

FROM THE PRESIDENT



NWU's new general curriculum for bachelor's candidates puts a premium on distinctive strengths of our academic program.

Dear Alumni and Friends,

At Nebraska Wesleyan what's required study for graduation has been the subject of scrutiny and revision from time to time since the earliest years. So too, the shape of our school and the degrees we offer have changed over the years. Today's two-college structure, with the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and University College, is a decade old.

In May 2013 the faculty adopted NWU's first major revision of the general curriculum for bachelor's students in 20 years. It takes effect in 2014. A few weeks after the faculty acted, the Board of Governors endorsed adding a Master of Business Administration degree, as well as a combined MBA/MSN for nurses. These votes sent me into our historical records to take a look at the kinds of curricula, degrees and structures that were practiced here in years gone by.

From the last several issues of Archways, you know that NWU enrolled its first students 125 years ago this fall, in 1888. From then until 1894, everyone studying for a bachelor's degree chose among three courses of study: the classical, the philosophical, and the scientific. To us those sound like quite different options, but in fact there were only a few variations. Latin was required in the classical and philosophical tracks; Greek in the classical only. Students in the scientific track took neither Latin nor Greek, but mineralogy. The common curriculum in 1888 included Christian evidences, international law, astronomy, Bible, botany, rhetoric, mental philosophy, historical philosophy, geology and 10 other required subjects.

For many years Nebraska Wesleyan enrolled students in an academy, which we would call a high school. Elementary grades were taught on campus, too. By 1908 there was a Conservatory of Music, a School of Art, and a School of Expression and Oratory, combined after 1920 in a College of Fine Arts. NWU also had a School of Commerce and a Normal School—the traditional name for teacher training programs. Early on, Nebraska Wesleyan awarded some master's and PhD degrees. For a fleeting time we had a

medical school.

Gradually, these early elements of the university went away. The School of Commerce was disbanded in 1912, the high school in 1931 and the rest of the "training school" in 1941. The College of Fine Arts and graduate studies ended in the 1930s. Somewhere around 1950 the Normal School became the Department of Education. Fifty years ago, Nebraska Wesleyan was organized entirely as a liberal arts college offering five bachelor's degrees.

Today we have a gradual unfolding again of a university structure. Among our 2,000 students, about one-quarter are master's students and adults completing bachelor's degrees. The numbers in these University College programs are likely to grow significantly. We can expect to have more graduate programs over time.

NWU's new general curriculum for bachelor's candidates puts a premium on distinctive strengths of our academic program. It's well designed to be accessible to both traditional and adult students. It institutionalizes our prized emphasis on experiential learning—students actively involved in the creation of their own new knowledge, often through hands-on, teambased projects. It organizes courses thematically into "threads" so that students will experience through their studies how interconnected the disciplines are in life and work. It emphasizes the communication skills that continue to be the marks of a well-educated person.

Nebraska Wesleyan now has several instructional sites. In addition to the Lincoln campus, NWU courses are taught in Omaha and at two lowa locations, Council Bluffs and Clarinda. We expect to have additional sites in the near future.

Through all of these innovations at Nebraska Wesleyan, we honor 125 years of tradition while keeping current with what students, parents, alumni, friends, our state and our nation expect of an excellent 21st-century independent university.

Thank you for your support of all that we do!

Fred OhlesPresident







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Nebraska Wesleyan University is an academic community dedicated to intellectual and personal growth within the context of a liberal arts education and in an environment of Christian concern.

Archways is an examination—and, ideally, a conversation—of how Nebraska Wesleyan University and its people relate to the world around us. That examination is academically sound, socially conscious, and continuously curious.

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Judith (Trimble) Maurer ('69) "State of the Universities"

Judith began as chair of Nebraska Wesleyan University's Board of Governors on June 1, following the conclusion of Richard Peterson's term. Judith lives in Tampa, Fla., and is the founder of Low Load Insurance Services. An avid traveler, Judith recently returned from a trip to Tel Aviv.



Richard Peterson ('59) "State of the Universities" **6** Richard's three-year term as chair of Nebraska Wesleyan University's Board of Governors concluded on May 31. He led the board as NWU developed and approved a major change to its general education curriculum. He continues to serve on the board's executive committee. Richard is senior counsel of Crete Carrier Corporation of Lincoln.



Matt Geiler ('97) "An Unlikely Action Hero" 16 Matt is an improvisational and musical comedian, artist, writer and digital content creator whose passion for multifaceted creativity has led him to work as a journalist, television host, poet, cartoonist and illustrator, web designer and graphic artist. He is the owner of Sick Picnic Media, a creative production company in LA that develops stuff that originated in Matt's brain.

Patty (Farley) Karthauser (75)

You may not see an article Patty wrote or a photo she took in this issue, but make no mistake. NWU's vice president for external relations has contributed mightily to Archways for years through her service on its advisory committee. Patty retired in June, leaving a campus community grateful for her consistent leadership, support, wisdom and creativity.



CRIME DOESN'T PAY.



But a **Bachelor of Science** in **criminal justice** does.

Earn one at NWU.

Our new bachelor's degree in criminal justice is flexible for working adults. Take classes one night a week or on Saturdays and prepare for a career in law enforcement, investigation or corrections. This degree is especially relevant to students interested in pursuing a master's degree in forensic science from NWU.

Adult Education

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State of the Universities

NWU's outgoing and incoming board chairs address the state of higher education

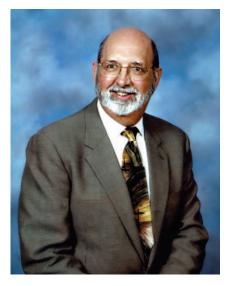
he nation's universities— Nebraska Wesleyan University included face new challenges in an ever-changing environment. In January, Moody's Investors Service issued an industry outlook report, which concluded that, from a credit perspective, prospects for the entire U.S. higher education sector are negative. Moody's based this startling assessment on analysis of factors it believes will apply mounting pressure on all key university revenue sources.

The challenges Moody's described are acute for institutions, like NWU, that depend on tuition revenue to support operations. The report emphasized that universities lacking large endowments and sufficient donor support to fund student aid are

most vulnerable to current economic pressures.

Some may read Moody's perspective on the future of higher education as nearly a death sentence. A Forbes magazine columnist predicted earlier this year that 50 percent of U.S. colleges will fail within 10 years. I'm not that pessimistic.

Clearly there is anxiety and pressure to change. But the Moody's report underscores to me what we must maintain as much as what we must alter. We must keep Nebraska Wesleyan's 125-year tradition of excellence. To help families resist the impulse to reduce higher education to a commodity they measure only by price, we must maintain our quality and tell our story. It's a story that demonstrates the worth of an excellent liberal arts education that builds critical thinking through life-changing experiences.



Richard A. Peterson (*59) is senior counsel for Crete Carrier Corporation and completed his term as chair of NWU's Board of Governors on May 31.

While our quality must remain the same, the Moody's report also illustrates that our culture of giving must change. Today, tuition revenue and related sources account for 90 percent of Nebraska Wesleyan's operating budget, which features increasingly generous financial aid. Endowment earnings generate about 5 percent of operating revenue, while another 5 percent comes from annual gifts.

Nebraska Wesleyan's ability to increase net tuition revenue will likely be limited. That's why we must seek new ways to reduce costs and increase efficiencies without compromising quality. And we must increase Nebraska Wesleyan's philanthropic support. Our success now will help determine whether, in another 125 years, those who follow us will mark the university's 250th anniversary with the same pride

that's defined our first 125 years.

Our path will be uphill. The number of alumni making annual gifts to Nebraska Wesleyan's Archway Fund has declined for several years. Every dollar given to the Archway Fund, every bequest to the endowment, every endorsement of Nebraska Wesleyan to prospective students, produces dividends. With help, NWU will thrive while institutions with less ardent support may languish and even fail.

Throughout our history, Nebraska Wesleyan's supporters have risen to every challenge. Today, we face another. But we face it with confidence. We can be confident that, with increasing generosity from alumni and friends, Nebraska Wesleyan will continue to enrich, nurture and prepare thousands of students for generations to come.



ichard's words capture well the challenges we face. I need not rehash them. What I will do is address the questions these challenges lead many families to ask.

Is college still worth it in this economy?

And is it still wise to consider liberal arts schools like NWU where costs are (assumed) higher?

My answer to both is a resounding yes.

The claim that college becomes less valuable in a tough economy is dubious. Consider education's impact on unemployment.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics released a compilation of 2012 unemployment rates by education. The jobless rate for those without a high school diploma is 12.4 percent.

For high school graduates, it's somewhat better: 8.3 percent. For those with a bachelor's degree, unemployment falls to 4.5 percent. And for those who earn master's degrees, the rate dips to 3.5 percent.

Higher education opens doors and lowers risks. But what's the case for a liberal arts experience?

The meaning of the word "liberal" in "liberal arts" has little to do with politics and much to do with liberation. (It may be more accurate to call NWU a "liberating arts university.") And I've seen the liberating aspects of a liberal arts experience often in my working life.

When I worked at GE Capital, I saw finance majors locked in roles as "bean counters." I also saw finance majors with liberal arts educations who'd studied history, religion, art, philosophy and political science. And I watched them rise. Their interests and skills gave them a valuable advantage. It's an advantage we should want for our children, our grandchildren, and today's Nebraska Wesleyan graduates.

I live in Tampa, Fla., yet I visit campus often. And I'm heartened by what I see there. I meet students inspired



Judith (Trimble) Maurer ('69) is founder of Low Load Insurance Services and is chair of NWU's Board of Governors.

by Global Service Learning projects. I see basketball teammates energized by their experiences in Estonia. And I'm amazed by all the NWU students receiving national recognition.

We're now eighth among all NCAA divisions in Academic All-America Awards with 141.

We've produced four Fulbright scholars in a single year four times since 2000 and now have a total of 45 Fulbright scholars.

Five students have won Truman Scholarships for public service, including three in the last five years.

And we're third in Division III in NCAA Postgraduate Scholarships.

Our students, professors and staff do great things. Our challenge is finding resources to sustain their success. Here are three things you can do to help.

