Wayne State College

Dr. Marysz P. Rames
THIRTEENTH PRESIDENT
OF WAYNE STATE COLLEGE
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A year has passed since I took the helm of Wayne State College. To say it has been eventful would be an understatement. The days have been consistently marked by the personal milestones and challenges and opportunities that come with any worthwhile enterprise. I am confident that each of these days has moved us forward in strengthening the institution for the present and kept us focused on our future.

During my inauguration, I noted my excitement at the prospect of continuing to help our students reach their goal of earning a degree from Wayne State College. Starting from the proposition of the strength of our students, I asked each of you to join me in pledging that we will continue to hold them accountable to a high standard.

My inaugural address advanced the theme of working together as a community of scholars and learners to write Wayne State's next chapter, with a focus on advancing our mission of learning excellence, student success, and regional service. The high standards of our mission can only be accomplished by increasing access, strengthening educational opportunities, enhancing student success, and rekindling regional service through partnerships.

The Greater Siouxland Task Force I created last fall to study the way Wayne State College fulfills its mission in the Greater Siouxland area has completed its work. After sifting through more than a dozen key data sources and nearly three dozen interviews with stakeholders and regional influencers, they have provided a robust set of recommendations that, as we prioritize and implement them, will enhance student access, student success, and economic development in this important part of our region. For example, the School of Business and Technology is pursuing the opportunity to offer a completely online undergraduate business degree program to serve this region. Many other exciting initiatives are underway and we look forward to the impact of our newly reinvigorated relationships with our partners to the northeast.

The college is also working hard to identify academic programs that will help to fill any workforce voids that may be present in Nebraska's rural areas. We will soon be in the position to unveil several new academic programs that, similar to the mission of the Rural Health Opportunities Program, will allow rural areas to attract and retain qualified professionals in key disciplines needed to serve their regions.

A Wayne State education has long been characterized by tremendous opportunities for rigorous hands-on learning. The Wayne State Life Sciences Department has expanded the human anatomy course to include a human cadaver. This opportunity has enhanced the study of human anatomy and prepared WSC students to be successful as they tackle medical school. This summer, the WSC Anatomy Lab has undergone a small renovation to enhance air handling and storage capacity to allow the addition of a second donor cadaver.

The college is also exploring the creation of a criminal justice laboratory that will allow students to participate in many practical simulated experiences, moving their education from the classroom to a real world scenario. There are more than 190 students in this major and their student experience would be enhanced with the addition of this type of facility. The laboratory would need to resemble a residential structure with the flexibility to accommodate various configurations to depict different types of criminal activity.

The criminal justice lab would provide a variety of academic experiences. Examples include: future law enforcement and corrections professionals can learn how to enter a structure in hostage situations, active shooter scenarios, and building searches; students can conduct a crime scene investigation with an emphasis on evidence documentation, bloodstain spatter analysis, fingerprint acquisition, firearm trajectories, and shoeprint casings; future investigative journalists and photojournalists can learn to report on a crime scene; emergency management students can participate in exercises that test their knowledge; biology students can learn about processing a crime scene with DNA evidence; pre-law students can experience how evidence can be used in a trial case; theater students can participate in different scenarios playing certain roles; and chemistry students can conduct fluid and arson analyses.

Regional service, increased access, student success, and enhanced educational opportunities ensure that the college will meet the needs of each generation of students who trust us to continue providing the education necessary to maintain "The Good Life" for all Nebraskans. As always, I thank you for your continued support of Wayne State College and for the trust you place in us as stewards of your valuable time and treasure. Go Cats!
The Inauguration of President Marysz P. Rames

Dr. Marysz Rames was inaugurated as the 13th president of Wayne State College on April 29. The inauguration ceremony was held in Ramsey Theatre in the afternoon, followed by a reception and dinner. Chamber Coffee was held that morning in Gardner Hall in her honor, as well as a student picnic the evening before.

Dr. Rames began her work as president of WSC in July 2015 after approval by the Nebraska State College System Board of Trustees. She came to Wayne State from Dakota State University in Madison, S.D., where she had served as interim president since August 2014.

