

WASHBURN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION — FALL 2021

THE ICHABOD







On the cover:

Ichabod pride continuously shows as the reds, golds and yellows of fall make their way across campus as the weather cools and the days get shorter. *Photo by Doug Stremel*



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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

Brooke Donaldson
communications assistant

Brad Porter
stewardship manager

Danielle Smith
graphics and marketing specialist

Sarah Towle, ba '07
executive director of engagement

CONTRIBUTORS

Gene Cassell, ma '20
Washburn University Athletic Communications

Annie Flachsbarth, ba '07
freelance

Angela Lutz
freelance

Chris Marshall, ba '09
freelance

Jensen Simons, ba '16
freelance

Joy Smith
Washburn University Athletic Communications

PHOTOGRAPHY

Doug Stremel
 Jeremy Wangler

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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

We would be neglectful if we weren't making physical and mental wellness a key component of our university community. The two are essential for students to carry on through the challenges of achieving a college degree and for faculty and staff to perform at their best.

Not everyone is a world-class athlete or in prime physical and mental health, and not everyone has to be. Our Student Recreation and Wellness Center gives the campus community access to equipment, classes and staff to help users build healthy routines. The Counseling Services staff provide essential mental health services. The Employee Wellness program gives our faculty and staff the opportunity to participate in annual health screenings, screenings that can warn some of us to take further steps to prevent chronic problems.

The pandemic has taught us our health choices are personal, but they can affect the well-being of our community. Our School of Nursing has a great reputation in the community, and they have done their best to remain active during difficult times. More than 200 nursing students helped at four vaccination clinics this year. You will read about Dean Jane Carpenter in this edition and see how she truly is student centered.

You will also read about WU Moves, a free wellness program for senior citizens and low-income community members. The kinesiology department has run this program for five years, and it has been a great opportunity for students studying all manner of health care fields to improve the lives of community members. The program is a testament to how much even small changes in our physical well being can improve quality of life. WU Moves is a program we hope continues to grow.

We are also pleased to feature Col. Roy Danks, a medical doctor who uses his skills in both military and private practice. Alumna Marissa Dake was building a career in Washington, D.C., when the pandemic forced her back to Topeka. You can read about how she ended up managing a program that supplied 3.4 million meals to area citizens in need.

We will continue to make physical and mental wellness a priority at Washburn while celebrating Ichabods everywhere doing great work in the many related fields.



STUDENT RECREATION
& WELLNESS CENTER

A Thousand Words

Mulvane Art Museum acquires new photography collection for Washburn

By Brooke Donaldson

The Mulvane Art Museum recently added new photography works to its permanent collection that are expected to inspire collaboration across academic disciplines on campus. This stunning collection includes over 600 photographs from 10 photographers of note and is valued at more than \$2 million.

The museum's director, Connie Gibbons, was approached by Summit Art Advisory, a company that represents collectors who are looking for museums to donate their collections. Documents upon documents of photographs were sent to Gibbons and her team, who spent the next couple of weeks sifting through them and selecting photographs for the museum's collection. Gibbons and her team worked to identify images that would be academically beneficial and inspiring to faculty, students and alumni.

"This collection, as a series, is important in terms of education on campus, engaging faculty and students and inspiring curatorial narratives," Gibbons said. "They have so much potential in so many disciplines."

The pieces touch on subjects such as history, art, literature, sociology, anthropology and more, making them accessible to many different departments on campus.

"Having this collection become part of the Mulvane is so exciting because it can be a catalyst for collaboration across the University," said Laura Stephenson, dean, Washburn University College of Arts and Sciences.

Some photographs have already been integrated into existing exhibits, acting as a preview for what is to come. However, adding these photos into exhibits is not the only way the Mulvane is showing off their new acquisition.

As they continue to receive photographs, Gibbons and her team are working to add those images to their website in hopes they can invite faculty, students and alumni to curate exhibits based off a theme or specific artist.



The 1979 Walter Ios photograph, "Tony Scott and Garry Templeton, Dodger Stadium, Los Angeles, CA," shows two baseball players relaxed in their dugout.



The 1968 Walter Ios photograph, "Ali vs Ernie Terrell, Houston Astrodome, 2/6/67," captured the iconic boxer, Muhammad Ali.

“The real value is in engaging the campus,” Gibbons said. “I am hopeful these photographs can serve as resources in and out of the classroom.”

The Mulvane’s online presence has increased greatly in the past year. This includes video demonstrations of how to create certain styles of artwork, short presentations about various artists and the ability to access and research all images in the museum’s permanent collections.

“Part of our goal is to make our collection accessible online so people have a greater opportunity to see what we have,” Gibbons said.

The Mulvane acquires collections in a variety of ways, including direct donations of works or raising money to acquire large collections.

“We are often looking for connections to our community or region when we select pieces,” Gibbons said. “Other times, we are looking to add works about current social and political climates, or simply, works that tell stories. With our new photography collection, we get a little bit of everything.”

The images Gibbons selected for this collection are of a wide variety, ranging from emotional, detailed photographs of harsh realities to colorfully depicted photographs of sports figures.

“One thing I love about this collection is that these photos show so much personality and humanity of the people who are captured,” Stephenson said. “You are able to see common and uncommon experiences, while some images even act as little mysteries – leaving anyone who sees them wanting to learn more.”

Gibbons and her team at the Mulvane have worked hard to add collections and create exhibits that explore important topics such as social justice, highlight different cultures and ethnicities and feature the history of Kansas.

“I have the utmost respect for Connie, as she has done an amazing job expanding the scope of the collections at the museum,” Stephenson said.

Gibbons has strived to create opportunities to collaborate and share the works at the Mulvane



“Freedom Lights, Greenwich and Harrison Street, 9/11/06,” by Donna Ferrato shows the memorial lights rising up from ground zero of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attack in New York City.

with the rest of campus and the community. Under Gibbons’ leadership, a new academic minor was added in museum and curatorial studies last year.

“Connie has been instrumental in creating faculty and interdisciplinary collaboration across campus,” Stephenson said. “She has always found new ways to get the art at the Mulvane in different areas on campus and engage students and faculty. I could not be more proud or thankful for all the work she has done for the University.” 🚶

Dean for Students

Carpenter focuses on student success, meeting demand for quality nurses

By Jeremy Wangler • jwangler@wualumni.org

Jane Carpenter seemed to always have an encouraging voice urging her when it became time to make career moves. She's thankful for those people and hopeful she and the Washburn University School of Nursing are doing the same for students studying to become nurses or elevate their credentials with certificates and graduate degrees.

Carpenter, bsn '80, started teaching at Washburn in 1993, became interim dean in 2019 with the retirement of Monica Scheibmeir, and permanently stepped into the position in February 2020.

"I feel like it's really an honor to hold this position," Carpenter said. "Our three previous deans have done amazing work and left an outstanding legacy."

Growing up in Overland Park, Kansas, it was Carpenter's father who encouraged her to work in health care, saying there would always be a demand

in that field. On a tour of Washburn, Alice Adam Young, the first School of Nursing dean, presented a warm and welcoming campus to Carpenter. Thirteen years after graduating, faculty member Susan Hsia encouraged Carpenter to apply for an open teaching position at Washburn. She got the job and it turned into a full-time position a year later.

Knowing nursing is an ever-changing field, Carpenter earned a master's degree in nursing. Sometime later, Cindy Hornberger, bsn '78, dean at the time and now an adjunct professor, encouraged a reluctant Carpenter to get her doctorate.

"I said to her, 'Cindy, I'm going to be too old for that. I'll be 53 when I'm done,'" Carpenter recalled. "So, Cindy said, 'You can be 53 or you can be 53 with a PhD.'"

"How do you argue with that logic?"

Hornberger said she encouraged Carpenter to get her doctorate because they were part of a young faculty and only a few had terminal degrees – the highest degrees offered in their field.

"That was a priority need, strategically for the school," Hornberger said. "Jane was a prime candidate because she is a student advocate and an outstanding teacher. She was someone I felt would have a long and successful career in academe."

Carpenter earned her doctorate in education to further round out her knowledge. The pursuit paid off, but the timing of her most recent promotion meant she is now leading the school through an unforeseeable crisis. The COVID-19 pandemic began within a month of Carpenter's permanent placement as dean.

"COVID has created so many challenges," Carpenter said. "I have to give our faculty credit. They did an amazing job of moving our classes online, creating virtual simulations and virtual labs. I couldn't have done this without the help of our two associate deans,



Jane Carpenter helps nursing student Rose Aubert place an IV during a lab. *Photo by Jeremy Wangler*



Jane Carpenter, bsn '80, became interim dean of the Washburn University School of Nursing in 2019 and permanently started in the role in February 2020. She began teaching at Washburn in 1993. *Photo by Doug Stremel*

Dr. Debbie Isaacson and Dr. Bobbe Mansfield (bsn '81).”

Washburn went online in March of 2020, and getting students in clinicals for the remainder of that semester became difficult, especially for the seniors who had to complete capstones. When partner institutions in Kansas City quit accepting students for clinical, Stormont Vail Health and the University of Kansas Health System St. Francis Campus found places for those students.

The School of Nursing put community health initiatives on pause at the start of the pandemic, but the vaccine rollout gave nursing students a chance to help at four vaccination sites in Topeka.

“This was a way for our students to see community health in action and to be a part of the solution,” Carpenter said. “It was really important to me that we be a part of that.”

Carpenter and her colleagues haven't only focused on navigating COVID-19 since she became dean. They are updating the mannequins in their simulation labs. They are preparing students for a change in the national exam that certifies nurses after graduation.

They are using a state grant for faculty development and to help struggling students with study skills, organization and test preparation. And they are beginning to look at how Washburn colleagues teaching in other health care fields can collaborate and work on interprofessional experiences for all their students.

Carpenter and the School of Nursing are prepared to meet a growing demand for nurses and any changes in the education landscape. Hornberger is pleased her colleague is leading that charge.

“I think Jane has the temperament and the passion to be dean,” Hornberger said. “And because she is such a student advocate, I really look forward to the things she does to enhance the opportunities for students.”

Seeing her students succeed and become great nurses will always motivate Carpenter.

“Our alumni are providing high quality, compassionate care,” Carpenter said. “I'm super proud of all of them. I love going out to the hospitals in different areas and hearing what they're doing, and they're super excited to tell me what they're doing.” 



WU Moves student intern Jessica Rubio works with a client during a session. *Photo by Jeremy Wangler*

A Perfect Fit

After five years and a pandemic, WU Moves still going strong

By Chris Marshall

One of the most important parts of maintaining fitness is making healthy choices a habit. Since its 2016 inception, WU Moves, a wellness program for senior citizens and low-income individuals in the community, enjoyed the consistent momentum necessary to gain staying power at Washburn University.