- 1. Refer talented students. They're in your neighborhood. Your church. Your family. Talk to them about NWU. And email their information to David at dduzik@nebrwesleyan.edu.
- 2. Host an alumni event. You'll meet the most interesting people. Call Shelley at 402.465.2123 and she'll help you plan. (We've set a "Lend a Hand to Tampa" event for August 24 to coincide with NWU events in Lincoln and Omaha. It's fun!)
- **3. Give to the Archway Fund or endowment.** Make it a big gift. Larger than you've made before. Your gifts are the best way to see that the Nebraska Wesleyan experience carries on. Make your gift online at nebrwesleyan. edu/donate.

I'm excited about Nebraska Wesleyan's future. We have an amazing faculty, a dedicated staff and steadfast leadership to keep NWU strong.

Are these difficult times for higher education? Yes. But we can protect and grow the things that matter most to us. Nebraska Wesleyan is one of those things.

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NWUNIVERSE

COMMENCEMENT 2013: This Is Why.

Need an uplift? Come to Taylor Commons on commencement day and take in the energy of our graduates.

They are why we do what we do. Why we carry heavy teaching loads, keep our office doors open and spend uncounted hours advising them one by one.

They're why we work to make the residence halls great places to live and learn. Why we help them find what they're looking for in the library, at the Student Involvement Center and on the hunt for jobs and internships.

They are why we work to find the financial aid they need to afford four short years here.

They're why we mow. And sweep. And scrub. Why we ask, "How are you?" and wait for an honest answer. They're why we tighten already tight belts. Why we arrange opportunities to study abroad, connect with alumni, and collaborate on research.

We do what we do so they can do more. So they can walk across the stage each May. And then walk off it with purpose, prepared to make decisions, make money, and make a difference.







Suite! TOWNHOUSES **TURN 10.**

Nebraska Wesleyan University reshaped the northeast corner of campus a decade ago. Gone was the president's ranch-style home on 54th and Madison Avenue. And the home of NWU baseball moved from just east of Centennial Hall over to NWU Field at Woods Park. In their place rose two suite-style residence halls and five townhouses that have together advanced Nebraska Wesleyan's residential experience.

Alumni who remember, for instance, the "coziness" of a Centennial Hall single, or the "boisterousness" of a late weeknight in Plainsman Hall, may also recall a certain eagerness to move off campus as a junior or senior. That changed in 2003.

Today, the demand to live on campus all four years is so high that sophomores, juniors and seniors who wish to live in the suites and townhouses must enter a lottery system.

"Prior to the suites and townhouses, we had sort of a 'one-size-fits-all' approach to student housing," said Dean of Students Pete Armstrong. He said the style of living in Centennial, Johnson, Pioneer and Plainsman halls continues to be ideal for new students because "it puts you in touch with lots of people—people who are dealing with the same adjustments to campus life that

But as students advance on their academic and personal journeys, Armstrong said, their needs change. "They begin focusing, not only in their academics, but also with people and interests." The suites and townhouses allow them to evolve in that direction. "We're no longer 'one-size-fits-all'."

He added, "Having more students who want to live here brings a vitality that opens so many opportunities for them to learn."

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Meet the people behind the names of NWU's suites and townhouses.

Finley House

There were no residence halls on campus when **Vivian Finley** Nolte ('41) attended NWU. But time and generosity have led to dramatic change. Nolte wanted this building named after the people who inspired her own generosity: her parents, R. C. and Eva Finley.



Heim Hall

Willis ('52) and Joyce (Westerhoff) ('55) Heim know how the residence halls can change lives. The couple met in Johnson Hall. "As a result of this event," Willis said, "Nebraska Wesleyan now has Heim Hall." They'll receive honorary degrees at homecoming.



Heuermann House

Keith and Norma Heuermann didn't attend NWU, but they've long seen NWU as part of their church. Keith is the man behind B. K. Heuermann's Popcorn, making Heuermann House arguably the best place on campus to enjoy a movie night.



Holder House

Todd Holder ('85) first felt at home on campus when he was about 8. That's when he'd occasionally sit in with his dad (the late provost and English professor, Ken Holder) on classes in Old Main. Today, dozens of students feel right at home, too, in the house Todd helped name after his parents.



Huge House

Harry ('59) and Reba Huge are the people behind Huge House, the Huge-NWU Scholarship, and the university's growing relationship with its sister school, the University of Tartu in Estonia. Their impact on NWU students has been incredible.



Unvert House

While seniors at NWU, Erv ('53) and Carolyn ('55) Unvert's classmates gave them the "honorable" homecoming titles of "Old Grouch" and "Big Snob". Neither grouchy nor snobby, the Unverts are recognized today for their commitment to NWU.



An anonymous donor named this hall after the former university president and first lady, John and Marty White. John served as president from 1977 to 1997. Among their many contributions, the couple did much to advance NWU's international standing and beautify the campus.





NWU's Goldwater Winner Finds Open Doors in Her Bio Grad School Search

Two years ago Lindsey Jones ('13) received a Goldwater Scholarship to enhance her experience in science. Jones was only a sophomore then, and was one of just 275 students in the country to win the scholarship honoring top science and math undergraduates. "Participating in research so early

in my college experience was one of the best things that I have ever done," she said.

Today, the biochemistry graduate from Lincoln continues to reap the benefits of this scholarship as she prepares for graduate studies in genetic research. "It helps get your name out to other schools," Jones said of the Goldwater Scholarship. "It helps you stand out from other students and it provides funding."

Jones traveled across the U.S. to interview with prestigious graduate biology programs, eventually choosing the University of California-San Francisco, one of the nation's top genetics research universities.

For the past two summers, Jones participated in the Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) Program, conducting



Lindsey Jones ('13)

research at Texas A&M University and Colorado State University. The National Science Foundation sponsors the program, sending students to work alongside graduate and post-doctorate students in laboratories for 10 weeks. These opportunities have allowed her to apply what she's learned at Nebraska Wesleyan to research projects with students from other schools.

Adding to her Nebraska Wesleyan experience, Jones also participated in the 2012 West Coast Biological Sciences Undergraduate Research Conference, where she took home the award for "top oral presentation" in

Jones capped her academic career at NWU with her selection as the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society 2013 Yoerger Presidential Fellow. The selection committee reported she was the top candidate in the basic science disciplines division.

Jones's academic advisor, Professor of Biology Garry Duncan, is pleased with her trajectory. Jones served as president of the Beta Beta Biology Honorary where Duncan said she showed great leadership delegating tasks and creating ideas to benefit the group. "I've seen her gain a lot of confidence," said Duncan. "She's developed a great sense of how to work with others and how to motivate not just herself."

Jones is interested in an area of genetics called epigenetics. Epigenetics studies how and when genes turn off and on within cells. "Epigenetics is a starting place and I'm willing to learn what it has to offer," Jones said.

Crunching Numbers West of the West Wing

NWU student lands White House accounting internship.

Hilary Krantz (15) spent much of the past year researching and applying for internships to satisfy the requirements for her accounting degree. Aiming high paid off for the junior when she landed an internship with the Executive Office of the President in Washington, D.C.

In that position, Krantz traveled every day to the Eisenhower Executive Office Building where she updated internal procedures for asset management. "I abso-

Hilary Krantz ('15)

lutely love my internship so far," Krantz said in March. "The people I work with want to ensure that I am assigned meaningful tasks that will expand my skills and knowledge base."

Krantz came to Washington, D.C., through Nebraska Wesleyan's Capitol Hill Internship Program (CHIP). "The CHIP program teaches students important critical thinking, organizing, writing and speaking skills," said Associate Professor of History **Meghan Winchell** who coordinates NWU's part of the Washington D.C.-based program. "Students gain the confidence they need to launch a career. The networking benefits from CHIP are immeasurable."

CHIP offers internships to students in all aca-

demic majors. Students have interned at agencies and organizations throughout the nation's capital including the White House, Navy Museum, National Center for Victims of Crime, National Education Association and CNN.

"Just living on your own in D.C. is a learning experience in itself," said Krantz. "Not only am I developing stronger accounting and finance skills through my internship, but I am becoming better rounded by being exposed to political science courses and issues through day-to-day life in D.C."

Krantz hopes the internship will open more doors after graduation.

"Internships provide individuals with vital opportunities that help them to be more prepared and marketable in the job world," said Krantz. "One of the biggest things I hope to gain from this internship is the chance to connect with others in the professional field of finance and accounting."

Marian (Heiss) Price ('59) knows how experiences like CHIP internships can help young people reach their goals. Price's early experience as a campaign volunteer sparked a career in politics that involved service on the Lincoln Board of Education and in the Nebraska Legislature.

"When I saw the programs that Nebraska Wesleyan is involved with, I recognized the CHIP program," Price said. "I made my choice to give that day because this is the kind of experience I want to support.... It's this onsite experience they have in Washington, D.C.—networking with students from across the country. It's the energy that passes between these young people."

She added, "There's nothing worse than wanting to pursue a dream and then not being able financially to achieve it.... But I do believe that with a lot of hard work and prayer, they are going to achieve their goals. And they deserve our help."



The Class of 2013 Is Bullish about the Future

PHILANTHROPY SERVES AS A RELIABLE MEASURE OF ALUMNI CONFIDENCE.

Listen long enough to media's dire predictions about the eroding worth of higher education and you might expect new graduates to be, if not jaded, at least uncertain about their future. How confident are Nebraska Wesleyan's newest graduates?

Philanthropy is an excellent measure of confidence. Uncertainty and generosity don't mix well. Uncertainty tends to clamp wallets shut. Confidence, meanwhile, opens them up.

By this measure, you can consider the class of 1960 to be among Nebraska Wesleyan University's most confident. This class has led alumni in total donors the last four years running. Last year, the class of 1960 produced an impressive 78 total donors. How would the class of 2013 compare to them?

Quite well, it turns out: 130 graduates—or 41 percent of the class—contributed to their senior class gift.

"We've enjoyed watching everything this class has accomplished at Nebraska Wesleyan," said **Gary Reber**, NWU's Archway Fund manager. "And we're just as excited to see what they do from here. I'm heartened to know that many of these 130 seniors have started a lifelong habit, not just of giving to NWU, but of investing themselves in the causes and communities that mean the most to them."

■ Daphne Epp-Hall ('92), outgoing president of Nebraska Wesleyan's alumni association, honors Jenna Miller ('13) and her classmates in a pinning ceremony celebrating contributors to the senior class gift.



◀ A member of the tennis team. Hannah Husmann (center) found teammates across campus in her blood drive efforts, including **NWU** nurses Kim McLaughlin (left) and Nancy Newman (right).

Helping Others Is in Her Blood

Student launches NWU's Red Cross Club.

