley
Larry and Mary Canfield
Zora R. Colburn
Judith Dittman
*Edward J Dirksen
Bob and Cindy Ellsworth
*Bernard Graf Elfert
*Viva M. Frederick
Dave and Teri Geiver
Nancy L. Grassel
Gertrude Gill
Tom Halverson
*Eleanore Haskett
*Jean Hollister
*Emma Hovelsrud
*Joseph Habeger
*Ruth Habeger
Redetta and *Roy Jensen
Sharon and *Doug Knowlton
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Glen and Caren Straatmeyer
Carol and Drew Skinner
Ruth Gist Spencer
*Christian Steiber
*Hazel Shimmin
*Margaret L. Seten
*Ethel M Shimmin
Jerald and Nancy Tunheim
Margaret A. Thornton
Cecelia Wittmayer and Norman Andenas
Lee and Carol White
*Charles D. Wiedenman
Dave and Betty Zolnowsky

** indicates deceased*

For more information on including DSU in your gift plan, contact Jona Schmidt: Jona.Schmidt@dsu.edu or 605-256-5857.

2018 DSU Foundation Gala

breaks fundraising records

The Dakota State University Foundation broke fundraising records at its 30th annual gala, held at the Sioux Falls Ramkota on February 9, 2018. The total raised was \$90,820; attendance also topped last year's number of 260 guests, with 320 attending in 2018.

Arriving guests were greeted by representatives of the Student Senate and various DSU athletic teams. Emcee Floyd Rummel '03, the chair of the DSU Foundation Board of Trustees, kicked off a program that included recognition of Dr. Judy Dittman as the 2017 Philanthropist of the Year (see next page.)

DSU alumnus Kaig Havrevold '16 and recent elementary education graduate Kayla Janssen '18 spoke about the importance of the scholarships they received.

DSU President José-Marie Griffiths provided the keynote address.

DSU alum Jared Sutton '16, served as auctioneer for a lively auction that raised a record amount of money.

Entertainment was provided by the national touring company "The Capital Steps."

The date for next year's Foundation gala is set for March 22, 2019. It will be held at The District in Sioux Falls.

The DSU Foundation thanks the following sponsors for their support in making the 2018 Gala a success:

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Pictured (left-right): Kayla Janssen '18, Alicia Entringer '07, Kaig Havrevold '16, Tom Nielsen '04, Lindsay Denning '13, Logan Denning '08, Jill Hansen '08, Steve Schmidt '14, Laura Shannon, Randall Shannon '11, Mitch Lynch '08, Tyler Ruhd '07



Pictured (left-right): Jona Schmidt, Kayla Janssen '18, Kaig Havrevold '16, Jill Ruhd '07, Floyd Rummel '03

Dittman named DSU Philanthropist of the Year

Dr. Judy Dittman has been honored as the Dakota State University Foundation 2017 Philanthropist of the Year.

The award was presented during the 30th annual DSU Gala, held February 9 at the Best Western Ramkota in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Established in 2006, the Philanthropist of the Year acknowledges donors who demonstrate an exceptional commitment to the vision and values of the university by making a significant personal contribution of time, talent and resources.

“Her steady and consistent support of the university, in times good and bad, easy and challenging, can be an inspiration to us all,” said President José-Marie Griffiths.

Dittman said, “I give back to the university because it’s about the people. It’s always about people – the connections, the friendships, and the relationships that we built.” She credited the people who have “challenged me, encouraged me, and gave me opportunities to make a difference.”

Dittman began her career at DSU in the fall of 1978 as an assistant professor in health and physical education and as head women’s basketball coach.

“She was a leader in competitive women’s athletics and the importance of wellness since long before either was popular,” Griffiths said.

Dittman continued her career at DSU, as director of athletics, director of the DSU Wellness Center, dean of

the College of Education and provost. She is currently associate provost and vice president for academic affairs and also the director for the Title III Department of Education grant. She is also a full professor in the College of Education.

In addition to her contributions in the classroom and to athletics, Dittman has made a series of generous donations which aided students in financial need, and enriched the university’s athletic and education programs.

She has established two scholarships, the Dr. Judy Dittman Women’s Basketball Annual Scholarship, and the Dr. Judy Dittman Endowed Scholarship.

She is also a member of the 1881 Lifetime Giving Society.





Bradfield chosen as Distinguished Alumnus

Dr. Brett Bradfield was honored at the 2018 Spring Commencement as Distinguished Alumnus. He earned his bachelor of science degree from Dakota State College (DSC) in 1980. He also holds a master of arts degree in educational psychology and counseling and a doctor of education degree in educational administration from the University of South Dakota.

