

NEBRASKA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

ARCHWAYS

OPTIMIZE | FALL 2018 | VOLUME 18, ISSUE 3



On Mastery

What does it take to maximize your potential?

PLUS:

2017-2018

*ANNUAL
REPORT
OF GIVING*

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Alumni and Friends,

Nebraska Wesleyan University made history in August. That's when we welcomed the largest group of new students ever to matriculate here in 131 years. It's a remarkable accomplishment; one that makes me proud, but not surprised.

It's a result of the fine, strategic work of our admissions office. It's also the result of a deliberate evolution that has created real momentum. Here are a few examples:

Bold Designs: The Campaign for Nebraska Wesleyan University

The \$62 million campaign has increased student scholarships, created premier learning spaces and advanced life-changing student experiences like internships, collaborative research, service and study abroad opportunities.

Duane W. Acklie Hall of Science

The \$29 million facility for the biology, chemistry and psychology departments opens in January. The building is on time, on budget and fully funded through Bold Designs.

Community college partnerships

NWU has partnered with five community colleges in Nebraska and Iowa on the Pathways Scholarship Program, which provides a smooth transfer process with financial benefits for traditional undergraduates and our accelerated degree-completion program for adults. Thirty-four new transfer students are enrolled this fall thanks to these partnerships.

Restructuring

We've reorganized Nebraska Wesleyan's structure in a way that draws us closer together, especially in our academic endeavors. We have hired our inaugural dean of graduate programs. This reorganization is especially important in serving our growing adult and graduate student populations.

Athletic success

With an NCAA Division III national championship in men's basketball, nationally competitive men's and women's programs in track & field and cross country, nationally recognized coaches and the eighth highest total of Academic All-America Awards in the country—we are holding to our proven and principled playbook of success.



*We celebrate you
because your outcomes
in life are the ultimate
measure of Nebraska
Wesleyan's worth.*

Our momentum exists thanks to our exceptional faculty, devoted staff and high-achieving students. This issue of *Archways* delves into the grit and development our professors embrace to become masters of the subjects they teach. That mastery serves our students who become inspired to learn thoroughly, research deeply, compete intensely, succeed completely.

Our momentum also depends on you. We celebrate the experiences that the alumni among you had here as students, whether your accomplishments were in the classroom, on the stage, on the field or on the court. We celebrate you because your outcomes in life are the ultimate measure of Nebraska Wesleyan's worth. As proud alumni leading purposeful lives, you give everyone at NWU countless examples to applaud.

We celebrate your support of NWU whether you fund a scholarship, refer a prospective student, help with career exploration, or cheer in our stands. Your Nebraska Wesleyan story inspires prospective students and their families to explore this special place. You remind our current students, faculty and staff why we do what we do. You generate Nebraska Wesleyan's momentum and contribute to our growth.

As I watched the class of 2022 take its traditional first walk through the arch on Sampson Plaza, I felt a rising certainty that this academic year will be a memorable one. That's because we have something even more remarkable than a record class. We have a momentum of purpose—in our faculty, staff, students and you—to carry Nebraska Wesleyan's mission forward.

Our work in recruiting the next class of students to this fine university begins now. I'm grateful you're part of our story, assuring this marvelous momentum continues year after year.

Yours truly,

—Fred Ohles
President



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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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Letters

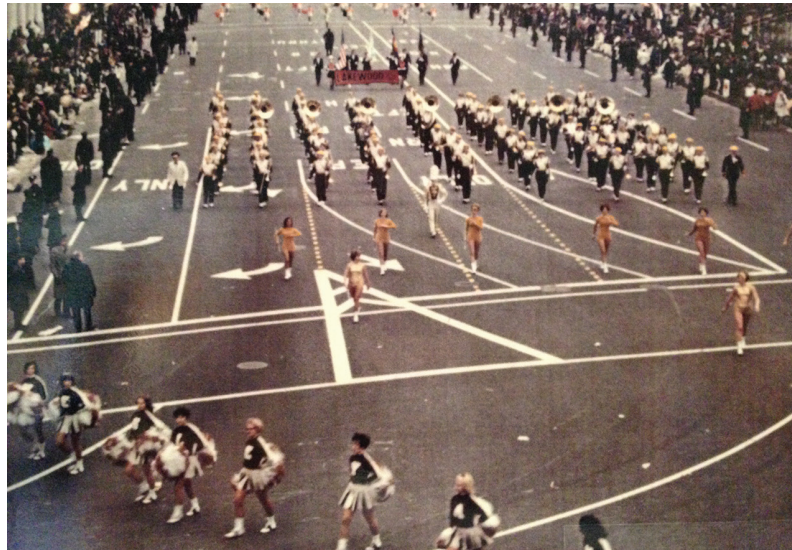
Strike Up the Band

This is a photo from almost 50 years ago when the NWU “Pride of the Plains” marching band participated in the inaugural parade for Richard Nixon on January 20, 1969. The band is just making the turn on Pennsylvania Avenue to pass the reviewing stand. There were 90 musicians, two directors, eight twirlers and eight “Wesleyan girls.”

I was the drum major. The band traveled to Washington, D.C., by bus. We were all lodged out to alumnae homes in the D.C. area. My wife and I got to stay at the home of the director of the American Red Cross.

That school year, the band also performed a halftime show at a Chicago Bears football game.

Duane Baylor ('70)



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.

 **Be heard. Contact us.**

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THEY'RE
BAAACK...



Your national champion Prairie Wolves make their home debut vs. Grinnell November 8 at 7 p.m.

Follow the action at NWUsports.com.

President Ohles Announces Retirement



Photo by Allison Woods ('20)

Fred Ohles often calls commencement “the happiest day of the year.”

Fred Ohles recently announced his plans to retire as Nebraska Wesleyan University’s 16th president on July 1, 2019. He has served as president since 2007.

“I’m glad for the numerous significant things we’ve accomplished together,” Ohles said in his message to faculty and staff. “It’s a privilege to work with so many devoted, thoughtful, caring, creative, mission-driven people.”

That work carries on full steam through the current academic year as Ohles continues to rally support for Bold Designs: The Campaign for Nebraska Wesleyan University.

The search for President Ohles’ successor has begun. “One of Fred’s many positive legacies is how he’s readied Nebraska Wesleyan for this moment,” said Susan Gourley, chair of NWU’s Board of Governors. “Thanks to his

leadership, bold thinking and hard work, we find ourselves perfectly positioned to attract a truly outstanding person to be the 17th president of Nebraska Wesleyan University.”

The Board of Governors has developed a presidential search committee including representatives of the board, faculty, staff, students, alumni, parents and community partners.

The university has retained Storbeck/Pimentel & Associates, a respected executive search firm, to assist with the search. Its search team visited campus in late August to seek input from all university constituents about NWU’s present and future needs as well as the skillsets and personal characteristics desired in its next president.

The names of prospects or nominators are welcomed and can be directed to NWUpresident@storbecksearch.com.

THE FINAL: Fred Ohles has led NWU through a dozen transformational years as president. Read our winter issue for fuller coverage of NWU’s strides during his years here.

Men’s Basketball Team Lifts NWU’s Roy G. Story Award

The accolades keep coming for Nebraska Wesleyan University’s NCAA III national champion men’s basketball team. On August 17, Coach Dale Wellman and team co-captain Deion Wells-Ross ('18) accepted Nebraska Wesleyan University’s Roy G. Story Award on behalf of the entire men’s basketball program. The team was honored at a ceremony as part of the school’s annual university dinner at Lincoln’s Hillcrest Country Club.

Established in 1989, the Story Award recognizes individuals and groups “whose accomplishments have significantly enhanced the national stature of Nebraska Wesleyan University.”

Said President Fred Ohles, “The success of the basketball team this year is truly something special. It’s wonderful for Nebraska Wesleyan to be able to honor the coaching staff and student-athletes for their national-caliber achievement in this way.”



Photo by PEC Photo

THE FINAL: This is the second time in recent years that the Story Award has marked national accomplishments in men’s basketball. In 2016, the award went to Trey Bardsley ('16) for his national headline-grabbing senior season.

Bold Designs Makes Bold Progress

Bold Designs: The Campaign for Nebraska Wesleyan University marked its public launch on September 7, 2017. In the year that followed, we've watched the university's friends take bold steps for NWU.

Together, we're investing in Nebraska Wesleyan University like never before. We're standing behind our life-changing professors, cheering on our ambitious students and transforming our campus to meet future demands.

We've locked our focus on four key areas. And our momentum in each one gives us ever greater confidence.

1 Create premier learning spaces.

This January's opening of Duane W. Acklie Hall of Science is one example of our progress with learning spaces. There's also a new, state-of-the-art lighting system in O'Donnell Auditorium. And some exciting changes are on deck for McDonald Theatre.

2 Open doors for students through scholarships.

For some, the cost of a quality education can be a barrier too high to scale. Bold Designs tears down financial obstacles for dedicated students by funding dozens of new and existing annual and endowed scholarships. The momentum we're building today will redefine what's possible for generations of Nebraska Wesleyan students.

3 Recruit and support the best faculty.

Nebraska Wesleyan alumni know what it was like to learn from life-changing professors—how it felt to step out of Old Main with new eyes. Thanks to incredible teachers, those transformations still happen here. Today, NWU is home to a scientist and poet who has touched people's hearts in both poetry

and surgery. We're home to a conductor who has electrified audiences at Carnegie Hall. Our newest hires are just as stellar. Our top teaching award this year went to an NWU "rookie" professor of religion, Rev. John Redding. And this semester, we welcomed an education professor who's led major urban school system turn-arounds in Denver, Oakland and Washington, D.C. Institutional support for teaching and faculty development helps us attract, strengthen and keep the right kind of teachers for Nebraska Wesleyan.

4 Advance life-changing student experiences.

The Nebraska Wesleyan experience is so much larger than a classroom. It's a career-shaping internship in Washington, D.C. It's a helping hand for a child in Guatemala. It's a perfect relay exchange at an NCAA III track & field championship. Bold Designs advances the student experience with investments in coaching, internships, global service and research. Life-changing experiences like these position Nebraska Wesleyan students well for prestige scholarships, top graduate school placements, successful careers and purposeful lives.

THE FINAL: Progress is real in all four of NWU's top campaign priorities.



Photo by Lauren Andes (21)

Ziegler Is NWU's New Dean of Graduate Programs

Jennifer Ziegler has been named Nebraska Wesleyan University's inaugural dean of graduate programs.

Ziegler served more than a decade at Valparaiso University (Ind.), the last four years of which were as dean of the graduate school and continuing education. In that role, she was responsible for the school's strategic leadership, coordination and guidance.

She helped launch and grow Valparaiso's digital media and sports media Master of Science programs within the communication department, where she served as chair in 2011 and 2012. She oversaw and evaluated existing continuing education programs and helped create innovative new programs aligned with Valparaiso's mission.

Ziegler's role as dean of graduate programs is a critical part of Nebraska Wesleyan's restructuring to better serve a growing adult student population. That reorganization involves new roles for current faculty administrators. Sarah Kelen now serves as Nebraska Wesleyan's vice president for campus community, and Kathy Wolfe ('90) is now dean of undergraduate programs.

Ziegler joined NWU on September 17 and reports to Provost Graciela Caneiro-Livingston.