Hannah Husmann ('14) began a mission to save lives her freshman year of high school, when a classmate died of cancer. "I wanted to help in any way I could, and her parents suggested giving blood," Husmann recalled.

Now, she's driving Nebraska Wesleyan's newest student organization, the Red Cross Club.

> As one of a select group of U.S. studentathletes, Husmann received a \$2,000 scholarship to attend the summer Red Cross/NAIA Collegiate Leadership Academy in Washington, D.C. There, Husmann learned how to establish a campus Red Cross Club and coordinate blood drives. "We discussed

with some pretty neat talents, and I'm just incredibly thankful to put those into action.

God blessed me

several strategies that would motivate college kids to donate blood," she said. "The whole concept of implementing blood drives on a college campus is to mobilize lifelong donors."

The experience helped build her skills as a leader. "Leaders from the

Red Cross and [Professor Emeritus of Political Science] Jan Vermeer, my faculty advisor, have invested so much time into encouraging me and keeping me on my toes," she said. "I have an amazing group of students to work with. Without these students, the club and blood drive wouldn't be anywhere near as successful as they have been."

Last spring, she began work on blood drive reservations, the club's constitution, and its membership core. After returning from the leadership academy, Husmann and Red Cross Club Vice President Zach **Jensen** ('13) recruited help at the fall Student Involvement Fair. More than 150 students expressed interest in volunteering or donating.

"We were going door to door to all the Greek houses, going to Pre-Health Club meetings, reaching out to students in the residence halls, asking all the coaches and studentathletes to get involved," Husmann recalled. "It was awesome to see all the different demographics of campus come together for a common goal: saving lives."

The club's first blood drive exceeded expectations. They cruised past their 100-donor goal, totalling 153. "We even had to turn donors away because we were so packed," said Husmann.

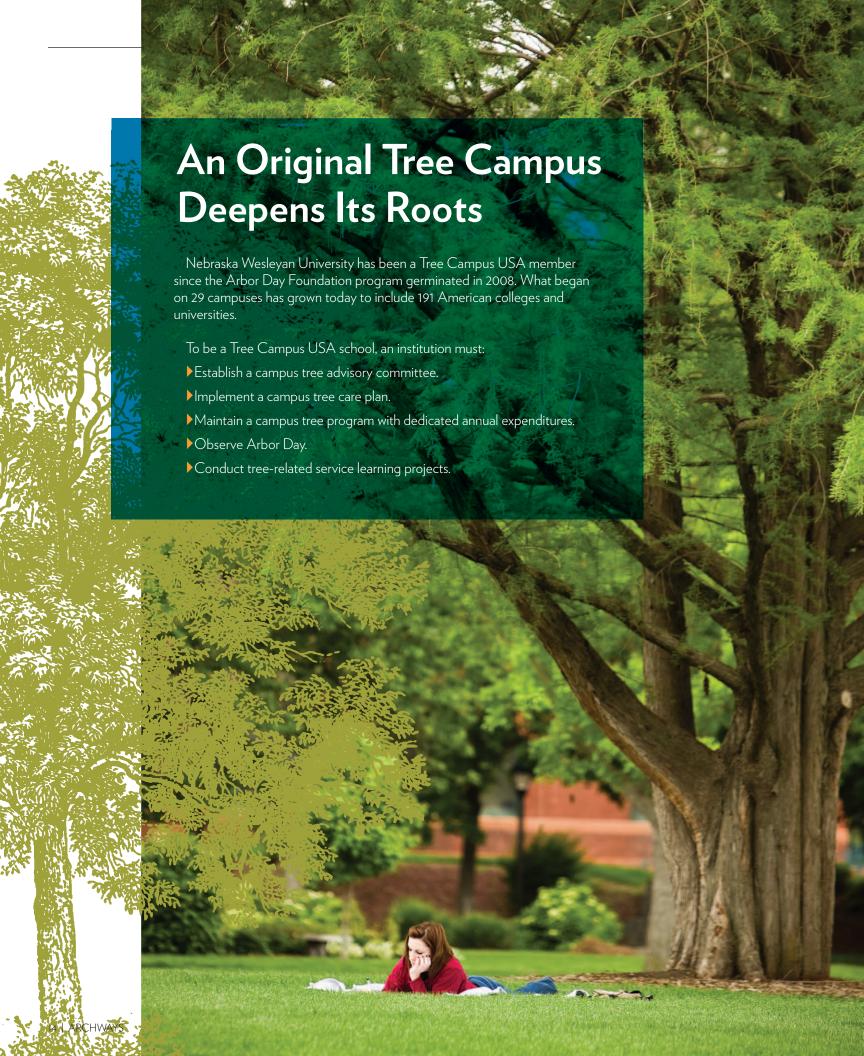
Their second drive in April was a challenge with Doane. The school with the most donors would take home a traveling trophy. (That trophy now lives in Lincoln as Husmann and her classmates more than doubled Doane, 125 units to 59.)

"It was such a unique event to mobilize eager students, faculty and staff to make a huge difference.... I hope that I can build on this experience in the future," she said. "God blessed me with some pretty neat talents, and I'm just incredibly thankful for the opportunity to put those into action and love every minute of it."

Husmann said she hopes to apply her experience to a career with a nonprofit organization.

"When you get to the point where you can turn around and share the blessings that have been bestowed on you is when you know you are in the right profession," she said. "The Red Cross experience has shown me the joy, happiness, and sense of fulfillment that comes along with doing something that you love for the purpose of helping others."

Hannah Husmann's experience shows why NWU belongs alongside institutions like the Red Cross in your charitable giving. Our students make the world better.





Our campus has been an affiliate of the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum since the dedication of the Alice Abel Arboretum in 1981. And meeting the Arbor Day Foundation's five standards simply involved formalizing what Nebraska Wesleyan has done well for generations. Knowing that, it's no surprise that the president of the Arbor Day Foundation, **Matthew Harris** ('93), is a Nebraska Wesleyan alumnus.

Walk by a magnolia in bloom or rest beneath the horse chestnut southeast of Old Main and you'll likely agree that the university's trees are worth the care for their beauty alone. But Nebraska Wesleyan's trees are more than just pretty.

They reduce utility costs, providing summer shade and blocking winter wind.

"Trees properly placed around buildings can reduce air conditioning needs by 30 percent and can save 20-50 percent in energy used for heating."

-USDA Forest Service

They absorb greenhouse gases.

"One acre of forest absorbs six tons of carbon dioxide and puts out four tons of oxygen."

-U.S. Department of Agriculture

They increase neighborhood property values.

"Trees can be a stimulus to economic development.... Commercial retail areas are more attractive... apartments rent more quickly, tenants stay longer, and space in a wooded setting is more valuable to sell or rent."

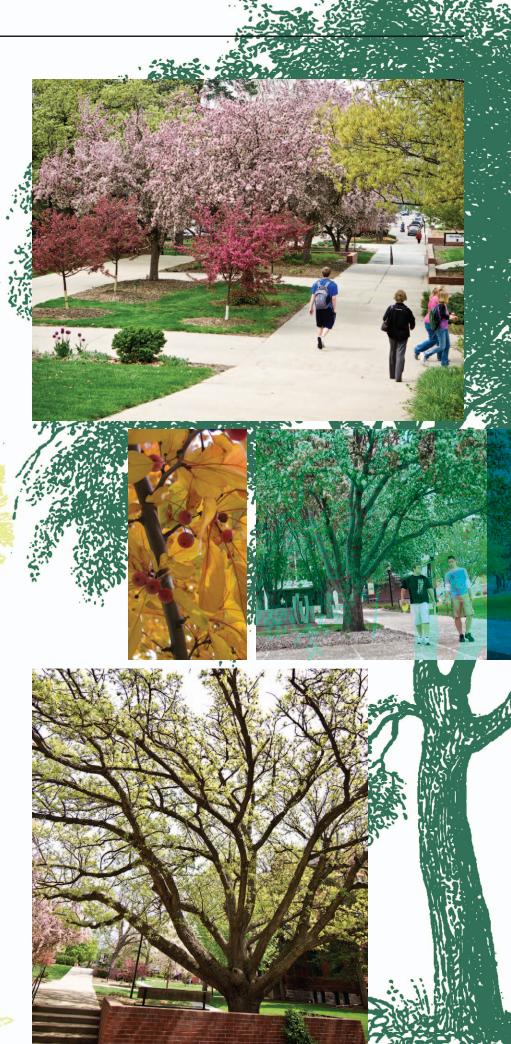
-Arbor Day Foundation

They support reduced stress, clear thinking and improved creativity.

"Visual exposure to settings with trees has produced significant recovery from stress within five minutes, as indicated by changes in blood pressure and muscle tension."

 Roger Ulrich, Texas A&M, Department of Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning

Come back to NWU to see, hear and smell the incredible variety of trees on campus.





A mild-mannered alumna slays her fears to unfurl the funny.

-By Matt Geiler ('97)

Claire Meyer ('11) is Chicago's newest improvisational comic/superhero. The Second City conservatory graduate left the shiny planet of Aurora, Neb., to take the Windy City by storm. There, she chooses from a quiver of superpowers that includes a fluid skeleton for instant shape-shifting, razor wit, eye-lasers and a holographic second head hungry for the flesh of bad guys. She smells like roses and bubble gum wrapped in cupcakes. And she can will cities into existence with a bat of eyelashes made of rare gems and the feathers of exotic birds. Also, she plays the accordion.

These are her powers. But what of her weaknesses? Like Superman's kryptonite, Spiderman's chronic migraines and Batman's guilt issues, Meyer's armor must also have its chink. And hers, as for most comics, is fear. Soul-sucking, incapacitating fear.

"The first [Second City] classes I took, they said, 'Raise your hand if you've done improy,' and mine was the only one that didn't go up. And I was like, 'I just got to get out of here,'" recalled Meyer. "The first few scenes we did I'd only play a cleaning lady who couldn't talk. I thought, 'I'm going to keep doing this so nobody notices I have no idea what's happening."

Then she'd cower in her apartment—her personal Fortress of Solitude. "The first month or two, I wasn't leaving the house because I was so terrified of public transportation. I'd only leave to go to the Second City classes," she said.

"I ended up making friends with this moth in the basement of the apartment and I named it Barry White and that was it for me." She said, "I was surviving, but at the time I was like, 'This is what every big city girl does: stays in her apartment and watches "The Hills" on Netflix."