The initiative began as a trial run, led by Park Lockwood, lead researcher and professor, kinesiology;

Roy Wohl, chair and professor, kinesiology; and Kathy Ure, C.O.A.C.H. director and lecturer, School of Nursing. Student workers and interns instruct classes, provide guidance for living a healthy lifestyle and measure the progress of members. By any metric – client satisfaction, participation rates, improved fitness – the model has exceeded Lockwood's expectations.

“I had no idea people would be this interested or it would be this beneficial,” Lockwood said. “I also didn’t know how healthy people would get. When you actually look at the database and see improvements in blood glucose, fitness, blood pressure, strength and the ability to do functional exercises like picking up things and climbing stairs, it’s made a world of difference. That makes the faculty and students feel good about what they’re doing.”

The program that specializes in physical assessments was given a gut check of its own when COVID-19 brought in-person workouts to a halt. If anything, the pandemic served as a reminder of how necessary the service is to the Washburn and Topeka communities. After a brief pause in services in spring 2020, WU Moves began offering online instruction for clients that summer and gradually welcomed participants back to the gym as vaccines became widespread. By the end of the academic year, most of the 200 clients were back to full-fledged activity.

“We really saw it all happen in a short time,” Lockwood said. “People did less during COVID, then we watched many of them come back in and redevelop their health and fitness, and you could really see differences in three to five months as they returned.”

WU Moves averaged about 85 visitors per week in July 2021, and Lockwood expects that number to climb closer to 110. The program has been operating at maximum capacity for years, with an ever-growing wait list, both because of its popularity and because WU Moves only has so much staff and space at its disposal. Lockwood hopes to hire a student for a managerial position to help handle demand.

“We benefit from having so many different departments provide so many skills,” said Lockwood, who has employed student workers with majors including kinesiology, nursing, allied health, social work and psychology.

Students are relied upon for many day-to-day responsibilities, but in some ways, they see the most gains. The experience developing nutritional and exercise plans, leading classes and working with clients one-on-one is invaluable preparation for entering the workforce.



Prof. Park Lockwood

“I want to be a physical therapist, and this is a great way to use what I’ve learned in my classes,” said Madison Lysaught, a senior exercise rehab science major who teaches a low-impact class. “We all work with clients individually, usually one or two at a time, and we get experience using

the latest equipment and exercise strategies. It feels good making an impact, doing something they want to come back to enjoy. I love the people I work with and I’ll miss them when I’m not here anymore.”

For Virgi Scardanzan, bs ’21, WU Moves provides training she otherwise would have a hard time finding. After working in the program while an undergraduate kinesiology major, the Italy native returned to WU Moves as she pursues her master of business administration degree.

“I’m an international student, and my visa doesn’t allow me to work off campus,” said Scardanzan, who is also an All-American pole vaulter and Academic All-American on the track and field team. “Working at WU Moves is incredible because it gives me experience in the field I wouldn’t be able to get anywhere else.”

Some clients benefit so much, they phase out of the program and maintain fitness on their own. Similarly, there’s a growing number of student workers who, after graduating from the University and WU Moves, take what they learn and apply it off campus.

“I don’t know how many emails I’ve gotten from people who are going to physical therapy school or graduate school or occupational therapy school, saying thanks for everything, especially for this program,” Lockwood said, “It greatly helped them to work with people and build their knowledge as they begin new careers.” 🦿

Historic Support

Washburn University receives largest gift in campus history

By Sarah Towle • stowle@wualumni.org

In July, the Washburn University Alumni Association and Foundation announced a gift of \$10.2 million from anonymous donors. The gift will be used for scholarships and several capital projects on the Washburn University campus in the coming years. This is the largest gift received in Washburn University's history.

"The donors wanted to make a transformative gift to celebrate all Washburn University has accomplished and set the stage for continued improvements on campus and support for students," said Marshall Meek, president, Washburn University Alumni Association and Foundation. "Their generosity will provide monumental changes on our campus in the coming years and greatly support our students."

One project benefiting from the gift is a new recital hall that will be constructed just north of White Concert Hall along 17th street. The project was approved by the Washburn University board of regents in October of 2020. The new recital hall will benefit students in Washburn University's music department and local community organizations creating a

smaller, more intimate space for musicians and audiences alike and state-of-the-art technology for recording and livestreams. The gift helped launch a fundraising campaign with a goal of \$5.25 million for the recital hall.

That game-changing gift also helped cement a record-breaking fundraising year. Last fiscal year, nearly 5,000 alumni and donors came together in an incredible show of support for Washburn students giving \$26 million to the University.

"It is generosity such as this that has been transformative in Washburn's history, and we know this gift will leave an indelible mark on our campus for generations to come," said Jerry Farley, president, Washburn University. "We are thankful for the donors' shared vision, extensive generosity and commitment to the future of this university." 🙏

Read more about the new recital hall:
wualumni.org/recitalhall



Recital Hall rendering. *Provided by Schwerdt Design Group*

Connections

Student callers look forward to phone calls with alumni and friends

By Jensen Simons

Nowadays some might cringe at the idea of carrying on a conversation over the phone. But the art of such connections is still an invaluable asset to fostering relationships and sharing information. This is especially the case for Washburn University students working for the Alumni Association and Foundation's Phonathon and the individuals they build long-standing relationships with through the program.

Making calls throughout the fall and spring semesters, Phonathon garners financial support while nurturing positive relationships with alumni, donors and friends of the University.

"This is a chance for students to grow their skillset; for many this is their first professional job," said Courtney Artman, as '13, bhs '15, development director, annual giving, Washburn University Alumni Association and Foundation. Artman, too, was once a student employee involved with Phonathon. In her current position with the Foundation, she directs Phonathon, mentoring and supporting student callers. Arming them with a loose script to work from, she encourages students to become comfortable going "off-script," developing critical communication skills for friendly and professional conversations.

Moreover, Phonathon helps students foster connections by introducing them to donors who were involved with the same discipline, club, network, etc.

Alumni may have been away from campus for a time, so Artman and student callers focus on also connecting them with what's happening at Washburn.

"Our students are inviting them back on campus to experience new opportunities and see if they're interested in giving back to the areas they feel strongly about," Artman said.

While not every call may lead to a "yes," there are some that result in long-lasting relationships.

The friendship forged between student caller Abigail McCrory, a senior double majoring in marketing



Senior Abigail McCrory made many connections while working as a Phonathon caller. *Photo by Doug Stremel*

and entrepreneurship and innovation, and Howard Hildenbrand, bba '61, may have helped foster a generous gift in his estate plan. Hildenbrand gave annually to Phonathon, connecting with McCrory for the past few years. When he passed away in October 2020, he left a \$1.4 million gift in his estate to the Howard Hildenbrand Business Scholarship Fund and to the Friends of KTWU Program Support Fund.

"Mr. Hildenbrand was a very kind man," McCrory said. "He was always eager to hear about what was happening on campus and how I personally was doing as a student. It was very clear to me he loved Washburn and Washburn's legacy. I feel very honored I had the opportunity to get to know him."

A Phonathon veteran of three years, McCrory extolled the program for the experience it offered her. "The connections I made with the alumni were very meaningful. They made the job worth it. I loved hearing about their Washburn experience, how some went to school after the '66 tornado whereas others were telling me they used to play on the golf course. My time as a student caller was wonderful, getting to know more of our alumni and connect with them was something that made an impact on my life as well." 🦋



As a student, Tonya Ricklefs, aas '98, bas '00, msw '11, helped with the paperwork to create the master of social work program at Washburn. Now she's the social work department chair. *Photo by Doug Stremel*

Leading by Example

Alumna and social work department chair supports students toward success

By Annie Flachsbarth

“Even though I have my doctorate, I keep my associate's degree up on the wall because it was a very hard degree for me to get. Just because you've been gone for a while, doesn't mean you can't come back,” - Tonya Ricklefs

Going to college can be exciting, but it can also be a lot of work and a lot of pressure – especially when life gets in the way. Some students may take a few years off or never come back at all. But in a profession where caring is crucial, the Washburn University social work department goes out of its way to instill core industry

values from the start to help students find success. One alumna turned chair of the department knows all too well just how the social work department can make a huge impact on the lives of students and the community they serve.

Assistant Prof. Tonya Ricklefs, aas '98, bas '00, msw '11, earned her bachelor's from Washburn in human services. She grew up in Meriden, Kansas, and she knew she wanted to go into social work because her mother was also a social worker. She saw a lot of what

“What we hear from our students about reaching out is really true – I experienced that as a student, and I use that as an example of how I want to be as a chair and a professor. It’s the people at Washburn who make the University feel like home.”

- Tonya Ricklefs

her mother did and how she helped people in her profession. In fact, her mother eventually became the director of Counseling Services at Washburn. But that didn’t put Ricklefs above the challenges that come with obtaining a degree.

While taking classes, working as a work study student in the social work department and working another part-time job, Ricklefs started to struggle and stopped going to some of her classes – eventually ending up on academic probation. She took a break from school altogether, but staff made sure she was welcomed back when she was ready.

“I didn’t come back right away, but the faculty and staff were very helpful in reaching out and checking on me and just making sure I was OK,” Ricklefs said. “I had about three semesters at Washburn at the time, but I can distinctly remember them tracking me down and not just letting me go.”

When Ricklefs returned to Washburn’s human services department she found the same caring approach: when her father passed away and she had a hard time coming back to class, staff and faculty reached out to her again.

“This time I was a mom and trying to do school as a single parent. I tried to make up a lot of excuses, but they called me,” Ricklefs said.

While a work study student in the social work department, Ricklefs helped prepare the paperwork



Jaquita Clark, bsw '18

Washburn submitted to create a master of social work program at the school. Now, back as a professor, she also has the honor of being chair of the department.

“What we hear from our students about reaching out is really true – I experienced that as a student, and I use that as an example of how I want to be as a chair and a professor,” Ricklefs said. “It’s the people at Washburn who make the University feel like home.”

Jaquita Clark, bsw '18, had a very similar experience. When her father and several other family members passed away, she too had a difficult time with school.

“My teachers and classmates made sure I was doing OK. They helped me through the grieving process and keeping up with classes,” Clark said. “Many of those classmates became friends for life – there was a feeling of support in the social work program more than any other department I came in contact with.”

Clark, who returned to Washburn this fall to pursue her master's in social work, became a social worker because mental health has always been important to her, especially in the Black community.

“There’s not a lot of people of color in this field or in this region, so I feel like I can really make a difference and be a part of change,” Clark said.

That support is crucial to clients in the field, but also to students. The department is revising its strategic plan to focus on first-generation students and knowing what all students will need once they’ve graduated.

“I think that is why it is so unique right now to have someone who has knowledge of the history of the program who keeps us grounded and then also so many new faculty members who move us forward,” Ricklefs said.