Acklie Hall of Science Nears Completion

In just a few short months, the people working inside Nebraska Wesleyan University's new Duane W. Acklie Hall of Science will go from wearing hardhats to lab coats. And talk of "will be" will shift to talk of "is."

Construction has progressed along an ambitious schedule. This new facility, so vital to the university's future, is on track to open for the spring semester. Nebraska Wesleyan's departments of biology, chemistry and psychology stand poised to move into their new homes over winter break, and professors will hold their first classes in the new facility on January 14.

"Our science classes have long been 'pivot points' in our students' lives—places where their understanding of the world shifts so dramatically that it transforms their entire sense of what's possible," said President **Fred Ohles**. "And January 14th is a pivot point for Nebraska Wesleyan University. I couldn't be more excited for the discoveries our students will make inside those walls."



Photos courtesy of Sampson Construction Co., Inc.

NWU Chapters Take National Greek Honors

Greek life is alive and well at Nebraska Wesleyan University. Delta Zeta Sorority's Beta Tau chapter and Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity's Upsilon chapter both brought home national chapter of the year honors at their respective annual conventions. And Theta Chi Fraternity's Gamma Phi chapter received the fraternity's chapter achievement award, its second-highest honor.



Evan Marshall ('19)

In addition to these chapter achievements, several NWU men received individual awards from their fraternities. **Carter Lyons** ('19) was Theta Chi's James Ralph "Shug" Jordan Award winner as the fraternity's top student-athlete. **Dan Novinski** ('19) was runner-up for Theta Chi's Reginald E. F. Colley Award. **Joel Brown** ('16) was named one of 10 Theta Chi "Resolute Men." And **Evan Marshall** ('19) of Seward, Neb., was named Phi Kappa Tau's national chapter president of the year.

Jared Marcuson will help to oversee this tradition of chapter and student success as chapter advisor. He is Nebraska Wesleyan's new assistant director of student involvement.

Delta Zeta Sorority held its annual convention July 3-7 in San Francisco, Calif. Phi Kappa Tau's convention was in Cleveland, Ohio, July 11-15. And Theta Chi Fraternity's convention was in Las Vegas, Nev., July 27.



Left to right: Trev Reikenberg ('19), Creighton Schoening ('20), Evan Marshall ('19), John Green ('60), Colin Hensel ('20) and Warren Mattox ('69)



Rev. Chad Anglemyer



Robert Bartle ('72)



Scott Brewer ('01)



Elizabeth Gajardo ('20)



Richard Galyen



Patty Hawk



Rachel Pokora



Kate Richerson ('19)

Board Welcomes New Members

June saw the election of four members to Nebraska Wesleyan University's governing board.

Rev. **Chad Anglemyer**, Platts-mouth, Neb., is superintendent of the Missouri River District of the United Methodist Church.

Robert Bartle ('72), Lincoln, is partner at the law firm, Bartle & Geier.

Scott Brewer ('01), Topeka, Kan., is treasurer and director of administration of the Great Plains Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Richard Galyen, Atkinson, Neb., is president of Galyen Petroleum Company and the father of three NWU alumni.

Joining them on the Board of Governors are these four faculty and student members.

Patty Hawk is associate professor of communication studies and president of the faculty.

Rachel Pokora is professor of communication studies and vice president

for faculty affairs.

Elizabeth Gajardo ('20), Lincoln, is a student member.

Kate Richerson ('19), Lincoln, is student body president.

In other board news, **Richard Peterson** ('59), Lincoln, and **James Kruse** ('67), Salt Lake City, Utah, were elected governors emeriti. Peterson served on the board from 2007 to 2016, and was chair from 2010 to 2013. Kruse served from 2002 to 2013. They join **B. Keith Heuermann** (Sc.D. '03), **Gordon "Mac" Hull** ('59), **Angie Muhleisen** ('81, LL.D. '12), **Lindy Mullin** ('67), **Larry L. Ruth** ('67, LL.D. '15), and **Dr. F. Thomas Waring** ('53) as emeriti members.

The Board of Governors also acknowledged seven outgoing members at its annual meeting: **Matt Harris** ('93), **Mary Sanders Jones**, **Judith (Trimble) Maurer** ('69), **Sheryl Snyder**, **Meghan Winchell**, **Evan Marshall** ('19) and **Riley Shenk** ('18).

THE FINAL: NWU's Board of Governors oversees the president and establishes the university's general, academic and financial policies.

Photos by Shane and Sunny Photography, Lauren Andres ('21)

NWU Matriculates Largest Class in School History

Their Nebraska Wesleyan experience has only just begun, but members of NWU's class of 2022 have already made school history. With 487 first-year students and 59 transfer students, this year's incoming class is the largest in Nebraska Wesleyan University history.

This class passes the class of 1969 to occupy the top spot. In those years, Nebraska Wesleyan saw a temporary spike in enrollment driven in part by young men seeking draft deferments during the Vietnam War by pursuing a college degree.

Vice President for Enrollment Management **Bill Motzer** credited a variety of factors for the university's recent growth. "Our \$62 million investment in the student experience through

our Bold Designs campaign has played a tremendous role," Motzer said. Increased scholarship support and the Duane W. Acklie Hall of Science are two exciting outcomes of this campaign for the university's future.

Boosts like an NCAA III national championship in men's basketball and nationally competitive men's and women's programs in track & field and cross country haven't hurt, either.

NWU's recent Pathways Partnerships with several regional community colleges have supported transfer student enrollment. Central Community College became Nebraska Wesleyan's fifth Pathways Partner in July. This year, 34



Photo by Chad Greene

community college students have transferred to NWU on Pathways Scholarships.

"I think more and more people are simply seeing the value of the Nebraska Wesleyan

experience," Motzer said. "They recognize the successful outcomes and the powerful student experiences that Nebraska Wesleyan is so respected for."

THE FINAL: The class of 2022 eclipsed the class of 1969 as the largest ever at Nebraska Wesleyan.




Traditions at NWU are ongoing.
Your ongoing support makes it possible.

Please make your Archway Fund gift today at nebrwesleyan.edu/donate.
Visit facebook.com/NWUgiving to see your gifts in action.

Contact Erika Paschold at 402.465.7574 or epaschol@nebrwesleyan.edu





2017-2018

ANNUAL REPORT **OF GIVING**

Fiscal year: June 1, 2017, to May 31, 2018

Dear friends,

Universities, in the course of their lifetimes, face a number of challenges. They have their ups and downs and obstacles to overcome.

Nebraska Wesleyan is no different. In its 130-year history, it has navigated the currents of change. It has lived through wars, emerging competition and economic instability. In fact, the university was on the verge of closing its doors during the Great Depression. (Faculty members voluntarily took massive pay cuts to help keep the university going.)

But we're tough. We've always landed on our feet. And we are stronger today than ever before.

We can't entirely take credit for this resilience. Over the years, generations of generous alumni, faculty and staff, parents and friends have supported NWU and allowed it to face these challenges head-on.

Many times alumni give back because NWU helped them face challenges of their own.

You will get to know an eclectic group of alumni on the following pages—a teacher and poet who started over at NWU after a divorce, a retired insurance broker who fought for his education through hardships and with hard work, and a young survivor who discovered her voice and overcame the odds. Different, yes, but alike in their ability to conquer obstacles and their desire to pay it forward.

Alumni give back because their time at NWU meant something. Something significant. Their stories may be different, featuring a wide range of supporting characters, struggles and triumphs. But this common thread weaves throughout: "I help NWU because NWU helped me."

Nebraska Wesleyan's resilience and success are due to the collective generosity of alumni and friends like you.

The future will always challenge us. There will always be uncertainty, hardships and unexpected turns. Yet this reciprocity of support is ongoing. With the help of this amazing community, Nebraska Wesleyan is well prepared for whatever the future holds.

Together, we're unstoppable.

Yours truly,



John B. Greving

Vice president for advancement



THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE NUMBERS

More than numbers, raising support for Nebraska Wesleyan University is about people—about relationships. Meet the team of professionals out there who raised funds—and friends—on behalf of NWU in 2017-18.

