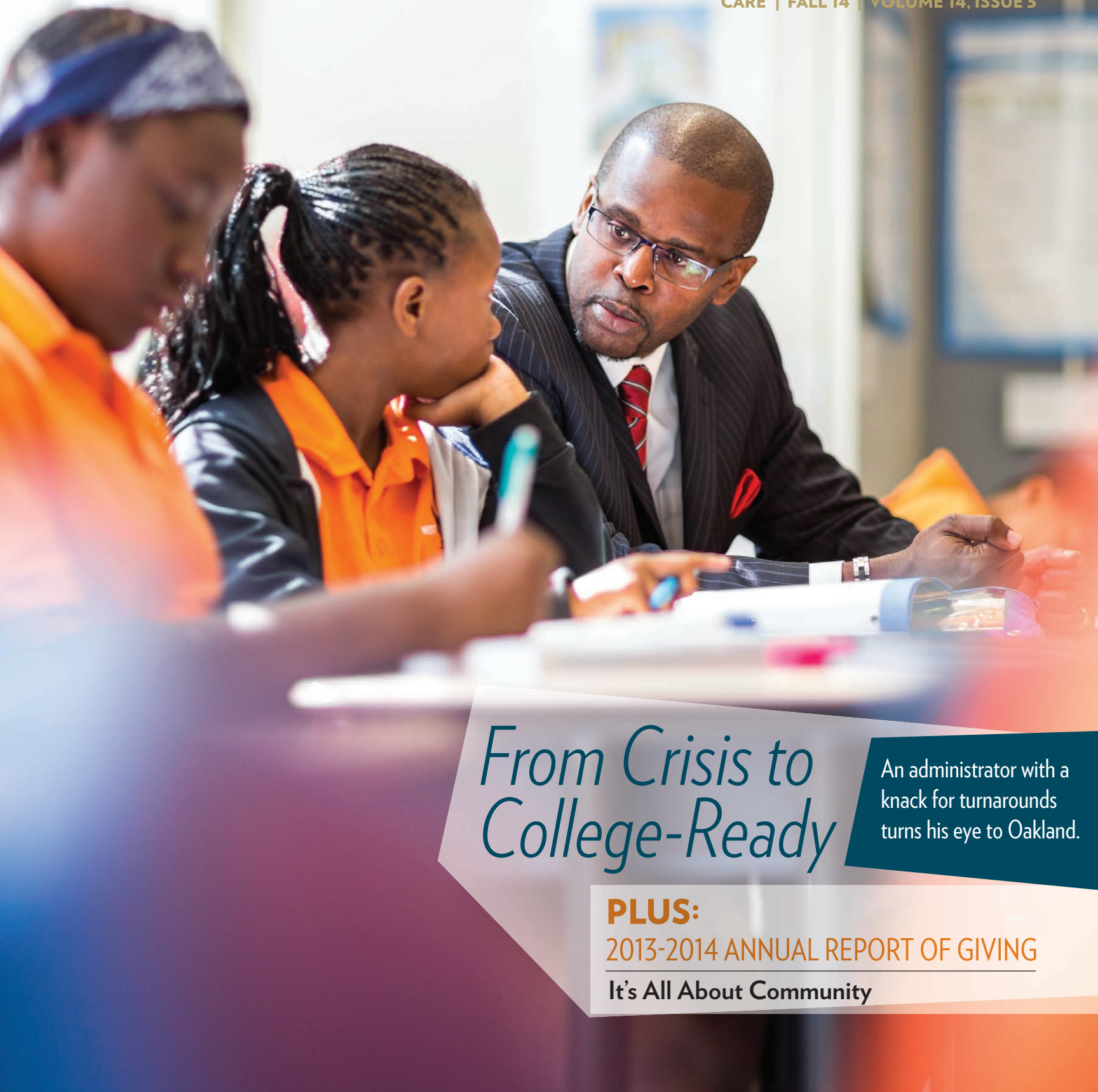


NEBRASKA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

ARCHWAYS

CARE | FALL 14 | VOLUME 14, ISSUE 3



From Crisis to College-Ready

An administrator with a
knack for turnarounds
turns his eye to Oakland.

PLUS:

2013-2014 ANNUAL REPORT OF GIVING

It's All About Community

FROM THE PRESIDENT



*O! her emblem is the
sunflower that o'er the
land abounds. You can't
forget her colors, they're
the Yellow and the Brown.*

—*"The Yellow and the Brown"*
by A. O. Hinson



Sunflower lapel pins point
to our past as they honor
staff and faculty with 25-year
histories at NWU.



Dear Alumni and Friends,

This fall we began using our emblematic sunflower in a new way to celebrate its old favor among all who hold Nebraska Wesleyan University dear. We established the Quarter Century Club and inducted into it the members of the faculty and staff, including emeriti and retirees, who've served here for 25 years or more. To our delight, a great many were eligible because our school is so mightily blessed by people who come—sometimes imagining just a brief sojourn—and stay for many decades.

The sunflower has one of those tiny seeds that amaze us with how impressively they grow under the right conditions. For me and I'm sure many of you, the parable of the mustard seed, told by Jesus in the Gospels, comes to mind when I think of a very small seed. "The Kingdom of Heaven is like a grain of mustard seed ... when it is grown it is greater than the herbs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in its branches" (Matthew 13: 31-32). A sunflower seed may lie dormant in the ground for as long as 25 years, until once warmed by the sun it begins its transformation into a tall and lovely flower.

At my own alma mater, more than a quarter-century ago a group of alumni created an experience much like the generative power of the smallest seeds, whether in the ancient Middle East or on the modern Great Plains of North America. One man who had graduated years earlier challenged his classmates to do something grand at their reunion. He reinforced his challenge with a special contribution of \$10,000. Inspired by their classmate's challenge, the members of that class raised a mighty sum. The next year they challenged the class after them, and so it's continued now for a long time. Over the years, the gifts made at that school, because one person planted the seed, have become a majestic blossom. The total given through special reunion contributions now exceeds 10,000 times the initial \$10,000—more than \$100 million.

Every year, there are people who plant seeds for Nebraska Wesleyan. Some plant them by referring relatives and friends for admission. Some plant them by helping current students find practical experience through internships or by giving our newest graduates leads about jobs. Some plant them with a special reunion gift, by increasing an Archway Fund contribution, or through an estate commitment. And some, like the professors and staff members we now honor as Quarter Century Club members, plant seeds by coming here to teach and to serve.

Through whatever means are available to each of us, let's all be seed-planters this year. It's an act of commitment to this sunflower school, Nebraska Wesleyan, which can bring great results!

—Fred Ohles
President



CONTENTS

Fall 2014 | Volume 14, Issue 3

SPECIAL ISSUE

It's All About Community: 2013-2014 Annual Report

You've heard plenty from marketers and fundraisers. But if you really want to know why NWU still matters, ask a professor. Ask a staffer. ▶21

LEADERS

From Crisis to College-Ready

In 2006, Antwan Wilson ('95) made a risky move to lead a high school out of darkness. The results were amazing. Eight years later, he's thinking bigger. ▶11

Mixed Media Leadership

The alumna leading the National Endowment of the Arts is equally comfortable in studios and boardrooms. ▶17

Bank on It

A new grad at the bottom rung of her career climb finds kindred spirits in the corner offices of major Nebraska banks. ▶35

SIMPLICITY

The Case for a Simpler FAFSA

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid asks 100 questions. Mark Wiederspan ('02) wants to toss out 98 of them. ▶16

Play with Me

Sara (Atchison) Hanlon ('00) knows what your out-of-state grandkids want from you: simple connection. ▶34

NWU

NWUniverse ▶6

Student Pride ▶19

Departments

2 From the President

5 Letters

Alumni Pages

33 Mystery Photo

37 Class Notes

47 Calendar



NEW WOLF IN TOWN

Meet NWU's new Prairie Wolf mascot.

▶18

CONTRIBUTORS

STAFF

Eric Wendt ('99)

Editor

ewendt@nebrwesleyan.edu

Melanie Falk

Art director

mkf@nebrwesleyan.edu

Peggy Hain

Director of marketing

phain@nebrwesleyan.edu

Kara Peters ('96)

Marketing and production manager

kpeters@nebrwesleyan.edu

Amy Vasey ('11)

Class notes editor

avasey@nebrwesleyan.edu

Alex Linden ('03)

Sports information director

alinden@nebrwesleyan.edu

Archways Advisory Committee

John Greving, Mary Hawk,
Bill Motzer, Shelley McHugh ('91),
Judy Muyskens, Sara Olson ('95),
P.J. Rabel, Gary Reber

Unless otherwise credited, photos are the property of Nebraska Wesleyan University, or are used with permission.

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.

Archways (USPS 074-700)
Periodicals Postage Paid at Lincoln, Nebraska
Volume 14, No. 3

Postmaster:

Please send address changes to:
Nebraska Wesleyan University
Attn: Address Change
University Advancement Office
5000 Saint Paul Avenue
Lincoln, Nebraska 68504-2794
isadv@nebrwesleyan.edu

Archways is published quarterly by
Nebraska Wesleyan University
5000 Saint Paul Avenue
Lincoln, NE 68504-2794.



Matt Beardsley, photographer “From Crisis to College-Ready” ▶11

Matt is a photographer and filmmaker in Oakland, Calif. His work addresses urban education and social justice. With two school-age children in the district, he jumped at the opportunity to photograph Superintendent **Antwan Wilson** ('95) in West Oakland. Matt has also covered West Oakland—the historic end of the Transcontinental Railroad—in a recent documentary.



Rachel Naber ('14), “Bank on It” ▶35

Rachel writes in this issue about stepping off the commencement stage and onto an uncertain career path. Along the way, she gets some career advice from alumnae in executive offices. **Stephanie Moline** ('84) and **Samantha Mosser** ('98) won't be the last executives Rachel interviews. Since completing this article, she landed a job in California as a traveling corporate journalist.



Dan Luedert, photographer “Man in Wolf's Clothing” ▶18

Dan is a Lincoln-based photographer who has worked with the Associated Press, The Chicago Sun-Times Media Group, and other publications across Nebraska and Iowa. He spent several years with the Peace Corps, organizing businesses in Guyana. Not normally a wildlife photographer, Dan hid in a tree blind for weeks to capture rare images of the prairie wolf—a species that hadn't been seen on campus for two years.



Sara Tyson, illustrator “Googling God” ▶14

Sara is a Canadian artist with a 30-year career in illustration and graphic design. Her work is inspired by early Christian and Byzantine art as well as 20th century painting—which made Sara a perfect fit for a piece on Christian history and religion in the digital age.

Tarah Dawdy ('14), ad photography

Tarah is a senior pursuing a BFA with an emphasis in photography and a minor in philosophy. She is public relations chair for Willard Sorority and president of NWU's Mixed Media Art Club. She also designs and writes for the student newspaper, *The Reveille*. After graduation, she plans to work in photography or graphic design at an art and lifestyle magazine while continuing to take on freelance photography projects.



Letters

Handmade Success

My wife, Jan [(Miller) Hinds ('59)], and I so enjoy reading *Archways* magazine. It often brings back memories of our years at Nebraska Wesleyan.

