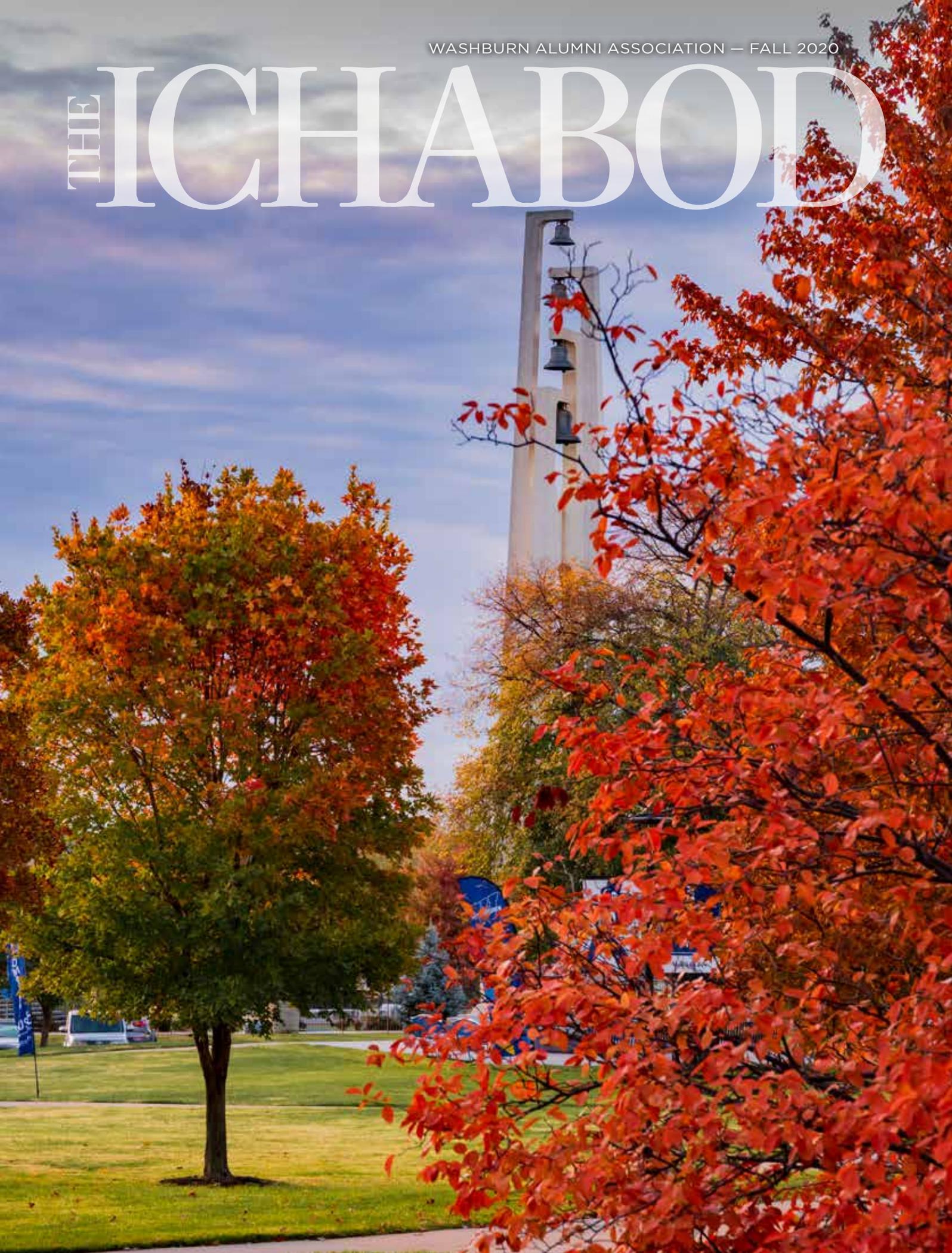


WASHBURN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION — FALL 2020

THE ICHABOD







6

On the cover:

For the first time in four years, the Kuehne Bell Tower chimed this fall. Dr. James Hurd, Jim and Kathy Maag and others generously gave to repair the bells, and the Dr. James Hurd Family established a fund for the upkeep and ongoing maintenance of it. *Photo by Jeremy Wangler*



Features

6

Traditional Washburn students and prison inmates learn together and see how much they have in common in new program

16

Radiation therapist Kelsey Alford hasn't let a dystonia diagnosis stop her from reaching goals while helping others feel comfortable during their times of medical need

18

Michael Ryan voices his opinion about difficult topics like COVID-19 and the upcoming election as editorial writer for the Kansas City Star

24

Kyle Hinton proved many wrong when he became an All-America linemen at Washburn, and he'll look to prove himself again in the NFL



16



24

THE ICHABOD STAFF

Jeremy Wangler
assistant director of marketing and communications
The Ichabod editor
jwangler@wualumni.org

Susie Hoffmann, bba '87
director, Alumni Association
susie@wualumni.org

Danielle Smith
communications specialist, graphics

Sarah Towle, ba '07
director, marketing and communications

Emma Wittmer
communications assistant

CONTRIBUTORS

Dena Anson, ba '01
marketing assistant, Washburn Tech

Gene Cassell
assistant athletic director for communications

Annie Flachsbarth, ba '07
freelance

Angela Lutz
freelance

Chris Marshall, ba '09
freelance

Joy Smith
assistant director, athletic communications

Photography:
Doug Stremel

IN EVERY ISSUE

- 2 From the President
- 4 Campus News
- 12 Alumni News
- 24 Sports
- 29 Class Notes
- 32 In Memory

CONTACT US

Your news, thoughts and questions are important to us. Please write, telephone or send us an email. News of jobs, honors, weddings, anniversaries and births are always welcome. Please include your name, class year, address and daytime phone number.

Address: 1710 SW Jewell Ave., Topeka, KS 66621
Telephone: 785.670.1641
Email: contactus@wualumni.org
Website: www.wualumni.org



From the President

This was certainly a summer like no other at Washburn. We reconfigured our campus and classrooms. We adjusted our coursework to fit new teaching modalities. We listened to health experts and followed regulations concerning COVID-19. When Aug. 17 came, I was encouraged and inspired by the students choosing to continue their education at Washburn University. With options to take classes in person or virtually, Ichabods are set up for success as we navigate this pandemic and rebound from it. The stories in this edition of *The Ichabod* give us hope for a turn toward a prosperous future.

You will see that when you read the article on the Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program. We taught this fascinating class last spring in the Topeka Correctional Facility, enrolling incarcerated females and our traditional college students. They quickly learned just how much they have in common. Inmates were treated as equals by their professor and classmates, and anytime we can be a part of a connection like that, we are transforming lives. We plan on teaching this course again when the pandemic is no longer a factor.

We also feature the master of accountancy program, a degree we started offering in 2013 to better prepare students to take the CPA exam. This is just one example of our programs that meet the changing needs of the workforce, and our School of Business faculty do a tremendous job connecting students with employers, leading to job offers for many before they even graduate.

You will also read about a Washburn University Institute of Technology cosmetology graduate for the first time since the program started in 2016. Dawson Hiegert earned his certificate and moved to New York City to work with big-name stylists in the industry. Kyle Hinton's hard work on the field and in the weight room earned him a contract with the Minnesota Vikings, and we look forward to seeing his football career unfold. Rosie Nichols took advantage of opportunities she had as a student to land a job in international development with the Kansas Department of Commerce. All three of these Ichabods, and others we feature, have put themselves in successful situations thanks in part to their time at Washburn.

I am honored to be part of this University and the faculty and staff who work so tirelessly to give students opportunities like these. I am honored to connect with alumni and friends like you who continue to support our mission, especially at a time when many students need our support the most. I said it in the spring edition, and I will say it again: Washburn will survive this crisis. Indeed, I believe we will rise up stronger because of it. We are all in this together.





Students admire Irwin Blitt Fellowship recipient Stevie Delgado's acrylic chandelier, *Suncatcher*, at the opening of Delgado's curated exhibit in 2019. *Photo by Jeremy Wangler*

Enlightening Work

Fellowship lets students curate Mulvane exhibit, create accompanying piece

By Jeremy Wangler • jwangler@wualumni.org

Stevie Delgado perked up at the opening of the Rita Blitt Gallery and Sculpture Garden in 2017 when she heard a new fellowship would allow a student to work closely with the Rita Blitt Legacy Collection. Her sculpture professor, Benjamin Todd Wills, assured Delgado she could handle the extra work while earning her art degree.

"They announced it, and he turned to me and was like, 'You're going to enter that and you're going to win,'" said Delgado, bfa '19.

A year later, Delgado was essentially handed the keys to the gallery – with guidance from staff – as the inaugural recipient of the Irwin Blitt Fellowship.

Rita Blitt, h '19, donated a large collection of her paintings, sketches and sculptures in 2015 to the Mulvane Art Museum at Washburn University. Her husband, Irwin, died weeks before the gallery opened in 2017, and Rita announced the fellowship to honor him. In the spirit of her collaboration with

dancers and musicians, the selected fellow studies the intersection of artistic disciplines and creates an exhibition, multi-media presentation, research paper, catalogue or performance. Delgado named her curated exhibit "To Kiss the Sun" and created an acrylic chandelier, "Suncatcher" as part of the exhibit.

"We couldn't have asked for a better inaugural fellow in Stevie," said Rebecca Manning, collections manager at the Mulvane Art Museum. "The exhibition came together beautifully. The unifying theme or concept was to examine artworks Rita Blitt created that incorporated natural elements or were emulating natural elements – in particular, Stevie seemed to respond to Blitt's interest in the interaction of light and water. And she was able to create an original artwork that alludes to Blitt's acrylic sculpture work but is not derivative."

Delgado capitalized on curating with Manning and other Mulvane staff.

“Curation is something not a lot of fine artists get to do, especially as an undergraduate. It teaches you different ways of looking at art. You have to understand there are so many notions behind a particular piece,” Delgado said. “I realized how prolific of an artist Rita has been in her life and how much she loves collaborating with others and having her art be inspired by others.”

Her faculty mentor for the fellowship, Assistant Professor Wonjae Lee has expertise with 3D printing, laser cutters and software that creates 2D and 3D plans. He helped Delgado with a three-step process for the chandelier that first involved cardboard and tape for a mockup, then laser-cut cardboard and last, the laser-cut or 3D-printed final pieces.

“I’m pretty picky about this design stuff, but she was following very wisely,” Lee said. “Always in art, in any field of study, one-to-one, individual instruction is very rewarding because you have very tight communication and feedback.”

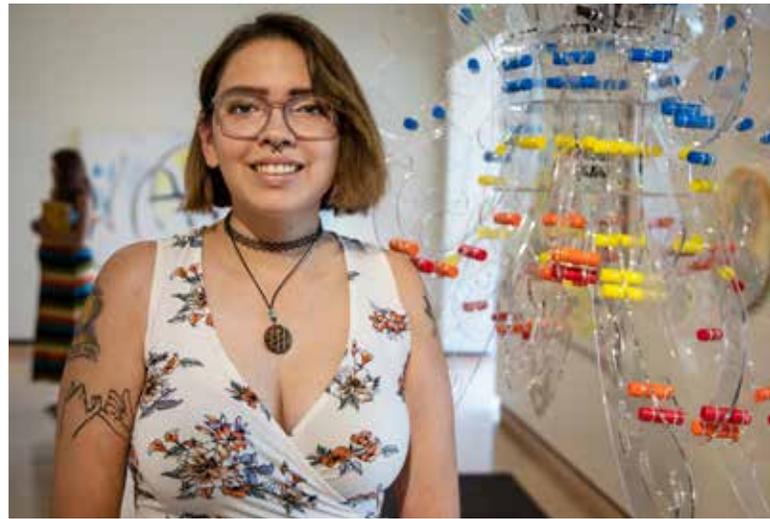
Junior Jak Kendall was at the opening of “To Kiss the Sun” in 2019, and Delgado’s presentation inspired him to apply for the fellowship. The philosophy major is now this year’s Irwin Blitt Fellow.