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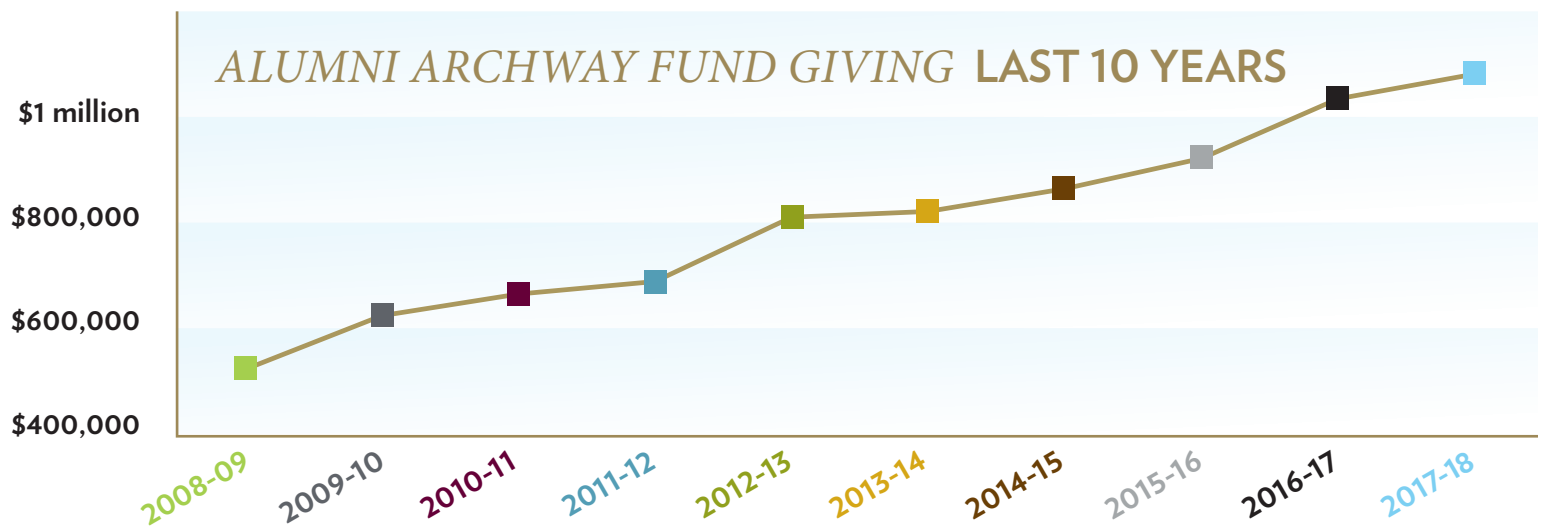
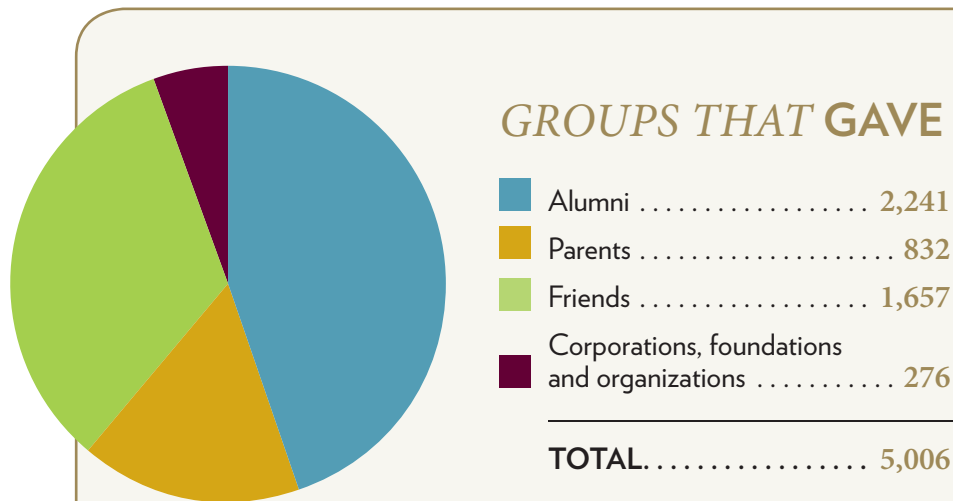
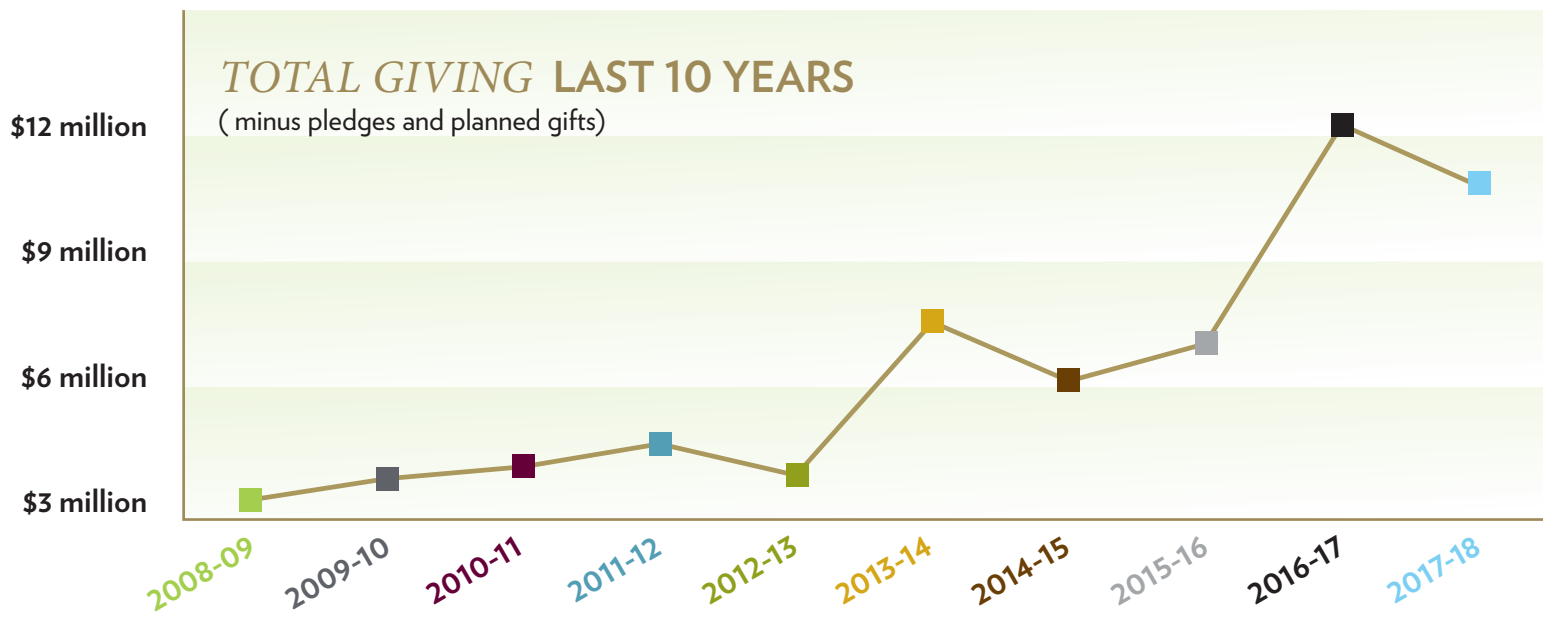
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A Place of Miracles

—By Amanda Broulik

For Ruth Meyer (64), Nebraska Wesleyan meant a fresh start.

Meyer first came to NWU in the fall of 1962. She was 24 years old, a “displaced homemaker,” as she often called herself. For years, her life seemed on a fixed course that would bypass college. Yet there she was that September, in Professor of English **Bill Kloefkorn’s** poetry class, hanging on his every word. For the first time in a while, Meyer felt she was where she belonged.

Meyer was the only child of poor immigrants who settled in Pender, Neb., a shy girl who found friendships in books. Education was important to her parents, and they helped her become the first in her family to graduate high school.

But when Meyer married after high school, her education halted. After that marriage ended in divorce, she enrolled at NWU, eager to continue her education.

“I truly cannot think of any other life when I took such a fearful gamble on myself,” she once said.

Despite her fears, she started over in Johnson Hall with newfound freedom and a thirst for knowledge.

“While much is a blur, one thing remains vivid,” Meyer wrote. “My room was on the west side of the first floor, and with the

windows open, the smell of newly mown grass wafted through the room, urging me to keep plugging away at my dream. Now, even at 74, when I get a whiff of freshly mown fescue, I am carried back to Johnson Hall and all the promise that the future held for me. Nebraska Wesleyan, for me, will always be a place of miracles.”

She quickly found a new home in the English Department. She considered Kloefkorn, as well as professors **Harold Hall**, **Leon Satterfield** and **Mary Smith**, her family. They remained dear to her for the rest of her life.

She described her NWU education as a “rare combination of encouragement, support, and the occasional thump on the head. I soon discovered that hard work could change my future.”

In just 26 months, Meyer graduated with a degree in English, with minors in philosophy/religion and German. She had earned membership in the Phi Kappa Phi honor society, had worked as the English Department secretary

for two years, and had been accepted into the prestigious Iowa Writers Workshop.

She went on to earn a master’s degree from Wichita State University and her Ph.D. from Kansas State University. She taught English at University of Northern Iowa, Morningside College, Wichita State and Newman University. She became a member


of the American Association of Professors, American Association of University Women, and National Council of Teachers of English. Around her teaching, she worked as a social worker, was published, won awards and traveled the world.

Her passion for learning was lifelong. Upon retirement, she enrolled as a graduate student, this time studying history and photography. At 73, she was still tutoring high school students.

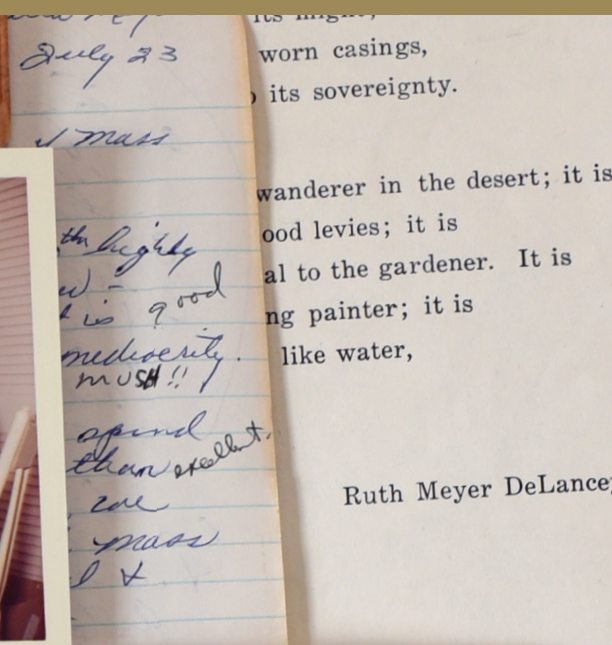
She cherished her trips back to Lincoln, where she’d stay with Bill and **Eloise Kloefkorn**.

“I remember her and Bill sitting in the living room for hours talking about poetry,” said Eloise. “Ruth was so intelligent and so skilled at putting her thoughts down on paper. I think that kept her going.”

Meyer passed away in January 2018, leaving her entire estate to Nebraska Wesleyan. She made certain that part of her gift would be used to start a creative writing fund for her beloved English Department. Her generous gift will provide an endowed scholarship in the humanities, permanently fund the Kloefkorn Nebraska Writers Series, and sponsor awards for submissions in *Flintlock*, the university’s student-run literary and visual arts journal.

Meyer once said, “Wesleyan was not just a place where a lucky few of us got an education. It was a home where, if we were mindful, we grew and changed and embraced the world with wiser, gentler minds. It really is important that we pass it on, that the ripples grow ever wider.” 

I truly cannot think of any other two years in my life when I took such a fearful gamble on myself.



Out of the Woods

Hardship and hardiness shape how one man sees the forest.

—By Amanda Broulik

Stan Pokorney (71) spends a lot of time these days at his cabin in the South Carolina woods. He's recovering from heart surgery, and the wilderness nourishes him. Sometimes, his children and grandchildren visit. Often, he's alone, hunting turkeys, taking photos and writing.

In these woods, he can think. He taps memories of his childhood and crosses quiet paths with his years at Nebraska Wesleyan. He walks with a feeling of gratitude, and thinks about ways to give back.

During those walks, "this idea kept coming back," he said. "Finally, I thought, well, if something is telling me to do this, I have to make it happen."

Pokorney lost his dad at age 12, and his path to NWU was thick with thorns. In the woods, he remembers the scrape and the grief. What it feels like to need help. What it feels like to find it. So, in 2017, Pokorney established an endowed scholarship for Nebraska Wesleyan students from single-parent households or those without living parents. And the act of giving changed the nature of Pokorney's walks in the woods.

Pokorney grew up on a dairy farm outside Doniphan, Neb. When his father fell to a heart attack, he and his little brother picked up as much of the work as they could, milking cows before and after school. Eventually, their mother was forced to sell the farm. She moved her four children into a three-room house.

"I think my den is bigger than that house," Pokorney said. "But as a kid, I didn't notice. I slept in the same bed as my siblings, we had one bathroom and no space. That's just how it was."

His mother worked as a secretary, cashiered at a pharmacy and washed clothes on the side to keep her family fed. "My mother had more perseverance than you could ever imagine," he said. "I think I inherited some of that."

Perseverance led Pokorney to NWU. He knew a Nebraska Wesleyan education could clear a path to a different life. But he also knew: forging that new path would require rugged work.

Pokorney paid his tuition working tough jobs—moving steel, operating heavy machinery for local farmers, railroad work, and loading flour sacks to send to Vietnam. Often, the workday stretched toward midnight.

As a sophomore, he lost two good friends in Vietnam. Later that year, his 16-year-old brother died in an accident.

He returned to campus two days after his brother's funeral with an ulcer and little time to mourn. He's certain he failed his German final that first day back, but Professor of German **Patricia Rieper** passed him anyway.