“They’re teaching us how to support other people, and they showcase that through leading students by example,” Clark said. 🦋

Sharpened Steel

Army surgeon shows depth of a military career in ad campaign

By Angela Lutz

From working as a burn theater consultant in Afghanistan to caring for patients at Research Medical Center in Kansas City, Missouri, Col. Roy Danks, ba '94, has never shied away from a challenge. While he has been a trauma surgeon for more than two decades, in 2006 he decided to take his career to the next level by joining the United States Army Reserve. While he anticipated certain aspects of Army life, such as travel and exposure to other cultures, being a soldier has also allowed him to hone his surgical skills, particularly his expertise treating burn patients.

“My most rewarding deployment was in Iraq in 2009 where we cared for a very critically burned Iraqi national and used some techniques that had never been used before, alone or in combination,” said Danks, who is a command surgeon for the Army Reserve Aviation Command at Fort Knox. “We were able to save his life. Throughout my career, I’ve used these opportunities as steppingstones to do more than I ever anticipated I would.”



Col. Roy Danks, ba '94 (right). *Photo submitted*

Over the years, Danks' military experience has been a significant boon to his work as a civilian surgeon. In addition to his position at Research Medical Center, Danks serves as medical director of trauma at Northeast Regional Medical Center in Kirksville, Missouri, and owns a private practice. While many urban or suburban doctors have resources and specialists readily available, crises can still arise. Danks has gotten better at responding to these stressful situations since joining the Army Reserve. He has also become a better leader thanks to strong mentorship and educational opportunities in the Army.

“My Army experience helps on the civilian side because in the deployed setting, you end up making a lot of adjustments given the conditions,” Danks said. “In the civilian world, we’re used to having everything we need, but as a trauma surgeon, the Army has taught me how to make adjustments, be better at critical thinking and think outside the box.”

To help college students and young people getting started in their professional lives learn about the breadth and depth of a military career, this year Danks was one of 12 diverse soldiers featured in the Army's “What’s Your Warrior?” campaign. Danks is represented by a character called “the Sharpened Steel,” a doctor and soldier who uses his medical skills to save lives in the field. Danks also regularly speaks to medical students about possible trajectories their career could take that they might not have considered.

“I explain to young people that there’s the opportunity to be a soldier in the Army Reserve while also continuing your civilian career,” Danks said. “In reality, the Army is leading the way in trauma care. I look at that as one more feather in my cap, one more tool in my bag I can use in a civilian setting at some point.”



Col. Roy Danks' story of using his professional skills in the Army is represented by the Sharpened Steel character (top row, right) during a recent Army marketing campaign. Danks is a command surgeon for the Army Reserve, sees patients at two hospitals and owns a private practice.

While Danks has traveled all over the world, he believes the foundation to his success started at Washburn. He entered the University as a non-traditional student and initially planned to study criminal justice and become a police officer. Then he took a biology course and fell in love with the sciences – and the rest is history.

“My undergraduate education was one of the greatest four years of my life,” Danks said. “I got into biological sciences, and the professors – I was honestly just enamored by them. They were so smart and so friendly. They wanted you to succeed. I would put Washburn’s education, especially in the sciences, up against any college in the nation. I had fun, and I learned so much.”

Danks’ former professors at Washburn remember him warmly as well. Ron Ash, professor emeritus, who taught biology at Washburn from 1987 to 2007, had

Danks in multiple classes and served as his mentor and friend. The two worked on research projects together and pranked each other every April Fool’s Day, which Ash said was Danks’ favorite holiday.

“He was a serious student, but he had a very playful nature,” Ash said. “He was eager to learn and very disciplined. He’s had a very long career in surgery, but I knew he would do well from the start. When he was here, he was one of my favorites, and I still remember him fondly.”

As Danks’ career progresses, he remains dedicated to self-improvement. He recently completed flight surgeon school, and he aims to never stop pushing himself – and encouraging others to do the same.

“If you want to push yourself to be the best, then being a soldier in the Army Reserve is the perfect opportunity,” Danks said. “There’s nothing I look back and wish I hadn’t done. It’s all been rewarding.” 



Wayne (left) and Nancy Cottril (right) are joined by President Jerry Farley during a small ceremony to view the stained glass windows seen on the left and right of the window behind them. Wayne found the windows at a garage sale, years after they survived the tornado of 1966 that destroyed much of Carnegie, the building they were originally in.

Photo by Jeremy Wangler

Window to History

Cottrils reunite pre-tornado stained-glass windows with Washburn

By Brad Porter • bporter@wualumni.org

In 2003, Wayne Cottril was browsing through a garage sale in the College Hill neighborhood north of campus when he came across something extraordinary – two beautiful pieces of rectangular stained glass, swirling with green, orange and brown around three geometric shapes that look a bit like abstract flowers or crosses. The glass wasn't perfect – it had some pitting and cracks. But the weathered look was part of the charm. This was glass with a story.

All the seller could say was the glass had been in her parents' house, and she thought the windows might have originally come from "a chapel on MacVicar."

Cottril said she probably meant McVicar Chapel, or some Washburn building at any rate, as the glass was reminiscent of others he had seen in old photos.

Whatever the case, Cottril paid and took the glass home. His wife Nancy was at first not sure if this was a good buy, but once she found a spot for them in her dining room windows, she fell in love with them too. So there they hung in the Cottril's home for many years – a piece of their house, a piece of their lives – but always with the question from visitors, neighbors and Wayne and Nancy alike: "I wonder where these came from?"

Digging Up the Past

It's important to understand Nancy and Wayne aren't just neighbors. Their relationship to Washburn has always been far beyond passive interest in the university next door.

Being sports fans, they started going to Washburn football and basketball games in the early 1980s and have been season ticket holders ever since. They became such big fans of the women's basketball team that they were regular spectators even at practices and have made naming gifts to the locker room and an endowed scholarship for players. Nancy has been involved with the Washburn Women's Alliance, and as music lovers, both have been a regular sight at White Concert Hall, chatting with friends in the lobby before shows and recitals. When they received the Honorary Ichabod Award this year for non-graduates who have demonstrated their steadfast support of Washburn, it wasn't a shocker. The Cottrils, and their love of Washburn, are well known.

What was less well known, though, was the glass. They asked around but never got confirmation of the glass's Washburn provenance. Until one day they received a note from the person most able to give a definitive answer on Washburn history: Martha Imparato, university archivist and special collections librarian.

Some of Washburn's original buildings had indeed been adorned with distinctive stained glass, but most of it was destroyed by the 1966 tornado or put aside and lost in the subsequent rebuild. Imparato had, in fact, been involved years earlier when a large circular stained glass piece centered with a Bible was found. She was able to

verify it as having been original to Boswell Hall and, once it was restored, gifts from the friends and family of John Luttjohann, bba '78, jd '83, led to it being hung and rededicated in White Concert Hall.

After a chance discovery (see page 18), Imparato was able to tell the Cottrils not only theirs were in fact Washburn glass, but she could show them exactly where they had hung – in the windows flanking the entrance to Carnegie Library. Nearly 120 years old, 60-plus years on campus, survivors of the historic tornado, a detour through College Hill, and then into the Cottril's dining room, amazingly intact, beautiful as ever.

"We knew it was time for them to go home," Nancy recalled. "I just had two conditions. First, they be displayed for everyone to enjoy. And second, they be hung as they are, cracks and all, because that's part of their story."

A Glowing Reunion

On a crisp, sunny morning this April, the Cottrils arrived at White Concert Hall along with a small group of Washburn staff and friends. Wayne and Nancy made their way through the lobby where they had spent so much time as concert-goers, to the windows on the southwest side.

There hung the two rectangle pieces, dazzling and on full display back at Washburn for the first time in 55 years. The Carnegie glass. The Cottril glass.

The only thing that shined brighter than the sun coming through the stained glass was the expression on Wayne and Nancy's faces. 🦿



A closeup of one of the windows now hung in White Concert Hall. *Photo by Jeremy Wangler*



The windows can be seen intact on either side of the front doors to Carnegie after the 1966 tornado.



Photo by Jeremy Wangler

Historical Reflection by Martha Imparato

In the early 2000s the Cottrils contacted me about some stained glass they'd purchased. Rumor was it had originally been on campus before the 1966 tornado. At the time, the only buildings I knew that had stained glass were McVicar Chapel and Boswell Hall, and from their description, I knew it was not from there. Some years later I was scanning a photo of students studying in Carnegie Library and as I zoomed in, something about the way the light was coming through the windows made me look closer. I realized the top sections of the windows were stained glass with stylized diamonds or cross-shaped flowers, and I remembered the Cottril glass described this way. Looking at earlier photos I

could clearly see that all the first-floor windows had this stained glass. I then checked tornado damage photos to see if any had survived, and sure enough I could see that exactly one pair had, the ones on either side of the front door. The mystery had been solved. I left the Cottrils a message and mailed them a printout of the photo. I don't remember any further communication until last fall when I heard some stained glass was being gifted back to the University. On the day we celebrated their new location, it was a moving experience to see them hanging in White Concert Hall with their glorious colors shining brightly next to the Boswell Hall stained glass, both symbols of survival.

Abundant Care

Pandemic forces alumna back home where an opportunity to lead sprung up

By Angela Lutz

When the COVID-19 pandemic began in March 2020, Marissa Dake, ba '17, faced a major plot twist in her life. Since graduating from Washburn, Dake had been living in Washington, D.C., working at a government affairs firm that specialized in food and agriculture policy. She had hoped to build a career there, but plans quickly changed when her landlord decided to sell the house she shared with her roommates. Suddenly Dake found herself stuffing her belongings in her brother's Honda Civic and driving back home to Kansas.

"I drove 18 hours straight – it was a pretty anxiety-inducing experience," Dake said. "I intended to stay with my family for a few weeks and save money on rent until the pandemic ended – but it wasn't long before I learned about the opportunity to spearhead Operation Food Secure."

An initiative of the Topeka Rescue Mission, Operation Food Secure aimed to redistribute massive amounts of excess food from the sudden closures of schools, restaurants and other foodservice businesses. The local nonprofit was selected to receive the food through the USDA's Farmers to Families Food Box Program. For Dake, who was familiar with the USDA, it felt like a custom-made opportunity.

"The pandemic showed how sensitive our supply chains are, but it also revealed how many of us are just one missed paycheck away from hunger," she said. "On one side, our team was handling 175,000 pounds of perishable food each week, and on the other, we saw a soaring number of families in need of assistance, many of them for the first time. Our team worked around the clock with particular focus on reaching marginalized neighborhoods and rural communities."

Spearheading Operation Food Secure also gave Dake the chance to reconnect with Miriam Krehbiel, Topeka Rescue Mission senior director of supportive services. Krehbiel has been one of Dake's mentors since the two were matched through the Washburn Leadership Institute. Krehbiel served on the



Marissa Dake, ba '17. Photo by Doug Stremel

institute's advisory board, while Dake served on the Student Leadership Council. During Dake's time at Washburn, she learned from many other influential community members as well.