“I saw the way Stevie’s chandelier captured the light,” Kendall said. “Instead of capturing the light, I want to be the beacon of light that shines out like how art reaches out to us. I want to approach this with philosophical things in mind about how we interact with art, how it affects us, the impact it has on us in an emotional sense.”

He plans to pair works from the Blitt collection with music he wrote and will air throughout the gallery. He might also create a sculpture that shines light onto some of Blitt’s paintings in sync with the music.

Delgado and Kendall appreciate the donor-funded fellowship and hope their experience enhances art on campus and in the community. Kendall, who has been visiting the Mulvane since third grade and works there as senior gallery assistant, wants to attend graduate school and continue working within museums.

“The Mulvane feels like home for me,” Kendall said. “Having this fellowship come from donors who support the museum, I want to be an extension of the museum and part of that family.”



Stevie Delgado, bfa '19. Photo by Jeremy Wangler



Jak Kendall poses in front of Rita Blitt's "Seeking Inner Peace." Photo by Doug Stremel

The Irwin Blitt Fellowship is open to juniors and seniors in any major who wish to study the intersection between the Rita Blitt Legacy Collection and an artistic discipline that interests them.

Visit wualumni.org/irwin-blitt-fellowship to learn more about the fellowship.

Delgado will pursue a master of fine arts at the University of Iowa.

“Donors are vital in helping fund the arts and helping fund people who are going to continuously dedicate themselves to the arts,” Delgado said. “My ultimate goal is to become a university professor and give back to the education that allowed me to grow up and make my own way. I’m very grateful.” 



The Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program brought inmates and traditional students together to learn and share. Outside students who were available returned to campus this summer for a photo. From left to right, Professor Emily Grant; Kaylee Stutz, bcj '19; Amanda Northrop; Daniel Martin; Julia Kofoid; Shelby Spradling; D'Mya Valdivia, certificate '16, aa '18; and Ethan Payne, als '18. *Photo by Doug Stremel*

Outside and Inside

Traditional students and prison inmates learn, share together in new program

By Angela Lutz

Orange jumpsuits, clanging bars, days spent in shackles and handcuffs – for people who have never been to prison, misconceptions about life as an inmate abound. But one aspect of prison life few people consider is the basic act of seeing a doctor to get routine health care. For Keely Jermark, ba '20, hearing female prisoners' stories about seeing a physician were jarring.

“I felt morally challenged and profoundly saddened as my classmates revealed... being led to the back door of a doctor's office in shackles instead of being

checked in at the front desk, so as not to disturb law-abiding citizens waiting in the lobby,” said Jermark, who graduated this spring. “This has challenged me to advocate against stigma that incarcerated individuals receive during their sentence and even after they are released back into society.”

Jermark's classmates were indeed inmates – this spring, 12 traditional Washburn students participated in the Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program, allowing them to gain new perspectives on the criminal justice system during a blended class with 12 incarcerated

students at Topeka Correctional Facility. The quickest lesson learned was also the most vital: The students inside and outside the prison found out they actually had a lot in common.

“The most meaningful thing I learned was (discovering) my own biases and challenging them,” said outside student D’Mya Valdivia, certificate ’16, aa ’18. “What I thought about people in prison and how prisons are was not the reality. I learned that a lot of them were mothers and I learned how they were navigating that. It showed me that we are all human and go through a lot of the same experiences.”

“A lot of people see the criminal justice system as black and white. It’s really not that easy,” said inside student Catie Collins. “There’s a lot of gray area behind almost each and every inmate’s story, so to share that gray area was also amazing.”

Founded in Philadelphia in 1997, Inside-Out brings traditional students and incarcerated students together for criminal justice classes held in jails and prisons. The program has reached more than 50,000 students at more than 150 colleges and universities worldwide, with Washburn joining their ranks this spring and becoming the only school in Kansas to currently offer the course.

For Washburn University School of Law Professor Emily Grant, who received national training to lead the Inside-Out class, bringing it to Washburn’s Honors Program and the sociology and anthropology department allowed her to start important conversations about discrimination, race, gender and income inequality in the criminal justice system.

“One of the things I love about the class is I’m exposing college students to these thoughts at a time when they’re trying to decide what they want to devote their lives to and what they want to care about and reform – and if that ends up being the criminal justice system, all the better,” Grant said.

To help break down the natural divide between inside and outside students, icebreakers were essential, such as sharing their favorite breakfast cereals or cartoons growing up. This paved the way for weightier discussions by building a sense of trust and community among the students.

Student Perspectives

“All the outside students were worried about offending the inside students with a comment. However, it was just the opposite. We handled very fragile but important topics, and everyone was so willing to share their story and take in things they may not agree with or had thought about before.” – **Julia Kofoid, outside student**

“I was absolutely blown away by the chemistry in the classroom. Everyone had their expectations, good and bad, and I think we far exceeded most of the good and very little of the bad. We are all on this journey together – this thing we call life.” – **Jan Vicory, inside student**

“This course created the opportunity to immerse individuals in situations they never experienced while also realizing the choices that they made (or will make) in life could have put them in the same compromising position as the individuals on the inside of the system. I also found the women on the inside are very much human ... they made mistakes that everyone makes.” – **Keely Jermark, outside student**

“After being a part of the system, stereotypes and labels are put on you and your image. It meant a lot that the outside students came into the prison and made us feel like we were a part of society again.” – **Skylar Henson, inside student**



Photo by Doug Stremel

“At the start, both groups of people were worried about the same thing: Are they going to judge me? Are they going to accept me? Are they going to place any value on what I say?” Grant said. “But we’re more alike than we think. By week five, I was walking around looking at groups of students, and I got to one group and couldn’t remember who was inside and who was outside.”

In keeping with the program’s mission of treating students equally, both inside and outside students get three hours of college credit for the course. This spring, fundraising efforts spearheaded by Kerry Wynn, professor, history, and Honors Program director, raised enough to defray costs of tuition for the incarcerated women.

“Fundraising is crucial,” Wynn said. “This is a model that relies on inside and outside students coming in on

equal footing and participating in the same class, so we wanted them all to get credit. We also wanted the inside students to be able to apply that credit later on if they get another degree.”

Though the immediate future of the program is uncertain due to COVID-19 restrictions, both Wynn and Grant are committed to keeping Inside-Out at Washburn. Based on the spring semester’s success, sustaining and expanding this educational model would be invaluable for both traditional and incarcerated students.

“This class was much more than I expected it to be and was so much fun,” Valdivia said. “After a while, you start to forget you’re in a prison with inside students, and it just becomes a class. One of the hard parts was leaving at the end of class and realizing the inside students aren’t leaving with you.” ✎



Photo by Doug Stremel

Valuable Assets

Master of accountancy prepares graduates for critical problem-solving roles

By Jeremy Wangler • jwangler@wualumni.org

The Washburn University School of Business master of accountancy program doesn't just produce number crunchers. The program takes the rules-based knowledge learned in an undergraduate accounting program and furthers it by making the students ask 'why?' The resulting degree makes alumni especially valuable to their company or clients.

"You get to the graduate program and yeah, you need to know the rules, but also, why do we do that? Does that make sense?" said Stephanie Brigham, bba '13, MAcc '14. "You get pushed to the next level of thinking to be more critical of the profession and to really think if there is a better way a process can be done. This is what helps auditors – particularly internal auditors – bring value to the organization and act as change agents."

Brigham is a manager in the internal audit department at Security Benefit in Topeka. She started full-time after earning her bachelor's degree in accounting at Washburn and enrolling in 2013 as one of the first students in the new master's program. The master of accountancy degree better trains students as they earn the required 150 college credit hours to sit for the certified public accountant exam.

"We were not offering students a full plate of accounting courses, and they were ending up with an undergraduate degree with 150 hours. Students are better off having both a bachelor's and a master's degree," said Barbara Scofield, professor and director of Washburn's master of accountancy program. "Offering a master's degree opened additional time to provide courses in theory and research so our students have a higher level or more in-depth view of accounting."

Brigham's educational path set her up for the high-demand work she does at Security Benefit. She also shares her knowledge and experiences as an adjunct professor in the School of Business.

"I could talk about audit all day, every day. I love my job and I really think I bring a fresh perspective



Stephanie Brigham, bba '13, MAcc '14 (left), and Barbara Scofield, professor and director of Washburn's master of accountancy program. Photo by Doug Stremel

teaching students about opportunities they maybe hadn't considered before," she said.

Scofield said all accounting students benefit from business headquarters in Topeka like BNSF Railway, Hill's Pet Nutrition, Advisors Excel, Evergy and Security Benefit. The proximity to Kansas City and its array of national accounting firms also offers an advantage. Internships often lead to job offers before graduation. The master of accountancy program prepares students to sit for the CPA exam as well as the certified management accountant and certified internal auditor exams.

According to Scofield, graduates and interns have been especially critical helping companies and clients manage federal, state and local assistance during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"When the restaurants had to downsize, their accountants were still working at getting them funding, getting them grants, working through the tax implication process – this money has to be very carefully tracked," Scofield said. "I think the businesses they work for very much consider them essential workers during these times." 🦸

Making the Most

Working toward college degrees in high school gives students early advantage

By Jeremy Wangler • jwangler@wvualumni.org

It is not uncommon for students to graduate with a high school diploma, Washburn University Institute of Technology certificate and Washburn University associate's degree within a year of each other or sooner. Free and reduced-price tuition give students many advantages along the way when they choose this path.

D'Mya Valdivia, certificate '16, aa '18, enrolled at Washburn Tech while attending Shawnee Heights

High School – a free option for Kansas high school students at public technical schools. She earned a certificate in early childhood education in 2016 then started working toward an associate's degree and finished high school in 2017. She earned her associate of arts in human services in 2018 and is currently working toward bachelor degrees in both sociology and communication studies.

“My whole junior year I went to Washburn Tech in the morning and went back to high school in the afternoon,” Valdivia said. “It was fun to get off campus and do more hands-on work.”

Toby Meyer, certificate '18, as '18, graduated from Perry-Lecompton High School in 2018 and earned a Washburn Tech certificate in advance systems technology at the same time. Three months later he had his associate of science from Washburn in industrial technology. He's now a junior studying engineering at Kansas State University. He said the specialized education at Washburn Tech has been the most beneficial.

“My entire time in high school and my entire time in college, I would say my professors at tech school were probably the best I've had,” Meyer said. “All of them were very receptive to questions. They were very laid back and treated us all like adults.”

Currently, 20 Tech certificate programs can transition into an associate's degree offered at a lower cost by the School of Applied Studies. Students need not be in high school to begin the program and they can begin working toward their associate's degree up to six years after earning a certificate. Mitch Higgs, ba '94, assistant to the dean, School of Applied Studies, advises students as they navigate this program. She said having an associate's degree is great for someone looking to stand out among applicants for high-demand technical jobs, and it's a great start for those



D'Mya Valdivia, certificate '16, aa '18, is working on two bachelor's degrees after starting work toward a certificate and associate's degree while she was in high school. *Photo by Doug Stremel*

advancing their education to a bachelor's degree and beyond.