After serving the first 20 years of his career in various professional roles as a teacher, coach, counselor, assistant principal and principal in K-12, public and private education, Bradfield moved into higher education at the University of Sioux Falls (USF) in June 2000. Since arriving at USF, Bradfield has served in several positions; as its vice president for professional studies, provost/vice president of academic affairs, and was selected as the university's 23rd president in January 2017.

Throughout his 38-year career, Dr. Bradfield has demonstrated a deep commitment to educational leadership at various levels of the enterprise. He has served in key leadership roles for many initiatives that added new and enhanced programming and services to the K-12 schools he served and to USF. In addition, he has provided primary leadership in fundraising efforts and forging important partnerships with various public/private entities that have resulted in multi-million dollar benefits in support of educational endeavors. These efforts not only benefitted the organizations he has served, but the larger community and region also reaped the benefits of quality education programs, serving the critical need of supporting workforce and economic development. He remains a familiar face on many public and private boards, committees and task forces at the community, state and regional level.

Bradfield and his wife Jane, a DSC alumna, have four children and two sons-in-law, Brittany (Josh) Childress, Brooke (Lane) Mellegaard, Blake and Braden. In addition, Bradfield and Jane have seven grandchildren.

We are currently accepting nominations for the following awards. Recipients will be honored during Homecoming 2018. Nomination deadline is Friday, June 29, 2018.

1. **Young Alumnus/Alumna Achievement** honors alumni, age 35 or younger, who have made notable achievements in his/her profession and contributions to DSU and society.
2. **Outstanding Service to Alma Mater** honors alumni who have demonstrated outstanding service to Dakota State University.
3. **Outstanding Educator** honors alumni who have accomplished notable service and/or achievement in the field of education.
4. **Outstanding Professional Achievement** honors alumni who have notable achievements in his/her profession.

Email your nominations to:

jona.schmidt@dsu.edu, or mail to Dakota State Alumni Office - 820 N. Washington Ave., Madison, SD 57042.

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University reveals 'bold vision' in Athletics Master Plan

Imagine what we could do...

"A bold vision" is how José-Marie Griffiths, president of Dakota State University, describes the new Athletics Master Plan (AMP).

Details of the five-year AMP were shared with faculty, staff, the community and members of the Trojan Athletic Club in February. The comprehensive plan includes expanding both undergraduate and graduate academic programs, and major additions and renovations to the facilities.

"The current athletics facilities are no longer competitive in comparison to other NAIA schools in our conference and region," said Athletic Director Jeff Dittman. "They do not meet the academic, athletic, or staff needs of today, and are not attractive to potential recruits."

The Memorial Fieldhouse was built at a time when there were 75 student-athletes at the university; in 2018-19, there will be an estimated 375. To continue to attract quality student athletes, there is a need for more classrooms, locker rooms, training areas, and other facilities.

Expanding athletics programs and facilities will impact the university and the surrounding community, Griffiths said, by increasing enrollment and creating a better balance of student-athlete distribution among majors; there will also be new opportunities to build partnerships with health industries. The AMP will also increase revenue-generating opportunities for DSU and the Madison area. Estimates for the Madison area alone are a possible \$2 million per year generated through youth camps and tournaments.

PROGRAM ADDITIONS

The AMP would add unique academic programs such as sports analytics, athletic management including fundraising, biomechanics, and an institute on aging. Athletics programs being considered include junior varsity programs, and new sports such as soccer, lacrosse, and golf. Adding an e-sports division ties directly to DSU's signature mission of technology.

FACILITY CHANGES

Changes to the Trojan athletics facilities would include an events center, indoor practice facility and football stadium connected by a two-level shared facility. These would connect with the current Community Center and Fieldhouse. The changes would create a unified identity between the campus and the athletics programs. Consolidating all programs into one location would result in a more efficient use of resources.

IMPLEMENTATION

The AMP could be completed in stages, pending funding and continued use of the existing facilities as renovations take place. The South Dakota Army National Guard is anticipated to remain in the Fieldhouse; they and other community entities, including the Lake Area Improvement Corporation, Madison Central School District, Madison Community Center, and the City of Madison, have been involved in developing this plan.

More information about the AMP is available at amp.dsuathletics.com/.