"We have an abundance of leaders here who are willing to invest in the lives of students," Dake said. "My leadership courses often had guest lecturers, and I would approach them after class and ask them for coffee and career advice. No one ever turned me down. Those conversations led to all sorts of opportunities and connections for me."

With the ending of the Farmers to Families program, Dake is proud of the impact she and her team made. In a little over a year, the program mobilized 535 volunteers from 117 partner organizations to distribute 3.4 million meals across northeast Kansas.

"Life throws you lots of curveballs, and there will be so many things you can't anticipate," Dake said. "I've been out of school for four years, and my life has already taken some pretty exciting twists and turns that have come from being adaptable and willing to serve." 

Alumni Awards

Eight people were honored by the Washburn University Alumni Association and Foundation on Aug. 7, 2021, for their service to their community and Washburn University.

Jeanne Vawter, ba '70, m ed '93 | Distinguished Service Award



Jeanne Vawter has lived a life of service to the Topeka community and to Washburn. She retired in 2010 as principal of Jardine Middle School, a position she held since 1998. There, she implemented flexible scheduling, allowing staff to meet as teams and improve student success. She was assistant principal for two years before that and was a teacher, science department chair and curriculum for nine years at Robinson Middle School. She was a member of the Washburn Alumni Association board of directors for eight years and served as president. Vawter serves on the SILVERBACKKS board of directors as president and on the CASA citizens review board. She volunteers with

League of Women Voters, Child Care Aware Designers' Showhouse, with Zeta Tau Alpha sorority and in her grandchildren's elementary schools.

What are your fondest memories of Washburn:

I have three. First, in elementary school, we lived on campus so my dad could attend college and law school. Many friends were made, and a lot of mischievousness was created. Second, as a student, my favorite time of year was fall and Homecoming – decorating houses, sharing friendships and the smell of a burning woodpile and leaves. Finally, since we have become Alumni Association members, we have formed so many great friendships and experiences. We count our Washburn friends as part of our family.

Michael Kuckelman, bba '86, jd '90 | Distinguished Service Award



Michael Kuckelman is a founder and shareholder at Kuckelman Torline Kirkland Law, a firm in Overland Park, Kansas, started eight years ago. Prior to that, he practiced for Kansas City, Missouri, firm Blackwell Sanders (now Husch Blackwell) and was a member of the Plaintiffs' Executive Committee appointed by the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York to litigate the 9/11 World Trade Center litigation, which resulted in a \$1.2 billion settlement for the plaintiffs. Kuckelman is a member of the bars of Kansas, Missouri and New York, as well as England and Wales. He is a member of the Washburn University Alumni Association and Foundation board of directors and board of trustees, as well as the Washburn University School of Law Alumni Association board

of governors. He and his wife, Jo, are co-presidents of Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas Snowball 2020. He is also chair of the Kansas Republican Party and sits on the Benedictine College board of directors. He offers pro bono attorney service to families adopting children.

What are your fondest memories of Washburn: They tend to center around my time at Alpha Delta fraternity. I will be forever grateful for the friendships and growing up that occurred at Alpha Delta. It has a lifelong impact. I met my wife, Jo, at Washburn. Many of my close friends today are friends dating back to my time at Washburn. Since we are both Washburn graduates, it is fun for us to attend the Washburn Wednesdays and visit with other Washburn graduates and reminisce about the great memories we all share from our days at Washburn.

Patricia Dick, b ed '71 | Lilla Day Monroe Award



Patricia Dick is considered a pioneering legend in Topeka, increasing access to physical education and organized sports for females throughout her coaching and teaching positions at Washburn University and Washburn Rural High School.

She taught PE at WRHS from 1971-77, starting the girls' sports program. After that, she went to Washburn University where she taught and coached until 2000. An educator first and a coach second, Dick had to schedule games for the sports she taught, staff the games and provide transportation for road games. She was head softball coach for seven years and head women's basketball coach for 23 years. She was able to award three full-ride scholarships for

the first time in 1983-84, and the team won a conference championship and advanced to the NAIA national tournament for the first time that year. She won three CSIC and two MIAA conference titles in her career. After leaving Washburn, she became executive director of the Arthritis Foundation of Kansas from 2000-15. She has been a trustee of the Kansas Sports Hall of Fame, a member of the YMCA board of directors and she started and operated a girl's summer basketball league for more than 18 years.

How has Washburn contributed to your life:

Going to Washburn University helped build my skills to enjoy a 30-year career teaching physical education and coaching numerous sports including as head basketball coach at Washburn for 23 years.

Dr. David G. Woods, b music '65 | Col. John Ritchie Award



David Woods has worked to bring music and fine arts education to thousands of students and improve community access to the arts. He served as dean of the School of Fine Arts at the University of Connecticut from 2000-12 and retired from the

faculty in 2015 with dean emeritus status. There, he developed the first and only partnership with the Metropolitan Opera in New York City. Prior to that, he served as dean of the School of Music at Indiana University, dean of the College of Fine Arts at the University of Oklahoma, director of the School of Music at the University of Arizona and chair of the division of music education at Iowa State University. Woods has written numerous books and articles on music education

and has developed music curriculum for all levels. Residing in Topeka upon retirement, he serves on the boards of the Topeka Symphony Orchestra endowment, the Sunflower Music Festival and Pine Ridge Health Center. He and his husband, Dr. Ted Yungclas, fund a Washburn music faculty development endowment and provided the lead gift for Marching Ichabods uniforms last year.

How has Washburn contributed to your life: I will never forget standing in Moore Bowl playing the Star-Spangled Banner with tears running down my cheeks with pride for our country and for Washburn University. Profs. Everett Fetter, James K. Van Slyke and Floyd Hedberg were instrumental in preparing me for a career not only in music education, but in arts administration.

Michael Wilhoite, ba '10 | Graduate of the Last Decade (GOLD) Award



Michael Wilhoite is in his first season as linebackers coach with the Los Angeles Chargers in the NFL. The NFL veteran played seven seasons as a linebacker and on special teams from 2011-16 for the San Francisco 49ers and in 2017 for the Seattle Seahawks.

He had 298 career tackles, four interceptions and two forced fumbles. He was signed to the 49ers practice squad in 2011. After 12 weeks on the practice squad, he earned a spot on the active roster in 2012 and helped them to the Super Bowl

that season and was the team rookie of the year. By his third season, he earned a starting spot as a linebacker. Wilhoite was the 49ers community service player of the year in 2014.

What are your fondest memories of Washburn: Friends and family are two of the most important parts of my life and my spiritual peace. Washburn extended my family the day I stepped on campus. My fondest memory was Senior Day in 2009 and getting the chance to watch all my brothers being celebrated, walking out with their family and hearing their stats and accomplishments over the loudspeaker.

Shelbie Konkel, ba '14 | Graduate of the Last Decade (GOLD) Award



Shelbie Konkel was appointed senior advisor to Kansas Gov. Laura Kelly in December 2020. She previously served as chief of staff to Lt. Gov. Lynn Rogers and as the deputy executive director of the Governor's Recovery Office which invested

and administered the state's discretionary allocation of CARES Act funding. Konkel has experience in the Kansas legislature, working as the caucus and communications director for the House minority leader and as the legislative director to the Senate minority leader. She worked on various federal and state campaigns. Since graduating, Konkel has been a member of the Washburn Alumni Association Young Alumni Council, general advisor to the Washburn Chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha and a volunteer coach for the Washburn debate team.

How has Washburn contributed to your life and career:

Washburn truly shaped who I am today – both personally and professionally – by providing me with unique opportunities that taught me more about myself and the world around me. One of those experiences was a legislative internship in the Kansas Senate in 2012 that really helped start the trajectory of my career. Countless other opportunities – like studying abroad in Cuba, volunteering in the Topeka community and competing on the debate team – taught me to respect and appreciate others' opinions and perspectives and the experiences that shaped them. Throughout all of those experiences, I was supported and encouraged by Washburn faculty and staff who are still, to this day, just as invested in my success as they were the first day I set foot on campus.

Wayne and Nancy Cottril | Honorary Ichabod Award



Wayne and Nancy Cottril have been Washburn football season ticket holders since 1983 and basketball season ticketholders since 1984.

They have developed a closeness with the women's basketball team, visiting with players after practices

and games. The Cottrils have an endowed basketball scholarship in their name, they provided the naming gift for the women's basketball locker room and they give annually to other athletic and music scholarship funds. They appreciate the personal thank-yous, hugs and notes they get from scholarship recipients and players.

What are your fondest memories of Washburn:

Wayne's memory is from September 1983. Our son, Mark, was a freshman football player and we came to Moore

Bowl for the first game of the season. We stood at the top of the stairs trying to pick a place to sit when we noticed a nice young woman in animated conversation with her seat mate. Nancy always said God told her we should take the seats next to this woman and we did. By the time the game was over, we felt like we made new friends. She and her husband insisted we sit with them at the next game, and this couple became our dear friends, Connie and Al Carson. Nancy's memories are about basketball. The men's team went to the national tournament in 2001. We would have won the championship with different officials! The Lady Blues won the national championship in 2005. We recently found old tapes of those games and I found myself getting very nervous again, and I knew who won! Those young men and women will always be an enjoyable part of our Washburn experience. 🏃

Alumni Board

One alumnus joined the Washburn University Alumni Association board of directors effective Aug. 1, 2021.

Michael Edwards, ba '01 | Fort Worth, Texas



In addition to his Washburn degree, Michael Edwards earned a master of science in education from Northwest Missouri State University and a doctor of education at Texas Christian University. While a student at Washburn, Edwards was a member of the football team and served on the executive board for student publications. Edwards had worked at

Texas Christian University the past 10 years, most recently as assistant vice chancellor for development. In September 2021 he started a new role as assistant vice president of development for the Oklahoma State University Foundation. His prior employment includes William Jewell College and the Muscular Dystrophy Association. He has served on various committees in his community and he created the Edwards Family Scholarship for students studying mass media at Washburn University. 



New Trustees

Six new members of the Washburn University Alumni Association and Foundation board of trustees began their term on Aug. 1, 2021.

Natalie Haag, jd '85 | Topeka, Kansas



Natalie Haag serves as general counsel, corporate secretary and executive vice president of Capitol Federal Savings Bank. Prior to joining Capitol Federal in 2012, Haag was second vice president, director of governmental affairs and assistant general counsel for Security Benefit Corporation in Topeka for nine years. Haag also worked for the State of Kansas for seven years in various positions. During the first 10 years of practice, Haag prosecuted and worked for law firms in Topeka and Wichita. Haag is a member of the Washburn University School of Law Alumni Association board of governors and the School of Law Business and

Transactional Law Center board of advisors. She is a Kansas Bar Association delegate to the American Bar Association House of Delegates and has held many roles with the KBA and ABA. She has been a member of Kansas CASA board of directors, Stormont Vail Foundation board of trustees, Humanities Kansas board of directors and the Topeka Chamber of Commerce Political Action Committee. Haag earned the Henry A. Bubb (Capitol Federal) Distinguished Service Award, the YWCA Woman of Excellence Award, a Washburn Alumni Fellows award, the Topeka Bar Association Newton Vickers Professionalism Award, the KBA Outstanding Service Award and the Security Benefit Living the Values Community Service Award.