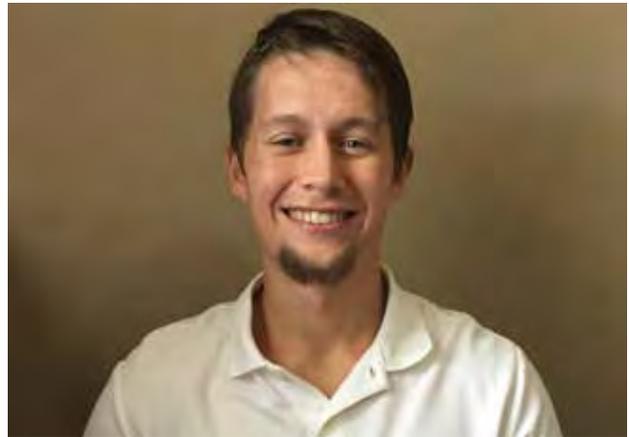
"It gets them in the thick of college. It gets them on the campus," she said. "They might take a communication class that teaches them how to communicate with their coworkers. They may take a psychology class that helps them understand why a coworker's behavior is like it is. It's a really great opportunity for the next step."

Valdivia was not highly involved in high school but that changed when she started full-time at Washburn. She joined the Black Student Union as a freshman and became a LinC Bonner Scholar, peer educator and summer orientation counselor her sophomore year. Being a first-generation student who now understands how to navigate college, she's happy to share her experience with new students. Her outgoing personality and these experiences are also shaping the career she wants to have.

"I feel like I've thrived and I'm making the most of my experience. I think it's real important when you go to college to just make the most of your time there." - D'Mya Valdivia

"I love having conversations. I love helping people," she said. "I've had multiple conversations with students about their wellness. Some students are going through home sickness. I realize how that really affects some students mentally; how they feel like they don't have the support system. Just realizing the realities those students go through, it really kind of gets to my heart."

As secretary of the Black Student Union, Valdivia believes it's important to embrace diversity at predominantly white colleges and reach out to the



Toby Meyer, certificate '18, as '18, is working toward an engineering degree. *Photo submitted*

campus and community to be part of the group's efforts. She wants her career to involve embracing diversity and listening to people.

Meyer is very math and science oriented. He said his certificate helps individuals work as maintenance technicians, fixing broken equipment in factories. The associate's degree can lead to career advancements. The engineering degree puts someone in a role where they're solving the problem of why the machine broke in the first place.

He sees three big advantages to the educational journey he is on. The first is the money he's saved. The second is the experience and how it led to an internship with Topeka's Mars Wrigley Confectionery production facility. The third is the advantage he has among some classmates.

"In engineering school, a lot of what they teach you is the theoretical side behind the things, but a lot of people haven't seen the real deal," Meyer said. "Having that experience really helped me conceptualize and understand things."

As Meyer and Valdivia work toward another graduation and more degrees, they are both pleased with how their higher education careers began.

"I feel like I've thrived and I'm making the most of my experience," Valdivia said. "I think it's real important when you go to college to just make the most of your time there." 🏃

Big-City Style

Celebrity photo shoot opens avenues for Tech alumnus' mane adventure

By Dena Anson

In the summer of 2019, Dawson Hiegert decided the time had come to go from “hair” to “there” – with the best perk of “there” being moving to New York City to work with some of the nation’s highest profile hair stylists on a Victoria’s Secret lingerie ad campaign photo shoot.

Not a bad resume builder for a 19-year old from Topeka who, less than a year before, completed the cosmetology certificate program at Washburn University Institute of Technology.



Dawson Hiegert, certificate '18, works on styling mannequins in his New York City home to stay productive during the COVID-19 pandemic. He moved there in 2019 to assist with a Victoria’s Secret photo shoot. *Photo submitted*

“It’s all been a whirlwind that I don’t know anything could have prepared me for,” said Hiegert, certificate '18. “The biggest thing I’ve learned is to be open to everything that comes your way and never be afraid to reach out to people – because I wouldn’t be in this position if I hadn’t sent that message on Instagram.”

Instagram? The magical powers of social media created a perfect gateway for establishing valuable connections to the world of stylists, and in particular, with Jacob Rozenberg, an assistant for Harry Josh, one of the biggest names in the industry. Josh’s well-tressed

clientele who walk the red carpets include Gwyneth Paltrow, Tina Fey and Jennifer Garner.

Numerous conversations with Rozenberg turned into an offer to be the lead assistant. It is important to note these duties were in addition to Hiegert’s training at the Rita Hazan Salon, adding force to the new whirlwind of life.

Hiegert feels both fortunate and excited to learn the finer points of a field that flourishes without boundaries. At the hectic Victoria’s Secret shoot in February, he assisted in prepping the models with hair enhancement products in advance of the veteran stylists – definitely for him a new experience.

While a cosmetology student, Hiegert focused on making diverse style statements in creating braids, which resulted in a catalog of 365 days of braids he featured on Instagram. This artistic challenge was beneficial in expanding his creativity, “and it became second nature to me to deconstruct old ideas and then rebuild them.”

While his career prospects have expanded beyond his expectations, Hiegert credits the Washburn Tech program with giving him the opportunity to hone the important fundamentals of hairstyling.

“Had I attended a traditional beauty school, I couldn’t have enrolled until after high school and then would have had a full year after that before I could go out to start my career. While I’m still very young, had I not gotten out when I had and been able to make all these moves, I very well could have missed this opportunity,” he said.

While the social distancing required during the current pandemic brought traditional life in New York City to a halt, Hiegert likes to remain productive as he experiments with designs on his home mannequin.

“It’s been wild to watch it unfold, especially in the city that never sleeps,” he said. 🦋

Sound of Silence

Theatre alumna remembers overcoming damaged vocal chords

By Annie Flachsbarth

“The doctor said you have soft nodules on your vocal chords, and if you don’t let them heal, they can become permanently damaged.”



Photo by Blake Gardner

Kelie McIver, ba '82, took that warning very seriously. But in her junior year at Washburn University as a vocalist and theatre major, healing her damaged vocal chords with complete vocal rest was easier said than done. Well, maybe easier written than done.

For more than three months, McIver carried a pad of paper to communicate, but she definitely struggled with the silence. She wore a pin on her shirt that said “DOCTOR ORDERED VOICE REST.” In any situation, she quickly pointed to the pin instead of jumping into conversation.

“I’m a speed talker and I’m ready to dive in and provide quick comebacks, so it was very awkward not to talk,” McIver said. “At that age, that time seemed like forever. I was worried about what I was going to miss out on.”

After sufficient rest, McIver was able to speak again, but she still took the extra effort not to aggravate her prior injury. She received speech therapy to work on bad vocal habits and made sure she was always warming up before performing. In fact, although she was cleared to perform, she purposefully chose smaller roles as she rebuilt her strength.

“The Washburn theatre department was putting on the play “Our Town,” and the female lead, Emily, was the perfect part for me,” McIver said. “I was just coming back from all of the hard work I had done to make sure my voice was okay, and I didn’t think I should take such a large part.”

Instead, McIver played the part of Emily’s love interest’s little sister — a role of fate, as she became quick friends with the male lead, Dwight Dickey, ba '82, who

was later the catalyst for convincing her to move to Hollywood, California, where she currently resides.

Before graduating, McIver took on an internship and job at KTWU working for Bill Shaffer, ba '74, as a production assistant. In that role, Shaffer also gave her the opportunity to record voiceover promos.

“I got this incredible experience with both KTWU and the Washburn theatre department proper,” McIver said. “Because it’s a smaller pond, you get to do all kinds of stuff that you never would have in a larger school.”

Since moving to Hollywood, McIver has continued to have a life in the theater with roles in several Shakespeare plays, among others. She performs in the Razzie Awards for worst films each year, and she has done promotional work for a cable television station. But interestingly, she’s also found a niche in the voiceover world and continues to stay busy in that field — something she attributes to her time working at KTWU.

“If I had not let my vocal chords rest and plunged ahead, my vocal instrument most definitely would have been different,” McIver said. “I knew it was the right thing to do.” ✎



Kelie McIver, ba '82, on the set of “Bedroom Farce” while a student. Photo by Gail E. Bright, ba '82, jd '90

Everything's Rosie

Internship leads to role with Dept. of Commerce for recent graduate

By Annie Flachsbarth

Even with international shutdowns due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the world continues to go on – just in a slightly more digital form. Recent graduate Rosie Nichols experienced this firsthand as she interviewed for a job as an international development representative with the Kansas Department of Commerce via a Zoom interview in a McDonald's parking lot in Russell, Kansas.

The best part? She got the job.

“The professors in the political science department are really supportive of their students. They helped me get scholarships that allowed me to study abroad twice and take the internship in the governor's office.” - Rosie Nichols

A Student of the World

Rosie Nichols, ba '20, found a love for international work after attending a study abroad program in Paraguay during high school. She thought it would be interesting to become a diplomat. A 2015 graduate of Topeka High School, Nichols made the decision to attend Washburn University after meeting political science professors Mark Peterson and Bob Beatty during a Junior Days event.

“I didn't know I wanted to study political science, but I knew I wanted to be a diplomat,” Nichols said. “Dr. Beatty had taken the Foreign Service Officer

exam to become a diplomat, so I thought he would be a good advisor.”

During her junior year at Washburn, Nichols went to Belfast, Northern Ireland, for a year to study – an experience she was granted in large part due to a scholarship she received from the Kissinger Political Science Fund. The Kissinger Fund is devoted to helping Washburn political science students, and Nichols received awards from this fund multiple times to provide experiences she couldn't have had if she worked full-time while attending school. It is just one of the many donor-funded options available for Washburn students.

“The professors in the political science department are really supportive of their students,” Nichols said. “They helped me get scholarships that allowed me to study abroad twice and take the internship in the governor's office.”

As she was getting closer to graduation, Nichols was anxious to get some applicable, real-world experience in her desired field. With the help of Beatty, and the close relationships between Washburn and the state government, Nichols got an internship in Gov. Laura Kelly's appointments office.

Ready to Serve

Interns with state government are often called to tackle a wide range of challenges, providing loads of experience and opportunities. During her time in the governor's office, Nichols proved herself a valuable resource – impressing the team there with her strong work ethic and enthusiasm in a fast-paced, challenging environment. This experience set Nichols up to continue to serve the state in a meaningful way. When a job opened with the Department of Commerce, she was a shoo-in for the role.

Nichols applied for the job, but then COVID-19 hit



Rosie Nichols, ba '20, interviewed for a job this spring at the Kansas Department of Commerce while using the WiFi in a McDonald's parking lot while visiting her grandmother in Russell, Kansas. She got the job and works as an international development representative. *Photo by Doug Stremel*

Kansas. With on-site classes canceled, she went to visit her grandmother in Russell, Kansas. Without internet at the house, she took to the parking lot of the local McDonald's for a Zoom interview.

Nichols' experience, drive and interest helped her land the job serving as an international development representative. In this role, Nichols is assisting Kansas in attracting more foreign direct investments and expanding existing business exports.

"Gov. Kelly's administration wanted to make that division a priority again, so it has been really exciting to be a part of this," Nichols said.