The rest of that year remains a blur. But he's as grateful for the Nebraska Wesleyan community that surrounded him

SIZE OF ENDOWMENT:

\$59,403,000

* as of May 31, 2018

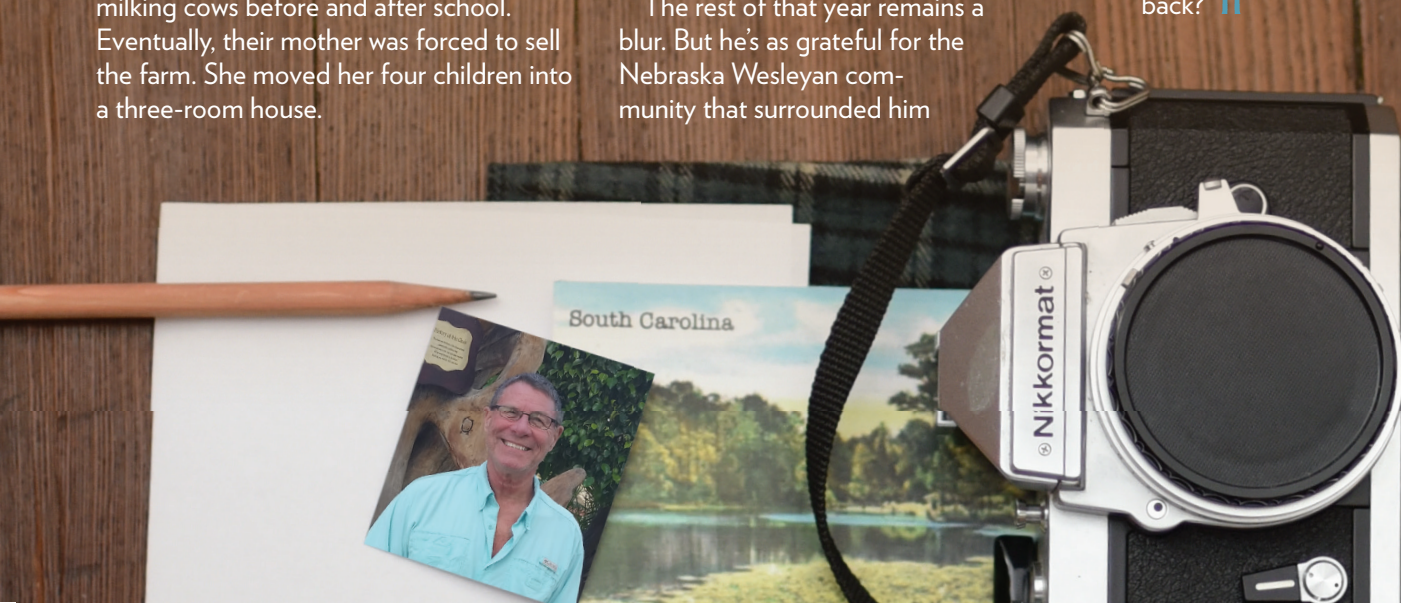
then as he is for the South Carolina woods that surround him now.

"If I had been anywhere besides Wesleyan, I probably wouldn't have come back to school. I'd have dropped out," he said. "But I got through that year because of my professors and fraternity brothers. They supported me like family." Pokorney was a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity.

Pokorney became the first in his family to graduate from college, taking a Nebraska Wesleyan degree in business administration. He then began a 46-year career as an insurance broker, equipping others to withstand the worst. Now, having withstood his share of life's worst, Pokorney walks in the woods and lingers on life's best.

The scholarship he created is rooted in those memories of struggles and triumphs. In this way, his history is shaping the future for NWU students to come.

"As I've evolved spiritually, giving has become an earthly joy," he said. "I mean, isn't the point of life to give something back?" [n](#)



Inflamed from the Start

The human heart swells for extraordinary life.

—By Amanda Broulik

Twelve percent. That number has stuck with Tarryn Tietjen ('16, MBA '18) all her life.

Tietjen has lupus, passed down from her mother and grandmother. She was born almost two weeks late, blue, her brain bleeding; she experienced reflux; her heart pulsed, inflamed from the start.

Doctors gave her a 12 percent chance of

night, her mother demanded help. They left the farm and moved in with Tarryn's grandparents.

Her grandmother's lupus worsened throughout Tietjen's early childhood.

"We were both suffering," Tietjen said. But that didn't stop the young Tietjen from growing. And grandmother and granddaughter came to lean on one another. "When I was doing well, I'd take care of her, and when she was doing well, she would take care of me."

When Tietjen was 7, her grandmother's heart failed and did not sputter back. Tietjen was the last person to hug her. She was 62.

"I realized you never know how long you have," Tietjen said. "I planned to take advantage of every single opportunity I was given."

Now 23, Tietjen hasn't had a flare-up in three years. But her perspective has never changed. "My doctors were right about one thing," she said. "I will never live a normal life. I will live an extraordinary life."

When Tietjen first visited Nebraska Wesleyan, there was something "irresistible" about it. Financial aid and scholarships, including the Dorothy Vorderstrasse Huge Scholarship, made the irresistible possible.

"I was a first-generation college student, so my parents didn't know about the FAFSA [Free Application for Federal Student Aid] or how it impacted the financial aid process," she said. "Tom Ochsner ('92) [director of scholarships and financial aid] walked us through the whole process and became a good family friend."

True to her vow at age 7, Tietjen reached for every opportunity at Nebraska

*Even if this baby survives,
she'll never live a normal life.*

Wesleyan. She declared majors in psychology and communication studies with Professor Karla Jensen's encouragement. She became a writing consultant at the Cooper Center and a resident assistant, helped start the campus Yoga Club, was active in the Psychology Club, and traveled to Estonia with her Network Globally/Act Locally social entrepreneurship class.

She also sat on NWU's Board of Governors as one of its two student members. Dave Hansen ('77) became her mentor on the board.

"At first I was intimidated being among such important people. But then Dave told me, 'We haven't been in college for a long time and we don't know what today's students need or want. You do. So speak up, and speak up loudly.'"

And she did—at board meetings and all over campus. She became a student ambassador and joined the Student Affairs Senate. She shared her life story with donors and friends at NWU's annual Black and Gold dinner.

Tietjen graduated and took a job with PenLink, a Lincoln-based software company. And by August, she was enrolled in NWU's MBA program, taking evening classes after work.

There, she fostered a new passion for "helping people develop into stronger

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229 young alumni donors
(up to 10 years out) gave a
total of \$20,471.

survival. They cautioned her worried parents: Even if this baby survives, she'll never live a normal life.


Her parents arranged an immediate baptism. To hide the needle marks on her scalp, the nurses cut a Styrofoam cup into a tiny crown. They wrote on it: "Queen Tarryn." (Long live the queen.)

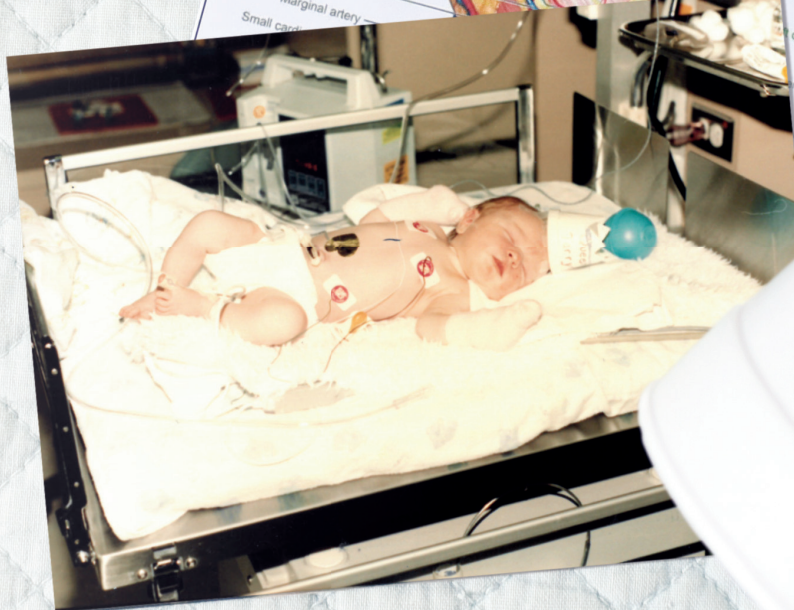
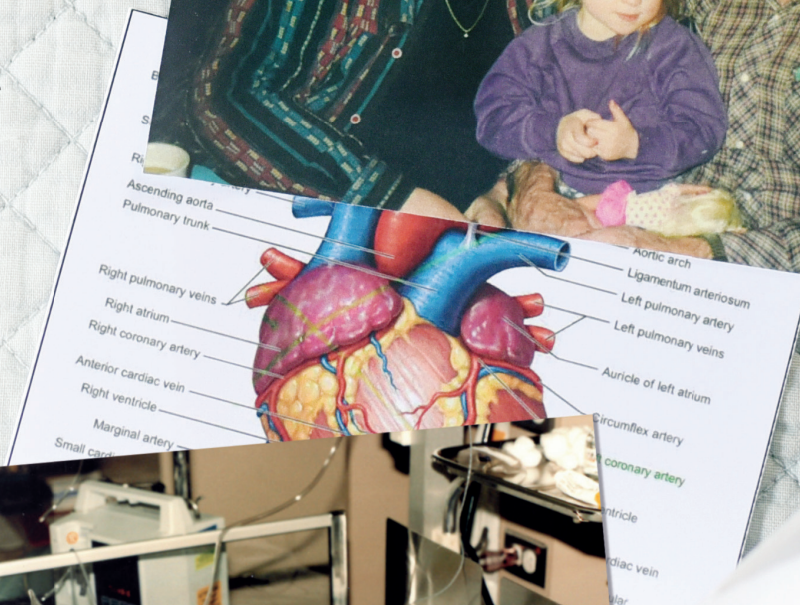
Queen Tarryn didn't die, and was eventually released from the hospital to live at the family farmhouse outside Chester, Neb. She traded her Styrofoam crown for a heart monitor, which she wore for nine months.

One day during that span, Tietjen's heart took an unexcused leave of absence. And for a few horrible moments, the tiny queen was dead. Her mother, alone in the farmhouse, did what she could to resuscitate her baby daughter, and her heart sputtered back. When Tarryn's father came home that

leaders, employees and people in general.” She joined Spreetail, a Lincoln e-commerce company, as a training and development specialist, and was later promoted to a product manager.

As a training specialist, Tietjen was “the first face new employees see when they arrive,” she said. Her goal was “to help them be confident and comfortable here, the way people at Nebraska Wesleyan made me feel when I arrived.”

Tietjen gives back to NWU every year, supporting scholarships through the Archway Fund. “I want to help others believe they can do anything they want to do. There are so many opportunities at Nebraska Wesleyan—so many opportunities in life,” Tietjen said. “I want to be the person who gives you that little push that says, ‘Yeah, you can do that.’ For me, that was Karla Jensen. That was Dave Hansen. That was Tom Ochsner and the Huges. I want to help others overcome the odds and take on the world.” 



Thank you.

Because of you, Nebraska Wesleyan University remains a place where bold teaching and powerful experiences continue to change lives. We're grateful to work each day within a community you make stronger.

For those of you who have already made gifts to NWU, we extend our sincerest thanks. And to those who have not yet invested, we invite you to join us today.