Paul Hoferer, jd '75 | Topeka, Kansas



During law school, Paul Hoferer worked as a switchman for the AT&SF Railway Co. and joined the railroad law department in Topeka. Following the merger of the Santa Fe and Burlington Northern in 1995, he was promoted to assistant vice president and later vice president and general counsel for BNSF Corp. He retired in 2008 after 43 years in the railroad industry. Hoferer was an officer in the U.S. Army from 1966-69

including service as an infantry platoon leader in Vietnam for which he was awarded the Purple Heart and the Air Medal. Hoferer was chair of the Washburn University board of regents, president of the School of Law Alumni Association board of governors, chair of the School of Law Foundation and volunteer chair of the School of Law capital campaign. He is a School of Law Alumni Fellow and recipient of the Distinguished Service Award. He and his wife, Jeanne, bba '80, h '15, established the Paul and Jeanne Hoferer Law Scholarship in 2005.

Kris Klima, ba '05 | Topeka, Kansas



While at Washburn, Kris Klima was a member of the women's tennis team and Washburn Student Government Association. She was also a member of Kappa Alpha Theta serving as president. In 2005, Klima was named the tennis team's most valuable player as well as Greek Woman of the

Year. Upon graduation, Klima joined the Washburn admissions staff recruiting high school students to the University. In 2011, she earned a master of science in education in higher education administration from the University of Kansas and went on to serve as director of admissions at Washburn until 2017. Currently, she is serving as the communications director at Fellowship Bible Church and focusing on her young family.

Dr. Priti Lakhani, ba '91 | Lawrence, Kansas



Dr. Priti Lakhani was trained at New York University in surgical podiatry and practiced for 15 years. She was then accepted at Harvard University where she earned a master of health care management. After Harvard, she joined Cerner

for five years as a director in several domains including strategy, global consulting and physician satisfaction. She also headed the Patient Safety Council driving improvements in quality and safety. Upon leaving

Cerner, she served as chief medical information officer at Einstein Medical Center and headed health equity projects on four continents. A varied background enables her to take a holistic view of constraints and apply the correct balance of people, process and technology to achieve an optimal solution. Currently, she serves as the head of the Office of Quality, Safety and Value at the Veterans Affairs central office in Washington, D.C., to help oversee the \$16 billion project to improve the United States' obligation to care for the nation's heroes.

Chris McGee, bba '00 | Topeka, Kansas



While at Washburn, Chris McGee studied finance and economics, was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon, Blue Key, Delta Sigma Phi and the Student Alumni Association. McGee is the managing director with the McGee Franklin Financial

Group of Wells Fargo Advisors, where he has worked for 24 years. He has sat on the boards of the Topeka Civic Theatre and Academy, Jayhawk Area Council of Boy Scouts, Downtown Topeka Rotary Club, the Topeka Community Foundation, the Topeka Symphony Endowment and many others. In 2013, he was a part of Topeka's Top 20 Under 40.

Bob Viets, ba '65 | Naples, Florida



Retired, Bob Viets served as CEO of CILCORP Inc. in Illinois from 1988-99. There, he played a significant role in deregulation of retail energy markets and was the first to demonstrate the benefits by opening customer test markets

to competition. Prior to his experience at CILCORP, Viets worked as a certified public accountant. In 1973, he joined Central Illinois Light Company, a regulated utility, and led the formation of CILCORP, an unregulated entity that assumed ownership of CILCO.

He has served on boards of several publicly traded companies, including CILCORP Inc. and RLI Corp. He has served as chair of several non-profit boards including Methodist Health Services Corporation, Advanced Medical Transport and Heart of Illinois United Way Campaign. Viets received the President's Award from Bradley University in Peoria, Illinois, and has chaired its board of trustees. He received the Distinguished Alumnus Award from Washington University (Missouri) and was named a Washburn University Alumni Fellow. 🏆

Extra Shot

Ichabods take advantage of NCAA's extra year of eligibility due to COVID-19

By Annie Flachsbarth

When much of the world went remote and the COVID-19 pandemic limited or postponed in-person activities in 2020, many student-athletes were left wondering if their college athletic careers would be cut short. However, thanks to an exception granted by the NCAA, student-athletes are getting another chance, including Washburn University men's basketball player Tyler Geiman, bba '21, and women's basketball player Hunter Bentley, ba '21.

In October 2020, the NCAA granted fall and winter sport athletes affected by the pandemic an extra year of eligibility, whether they competed in the 2020-21 season or not. This allowed athletes the flexibility to compete freely in the 2020-21 season and still return for an additional year of competition in the 2021-22 season.

Basketball in the Time of COVID

Washburn athletes were lucky they weren't completely stopped from competing like other schools around the country. However, the 2020-21 basketball season was

restricted to conference-only games with strict weekly COVID-19 testing procedures.

"We had our COVID testing at the beginning of each week. There was always lots of anxiety while we waited to get the results back," Bentley said. "We had a few games that were postponed, but that was because of other teams' covid tests. We didn't have anyone who was actively playing on our team test positive."

For both Bentley and Geiman, the weirdest part of playing basketball during a pandemic was the lack of spectators in the stands. Crowd sizes were extremely limited due to social distancing guidelines.

"This was a tough year for a lot of teams, and it's a different type of energy when there are no fans in the gym," Geiman said. "You really have to rely on yourself and your teammates to keep spirits up."

"It's hard playing in a silent gym," Bentley said. "You always want to win and play hard and do your best,



Tyler Geiman, bba '21. Photo by Joy Smith, Washburn Athletic Communications



Hunter Bentley, ba '21. Photo by Joy Smith, Washburn Athletic Communications

but when there isn't anyone there cheering and yelling, it's hard to sway the momentum."

The Rebound

Bentley, who became the 24th Washburn basketball player in program history to eclipse 1,000 career points, is returning for her fifth year in the fall.

"The main part of my decision to stay another year was the team," she said. "If they weren't as good of teammates as they are or if I didn't think we had the potential to be really good, I don't think I would have stayed. I'm really excited to get started."

Geiman, who is also returning for his fifth year, is likely to continue climbing the record books. He's currently second all-time at Washburn with 558 career assists and ranked fourth in career 3-pointers. He is the first Ichabod to have at least 1,000 points, 500 assists, 500 rebounds and 100 steals.

"It didn't really feel like the last go around for me, so once I heard I could come back, it was a no-brainer," he said. "We made the (NCAA) tournament three of the last four years, which has been really cool to be on a team with a lot of good talent. We have a lot

of guys back for next year, and I'm really excited I get to do this."

Non-conference games for both teams begin in November and MIAA games start in December. The men are coming off a 20-7 season where they won the MIAA postseason tournament, and the women went 12-12 and advanced to the second round of the MIAA tournament.

Both players earned their bachelor's degrees last spring. Geiman aims to graduate in the spring of 2022 with a master of business administration degree.

"I love Washburn and the small campus feel," Geiman said. "I also love the athletic department and Topeka. There's a lot of support. It's a great place to be."

Bentley aims to graduate with her master's in communications and leadership in 2022. She hopes to get a job in government, and someday she would love to coach. But right now, she's excited to get back on the court with an arena full of fans.

"It will definitely be nice to have people in the gym supporting us again," Bentley said. "I hope we can have as many people there as possible." 🏀

Driven for Greatness

Collegiate golf career capped by national player of the year award

By Chris Marshall

It's easy to be skeptical when an award-winning athlete claims they compete simply for the love of the game. But when Andrew Beckler, the 2021 Division II recipient of the Jack Nicklaus Award, said he doesn't golf for the accolades, there's reason to believe him.

That's because the Washburn University standout didn't even realize he was eligible for national player of the year honors until he was named a finalist after his senior season ended in May.

"I didn't know they gave it to DII golfers, so that was kind of a surprise," said Beckler, bba '19, mba '21. "It means the world to me to be recognized for the hard work and results I've had. I don't play for recognition, I play just because I love to play, but it's still awesome to be honored."

The Jack Nicklaus Award is given annually to the top golfer in each classification of competition. Beckler joined a star-studded list of previous winners that includes Tiger Woods, Phil Mickelson and Justin Thomas.

It was the most prestigious in a slew of Beckler's honors that include All-America and MIAA player of the year. Beckler finished in the top three of all 10 events his senior season, winning five and finishing second individually at the NCAA national championship. He set a Washburn scoring record with a 70.42 average for the season.

The Topeka native played the past three years for the Ichabods after starting his collegiate career at Kansas State University. Transferring reunited him with Jeff Stromgren, b ed '80, who coached Washburn Rural High School during Beckler's freshman year before coming to Washburn.

"I didn't think it would happen again," Beckler said of playing for Stromgren, who retired as Washburn's coach at the end of the season. "He's nice to learn from, and I know how much he cares about Washburn and Topeka, like me. When I left K-State, this was the only place I wanted to go."



Andrew Beckler, bba '19, mba '21. Photo by Jeremy Wangler

Beckler made the MIAA Academic Honor Roll every year and was a first team Academic All-American.

"Washburn was a perfect fit, with the class sizes and having professors and a community that cares," he said. "We got real-world experience with business professionals around town, and that will help me down the road."

For the past three years, Beckler complemented his Washburn classes by working as an account specialist for RetireWise, a tax and wealth advisory firm. He said he's happy to have the company's support as he graduates to even tougher courses: Beckler plans to begin golfing professionally this fall.

"I'm going to try making it on some tours, starting with qualifying school for the Korn Ferry Tour, and hopefully eventually the PGA," he said. "I'm giving myself two years, and if I can make a living doing that, awesome." 

Washburn Announces New Veterans Memorial

President Jerry Farley announced in August that Washburn University will build a new veterans memorial on campus, and he and his wife Susan, personally made a lead gift of \$50,000 to match donations toward the project.

“Washburn has a long history of both military service and honoring those who served,” said Farley, who was himself a drill sergeant and drill sergeant instructor in the U.S. Army. “We are so proud of our veteran-alumni. So when the subject of updating our veterans memorial came up, Susan and I wanted to make our personal contribution to ensure they have a site and a memorial commensurate with their sacrifice.”

The memorial will replace and expand upon an existing monument in the heart of campus near Morgan Hall. The existing plaque on that site, which is more than 30-years-old and has weathered considerably, will be honorably retired to Topeka Cemetery, and a new plaza and array of monuments will take its place, serving as a central site on campus for remembrance and memorializing the military contributions of Washburn students in all of America’s foreign wars.