*When our niece...
stated that she
planned to make
her living as a
potter, I admit we
thought, "Oh no,
how can that be?"*

When our niece, **Nancy Fairbanks** ('84), graduated specializing in pottery and other art forms, she stated that she planned to make her living as a potter. I admit we thought, "Oh no, how can that be?"

Well, it certainly has been, as she has a gallery known state-wide that is fantastic in Grand Island, Neb. She does shows all over the state and even teaches pottery technique as a guest instructor.

Recently she was chosen to be a judge for an art show in Fremont. Her challenge was to choose art pieces that should go on to the state to compete in the Association of Nebraska Art Clubs.

Just another success story of a Nebraska Wesleyan graduate!

Don Hinds ('59)
Fremont, Neb.

Like Minds

I read with interest the article on **Alex Langley** ('14) [summer 2014, "Poli Sci Major Gets Rare Invite to UN Commission"]. I wonder if she met NWU alumna **M. Beth Adamson-Strauss** ('74), who is very active there on this as well. In fact, she's on a first-name basis with the female president of Liberia and the women's leader who shares the 2011 Nobel Peace Prize, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf.

A conversation with Merry Beth might make for an interesting follow-up article.

Lindsay Sinn ('75)
Las Vegas, Nev.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

We thought so, too. So we invited Langley to reach out to Adamson-Strauss. Watch for that article in our winter issue.



**Be heard. Send
your letters to:**

Eric Wendt, editor
Nebraska Wesleyan University
5000 Saint Paul Ave.
Lincoln, NE 68504

Email: ewendt@nebrwesleyan.edu

Opinions expressed in letters to the editor are not necessarily those of *Archways* magazine or Nebraska Wesleyan University.

Anonymous letters will not be printed. Letters may be edited for length, content and style.

**Strong opinions go here.
Share yours** at ewendt@nebrwesleyan.edu



Success after college may hinge on your answer to this question: WHO CARES?



Photos by Geoff Johnson

Having a caring professor dramatically increases our odds of career success and fulfillment in life.

A recent Gallup survey confirms something NWU alumni have always believed: We're more engaged in our work and happier in our lives than most people. That's not something we've ever set out to prove. We've always just felt it to be true. And the Gallup study explains the truth behind this feeling.

The Gallup-Purdue Index Report indicates that having a caring professor dramatically increases our odds of career success and fulfillment in life.

The Chronicle of Higher Education reported that college graduates in the survey "had double the chances of being engaged in their work and were three times as likely to be thriving in their well-being if they connected with a professor ... who stimulated them, cared about them, and encouraged their hopes and dreams."

The Gallup survey also indicated that colleges help alumni when they emphasize experiential learning. Experiential learning may take several forms, such as study abroad, internships, collaborative research or community service that applies academic theories or principles.

Results from another survey—the



National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE)—reveal just how strongly Nebraska Wesleyan University performs when it comes to professors who care and experiences that matter. NWU outperforms private colleges from the Great Plains by statistically significant margins in the categories of collaborative learning, student-faculty interaction and supportive environments for both first-year students and seniors. In fact, 97 percent of seniors rate their overall experience at NWU as "excellent" or "good".

Kathy Wolfe ('90), former dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, said that both the Gallup-Purdue Index Report and the National Survey of Student Engagement "point to the value of a personal, residential undergraduate experience at a school that values good teaching above all else."

That teaching, Wolfe said, is spilling out of the classroom at Nebraska Wesleyan University. Wolfe applauded the learning happening in NWU's residence halls, research labs, workplaces and fields of play as well as in local and global communities.

THE FINAL: When you have professors and mentors in your corner, data show you graduate better prepared to be engaged at work and fulfilled at home.



NWU students vs. peers at Great Plains private colleges

ENGAGEMENT INDICATOR	FIRST-YEARS	SENIORS
Reflective and integrative learning	△	●
Collaborative learning	▲	▲
Student-faculty interaction	▲	▲
Effective teaching practices	●	△
Quality of interactions	●	△
Supportive environment	△	▲

NSSE 2014

KEY

▲ NWU students' average was significantly higher with an effect size of at least .3 in magnitude

△ NWU students' average was significantly higher with an effect size less than .3 in magnitude

● No significant difference

FOUR SMART WAYS

to stretch your support for
Nebraska Wesleyan University

- 1 Give securities instead of cash.
- 2 Make a gift and receive income payments back from NWU.
- 3 Make gifts from a closely held business.
- 4 "Loan" property to NWU for several years and then pass it on to your children or grandchildren.

Intrigued?

For more information, contact:

Brenda McCrady, J.D.

director of planned giving

402.465.2129

bmccrady@nebrwesleyan.edu

In STEM Fields, NWU Is Fertile Soil

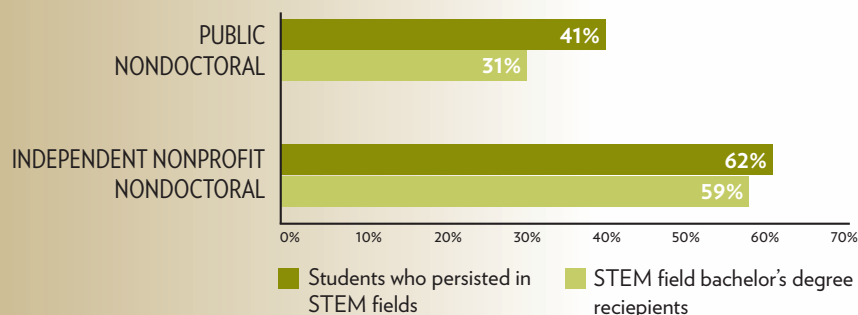
Nebraska Wesleyan University has always worked in small batches. If we were a soda company, we'd probably be more like Sioux City Sarsaparilla than Coca-Cola. We just don't operate on a huge, industrial scale.

Given our emphasis on personal attention—especially in the STEM fields of science, technology, engineering and math—it's OK if you don't think of NWU as a high-efficiency machine. But efficiency is something Nebraska Wesleyan does surprisingly well.

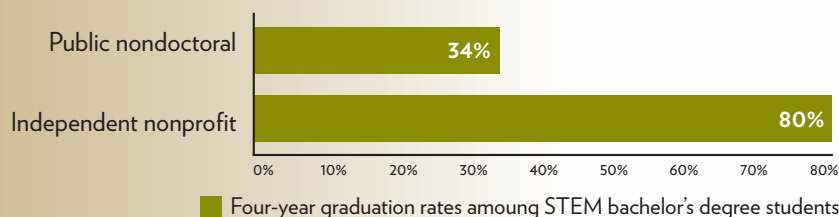
A recent study by The Council of Independent Colleges confirms it. The report, titled "Strengthening the STEM Pipeline," declared, "Many small and mid-sized independent colleges are preparing postsecondary students for careers and graduate study in STEM fields more efficiently than public universities."

It shows that working in small batches may be the most efficient way to brew successful scientists.

Look at the percentage of state and independent students who began in STEM fields in 2003 and persisted through 2006. Then look at the portion of these same students who went on to earn bachelor's degrees in STEM fields. Independent schools like NWU do a better job of helping students persist and graduate in STEM fields.



Independent colleges also graduate a much higher percentage of STEM students on time.



THE FINAL: When it comes to preparing STEM graduates, your alma mater is more efficient than many of the state research giants.



Photo by Dan Luedert

Team Player Leads NWU's Enrollment Division

Bill Motzer is a new face on campus. But NWU's new vice president for enrollment management is no stranger to college recruiting. He arrived at NWU in August with more than 32 years of experience in enrollment management, financial aid, retention and marketing.

He now leads NWU's enrollment planning, admissions, financial aid, retention, and marketing and communications efforts.

Motzer comes to NWU after 22 years at Lake Forest College in Illinois, where he served as vice president for admissions and career services and helped lead a resurgence in enrollment.

"In addition to Bill's background as an administrator, he's also a former football coach and admissions counselor," said President Fred Ohles. "So he knows teamwork. He knows recruiting. And he knows Nebraska Wesleyan's value. We're excited about the experience and vision he brings."

THE FINAL: The person in charge of NWU's enrollment and retention efforts knows a thing or two about leading teams.

Fraternal Twins Achieve Identical Successes

Last year, **Matt Schmitt** ('15) earned a trip to Durham University in Great Britain to take part in archeology workshops through the Fulbright Summer Institute. "It was a really cool experience working alongside the experts, and it was great to represent Nebraska Wesleyan over there," he said.

Not to be outdone, his twin sister, **Rachel Schmitt** ('15), applied for and won the same opportunity this summer. "When he came home, I could tell he had learned a lot and had grown as a person," she said.

Both Fulbright winners are NWU biology majors who plan to become physicians. But while Matt wants to become a geriatric physician, Rachel is interested in pediatrics. And while Matt intends to study abroad in the near future, Rachel is headed to Washington, D.C., through the Capitol Hill Internship Program.



Photo by Jennifer Heywood ('15)

▲ For Rachel and Matt Schmitt, it's not so much a sibling rivalry as it is a shared desire to learn and experience more at NWU.

PRAIRIE WOLVES ATHLETICS *STRONGER TOGETHER.*

The 'W' Club strengthens every student-athlete's experience.



> To join, select 'W' Club at nebrwesleyan.edu/donate.

NWU Adds Eight to Board of Governors

Nebraska Wesleyan University's Board of Governors recently welcomed eight new members to its ranks. Newly elected members include two accomplished Nebraska Wesleyan alumni, two respected United Methodist clergy and two successful Nebraska business leaders.

Rev. Charlotte Abram (Hon. D.D. '06) retired this year as senior pastor at TRI-Community United Methodist Church in Omaha. She served for 10 years on the board of trustees at Saint Paul School of Theology.

Dan Flanagan is district superintendent for the Missouri River District of the United Methodist Church Great Plains Annual Conference. He has served in Nebraska on the Boards of Education for Papillion LaVista, Norfolk and Elkhorn Valley.

L. Bradley Hurrell ('73) was senior partner with KPMG in Charlotte, N.C. prior to retirement. He led audit services to public and private companies and advised in the areas of business strategies, mergers and acquisitions.

Katherine Lesiak ('15) is one of two student members of Nebraska Wesleyan's Board of Governors. She is from Fullerton, Neb., and is studying English and political science.

Karen Linder ('82) is president and CEO of Tethon 3D in Omaha and principal of Linseed Capital. She was a WCA Tribute to Women honoree and recipient of the Leadership



Rev. Charlotte Abram



Dan Flanagan



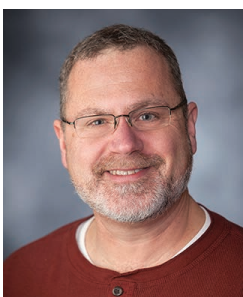
L. Bradley Hurrell ('73)



Katherine Lesiak ('15)



Karen Linder ('82)



Larry McClain



Robert Scott



Bill White

Award from Pipeline Entrepreneurs in 2014.

Larry McClain is associate professor of English and faculty president at NWU.