But her sidekick—that sensual soul-singing moth of hers—kept crooning that there was more for her out there. "With great humor comes great responsibility," he flapped.

"But I can't..."

"Oh, yes you can, baby." (Moths, biology majors remind us, know a thing or two about transformations.)

With that, Meyer stepped into the cruel Chicago darkness and joined powers with the popular Lethal Action Force—an improv comedy group that spoofs '80s and '90s action and superhero movies. They lay siege weekly at the legendary iO Theatre near

Wrigley Field. iO's vets include Amy Poehler of "Parks and Recreation" and Seth Meyers and Vanessa Bayer of "Saturday Night Live".

Meyer found super friends on Lethal Action Force. "I've seen 'Top Gun' and 'Die Hard' for the first time with these guys. 'Terminator 2'! I was on the ground weeping in front of these people. They've seen me at my worst, so there's nothing I could do more embarrassing on stage." That realization alone clothed Meyer in immense power.

Barry White wasn't the only one in Meyer's past to see her success

was surviving, but
at the time I was
like, "This is what
every big city girl does:
stays in her apartment
and watches 'The
Hills' on Netflix."

coming. "The thing that makes us most proud of Claire is that she moves forward even if she's afraid," said **Patty Hawk**. Hawk—that's her actual name, not a superhero identity—is associate professor of communication studies at NWU. "Claire's one of those rare people who looks at the world through a different lens and inspires the people around her to do the same."

Hawk spotted Meyer's power when she first stepped into her classroom. "Every class, every day was a riot. Claire would... just take over the class—in a good way. I found myself coming home and describing to my husband everything she'd do and it struck me that she had that one-in-a-million talent."

Even Meyer's academic work was fair game for comedy. Hawk remembered one assignment where Meyer was to challenge the validity of communication studies as a discipline. "Claire began her response by dimming the lights, asking everyone to take hands, and singing Christina Aguilera's 'Beautiful'."

Her performances took her beyond the Communication Studies Department. The theatre and communication studies double major also appeared in several theatre productions—some of which she created and staged herself. And in the tradition of Clark Kent and Peter Parker, the mild-mannered Meyer cut her teeth on

the student newspaper, "The Reveille", penning the sarcastic relationship-advice column, "Am I Right, Ladies?"

"Get that boy alone and sing him the latest Katy Perry hit," our hero advised in a 2011 column. "There is nothing men love more than feeling a little trapped for four minutes; they feed off the nervous energy."

Meyer snacks on nervous energy herself as she moon-lights with her accordion for a slew of functions. She serves as the entire house band for "President Obama" in his late night talk show, "Barack All Night", at the People's Improv Theatre. And while Meyer has become adept at facing fear, that's not to say she's conquered it.

"I cry. A lot," she divulged. "Whatever I'm feeling, I just

feel it to the maximum." Meyer also admitted struggling to "rein in my crazy" onstage. "And accents. No one has ever been worse. It's like a bad joke every time I do one. And yet I do them. Too often." (Imagine Meyer's greatest horrible Hans Gruber German accent: "Now I have an accordion. Ho. Ho. Ho.")

Bad accents aside, Chicagoans

now enjoy added protection against the twin evils of boredom and dullness thanks to its newest action hero and her accordion of truth. But NWU may be the place where Meyer's powers truly came into focus.

"I used to be afraid of stepping out into a scene," Meyer said. "But along the way I learned that the people around me would take good care of me. I've fallen down in scenes before—sometimes literally. And the people around me made me look like a genius for doing so. I'm the luckiest kid in the world to be a part of this community."

Meyer's luck keeps leaping tall buildings. Her most recent project, a blog called "The Awkward Phase: A Story of Triumph", is earning raves on Tumblr for the way it celebrates our heroic ability to transform. The blog features contributors' painful, shy and, well, awkward stages through photos and stories. Each post is a survival story—an affirmation that there's more out there for us as we grow. She described the project to the Chicago-area blog, the Chicagoist, as "a way to make our 14-year-old selves proud."

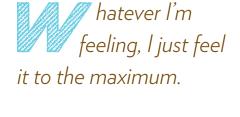
"The Awkward Phase" was one of three finalists in Chronicle Books' "Great Tumblr Book Search". Now our hero finds herself soaring through online notoriety and talk of a book deal.

"We started this project hoping to have something fun to do on our lunch break," Meyer said of her work with the blog's co-creator, Tyler Gillespie. "We're thrilled it's resonated with people and that they're excited to tell their stories."

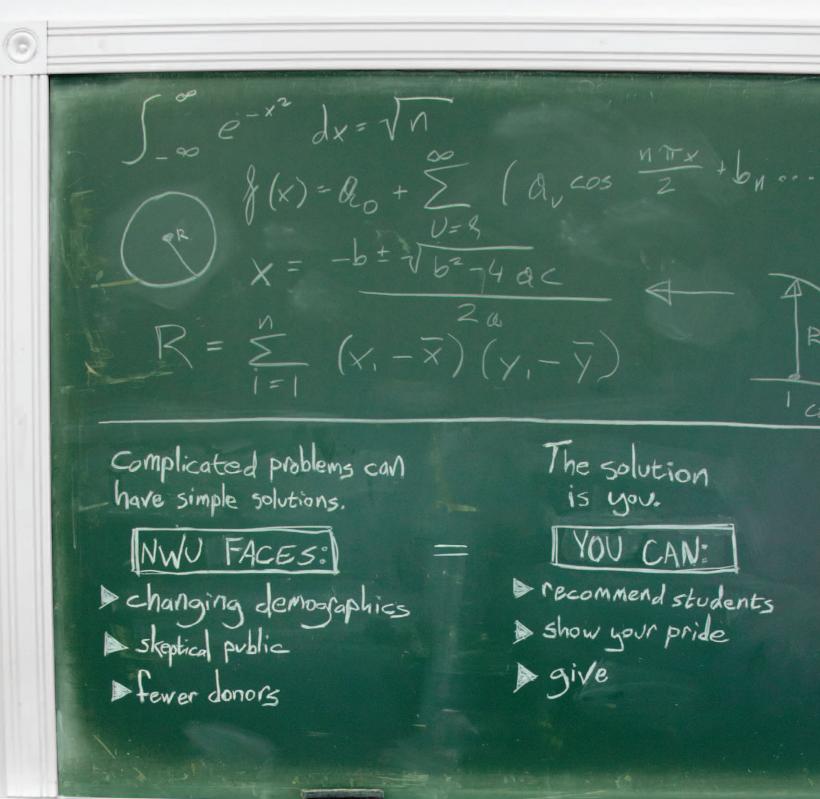
That's what we love in our heroes (and in our alumni): this ability to transform and to resonate. Explosive things happen when we do as Patty Hawk teaches and move toward our fears. That's when each of us has the greatest potential to be transformational—even heroic.

Now, Meyer's metamorphosis isn't everyone's. Most kids growing up in Aurora won't wield their Nebraska Wesleyan experience to become musical action hero comedians with blogs and book deals. But what they will do and what they will become has that same electric chance to capture our imaginations and just resonate.

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DRY NUMBERS

Nebraska farmers and ranchers are obsessed with sky. They stare at it; sniff it; peer to the west to guess its moods. They treat sky as if it holds their fate in its fickle hands—because it does.

If **Viktor Khanzhyn**, Nebraska Wesleyan's visiting professor of economics, is right, then every Nebraskan—each office manager, machinist, teacher and nurse—should pay the sky similar heed. It decides their livelihoods, too.

Rain affects prices, said Khanzhyn. "And everything is interconnected by price in a market economy." As rain falls, so does the cost of feeding cattle in Nebraska—and families nationwide.

Rainclouds were generous this spring. But stop the rain this summer and a dirty cloud of unpredictable market forces blows into play. Those forces won't end at agriculture's fenceline. They can dust up into every aspect of America's economy.

Not even a cool wet spring can wash away the risk of summer drought. So the central question on the mind of every Nebraska farmer and rancher also concerns economists like Khanzhyn: Will the drought make an unwelcome return this summer? And if it does, what will it mean?



How dry was last summer? An alumnus designed the tool that helps us see. The Palmer Drought Severity Index is named for **Walter C. Palmer** ('39). His index uses temperature and rainfall data to gauge dryness.

But Nebraskans needed little more than a rain gauge to tell last summer was severe. In July and August of 2011, 8.44 inches of rain fell in Lincoln. Over the same 62 days a year later, the city's rainfall sank to 0.63 inches. No July and August have been that dry in Lincoln since the city began tracking data in 1887, the year of Nebraska Wesleyan's founding.

Livestock dropped dead in the sweltering heat. Dryland soybeans gave up the ghost by the square mile. Nebraska's center pivots spun like minute hands, taxing aquifers to keep corn crops going.

The price of scarce hay increased fourfold, pushing some to steal bales to keep their cattle fed. Sherriff Bobby Whittington told NPR's "Morning Edition" in December 2012 of his efforts to nab hay thieves in Tillman County, Okla. He hid a GPS device inside a bale where thieves had struck before. Whittington programmed the device to text him when it left a certain area. The device led Whittington to two men who

now face three- to five-year prison sentences.

Things weren't quite so desperate in 2012 on **Braden Storer's** ('14) 101-year-old family ranch near Whitman, Neb. "We were lucky. It had rained plenty the summer before, and we had hay coming out of our ears," Storer said. That surplus hay

EVERYTHING IS INTERCONNECTED BY PRICE IN A MARKET ECONOMY

saw the Storers' 800 head of crossbred Angus, lowline and Hereford cattle through those parched months.

Some neighbors weren't so lucky. Without hay for winter, many ranchers were forced to shrink their herds, flooding the market and driving prices down.

While livestock producers often found themselves suffering right alongside their hot and hungry animals, different factors, like irrigation, federal subsidies and crop insurance helped insulate some crop producers in 2012. And handsome prices for whatever corn and soybeans they could produce made even low yields rewarding.

The drought's enormous reach raised prices further.
The Nebraska Forest Service reported, "Over the U.S., the drought of the past year has left more area moderately to extremely dry than at any time since 1955."

The problem was global. Production was off across what Khanzhyn called the "global wheat belt." He said wheat harvests were "weak in southern Germany, Poland, Ukraine—where I am from—and Russia."

The southern hemisphere was also affected. Reuters reported, "Australia's wheat production last year fell by almost a quarter from an all-time high of nearly 30 million tonnes in 2011."