This new memorial will center around a sculpted bronze fallen soldier telling the story of Washburn University’s military veterans, and a seven-foot-tall standing black granite stone bearing all 47 names of those who served and died in Vietnam. The Vietnam memorial will be joined by seven additional standing stones arranged around the perimeter to commemorate each of the U.S. military’s six branches of service plus one additional in recognition of the many nurses who also served in war. The site will be anchored with three flagpoles flying the American, Kansas, and POW/MIA flags, and the open-air nature of the plaza will make it a natural focal point on campus for veteran and memorial activities. 🚶

Winter Walk Will Once Again Light Up

Nights on campus will be brighter again this winter season as the Washburn Winter Walk returns. Like last year’s inaugural event, the lights will adorn Kuehne Bell Tower, select buildings and the trees and bushes along campus walkways. The public is welcome to enjoy the Winter Walk every night from Nov. 30 through Founder’s Day, Feb. 6, 2022. 🚶



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 Brooke Donaldson at bdonaldson@wualumni.org by Nov. 30, 2021, to be included in the winter magazine.

1960s

Terry Marshall, bba '63, Prescott, Arizona, Young Republicans, Alpha Delta, retired from Fain Signature Group after spending the last 11 years working as a real estate agent for the company.

Gary Peer, ba '63, Jenks, Oklahoma, football, Independent Student Association, was recently nominated for Indiana University School of Education's 2021 Outstanding Alumni Award in the category, "Distinguished Career Service to Higher Education".

Beverly (Dodge) Radefeld, bfa '68, Topeka, Kansas, was part of a duo exhibit, "Two Visions-One Prairie" this summer with fellow alumna, Cally (Kirby) Krallman, bfa '81, that featured Kansas landscape paintings. The exhibit was on display in the Vernon Filley Art Museum in Pratt, Kansas.

1970s

John Kemp, jd '74, Roslyn, New York, was appointed president and chief executive officer of the Lakeshore Foundation.

Joseph Slyker, bs '75, Overland Park, Kansas, has self-published a book, titled "Outside Looking In, My 29 Years with the Federal Bureau of Prisons." He is also married with two daughters and four grandchildren.

1980s

Montina Cole, ba '88, Washington, D.C., Young Democrats, Student Council, Honors Program, was appointed as senior counsel for environmental justice and equity at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. She is also principal of Jai Green Consulting LLC and the Law Office of Montina Cole.

John Dietrick, jd '84, Topeka, Kansas, has been appointed to serve a four-year term, effective July 2, 2021, on the Washburn University board of regents by Topeka Mayor Michelle De La Isla.

Cally (Kirby) Krallman, bfa '81, Topeka, Kansas, Washburn Review, was part of a duo exhibit, "Two Visions-One Prairie" this summer with fellow alumna, Beverly Radefeld, bfa '68, that featured Kansas landscape paintings. The exhibit was on display in the Vernon Filley Art Museum in Pratt, Kansas.

Greer Lang, jd '89, Lawrence, Kansas, joined Kutak Rock as a member of the firm's national litigation practice group.

Mayo Schmidt, bba '80, Las Vegas, Nevada, Football, Track, was named president and chief executive officer of Nutrien, the largest provider of crop inputs and services.

Mark Shaiken, jd '81, Denver, Colorado, published his new legal mystery book, "Fresh Start," now for sale on Amazon.

Cherie (Trentman) Stueve, bba '88, Alameda, California, Accounting Society, earned a doctorate in personal finance planning at Kansas State University. She is currently working as a retirement and financial specialist with My Secure Advantage.

Becky (Bauer) Tongish, bba '83, Topeka, Kansas, retired last December after serving as executive vice president and chief strategy officer at the Kansas Bankers Association for 40 years.

Richard Vaughn, bba '87, Overland Park, Kansas, Alpha Delta, rejoined the Dynabook Americas team as the senior director of U.S. channel sales.

Laura (Schutter) Weiss, bba '89, Henderson, Nevada, Washburn Review, Zeta Tau Alpha, completed her doctor of nursing practice in June. She has worked as a family nurse practitioner for 12 years and is currently employed full time with the University of Missouri-Kansas City as an assistant clinical professor in the graduate nursing program. Her husband **Art Weiss**, jd '81, is the chief compliance and ethics officer for TAMKO Building Products and the president of the Society of Corporate Compliance and the Health Care Compliance Association.

1990s

Amanda "Mandy" (Manspeaker) Czechanski, b ed '97, Topeka, Kansas, Washburn Education Association, Alpha Phi, Gamma Sigma Alpha Honor Society, Panhellenic, was hired as executive director for Prevention and Resiliency Services Inc.

Chad Eshbaugh, ba '96, Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, was hired as the assistant principal and director of athletics at Concordia Junior-Senior High School and Concordia Middle School. Previous to this, Eshbaugh was the head basketball coach at Cloud County Community College for seven out of his 11 seasons and the assistant basketball coach at Jacksonville University for the last four years.

Tamara (Garland) Ezell, m ed '98, Topeka, Kansas, retired in 2019 from the State of Kansas after 40 years of service. She is also expecting her first great-grandson this December.

Marne (Wasson) Fischer, bba '91, Manhattan, Kansas, Student Alumni Association, Kappa Alpha Theta, was promoted to FirmFlow manager, in addition to being the senior administrative assistant at Sink, Gordon and Associates, LLP.

Terrie Gustafson, bba '99, Platte City, Missouri, was recently hired as a controller for McCrite Plaza.

Stacey (King) Jensen, bs '92, Ottawa, Kansas, was hired as chief clinical operations officer at Upward Health.

Lynn McCreary, jd '94, Elm Grove, Wisconsin, Moot Court Council, has been appointed chief legal officer at Sportradar.

Nicole Corcoran Pippin, ba '93, Silver Lake, Kansas, was promoted to the deputy athletics director for sports administration and student-athlete well-being/senior woman administrator at the University of Kansas.

Courtney Prewitt, bs '98, Garden City, Kansas, was sworn in as chief of police for the Garden City Police Department. Prewitt has been with GCPD since 1999 and was captain before being promoted this year.

Ronald Shelton, ba '92, Atchison, Kansas, Football, Washburn Education Association, will be the new principal at the junior-senior high school in Effingham for the Atchison County Community Schools for the 2021-22 school year.

Kala Spigarelli, jd '90, Pittsburg, Kansas, Phi Delta Phi, was reappointed to the Kansas Board for Discipline of Attorneys. She has been a lawyer for the Pittsburg community since 1992.

Denise (Gray) Stevens, ba '91, Topeka, Kansas, will be assuming the role as executive director of Court Appointed Special Advocates of Shawnee County.

Kirk Stewart, bba '99, Lawrence, Kansas, has been hired as senior vice president, sales, at ChangePath, LLC.

Warren Stewart, bsn '98, Alexandria, Virginia, was named deputy assistant, medical affairs in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Manpower and Reserve Affairs).

Darrick Tripe, ba '94, Topeka, Kansas, Sigma Phi Epsilon, was named a purchasing specialist for the Shawnee County Parks and Recreation team.

2000s

Vincent Bowhay, ba '08, Independence, Kansas, WSGA, Sigma Phi Epsilon, was named the new president of Independence Community College.

Tara (Kemp) Cunningham, ba '00, Dobbs Ferry, New York, Phi Kappa Phi, Interfraternity Council, Campus Democrats, Dancing Blues, WSGA, was selected as the national chair on the Committee on Student Affairs at the Association of American Medical Colleges.

Adam Espinosa, jd '02, Denver, Colorado, Kansas Bar Association Student Division, Hispanic-American Law Student Association, was appointed by Gov. Jared Polis to serve on the Denver District Court, a court of general jurisdiction after serving six years as a Denver County Court judge. He will begin this position in late July in the felony criminal division.

Teresa (Middleswart) Fisher, bsn '03, Topeka, Kansas, President's Honor Roll, Phi Kappa Phi, Sigma Theta Tau, Student Nurses Association, was named director of the Shawnee County Health Department.

Lori Bolton Fleming, jd '01, Pittsburg, Kansas, Law Journal, Association for Public Interest Law, was appointed to serve as chief judge of the 11th Judicial District.

Dustin Gann, ba '04, Fremont, Nebraska, Student Government Association, God's Bods, was promoted to associate professor of history at Midland University in Fremont, Nebraska. He has worked at Midland since 2017 and served as the honors program coordinator.

Jessica Johnston, ba '06, Garnett, Kansas, joined the Anderson County Hospital's Senior Life Solutions program as the new therapist.

Timothy Leffert, bpa '07, Lawrence, Kansas, God's Bods, Rotaract, Leadership Institute, was promoted to principal of Robinson Middle School for Topeka Public Schools.

Amanda (Bayans) Lovett, b ed '05, Lawrence, Kansas, Washburn Education Association, was named the Kansas Teacher of the Year for Lawrence Public Schools in May of 2020. In May of 2021, she was recognized as the Golden Apple Award Winner at the elementary school level and received this honor at the regional Kansas Teacher of the Year Banquet.

Debra (Naylor) Marseline, msw '00, Salina, Kansas, was promoted to assistant dean of diversity, equity, and belonging in the Kansas State University Polytechnic Campus.

Tiana (Brushwood) McElroy, jd '04, Bourbon County, Kansas, Law Clinic, was selected to become the new Bourbon County attorney.

Michael Miranda, bhs '08, Hammond, Louisiana, was named the administrator of Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center in Covington.

Molly (Shea) Pierson, ba '07, Saint Louis, Missouri, God's Bods, WSGA, was hired by Washburn University as Student Life's director of residential living and assistant dean of students.

Ryan Stoll, bba '06, Topeka, Kansas, was hired as national director of seniors housing and care at Bellwether Enterprise Real Estate Capital LLC.

Ty Walrod, bba '06, San Francisco, California, Washburn Choir, Washburn Jazz Coalition, Phi Kappa Phi, Mortar Board, Sagamore Society, was recently hired as the program director for On Deck Scale.

Ruth Widrig, certificate '97, bhs '06, Breesport, New York, recently retired from Guthrie Robert Packer Hospital, where she worked for 40 years as a radiation therapist within the department of radiation oncology.

2010s

Brielle (Underhill) Barrett, bfa '16, Topeka, Kansas, was named the new Ichabod Shop director at Washburn University.

Shawntara Carter, certificate '18, Topeka, Kansas, accepted a job as a certified nurse aid at the University of Kansas Health System St. Francis Campus. She would like to thank Washburn Tech for allowing her to receive her degree and for providing her with wonderful lifelong resources.

Kali Hague, jd '13, Washington, D.C., was appointed to the National Business Aviation Association's board of directors as its young professional director. She was also recognized by NBAA as one of its Top 40 Under 40 award recipients in 2018 and is a member of NBAA's Young Professionals Council.