Kansas Secretary of Commerce David Toland explained the International Division can contribute to economic growth in Kansas.

"We have so much to offer international firms interested in an ideal location in the U.S.,"

Toland said. "And for businesses already here, our international team works to grow and expand exporting opportunities worldwide, which in turn benefits communities and the state."

The Best Woman for the Job

Even with working remotely and not yet having in-person access to all her new co-workers, Nichols made an impression this summer.

"In her brief tenure at Commerce, Rosie has already shown a willingness to learn with a mindset that helps her embrace all of the complexities of her position," Toland said. "We are so pleased to have her on board, and we look forward to her future contributions on the Commerce team and to the state of Kansas."

"This is a great success story," Beatty said. "Rosie did it, but Washburn professors, administration, donors and supporters were helping her all along the way." 

She Can Do That

Radiation therapist battles obstacles to overcome dystonia, doubters

By Jeremy Wangler • jwangler@wualumni.org

Her fingers were taped to keep them from curling inward. Her curved spine gave her an uncomfortable posture. Dystonia wanted to win. It wanted to break her down and wear her out with constant muscle contractions. But her mind and body pushed forward and defeated the frustration and exhaustion that tried to keep her from finishing the 5K Spartan race on a snow-packed course in March.

“I remember feeling so in control of the situation I wasn’t in control of,” said Kelsey Alford, certificate ’16. “I remember having such a sense of accomplishment because I could only use three of my fingers on each hand and I still was able to do monkey bars.”

Dystonia causes uncontrollable muscle contractions, leading to involuntary movements and discomfort

throughout the body, and Spartan races require full-body muscle strength to maneuver obstacles. Alford’s race this March wasn’t her first, but it was her first since dystonia started to affect her hands. She was proud of her achievement, but races have hardly been the biggest obstacle she’s overcome. At 26 years old, she was presented with bigger obstacles when convincing doctors she wasn’t faking her symptoms as a teenager and when educators told her to look for a career that would keep her at a desk.

Growing up in Paris, Texas, Alford started seeking a diagnosis for her muscle contractions when she was 15. Doctors tested her for scoliosis and the most common genetic variants for dystonia, but when tests came back negative, they started doubting Alford’s symptoms.



Kelsey Alford, certificate ’16, proved doubters wrong when they said she couldn’t work in a medical field while battling the pain and discomfort caused by dystonia. She found encouraging faculty members in Washburn’s radiation therapy program and now works as a radiation therapist. She competes in Spartan Races in her spare time. *Photos submitted*

“I had medical professionals telling me I was making up my symptoms and faking things,” she said.

She tried a neurologist at another hospital, but she had to clear a psychiatrist’s evaluation since her record said she faked her symptoms. After the psychiatrist determined the symptom claims were genuine, the neurologist started treating Alford for dystonia. She’s lived a functional life since then with a determination to help others feel empowered.

An experience getting x-rays as a teenager also evoked her determination. In a room full of employees, she undressed for an x-ray and felt very uncomfortable.

“I just remember being humiliated in that moment,” Alford said. “If someone would have just talked to me, if they would have helped me feel more at ease in this moment, this would have been a completely different experience for me. I thought to myself, I want to be in a field where just being kind and compassionate and understanding actually makes a big difference.”

Alford faced more obstacles as she earned an associate’s degree and an x-ray technologist certificate at a community college in Texas.

“I was told this program probably wasn’t for me if I’m going to have medical issues and I should probably find something else to do with my career,” she said. “It was such a battle. I felt like my teachers took pleasure in me not succeeding.”

She did succeed, and along the way she completed a clinical rotation at an oncology center where she met both a student and a graduate of Washburn University’s radiation therapy program, an online certificate program in the School of Applied Studies that prepares graduates to administer radiation treatment to cancer patients. Students take courses remotely while doing clinicals at affiliated sites. Receiving strong recommendations for Washburn’s program, Alford decided this would be how she’ll make a difference in her career.

“Even before beginning, Kelsey communicated a desire to serve others and be part of something greater than herself,” said Becky Dodge, assistant professor, allied health. “I believe she found that as a radiation therapist.”

Alford completed the 13-month program in 2016 and is a radiation therapist at Texas Oncology in McKinney, Texas.

“Washburn was such a breath of fresh air,” Alford said. “They were so accepting, so understanding. It was so enlightening just because I hadn’t experienced teachers actually wanting you to get a job, wanting you to succeed, wanting you to pass. That means everything.”

“Washburn was such a breath of fresh air. They were so accepting, so understanding. It was so enlightening just because I hadn’t experienced teachers actually wanting you to get a job, wanting you to succeed, wanting you to pass. That means everything.” - Kelsey Alford

Dodge, as ’94, was the radiation therapy program director when Alford attended and is now coordinator of the master of health sciences program.

“Kelsey is intelligent, determined and, perhaps most importantly, she is empathetic when caring for cancer patients,” Dodge said. “I’m thrilled she felt accepted and encouraged in the program.”

As a dystonia warrior, Alford will keep fighting the obstacles presented by the disorder, the racecourses and any doubters.

“I’ve known for a long time I’m never going to be the fastest, I’m never going to be the most successful at everything, but there is no greater joy than accomplishing something lots and lots of people said you couldn’t do.” 🏃

In His Opinion

Alumnus discusses important national, local issues as KC Star editorial writer

By Angela Lutz

As a student at Washburn University, Michael Ryan, ba '81, was not planning to become a writer – but then he authored his first column for the Washburn Review. It was more of a favor to a friend than an intentional choice: Another member of his fraternity served as editor of the student newspaper and needed content, so Ryan offered to contribute a humorous piece. He quickly learned how to type on a manual typewriter, hammered out a column in the style of comedic writer Woody Allen, and offered a draft to his roommate for review.

“My roommate gets about halfway through the first sheet and says, ‘Oh, I see – this is funny, isn’t it?’ And I said, ‘Well, I thought so, anyway,’” Ryan recalled, laughing. “But in the process of doing that I fell in love with writing.”

Ryan kept honing his craft while earning his media and communications degree at Washburn. Eventually one of his professors helped him get his first job at a paper in McPherson, Kansas, which kick-started what has become a successful 30-year career in journalism.

“That’s the real beauty of attending a university like Washburn,” Ryan said. “If you went to a big university where you were in an arena watching a professor you aren’t going to get that kind of individual attention. So many good things have happened to me because of the start I got at Washburn.”

After spending a few years in McPherson, Ryan got a job at the Topeka Capital-Journal, where he stayed for 19 years. During that time, he became an editorial writer, and he continued working in that capacity after moving to Augusta, Georgia. Last summer, he landed at the Kansas City Star, where he is a big part of what he calls the paper’s “unique and irreplaceable” editorial voice.

“Editorial writing, to me, is as American a tradition as jazz or baseball,” Ryan said. “It goes on around the world to some degree, but our First Amendment allows it to really flourish here. Editorial writing presents an opportunity for a newspaper to provide leadership in



Michael Ryan, ba '81. Photo by Kansas City Star

a community, to highlight what’s wrong and spotlight what’s good. I think it’s invaluable.”

Ryan believes editorial writers play an especially vital role during challenging times, such as the United States gearing up for an election in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. He works hard to strike the right tone – collaborative instead of condescending, disappointed instead of outraged – to help people have important conversations about difficult topics and focus on what’s important to them.

“The coronavirus has made the role of the local editorial page, in my opinion, even more important,” Ryan said. “Candidates are not out there shaking hands and kissing babies. They’re having to campaign from their basements, so it’s even more important for newspapers to provide information on local races.”

Ryan also aims to bring out the best in the community where he lives and “comment on the passing parade” – a goal that, along with persuasion, often requires a bit of humor. 🦋

Read Michael Ryan’s latest columns at kansascity.com/michael-ryan.



Alumni Board

Two alumni joined the Washburn University Alumni Association board of directors effective Aug. 1, 2020.

Andrea Martin Trupp, bba '86 | Scottsdale, Arizona



Andrea Martin Trupp is senior director of merchandise business planning and space management at PetSmart corporate offices. She worked for Payless ShoeSource for nearly 30 years in various roles ending as vice president of merchandise planning and business development.

She earned a master of business administration from the University of Kansas in 1987. She has strong ties to Washburn. Her husband, Rob Trupp, ba '89, is a Washburn alumnus, and his brother, Dave Trupp, is Washburn football's strength and conditioning coach. Her brother, Jim Martin, bba '79, teaches in the Washburn University School of Business. As a student at Washburn, Andrea was a member of Delta Gamma.

Adam Winzenried, bba '01 | Overland Park, Kansas



For nearly his entire professional career since graduating from Washburn, Adam Winzenried has worked in progressive leadership roles for the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, currently serving as vice president for information technology. In that role, he provides executive leadership for technology planning and delivery, including his role in leading an enterprise cloud adoption and agile delivery transformation program.

He has 15 years of experience in leading diverse, virtual and matrixed teams of professionals to plan and deliver a wide range of technology efforts, with a strong focus on high performance and leadership development. While at Washburn, Winzenried was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon, Sagamore, Washburn Student Senate, Phi Beta Lambda (future business leaders) and Gamma Sigma Alpha honorary societies. He is involved in several volunteer activities around the Kansas City area focused on economic education and early childhood development. 🏃



New Trustees

Six new members of the Washburn University Alumni Association and Foundation board of trustees began their term on Aug. 1, 2020.

Carlos Antequera, bs '96 | Shawnee, Kansas



Carlos Antequera is co-founder and managing director of Novel Growth Partners, a firm that provides flexible capital for emerging software companies with annual revenues below venture capital levels. Antequera is an

investor in many software startups that are education focused. He previously served as senior vice president and chief product officer of PeopleAdmin and was a co-founder of Netchemia, which provided him with a solid

understanding of financial and business issues along with an in-depth knowledge of internet technologies and trends. Antequera is also a board member for Infegy, a social media analytics platform. He is a Kauffman Fellow and Techstars and Village Capital mentor board member. He is a former executive board member of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Greater Kansas City and a member of the Kansas City chapter of the National Society of Hispanic MBAs. He received a master of business administration in international business from the University of Kansas.

Wayne Basso, ba '93 | Topeka, Kansas



Wayne Basso is president of the eastern Kansas region for UMB Bank. He began in that capacity in 2013 and has a total of 18 years at UMB. He is currently responsible for overall strategic leadership and new business development

to grow UMB's presence in the region. He is also community bank president for Topeka. Basso has over

25 years of experience in banking and business. He is a member of the Topeka Chamber of Commerce and the Washburn University Alumni Association. He is also a past president of LifeHouse Child Advocacy Center and Sales and Marketing Executives of Topeka. He is a past board member of St. Francis Health, Junior Achievement of Kansas and the Topeka YMCA. Auctioneering since age 12, he now uses his skills at fundraisers for non-profits in the Topeka area.

Tawanna Black, bpa '00 | Eden Prairie, Minnesota



Tawanna Black is the founder and chief executive officer of the Center for Economic Inclusion in Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota, equipping leaders and institutions throughout the region to dismantle institutional racism and bias, foster

shared accountability, and catalyze an inclusive, equitable and growing regional economy. Black previously served as the executive director of Northside Funders Group, director of diversity for Cox Communications and executive director for Destination Midtown in

Omaha, Nebraska. She has received many awards and commendations including: Bush Fellowship by the Bush Foundation (2014); Top 25 National Disruptive Leaders by Living Cities (2016); and Minneapolis- St. Paul Business Journal's Women in Business award winner (2017). She currently serves as a board member of Forward Cities, Minnesota Technology Association, the Northside Achievement Zone, the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis' Opportunity and Inclusive Growth Institute, and Minneapolis-St. Paul chapter of The Links, Incorporated. She was a Washburn Alumni Fellow in 2018.