Low yields globally have created high prices for Nebraska's crops. So you might guess that Nebraska's crop producers—at least those with insurance, subsidies and irrigation wells-might pray for rain with a little less vigor than their livestock-raising peers. But Khanzhyn cautioned that sustained drought is no recipe for anyone's long-term profitability. The factors that sustained U.S. crop producers well through the 2012 drought aren't sure to sustain themselves, he said, should the pattern of drought carry into 2013 and beyond.

The federal debt, America's sluggish trek out of recession and

WHAT HAPPENS TO NEBRASKA'S ECONOMY IF THE DROUGHT RETURNS THIS SUMMER?

Congress's difficulty in passing a farm bill all threaten the government's ability to sustain farm subsidies. Meanwhile, a changing climate taxes the insurance industry's capacity to see customers through more frequent major natural events like floods, severe storms and droughts. The same companies that helped farmers along the Missouri River through a 500-year flood in 2011 had to do the same for clients in 2012's 50-year drought.

And Oklahoma's especially deadly spring tornados only add to the growing list of sad and costly natural disasters.

"How many years can our current insurance model hold up in this environment?" Khanzhyn asked. "I don't know."

And the Ogallala Aquifer that feeds Nebraska's irrigators is not a limitless resource. If you think of the aquifer as a bank account, industry and agriculture's withdrawals are up while nature's deposits are down. Continue that pattern and wells have and will run dry.

Khanzhyn warned that drought isn't the only factor influencing corn prices. "We use corn in so many things," he said. "Ethanol, plastics, high-fructose corn syrup. Corn is everywhere. Year one of the drought was unexpected, and producers still bought corn. But in year two,

markets adjust."

The drought's upward pressure on corn prices may push many corn buyers to find substitutes. "For instance, products using high-fructose corn syrup may turn to Brazilian sugar instead," Khanzhyn said. The cereal industry could market wheat and rice cereals to avoid expensive corn. And ethanol plants could likewise turn to cheaper sources of biomass. The resulting decrease in demand puts downward pressure on corn prices.

Which pressure is greater: the drought that decreases supply, or the countering market adjustments that decrease demand? How will producers who cannot substitute for corn compete with those who do? And what will be the drought's impact on prices across our economy—on everything from a gallon of gas to a pound of hamburger to a semester of tuition?

"I keep coming back to how we're still just slowly making our way out of this recession," Khanzhyn said. In a recovering consumer-driven economy, "we need people to spend, to buy things. But as prices go up, consumption goes down and recovery slows even more. People now are more careful.

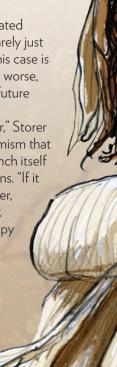
"Price is such a difficult balance," he said. "Price your product a little too high and you lose your market. Price it too low and your competitors will eat you."

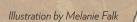
Back on the Storers' 25,000acre ranch, that uncertainty is a daily reality. The surplus hay that saw them through 2012 is long gone. This time around, a dry summer will mean shrinking their herd at a loss.

"My folks are nervous, obviously," Storer said. "They know what's at stake. But they're optimistic. You have to be. Right now [in April] we're focusing on calving—bringing in good, healthy calves. But we're looking at the skies every day."

Answers to complicated economic questions rarely just fall from the sky. But this case is different. For better or worse, Nebraska's economic future rides on the clouds.

"It was a good winter," Storer said, revealing an optimism that has passed with the ranch itself through five generations. "If it rains plenty this summer, we'll be a happy family. There'll be a lot of happy ranchers."





Blue Book Value

How does an NWU degree's value compare to... A NEW CAR?

Illustrations by Anne Benjamin

The White House's new College Scorecard attempts to give students and families more information on the prices and values of different schools. Now, prices are straightforward things. They're easy to compare. But value is a different animal. How do you plot the value of a life-changing experience?

Still, the scorecard's existence begs a question: How does Nebraska Wesleyan score? How do NWU students' debt burdens measure up against the value of their Nebraska Wesleyan experiences?

The College Scorecard says Nebraska Wesleyan families "typically borrow \$20,242 in federal loans for a student's undergraduate study." This median borrowing puts NWU right on the line between the College Scorecard's "medium" and "high" rankings.

Now, \$20,242 is a considerable debt for a college graduate to carry into an uncertain job market. It's nearly enough, in fact, to buy a base-model 2013 Ford Fusion (MSRP: \$21,700, lease: \$233/month).

After those numbers comes a value question: Is that too much debt?

To approach it, let's create

How do you plot the value of a life-changing experience?

a hypothetical NWU senior. (Everybody, meet Gwen. Gwen, this is everybody.) And let's keep driving our new car comparision. Gwen will do two important things today. She'll graduate from NWU and she'll buy that Ford Fusion. ("Wow! Big day for me." It is, Gwen. It is.)

In the dealer's lot—and on the commencement stage—her car and her bachelor's degree involve identical amounts of debt. In dollar terms, they're equal.

Now Gwen drives home. She parks her car on the street and hangs her degree on the wall. With a mile or two on the odometer, her car just depreciated about 9 percent.

From here, it will shed about \$2,000 in value annually for the next few years, according to the online automotive resource, Edmonds.com.

Meanwhile, the value of her

Nebraska Wesleyan degree is just beginning to reveal itself. The Bureau of Labor Statistics puts the 2012 unemployment rate for people with a high school diploma at 8.3 percent. For people with a bachelor's degree, unemployment falls to 4.5 percent. Apply that trend to Nebraska's lower unemployment rate and the figure for college-educated Nebraskans drops to 2.1 percent.

What about Gwen's income potential?

A 2013 report by the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce provides powerful data. "The College Payoff: Education, Occupations, Lifetime Earnings" lists median lifetime earnings for people with high school diplomas at \$1,304,000. For people with bachelor's degrees, median lifetime earnings rise to \$2,268,000.

Without considering Nebraska Wesleyan's particular value beyond the average American college, that NWU degree on Gwen's wall nearly halves her risk of unemployment and yields her a healthy 74 percent pay increase. ("Wow, thanks!")

Extrapolating from the report's



data on earnings trajectories, Gwen is likely to recoup the \$20.242 borrowed to attend Nebraska Wesleyan in income gains over her peers without college degrees by her 26th birthday. And should she use her bachelor's degree as a gateway to an advanced degree, as 66 percent of NWU alumni do within five years of graduation, her prospects continue to brighten. The Georgetown study shows that median lifetime earnings grow for master's (\$2.7 million), doctoral (\$3.3 million) and professional (\$3.6 million) degree recipients. ("Hmmm. Maybe I'll go for my MBA.")

Meanwhile, Gwen's Ford Fusion is proving handy at driving her to and from the job in finance that her Nebraska Wesleyan experience helped her land

She may not feel wealthy in these first years of degree-holding and car-owning, but she hasn't missed a loan payment,



■ Gwen's NWU degree and new car involved identical amounts of debt.

either. According to the College Scorecard, Gwen's risk of defaulting on her student loans as a Nebraska Wesleyan graduate (3.6 percent) is roughly one quarter of the national average (13.4 percent).

Maybe that sharp-looking Fusion helps Gwen catch the eye of an attractive someone. ("Chris? That Chris Harper with the shoulders and the jacket?") When they go out, Gwen's education gives them interesting things to talk about. ("The Tempest' is Shakespeare's final play, and, I would argue, his most autobiographical...")

And that job of hers means they can hop in that Fusion and go out more often. ("I love this article! I'll have the seafood risotto, please.")

That's not to say alumni life is all paychecks and risotto. Let's see what happens when Gwen takes some wrong turns. ("Hold on. What?")

Let's say her first job after

college teaches her a lot of things—including that a career in finance is not for her. She's at a dead end.

Fortunately, her Nebraska Wesleyan education prized versatility over specialization. She wasn't honed to lock into a single niche in a specific industry. Rather, she was taught in the liberal arts tradition. Reexamining, redefining and reapplying herself to changing circumstances is something Gwen does well.

In an interview for a line of work she'd never considered five years ago, Gwen talks about her ideas, her desire to take on new challenges and solve complex problems. ("Social science research is one of my passions, you know.")

Gwen impresses herself, and her new boss. She can make this transition.

But the wrong turns continue. She and Chris have hit some rocky stretches in their marriage. ("Wait. When did we get

married?" August 2016 in an outdoor ceremony near Boulder, Colo. There were bagpipes.) Some days, Gwen isn't sure they'll make it. ("Can I ask what we fight about?" We needn't go into specifics, Gwen, but you argue about money and the right time to start a family. Also, you fight about your mother.)

Now, the degree on Gwen's wall won't fix their relationship. But it does change their odds. The National Center for Family and Marriage Research at Bowling Green State University studied U.S. divorce rates using 2010 data. It found that the rate of first divorce was 17.5 per 1,000 women 18 and older. Among women with a college degree, that rate fell to 14.2 per 1,000. Put another way: with a bachelor's degree, Gwen's risk of divorce drops by 23 percent.

It's not clear how education affects divorce rates. The same qualities of a liberal arts education that foster professional

versatility may also foster resiliency in relationships. The ability to communicate well, understand others and get to the root of complex problems is likely just as valuable in kitchens, living rooms and bedrooms as it is in offices, laboratories and board rooms.

Gwen and Chris steer their marriage back on the right course. But now her Ford Fusion swerves down a wrong path. (Gwen, now would be a good

The same qualities of a liberal arts education that foster professional versatility may also foster resiliency in relationships.

time for you to buckle up.) Gwen loses control and hits a lightpole. Hard.

Gwen is fine, thank goodness. ("Yeah, no thanks to you, Mr. Omnipotent Narrator. Look what you did to my car!")



Thank also the collegeeducated engineers who designed the Fusion's crumple zones and airbags to protect her. This reliable car has done a lot for Gwen, taking her where she needed to go and protecting her when she needed it most. But the car's value in this changed state is now spent. ("It's totaled!") But her degree is good as new.

So which is more valuable? Which investment—the car or the college degree—is the wiser reason to take on identical debt? ("Hang on, there, Mr. Narrator. That gorgeous car—which you just smashed for the sake of your little illustration—saved my life. When was the last time a poetry class saved somebody's life?")

◀ A good education—like a good car—is both nimble and strong.
It navigates twists and protects us through emergencies.

I'm glad you brought that up, Gwen. William Carlos Williams writes in "Asphodel, That Greeny Flower" that it happens all the time.