Taylor Ignoto, bsw '16, Thousand Oaks, California, Basketball, was promoted to assistant coach for Utah State's women's basketball team. Ignoto was previously the team's director of basketball operations and a special assistant to the head coach.

Zach Livingston, b ed '12, Tonganoxie, Kansas, Football, has been promoted to lead the Basehor-Linwood baseball program. He was assistant coach at Basehor for three years and helps with the football team and weightlifting program.

Miranda Mansfield, bs '18, Charlotte, North Carolina, Honor Student Council, Phi Theta Kappa, worked as a medical/surgical nurse for a year. She then transferred to another hospital within her health system and has worked as a mother/baby nurse for a year. Mansfield loves working with her postpartum mothers and their newborns, and says North Carolina is a beautiful place to live.

Krystal (Buchanan) Ricca, bba '14, Topeka, Kansas, was recently hired as the closer for Freedom Mortgage and married Patrick Ricca in April of 2021.

Crystal Roberts, ba '10, Overbrook, Kansas, Lambda Pi Eta, is working as an education program consultant for career and technical education at the Kansas State Department of Education.

Jennifer Snyder, b ed '13, Topeka, Kansas, received the 2020 Grand Prize Crystal Apple for outstanding work as an educator.

Gregory Stadler, bba '11, Salt Lake City, Utah, God's Bods, Washburn Sales and Marketing Executives, Beta Gamma Sigma, was named director of business operations for the University of Utah athletics department.

Logan Stutz, bis '13, Newton, Massachusetts, Basketball, Student Athlete Advisory Committee, was named the director of player development at Boston College after serving as head coach and general manager of the Sudbury Five in the NBL Canada.

Madilynn (Yaws) Thimmesch, bba '12, Topeka, Kansas, Washburn Sales and Marketing Executives, Collegiate Entrepreneurs Organization, was hired as communication and education specialist for Prevention and Resiliency Services Inc.

Carmen Thompson, bsw '16, Topeka, Kansas, Ichabod Civitan Club, has joined the Shawnee County Parks and Recreation team and has been named a recreation leader at Crestview Community Center.

Levi Thompson, bba '16, Hiawatha, Kansas, Pre-Law Association, MBA Association, Bod Squad, was selected to be the new finance director/board clerk for USD 415.

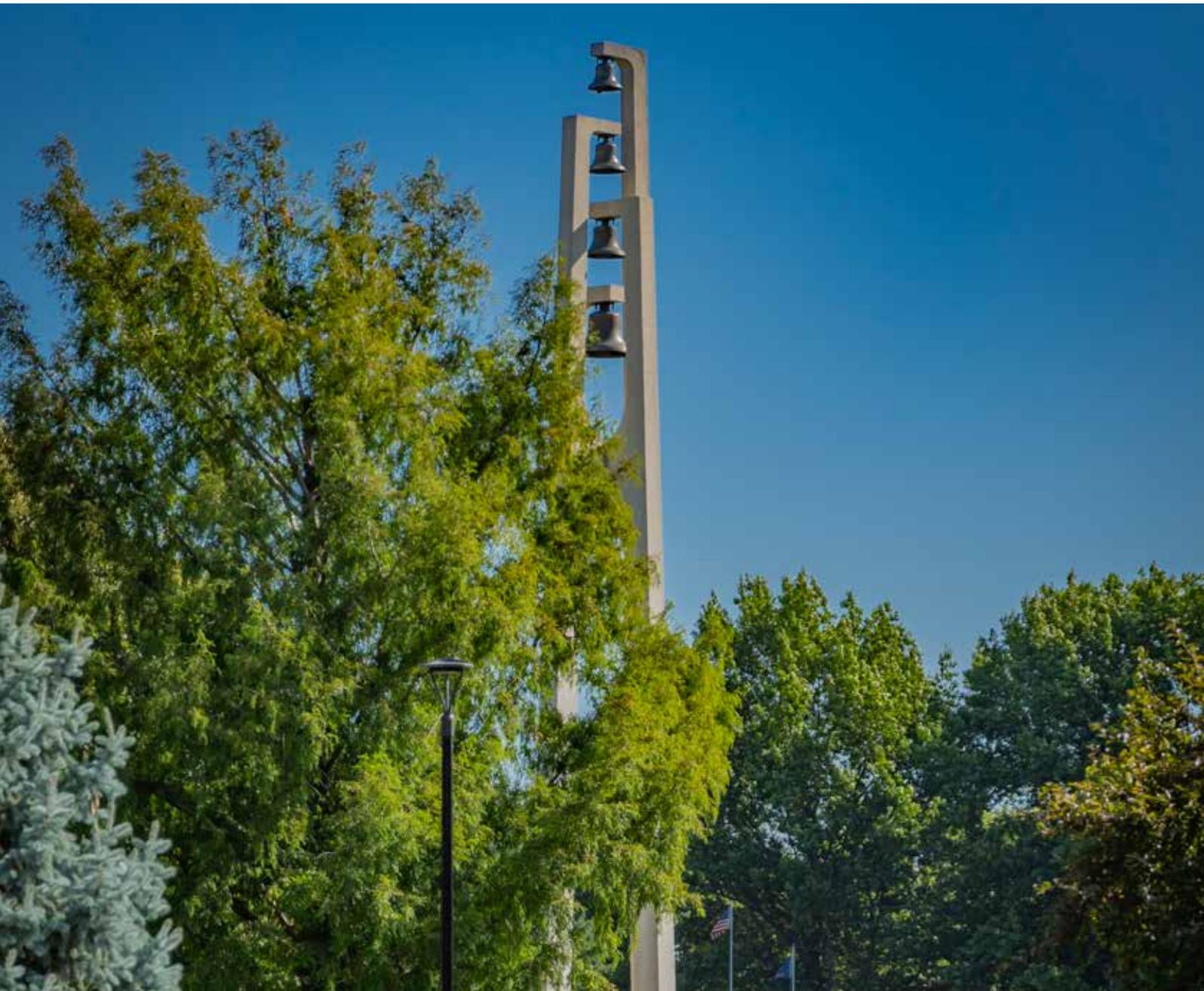
Madeline Walker, b ed '17, Tonganoxie, Kansas, Bod Squad, Alpha Lambda Delta, was hired as the seventh grade math teacher at Hiawatha Middle School.

Michael Wilhoite, ba '10, Topeka, Kansas, Football, was inducted into the Topeka/Shawnee County Hall of Fame. He played six seasons in the NFL and is currently the linebackers coach with the Los Angeles Chargers.

2020s

Philip Depew, jd '20, Neodesha, Kansas, Phi Alpha Delta Law, Law Clinic, has joined the Depew Law firm as an associate. The firm specializes in bankruptcy law and Depew will oversee most general practice legal matters.

Samantha (Buesing) Pourmirza, bhs '2020, Topeka, Kansas, FYE Peer Educator Club, was hired as a telemedicine coordinator at Stormont Vail Health after graduation and married **Sage Pourmirza**, ba '20, in October of 2020. 



In Memory

The following information was received by the Washburn University Alumni Association and Foundation before July 31, 2021. Submit any omissions to Brooke Donaldson at bdonaldson@wualumni.org.

1940s

Stephen S. Cushner, bba '47, 99, Hudson, Ohio, on May 3, 2020

Harold L. Enochs, ba '49, 96, Topeka, Kansas, on April 19, 2021

1950s

Lynn C. Bartlett, ba '57, 85, Tulsa, Oklahoma, Association of Business Students, Kappa Mu Epsilon, Young Republicans, on Feb.13, 2020

Kenneth E. Bontrager, ba '54, 89, Charlotte, North Carolina, on April 30, 2021

Betty J. (Delfs) Bowling, b ed '51, 91, Topeka, Kansas, Alpha Phi, on July 3, 2021

Miriam A. (Youngkamp) Gentry, ba '59, 86, Topeka, Kansas, Delta Gamma, Phi Kappa Phi, Kaw, on April 11, 2021

Oren A. Glatt, ba '52, 92, Manhattan, Kansas, on May 14, 2021

Martha J. Herrick, ba '53, 89, Topeka, Kansas, NONOSO, on April 2, 2021

Gailen L. Keeling, jd '55, 90, Concord, California, Moot Court Council, on Jan. 1, 2021

Flora M. (Kintz) Lohrbach, ba '55, be '67, 88, Topeka, Kansas, on April 22, 2021

William L. Reichert, ba '56, 86, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, on April 6, 2021

Donald C. Staab, ba '56, jd '59, 85, Victoria, Kansas, on May 9, 2021

Joan K. (Renner) Stringer, ba '55, 88, Topeka, Kansas, Alpha Phi, Kappa Mu Epsilon, Phi Kappa Phi, on June 17, 2021

Vernon C. Wyatt, bba '58, 88, Topeka, Kansas, on May 14, 2021

1960s

Elzena "Sue" (Flanagin) Brandenburg, bba '69, 90, Cape Girardeau, Missouri, on June 25, 2021

Thelma M. (Van Dyne) Canaday, b ed '63, 99, Independence, Kansas, on June 10, 2021

Patrick L. Dougherty, jd '67, 81, Manhattan, Kansas, on July 11, 2020

Elida A. (DeRouen) Gibbons, b ed '64, 91, Olathe, Kansas, on April 26, 2021

Jan C. (Edwarson) Hendrix, ba '67, 77, Phoenix, Arizona, on Jan.17, 2021

Janice K. (Desch) Hexdall, ba '67, 77, Hendersonville, North Carolina, on July 14, 2021

Ronald D. Innes, jd '63, 85, Wichita, Kansas, on April 12, 2021

Thomas C. Kelley, ba '66, jd '69, 77, Topeka, Kansas, on March 31, 2021

Mark H. Krysl, bba '65, 79, Las Vegas, Nevada, on May 8, 2021

Denis R. Lazarus, ba '62, jd '64, 80, Wasilla, Alaska, Delta Theta Phi - Law, on April 23, 2021

Neil D. McKenzie, bba '63, 80, Willard, Kansas, on June 23, 2021

John B. Meeks, jd '68, 80, Overland Park, Kansas, on March 14, 2021

Layton L. Miles, ba '65, 79, Hill City, Kansas, Sigma Phi Epsilon, on May 29, 2021

William A. Murray, bba '69, 74, Topeka, Kansas, on April 9, 2021

Ruth Ann (Elmborg) Pile, ba '67, bs '76, 96, Overland Park, Kansas, on May 12, 2021

Eliot H. Potter, bba '64, 100, Topeka, Kansas, on April 13, 2021

Joyce L. (Baldwin) Puderbaugh, b ed '67, 75, Denver, Colorado, on March 27, 2021

Melvin J. Quinn, bba '61, 89, Topeka, Kansas, Association of Business Students, Kappa Sigma, on June 19, 2021