DSU Athletics announce

The Dakota State University Athletic Department is excited to announce the Class of 2018 Hall of Fame recipients. The 23rd Annual DSU Athletics Hall of Fame banquet is scheduled to take place at the Dakota Prairie Playhouse on Saturday, June 2 with the social at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:15 p.m. and induction ceremony at 7 p.m. The event is open to the public.

The Class of 2018 Hall of Fame features members of the Trojan track & field and cross country teams. Inductees are Miles Beacom, Laura Carrow, John Ecklein, Shaun Fransen, Brian Tvedt and members of the 1997 DSU Women's Cross Country South Dakota-Iowa Conference (SDIC) championship team.

Miles Beacom '81, along with his wife Lisa, are major donors and contributors to Dakota State University. They have established numerous scholarships and endowments, and Miles has served on the Dakota State Foundation Board of Trustees. Most recently, the Beacom Institute of Technology opened on campus, and the College of Computing was renamed the Beacom College of Computer and Cyber Sciences. Miles was a runner for the Trojan cross country and track & field teams, where he excelled in both sports. He was named a team captain and most valuable athlete in his senior season. He graduated in 1981 with a bachelor of science in business with a minor in economics. Miles is being inducted as an athlete, a distinguished alumni, and as a contributor.



placed 11th overall with a time of 18 minutes, 36 seconds.

Carrow received numerous honors, including NAIA Women's Cross Country All-American, NAIA All-Region and DAC-10 All-Conference honors. She also was named DAC-10 All-Conference Most Valuable Runner and Most

Valuable Senior. Carrow was selected as DSU Female Most Outstanding Athlete in 2001-02. She was named to the DAC-10 Indoor Track All-Conference in 2001.



John Ecklein '01 (above left) had an amazing running career, where he received numerous running honors and made numerous appearances at the NAIA national meets. He was SDIC All-Conference runner in cross country, indoor track and outdoor track. He also ran at the NAIA Men's Cross Country National Championships.

Ecklein was also a member of the Trojan men's 4 x 800-meter relay team that broke the school record multiple times in 1999. The members of the 4 x 800-meter relay team also received an NAIA Men's Outdoor Track & Field All-American honor after placing third at the national meet.

Ecklein added another NAIA All-American status after earning a runner-up honor in the men's 1000-meter at the 2000 NAIA Indoor Track & Field national meet. He was the SDIC Conference Most Valuable Athlete at the 2000 indoor track conference meet. In addition, he was selected as the DSU Male Most Outstanding Athlete in 2000.

Joining Ecklein is his former teammate **Shaun Fransen '03**. Fransen also had an impressive running career, named a three-time NAIA All-American, twice in the indoor track's 600-meter run in 1999 and 2000.

Fransen teamed up with Ecklein, Paul Saville and Cory Lunn for the DSU men's 4 x 800-meter relay team that placed third at the 1999 NAIA Outdoor Track & Field National meet with a record time of 7 minutes, 34.88 seconds. In addition, he earned SDIC All-Conference recognition in both indoor and outdoor track.



2018 Hall of Fame Class

Brian Tvedt '99 was a six-time SDIC Track All-Conference athlete, three times during the indoor season and three times during the outdoor season from 1996 through 1998. He was the SDIC Men's Indoor 800- and 1500-meter champion in 1996-97, as well as conference champion in the 1500-meter in 1998.



Tvedt also captured the SDIC Men's Outdoor Track Championship in the 1500-meter run from 1996 through 1998. He was a two-time DSU Male Most Outstanding Athlete, in 1996 and 1998. He was a three-time NAIA national qualifier for indoor and outdoor meets from 1996-98.

Tvedt ran for the men's cross country team, and was a national qualifier in 1996.



The **1997 DSU Women's Cross Country SDIC Championship team**, under the guidance of Hall of Fame coach Buzz Stevenson, captured the SDIC conference title by edging out Dordt (Iowa) with the low score of 43-45. It was the second SDIC conference title in the women's cross country program history.

Dakota State had three runners who placed in the top four at the SDIC conference meet, led by Marie Parker who won the individual title with a time of 17 minutes, 46 seconds. Tanelle Markhardt was second, and Katherine Fisk was fourth. Each earned SDIC Cross Country All-Conference honors.

Other team members included Tana Gocken, Summer Stulken, Vanessa Wiczorek and Krista Wixon. Amy Hansen was the student assistant coach.

The Trojans placed 23rd overall at the NAIA Women's Cross Country National Championships in Wisconsin, the

first time in DSU women's cross country history that a team placed in the Top 25 at the national meet. Parker paced Dakota State with an NAIA All-American honor after placing fifth overall with a time of 19 minutes, 17 seconds.