It is difficult to get the news from poems yet men die miserably every day for lack of what is found there.

As for the lifesaving quality of an undergraduate education generally, we can use more than poetry to draw conclusions. A 2012 study by Health Affairs revealed that white men and women without a high school diploma live on average to 67.5 and 73.5 years, respectively. And white men and women with at least a college degree live more

than a decade longer, to 80.4 and 83.9 years.

For the price of a car, Gwen cut her risk of unemployment in half, quartered her risk of defaulting on her student loans, increased her income by three-quarters, improved her versatility in a changing job market, decreased her risk of divorce by 23 percent, and added roughly 10 years and five months to a life that is brighter and more purposeful for her Nebraska Wesleyan experience.

So is Nebraska Wesleyan University worth it?

Beware those who argue it's not, for they'd have us choose instead a shorter, poorer, duller and lonelier existence. Where's the value in that?



IS IT FOOTBALL SEASON YET?

The Prairie Wolves open against Tabor College at Abel Stadium on September 7 at 1 p.m.



NWUsports.com

Reach

PRAIRIE WOLVES' SOLE SENIOR STANDS AT THE CENTER OF AN INTERCONTINENTAL RELATIONSHIP.

On February 13—senior night—fans of Nebraska Wesleyan men's basketball bid farewell to an especially small senior class. One senior finished his career at Snyder Arena with a win over a ranked Doane College.

The Prairie Wolves may have been short on seniors in 2013, but there was nothing short about that lone player. The 6' 10" center, **Sass Karemae** ('13), served as a valuable sixth man, leading NWU reserves in rebounds and blocks.

Karemae's numbers in his final game weren't towering. He registered two points, three rebounds and two steals. But any Prairie Wolf will tell you that every contribution to a win over Doane matters. And this one meant even more to NWU basketball. It did more than send Karemae off on a winning note. It sealed a proud program's first winning season since 2008—two years before Karemae suited up for his first game as a Prairie Wolf.

Karemae's frame captures something of how this program has stretched to return to its tradition of winning seasons. But this young man's height and zip code wingspan, if anything, underestimate his true reach for Nebraska Wesleyan. To appreciate that, you must stretch with him 5,400 miles across the Atlantic to his home in Tallinn, Estonia.

Karemae was a year old in 1991 when Estonia gained its independence from the Soviet Union through the dramatic, nonviolent Singing Revolution. He grew up enjoying a freedom made all the sweeter by his family's personal stories of occupation. "My dad always said, 'It's amazing to see how everything is possible now," Karemae told *Archways* in 2010. "We're doing things that older generations couldn't dream of."

Harry Huge ('59) played a role in Karemae's liberation and



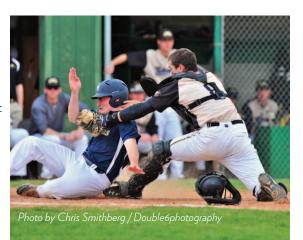
Sass Karemae ('13) was a three-time Pflieger-Olson Scholar Athlete for Nebraska Wesleyan.

education. In the years before Karemae's birth, Huge lobbied Congress to support Estonia's peaceful revolutionaries. "This was a time when many leaders in Washington didn't want to ruffle [Soviet president Mikhail] Gorbachev's feathers," Huge told *Archways* in 2006. "But when I told senators about the brave stand these young Estonians were taking, well, they very much wanted to support the

SPRING SPORT SUMMARY

nwusports.com

Two baseball players, Beau Kelly and Alex Heideman (right), were named Academic All-Americans this year.



Baseball/Softball

NWU baseball and softball were mirror images of one another in 2013. A late spring tore holes in both schedules, with baseball seeing eight cancellations and softball seeing 14. Both teams finished 10-10 in GPAC play.

Golf

The nationally competitive men's golf team finished third in the GPAC. Rory Doll finished 21st at the NCAA Division III championships in Sandestin, Fla.

SPORT



good guys."

Huge has spent much of his time ever since connecting Estonian "good guys" to the good people of Nebraska Wesleyan University. The NWU Board of Governors member and Estonian honorary consul for the state of South Carolina was integral in establishing a sister-school relationship between NWU and Estonia's University of Tartu in 2007. (Founded in 1632, Estonia's premier university is NWU's considerably older sister.)

Huge and his wife established the Harry and Reba Huge Foundation, a nonprofit group supporting the educational experiences of students with strong potential for leadership. While the Huge Foundation doesn't focus exclusively on Nebraska Wesleyan, there's no denying NWU holds a special place in the organization's work. NWU is the alma mater of both Huge and the foundation's director, **Blaine Rieke** ('55).

And the Huge Foundation's president is **Jack Siemsen**, who joined the foundation after serving as dean of University College at Nebraska Wesleyan.

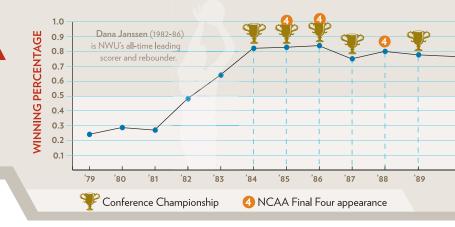
Karemae first learned about NWU after one of Huge's visits to Tallinn to promote the exchange relationship. And while most Estonians who come to NWU do so for a semester or year, Karemae chose to pursue the full, four-year Nebraska Wesleyan experience.

If four years sounds like a long time to spend 5,000 miles from home, the Huge Foundation had an answer for that. The foundation has supported summer trips to Estonia for both the men's and women's basketball programs.

Karemae's homecoming allowed his family to see him play, and gave his teammates a firsthand look at his native culture. "I was happy to show the team my home," the international business graduate said. "But I

WINNINGWAYS

After an incredible 23-year streak, winning seasons have come harder. The NWU men broke the .500 barrier in 2013. Will it start a new streak?



SPRING SPORT SUMMARY

Women's tennis is now 22-0 in conference play over three seasons.

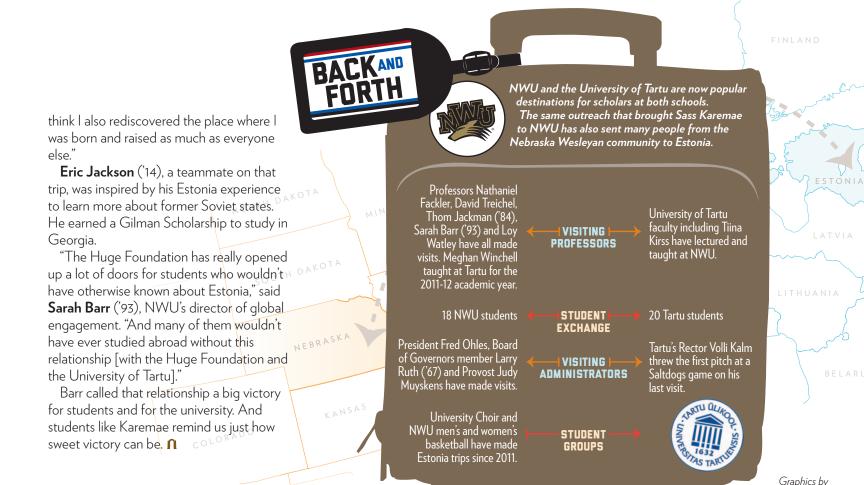


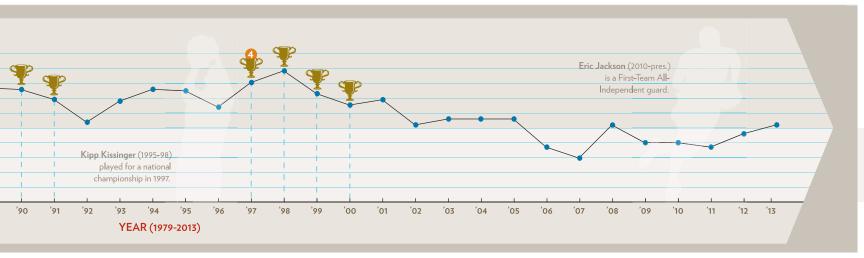
Tennis

The women finished 7-0 in conference play to take their ninth conference championship since 2000. They haven't dropped a conference match since May 1, 2010. The men went 3-2 in GPAC play to finish third.



Photos by Chris Smithberg / Double6photography



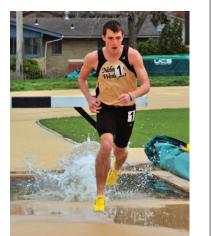




Outdoor track and field

Three students took four conference titles: Johnny Rutford (10,000, 5,000), A. J. Farrand (pole vault) and Melanie Fehringer (3,000 steeplechase). As teams, the men placed fifth and the women sixth.

NWU women earned All-America status at nationals in the discus and shot put.



Swimming

Read about NWU's exciting addition of men's and women's swimming in our next issue. The Prairie Wolves begin competition in 2014.

Natalie Swanda

SPORT

SCOTSMAN® ICE MAKER

When the Prairie Wolves take the court for volleyball twoa-days, approximately 50 knees take a ferocious beating. Thousands of jumps. Hundreds of drops to dig. Again and again and again. Keeping the swelling down in those knees takes a lot of ice and plastic wrap.

\$5,000

Tools of the Trade

You're only as good as your tools.

That's true for carpenters and liberal arts universities alike. Peek inside our toolbox to see some of the things it takes to keep NWU athletics running.

RIDDELL® HELMET The more we learn about sports-related brain injuries, the more we can do to prevent them. These helmets rate highly in concussion-prevention testing and are wise investments in our 90+ football student-athletes. \$250

USC SPRINT VAULTING POLE

When you're using a thin, fiberglass stick to fling your body one and a half stories into the air, there's not a whole lot of room for error. That's why NWU provides excellent coaching and proven, reliable vaulting poles.