You can view photos, read Dr. Rames’ complete speech and find more inauguration details by visiting wsc.edu/inauguration

“Family and friends have taught me the importance of being gracious, thankful, ethical and committed. ... My sister and I are both first generation college students, so I understand and appreciate the many obstacles a first generation student faces. Success in my career is directly linked to the encouragement and support of family, mentors, professional colleagues and close friends over the years.”

“All Is But a Beginning”
“Our movement through the educational process, which Neihardt described beautifully as ‘not an end, but rather an endless process, a manner of becoming,’ is a cycle repeated thousands of times as we engage students in the transformational process of not just earning a degree but capturing the ability to learn for a lifetime, to constantly improve their understanding of the world, and, by doing so, change the world around them.”
Wayne State College held commencement for graduate and undergraduate students May 7. Donald Short III ‘16 delivered the graduate address. Alumni Achievement Award recipient Bart Gotch ‘82 delivered the undergraduate address.

The graduate ceremony conferred degrees on 145 students, awarding master’s degrees in education, business administration, organizational management, curriculum and instruction-instructional leadership, and educational specialist degrees.

The undergraduate ceremony featured multiple awards honoring excellence among the college’s faculty, alumni and students. Bachelor’s degrees were conferred on 393 students.

Graduate Invocation
Barbara Njeri Kibugi of Nairobi, Kenya, delivered the graduate ceremony invocation. She graduated with a master of science in education degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling. She is the daughter of Joyce Wanjiku Kibugi and Francis Kihara Kibugi.

She was a member of Chi Sigma Lambda counseling honorary society and Alpha Sigma Lambda, an organization of academically outstanding nontraditional students in continuing higher education at Wayne State.

Kibugi served as a Wayne State graduate assistant, Bridges International member and a research assistant for ongoing research titled “Loving What We Do: Exploring the Experiences and Retention of Mental Health Counselors.” The research was presented at the joint 2016 American Counseling Association and Canadian and Psychotherapy Association Conference in Montreal, Canada.

Kibugi plans to pursue a counseling license in Nebraska after graduation.

Graduate Commencement Address
Donald E. Short III of Sioux City, Iowa, delivered the graduate commencement address. He graduated with a master of science in education degree - Curriculum and Instruction - Instructional Leadership/Elementary Education. He is the son of Jennifer Lockwood of Cherokee, Iowa, and Larry and Kim Hamman of Moville, Iowa.

He earned his bachelor’s degree in elementary education with a music concentration at Morningside College in Sioux City, graduating Summa cum Laude.

Short is a fifth-grade teacher at Liberty Elementary School in the Sioux City Community School District. Short serves as director, music director and choreographer for LAMB Arts Regional Theatre in Sioux City, Iowa, where he also teaches dance and music. He has appeared on the LAMB stage in many roles and occasionally steps behind the scenes to direct. Short has danced for nearly 20 years; during that time, he has been part of a national tour and performed in “The Nutcracker” on the Orpheum stage.

Undergraduate Invocation
Dasirae Danielle Sieh of Stanton, Neb., delivered the undergraduate ceremony invocation. She graduated with a degree in Life Sciences/Biology. Sieh is the daughter of Michael and Sheliie Sieh of Stanton.

Sieh was a Neihardt Scholar, named for WSC alumnus and Poet Laureate of Nebraska and the Plains John G. Neihardt. The Neihardt Scholarship is the most
prestigious scholarship awarded by Wayne State College. Sieh was a Rural Health Opportunities Program dentistry student, dean’s list honoree and a recipient of the Paul and Marcia Swanson Dental Endowed Scholarship, Walter G. Ingram Scholarship, Student Scientific Research Scholarship, Eleanore Benthack Ingram Memorial Scholarship, Gordon Shupe Memorial Scholarship, American Red Cross Scholarship and Nebraska School Activities Association Believers and Achievers Scholarship. She also received the Ron Holt Civic Engagement Award in April.

Sieh was active in the Wayne State Honors Program, Philomathian President’s Honorary Society, Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, Cardinal Key Honor Society, Honors Club, Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society, Explorers Club, Rotaract Club, Pre-Dental Club, Health Science Club and intramurals. She served as a volunteer with the National Science Foundation Science Fair, Mercy Meals and Orphan Grain Train. Like many Wayne State students, she participated in multiple Service-Learning projects. She also worked as a dental assistant at Wakefield Dental Practice and was a lifeguard and manager of the Stanton Municipal Pool.