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Photo by Geoff Johnson

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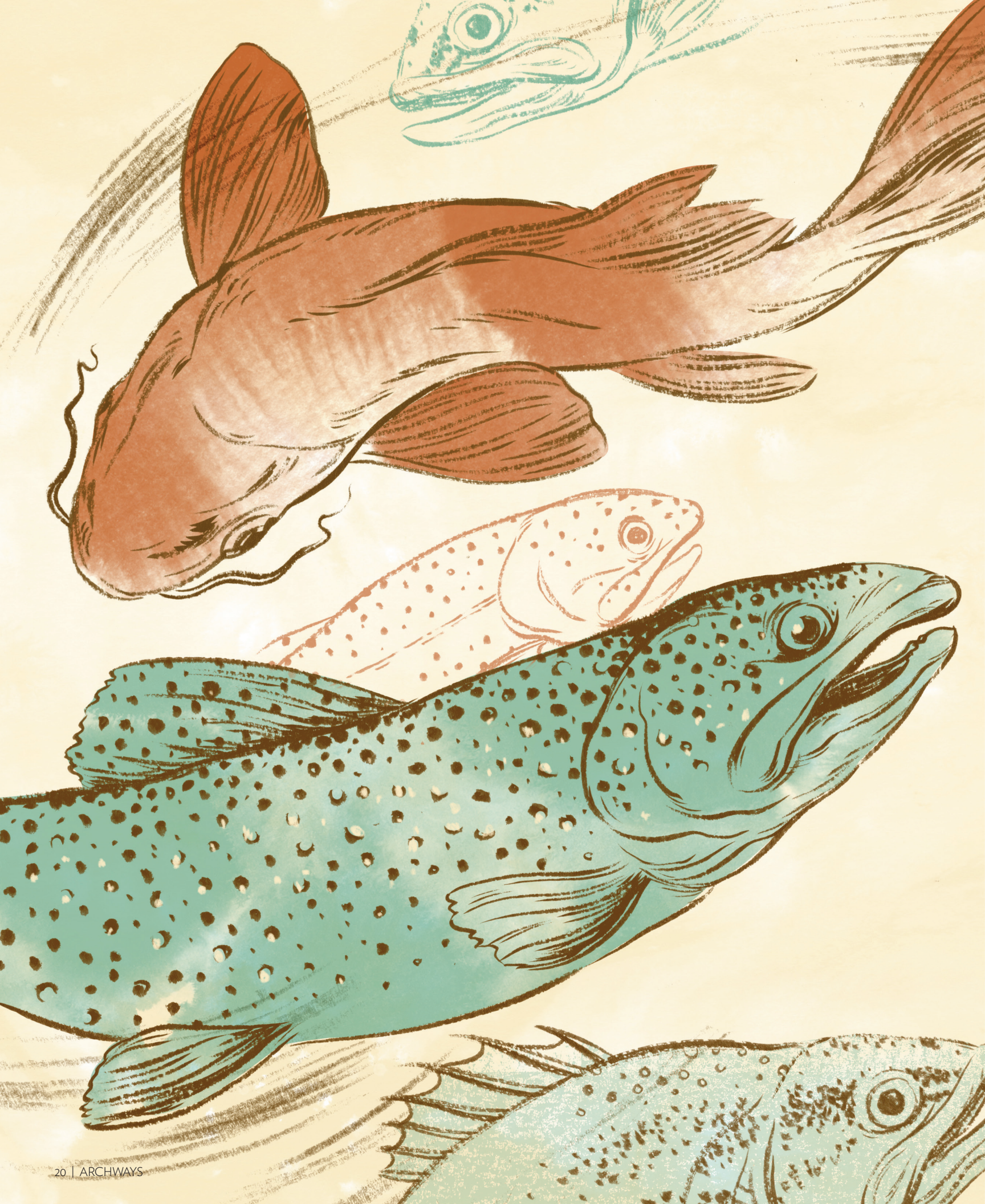


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On Mastery

What does it take to get masterfully good?

—By Eric Wendt ('99)

This spring marks 20 years since I graduated from Nebraska Wesleyan University. I've now spent five times as many days thinking about what I learned here as my professors spent teaching me.

The teachers I grew to love like parents—and even the ones I enjoyed far less—all taught with an easy sharpness I can only call masterful. With nothing more than a book, a chalkboard and a few shrewd questions, they could slice away clutter and help me to see the simple nature of a complicated thing.

One thing these master teachers couldn't seem to teach me, however, was the nature of their mastery. I worked hard to wrap my mind around their fields. I'd plunge my arm into the pools of their disciplines—their psychology, their physics, their rhetoric—and the subjects they grasped so easily would dart, slick as fish, from my hand.

It was maddening, this difference between their easy grasp and my fruitless work. Either they knew a trick they wouldn't share, or they held a talent I'd never touch. And I remember a day in 1997—at the height of my frustration—sitting in a Lucas Hall studio when Professor of Art Lisa Lockman told us a story about mastery. It went like this.

A rich man wanted a sign of his status. So he approached the most highly regarded artist in his country and paid her a tremendous commission for a painting of a fish.

Then the man waited. And waited.

Every time he asked about her progress, the artist called for patience. More than a year passed, and the man grew angry. He returned to her studio and demanded his fish.

"Wait here," the artist said, and returned with a roll of parchment, an inkwell and a brush. She spread the paper on the table before the man and dipped her brush. In a few strokes, the artist rendered a curved and elegant fish. In seconds, it was beautiful.

"Here," said the painter. "I'm finished."

The man was furious. "I paid dearly for this!" he raged. "And I waited more than a year—all so you could take a few swipes of your arm to paint me this ... this ... little fish!" He was red with fury. It was all the man could do not to tear the paper to pieces.

"Follow me," said the artist. She led the man to a narrow door at the studio's back. The painter gestured at the door and said, "Open." The man did, and down spilled a thousand sheets of parchment. The floor at their feet became a sea of flapping, diving, eating, curling, kissing fish. Fish studies of every sort. Some beautiful. Some not. But none as perfect as the one he'd nearly torn.

And the man understood.

Mastery often appears natural—upsettingly effortless. It isn't. In fact, it's upsettingly effortful.

It's helped me to remember that as I

meet and write in this magazine about Nebraska Wesleyan's many high achievers—those staggeringly gifted students, alumni and professors who often make it all look. So. Easy.

"If we can't explain how an athlete, musician, or anyone else has done something jaw-droppingly amazing, we're inclined to throw up our hands," wrote Angela Duckworth in her 2016 book about high achievement, *Grit*. "We default to labeling that person a 'natural.'"

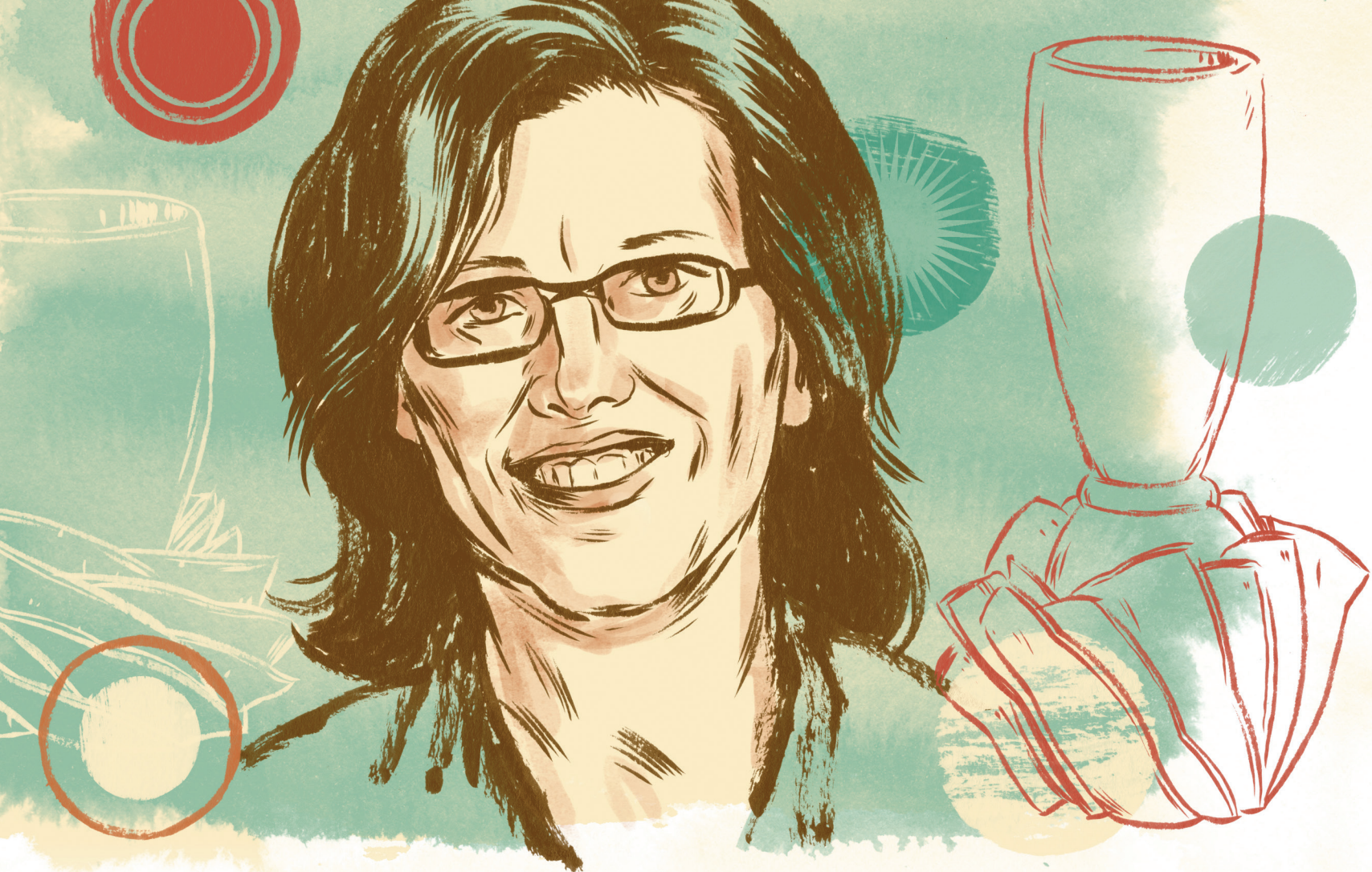
Yes, they're talented, and their talent matters. "But by shining our spotlight on talent," Duckworth said, "we risk leaving everything else in the shadows."

It's inside those shadows, if we train our eyes to see, that we uncover something as beautiful as genius itself. We find grit. Inside the painter's dark pools, entire schools of fish studies flap. In the back of a surgeon's drawer, the tangled threads of a thousand practiced sutures.

It comes to this. I cannot comprehend genius. But you and I do understand effort. We know the value of development. We've been in those shadows ourselves.

It's in that light (or, more accurately, those shadows) that we turn our focus to the hidden efforts Nebraska Wesleyan professors take to master the subjects they teach.

Not all of this effort is "natural genius." It represents, rather, the simple, gritty and dark development onto which all shining mastery hangs.



Lisa Lockman

professor of art

Lisa Lockman's artistic energy has long focused on the ancient more than the high-tech. "For nearly two decades, I have created sculptural vessels loosely influenced by ancient Chinese bronze forms, specifically, the bronze vessels of the Chinese Shang (1700-1000 BCE) and Zhou (1045-221 BCE) dynasties," Lockman said in her artist statement for the Lux Center for the Arts.