Robert Scott is co-manager and principal at WRK, LLC, a residential and commercial property development firm in Lincoln that facilitates creative community investment. Major WRK projects include Canopy Street and the Sawmill Building in Lincoln's Haymarket and 35 East on Holdrege Street.

Bill White is president of The

Austin Company, Inc., in Milford, Neb., which specializes in farm management, private and auction farm sales and crop insurance. He has served the Nebraska United Methodist Foundation, Southeast Community College Foundation and the Seward County Board of Commissioners.

Outgoing Board of Governors members include **Kelsey Arends** ('14), **Todd Holder** ('85), **Rev. Cindy Karges**, **Rita Lester**, **David Maldonado**, **T. J. McDowell, Jr.** ('94) and **Larry L. Ruth** ('67).

Board of Governors Elects Three Governors Emeritus

Three former members of Nebraska Wesleyan University's Board of Governors were honored with recognition as governor emeritus in May.

Duane Acklie (Hon. LL.D. '84) is president of Crete Carrier Corporation in Lincoln. He served on

the board from 1978 to 1990 and was board chair from 1983 to 1986. He also served on the Board of Trustees from 1974 to 1983.

B. Keith Heuermann (Hon. Sc.D. '03) is the retired founder of BKH Popcorn in Phillips, Neb. He served on the board from 1989 to 1998.

Warren Urbom ('50, Hon. LL.D. '84) is a retired U.S. District Court judge. He served on the board from 1964 to 1986 and was board chair from 1975 to 1980. He also served on the Board of Trustees from 1958 to 1985.

A photograph of Antwan Wilson, a Black man with a goatee, wearing a dark pinstripe suit, white shirt, and red striped tie. He has his arms crossed and is standing in front of a vibrant, colorful mural featuring stylized figures and letters. The background is slightly out of focus.

From Crisis to College-Ready

An administrator with a knack for turnarounds turns his eye to Oakland.

Back in 2006, *Archways* magazine covered Antwan Wilson's ('95) move to the kind of place where young school administrators' careers go to die. Montbello High School in Denver, Colo.—where Wilson became principal in fall 2005—was more than struggling. It was in anarchy.

He arrived at a school where only 3 percent of students tested proficient in math. And in January 2005—just months before Wilson arrived—a Montbello student was stabbed to death in the school cafeteria.

Wilson quickly set out to establish order and build a culture of high expectations. When Wilson spoke with *Archways* in 2006, initial returns looked good. But the jury was still out as to whether Wilson was saving a school or killing a career.

So how is Montbello High? And where is Wilson now?

Photos by Matt Beardsley



First: Montbello High School.

Nine years ago, Montbello High was a place where students hoped to avoid injury. Now, Montbello students' hopes include attending the best colleges. Reading and math scores improved dramatically. The trend in declining enrollment stopped, and graduating classes grew by 35 percent.

In 2005, only 35 percent of Montbello graduates went on to four-year colleges. By 2008, that figure climbed to 95 percent. The school had a mere three students taking Advanced Placement courses in 2005. Three years later, there were 200 students in AP courses.

The verdict is in on Montbello High's culture of tough love and high expectations. It works.

Now for Antwan Wilson.

Thanks to his role in orchestrating Montbello's swift turnaround, Wilson was promoted to assistant superintendent of Denver Public Schools in 2009. There, he led the Office of Post Secondary Readiness for Denver's middle and high schools. And, like Montbello High, the Denver district saw significant gains in graduation rates.

This April, Oakland [Calif.] Public Schools hired Wilson as superintendent. David Kakishiba is Oakland's school board president. He traveled to Denver to speak with Wilson's colleagues. Kakishiba told the *Oakland Tribune*, "He seemed to be at the center of developing and implementing systems on how to identify schools that were deeply troubled and that require intensive support to get them on the right track."



It's a background that could serve Oakland Public Schools well. Oakland is a place where just 59 percent of students graduate, and one in four students drops out.

"That's about to change. I guarantee it," said T. J. McDowell ('94). McDowell recently finished coordinating Lincoln Public Schools' High School Graduation Initiative, a grant program designed to increase graduation rates at three Lincoln high schools. Following the completion of that grant, McDowell joined Nebraska Wesleyan as assistant dean of students. He's been friends with Wilson since the fourth grade.

"Antwan's big on a 'college-going culture,'" McDowell said. "He wants everybody in the building to know what you're trying to do. You're here to help kids get to that next level—to show them, 'This is your path to that door.'"

But simply showing students the path to college doesn't quite capture what Wilson does. "I'm not interested in just providing opportunity," Wilson told *The Lincoln Journal Star*. After showing the path, Wilson cajoles. He prods. He downright pushes students along it. "I want to do everything we can to make sure kids are successful."

Wilson can be hard; he doesn't care for excuses. But he is more shepherd than cattle driver. "I want you to learn math," he said, "but it's because I feel this way about you. You're a young person I believe in."

Wilson's path to Oakland's superintendent's office began at NWU. "I remember we took a spring break trip to Chicago together to study urban schools," McDowell said. He saw Wilson's drive to help struggling students even then.

"He's been preparing for this day since college. And he's going to get after it," McDowell said. "You just watch." 🍌





Googling God

Religion scholar asks, “How will we make the internet a blessing?”

The arc of Christian history bends toward greater and greater access. Think of the printing press and the Gutenberg Bible in the 1450s. Think of William Tyndale’s English translation of the Bible in the 1520s. Those changes brought the Bible to millions.

Now think also of religion and the internet in this century.

“The internet is the most important thing to happen to religion since the printing press,” said Rev. Paul Raushenbush.

Raushenbush is the *Huffington Post*’s senior religion editor and was Princeton’s associate dean of religious life and chapel. He came to Nebraska Wesleyan University in May to deliver the Mattingly Visiting Distinguished Scholar Lecture on the internet’s impact on religion.

The printing press and the English Gospel brought tumult to the 15th and 16th centuries. (See Tyndale’s grisly fate.) And

Raushenbush sees similar jostling today as the faithful and the powerful reorient to a changing digital reality.

As the internet cranks up access to people and information, it cranks up anxiety within established authority. “When authoritarian

regimes feel threatened, what’s the first thing they do?” Raushenbush asked. “They switch off the internet.”

Raushenbush looks at the internet’s power and feels both wonder and worry. “In our smart phones, we hold the largest repository of religious information the world has ever known,” he said. Raushenbush believes

we can use that tool for tremendous good.

He described his experience with a family member in her last hours. With his phone, he could access Episcopal prayers for the dying. After her death, he pulled up and shared prayers for the dead. “It allowed us to experience her death in such a different

way,” he said.

“That’s the blessing. The curse is misinformation.”

Google “Jew,” he said, and you will find a jumble of hate speech and legitimate information. “Google doesn’t have an ethic,” Raushenbush said. “It has an algorithm.”

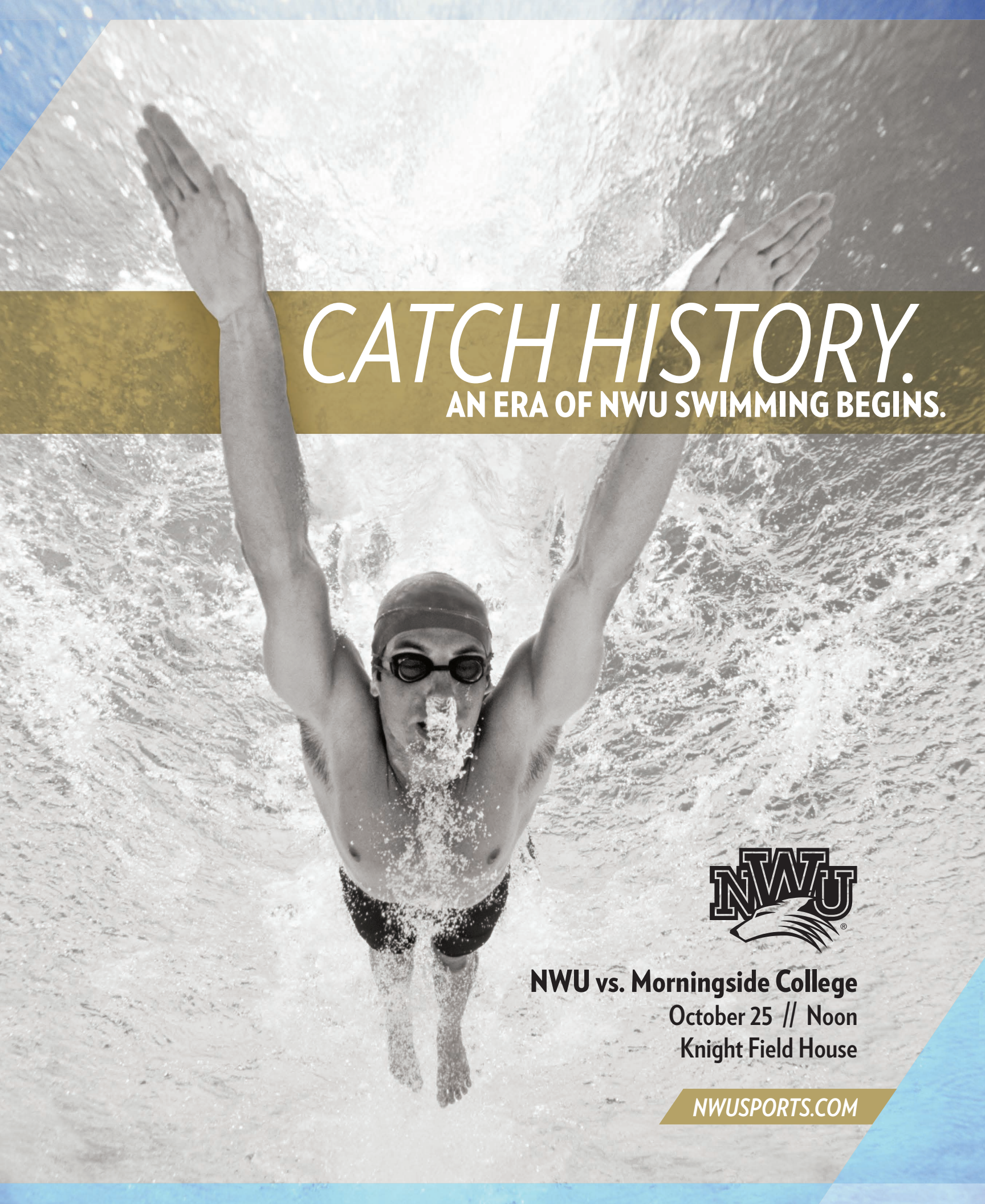
Those algorithms make hope and hate equally shareable. So when a pastor with a congregation of eight burned a Quran and uploaded a video, it traveled the world in seconds. And blood spilled in hours. In this way, Raushenbush said, the interplay of religion and the internet “is a life and death issue.”

It’s also an issue of integrity. As full of hate and snark and misinformation as the internet is, Raushenbush also sees a budding code of virtuous conduct.

“The internet is now part of what it means to be a citizen,” he said. “I think there could be an ethic of the internet, but it’s just developing.” And Nebraska Wesleyan students will be among those to shape it.