Sieh’s father, Michael, graduated from Wayne State with a bachelor’s degree in Math and Computer Science Education in 1988, a master’s degree in School Administration in 1993 and an Educational Specialist degree in 1998. Sieh’s mother, Shellie, graduated from Wayne State with a bachelor’s degree in Elementary Education in 1988. Sieh’s sister, Alexis Erbst, graduated from Wayne State with a bachelor’s degree in Chemistry-Health Science in 2013.

Sieh will be attending the University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Dentistry in Lincoln this fall to obtain her doctorate in dental surgery before returning to practice dentistry in rural Nebraska.

Bart Gotch ’82 (center) was the recipient of the Alumni Achievement Award at the 2016 spring commencement ceremony, presented by President Marysz Rames (left) and Wayne State Foundation CEO Kevin Armstrong.

Gotch ’82 Receives Alumni Achievement Award

Bart Gotch ’82 was the recipient of this year’s Alumni Achievement Award and delivered the baccalaureate address. Gotch graduated from Wayne State College in three and a half years in December 1982 as an honors–honorable mention graduate with a bachelor’s degree in Business Administration with a Finance concentration.

Gotch has served as president of Siouxland National Bank of South Sioux City, Neb., for 25 years. He was hired as president at the age of 30. Siouxland National Bank, chartered in 1980, is a locally owned community bank.

Gotch graduated from Allen High School in 1979. He started his banking career at Citizens National Bank of Wisner in 1983. He received advancements until accepting the president position at Siouxland National Bank in 1991. Gotch said he enjoys his career in banking, helping his customers achieve their goals and successes along with aiding and providing leadership roles within the community.

In addition to being involved in numerous professional organizations, Gotch has been active in his community through participation and leadership roles in several foundations including the Wayne State Foundation, Chamber of Commerce, economic development organizations, capital campaigns including Wayne State’s College Center in South Sioux City, youth sports, Legion baseball coaching and other worthwhile organizations.

Gotch’s wife, Terri, also a Wayne State graduate, continues her teaching career in Sergeant Bluff, Iowa. They have two grown children: a daughter, Dr. Jennifer Smith, DDS, with her husband, Haiden, and their daughter, Kate; and son, Brett Gotch ’09, and his wife, Kyna ’11.
Blankenau Receives Teaching Excellence Award

Political science professor Dr. Joe Blankenau received the 2016 State Nebraska Bank & Trust Teaching Excellence Award. Matt Ley, chief executive officer of State Nebraska Bank in Wayne, presented the award at the spring graduation ceremony.

David Ley, the bank’s chairman of the board, established the award in 1998 as a way of recognizing and strengthening outstanding teaching at Wayne State. This prestigious honor is awarded on the basis of rigorous standards that require a superior level of effective teaching. In addition to this award, David Ley and the State Nebraska Bank of Wayne support the college in many ways through scholarships and by serving as a trustee of the Wayne State Foundation Board of Trustees.

Blankenau has led students on trips to model United Nations conferences and student research conferences. Through the years, he has worked with community organizations and students on research and grant writing projects. He has articles published in journals such as Policy Studies Journal and Publius: The Journal of Federalism.

Blankenau was also the 2011-12 WSC Student Senate Professor of the Year and received the 2002 Theodore Lowi Award from the Policy Studies Organization for an article titled “The Fate of National Health Insurance in Canada and the United States: A Multiple Streams Explanation.” He is a member and past president of the Great Plains Political Science Association. He is also a board member of the Center for Rural Affairs.

He earned his Ph.D. in 1995 and his M.S. in 1992, both from University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He earned his bachelor’s degree in 1989 from Kearney State College (now University of Nebraska-Kearney). He teaches classes in many areas of political science. His academic interests include public policy, public administration and statistics. His research interests include health and environmental policy and Nebraska public policy issues.