She's fascinated by how ancient artists solved problems in their processes, incorporating the byproducts of bronze casting into the pieces themselves. "As the vessels were cast into ceramic piece molds, the molten metal flowed into the joints between the mold pieces and created flat vertical projections," she said. "Instead of removing the unwanted material, ancient artists incorporated the bronze flanges into the design."

For years, Lockman has experimented with similar flanges in her own work, making

them "less ornamental, and instead ... the basis for the form."

Lately, after intense sabbatical work and exchanges with Karen (Karr) Linder ('82) and her company, Tethon 3D, Lockman's ancient focus has taken on a high-tech twist. Lockman's most recent projects have made use of new capabilities in 3D ceramic printing.

Linder showed *Archways* magazine the process of ceramic printing in the summer of 2016. "[Linder's] printer lays down 'sheets' of clay powder, adds a liquid fixative to the precise areas on each sheet where she wants the clay to bond, and builds a three-dimensional form from the base up."

This technology allows for intricacies in design impossible to replicate by hand. Suddenly, Lockman can create forms no Shang or Zhou master ceramicist could ever have hoped to attempt.

So is Lockman's newest work a turn away from the past? Hardly.

Her latest show, "Misplaced 2," uses ceramic printing to explore Lockman's ancestry dating back to the 17th century.

Suddenly, Lockman could create forms no Shang or Zhou master ceramicist could ever have hoped to attempt.

"The title of this show ... comes from testimony of her third great grandmother, Mary Ann Bennington, attempting to prove her marriage to her husband, Stephen O. Lockman, after his death, so she could receive the widow's pension owed her," the Lux Center said in a release. "When she misplaced her marriage certificate, she inadvertently misplaced her identity."

Lockman's small, intricately rendered ceramic discs are her way of reimagining and reprinting the individual identities of her ancestors, most of whom are lost to history. In this way, what is newest in Lockman's work still touches something centuries older.

Karla Jensen

professor of communication studies

Karla Jensen has built herself into an expert on mindfulness in education—a subject that best fits the mold of looking easy while being difficult. Mindfulness, Jensen said, boils down to “paying attention to the present moment as it is.”

Students with a deeper understanding of themselves in the moment are better positioned to integrate the many subjects they study. Philosopher Jiddu Krishnamurti put it this way in 1953: “Education, in the true sense, is the understanding of oneself, for it is within each one of us that the whole of existence is gathered.”

Jensen developed a seminar for first-year students titled: “Be. Here. Now. Mindfulness Theory and Practice.” The course seeks to enhance introspection and concentration to serve students’ academic and personal development.

“So many things in our lives take us out of the present. When we fiddle with these,” Jensen said, touching the smartphone on her desk, “we signal to others that our minds are elsewhere, right? We need to be present with others. We need to let the most important person in the room be someone who’s actually in the room.”

President **Fred Ohles** called Jensen’s work “a model of what the institution intends for its students. It directs them toward meaningful lives by equipping them with the intellectual and emotional tools to achieve full maturity.”

The United Methodist Church’s General Board of Higher Education and Ministry is also mindful of Jensen’s impact. The organization gave her one of its two national 2018 Cutting-Edge Curriculum Awards, which carries a \$4,000 stipend for advancing her course development work.

She and her husband, Assistant Dean of Faculty and Curriculum **Travis Jensen**, have also traveled extensively in Germany and Austria on behalf of NWU, engaging with every International Student Exchange Program (ISEP) member school in both countries. Their sabbatical work identified ISEP schools with curricula and cultures that best complemented Nebraska Wesleyan’s.

Where in Austria and Germany would NWU students be most likely to thrive? Which schools are most likely to produce students who’d shine at NWU? The Jensen’s legwork has helped both American and European students to answer those questions.

The relationships they forged with leaders at Katholische Universität Eichstätt-Ingolstadt, most notably with Prof. Heiner Böttger, led to an exciting new partnership with Nebraska Wesleyan. This year, Katholische Universität Eichstätt-Ingolstadt became NWU’s fifth official “sister school,” joining institutions in Estonia, Japan, Mexico and the U.K.





James Schaffer

professor of journalism

James Schaffer called it in early 2016. He looked at the media climate and the mood of the electorate. And he said, “Donald Trump’s going to win this thing.”

His friends were skeptical. He bet a colleague dinner. And the journalism professor watched the news for trends beyond presidential politics.

He was watching when Greg Gianforte, a candidate for Congress, punched a reporter over a question about health care spending. (Gianforte won that House seat.)

Schaffer watched as rhetoric about “fake news” grew hotter, framing journalists as “enemies of the people.” And he watched with grief when news broke that a mass shooter had targeted journalists at an Annapolis, Md., newspaper, killing five.

How do you teach the value of free speech and the press in this volatile environment?

“You make comparisons,” Schaffer said. “You look at how [free speech issues] have played out in other places.” For instance, history has shaped Germans’ approach to speech, he said. “Hate-speech laws in Germany are much stronger. You can be jailed for speech about Nazis.”

And he pointed to Chile, where he’s done sabbatical research on media. He called Chile “an old country and a baby democracy. They’re rebuilding their constitution from scratch” after years of dictatorship under Augusto Pinochet.

Chile’s equivalent to freedom of expression is what Schaffer called “a constitutional right to communication.” Chileans want to protect both speech and access, so authorities can’t shut down a radio station or newspaper to stop access to critical reporting.

In Chile, one of the many journalists Schaffer interviewed was Juanita Olivares, who worked at a resistance magazine during the Pinochet era. “She and most of her colleagues at the magazine had been detained and questioned, but one had been murdered,” Schaffer said. “She couldn’t sleep for a year.”

Interest in journalism hasn’t been higher in Schaffer’s 28 years at NWU. “Our news reporting class has a long waiting list,” he said. “That’s new.”

Schaffer used to see students too immersed in their studies to pay much attention to current events. “Not now. They’re very clued in. But it’s filtered by their news feeds. So it’s just Fox, or it’s just the *New York Times*.”

The work, he said, comes in teaching students to expand their news diets, so they can make judgments about what they’re seeing. It’s a skill Schaffer crossed continents to master himself.





Melissa Erdmann

professor of mathematics

"Mathematics is beautiful," Melissa Erdmann's online bio begins, "and I like learning about various and sundry areas of it."

Her vast curiosity has made Nebraska Wesleyan her ideal home since 2001. The world seen through Erdmann's eyes is full of intricate mathematical connections. She sees no aspect of reality untouched by numbers.

You can see that reach in the wild diversity of her study.

In the field of medical imaging, Erdmann has contributed to research at Colorado State University in electrical impedance tomography (EIT). She described EIT this way: "Electrodes are placed on the skin of a patient [along a single plane]. An alternating current, which the patient cannot feel, is applied ... and the surface voltages that result are then measured. We use this boundary data to approximate the conductivity distribution within the plane of the electrodes. Since the heart is more conductive than the lungs, for example, we are able to distinguish these organs."

While the resulting images are less precise than other scans, EIT does present advantages. "Unlike X-rays and CT scans, EIT uses no ionizing radiation," Erdmann said. "EIT is low-cost and portable, so it may be done at a patient's bedside."

Her research with CSU professor Jennifer Mueller is part of "a continual quest to improve the resolution of the images."

Sabbatical study at University College Dublin involved mathematical research on Irish voting methods. This work led Erdmann to develop a new Nebraska Wesleyan course: "Mathematics and Democracy." The course is a valuable contribution to NWU's Archway Curriculum, which includes a thread of interdisciplinary courses exploring the topic of democracy.

In the field of mathematical ecology, Erdmann partnered with Eric Merten, a fish biologist with the U.S. Forest Service, to create a clearer understanding of the role that submerged wood plays in stream and fish health.

"Wood performs many important ecosystem functions in streams," Erdmann and Merten wrote, "such as ... creating overhead cover and habitat complexity for fish, and providing a stable substrate for invertebrates and biofilms."

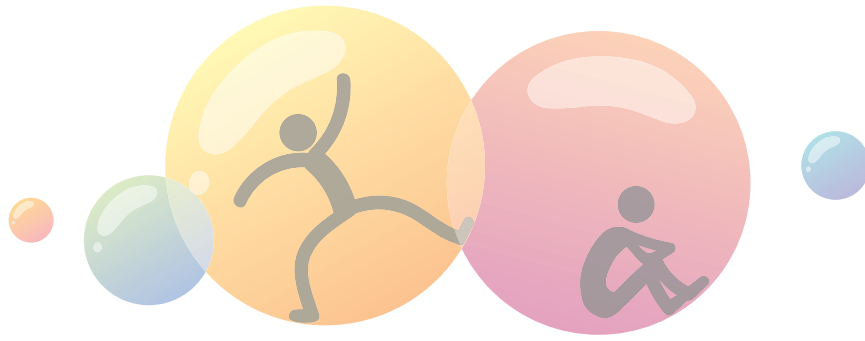
Accurate estimates of the amount of submerged wood in a stream improve our ability to understand the stream's ecological health. Erdmann and Merten "investigated how calculus can be used to determine" submerged wood volumes.

As distinct as these research projects are, they have more than an eclectic researcher in common. Whether Erdmann's work supports medicine, political science or biology, she's using math to improve health: She's advancing healthier people, healthier democracies and healthier streams.

This semester, Erdmann is off campus, teaching as a visiting professor of mathematics at the Colorado School of Mines. Given her history of eclectic math research, there's no telling where her newest partnerships will take her next. But we're confident it'll prove to be a healthy adventure. [n](#)

CAMPAIGN CONNECTION:

We believe in the gritty work our professors do to master the vital subjects they teach. That's why Bold Designs increases NWU's investment in faculty development. Want to help NWU's high performers?



The Habits of Heart and Mind

Can the American university help salvage American civility?

Debra Mashek ('97) wasn't in the market for a new job. She was content as a psychology professor on the tenure track at Harvey Mudd College—one of the country's premier STEM-oriented liberal arts institutions in sunny Claremont, Calif. And if that weren't sunny enough, Mashek was actually on vacation just then, relaxing on a Costa Rican beach.

She was listening to the waves tumble in when her phone pinged. Mashek recalled with a little exasperation the memory of fishing through her bag for her phone. "What was I doing even checking my email on the beach?"

The ping was a position description. There was an opening at an academic alliance she was involved with. The Heterodox Academy was looking for its first full-time executive director—a leader to drive the organization's mission to increase viewpoint diversity at American universities.

Mashek scrolled through the job description and pressed her toes into the sand. "My heart started racing," she said. "I read on and thought, 'Oh my gosh, I want to do that!' It was like the sun shined brighter and the sea sparkled more."

Still, the thought of leaving Harvey Mudd College made her uncomfortable. She loved almost everything about HMC—her students most of all. It was one of Mashek's students who came upon the job opening, thought of her, and sent the link. (You know it's a special school when students help their professors with career development.)

*What upset them
was absolutely a good
conversation to have.
But we're walking out
of those conversations
because they're difficult.*

She asked herself, "Can I imagine leaving this dream job?" Everything about her professional life in Claremont was so ... comfortable.

But for Mashek, another question arose: How comfortable was she with that?

The era of outrage

Discomfort was what initially led Mashek to the Heterodox Academy. Some small tensions she felt in her classrooms—she called them "little eggshell moments"—resonated with larger fissures she'd heard crackling on the national level.