For further information and to RSVP for the June 2 banquet, contact the Athletic Department at 605-256-5229 or e-mail carla.sudenga@dsu.edu by May 25. Tickets are \$20 per person, a limited number of tickets may be purchased at the door.

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More details to come

Questions?

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jared.indahl@dsu.edu

DR. HARLAN STENSAAS '55 is engaged with three Chinese scholars in a translation project recently approved and funded by the Chinese National Planning Office of Philosophy and Social Science.

The project involves translating a Chinese language book titled *A Comprehensive History of Chinese Landscape Painting*.

The work contains 34 chapters with roughly one million Chinese characters. The task will be completed within three years and the American Academic Press will publish the final draft in 2020.

The program is aimed at introducing Chinese academic works in arts and social sciences to other countries and cultures.

Dr. David Shi, professor of translation studies at Jinan University's Zhuhai campus, heads the project. Dr. Shi and two other Chinese professors do initial translation from Chinese to English, and then pass it to Stensaas to 'polish' into standard English.

After retiring from university teaching in the USA, Stensaas served nearly ten years as

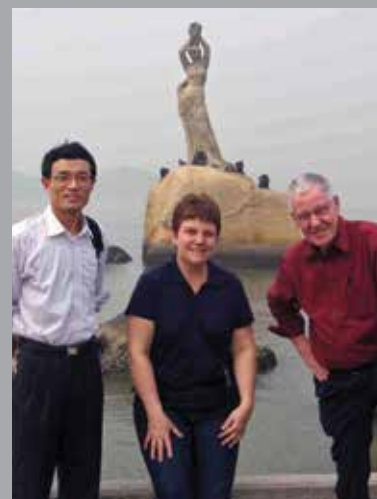
a "foreign expert" in several Chinese colleges and universities.

Now at age 85, Stensaas remains active via Internet with his Chinese students and colleagues. He has assisted with several technical medical journal articles, and frequently helps Chinese teachers and scholars with problem phrases or grammatical issues, and is involved in other on-going language-related projects.

At GBSTC, Stensaas majored in English and journalism. He served a term as editor of *The Eastern* newspaper, and edited *The Trojan* yearbook's 75th anniversary edition. He was employed by *The Madison Daily Leader* as reporter, photographer, and feature writer.

He married Vianne Schooler, also a GBSTC grad, during his senior year. They have four daughters, 12 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren.

The couple has a retirement home in Okmulgee, Okla., and often host visitors from China.



Dr. David Shi (left) played host in Zhuhai to Harlan Stensaas (right) and Harlan's daughter, Willa Kerby (center). The three are posed before the famous "Fisher Girl" statue that graces the seaside in Zhuhai.

GARY KROPUENSKE '69 (EDUCATION) was inducted into the South Dakota Wrestling Coaches Hall of Fame during the State B Wrestling Tournament in March.

ARLEN HOFER '73 (EDUCATION)

was recently inducted into the South Dakota Bandmasters Hall of Fame. This honor was presented at the All-State Band concert in Sioux Falls on March 25, 2017. Phil Carlson, director of bands at Chamberlain High School and chairman of the Hall of Fame Committee, presented Hofer with a plaque honoring him at the concert. A plaque with a photo of the inductee, along with biographical data, will be permanently displayed in the National Music Museum in Vermillion. Hofer retired in 2014 after 40 years of teaching. During his 22-year tenure in Canton, 261 of his students qualified for the South Dakota All-State Band and All-State Orchestra.



JEFF RODMAN '77 (EDUCATION) is retiring after 41 years in education, including 24 years as a principal. He is currently the principal of the Middle School of the Kennebunks in Kennebunk, Maine.

SCOTT EWALD '78 (EDUCATION) is retiring from teaching after 40 years. The longtime Watertown School District teacher and coach is perhaps best known for his work behind the microphone at Watertown basketball games, where "and now, it's Arrow time" is a phrase that has become part of Arrow basketball tradition. Ewald's first teaching job was in Garretson, S.D., but he moved to Watertown, S.D. and has spent his career in various coaching roles, including sixth-grade basketball, middle

school boys and girls basketball, sophomore girls basketball and head varsity girls basketball. Ewald led the Arrows to a third-place finish in the state Class A girls basketball tournament in 1996. His current head coaching duties include both high school boys and girls tennis and also eighth-grade boys basketball. Ewald has led the Arrow boys to seven conference titles and a 148-66 record, winning the state team title in 2013. His girls teams have compiled a 260-116 record and won six conference titles.