Honored Retiring Faculty

Dr. Ronald Whitt, Professor of Communication

Dr. Ronald Whitt came to Wayne State in 1981, after teaching high school speech, debate and English for 10 years in Marquette, Mich. He earned a bachelor’s degree from Wayne State, a master’s in education from Northern Michigan University and an education doctorate from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

During his time at Wayne State, Whitt served on the Faculty Senate, the Rank and Professional Development Committee and the Academic Policies Committee. He served as the advisor to Student Senate, Pi Kappa Delta Forensics Honorary and Lambda Pi Eta Communication Honorary. Whitt was the Academic Programs Officer for the Nebraska State College System Board from 1986 to 1987 and served for years as the faculty representative for collective bargaining.

Whitt earned the Distinguished Lifetime Service Award from the Nebraska Intercollegiate Forensic Association and the John Thurber Distinguished Teacher Award from the Nebraska Speech Communication and Theatre Association.

Whitt noted that his time at Wayne State was marked by numerous Nebraska state forensics championships and national honors won by WSC students, performing in several Wayne State College and Community Theatre productions and friendships with outstanding faculty and administrators as well as terrific academic interactions with hundreds of successful Wayne State graduates.

Wayne Anderson, Professor of Art and Design

Wayne Anderson began teaching at Wayne State in 1979 with a master of fine arts in printmaking from Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville and a bachelor’s degree from the University of South Dakota. In addition to his studio assignments, he was part of the team-taught American and World Culture honor classes. Anderson taught all of the art history classes on campus for 36 years.

During his tenure, Anderson served as director of the Nordstrand Visual Arts Gallery for 34 years, served as art department chair during the period in which the program became nationally accredited and chaired and served on several committees, most extensively on Faculty Senate, Rank and Professional Development and Academic Policies.

Anderson was a National Endowment for the Humanities scholar and noted that he felt fortunate to receive Wayne State support for his research efforts and professional development. Anderson stated that he is proud to have spent his career at Wayne State, and, while he has very much enjoyed participating in the sometimes hard-fought development of the art department in size and stature, nothing has given him more satisfaction than interacting with students as individuals and watching their transformation as artists and people. Anderson noted that he values the personal relationships that have been established with colleagues and students during his career.
The 2016 Ron Holt Civic Engagement Award was presented to Dasirae Sieh on April 27. Dr. Ronald Holt, a 1989 Wayne State College alumnus, has recognized a WSC senior for the past three years with a “You Make a Difference” plaque, medallion and a $500 award upon graduation. Finalists Brandon Whitten and Alexandria Filipowicz were also awarded with a “You Make a Difference” plaque, medallion and a $250 award at the April 27 luncheon. The WSC students are honored for their involvement in Service-Learning, campus leadership roles and engagement in campus clubs, organizations and in the community. The award is given to the selected WSC graduates annually through an endowment.

This year’s award winner, Dasirae Sieh, graduated in May with a bachelor’s degree in Life Sciences/Biology. While at WSC, she was a part of the Rural Health Opportunity Program (RHOP) and the pre-dental program. She was an honors student and served as the Honors Club secretary and Pre-Dental Club president. During her time at WSC, she served as a recreation center lifeguard and the recreation center supervisor and aquatics coordinator. Sieh was a member of Phi Kappa Phi, Cardinal Key, Alpha Lambda Delta and Rotaract, and has served at numerous community events such as Mercy Meal packing. She leads the choir and is the pianist at St. Peter’s Catholic Church in Stanton. In her award application, Sieh noted, “Service is often referred to as one’s civic duty, but for me, service is much more of a habit than a responsibility.” Sieh maintained a 4.0 GPA while at WSC and will begin classes in the fall at University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) College of Dentistry.

Brandon Whitten was a finalist for the Ron Holt Civic Engagement Award. Whitten graduated in May with a bachelor’s degree in Applied Human and Sport Physiology. He plans to pursue a career in physical therapy. Whitten has been a tutor, served as the president for the Pre-Physical Therapy Club and was an active member of the WSC Bike Club. He also served at the local Science Bowl and participated in two Service-Learning projects at WSC. Whitten has continued to serve as a tutor at his hometown high school and helped with the incomplete homework program.

Alexandria Filipowicz was also a Ron Holt Civic Engagement Award finalist. Filipowicz graduated in May with a bachelor’s degree in Elementary Education. Filipowicz served a resident assistant and front desk manager while at WSC and was a member of Phi Kappa Phi and Alpha Lambda Delta. She maintained a high GPA, was a member of the dean’s list every semester and was an active member of Wayne State Education Association Network and a Northeast Nebraska Teaching Academy substitute. Filipowicz has the distinction of being one of a handful of May graduates that participated in five Service-Learning projects as a WSC student.