"You hear about these big splashdowns on campuses." Mashek described a gender panel that slipped off the rails at a school in the Pacific Northwest. The panel was asked about biological gender differences, and a male panelist responded by contrasting the ways males and females generally distribute

bodyfat. His answer proved provocative enough to send several students walking out in angry protest.

Mashek read about it and exhaled. "I thought, 'Really?' That was enough to make you remove yourself from the learning space?"

The offended students weren't done. They protested in his classes, disrupting his lectures. "I just can't imagine trying to teach or learn in that space," she said.

Mashek made clear she wasn't angry with the students' anger. "What upset them was absolutely a good conversation to have," she said. "But we're walking out of those conversations because they're difficult." It's as if our culture has decided it's easier to be outraged than it is to be uncomfortable.

Nebraska Wesleyan's Assistant Professor of Political Science Kelly Clancy is no stranger to uncomfortable classroom discussions. She talks about politics for a living.

"I've been thinking about the role that being uncomfortable plays in learning," Clancy told her faculty colleagues at a panel on fostering inclusive classrooms. Uncomfortable moments can be powerful teaching opportunities, she said, if a professor has the wherewithal to use them. Occasionally, that ability requires you to scoop your jaw off the floor and respond, even when you'd rather pretend that what someone just said never happened.

She described to her colleagues an unusual classroom moment when a student said something at once racist, homophobic



Illustrations by Hannah Segura (19)

and morally Machiavellian—a perfect hat-trick of classroom discomfort. Clancy was shocked in the moment; she groped for a way to respond with something other than a primal scream. “And I remembered something [Professor of Religion and Philosophy] **Rita Lester** told me. ‘When you’re stuck and you don’t know what to do, make them write about it.’”

Her audience laughed, and Lester chimed in. “It works! It gives you time to think!” It does the same for every student in the room.

Clancy said there’s value in refusing to disengage—in resisting the desire to let something slide so a false comfort might settle back in. She encouraged her colleagues to always value teaching above tranquility.

Our desire to disengage from speech that makes us uncomfortable is as old as desire itself. But the college campus has long been where that tendency is interrupted, examined and reversed.

Conservative columnist Jennifer Rubin held that American universities have lost their touch in this regard. “We should address politics with some humility, with gradualism,” Rubin told *democracyjournal.org*. She no longer sees that happening on college campuses.

Rubin’s gradualism is something Associate Professor of History **Kevin Bower** called “slow-thinking civil discourse.” He said, “It’s the opposite of what you see on cable television where you begin with your conclusion,

We are secluding ourselves in ideological ghettos.

then shout about why you’re right.” With Bower’s model, you talk about an issue and lay out the evidence that shapes your thoughts. Then you walk with humility toward the conclusions you’ve drawn.

It’s a humble mode for teaching political topics that Rubin has given up for dead. And she mourns the loss. She said, “That sensibility was not instilled and taught and updated, and so it died. And what replaced it was this loud, coarse, aggressive echo chamber.”

Those echoes have reverberated across American culture, as the late U.S. Senator John McCain of Arizona described in his 2018 memoir, *The Restless Wave*:

“We are secluding ourselves in ideological ghettos We exchange ideas mostly or exclusively with people who agree with us, and troll those who don’t. Increasingly, we have our own facts to reinforce our convictions and any empirical evidence that disputes them is branded as ‘fake.’ That’s a social trend that is going to be very hard to turn around.”

A comeback for civility?

While Mashek joins Rubin and McCain in sounding the alarm, she doesn’t share Rubin’s fatalism. “I don’t think we’re doomed,” she said. Higher education’s classic sensibility about the interplay of competing ideas is far from dead. But Mashek believes it needs redeveloping on American campuses.

“To get us back to fulfilling that ideal of college as a place of diversity and discovery, we need to take seriously what we’re seeing,” she said. “We need to focus on our own development as teachers who connect our students to the whole spectrum of valid viewpoints in our subjects.”

Professor of Communication Studies **Patty Hawk** agreed. “It’s our job to give students the tools they need to handle new ideas. Raising provocative issues—that’s what we do here. And we need to keep doing it in a way that invites dialogue with our students.”

Mashek’s seriousness about viewpoint diversity led her to make an uncomfortable leap. She took a leave of absence from Harvey Mudd College to direct the Heterodox Academy. She now heads “a politically diverse group of more than 1,800 professors and graduate students who have come together to improve ... universities by increasing viewpoint diversity, mutual understanding and constructive disagreement.”

For disagreement to be constructive, the participants need to be comfortable being challenged. And for most people,



that comfort doesn't come naturally. It must be honed. Clancy drew a parallel with the discomforts of adolescence. "Every one of us survived middle school," she said. "We can make it through the uncomfortable moments we find here, too."

And Mashek drew another parallel with athletics, an arena where we seem to have an easier time accepting that growth requires resistance. "Don't take the weights from the weight room," Mashek said of American classrooms.

"Outside your comfort level—that's where all the magic happens."

Give me all the colors

Prioritizing viewpoint diversity is the soundest way for professors to bring that magic back, Mashek contended.

"We have to signal to our students that there are other ways to view the issues we tackle in class, and here is how you can find more of that," she said. "It's an argument for why you don't want your entire faculty thinking the same way."

She described a healthy campus as a place where a professor can sit with a

Outside your comfort level—that's where all the magic happens.

student in her office and discuss an issue in depth—then direct them to a colleague next door to get an entirely different perspective on that same issue. The goal is never to bring a student to "your side." It's always to equip that student with everything needed to see the issue independently and in full.

As a historian, Bower wants his students to adopt his habits of mind—not his opinions. That means laying out how he seeks evidence, uses reason and logic and values experience.

"I want theirs to be a responsible opinion," Bower said. Equipped with that responsibility, Bower's students are then liberated to move boldly in any direction they choose.


"If you give me brushes and a palette with warm colors," Mashek said, "I know I can create something lovely. But if you give me all the colors, then I have the whole range of outcomes available to me."

Our investments in colorful teaching pay off, Mashek said, in the form of students equipped to accomplish more.

Students who learn in heterodox environments are braver for having been routinely challenged from multiple directions. They

become bolder in their willingness to challenge others with both sharpness and civility. They grow wiser for having deeply contemplated the effects of their actions on people unlike themselves. They're even funnier for their quick understanding of how their words resonate with others. And, most importantly, they're more effective at solving the world's "wicked problems"—because they simply don't care which tribe owns the tools that work best.

To the students of heterodoxy, a good idea is a good idea. And they'll follow it, doggedly, wherever it leads.

"The best campuses are the ones that give everyone—students, professors, staff and administrators—the tools we need to engage across difference," Mashek said. "I believe we owe it to ourselves and our students to foster the very best habits of heart and mind—to build those habits that make us kinder, wiser and more civil." 

CAMPAIGN CONNECTION:

Bold Designs supports faculty development, further strengthening viewpoint diversity at NWU.



What Makes a Pool Fast?

Find the physics of fast swimming.

Back in March, All-American **Garrett Cadotte** ('18) swam in three events at the NCAA III National Swimming and Diving Championships in Indianapolis, Ind. In all three, Cadotte set life-time bests, beating his own school records. And in the 100 fly, he came within a whisker (0.01 seconds) of a national championship.

NWU's head swimming coach, **Greg Fleming**, said the bulk of Cadotte's success at that meet rested on the ferocity of his training. But it wasn't like Cadotte had only then discovered the value of training hard. He'd been hitting the pool like a beast since high school. What made Indianapolis the meet of Cadotte's life?

"He was also in a faster pool," said Fleming.

Hold on. What do you mean, "a faster pool"?

"A pool's a lot more than a glorified bathtub," Fleming explained. "When water sloshes around like in a tub, each stroke is less effective. Swimmers need still water—or at least slow water—to get the best 'grip' on their strokes."

The deader the water, the livelier the swimming. And when it comes to deadening water, not all pools are created equal.

Deep thoughts on pool dynamics

Deeper = faster

Shallow pools let more energy reflect off the floor and disrupt the surface. And in pools with a shallow end, energy waves reverberating through the deeper water will be amplified as depth decreases—just like you'd see in a tsunami.



Side-slap = bad

Gutter design plays a big role in determining whether waves die or bounce back after hitting the pool's edges. Deep gutters can "eat" more displaced water and quell the slap-back that dials up turbulence.



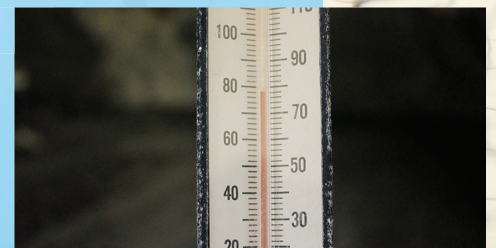
Rope it off

Bulkier lane ropes do more to limit surface turbulence.



Not too hot ... not too cold ...

Water temperature also affects athletic performance. Too hot, and swimmers can overheat or get drowsy. Too cold, and their muscles can't warm up properly. The sweet spot seems to be around 78 degrees.



Just breathe

Air quality is an often-overlooked factor in swimming performance. Poor HVAC systems can result in humid air, especially at pool-level (where racers draw their every breath). That thick, clammy air can negatively affect swimmers' endurance.



Photos by Allison Woods ('20)

American Rivers Conference Keeps Current with New Name

One of the most storied athletic conferences in NCAA Division III has a new identity. As of August 9, the Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic Conference is now the American Rivers Conference.

The new name was necessitated in part by the 2016 addition of Nebraska Wesleyan University—the first member institution outside the state of Iowa. But the change fits the conference's increasingly national footing. At some member schools, more than two out of three student-athletes come from outside Iowa.



“Boldly asserting ‘American’ shows that our rosters and general student bodies already include young people from all over the country and will continue to do so,” said conference commissioner Chuck Yrigoyen.

With NCAA III crowns in wrestling (Wartburg) and men's basketball (NWU), it's clear that conference student-athletes' goals flow beyond Iowa's borders.

The source of the American Rivers Conference stretches back to 1922. And Nebraska Wesleyan's 2016 arrival has already added to the current.

From Big Red to Black and Gold

Fungai Tongoona named NWU women's tennis coach.

In mid-July, NWU Athletics introduced **Fungai Tongoona** as the next head coach of a proud women's tennis program. He takes the position following the retirement of Dr. Rick Harley, whose career as men's and women's head tennis coach included a 146-34 league record and 13 conference championships.



Photo by Lauren Andes (21)

Fungai Tongoona

Tongoona comes to Nebraska Wesleyan from the University of Nebraska, where he served for six years as assistant men's tennis coach and associate head coach. His team earned Nebraska's 2016 Herman Team GPA Award. The 2003 UNL graduate was a two-year captain for the Huskers, earning Academic All-Big 12 honors as a senior.

Bonilla, Dyson Tapped to Lead Men's, Women's Soccer

Nebraska Wesleyan University's men's and women's soccer programs both date back to the fall of 1993. The sibling programs share more than a birthday. They share the same home field and an almost identical all-time winning percentage. And, since 2009, the two programs have shared a single head coach.