DOUG BOGENHAGEN '86, was promoted in 2017 to colonel in the South Dakota Army National Guard. He was assigned as the Brigade Commander of the 196th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade headquartered in Sioux Falls, S.D. with 1,860 soldiers spread throughout the state.



SCOTT ANDAL '91 (EDUCATION), was among the honorees for 25 years of coaching from the South Dakota Wrestling Coaches Association at the state wrestling tournament. Scott is the McCook Central/Montrose wrestling coach. Scott started coaching while student-teaching at Tri-Valley. He took his first coaching and teaching job in 1992 at McCook Central and has coached all but one year since then, missing the 2004-05 season for active military duty. He has coached wrestling at all levels, and his MCM high school teams have won more than 200 duals and three conference tournament titles. In his career, he's coached more than 55 state place winners and his team has placed three times, including eighth this season.

JOSH CONKLIN '03 (PHYSICAL EDUCATION) is the head coach for the Wofford University football team. Wofford is an NCAA Division I football championship subdivision college in Spartanburg, S.C. Conklin had previously worked as a defensive back coach (2007-09) and special teams coach (2009) at Wofford. He had spent the previous three seasons as the defensive coordinator at the University of Pittsburgh. As a DSU Trojan, Conklin was a starting linebacker and Academic All-American.

ROBIN ASPINWELL '05 (COMPUTER GRAPHIC DESIGN) is an independent consultant with Face the World Foundation, matching host families with international students, and monitoring the students' progress during their stay with these families. Founded in 1990, Face the World is a non-profit organization that provides cultural exchange program for international high school students, and American Work Adventures, seasonal work and travel program for international university students.

AMANDA GILMAN HARGREAVES '10 (ELEMENTARY EDUCATION)

married Ben Hargreaves in May 2017. Amanda is a 6th grade science and English teacher in the Mitchell School District.



CODY ABRAHAMSON '15 (FINANCE) is working at American Bank and Trust in DeSmet, S.D. He had previously been at Bank of the West in Huron, S.D.

NANDI SIWAKOTI '16 (HEALTH INFORMATION) along with his two brothers and a friend are opening a restaurant featuring Himalayan Indian Cuisine in a retail center on Arrowhead Parkway in Sioux Falls, S.D. They will serve Indian and Nepalese dishes such as chicken tikka masala, tandoori chicken, lamb curry and dumplings. They hope to open in early spring.

ATHLETIC NOTES

CARSON WALCH, offensive coordinator for the Dakota State University Trojans from 2003-2005, has been named the assistant wide receiver coach for the Philadelphia Eagles. Walch had spent the last two years coaching with the Canadian Football League's Edmonton Eskimos.

KENNEDY WAGNER became the 20th Trojan to reach 1,000 points during the 2017-2018 Lady T's basketball season. The Chamberlain native led the Lady T's in points with an average of 11.6 per game. She is the daughter of another Lady T's standout, **PAULA OLDRE WAGNER**, who played volleyball with Dakota State in the late 1980s.

In Memoriam

Jerry Sullivan of Huntington Beach, Calif., passed away on January 21, 2018, following a short illness. Jerry was born on February 3, 1935, in Ramona, S.D. He was the ninth of ten children born to Mark and Alice Sullivan. He graduated from Madison High School in 1953, and then went on to earn a B.A. in education from General Beadle State College (now Dakota State University) in 1957. He earned his M.A. in English from the University of South Dakota in 1960, and his Ed.D in English education from the University of Northern Colorado in 1968. While teaching in California, he met Linda Jewell, and they married in 1965. They lived in Colorado and Wyoming while Jerry completed his Ed.D., and then returned to California where Jerry worked as a professor of English at California State University, Long Beach for 35 years.