“Where this goes from here,” he said, “is on you.” **n**

The internet is the most important thing to happen to religion since the printing press.

A high-angle, black and white photograph of a swimmer in a pool. The swimmer is wearing a swim cap and goggles, and has their arms raised straight up in the air. Water splashes around their head and arms. The background is a textured, rippling surface of water.

CATCH HISTORY.

AN ERA OF NWU SWIMMING BEGINS.



NWU vs. Morningside College
October 25 // Noon
Knight Field House

NWUSPORTS.COM

The Case for a Simpler FAFSA

One alumnus wants to yank the complexity out of federal aid.

You may not remember filing your FAFSA—the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. For many families, completing the intricate government form is an experience they're eager to forget.

Tom Ochsner ('92), NWU's director of scholarships and financial aid, called the form "a necessary evil" that the government uses to determine students' need and distribute federal aid.

The FAFSA is like the gatekeeper to an affordable education. Complete it, and the gate opens. Don't, and costs are likely to put a quality education out of financial reach.

Mark Wiederspan ('02) is a doctoral student at the University of Michigan's Center for the Study of Higher and Postsecondary Education. And he wants to make opening that gate exponentially simpler.

The FAFSA's 100+ questions about income, assets and expenses? He'd toss all but two of them. Wiederspan's ideal FAFSA would ask only about family size and income.

He and Michigan faculty colleague Susan Dynarski recognize the good intentions behind the FAFSA questions they'd drop. Many of them, he said, are designed to keep income-poor but asset-rich households from drawing more federal aid than they need. But very few families fall in that category.

"We could continue to ask about assets in order to prevent a small minority of low-income, high-asset families from qualifying for Pell [grants] under a simplified system," Wiederspan and Dynarski told *The New York Times* in July. "But this would impose a lot of complexity on the other 97 percent of families, and would discourage many of them from applying for aid and going to college."

Ochsner supports the premise of a simpler FAFSA.

"I think that's something the majority of families and financial aid directors would welcome with open arms." But he has some caveats. The FAFSA serves double duty at many

schools. The government uses it to calculate federal aid awards; NWU also uses it to determine institutional aid.

"A FAFSA with two questions just wouldn't tell us enough to make informed decisions about our aid awards," said **Jan Duensing**, NWU's assistant director of financial aid.

The simplified FAFSA would tell Duensing that an applicant comes from a family of six with an income of \$85,000. But it wouldn't tell her whether his siblings were in junior high or college. And whether this family is paying for one college student or four has a huge impact on need.

Ochsner prefers to continue using the FAFSA to determine NWU awards. He'd rather not burden families with another form. But a two-question FAFSA would leave him with little choice.

Still, with their 52 years of experience in financial aid at NWU, Duensing and Ochsner are confident they could produce something much simpler than the present-day FAFSA.

"I've survived three different forms before the FAFSA," Duensing said. "They've been discussing how to make this better for 10 or 15 years, and it seems like all they end up doing is adding more questions."

So what would be the end result of a FAFSA-made-simple? For one: fewer headaches for prospective students and families. Even more importantly, Wiederspan believes we'd see more low-income students reaping the benefits of a college education. Wiederspan and Dynarski's studies suggest, "a simpler system would boost [low-income student] attendance by as much as 25 percent." ■



SEARCHING FOR STUDENT AID?

Alumni can help with that.

Nebraska students and families who need help navigating the world of student aid have excellent resources available at EducationQuest Foundation. And NWU alumni play leading roles there.

Liz Koop ('86) is president and CEO.

Daphne Epp-Hall ('92) is a senior vice president.

Les Monroe ('87) is director of college planning.

Stacy Seim ('96) is a college planning specialist in Kearney.

The FAFSA's 100+ questions about income, assets and expenses? He'd toss all but two of them.

MIXED MEDIA LEADERSHIP

Multifaceted alumna heads the National Endowment for the Arts.

Jane (Butler) Chu ('86) has always wanted to know the arts forward and backward. That might explain why, after earning master's degrees in music and piano pedagogy from Southern Methodist University, Chu chose to go back to basics and pursue an Associate of Arts in fine art from NWU.

"I wanted to learn more about the fundamentals of creating visual art," the newly confirmed chair of the National Endowment for the Arts told Jo Reed of "Art Works," the NEA's podcast. "So I went back and got an associate's degree to learn those fundamentals."

She said, "It's been great

because I can look at other people's paintings and drawings and I get it. I know what they had to go through in terms of creating the basics, how they put together their own compositions and structures, and I just marvel at what people do."

She applied the same curiosity to understanding arts organizations and communities. "I understood already what it was like to be an artist, to produce, to create, to perform. But ... when you look at the business of it, you start seeing an infrastructure. [And I realized] that you can create an environment for the arts to bloom and thrive."

That realization led Chu to

pursue a Master of Business Administration and a Ph.D. in philanthropic studies. She used this inside-and-out, back-to-front education to uplift the arts in the Midwest.

Chu oversaw a \$413 million campaign to build the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts in Kansas City, Mo. The Kauffman Center now serves as the performance home of the Kansas City Ballet, the Kansas City Symphony and the Lyric Opera of Kansas City.


Chu's success as president and CEO of the Kauffman Center earned her national respect. President Obama nominated her to chair the



Photo courtesy NEA

Jane (Butler) Chu ('86)

National Endowment of the Arts in February, and the Senate confirmed that nomination this summer. Chu now presides over the nation's largest arts grant-making organization and its \$146 million annual budget.

"[Chu] has a deep knowledge of philanthropy in general," Robert Lynch, president of Americans for the Arts, told *The Washington Post*. "She is knowledgeable about multiple art forms, both performing and visual, and that's important." 

University Choir Performs at Carnegie Hall


Choir honors Holocaust victims with "To Be Certain of the Dawn".

NWU's University Choir made its second appearance in three years at New York's Carnegie Hall in May. They performed an ambitious and meaningful piece: Stephen Paulus' "To Be Certain of the Dawn"—a 60-minute oratorio honoring victims of the Holocaust.

"It's a piece we've lived with for almost four years now," said professor of music and University Choir director William Wyman.

"They saw how it seared into the soul of the audience when they performed it," he said. "It's that powerful of a piece. You take that and place it in the most prestigious concert hall in the world—it's a very powerful experience to deal with."

"The piece is indescribably beautiful and difficult, as well as physically and emotionally taxing," said Kendall Victor ('16) of Nebraska City, Neb. "Taking it to New York to perform at Carnegie Hall [made] it feel even more real and meaningful."

The opportunity to perform the piece in Carnegie Hall reflects the University Choir's excellence. "I think it's absolutely appropriate that they perform in the best halls," Wyman said. "It affirms the fact that there is something special here." 

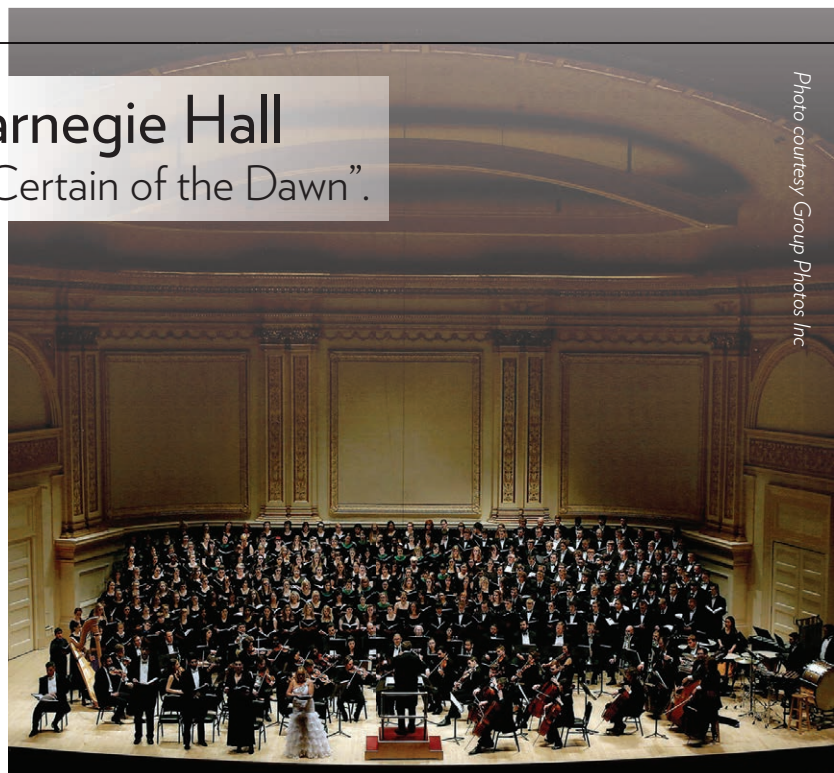


Photo courtesy Group Photos Inc

MAN IN WOLF'S CLOTHING

Meet the man behind the mask of NWU's new costume.

—By Katrina Sieler ('15)

Nebraska Wesleyan University unveiled its new Prairie Wolf costume during the September 13 football game against Morningside College. That's right, NWU's loyal, inflatable Prairie Wolf has retired after 14 years (98 dog-years).

While the mask may be a new face, the man behind it isn't. Meet the human dynamo behind NWU's favorite canine: Terry Lange.

Q. I'm going to miss puffy old P. W. What do you like about the new version?

A. You can't interact with the crowd in the balloon mascot. In that suit, I had to spend most of my time standing out of the way. And the battery pack that kept it inflated was heavy. With the cloth mascot, I can sit down with you and not be in the way. I can mix more with the crowd.

Q. What does it feel like in there?

A. It's a lot of fun. You get to associate with people who don't know who you are. But there are certain precautions you have to take. A lot of people are scared of mascots, so you have to be careful. Also, little kids want to beat up on mascots.

Q. Not everybody knows that you also spend countless hours leading the Spirit Squad, NWU's dance and cheer teams. What motivates you to take all that on, in addition to your "day job"?

A. It started when Nebraska Wesleyan made the decision to change mascots from the Plainsmen to the Prairie Wolves. They needed someone to be the

coordinator for the mascot. When we got the P. W. balloon mascot, that's when I originally became responsible for it. As for the cheer and


dance teams, there was an outside coach that resigned, and I ended up taking over.

Q. How long have you been doing it?

A. About 14 years. Ever since we got the first P. W. mascot.

Q. What's your best memory as mascot?

A. I got to ride a bike and jump off a ramp that I modified. This trick played on the big screen at the National Mascot Competition. I found out that I was the first recorded balloon mascot to jump a bike. Someday, I'd like to go and compete at the national competition.

I just enjoy performing for kids. Some kids are scared, but mascots make a lot of kids happy. Kids always want to take pictures with me. It's funny how many college students are scared of the mascot. But I guess Prairie Wolves are pretty ferocious. 



A NEW WOLF IN TOWN...

We unleashed the new and improved P. W. at NWU's first home football game on September 13. The crowd went wild.

P. W.'s #1 job in life is helping NWU fans "get ready" to cheer their loudest and do their best.

You can watch P. W. at work in the same "Get Ready" video that played on Abel Stadium's big screen on the Nebraska Wesleyan YouTube channel: youtube.com/user/NebraskaWesleyan.