Sarah E. (Sourk) Rainey, b ed '64, m ed '69, 101, Overland Park, Kansas, WU Education Association, on July 10, 2021

David L. Ryan, ba '64, jd '66, 80, Scottsdale, Arizona, on May 25, 2021

Jane A. (Atkinson) Schowengerdt, b ed '68, 74, Spring Valley, California, Delta Gamma, on April 7, 2021

Roger M. Sherwood, jd '64, 84, Wichita, Kansas, on July 20, 2021

Robert (Bob) J. Terry, ba '65, jd '68, 78, Ocala, Florida, on July 7, 2021

1970s

Michael J. Brady, bs '70, 72, Edwardsville, Kansas, on June 15, 2021

Constance "Connie" M. (Jones) Buergin, bsn '78, 93, Topeka, Kansas, on July 7, 2021

Deana J. Burgardt, ba '79, 66, Topeka, Kansas, on April 4, 2021

William T. "Bill" Coppersmith, jd '78, 68, Olathe, Kansas, on May 11, 2020

William L. Edds, jd '74, 74, Topeka, Kansas, on June 28, 2021

James G. Edwards, ba '75, 86, Galesville, Wisconsin, Phi Kappa Phi, Washburn Players, on May 18, 2021

Gary D. Irwin, bba '77, 65, Topeka, Kansas, on May 23, 2021

Larry A. Lawrence, bba '77, 82, Olathe, Kansas, on June 8, 2020

Gregory D. Lewis, jd '74, 75, Lockport, New York, on April 3, 2021

Hermoine M. (Landis) Lowe, b music '71, 93, Topeka, Kansas, on June 23, 2021

Peggy J. (Debruler) Marlow, bs '71, 95, Eskridge, Kansas, on July 2, 2021

Paul R. Miller, bba '74, 72, Wichita, Kansas, on June 20, 2021

Michael W. Murphy, bs '74, ba '76, jd '77, 66, Marysville, Kansas, on March 22, 2020

Linda K. (Johnson) Owens, b music '73, 70, Lewisville, Texas, on April 7, 2021

Kenneth P. Peterson, jd '71, 80, La Crosse, Wisconsin, Delta Theta Phi - Law, on May 25, 2021

Oscar P. "Pete" Peterson, jd '72, 85, Lawrence, Kansas, on March 30, 2021

Bradford L. Sager, bba '77, 66, Kansas City, Missouri, on April 21, 2021

Barbara R. (Roseman) Schulman, m ed '72, 84, San Diego, California, on April 13, 2021

Monica J. (Bender) Sullivan, b ed '76, 92, Overland Park, Kansas, on March 23, 2021

Larry S. Wilson, ba '71, 71, Topeka, Kansas, on March 28, 2021

1980s

Norman L. Benoit, aa '88, ba '89, 70, Topeka, Kansas, on June 22, 2021

Benjamin "Ben" Joel "Joe" Campbell, bsn '88, 58, Sedgwick, Kansas, July 2021

Elizabeth P. (Gentry) Charles, ba '89, 66, Albuquerque, New Mexico, on Sept. 18, 2020

Jeffrey M. Curtis, bba '83, 64, Shawnee, Kansas, on June 12, 2021

Mark E. Dunavan, bs '84, 59, Topeka, Kansas, on May 17, 2021

Wayne L. "Onucko" Eagle, aa '87, 64, Topeka, Kansas, on June 4, 2021

Patricia A. (Keefe) Eisenbarth, bsw '88, 78, Topeka, Kansas, on May 13, 2021

Pamela G. (Williams) Eshom, ba '86, 72, Topeka, Kansas, on May 6, 2021

Kerry M. Gasper, jd '85, 61, Wichita, Kansas, Delta Theta Phi - Law, Law Clinic, on May 25, 2021

Terry R. Gross, jd '81, 72, Kansas City, Kansas, on May 1, 2021

Steve K. McClenahan, ba '84, 60, Topeka, Kansas, on July 12, 2021

Carol A. (Endsley) McLaughlin, ba '81, 76, Topeka, Kansas, on March 27, 2021

Joseph J. Oberle, bs '83, 60, Shawnee, Kansas, Sigma Phi Epsilon, on Nov. 1, 2020

John L. Reed, jd '83, 83, Topeka, Kansas, on May 3, 2021

Donley K. Rees, jd '80, 66, Emporia, Kansas, on June 7, 2021

Tony L. Roberts, certificate '86, 62, Vassar, Kansas, on March 3, 2020

Stephen L. Terry, ba '80, 72, Seattle, Washington, on Jan. 10, 2020

1990s

Jeannine G. (Gehrs) Goodrich, mba '96, 60, Joplin, Missouri, on April 7, 2021

Thomas B. Harmon, ba '98, 46, Franklin, Tennessee, Sigma Phi Epsilon, on June 5, 2021

Ann W. (Ragland) Hedquist, ba '90, 83, Topeka, Kansas, on April 12, 2021

Scott D. Hultgren, bba '92, 57, Anchorage, Alaska, on July 12, 2021

Michelle "Shelly" D. (Nelson) Shinn, ba '92, jd '96, 50, Conway Springs, Kansas, on Aug. 17, 2020

Rhoda J. L. Walker, jd '92, 67, Topeka, Kansas, on May 4, 2021

Annette M. Wims, ba '94, 51, Topeka, Kansas, on May 30, 2021

2000s

Amy L. Leisinger, jd '06, 40, Lombard, Illinois, Law Journal Editor, Law Clinic, on June 11, 2021

Ryan J. Mahoney, jd '04, 45, Lawton, Iowa, on March 29, 2021

Captain Lucas B. Osborn, b music '04, 41, Hoyt, Kansas, on June 27, 2021

Melinda M. (Smith) Teglia, jd '04, 41, Olathe, Kansas, on April 9, 2021

2010s

Ruth N. (Batres) Barrera, msw '18, 41, Kansas City, Kansas, on March 29, 2021

Tamra L. (DeLong) Dennis, bsn '15, 40, Topeka, Kansas, on June 26, 2021

Gary P. Flowers, certificate '16, 53, Topeka, Kansas, on July 1, 2021

2020s

Jacob Tyler "JT" Chinn, ba '20, 26, Topeka, Kansas, on July 13, 2021

Friends

William "Boyd" Allen, 87, Topeka, Kansas, on April 19, 2021

John J. "Joe" Bauer Jr., 67, Topeka, Kansas, on April 29, 2021

Joyce B. (Burnham) Berlin, 92, Boise, Idaho, on April 7, 2021

Henry J. "Bud" Bromich, 84, Topeka, Kansas, on April 30, 2021

Ruth P. (George) Bufford, 74, Atchison, Kansas, on May 21, 2021

Janet (Johnson) Burnett, 92, Topeka, Kansas, on April 1, 2021

William Patrick "Pat" Carrick, 70, Berryton, Kansas, on July 10, 2021

Michael B. Ecord, 72, Topeka, Kansas, on July 21, 2021

John H. Hollis, III, 92, Ozawkie, Kansas, on July 12, 2021

Anna (Siemers) Hula, 91, Topeka, Kansas, on July 16, 2021

Donald A. Jones, 90, Corvallis, Oregon, on June 25, 2021

Marc A. Marcoux, 68, Onaga, Kansas, on April 1, 2021

Mark W. Penn, 64, Topeka, Kansas, on June 21, 2021

Roberta S. (Hansen) Salem, 72, Topeka, Kansas, on July 5, 2021

Terry L. Stilson, 72, Topeka, Kansas, on Aug. 24, 2020

Joel Weiser, 71, St. Petersburg, Florida, on Feb. 6, 2021

Janice C. (Alcorn) Dunwell, Associate Professor Emeritus, School of Nursing, Washburn University, 90, Topeka, Kansas, on April 28, 2021



Janice Dunwell taught at the Washburn University School of Nursing from 1989 to 2011. She was a community health and public health advocate and was

instrumental in the community work the School of Nursing did over the years. She served as chair of the board of the Topeka AIDS Project. Dunwell also loved to travel with the School of Nursing alongside her husband.

David G. Monical, Eminentes Universitatis Executive Director of Governmental and University Relations, Washburn University, 75, Topeka, Kansas, on May 11, 2021



In 1984, David Monical began serving Washburn University until his retirement in 2010. He had oversight of a wide variety of areas: the Office of Governmental and University Relations, Institutional Research

and the Alumni Association. Monical played a key role in the transition of Washburn's most

important revenue source, property taxes, to a county-wide sales tax. He reorganized the Institutional Research department and Alumni Association. Monical also served his community through memberships on boards of the Topeka Convention and Visitors Bureau, Meals on Wheels, Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce and the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library.

Roberta S. Salem, Lecturer Emeritus, Chemistry, Washburn University, 72, Topeka, Kansas, on July 5, 2021



Roberta Salem became a lecturer at Washburn in 1999 after teaching for 17 years in local high schools and at community college. She began the Introduction to Forensic Chemistry course, which was

Washburn's first forensic science course. Her lectures, laboratories and seminar series on best

practices in forensic science were the beginnings of what is now the forensic chemistry major and influenced future forensics opportunities across campus including partnerships such as the KBI laboratory. Named lecturer emeritus upon her retirement at the conclusion of the 2013-14 school year, Salem was noted for her commitment to students. 🏃



Alumni Travel Opportunities

SEE THE WORLD WITH FELLOW ICHABODS

Puerto Morelos, Mexico | Jan. 25- Feb. 1, 2022

Head south to Mexico and enjoy eight days at the Azul Beach Resort Riviera Cancun. Located approximately 20 minutes south of the Cancun Airport, the resort is right on the beach 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 all-inclusive resort hotel, all meals and beverages.

Portugal and the Douro River | April 6-16, 2022 | *SOLD OUT (Ask to be put on waitlist)*

Join Washburn President Jerry Farley and his wife, Susan, on this fabulous river cruise aboard the MS Emerald Radiance. Spend two days in Lisbon before boarding the ship in Porto and visiting the following ports of call: Pinhao, Vega de Terron, Salamanca, Pocinho and Regua. Pricing begins at \$4,499 per person double occupancy and includes roundtrip airfare, cruise, sightseeing, 22 meals and more.

Alaskan Cruise | July 30 - Aug. 6, 2022

All aboard the Majestic Princess setting sail from Vancouver to Anchorage and making stops in Ketchikan, Juneau and Skagway and scenic cruising through Glacier Bay National Park and College Fjord. Pricing begins at \$2,799 per person double occupancy. Extend your adventure with a glass dome train ride to Denali Princess Wilderness Lodge for a two-night stay and then travel to Fairbanks by scenic motorcoach for one night. Post cruise program is \$1,350 per person. Trip includes roundtrip airfare, cruise, beverage package and gratuities.



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





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wualumni.org/membership