T.C. Broadnax, ba '91 | Dallas, Texas



T.C. Broadnax began serving as Dallas city manager on Feb. 1, 2017, where he presides over an annual budget of \$3.8 billion. He is also responsible for 39 city departments and nearly 13,000 employees. He has worked toward

enhancing transparency, accountability and equity in every city he has served. Previously, he was city manager of Tacoma, Washington, from 2012-17. He

also served as assistant city manager of San Antonio, Texas, and Pompano Beach, Florida. Broadnax has more than 26 years of local government management experience, and he serves on the board of the National Forum for Black Public Administrators. Broadnax earned a master of public administration from the University of North Texas. While at Washburn, he was a member of the men's basketball team from 1988-90.

Francis Hoang, mcj '00 | Alexandria, Virginia



France Hoang is an entrepreneur who has been on the founding teams of companies that have generated over \$600 million and employed 1,200 professionals across the fields of law, aerospace, defense, government services

and technology. He has served in every branch of the U.S. government including appointment by President George W. Bush as an associate White House counsel and special assistant to the president. Shortly after leaving the White House, he mobilized

as the executive officer of a U.S. Army Special Forces company on a combat deployment in Afghanistan. Hoang previously served as the deputy chief of police and SWAT commander for Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. He serves as a distinguished visiting lecturer at the U.S. Military Academy in the department of law. His board service includes MAG Aerospace, the Stimson Center and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund. Hoang graduated at the top 1% of his class at West Point and graduated magna cum laude from Georgetown University Law Center.

Cindy Wilson, bba '95, mba '07 | Topeka, Kansas



Cindy Wilson serves as the director of the project management office and IT compliance at Evergy. She has held several different positions over her 19 years with the energy company. She began

as an internal auditor and throughout her career worked in generation, compliance and regulatory. From 2002-05, Wilson worked as the vice president,

controller at American Home Life Insurance. Wilson is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. She is also a certified internal auditor, certified risk management assurance and member of the Institute of Internal Auditors. Wilson is active in her community by serving as the treasurer for the Communities in Schools of Mid-America, as commissioner on the Topeka Public Building Commission and on the board of the Trash Mountain Project. 🏃



Next in Line

In year of long waits, offensive lineman in final push to play in NFL

By Chris Marshall

From his earliest practices as a freshman on Washburn's football team, coaches pegged Kyle Hinton as an eventual pro football prospect. The offensive lineman from Peoria, Arizona, with little recruiting buzz exceeded the expectations set by Craig Schurig and the Washburn coaching staff.

Hinton made the all-MIAA team and MIAA Academic Honor Roll in each of his four years and was named an All-American three times. His collegiate accomplishments were rewarded with a contract with the Minnesota Vikings after they drafted him this spring.

"He's exceptional," Schurig said. "He's an outstanding student, a great teammate and was voted a team captain. He's got a great work ethic and leadership. All of those things, and he's a tremendous athlete, so he's a 10 across the board."

Hinton, als '20, has no shortage of positive traits, but the most important this year may be patience. For a player prepared to make a living clearing the way for others, there's nothing more frustrating than having his path to the NFL blocked by outside forces.

Proving His Worth

Similar to his transition from high school to college, Hinton felt slighted by the lack of interest at the next level. The 6-foot-2, 291-pound tackle wasn't among the 300-plus prospects invited to March's NFL combine, and he used the snub as motivation at a Kansas State University pro day.

He impressed scouts with a 4.86-second 40-yard dash, a 34.5-inch vertical jump and 34 reps on the 225-pound bench press, putting to use the strength he accumulated as an All-American thrower on the track and field team.

"I wanted to go out there and prove them wrong," Hinton said. "It gave me a little boost in the process, and I knew I'd do big numbers. After the pro day, a lot of scouts came up and talked to me to get my info."

Just when workout requests started coming in from teams across the league, COVID-19 abruptly closed Hinton's window to exhibit his skills. Communication continued with the Vikings, among others, but his draft-day fate remained up in the air.

As pick after pick rolled by in April's draft, Hinton's chances of being selected dwindled. While watching with friends in Topeka, Hinton heard his name announced with the 253rd pick of the 255-pick draft.

"I watched all the way through," Hinton said of the seven-round, three-day draft. "Finally getting the call three picks from the end felt really good."

Catching on Quick

Hinton was the last of Minnesota's NFL-record 15 picks in the 2020 draft, but he benefitted from a flexibility to play multiple positions and signed a contract before several of the rookies chosen before him.

"The coaches and players will fall in love with him up there," Schurig said. "He's exactly what you want in a teammate. If you could draw up the perfect player, it'd be Kyle."



Kyle Hinton, als '20, signed with the Minnesota Vikings and worked out over the summer. The season is scheduled to begin on Sept. 13. *Photo by the Minnesota Vikings*



Kyle Hinton was a thrower on the Washburn track and field team and an offensive lineman on the football team. He is the school record holder in the discus and weight throw. *Photo by Gene Cassell*

But before Hinton could begin training camp in Minneapolis, he faced yet another wait. All NFL players must pass two COVID-19 tests before interacting with anyone in the organization, so instead of celebrating his signing with handshakes and hugs, Hinton remained isolated in his hotel room. Alone in unfamiliar territory, Hinton found himself recalling lessons learned in Topeka.

“Washburn really emphasizes working together to accomplish a goal, and not being afraid to ask for help when you do have a problem,” Hinton said. “That will always stick with me. Before, I didn’t ask for help much, but at Washburn, it’s encouraged. They make it easy for you, and you see the real value in that.”

It didn’t take long for fellow Ichabods to lend support. Corey Ballentine, als ’19, a sixth-round pick by the New York Giants in 2019, texted a congratulatory message after the draft, and Brian Folkerts, als ’15, bba ’18, an offensive lineman who played for the Carolina Panthers and St. Louis Rams before joining the XFL’s St. Louis BattleHawks this spring, shared valuable advice.

“Brian helped me out through the whole process,” Hinton said. “He told me what teams want to hear, and what they want to see on the offensive line, scheme-wise. I’ve definitely kept in close contact with him.”

“Washburn really emphasizes working together to accomplish a goal, and not being afraid to ask for help when you do have a problem.” - Kyle Hinton

Like everything else in the pre-COVID era, it feels like a lifetime ago that Hinton was catching his first and only touchdown pass in his final collegiate game. The months since have been all preparation, and little play, but the jubilation teammates shared after Hinton’s 8-yard score in November 2019 illustrate the joy he can bring, and receive, when it’s finally time to get back on the field.

“I loved walking out to home games, high-fiving everybody on the way out and running down the hill,” Hinton said of his time at Washburn. “I’m just excited to play football again at this point, honestly. It feels like a century since I put pads on.”

Hinton was waived from a spot on the roster when final cuts were made this summer and moved to the Vikings’ practice squad. Minnesota is scheduled to open the season Sept. 13 against the Green Bay Packers. 🏈



Ronning named men's and women's tennis coach at Washburn

Kirby Ronning has been named head coach of the Washburn University men's and women's tennis programs. Ronning spent the previous four seasons as the assistant coach for Azusa Pacific University. Prior to joining the Cougar's coaching staff, Ronning served as a graduate assistant coach at Dallas Baptist University (Texas) in 2016. He also was a volunteer assistant with the men's and women's tennis teams at Bethel University (Minnesota) during the 2014-15 season.

"We are excited to add someone of Kirby's background to our tennis program and to the Washburn family," said Loren Ferré, athletic director. "The search committee did a great job through the process to identify the best candidate for the position, and we look forward to Kirby leading our tennis program."

Ronning received his bachelor's degree in business and is currently pursuing a master of science in physical education at Azusa Pacific. During his time



Kirby Ronning

as an undergraduate, Ronning played for four years at Bethel and was honored with the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference sportsmanship award two times.

"I could not be more excited to have the opportunity to lead the tennis programs at

Washburn," Ronning said. "It became evident to me that Washburn is truly a special place and provides an amazing experience for the student-athletes. I'm looking forward to continuing the strong tradition of success in the classroom and on the tennis court." 🏸

Sunflower Music Festival receives \$20,000 grant from NEA

The National Endowment for the Arts recently awarded the Sunflower Music Festival a \$20,000 grant. The Sunflower Music Festival, held annually at Washburn University, is one of 1,015 organizations in the United States to receive a grant from the second round of fiscal 2020 funding. This is the first time the National Endowment for the Arts has given the festival a grant.

"These awards demonstrate the continued creativity and excellence of arts projects across America and the nimbleness of our nation's arts organizations in face of a national crisis that shuttered their doors for months,"

said Mary Anne Carter, chair of the National Endowment of the Arts.

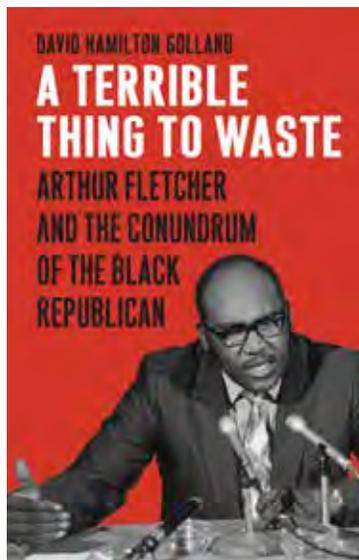
The Sunflower Music Festival has provided chamber music concerts for the Topeka area for 10 days each June for the past 34 years on the campus of Washburn University, however, the 2020 festival was postponed until June 18-26, 2021. The 2021 festival will now honor the centennial of the Women's suffrage movement and feature a 20-minute chamber orchestra composition by prolific American composer, Libby Larsen. The composition will premiere in Washburn's White Concert Hall on June 26, 2021. 🎻

iRead selection highlights civil rights leader and Washburn alumnus

Washburn University has selected “A Terrible Thing to Waste: Arthur Fletcher and the Conundrum of the Black Republican” by David Golland for the 2020-21 iRead program. The iRead program, coordinated by Washburn’s Mabee Library, encourages a community-wide reading experience. During the fall 2020 semester, professors are encouraged to include the selection into their curriculum, and the Mabee Library will host a series of virtual events over the selection, culminating in a discussion with Golland.

Washburn alumnus Arthur Fletcher, ba ’50, h ’90, was a civil rights leader and is considered the father of affirmative action. He was the first Black player on the Baltimore Colts NFL team and began a life in public service as an advisor to several presidents following his NFL career. Fletcher served as assistant secretary of labor from 1969-71, as deputy advisor for urban affairs to President Gerald Ford and as chair of the United States Commission on Civil Rights from 1990-93. During his time as executive director of the United Negro College Fund, he is credited with helping compose the phrase, “A mind is a terrible thing to waste.”

Golland is the author of two other books and various essays, including “A Terrible Thing to Waste,”



“Constructing Affirmative Action: The Struggle for Equal Employment Opportunity” and “The Arthur Fletcher Papers,” an annotated collection of Fletcher’s personal papers organized in conjunction with Mabee Library.