Photo by Dan Luedert

Student Pride

Prestige scholars and awards

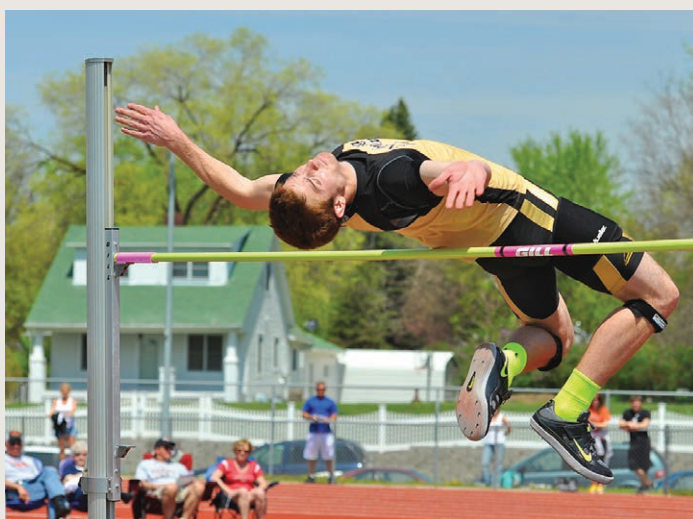
Photo by Chris Smithberg



Photo by Chris Smithberg



Photo by Chris Smithberg



NWU Leads Nation with Three Track & Field Academic All-Americans

Nebraska Wesleyan University stands among the nation's elite in total Capital One/CoSIDA Academic All-Americans. NWU ranks eighth nationally with 147 awards, up there with the likes of the University of Nebraska, Notre Dame and Stanford.

This year, men's track & field produced three Academic All-Americans, a number matched only by MIT. And NWU was the only school in the nation to place two student-athletes as first-team Academic All-Americans.

Johnny Rutford ('14)(top), a first-team selection, is a three-time Academic All-American and a three-time NCAA Division III national championship competitor. The accounting student graduated with a 3.96 GPA.

Brock Taute ('15) (center) is NWU's other first-team selection. The 2014 NCAA Elite 89 Award winner earned 2014 GPAC championships in three distance events. The physics major holds a 3.98 GPA.

Tommie Bardsley ('14) (bottom) earned second-team Academic All-America honors. The five-time All-American high jumper holds the second-best outdoor high jump (6' 11^{3/4}") and third-best indoor high jump (6' 11") in NWU history. He graduated in accounting with a 3.54 GPA.



Fulbright Scholarships Send Students to Thailand, Georgia Republic and Germany

The Chronicle of Higher Education again named NWU a “Top Fulbright Producer” last year. Among the 39 schools on this list, only three battled above .500, with more accepted Fulbright applicants than rejections. One of them: NWU.

NWU’s 2014 winners include **Tram Kieu** (‘14) (left), **Jessica Preston** (‘13) (center) and **Leslie Satterfield** (‘14) (right). Kieu is a global studies major from Lincoln who is using her Fulbright award to teach English in Thailand. Preston, a communication studies graduate, is teaching English in Georgia. And Satterfield is teaching English in Germany.

A Satterfield teaching English will sound very familiar to hundreds of NWU alumni. Leslie is the granddaughter of the late NWU

professor of English, **Leon Satterfield**.

Why does NWU boast one of the nation’s highest success rates with Fulbright applications? It comes down to good coaching and preparation, said Professor of Spanish **Catherine Nelson**.

Nelson serves on the Fulbright Program’s national selection committee. She has an insider’s perspective on what separates the best applications. (Of course, she doesn’t score NWU applications for the committee.)

Nelson and Professor of English **Gerise Herndon** also teach a course on competing for prestige scholarships. That level of support stands behind many of the people and awards highlighted on these pages.



Criminal Justice and Poli Sci Majors to Study Languages in Africa and Asia

Each year, the prestigious Boren Awards for International Study send students to learn languages in countries critical to U.S. interests. The \$20,000 awards are funded through the National Security Education Program.

This year, NWU produced three Boren Scholarship winners.

Amira Ali-Dinar (‘14) (left) is a University College criminal justice student from Encino, Calif. She is using her award to study Arabic in Jordan, and is NWU’s first Boren winner in criminal justice.

Victoria Rosenboom (‘14) (center), a political science major from

Ashland, Neb., is using her award to study Swahili in Tanzania.

And **Michael Sutherland** (‘14) (right), a political science major from Omaha, is using his award to study Mandarin in China.

“The Boren Scholarship offered an opportunity to serve our nation’s security by educating ourselves on different cultures in efforts to effectively communicate with other nations,” said Ali-Dinar, whose family has direct ties to Darfur and the Middle East. “I was born to do this.”

WHY WE INVEST

in Nebraska Wesleyan University

IT'S ALL ABOUT COMMUNITY

2013-2014 Annual Report of Giving

Fiscal year: June 1, 2013, to May 31, 2014



It's All about Community

Is Nebraska Wesleyan University urban or rural?

Seems like a simple question. Our campus stands in a city of more than a quarter-million people. We opened a new location this year in Omaha—a city with nearly half a million more.

It's clear. We're urban.



But hold on. We were founded in a sea of grass between Lincoln and Havelock, surrounded on all sides by the sunflowers that became our earliest mascot. We've always drawn students from places like Neligh, Nelson and Newman Grove.

It's just as clear. We're rural.

At NWU, the divides between "city kid" and "country kid" tend to fall away. Nebraska Wesleyan is a place where students from New York City and Nebraska City can come together to discover everything we have in common.

I see it in my own career. I've spent time in the Twin Cities and Portland; I've also worked in smaller towns in North Dakota and Wisconsin. More than a "city guy" or a "country guy," I think of myself as a community guy. I like that because communities are unhindered. They don't have those pesky city limit signs that tell you when you're in and when you're out.

Community is about being part of something special, no matter where you go or how long you've been away. No one ever proudly declares, "I'm part of a metropolitan area." Yet we can all proudly say, "I'm part of a community."

I believe giving is about community. I believe Nebraska Wesleyan remains strong because so many of us recognize what it means to be a part of this community. Our gifts keep us connected even as they open doors for new students to join us.

Whether our next students come from Houston, Texas, or Humboldt, Neb., they'll find a campus community that welcomes and values them. In the same way, whether your next gift to Nebraska Wesleyan is large or small, you can trust that it will be welcomed, valued and put to wise use.

Community, whether urban or rural, is unlimited and meaningful. So are your gifts to NWU.

Every building we see on campus, every classroom we enter, every field or stage we stand on, every path we walk down, every student we meet, every professor we learn from—in short, every part of this community—is touched by your gifts to Nebraska Wesleyan University.

Thank you for being part of this community. And thank you for caring enough to invest in our future together.

With deepest gratitude and best wishes,

John B. Greving

Vice president for advancement

THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE NUMBERS

Nebraska Wesleyan's approach to raising funds is decidedly more human than what you might see at other schools. No "fundraising machine" here. Just a team of incredibly committed people (a third of them NWU alumni) eager to partner with you to sustain Nebraska Wesleyan University.

John Greving

vice president for advancement
jgreving@nebrwesleyan.edu

Linda Birkes-Lance

development officer
lbirkesl@nebrwesleyan.edu

Tony Dworak

major gifts officer
adworak@nebrwesleyan.edu

Rachelle Hadley

events coordinator
rhadley@nebrwesleyan.edu

Vanessa Hanna

assistant manager of data and donor relations
vhanna@nebrwesleyan.edu

Mary Hawk

director of major gifts
mhawk@nebrwesleyan.edu

David Joekel ('02)

development officer
djoekel@nebrwesleyan.edu

Sherry Lindholm

manager of information systems
skt@nebrwesleyan.edu

Brenda McCrady

director of planned giving
bmccrady@nebrwesleyan.edu

Shelley McHugh ('91)

director of alumni relations
smchugh@nebrwesleyan.edu

Susan Miller ('90)

development officer
smiller4@nebrwesleyan.edu

Jody Navrati

administrative assistant for advancement
jnavrati@nebrwesleyan.edu

Erika Paschold ('11)

director of Archway Fund
epaschol@nebrwesleyan.edu

Gary Reber

coordinator of advancement communications
greber@nebrwesleyan.edu

Jackie Rezac

manager of donor relations
jro@nebrwesleyan.edu

Deb Stark

administrative assistant to the vice president for advancement
dstark@nebrwesleyan.edu

Amy Vasey ('11)

gift and data specialist
avasey@nebrwesleyan.edu

Nancy Wehrbein ('75)

director of foundation relations
nwehrbei@nebrwesleyan.edu

Lori Wellman ('75)

manager of research and prospect management
llwellman@nebrwesleyan.edu

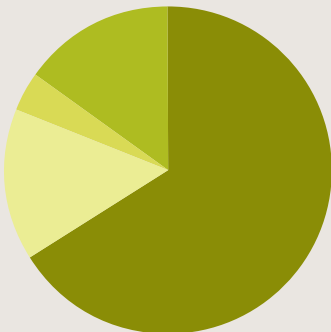


Dollars Raised in 2013-2014 by Gift Type

■ Archway Fund:	\$1,460,672
■ Restricted gifts and Endowment:	\$5,778,225
■ Realized estates and planned gifts:	\$1,195,067

TOTAL: \$8,433,964

SOURCES OF UNIVERSITY REVENUE



- Tuition and fees
- Gifts and grants
- Investment earnings
- Auxiliary enterprises and other

Financial overview, winter 2013-2014 *Archways*



BRIDGING THE GAP

Many people assume that revenue from tuition is more than enough to sustain a university. But that's never been the case at Nebraska Wesleyan. While tuition revenue after financial aid totaled just over \$25 million last year, Nebraska Wesleyan's expenses topped \$36 million.

Gifts play a key role in helping NWU bridge that \$11 million gap between what students and families are asked to pay and what it actually costs to provide an outstanding Nebraska Wesleyan experience.

Looking for your name?

All those who made gifts in the **2013-2014 fiscal year (June 1, 2013, to May 31, 2014)** will receive Nebraska Wesleyan's exclusive Donor Honor Roll in the mail in the coming days.

Nebraska Wesleyan University's 2013-2014 audited financial overview will appear in the winter issue of *Archways*.



THIS IS WHY

We asked the people who know NWU best—current and retired professors and staff members—why supporting Nebraska Wesleyan University matters. What they said changed the way we look at stewardship, philanthropy and the university itself.