Dr. Orval Van Deest passed way February 5, 2018. Van Deest was a Dakota State University professor emeritus, a lifelong performer, and the longest-tenured member of the SDHC Speakers Bureau. He played a cast of characters through the Speakers Bureau beginning in 1983. Read a more in-depth biography on this colorful character on the South Dakota Humanities website. sdhumanities.org/media/blog/longtime-speakers-bureau-member-beloved-character-actor-passes-away/

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Alice Marie Burggraff '53
Vernon R. Eggert '57
Dena Marie Rosenbohm '59
Mary E. Lenz '59
Marjorie Alene Lemme '60
Dale Eugene Waba '62
Allen R. Coonradt '63
Alice M. Hippen '63
Isabelle Casilda Short '63
Michael M. Egan '65
Elizabeth Bortnem '65
Loren D. Roberts '66
Hubert Brown '66
John Bohls '66
Mary Ann Stoner '66
Eleanor Gewecke '67
Gloria Rae Widboom '67

William L. Carmody '69
Myron Elrod '69
Michael G. Seivert '69
Roger Feterl '70
James E. Beeninga '71
Arvilla M. Dilly '72
Sylvia Goering '72
Daniel C. Thelen '77
Tenis Tennyson '84
Karla Rae Peter '89
Eileen M. Wolkow '90
Steven P. Kub '92
Karen M. Mathieu '92
Michael A. Hojnacke '93
Shirley M. Todd '93
Matt C. Peery '96
Brittany Leigh Bisdorf '12
Matthew John Wetzel '14
Helen McQuisten,
former DSU staff
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Joann Ann Hansen,
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Robert A. Walker,
friend of the Foundation

Peterson's Homecoming floats were elaborate works of art

DSU alumnus donates winning ribbons to Alumni Association

Artistic endeavors have not been confined to the classroom at Dakota State University. Even extra-curricular activities like homecoming floats resulted in award-winning works of art.

Take, for example, the 1966 float pictured below right, "Coloring a World of Its Own." This Ray Peterson-designed float won Most Original and the Sweepstakes (best overall) awards that year. These awards gave the Class of '67 the record for most Homecoming float honors won by a single class. All were designed by Peterson.

Floats needed to win another award – Most Beautiful, Most Original, or Most Clever – to be considered for the Sweepstakes award, he explained, so entries could win two per year. Peterson recently donated all the Class of '67 ribbons to the Alumni Association.

In that era, the floats for General Beadle homecomings (then called Tutor Day) were created by graduating classes.

"That's what was so cool about the whole system, that it was so class-driven," said Peterson '68. When he started college in 1963, he was a vocal music and English major. He later changed his major to art, which caused him to be a few credits short for the 1967 commencement. He officially graduated with the Class of 1968, but still considers himself a 1967 alumnus.

"We were very tight, a very close group," he said. "I made lifelong friends."

This winning history also created some healthy competition among the classes, so for the fall of 1966, the

Class of 1968 ordered live flowers for "The Wonderful World of Color," their 1966 float. "They were sure they were going to beat us," Peterson said, but the Class of '67 float was elaborate: created from three flatbeds, it was 54 feet long, with enough room for three peacocks, butterflies, a globe, several Walt Disney characters, all with a blue and gold color scheme. Characters were made from chicken wire, and adorned with papier-mâché, foil paper and cellophane. The frame was built with scrap wood; foils and fringe were cut by hand from crepe paper; shredded cellophane (similar to Easter grass) provided the base; festoons and foils were ordered from supply companies.

Peterson's experience with these moving works of art developed as a boy growing up in Oldham, S.D. "We always had Field Day on the first Saturday of May," he recalled. The town and surrounding country schools all came together for "huge parades, and I watched and was fascinated by them." He recalls winning awards even as a first grader.

By the time he was a junior in high school, many small country schools were closing, so the superintendent announced they would no longer host Field Day, but would have Homecoming instead. "We had to get busy and do a float in a week," he remembered, "but we still won!"

Peterson's music and art education, along with his design experience, contributed to unique duty assignments during his three years in the Army, and later during his career at South Dakota State University.



DSU alumnus Ray Peterson '68 and Alumni Director Jona Schmidt reminisce over photos of the award-winning Homecoming floats from the 1960s that Peterson designed. Creating elaborate floats like these is a "lost art," he said.

In 1971 he started at SDSU as a graduate student in speech and theater, but stayed on as designer for the university theater, and later as its director. "What was meant to last for a semester lasted 40 years," Peterson said. He retired from SDSU in 2011, but has yet to retire as producer for the Miss South Dakota Pageant, a role he has had for 52 years.



The 2018 DSU Homecoming is set for Sept. 29; the theme will be announced at a later date. Campus and community floats which choose to be judged in the parade can receive the following awards: Most Beautiful, Most Humorous, and Most Creative. The Best Overall (or Sweepstakes) is awarded to any of the parade floats; this float may also win one of the other awards.



These are some of the alumni floats designed by Peterson, and a photo of the eight ribbons won by the Class of 1967, with Peterson and co-chair Linda Petheram '67.



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