“The iRead program encourages the entire campus community to think deeply about a shared topic,” said Alan Bearman, dean, university libraries and the Center for Student Success. “This year’s book is timely and provides opportunities to engage our students across numerous disciplines and classes, as well as learn more about one of our historically significant alumni. We look forward to the discussion and connections made through this experience.” 🚶

Mulvane Art Museum reopens

The Mulvane Art Museum at Washburn University reopened its doors on Aug. 11, 2020, with limited hours. The gallery is open to the public Tuesday from noon to 7 p.m., and Wednesday through Friday from noon to 5 p.m. It will be closed Saturday through Monday. Mulvane’s ArtLab will remain closed through 2020.

Protective face coverings are required for all who can wear them safely, and disposable masks will be

available. Visitors also must adhere to social distancing rules, while the number of visitors in the museum space will be limited to 25 at one time. The opening and capacity is subject to campus, local and state regulations regarding COVID-19 precautions. 🚶

For the latest hours and guidelines concerning reopening, visit mulvanearthmuseum.org.

Class Notes

The Washburn University Alumni Association and Foundation loves to receive your news and updated information, and your former classmates are interested in what you have accomplished. Submit your news and updates online at wualumni.org/alumninotes or to ewittmer@wualumni.org by Nov. 30, 2020, to be included in the winter magazine.

1950s

Rod Brown, attendee, Playa Del Rey, California, Alpha Delta, is retired after a career in engineering and as an Air Force pilot. He started at Washburn in 1952 and completed an engineering degree elsewhere after joining the Air Force. In 20 years of service, he spent time on more than 40 islands and survived 260 combat missions in Vietnam in 1967, earning a Distinguished Flying Cross. He then worked for TRW Aerospace for 28 years on two major spacecraft programs.

1980s

Daniel Bailey, ba '81, jd '87, Arvada, Colorado, was appointed executive vice president, general counsel, HGS North America, HGS, Inc. on June 1, 2020. Dan also serves on the Mesa Verde Foundation Board of Mesa Verde National Park.

Everett Hood, jd '82, Olathe, Kansas, announced his retirement as 16th Judicial District chief judge after serving for 20 years.

Beth (Palcher) Kornegay, bcj '85, Shawnee, Kansas, Zeta Tau Alpha, Corrections & Criminal Justice Association, The Kaw, Campus Activities Board, Student Association, has been appointed to serve as an ambassador for the Fight Colorectal Cancer Organization for the 2020-21 year. As a colon cancer survivor, she will advocate and lobby for research and

continued insurance coverage with legislators both locally and in Washington D.C. Earlier this year, she worked with Kansas Gov. Laura Kelly's office to get a proclamation signed to declare March as Colon Cancer Awareness Month.

Kevin Moncrief, ba '83, Victorville, California, Kappa Tau Alpha, Air Force ROTC, is the new vice president of mission integration at Soka University of America.

William "Trey" Mowery, jd '83, Salina, Kansas, has joined American State Bank as market president, serving the Salina and north-central Kansas area.

Kevin E. Regan, jd '81, Kansas City, Missouri, of the Regan Law Firm, L.L.C., was recently elected to serve on the Missouri Bar Foundation board of trustees. Regan was also recently made an honorary life member of the Special Forces Association, Bull Simons Chapter, a rare honor bestowed upon a civilian by Special Forces soldiers.

Mark Shaiken, jd '81, Denver, Colorado, is the author of a newly released book entitled: "And... Just Like That – Essays on a Life Before During and After the Law." With humor and self-depreciation, poignancy and bite, this book presents observations on his life before the law, his 38 years in the law and his life after he left.

Joseph Spence Sr., jd '89, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, published his 10th inspirational poetry book titled, "Sincerely Speaking Spiritually" in February 2020.

Kristin (Weems) Tyson, bba '86, mba '88, Olathe, Kansas, was promoted to Kansas City Bank president for CrossFirst Bank.

1990s

Ronald Brown, bcj '97, mcj '14, Topeka, Kansas, retired as police chief and director of school safety for Topeka Unified School District 501.

Scott Feeken, ba '94, Dulles, Virginia, has assumed duty at the United States Embassy in Kingston, Jamaica, as consul general.

Brian Fuemmeler, bcj '98, Lenexa, Kansas, was added as market leader to McCownGordon Construction's Manhattan office.

Ava Knatt, bpa '92, Topeka, Kansas, is a management analyst for Kansas Human Services executive branch IT.

Joseph Passanise, jd '97, Springfield, Missouri, Phi Delta Phi, Moot Court Council, has been appointed to the state tourism commission by the Missouri governor.

Sandra Schrader-Farry, jd '96, Fort Worth, Texas, was named director of safe environment for the Catholic diocese of Fort Worth.

Warren Stewart, bsn '98, Hanscom A.F.B., Massachusetts, is a national security fellow for Harvard Kennedy School Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs.

2000s

Erin Bernasek, ba '06, Topeka, Kansas, is working as a human resources consultant for the Federal Office of Personnel Management in Kansas City, Missouri.

Amy Brown, bsn '04, Memphis, Missouri, was named the Spirit of SCH Award winner at Scotland County Hospital and Clinics in March.

Karen (Quintelier) Couch, jd '07, Salina, Kansas, is the new executive director of the Salina Emergency Aid Food Bank.

Mark Crumbliss, ba '01, Abilene, Texas, recently graduated with a doctor of education from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky.

Scott Donaldson, bcj '02, Melissa, Texas, was appointed chair of the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Curriculum Committee and elected to serve as a national representative (west region) for the National Criminal Justice Association.

Vanessa Dudley-Miller, msw '06, Topeka, Kansas, is currently a doctoral candidate at Kansas University Medical Center in the School of Health Professions, co-authored an academic publication in the Journal of Veterans Studies, accepted a position as state director for Kansas CASA, and was appointed by the Kansas Supreme Court to the Task Force on Permanency Planning 2020.

Nathan Gaswick, bs '09, Imperial, Nebraska, Phi Kappa Phi, Football, accepted the high school's head football coaching job at Chase County Schools.

Elizabeth (Edwards) Lay, jd '09, Columbus, Nebraska, is a new addition to the Jarecki Maul PC, L.L.O. law office and will be working on matters of estate planning, probate and trusts, real estate, entity formation, employment law and government/municipality law.

Laura Lewis, ba '00, jd '04, Meade, Kansas, Law Clinic, will be appointed 16th Judicial District chief judge and will serve out the term of the previous chief judge through Dec. 31, 2021.

Jeff Maxon, bs '09, Topeka, Kansas, Baseball, was named chief information security officer for the Kansas Information Security Office.

Alissa Menke, ba '04, Carbondale, Kansas, opened cohort.digital, a new digital marketing firm in Topeka, Kansas.

Alicia (Phillips) Mowder, ba '08, Waxhaw, North Carolina, is the 2020 Future Leader in Convenience award recipient. She is head of U.S. marketing at Circle K.

Renee Rodgers, msw '00, Leesville, Louisiana, was accepted into the Smith College School of Social Work advanced clinical supervision certificate program in Northampton, Massachusetts.

Karan Thadani, jd '06, Topeka, Kansas, Law Clinic, has been hired as the new administrative municipal court judge for the City of Topeka.

Janelle (Spencer) Williamson, bsn '02, msn '07, Topeka, Kansas, has been named the recipient of the 2020 American Association of Nurse Practitioners Kansas State Award for Nurse Practitioner of Excellence.

Timothy Woods, jd '09, Dodge City, Kansas, Law Clinic, was sworn in as the 25th Judicial District's new magistrate judge in Finney County.

2010s

Danielle Bradrick, b ed '16, Salina, Kansas, Student Ambassador, STAT, College Republicans, Young Life, graduated from Baker University in May 2020 with a master of science in school leadership. She is a fourth grade teacher for USD 305 Salina Public Schools.

Evan Bolt, ba '16, Paonia, Colorado, Sigma Phi Epsilon, STAT, Buddy Program, Chemistry Club, has accepted the position of city manager in Monticello, Colorado.

Bryce Chavis, bs '17, ma '20, Topeka, Kansas, Football, will be the running backs coach at McPherson College. He was previously a Washburn assistant football coach.

Aaron Childers, ba '19, Overland Park, Kansas, Interfraternity Council, was promoted to coaching education coordinator at U.S. Soccer.

Marissa Dake, ba '17, Topeka, Kansas, Young Life, Society for HR Management, Honors Student Council, is the new director of Operation Food Secure for The Topeka Rescue Mission.

Joseph "Joey" Ferron, certificate '19, Topeka, Kansas, started a new job at HME, Inc.

Jacob Holly, ba '15, jd '20, Topeka, Kansas, Moot Court Council, was added to Foulston Siefkin LLP as an attorney. He will be on the firm's northeast Kansas transactional team, counseling clients in the areas of business and corporate, administrative, estate planning and real estate law.

Taylor Ignoto, bsw '16, Logan, Utah, Basketball, was announced as the director of operations and special assistant to the head coach of Utah State's women's basketball.

Kyle Kelly, ba '12, Topeka, Kansas, married **Hazel Hornbostel**, bba '17, in Topeka on Oct. 26, 2019.

Taylor Kirk, ba '19, Topeka, Kansas, Softball, started a new job as Washburn University's assistant softball coach.

Dakota Lamb, jd '19, Liberal, Kansas, Agricultural Law Society, is a new addition to Sharp McQueen, P.A. and will practice law with an emphasis on criminal defense, domestic relation, probate and contract law.

Marija (Crockett) Lawless, bs '16, Salina, Kansas, Peace Works, Oxfam Club, Bod Squad, Biology Club, was announced as a class of 2023 medical resident for the Smoky Hill Family Medical Residency Program.

Jennifer "Jenny" Lieurance, ba '18, Topeka, Kansas, Bod Squad, Communication Club, FYE Peer Educator Club, We Are First, is the new campus visit and event coordinator for Washburn University.

Sara Matthews, mba '11, Lenexa, Kansas, is the new Baker University's head women's soccer coach.

Johanna (Greer) McDaniel, ba '15, Topeka, Kansas, was promoted to trust administrator at CoreFirst Bank & Trust.

Micah Offermann, ba '15, Topeka, Kansas, Kappa Sigma, Washburn Student Government Association, Bod Squad, Rock Jocks, and **Gabrielle "Abby" Price**, ba '19, Topeka, Kansas, Dancing Blues, Honors Student Council, Marching Band, were married on May 30, 2020.

David Packard, bba '10, mba '17, Topeka, Kansas, was promoted to vice president of the financial reporting department at Capitol Federal Savings Bank in Topeka.

Lily Pankratz, ba '10, Kansas City, Missouri, Kappa Alpha Theta, serves as senior intelligent marketing automation product manager for Commerce Bank in Kansas City, Missouri.

Tyler Quintin, bfa '16, Topeka, Kansas, accepted a long-term residency at Morean Center for Clay in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Joshua Russell, bba '13, Washburn Orchestra, was one of only 30 people honored by the American Institute of CPAs as a member of the Leadership Academy's 12th graduating class. Russell works with the firm of Patterson, Prince and Associates, P.C. in Florence, Alabama.

Melissa White, certificate '14, bba '14, Topeka, Kansas, Beta Gamma Sigma International Business Honor Society, is a digital marketing manager for cohort.digital, a new digital marketing firm in Topeka.

2020s

Katherine Aitchison, bsn '20, Topeka, Kansas, has accepted a registered nurse position at Stormont Vail Health on the medical-surgical floor.