When I interviewed for my job in 1980, President John White said, “We really do well with the students we get.” And it’s still true. We turn out kids who are assets to their communities—decent human beings who do well in their careers. We do indeed get great kids and *we give them a great sense of the world.*

Elaine Kruse
professor emerita of history

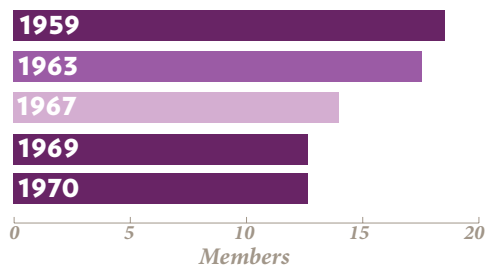


I tell my students, “Never leave your instrument in the rain.” I mean that when you have a gift, you have a responsibility to care for it. *This school is a gift in our care.*

Jack Parkhurst ('69)
professor of theatre

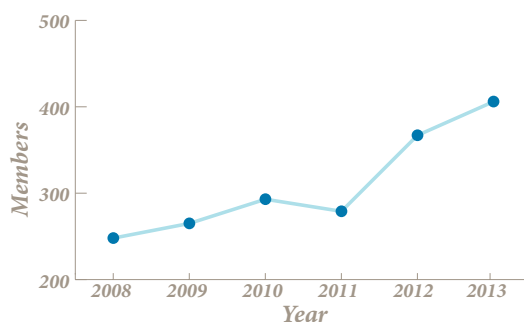


TOP 5 CLASSES IN PRESIDENTS SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP



The Presidents Society honors donors whose annual gifts to the university exceed \$1,000.

6-YEAR TREND IN TOTAL PRESIDENTS SOCIETY MEMBERS



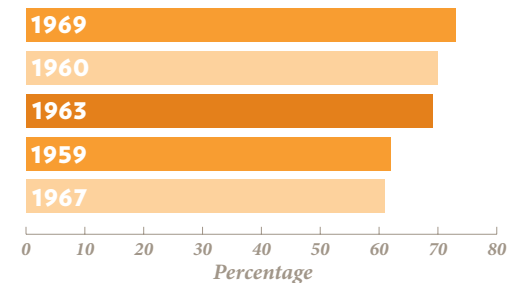


Nebraska Wesleyan is *a place where students find their voices* and discover how to take on the roles of community leaders.

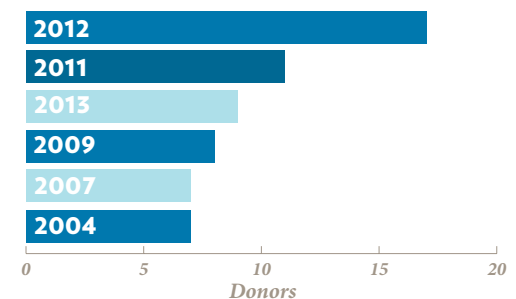
Ruth Stephenson
professor emerita of music



TOP 5 CLASSES IN PARTICIPATION



TOP 5 CLASSES IN NEW DONORS



In my 30 years teaching at NWU, I never ceased to be *amazed by the support* alumni gave us. From donations to contributions of time and internship opportunities, I knew when I asked, the answer would be, "Yes." I trust alumni will continue the tradition of paving the way for others. It is support for a professor that cannot be measured!

LaVerne (Chittim) Rudell ('65)
professor emerita of business administration



We give because Nebraska Wesleyan makes a quality liberal arts education available to all kinds of students—traditional and nontraditional, undergraduate and graduate. *We've seen firsthand the transformative effects of our work.*

Karla Jensen

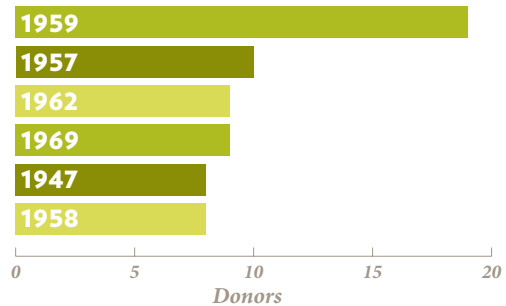
associate professor of communication studies

Travis Jensen

assistant dean of faculty and curriculum,
University College



TOP 5 CLASSES IN PLANNED GIFTS



Want to make a planned gift to Nebraska Wesleyan? It's easier than you might think. Brenda McCrady can help you get started. Call her at 402.465.2129.

Photo by Dan Luedert



Nebraska Wesleyan only exists today because during the Great Depression, the faculty, staff and administrators took a 50 percent pay cut to keep it going. The fierce pressures on NWU today are not so very different and are serious and complex. Our giving to Nebraska Wesleyan today, and in the years to come, is *part of a great tradition* allowing it to continue to stand for high quality education.

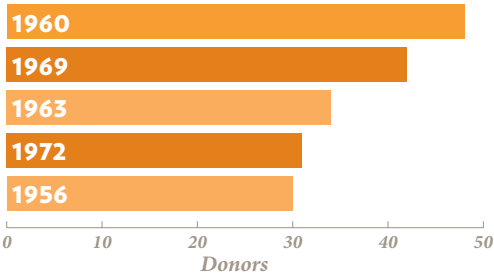
Loretta (Good) Fairchild ('66)
professor emerita of economics

Robert Fairchild
Physics Department chair

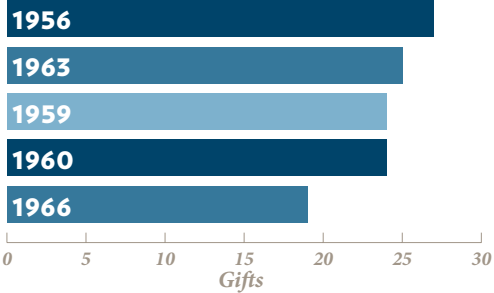


TOP 5 CLASSES IN ALUMNI LOYALTY

(for consecutive annual gifts spanning 25+ years)

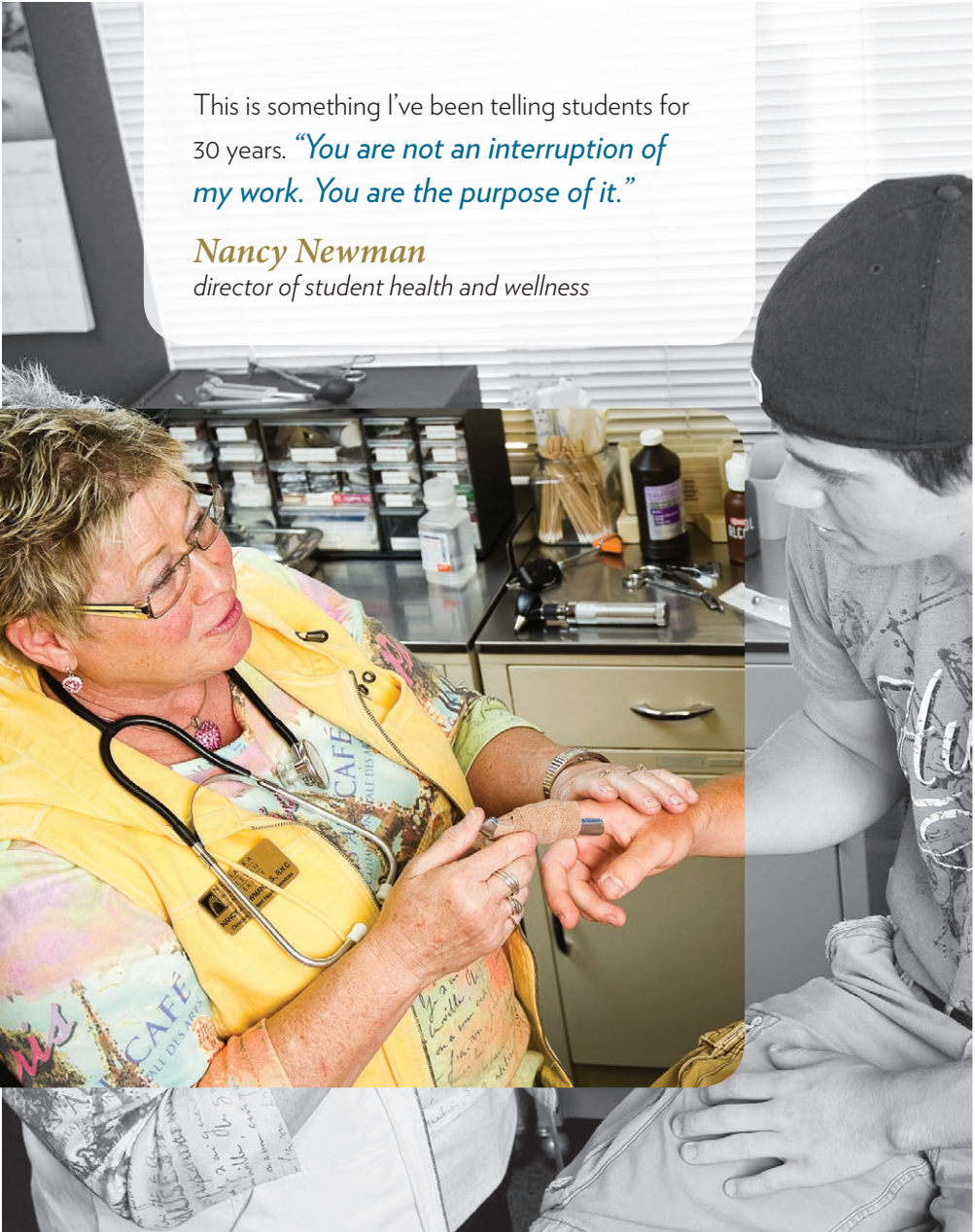


TOP 5 CLASSES IN GIFTS TO THE ENDOWMENT



Gifts are fully endowed at \$25,000. To create a new endowed fund honoring a loved one, or to help an existing fund reach its full potential, call Brenda McCrady at 402.465.2129.





This is something I've been telling students for 30 years. *"You are not an interruption of my work. You are the purpose of it."*

Nancy Newman

director of student health and wellness



12 WAYS

to support NWU

1. **Give** at nebrwesleyan.edu/donate.
2. **Refer** students.
3. **Cheer** on the Prairie Wolves.
4. **Attend** alumni events, catch a concert or exhibit, or take in a lecture.
5. **Follow** NWU on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Instagram.
6. **Update** your information on our alumni directory and connect with classmates at nebrwesleyan.edu/alumni-and-friends/alumni-directory.
7. **Come** to homecoming and NWU holiday parties.
8. **Take** a class through our adult learning programs.
9. **Volunteer** on campus or in your community.
10. **Tell** people about your NWU experiences.
11. **Take** an NWU pennant on your next trip and share your photos.
12. **Read** *Archways* magazine.



NEBRASKA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

Board of Governors 2014-2015

Judith R. Maurer ('69), M.S., chair of the board and chair of the Executive Committee; founder, Low Load Insurance Services, Tampa, Fla.

Susan Keisler-Munro ('85), M.S., vice chair of the board and chair of the Committee on Board Affairs; Senior Vice President, Chief of Operations, Assurity Life Insurance Company, Lincoln, Neb.

Richard A. Peterson ('59), J.D., secretary of the board; senior counsel, Crete Carrier Corporation, Lincoln, Neb.

Matt Harris ('93), B.S., treasurer of the board and chair of the Finance and Audit Committee; Chief Executive, Arbor Day Foundation, Lincoln, Neb.

D. Todd Duncan ('88), B.S., chair of the Advancement Committee; Chairman, Duncan Aviation, Lincoln, Neb.

Hon. John M. Gerrard ('76), J.D., L.H.D., chair of the Student Affairs Committee; U.S. District Court judge, U.S. District Court-District of Nebraska, Lincoln, Neb.