That changes this year with the hiring of **Brandon Bonilla** as head men's soccer coach and **Jen Dyson** as head women's soccer coach. The hirings are part of Nebraska Wesleyan's growing investment in coaching. Their arrivals mark the first time in school history that NWU has employed two full-time soccer coaches.

Last season, Bonilla was an assistant coach for both programs under **Tudor Flintham**, who left to become head men's soccer



Brandon Bonilla, Jen Dyson



coach at Gustavus Adolphus in Saint Peter, Minn. The 11 wins the men posted in 2017 were NWU's most in the one-coach era.

“We had a great run last season and accomplished some things that haven't been done here in a long time,” Bonilla said. “I am looking forward to continuing that progress.”

Dyson comes to Nebraska Wesleyan from Westminster College in Fulton, Mo.,

where she had served as head women's soccer coach since 2009. At Westminster, she inherited a program with just one winning season in 10 years. She developed the Blue Jays into a conference champion and NCAA III tournament qualifier with four consecutive winning seasons.

Dyson's arrival in Lincoln is a homecoming. She is a graduate of Lincoln Southeast High School.

With both head coaches in place, both teams turn their focus to winning NWU soccer's first conference championship since 2006.

CAMPAIGN CONNECTION:

Bold Designs invests in great coaching to advance the student experience.

Photos by Lauren Andes (21)

Student Pride

Prestige scholars and awards



Cook Is NCAA III's Top Student-athlete

Cooper Cook ('19) has grown pretty accustomed to winning. In March, the junior forward from Overland Park, Kan., lifted the men's basketball NCAA III national championship trophy. He was also named the NCAA tournament MVP.

Then the accounting major took home the NCAA Elite 90 Award as the student-athlete with the highest GPA competing at the NCAA championship.

Cook was a shoo-in as an Academic All-American, and was quickly voted the men's basketball Academic All-American of the Year. He still wasn't done. Cook was then named the NCAA III overall Academic All-American of the Year—a distinction given to the most outstanding student-athlete in all sports at the NCAA III level. He is the first NWU student-athlete to receive this distinction.

"I'm extremely honored and humbled to be selected for such a prestigious award," Cook said. "I feel very proud and lucky to represent a national championship team that not only values success on the court, but also takes pride in being successful in the classroom every day."

Middle-distance Runner Is NCAA Postgraduate Scholar

An 11-time all-conference track & field student-athlete was named a 2018 NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship winner. **Tanner Dewey** ('17) is using his \$7,500 NCAA scholarship as a physical therapy student at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Dewey was an Academic All-American as a senior as well as an NCAA III All-American on the 2017 indoor 4x400 relay and a 2016 GPAC champion in the 800. He is Nebraska Wesleyan's 57th NCAA Postgraduate Scholar. NWU ranks sixth across all NCAA divisions and third in NCAA III in total scholarships won since 2001.





NWU Alumna Enters Medical School as Phi Kappa Phi Fellow

Carly Wahlmeier ('18) graduated in May with a major in biology and a minor in chemistry. She swam for NWU, participated in the Pre-health Club and was an active member of the TriBeta National Honor Society, the Society of Scholars, Phi Kappa Phi and the Student-athlete Advisory Committee.

And in June, she was named a Phi Kappa Phi fellow. Phi Kappa Phi is the nation's oldest and most selective multidisciplinary collegiate honor society. She is one of 51 fellows in 2018. The fellowship provides \$5,000 for graduate or professional school.

Wahlmeier's fellowship will apply to her

study this fall as a medical student at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Men's Swimming Tallies First Academic All-American

Nebraska Wesleyan University's 171st Google Cloud/CoSIDA Academic All-American is its first swimmer: **Carter Lyons** ('19). Lyons is a physics and mathematics double major from Lincoln. He holds a perfect 4.0 GPA.

As a junior, Lyons was named to the Liberal Arts All-Championship Team in six events, and was part of three championship relay teams. Individually, he was the Liberal Arts Championships runner-up in the

200 IM and placed third in the 100 free.

Nebraska Wesleyan University is eighth nationally in all divisions for total Academic All-Americans.

Siblings, Teammates and National Champions Are Now Academic All-Americans

Elizabeth ('19) and Kaylee ('19) Jones were born twin sisters. Not much choice involved there. But they chose to be track & field teammates when they both picked Nebraska Wesleyan University out of Omaha's Millard North High School in 2015.

They worked their way onto Coach Ted Bulling's ('80) 4x400 relay team, where their



Photo by Lane Hickenbottom



intensity of focus helped yield five straight NCAA III indoor and outdoor national championships.

That same focus has now brought them a pair of honors to put alongside their combined 10 national championships. In June, the student-athletes were named Nebraska Wesleyan's 172nd and 173rd Google Cloud/CoSIDA Academic All-Americans.

Both sisters were named first-team Academic All-Americans. Both are exercise science majors. And the twins' GPAs are, well, identical at 3.92.

This is the fourth straight season that NWU's women's track & field and cross country programs have produced Academic All-Americans.

Gilman Scholarships Take Two Seniors Abroad

Megan Canfield ('19), (top) and Ria Shome ('19) (above right) have received Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarships for study abroad this fall semester.

Canfield, a math and religion and philosophy double major from Grand Island, Neb., is studying at the University of Tartu in Estonia. She has also studied in Toronto as part of Canada's Encounter World Religions Conference. She plans to attend law school after graduation.

Shome is a biology and modern language studies double major from Overland Park, Kan. She's studying at the Universidad del Salvador in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Last summer, Shome traveled to Guatemala with

Nebraska Wesleyan's Global Service Learning student organization to build homes for the nonprofit, Construa Casa. She plans to attend graduate school and work in environmental sustainability.

Canfield and Shome's Gilman Scholarships bring Nebraska Wesleyan's total awards since the program's 2001 inception to 48.



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MYSTERY PHOTOS

You Have the Floor ...

This 1964 Johnson Hall floor meeting was held, fittingly, on the floor. Can you help us take roll?

Send your responses to:

Eric Wendt
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ewendt@nebrwesleyan.edu

MYSTERY PHOTO REVEALED



Faceoff Faces Unmasked

Period costumes weren't enough to hide the identities of several people here.

I actually don't know any of the people in the Mystery Photos in the summer 2018 *Archways* except my dad, **Leon Satterfield**. He's second from the left standing in the faculty photo, and uncharacteristically wearing a bowtie, which almost made me not recognize him! I love him and miss him every day!

—**Amy Satterfield** ('83)
Fort Collins, Colo.

How fun! I helped **Phyllis Blanke** costume this photo shoot, which featured mostly theatre and art majors. The people I recognize in historic costume include **Leon Satterfield**, **Will Mitchell** ('91), **T. J. Hesser** ('90), **Ken Sieg** ('67) and **Brad Anderson** ('90). On the student side, I see **Cordelia Willis** ('91), **Kim Jacobs** ('91), **Will Mitchell** ('90), **Ashley Phillips** ('93), **Laura England** ('91) and **Geoffrey Chenoweth** ('94).

—**Joan Korte** ('90)
Lincoln



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Honorees

Accepting thanks from Board of Governors chair, Susan Gourley and President Fred Ohles are this year's honorees.



Katie Weitz



Ardyth Rost ('84) and Cheryl Zimmerman ('87)



Greg ('71) and Diann Bergt



Cori Sampson Vokoun and Dan Vokoun



NWU Dreams in *BLACK* and GOLD



Nebraska Wesleyan gives thanks for dreams come true.

The Black & Gold banquet on September 6 was Nebraska Wesleyan's equivalent of Thanksgiving dinner, said **John Greving**, vice president for advancement and the evening's emcee. This annual event is an opportunity for NWU's most generous donors to come together and see the impact of their gifts. It's also an opportunity for NWU to give thanks.

"We're here to celebrate you," Greving said. "Every institutional success, student achievement, faculty award, national championship win, and inspiring story is possible because of you. You are the reason we can be bold in all we do. And you are the reason why the future looks so promising."

Professor of Communication Studies **Karla Jensen** spoke about her award-winning research on mindfulness. She said that mindfulness

cultivates many vital attributes in our students, including gratitude. She thanked guests for their support, which allows NWU faculty to learn, research, travel and explore new ways of teaching.

During the night's final speech, President **Fred Ohles** called each person in the audience "a dreamcatcher"—catching good dreams and bestowing them upon NWU and each of its students. Those dreams have touched every part of Bold Designs: The Campaign for Nebraska Wesleyan University—scholarships, faculty support, premier learning spaces and student experiences.

By making bold dreams come true, Nebraska Wesleyan's supporters make every day a thanksgiving.



1. Bob ('51) and Dolores ('52) Dunn, 2. Hon. John Gerrard ('76), 3. Laurie Sieg ('67), 4. Marty White and Eloise Kloefkorn, 5. Phyllis Acklie and Fred Ohles, 6. Barbara Greving and Rosemary Ohles, 7. Jim and Karen ('82) Linder, 8. Cheryl Chandler and Deb Motzer, 9. Todd Duncan ('88), Susan Gourley and Robert Duncan, 10. Former Nebraska Senator Ben Nelson, 11. Larry Ruth ('67), 12. Neal ('89) and Michelle ('91) Lyons, Sam Trafholz ('20) and Kate Richerson ('19), 13. Karla Koval ('82) and Liana Sandin ('81)

Calendar

Mark your calendar for these alumni events. All are welcome.
Contact Shelley McHugh (91) for details at smchugh@nebrwesleyan.edu or 402.465.2123.

December 1-5

NWU theatre presents: A Christmas Carol

NWU shakes up its Christmas tradition this year with a 60-minute adaptation enjoyed by all but written for children grade 6 and younger. Tickets for this show in Miller Theatre are just \$2. See nebrwesleyan.edu/theatre-tickets for tickets and show times.



Illustration by Angela Hatcher

OCTOBER



Photo by Chris Smithberg

19, 20 NWU volleyball

With just four home matches in 2018, NWU will play half its home schedule in a 24-hour period. NWU takes on Luther at 7:30 p.m. on October 19 and Coe on October 20 at 5 p.m.



Photo by Chris Smithberg

27 NWU cross country

Lincoln's Pioneer's Park is home to the first women's and men's cross country championships held under the American Rivers Conference name. Action starts at 11 a.m.

NOVEMBER

1, 15 NWU nursing scholarship events

Working nurses can receive a \$100 scholarship toward a BSN, MSN, MSN/MBA or MSN to MBA Bridge by attending one of these events. The Lincoln event is in Great Hall at 6 p.m. on November 1. The Omaha event is in the courtyard at 14040 FNB Parkway at 6 p.m. on November 15. For details and to RSVP, go to nebrwesleyan.edu/RSVP-nursing.



8 NWU theatre presents: Come Back to the 5 & Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean

Rebels of all stripes will revel in the opening of this Texas drama set inside a Jimmy Dean fan club. The show opens at 7:30 p.m. at the Studio Theatre. See nebrwesleyan.edu/theatre-tickets for a full listing of show times.

DECEMBER



5 Lincoln holiday open house

Alumni and friends celebrate the holidays at the Country Club of Lincoln at 6 p.m.

10-14 Final exams

For NWU students, the key to a happy holiday is a successful week of final exams. Wish them the best.

18 Omaha holiday open house

Omaha-area alumni and friends gather for the holidays at Lauritzen Gardens at 6 p.m.



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