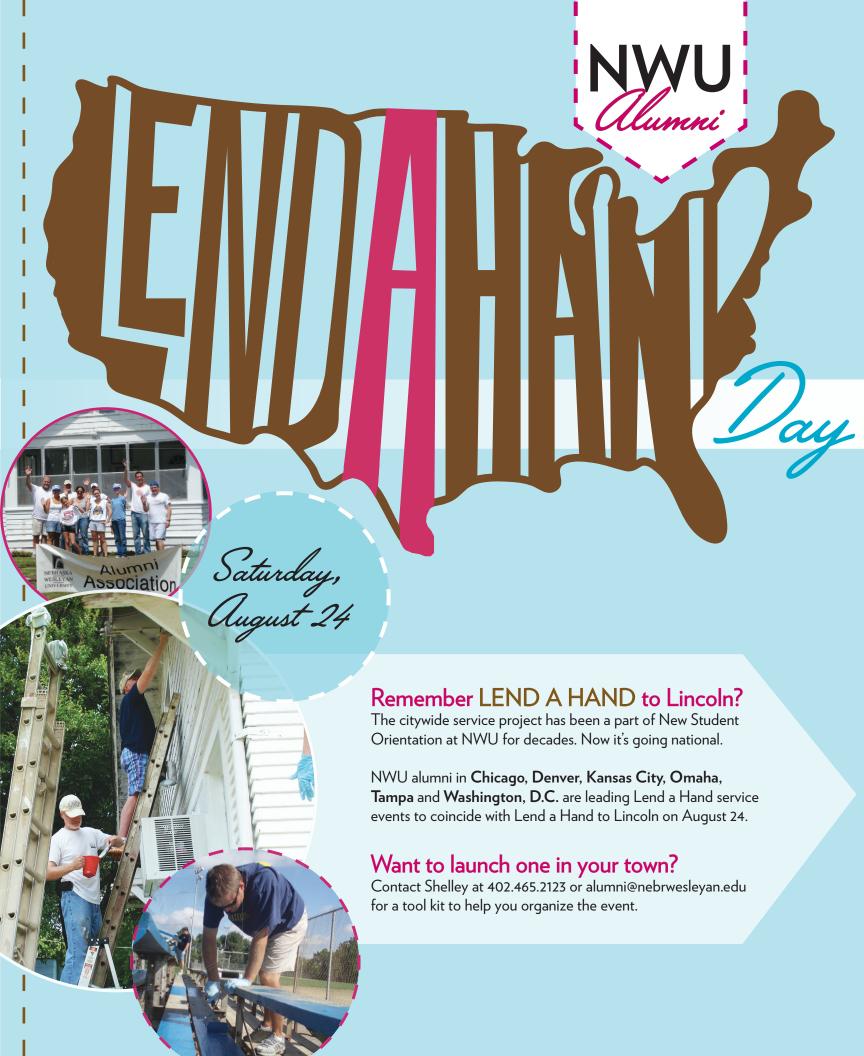
\$600

Want to help fill NWU Athletics' equipment locker? Join the 'W' Club at nebrwesleyan.edu/donate.

25 KG IVANKO PLATE

NWU student-athletes will tell you that you have to earn what you get in the weight room. Nothing comes for free here. Not even the iron our shot putters pump.

\$250



Student Pride

Prestige scholars and awards

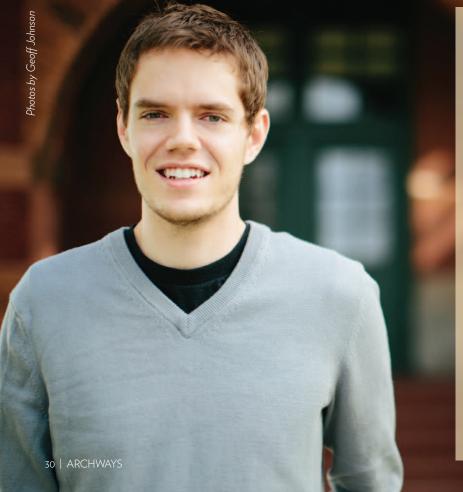
For NWU's Latest Critical Language Scholar, International Trade Begins with Trading Words

Michael Sutherland (14), a political science major from Omaha, Neb., has won a Critical Language Scholarship to take part in intensive language classes this summer in China. Sutherland's interest in Asia stemmed from a Chinese language class he took as a first-year student, as well as his exposure to Mandarin through Taiwanese relatives.

Following graduation, Sutherland hopes to return to Hong Kong to teach English and attend graduate school. He is interested in a career in international trade, finance and economic development.

"Developing Chinese fluency will allow me to live and work in one of the most dynamic regions of the world," said Sutherland. Eight Nebraska Wesleyan University students have won Critical Language Scholarships in the last seven years.





Japanese Minor Jumps from Web Surfing to Globetrotting

Paul Snyder's (13) curiosity in Japanese culture started in junior high school with some simple web surfing. He found Japanese shows and games online that piqued his interest. He met Japanese exchange students in high school in Scottsbluff, Neb. Their friendship led him to take some online Japanese

He took his interest in the Far East with him 400 miles east to Nebraska Wesleyan, where he joined international student organizations and minored in Japanese. NWU is also where Snyder pursued and won the opportunity to live in Japan as a teacher in the Japanese Exchange Teaching (JET) Program.

"The curiosity initially fostered by those shows and games never died down and has persisted throughout my entire life," Snyder said. "This is a curiosity I am so thrilled to finally be able to explore firsthand through the JET Program."

He said, "My main goal for the JET Program is simple. I want to experience firsthand a culture that I have studied and loved since I was a child. This really is a dream come true for me."



Mandarin for credit with a full plate of senior-level education coursework, but I

Pirnie's interest in Taiwanese culture

course during his first year at NWU. "The experience was so large that it is hard to articulate how it shaped me," Pirnie said. Wessels and Pirnie are Nebraska Wesleyan's 44th and 45th Fulbright scholars. Thirty-one of those awards have come in the last decade. The Institute for International Education consistently recognizes NWU as a top national producer of

Fulbright scholars.





NWU Track and Field/Cross Country
Sets the Pace in NCAA Postgraduate Scholarships

When it comes to NCAA Postgraduate Scholarships, Nebraska Wesleyan studentathletes have set a grueling pace that no other track and field/cross country program in the country can match. NWU track and field/cross country student-athletes have earned 17 scholarships in the last dozen years. Their closest track and field/cross country competitor is the University of Missouri with 13 awards in the same span. Seattle Pacific and Stanford are the only other programs in the country to crack

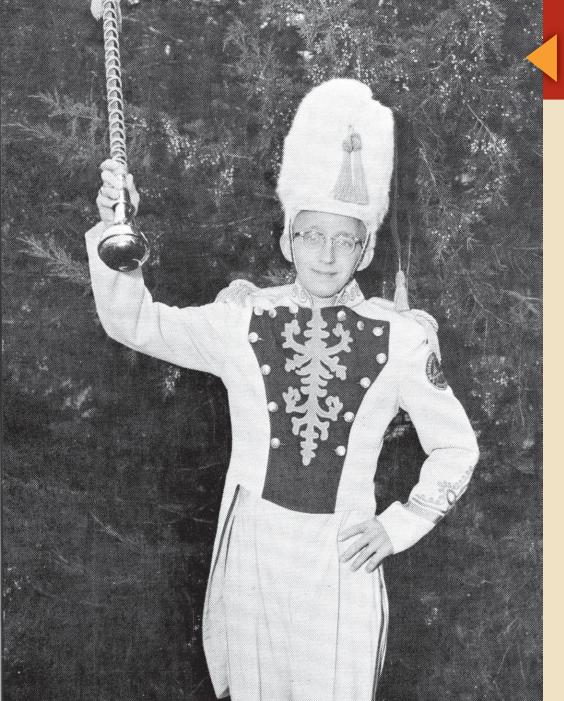
The latest student-athletes to take home the \$7,500 postgraduate scholarships are Taylor Tacha ('14) (left) and Johnny Rutford ('13) (right). NWU now ranks third in NCAA Division III with 45 awards.

Both runners have paired nearly perfect GPAs with elite performances on the track. Tacha (3.97 GPA) is a four-time GPAC champion in the hurdles and holds third place in NWU history in both the indoor 60 hurdles and the outdoor 100 hurdles. Rutford (3.95 GPA) is the 2013 indoor 5,000 GPAC champion and the 2012 outdoor 10,000 GPAC champion.

Rutford was also named a 2013 Academic All-American. Rutford's is Nebraska Wesleyan's 141st Academic All-America Award and the 13th this year. Only MIT produced more Academic All-Americans this year.

Track and Field/Cross Country NCAA Postgraduate Scholarships 2001-2013

Nebraska Wesleyan University	1
Missouri	1
Seattle Pacific	10
Stanford	10
University of Nebraska-Lincoln	



MYSTERY PHOTO

March swiftly and carry a big stick.

Who wielded the baton as drum major for the Pride of the Plainsmen in this photo?

Send your responses to:

Eric Wendt Nebraska Wesleyan University 5000 Saint Paul Avenue Lincoln, NE 68504-2794 ewendt@nebrwesleyan.edu

ALUMNI PAGES



Your alumni contact

Shelley McHugh ('91)

Director of Alumni Relations 5000 Saint Paul Avenue Lincoln, NE 68504-2794 smchugh@nebrwesleyan.edu 402.465.2123

MYSTERY PHOTO REVEALED



Lean in close and listen

The classes of '80 and '81 came through to solve this mystery.

I immediately recognized the photo because a good friend of mine, Sue Glissman, is the lovely lady on the left. It was from the play, "Dr. Knock," in 1978. I'm not sure who the player is on the right, but it was an interesting satire to say the least.

-Jan (Nunnally) Williamson ('81)

I turn to the mystery photo first with each new issue of *Archways* that I receive, never thinking it might be me! The show is "Dr. Knock" by Jules Romains and was directed by Dr. David Clark in the spring of 1978. That is Sue Glissmann as Mme. Remy on the left and myself as Scipio on the right.

-Dan Schuttler ('81)

The man in the latest *Archways* magazine mystery photo is Dan Schuttler, class of 1981. I do not remember the name of the play. Dan lived in Burt Hall.

-Rev. Scott Evans ('80)

It's been two days since I received the most recent *Archways*. Kudos to everyone involved with this issue as I read it cover to cover. Lo and behold, after many years of having no ideas concerning the mystery photos, this issue has one I knew instantly! I attended NWU from fall '76 to spring '80. I have all four yearbooks.

The photo is from the '78 yearbook, page 56. It is Sue Glissman ('79) and Dan Schuttler ('80). The play is "Dr. Knock," which was performed April 20-23, 1978. The description of the play by Jules Romains states it is a French satire. The Theatre Department decided to do the play using an exaggerated cartoon-like style. I didn't see the play, so I don't know anything more about the photo.

I didn't know Sue or Dan personally, but I remember both of them being quite active in theatre productions while I was at NWU. Thanks for providing me with a trip down memory lane as I searched my four yearbooks to locate the information.