E. Susan Gourley, Ph.D., chair of the Academic Affairs Committee; superintendent (retired), Lincoln Public Schools, Lincoln, Neb.

Kent Seacrest, J.D., chair of the Enrollment and Marketing Committee; attorney, Seacrest & Kalkowski, Lincoln, Neb.

Charlotte A. Abram, M.Div., D.D., senior pastor (retired), TRI Community United Methodist Church, Omaha, Neb.

Jeffrey J. Butterfield ('98), M.B.A., president, Nebraska Wesleyan University Alumni Association; assistant vice president-institutional middle markets, RBC Capital Markets, Lincoln, Neb.

Dan L. Flanagan, Ed.D., district superintendent, Great Plains Conference, United Methodist Church, Omaha, Neb.

David G. Hansen ('77), B.S., partner/CEO, Swanson Russell, Lincoln, Neb.

Ben H. Harris, J.D., principal and general counsel, Nebraska Heavy Industries, Lincoln, Neb.

Harry Huge ('59), J.D., LL.D., attorney, The Huge Law Firm PLLC, Charleston, S.C.

L. Bradley Hurrell ('73), B.S., partner (retired), KPMG, Charlotte, N.C.

Thomas A. Jackman ('84), Ph.D., associate professor of business administration, Nebraska Wesleyan University

Mary Sanders Jones, M.B.A., vice president and treasurer, Union Pacific Corporation, Omaha, Neb.

Bishop Scott Jones, Ph.D., Great Plains Area United Methodist Church, Wichita, Kan.

Richard Legge ('82), M.D., neuro-ophthalmologist, Omaha, Neb.

Katherine Lesiak, student, Nebraska Wesleyan University, Class of 2015

Karen Linder ('82), B.S., president & CEO, Tethon 3D, Omaha, Neb.

Larry McClain, Ph.D., associate professor of English, Nebraska Wesleyan University

Lawrence Mohr, M.D., Sc.D., professor of medicine and director, Environmental Biosciences Program, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, S.C.

Kim S. Moore ('90), M.S.N., president and CEO, CHI Health St. Elizabeth, Lincoln, Neb.

Frederik Ohles, Ph.D., president, Nebraska Wesleyan University

Bernard A. Olsen ('75), Ph.D., senior research fellow (retired), Eli Lilly & Company, West Lafayette, Ind.

John E. Sampson ('63), M.B.A., president, Sampson Associates Inc., Edina, Minn.

Robert Scott, B.S., co-manager/principal, WRK LLC, Lincoln, Neb.

L. G. Searcey, M.B.A., senior vice president, commercial loans, Union Bank & Trust Company, Lincoln, Neb.

Evan Sheaff, student, Nebraska Wesleyan University, Class of 2015

Sheryl Snyder, M.A., co-founder (retired), Snyder Industries, Inc., Lincoln, Neb.

Cori Yokoun, B.A., vice president, Sampson Construction, Lincoln, Neb.

Bill White, M.S., president, The Austin Company, Inc., Milford, Neb.

GOVERNORS EMERITI

Duane W. Acklie, J.D., LL.D., president, Crete Carrier Corporation, Lincoln, Neb.

B. Keith Heuermann, B.S., Sc.D., founder (retired), BKH Popcorn, Phillips, Neb.

Gordon "Mac" Hull ('59), J.D., president and CEO, Tasty-Toppings, Inc., Columbus, Neb.

Lindy Mullin ('67), Ed.D., coordinator (retired), Lincoln Public Schools, Lincoln, Neb.

Warren K. Urbom ('50), J.D., LL.D., U.S. District Court judge (retired), Lincoln, Neb.

F. Thomas Waring ('53), M.D., physician (retired), Fremont, Neb.



NEBRASKA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

President's Board of Advisors 2014-2015

The President's Board of Advisors was formed in 2006 as a body of ambassadors and advisors to Nebraska Wesleyan. The group meets twice each year to learn more about Nebraska Wesleyan's current operations and programming, and to act as a sounding board. Its members are invited by the president and include alumni, parents of current and former students and friends of the university from around the nation and world.

Frederik Ohles, chair; president, Nebraska Wesleyan University

Robert F. Bartle ('72), co-chair; attorney, Bartle & Geier Law Firm, Lincoln, Neb.

A. Eugene Crump ('69), co-chair; attorney (retired), Lincoln, Neb.

Julie Anderson ('97), chief business development officer, The Ezra Company, Washington, D.C.

John Batchner ('97), Foundation First Corporation, Valley, Neb.

Greg Bergt ('71), vice president, Pennfield Animal Health, Omaha, Neb.

Eugene Braymen ('57), businessman (retired), San Jose, Calif.

Jolene (Munderloh) Braymen ('57), teacher (retired), San Jose, Calif.

Susan Wehrbein Cassat ('80), church and community volunteer, Overland Park, Kan.

Judy (Hogeland) Cunningham ('63), marketing consultant, Dallas, Tex.

Don Dorr ('61), attorney, Buchen, Wise and Dorr, Hanover, Penn.

Loretta (Good) Fairchild ('66), NWU professor emerita of economics, Lincoln, Neb.

Mary Lou (Rogers) Fredrickson ('71), Lincoln Public Schools counselor (retired), Bennet, Neb.

Patricia (Johnson) Hoffman ('71), associate administrator (retired), Heartland Area Education Agency, Ankeny, Iowa

Marilyn Hutchinson ('69), psychologist, Hutchinson & Associates, Kansas City, Mo.

Rev. Nan Kaye-Skinner (P'06), Pastor, Trinity United Methodist Church, Lincoln, Neb.

Jo (Afrank) Kinberg, M.D., ('82, P'10, P'12), physician, Pediatrics, P.C., Walton, Neb.

Jane (Paul) Kinyoun ('67), University of Washington Bothell, Secondary Teacher Education Program, Shoreline, Wash.

Judd Knispel ('97), State Farm agent, Council Bluffs, Iowa

Vidette (Bullock) Mixon ('74), director (retired), Corporate Relations, General Board of Pension/Health Benefits, The United Methodist Church, Evanston, Ill.

Patricia Schuett Peterson, attorney, Kutak Rock LLP, Omaha, Neb.

Mishayla Richardson ('11), senior assurance associate, McGladrey, LLP, Omaha, Neb.

Mervin Riepe (P'01), independent hospital and healthcare professional, Omaha, Neb.

David Seems (P'11, P'13), managing partner, Business Advisors, LLC, Englewood, Colo.

Helen Sramek ('70), president (retired), Operation Lifesaver, Alexandria, Va.

Michael Tews ('86), managing partner, Northwestern Mutual Financial Network, Omaha, Neb.

Mark Walz ('88, P'14), President and CEO, Farmers Mutual Insurance Company of Nebraska, Lincoln, Neb.

Jack Wightman ('89), managing attorney, First Data Corporation, Omaha, Neb.

P=parent of alumnus/alumna



THANK YOU.

Nebraska Wesleyan University exists for you and because of you. Our alumni and friends continue to make Nebraska Wesleyan an outstanding university with consistent, generous support.

If you've given to Nebraska Wesleyan University, accept our sincere thanks. If you haven't yet made a gift, please accept this invitation to start today.

nebrwesleyan.edu/donate

Nebraska Wesleyan University's Donor Honor Roll

will be mailed in the coming days to all those who made gifts to NWU in the 2013-2014 fiscal year, which runs from June 1, 2013, to May 31, 2014.



**NEBRASKA
WESLEYAN
UNIVERSITY**

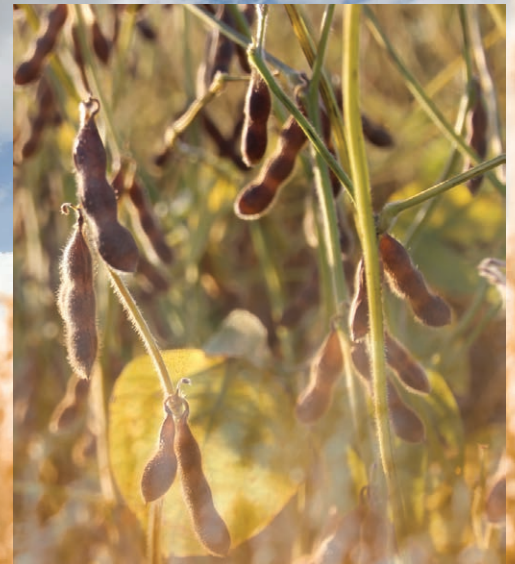
Give a Gift of Grain.

*Help keep rural students
right here in Nebraska.*

Donate part of your harvest
to Nebraska Wesleyan through our
Gift of Grain.

Ask about it at your local co-op.

nebrwesleyan.edu/grain



For questions, contact:

Susy Miller

Development officer

800.541.3818, ext. 2188

402.465.2188 office

smiller4@nebrwesleyan.edu



ALUMNI PAGES



Your contact for
alumni events,
directory updates
and more.

Shelley McHugh ('91)

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

Update your contact information, professional
details and more in our alumni directory at
alumni.nebrwesleyan.edu

MYSTERY PHOTO

Nothing beats five aces.

Who dealt this hand? Of the seven "cards" in this photo, at least five appear to be aces. Can you name them?

Send your responses to:

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

MYSTERY PHOTO REVEALED



It's tea time.

Alumni from the late '60s responded to our invitation for tea. We raise our cups to them.

It's been nearly 50 years since I last worked with these women; I bussed tables and washed dishes in the cafeteria from 1964 to 1967. However, I think the woman holding the coffee pot is Fran Martin, and I think the woman on the far left is June Menefee (although when I knew her she looked older. Perhaps this picture was taken circa 1960, some years before I came to campus). On the other hand, I could be just flat wrong. If I am (or even if I'm not), I don't need the extra cookies.

—**Roger Cognard** ('67), professor emeritus of English

According to my 1967 yearbook, the people in your Mystery Photo are Hattie Hornby, director of food service; Selma Cash, manager of the snack bar; and Frances Martin, assistant director of food service. I did not remember Ms. Hornby or Ms. Martin, but I've never forgotten Mrs. Cash. If I remember correctly, didn't she have a daughter named Myma who was a student when I was there (1965-1969)?

—**Richard Longstreth** ('69)

The Mystery Photo shows personnel of the food service department, namely Hattie Hornby, Selma Cash and Frances Martin.

Extra cookies? I don't remember much about food service cookies of that era (I do remember pies served at dinner), but I wonder if the cafeteria hasn't "upgraded" by now to frozen yogurt anyway.

—**Janis Hays Brown** ('68)

Play with Me.

Connecting kids and grandparents is one alumna's family business.

—By Eric Wendt ('99)

An hour before his first Lincoln YMCA tee-ball game in 2008, my then-4-year-old son called his Uncle **Jeremy Wendt** ('02) in Minneapolis. Marcus had his mitt tucked between his little knees and his bat stowed in the van. He was ready, and his excitement was bubbling over.