Bayley Baker, ba '20, Lenexa, Kansas, Ichabods Moving Forward, Washburn Student Government Association, started a new position as a copywriter and editor at Summit Marketing agency in Lenexa, Kansas.

Anastasia Bell, bfa '20, Topeka, Kansas, is starting her first year as an art teacher at Jefferson County North High School.

Luke Broeckelman, bsn '20, Topeka, Kansas, is moving to Wichita, Kansas to start as a registered nurse at Wesley Medical Center in the emergency department.

Megan Burnette, b ed '20, Topeka, Kansas, started teaching fifth grade at Wanamaker Elementary School in August 2020.

Zachary Christensen, certificate '20, St. Marys, Kansas, started a new job as a computer technician for a school in Topeka, Kansas.

Samantha (Strecker) Davies, bsn '20, Topeka, Kansas, Sigma Theta Tau, got married in June 2019. She will be starting as a registered nurse at The University of Kansas St. Francis Campus.

Kyle Hinton, als '20, Sun City, Arizona, Football, signed a contract with the NFL's Minnesota Vikings.

Jayce Heiman, bsn '20, Wichita, Kansas, Delta Gamma, is moving to Baltimore, Maryland, to work at Johns Hopkins Hospital as a registered nurse.

Taylor Kirby, ma '20, Lenexa, Kansas, will begin her career as a private practice clinician, specializing in children and adolescents at Responsive Centers for Psychology and Learning.

Ricky Prato, b ed '20, Silver Lake, Kansas, will be teaching special education at Meadows Elementary School in Topeka, Kansas.

John Samqua, bis '20, Topeka, Kansas, will start a new job as a full-time teacher and coach for debate and forensics at Hayden Catholic High School.

Tatum Smith, bba '20, Topeka, Kansas, accepted a sales representative position at United Rentals. 



In Memory

The following information was received by the Washburn University Alumni Association and Foundation before July 31, 2020. Submit any omissions to ewittmer@wualumni.org.

1940s

Everett Cook, ba '49, 96, Topeka, Kansas, Pi Gamma Mu, Kansas, on April 6, 2020

Robert "Bob" Hendrickson, ba '40, jd '42, 101, Denver, Colorado, on April 15, 2020

Sharil (Zarker) Hunt, ba '44, 97, Childsburg, Alabama, Kappa Alpha Theta, Washburn Women's Glee Club, Sigma Alpha Iota, on March 28, 2020

Dorothy "Jane" (Badders) Klefstad, ba '48, 98, Fairfield, California, on May 10, 2020

Oscar Klein, Jr., ba '49, Leawood, Kansas, Kappa Mu Epsilon, on May 28, 2020

Mary (Lewis) Kresie, ba '48, 93, Topeka, Kansas, Kappa Alpha Theta, on April 6, 2020

Marlane (Woodard) Rages, ba '48, 93, Hutchinson, Kansas, on April 2, 2020

Albert "Bert" Ross, ba '47, jd '49, 96, Mission, Kansas, Phi Delta Theta, Delta Theta Phi, on June 3, 2020

Bert "Harry" Sorber, bba '48, 97, Topeka, Kansas, on April 5, 2020

Idress Cropp-Stovall, ba '48, 95, Topeka, Kansas, on July 11, 2020

Mary (Dawson) Turnbull, ba '47, 98, Topeka, Kansas, on April 20, 2020

Arthur Wagoner, bba '48, 96, Phi Delta Theta, Basketball, on June 19, 2020

Arvella (Embry) Whitmore, jd '46, 97, Minneapolis, Minnesota, on March 13, 2020

1950s

Edwin Aley, ba '51, 91, Topeka, Kansas, Air Force ROTC, Kappa Sigma, on April 7, 2020

James Blackburn, bba '56, 90, Topeka, Kansas, Alpha Delta, on June 23, 2020

Robert Crooker, bfa '51, 97, Danville, California, Washburn Players, Delta Phi Delta, on Feb. 7, 2020

Anna (Noe) Davis, ba '50, 91, Wichita, Kansas, Zeta Tau Alpha, Orchestra, on Feb. 16, 2020

William Davitt, jd '55, 91, Wichita, Kansas, on May 14, 2020

Donald Edwards, bba '52, 89, Lubbock, Texas, Pi Gamma Mu, on April 30, 2020

Sarah (Tabor) Ekey, b ed '56, 85, Lawrenceville, Georgia, Delta Gamma, Washburn Marching Band, on June 20, 2020

Dilver Fellers, jd '51, 97, Pensacola, Florida, on Jan. 16, 2020

Jack Fisher, ba '51, 92, Edmond, Oklahoma, on March 28, 2020

Kenneth Gatchell, bba '50, Football, Basketball, Association of Business Students

Frederick Guild, ba '52, 90, Renton, Washington, Alpha Delta, Sagamore Society, Washburn Players, Student Council, on July 15, 2020

Richard "Dick" Haefele, ba '52, 93, Topeka, Kansas, on July 21, 2020

Dorothy (Simmons) Harrison, b music '53, 88, Topeka, Kansas, Alpha Phi, on May 19, 2020

Derryl Johnson, bba '58, 87, Topeka, Kansas, on May 27, 2020

Jan Leuenberger, bba '58, jd '61, 83, Topeka, Kansas, on April 13, 2020

Robert Richmond, ba '50, h '11, 92, Topeka, Kansas, Kappa Sigma, Sagamore Society, International Club, Interfraternity Council, Washburn Review, on May 29, 2020

Barbara (Bartley) Schaeffer, ba '55, 86, Topeka, Kansas, Alpha Phi, on April 13, 2020

Bonolyn (Kinney) Snyder, ba '55, 88, Topeka, Kansas, Delta Gamma, on May 23, 2020

Louis Steck, ba '53, 90, Fresno, California, Alpha Delta, on Jan. 30, 2020

1960s

W. Robert "Bob" Alderson, jd '67, 80, Topeka, Kansas, on June 5, 2020

Neil Bartley, b ed '66, 76, Topeka, Kansas, Basketball, on May 5, 2020

Melvin Davidson, jd '60, 87, Prairie Village, Kansas, on May 11, 2020

Jack Estes, ba '60, 90, Arkadelphia, Arkansas, on June 11, 2020

Ronald Farrell, bba '62, 79, Topeka, Kansas, Alpha Delta, on June 14, 2020

Lowell Gordon, jd '69, 76, on July 30, 2019

Carolyn (Covert) Huffman, b ed '61, 84, Topeka, Kansas, Alpha Phi, Young Republicans, on April 6, 2020

Merle Hutton, ba '66, Tucson, Arizona, on May 16, 2020

Garold Lindsey, bba '65, New Braunfels, Texas, Air Force ROTC, Football, on March 21, 2020

Marylee (Kirkpatrick) Maxwell, b ed '62, 89, Topeka, Kansas, on Feb. 28, 2020

Marshall Miller, bs '60, 82, Topeka, Kansas, Alpha Delta, on June 25, 2020

Thomas Munson, ba '62, 80, Topeka, Kansas, on April 10, 2020

Mary (Rees) Parmley, m ed '70, 94, Dallas, Texas, on June 14, 2020

Michael Reynolds, bs '68, 76, Topeka, Kansas, Kappa Sigma, on May 10, 2020

Barbara "Bobbie" (Sherman) Rieger, bfa '61, 82, Topeka, Kansas, Delta Gamma, on May 12, 2020

James "Jim" Schwartz, b music '66, 79, Wichita, Kansas, Sigma Phi Epsilon, on April 21, 2020

Danny Scott, bba '67, 76, Marietta, Georgia, on July 1, 2020

1970s

Franklin Benge, ba '76, 67, Austin, Texas, on March 14, 2020

Ed Blass, bba '78, 83, Topeka, Kansas, on April 10, 2020

Stephen Braymen, bsw '74, 70, Topeka, Kansas, on June 11, 2020

Terry Brune, b music '76, 71, Pittsfield, New Hampshire, on March 15, 2020

Michael Dreher, ba '75, 68,
Topeka, Kansas, on May 15, 2020

Marcia (Ackerman) Devlin,
ba '74, 67, Lawrence, Kansas, on
June 6, 2020

Beverly (Thompson) Evans,
aa '77, ba '81, msw '84, 72,
Topeka, Kansas, on July 12, 2020

Raymond "Scott" Firebaugh,
bba '76, 65, Kansas City,
Missouri, on March 24, 2020

Keith Gay, bba '78, 92, Topeka,
Kansas, on May 2, 2020

Lois (Price) Hawkins, m ed '70,
90, Wichita, Kansas, on May 22,
2020

Charles "Chuck" Hill, jd '77,
67, Harriman, Tennessee, on
April 12, 2020

Melissa (Northrop) Holloman,
ba '79, 64, Topeka, Kansas,
Washburn Review, on May 1,
2020

Thomas "Tom" Morris, ba '75,
70, Topeka, Kansas, on April 17,
2020

Charles "Deacon" Oroke,
bba '73, 71, Topeka, Kansas,
Delta Sigma Pi, on April 15, 2020

Derek Shafer, jd '75, 71, Olathe,
Kansas, Law Clinic, on April 1,
2020

Edward Swift, ba '78, 66,
Topeka, Kansas, Sigma Phi
Epsilon, on July 14, 2020

Donald Rupert, jd '76, 73,
Evanston, Illinois, Law Journal,
on July 19, 2020

Kathleen Wilmore, b ed '72,
70, Topeka, Kansas, on March
22, 2020

1980s

Marilyn (Sevensson) Apel,
m ed '81, 90, Overland Park,
Kansas, on June 13, 2020

Tracy Attig, b ed '86, m ed '94,
55, Rossville, Kansas, on March
30, 2020

Rita (Tucker) Bicknell, bba '83,
jd '95, 68, North Manasota Key,
Florida, Law Clinic, on April 24,
2020

Janet (Giersch) Cairns, bsn '84,
59, Olathe, Kansas, Zeta Tau
Alpha, Tennis, Student Nurses
Association of Washburn, on
May 14, 2020

Ronald Coleman, ba '80, 62,
Lawrence, Kansas, on April 2,
2020

John Hakanson, jd '87, 77,
Alamogordo, New Mexico, Delta
Theta Phi - Law, on May 17, 2020

Stuart Haney, jd '83, 62,
Leesburg, Virginia, Delta Theta
Phi - Law, on April 25, 2020

Linda (Woodall) Ireland, ba
'81, 75, Topeka, Kansas, on April
1, 2020

Sandra (Herring) Kerns,
m ed '89, 77, Osage City, Kansas,
on May 22, 2020

Esta (Park) Meade, aa '82, 68,
Topeka, Kansas, on March 16,
2020

Ronald Pederson, bs '84, 65,
Mound City, Missouri, on June
15, 2020

Beverly (Brown) Roberts,
bba '83, 79, Topeka, Kansas, on
June 23, 2020

William "Bill" Schawo, jd '84,
76, Law Clinic, on Oct. 25, 2019

Diana Stone, bsw '83, 70,
Topeka, Kansas, on April 8, 2020

Thomas Whalen, jd '83, 64, St.
Joseph, Missouri, on May 25, 2020

Norman White, bba '84, 63,
Topeka, Kansas, on March 22,
2020

1990s

Lori (Hare) Guffey, certificate
'91, as '92, 59, Topeka Kansas, on
June 2, 2020

Kurt James, ba '92, jd '96, 68,
Topeka, Kansas, Law Clinic, on
June 3, 2020

Deena Reed, bba '91, 51,
McKinney, Texas, on March 3,
2020

Gale Remington-Smith, aa '96,
bpa '97, 66, Kansas City, Kansas,
on July 21, 2020

Gerald Toledo, ba '95, 65,
Topeka, Kansas, on April 1, 2020

2010s

Trevor Groundwater, als '17,
bba '18, 24, Kansas City, Missouri,
Beta Alpha Psi, Philosophy Club,
Alpha Lambda Delta, Lutheran
Campus Club, on April 8, 2020