-Margo Ward ('80)

LEAVE YOUR CHARITABLE LEGACY AT NEBRASKA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY



An endowment is one way to create your legacy. It helps NWU provide transformative experiences for students year after year, generation after generation.



Establishing an endowment is easier than you might think. And some ideas may surprise you.



Alumni News

NWU Adds Alumna to Board of Advisors

The President's Board of Advisors provides advice to President Fred Ohles in the fulfillment of NWU's mission, vision and strategic plan. Members include alumni, parents or children of alumni, and other devoted friends of the university. The President's Board of Advisors meets on campus each spring and fall.

Judy (Hogeland) Cunningham ('63), a marketing consultant in Dallas, Texas, joined the President's Board of Advisors at its March 2013 meeting.



Judy (Hogeland) Cunningham ('63)

University Gears up to Host Homecoming 2013

NWU is turning the volume up a notch for homecoming this year: **September 19-22**.

New, louder features include the "Howl Like Hell" pep rally on Thursday night. The traditional golf cart parade will sport a marching band this year. And Ernie's in Ceresco is moving its annual Saturday carnival/tailgate from Knight Field House outside to Taylor Commons. (Same family-friendly fun without the need for kids to use their "inside voices.")

Catch other homecoming favorites like the Pops concert, Greek open houses and class reunion celebrations as we wrap up commemorations of our 125th anniversary year. And sit in on special active learning discussions with current and emeriti faculty from multiple departments.

Up to the Challenge

NWU community meets 12,500-hour service challenge and keeps right on serving.

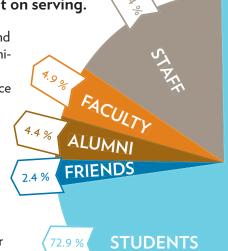
Students set a lofty goal to help Nebraska Wesleyan University celebrate its 125th anniversary. And they invited staff, faculty, alumni and friends along to help them reach it.

Their goal: Mark NWU's 125th year with 12,500 hours of community service in 12 short months. Working together, we did it in eight.

Students volunteered on Habitat for Humanity builds; professors donated blood to the Red Cross; staff cleaned gutters for elderly neighbors; alumni worked in soup kitchens; and friends stocked food pantry shelves. Through acts both large

and small, rendered around the corner and across oceans, we're making our communities stronger, our streets cleaner, and our neighbors cared for. People logged service hours in places like Chicago, New York, Washington, D.C., Nicaragua, Honduras and Fiji.

We met our 12,500-hour goal back in mid-April. Today, our service totals roughly 13,600 hours. How far can we push that total before we reach the finish line at homecoming on September 19? You can help answer that by logging your service hours at surveymonkey.com/s/NWU12500ServiceHourChallenge.



Our students have clearly led the way on this challenge. Their energy is infectious and the example they set through their involvement is worth following. Illustration by Rachel Masin (13)

MADE IN NWU alumni offer a taste of the good life.

J. R. ('96) and Marcy ('97) Hollenbeck raised this beef on the same farm near Elmwood, Neb., that Isaac and Rachel Hollenbeck homesteaded in 1901. Beef from Hollenbeck Farms feeds their restaurant, HF Crave—one of Lincoln's most popular burger joints. (hollenbeckfarms.com)

Ross Kunze ('07) cooked up dinner at the Single Barrel in Lincoln, where he works as executive chef. Ross is a ceramicist to boot, and made this dish's dish. (thesinglebarrel.com)

Not to out ourselves, but these greens aren't Nebraskan. (We shot this in April before much of anything was growing around here.) But you can find plenty of greens now in NWU's student-founded community garden on 54th and Huntington. The bowl is ceramicist **Nicki Evans**' ('00) creation.





"Coffee and Cabaret" Offers Alumni a

The Nebraska Wesleyan
University Alumni Association
invited Lincoln-area alumni
who graduated before 1971 to
a special "Coffee and Cabaret"
event at NWU's Studio Theatre
on 48th Street. Guests got an
inside look at exactly what goes
into a cabaret performance
and heard Assistant Professor

of Theatre **Dan Hays** discuss "Broadway and the New Millennium." Students also talked about their dreams and goals.

The recent successes of alumni like **Emily Kinney** ('06), who appeared in the Broadway production of "Spring Awakening" and now stars in AMC's hit drama, "The Walking Dead",

Faculty and Staff



Viktor Khanzhyn

Lincoln, is a visiting professor of economics. He offers his thoughts on drought and Nebraska's agricultural economy.

IN MEMORIAM

1938

Louis G. Bunting

Hebron, March 21, 2013

Willard B. Catlett

Saint Charles, Mo., August 2, 2011

1939

M. Aileen (Kinyon) Mathieu

Gothenburg, March 6, 2013

Anna L. (Skavdahl) St. John

Fresno, Calif., January 19, 2013

1940

Elbert E. Souders

Arcadia, Calif., March 4, 2013

Donald D. Williams

Saint Cloud, Minn., December 3, 2012

1941

Vivian (Finley) Nolte

Hiawatha, Kan., April 21, 2013

James L. Tipton

Berkeley, Calif., February 26, 2013

1942

Donald E. Littrell

Scottsbluff, February 6, 2013

1943

Lucille L. (Norris) Mahaffey

Centennial, Colo., January 13, 2013

1945

Mary M. (Stauffer) Harvey

Gering, April 27, 2013

D. Lucille (Rourke) Shoemaker

New Plymouth, Idaho, June 18, 2012

1946

Fay L. Gemmell

Keene, N.H., March 22, 2013

1947

Dorothy "Dottie" L. (Kinyon) French

Lincoln, January 30, 2013

George "Pete" P. Post

Bridgeport, February 13, 2012

1948

Bernadene A. (Melcher) Humphrey

Beatrice, February 23, 2013

Betty M. Rasmusson

Tillamook, Ore., February 28, 2013

1949

Luella "Lue" W. (Wicklund) Griffith

Lincoln, March 11, 2013

Rosina M. (Friederich) Jenson

Sioux Falls, S.D., December 26, 2012

Regina "Genie" C. (Wallace) Weight

Lee's Summit, Mo., January 7, 2013

1950

Lila A. (Barta) McKnight

Plattsmouth, February 13, 2013

Betty J. (Merrell) Tesch

Newport, N.C., April 16, 2013

1951

Lois E. (Knapple) Birt

York, March 16, 2013

Dwain V. Carr

Columbus, April 8, 2013

1952

Howard E. Dubois, Jr.

Boulder, Colo., March 3, 2013

Carl W. Sasse

Elkhorn, February 1, 2013

Hazel E. (Edgerton) Smith

Papillion, February 23, 2013

1953

Sheila L. Link

Eugene, Ore., March 28, 2013

Behind-the-Scenes Look at NWU Theatre

and James Hamrick ('15), who stars alongside Reese Witherspoon and Colin Firth in the upcoming film, "Devil's Knot", prove that Broadway dreams aren't beyond the reach of NWU's theatre students.

Still, you don't have to be a hardened skeptic to believe such students should have a

Plan B. Coffee and Cabaret attendees were witness to how NWU Theatre prepares not just dreamers, but hard workers with thoughtful plans.

Take **Caitie Hays** ('16), a musical theatre and psychology double major from Elkhorn, Neb. She told the alumni audience that her post-Broadway

plans include graduate work in psychology. There she'll apply her theatre experience in the context of child counseling. She wants to help children deal with trauma through art therapy, giving them a positive outlet to express themselves.

Sara (65) and Tom (66) Boatman enjoyed the coffee and the show.



1954

John G. Poehling

Fremont, April 9, 2013

David E. Williams

Rochester, Minn., February 3, 2013

Rollie L. Woodruff

Lincoln, January 25, 2013

1955

Mylus E. Robison

Grand Island, April 17, 2013

1956

Jacqueline L. (Myers) Barnett

Newton, Iowa, March 17, 2013

1957

Deanna S. (Yeo) Tan

Red Bank, N.J., January 10, 2013

1958

Dorothy L. (Stroy) Boyle

Dolores, Colo., February 28, 2012

1964

John C. Scott

Sidney, Iowa, February 13, 2013

1967

LaVerne O. Vermeer

Sterling, February 9, 2013

1968

Jody R. (Anderson) Westland

Waverly, April 20, 2013

1970

Delores K. Smith

Lincoln, April 8, 2013

1977

Paul G. "Jerry" Johnston, Jr.

Lincoln, February 1, 2013

1978

A. Craig Mundt

Wichita, Kan., February 17, 2013

1980

Jenny M. (Moorer) Rayson

Vado, N.M., November 16, 2012

1981

Dorlene H. (Saylor) Pickerel

Lincoln, January 25, 2013

1984

Robert "Bob" G. Schulenberg

Aurelia, Iowa, April 3, 2013

1986

David M. Conradt

Lincoln, March 3, 2013

2004

David A. Melvin, Jr.

Columbus, Ohio, February 28, 2013

Former Staff

Kathereene M. Frenchy

Hiawatha, Kan., February 27, 2012

JoAnne (Peterson) Lahm

Lincoln, April 4, 2013

CORRECTION

In our last issue, we misquoted the title of John Horner's ('60) book, *Oil or Water...Only One Is Good to the Last Drop: A Work of Science Faction.* Horner lives in Lee's Summit, Mo.



Mark your calendar and watch your mail for information. All NWU alumni welcome. Contact Shelley McHugh ('91) for details at smchugh@nebrwesleyan.edu or 402.465.2123.



AUGUST

24 Lend a Hand Day

This community service effort in Lincoln is a traditional part of every new student's orientation to campus. Alumni are free to join in. Alumni are also leading Lend a Hand events this day in Omaha, Kansas City, Washington, D.C., Denver, Chicago and Tampa.

31 NWU women's soccer

Catch the first home game of the fall at 2 p.m. as the Prairie Wolves take on Westminster College.

SEPTEMBER

21 NWU football

Tailgate before the **HOMECOMING** game on Taylor Commons, then catch the 1 p.m. kickoff against Briar Cliff.

25-26

Visions and Ventures Symposium:
"Hard Time in Hard Times:
Weighing the Social and Economic
Impacts of America's Criminal
Justice System"

Hear renowned speakers on campus discussing the social and economic impacts of America's criminal justice system.

OCTOBER

3-6, 10-13

NWU Theatre: Anything Goes

This Cole Porter musical is full of lovers, stowaways, mobsters, ministers and misfits. See theatre.nebrwesleyan.edu for tickets and show times.