He wanted nothing more than to invite Uncle Jeremy to see the big game. But Jeremy lived 450 miles away, and he knew he couldn't just ask him to hop in the car. So he covered the phone with his free hand and whispered to me, "Dad, is my tee-ball game gonna be on ESPN?"

He wanted to let his uncle know which channel to watch.

That's a kid hungry to connect with out-of-town family. A kid eager to use technology to share important moments in his life.

And that's the moment that popped in my memory when I learned about **Sara (Atchison) Hanlon's** ('00) creation, **Bogglebeans.com**. Hanlon is CEO of the Omaha-based Bogglebeans, an animated website where family members and young children can play and share. It's perfect for families where grandma and grandpa can't just hop in the car for every tee-ball game.

"Kids are already online. They know how to work an iPad before they know how to write letters of the alphabet," Hanlon told Omaha Life-styles. "And most grandparents use social media, so we wanted to create something special for the grandparent and child."

Bogglebeans resembles social media in how it allows children and grandparents to post and share content. But it avoids children's privacy pitfalls by giving parents control over who can interact with their kids on the site. Approved family members can send messages, share animated "gifts," play games and access a family calendar. It makes staying connected that much easier for busy families.

Which Bogglebeans functions are the most popular with kids?

"We figured the games would keep the kids engaged, but what the kids want is to communicate with and send things to their grandparents," Hanlon said.

It's proof that what kids want more than any game or fad or gadget is you. 🍪



BANK ON IT

A new grad takes career advice from two banking executives who've been there.

—By Rachel Naber ('14)

I switched from busy college student to lost graduate in a day, and felt the whiplash. My last semester at NWU was my toughest, and I'd been working too hard to think much about life after graduation. Juggling my senior thesis, 15 credits and three jobs took all I had.

While I was swept up in the present, my classmates still seemed to focus on their futures. They talked about grad programs; about teaching locally or abroad; about turning their internships into full-time jobs.

Why couldn't I have my stuff together like that?

That's not to suggest I'd been wasting time. I committed myself to my schoolwork. And I'm proud to leave NWU as a better critical problem solver, a harder worker and a more independent thinker.

Still, part of me kept thinking, "If you're such a great problem solver, Rachel, why haven't you solved the problem of what to do next with your life?"

I needed advice. And, thanks to some NWU connections, I had some high places to turn for it.

"I didn't know what I wanted to do or where I wanted to end up when I was in your shoes. I had no clue or path," said **Stephanie (Howland) Moline ('84)**. But Stephanie found her path soon enough. Today, she's executive vice president of First National Bank of Omaha.

Always good with animals, Stephanie started out at NWU with the intention of becoming a veterinarian. But an economics class with Professor Emerita of Economics **Loretta (Good) Fairchild ('66)** hooked her interest in business.

She spent the next four years at least as busy as I was, juggling NWU tennis, an officer position with Alpha Gamma Delta and volunteerism with the Lincoln Humane Society—where she got to act on her love for animals.

Grad school came next. Then a management training position at First National Bank—an opportunity she heard about from a friend. There, she found not just her first full-time job. She found opportunities to advance, the flexibility to finish her master's degree, and the kind of environment where a job can become a career.

Stephanie's advice to me: Stay flexible. When you feel like you're drifting, have the confidence and wherewithal to know you can recognize and reach the opportunities around you.

If Stephanie was like me—a little adrift and uncertain coming out of college—then **Samantha (Spenser) Mosser ('98)** was that classmate I always kind of envied: the woman with a plan. She wasn't positive about a major. "But what I did know entering

college is that I wanted to graduate in under three years and go to graduate school," she said.

She considered a pre-med major and flirted with the idea of dental school as late as her last semester at NWU before settling on business. That choice meant she no longer needed the challenging physics course she was taking from Professor of Physics **Bob Fairchild**. "He said I was his only student to drop a class with an A in it."

Samantha graduated in just two years and nine months, then set her eyes on an MBA.

Just like Stephanie, Samantha got her start as a First National Bank management trainee. In 2002, she joined Union Bank and Trust as an assistant vice president in its commercial real estate group. Even as the economy shook the real estate market, Samantha's trajectory continued upward. Now she's Union Bank's regional president.

Samantha credited her professors' high expectations. Like me, she didn't always enjoy the group projects and presentations. But they developed teamwork skills and taught us how to deal with difficult personalities, how to meet deadlines and how to make the most of our teammates' strengths.

None of us could hide at Nebraska Wesleyan. We were expected to speak our minds. I quickly discovered that being shy was no excuse. Those expectations transformed Samantha and me into effective communicators.



Photo by Lane Hickenbottom

Stephanie (Howland) Moline ('84) ▼



MOLINE & MOSSER, CAREER ASSOCIATES

Take career tips from execs Stephanie Moline and Samantha Mosser.

Find a mentor

"Find someone who will invest time in you and help you see pitfalls," says Moline.

Listen to your conscience

"If you can't say that you're making a difference when you go to work, you're not in the right place," says Moline.

Stay flexible

"Instead of setting permanent goals, young people should be open to new challenges," says Mosser. "You never know what's around the next corner."

Admit (and learn from) your mistakes

Mosser remembers a doozy that kept her up all night. Her boss's response: "We'll get this figured out." "My philosophy," Mosser says, "is to admit the mistake, learn from it, and help find a solution."

Be a pro

When Moline started out, it wasn't enough for a woman to be as good as her male peers. To be promoted, she had to be head-and-shoulders better. Gender discrepancies continue, but Moline says women can now prepare the same way men do. "Carry yourself professionally. Be confident. Speak clearly. Communicate your abilities. And write well."

Focus on 1-2-3

Says Mosser, "Work hard. Find opportunities to use your strengths. And keep learning."

Stephanie said the expectations were no different 30 years ago. "My professors wanted me to articulate my position, as opposed to just regurgitating answers," she said. Their tough questions prepared her for large audiences and high demands at work.

Not every college student gets that level of preparation. At larger schools, you can quietly slip through the cracks. Compared with friends who went to large universities, Stephanie said she was thoroughly challenged. She earned diverse credits and was exposed to different kinds of classwork that her peers at larger schools never experienced.

I can draw the same contrast with my friends at big schools. One left college terrified of public speaking because she'd only given two presentations in four years. Another friend often skipped, played videogames through lectures, and still phoned in a 3.6 GPA. When I described the time I spent studying to make sure I'd absorbed the critical information, they just scratched their heads.

There's talk that employers think all

degrees are alike. Stephanie disagrees. She said First National Bank takes a long look at NWU alumni because they recognize our skillset. Our coursework and experiences develop the writing, analytical and critical thinking skills they want.

"When I graduated, I think Nebraska Wesleyan had a good reputation, and that has been built on since," Stephanie said. "My coursework at Nebraska Wesleyan was as difficult as my master's program." Samantha concurs. She's watched classmates attain high-level positions in many fields. NWU gives them an edge.

I had to adjust. But that's exactly what a liberal education was preparing me to do.

Speaking with Stephanie and Samantha, it struck me. Here I was, a somewhat underemployed, freshly minted NWU graduate, chatting it up with two wildly successful female executives at major Nebraska banks. And we were connecting. That our shared Nebraska Wesleyan experiences were separated by 30 and 16 years meant little. The Nebraska Wesleyan experience is fundamentally the same.

Like both of them, I initially saw myself

working in allied health. Maybe I'd be an athletic trainer, a nutritionist or a physical therapist. But my general courses showed me my strengths in English, business and philosophy (as well as my relative weakness in the sciences).

I had to adjust. But that's exactly what a liberal education was preparing me to do. My English study taught me to write and research well. The work excited me. And a class in Old Main showed me I belonged in business: Professor of English Rick Cypert's "Writing in the Professions".

While the changes felt slow at the time, I realize now I was rapidly emerging as an independent thinker. Nebraska Wesleyan brought that out in me, just as it did for Stephanie and Samantha and thousands of men and women like us. Nebraska Wesleyan was our place to develop the skills we need at work and in life. Every class we took challenged us and made us hungry for the next challenge and the next. That's what connects us.

Now, do I have my career all figured out? No. But does that mean my education has somehow failed me? Absolutely not. In fact, part of the reason why our paths are undefined is because our education makes us capable of just about anything. **n**

NEBRASKA
WESLEYAN
UNIVERSITY
THEATRE
PRESENTS

» **BOX OFFICE**

Open 2-5 p.m. Monday-Saturday
402.465.2384
theatre@nebrwesleyan.edu

An illustration of Scrooge and Tiny Tim from the story 'A Christmas Carol'. Scrooge is wearing a black top hat and a dark coat with a blue scarf, looking up at Tiny Tim. Tiny Tim is wearing a blue hat and a green coat, holding a cane. The background features green holly leaves and red berries.

A Christmas Carol

December 4-6, 11-13 / 7:30 p.m.
December 7, 14 / 2 p.m.

McDonald Theatre, Elder Theatre Center

51st Street and Huntington Avenue / Free parking in lots at 50th and Huntington

This Dickens classic and Nebraska Wesleyan University tradition returns with all its holiday magic.

Calendar

Mark your calendar and watch your mail for information. All NWU alumni welcome.
Contact Shelley McHugh (9) for details at smchugh@nebrwesleyan.edu or 402.465.2123.

November 25 40th annual Xtreme Rat Challenge

The Psychology Department's annual murine athletic contest turns 40. Watch the furry feats from 3 to 5 p.m. in Great Hall

Photo by Chad Greene

OCTOBER

25 NWU swimming

The Prairie Wolves debut new men's and women's swimming programs against Morningside College at noon in Knight Field House.

NOVEMBER



13 Merchant of Venice

The curtain rises at 7:30 p.m. for opening night of NWU Theatre's annual Shakespeare performance with shows running through November 23. Check **theatre.nebrwesleyan.edu** for tickets and show times.

DECEMBER

2 Holiday open house: Lincoln

Lincoln-area alumni gather at Hillcrest Country Club for food and holiday fun from 6 to 8 p.m.

6 Elizabethan Feast

This holiday tradition features costumes, food and fanfare including performances by the Nebraska Wesleyan Chamber Singers in Smith-Curtis's Great Hall at 6 p.m. Call Kathy Benischek for tickets at 402.465.2269.

9 Holiday open house: Omaha

Take advantage of this festive occasion to check out Nebraska Wesleyan's new Omaha site at 14010 FNB Parkway from 6 to 8 p.m.

11 Holiday open house: Grand Island

Tri-cities alumni will venture to Grand Island's Riverside Golf Club for a fun holiday gathering from 6 to 8 p.m.



NEBRASKA
WESLEYAN
UNIVERSITY

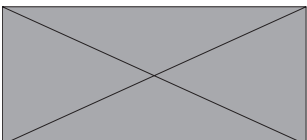
5000 SAINT PAUL AVENUE
LINCOLN, NE 68504-2794



Support what matters.

People give annually to Nebraska Wesleyan University because this community matters. The liberal arts matter. Your annual gifts keep NWU affordable for today's students. That matters, too.

Please make your gift to the Archway Fund by December 31.



Archways magazine is printed on paper certified by the Forest Stewardship Council®.
FSC® certification indicates demonstrated commitment to environmentally and socially responsible forest management.