Friends

Charles Abell, 87, St. George,
Kansas, on May 16, 2020

Hazel Boaz, 92, Topeka, Kansas,
on July 25, 2020

Donald Brentlinger, 87, Topeka,
Kansas, on March 31, 2020

Lawrence "Larry" Brooks, 85,
Nickerson, Kansas, on May 21,
2020

John Bueltel, 90, Topeka,
Kansas, on June 13, 2020

William "Bill" Chapman, Sr.,
80, Topeka, Kansas, on April 8,
2020

Cheryl (McCollum) Childers,
63, Dallas, Texas, on March 31,
2020

Ruth (Cohen) Epstein, 91,
Lawrence, Kansas, on June 27,
2020

Robert "Bob" Exon, 90, Topeka,
Kansas, on April 7, 2020

Dianne Garner, Washburn
Employee, 74, Bradenton,
Florida, on June 19, 2020

Robert Hannon, 68, Topeka,
Kansas, on June 5, 2020

Vicki (Luthye) Lee, 71, Topeka,
Kansas, on June 19, 2020

Diane (Van Hoozer) Rork, 65,
Topeka, Kansas, on April 13,
2020

Gary Shofner, 82, Topeka,
Kansas, on June 30, 2020



Jan Leuenberger, bba '58, jd '61, Washburn Alumni Association Board of Directors, Adjunct Professor of Law, 83, Topeka, Kansas, on April 13, 2020



Delta Theta Phi-Law, Law Journal

The Honorable Jan Leuenberger retired in 2010 after practicing law and working in the judicial for 50 years. He worked for the law firm of Ralph Glenn and Bud Cornish, and later was in private practice. He was

appointed a district court judge in 1995 and held that position until retiring. He was an adjunct professor at Washburn University for 29 years, teaching business law and developing a class on mediation. He was a native Topekan, graduating high school from Topeka High School. He was a proud cheerleader at both Topeka High School and Washburn University.

Dale Pond, bba '69, h '18, 74, Topeka, Kansas, on May 12, 2020



Dale Pond began his career as regional director of sales for an NBC affiliate in Topeka, and thereafter formed an advertising agency, Peabody/Pond, also in Topeka. He had a successful career in merchandising,

marketing and strategy development and he

rose to several positions at Bernstein/Rein Advertising, Payless Cashways, Montgomery Ward, and Lowe's Cos. Inc. While with Bernstein/Rein, he conceptualized the McDonald's Happy Meal in use since 1977. He and his wife, Susan, have supported Washburn financially with gifts to the Welcome Center, a scholarship in their name and other funds.

Edward "Ed" Soule, ba '62, jd '65, Washburn University Alumni Association and Foundation Trustee and Director, 79, Topeka, Kansas, on April 23, 2020



Delta Theta Phi-Law

During his time at Washburn, Ed Soule had an outstanding debate career and used that to go on and judge debate and forensics for the Kansas High School Activities Association. He worked as a partner in the Glenn, Cornish and Leuenberger

Law Firm and as vice president of Lawyers Title Company. He was a member of the Washburn University Alumni Association and Foundation board of trustees from 1989 until his death and he served as a director from 2007-11. He was an avid Washburn football and basketball fan and received the Washburn Alumni Association Distinguished Service Award along with his wife, Judith, in 2011.

Jeanne (Woodcox) Taggart, ba '48, Washburn Alumni Association Board of Directors, 93, Topeka, Kansas, on June 11, 2020



Kappa Alpha Theta

Jeanne Taggart worked for Braniff Airlines, with offices in the Jayhawk Hotel, once she graduated college. In the following years, volunteer work filled her days. After her kids were off to college,

she began working for the Topeka Convention and Visitors Bureau, where she gave trolley and bus tours to visitors and school groups and assisted with conventions. Her involvement in Kappa Alpha Theta extended farther than her college years at Washburn University. She served on the Theta advisory board, corporation board and was honored as "Theta of the Year."

Cheryl (McCollum) Childers, Chair and Associate Professor, Sociology and Anthropology, Washburn University, 63, Topeka, Kansas, on March 31, 2020



Cheryl Childers was a dedicated faculty member at Washburn University for 23 years, starting in 1996. She made an impact on the Washburn community through various service commitments and her sociological scholarship. She served as chair for

the sociology and anthropology department from 2010-17. During that time, she worked collaboratively across disciplines to develop and implement the forensic anthropology program. Her advocacy for social justice impacted numerous Washburn faculty and students through her co-facilitation of C-TEL diversity workshops.

Allen “Al” Dickes, Eminentes Universitatis Dean of Enrollment Management, Adjunct Instructor, Economics, Washburn University, 76, Topeka, Kansas, on June 24, 2020



Al Dickes started at Washburn University in 1978, where he filled both academic and administrative roles over 30 years, retiring in 2008. He last served as the dean of enrollment

management for 12 years and was the secretary of the general faculty for 29 years. He held several other roles at Washburn such as executive assistant to the president, vice president of student affairs, director of institutional research and 30 years teaching economics.

George Harden, Professor Emeritus, Education, Washburn University, 80, Topeka, Kansas, on July 24, 2020



George Harden retired from Washburn University as a professor of education in 2009 and was a lifelong, valued educator. He specialized in teaching education law and philosophy of education. In addition to his work at Washburn, he worked with many public schools in the area to train

administrators through the years. He was elected to the board of education of the Jefferson West school district and served multiple terms as the chair of the Kansas Ethics Commission. After graduating from the University of Minnesota, he earned a doctorate in record time from Kansas State University while serving as the principal of Hanover High School.

Sallee (Jones) Lee, Friend of Washburn University, 90, Topeka, Kansas, on April 26, 2020



Sallee Lee and her husband, Bob, were very active with Washburn University. Sallee served the Topeka community, volunteering for numerous boards and nonprofits. She received the prestigious Monroe Award at Washburn in 1998 for her work on the

Washburn Women’s Alliance, where she served as its first president. She also served as president of the Mulvane Art Museum board. The Lees have financially supported Washburn Athletics, WWA and other areas on campus through scholarships and facilities enhancements. In 1984, the basketball arena known as Lee Arena was named after Sallee and Bob.

James “Jim” Macnish, Jr., Washburn University Board of Regents, 84, Topeka, Kansas, on April 28, 2020



The Honorable Jim Macnish moved to Topeka in 1967 to become a partner at Rost & Rost. He spent a short time as a municipal court judge and was appointed a district court judge in 1977. He held that position for 27 years until semi-retirement in 2004. He

continued as a judge pro tem until full retirement in 2016. He was appointed to the Kansas Sentencing Commission as a charter member. He served on the Washburn University board of regents from 1971-82 and was chair from 1974-76. He was given an honorary life membership to the Washburn University School of Law Alumni Association in 1995.

Richard “Dick” Shermoen, Chair and Professor Emeritus, Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Science, Washburn University, 89, Topeka, Kansas, on April 13, 2020



Dick Shermoen became chair of the mathematics department in 1967. During his tenure of 26 years at Washburn University, he served on many University committees including Faculty Senate and a term as chair of the science division of the College of Arts and Sciences. He was instrumental in implementing

the computer science program. He oversaw the mathematics tutoring lab and promoted activities such as the math club and the Kappa Mu Epsilon Honor Society. The actuarial science major within his department originated during his tenure. He retired in 1993 and proceeded to volunteer for AARP Tax-Aide for 25 years. Several donors gave in his honor to build the Dr. Richard E. Shermoen Math Learning Lab, which opened in 2019. 🏃

Correction: The Spring 2020 In Memory section of The Ichabod incorrectly listed a law firm Christel Marquardt worked for during her career. The correct spelling is Cosgrove, Webb and Oman.





Alumni Travel Opportunities

SEE THE WORLD WITH FELLOW ICHABODS

ALL-INCLUSIVE WINTER TRIP TO PLAYA MUJERES, MEXICO

Jan. 24-31, 2021

Get away this winter with fellow Ichabods at the Grand Palladium Costa Mujeres Resort & Spa amidst the sugary white sands and clear waters of the Mexican Caribbean. Pricing begins at \$1,799 per person double occupancy and includes roundtrip, non-stop airfare from Kansas City (other departure cities available, but pricing may vary), seven nights stay at the resort, all meals and beverages.

MISSISSIPPI RIVER CRUISE — MEMPHIS TO NEW ORLEANS

March 14-22, 2021

All aboard the American Queen for a cruise down the Mississippi River. Pricing begins at \$2,299 per person double occupancy and includes one-night hotel stay in Memphis, seven nights aboard the American Queen with shore excursions, all onboard meals, wine and beer with dinner, daily lectures by a riverlorian and more. Airfare, port charges and gratuities not included. Extend your trip with a pre-cruise stay in Memphis or post-cruise stay in New Orleans.

ICELAND

May 23-29, 2021

Cross Iceland off your bucket list, a beacon of nature's majestic beauty. Soak in the famous Blue Lagoon, visit the Vikingaheimar Museum, travel the Golden Circle and admire some of the world's most beautiful waterfalls, volcanoes and black sand beaches. Price is \$2,750 per person double occupancy and includes round-trip airfare from Kansas City (other departure cities available, but price may vary), five nights hotel accommodations, 11 meals and sightseeing.

MEDITERRANEAN CRUISE — BARCELONA TO ROME

Oct. 25 - Nov. 1, 2021

Sail along the sunny rivieras of Spain, France, Monaco and Italy aboard Oceania Cruises' Marina. Ports of call include Palma de Mallorca, Marseille, Monte Carlo, Antibes, Cinque Terre (La Spezia) and Florence (Livorno). Pricing begins at \$2,299 per person double occupancy and includes airfare. Extend your trip with a pre-cruise stay in Barcelona or post-cruise stay in Rome.



The Alumni Association's travel club is exclusive to dues-paid members of the Washburn University Alumni Association. Members get advance notification of trips. If you are not a member of the Alumni Association, consider joining online at wualumni.org/join. You don't have to be a graduate of Washburn to join the Alumni Association and be a member of the travel club. Nearly every trip sells out quickly. If you are interested in any of these trips, email Susie Hoffmann at your earliest convenience. The Alumni Association offers the trip to prospective travelers in the order they express interest. Get your name on the list early to hold your place. If later you choose not to go, your spots will be offered to someone on the waitlist.

For more information, contact Susie Hoffmann

785.670.1643 | susie@wualumni.org | wualumni.org/alumni-travel



1710 SW JEWELL AVE.
TOPEKA, KS 66621

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

NON PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TOPEKA, KS
PERMIT NO. 89

**SUPPORT.
SAVE.
CONNECT.
ENGAGE.**

JOIN

Show your Washburn pride by being part of a community of thousands of loyal alumni and friends who support Washburn and each other as members of the Washburn Alumni Association.

wualumni.org/membership
785.670.1641