Dr. Holt is an attending psychiatrist in the Department of Psychiatry at Kaiser Permanente Medical Center in South San Francisco, Calif. Throughout his educational and professional career, Holt has exhibited outstanding accomplishments as a strong advocate and champion of civic engagement and community service. “Each of us has unique knowledge, skills and abilities that can be used to help others,” Holt said. “We each have the ability to make a difference in our own special way.” Holt has received several awards for his community service across the country. He has been awarded the College’s 2004 Alumni Service Award and the 2012 Alumni Achievement Award.

In addition to his valued work as a Wayne state Foundation trustee, Holt has created several endowed and annual scholarships at WSC. He began his first scholarship in 1989 while he was a WSC student. He returns to WSC each fall for Homecoming activities and has provided many campus presentations on LGBT issues and concerns.
Steve Elliott Appointed
Vice President for Academic Affairs

In April, Wayne State College appointed Steve Elliott as Vice President for Academic Affairs. He began his duties July 1.

Prior to the VPAA appointment, Elliott served as Dean of the School of Arts and Humanities and Director of the Nordstrand Visual Arts Gallery at Wayne State College from 2013 to 2016. Elliott’s large-scale sculptures and mixed-media works have been featured in 26 states nationwide, including exhibitions in Chicago; Albuquerque, N.M.; Honolulu; Kansas City, Mo.; and Sioux City, Iowa. Before earning his college degrees, Elliott served a four-year active duty tour in the Marine Corps (1993 to 1997).

Elliott earned his master of fine arts in studio art at the University of Maryland and his bachelor of fine arts in sculpture at the University of Kansas. He has been at WSC since 2003 and was a tenured professor in the Department of Art and Design before taking the VPAA position.

Estate Planning

Have you ever thought about adding the Wayne State Foundation to your will? If so, here are a few simple bequest samples to help get your estate plan started. Feel free to share this information with your professional advisor the next time you update your estate plan.

THE UNRESTRICTED GIFT

I give to the Wayne State Foundation, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation, located in Wayne, Nebraska, USA, the sum of $___________ (or ____% of my estate; or the property described herein) for its general purposes.

GIFT FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSE

I give to the Wayne State Foundation, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation, located in Wayne, Nebraska, USA, the sum of $___________ (or ____% of my estate; or the property described herein) to be used for _______________________(specify purpose).

Please contact the foundation for additional estate planning options.

Wayne State Foundation
1111 Main St. • Wayne, NE 68787
402-375-7510
Federal Tax I.D. 47-6032870
Dean Jacobs ‘86
Leads Students to Ecuador

Dean Jacobs ‘86 led a group of 18 Wildcats to the Amazon rainforest in Ecuador from June 2-16 to learn about different cultures and geography while also practicing Service-Learning in Ecuadorean communities.

Fourteen students – two freshmen, four sophomores, two juniors and six seniors – along with four WSC faculty and staff traveled to Ecuador with Jacobs, including Dr. Shawn Pearcy (the leading professor and coordinator of the trip on campus), Lisa Nelson (director of the Service-Learning program), Dr. Deb Whitt and Jason Barelman.

“The intention for the trip was to provide Wayne State College students with an experience that will change their lives and the way they look at the world,” Jacobs said. “It has to be challenging and authentic, otherwise the opportunity to learn and grow is diminished.”

The group spent a few days in the village of San Clemente, a small indigenous community in the Northern Highlands of Ecuador. The inhabitants of San Clemente belong to the pre-Inca people who call themselves Quichuas Karanquis. The WSC group learned about their traditional ways of life, participated in a minga or community project, hiked a mountain and spent a morning at a local elementary school.

“The biggest thing that I learned on this trip was that people of all ages and all different backgrounds can always find something in common. If we could find common ground with people who have been living in the jungle their whole lives, we can surely be able to find it with people in our own circles to help make our own communities better.”

– Sydney Armstrong, Grand Island, Neb.

The group then made their way to eastern Ecuador, with a brief stop at the equator.

From Puyo, they flew deep into the Amazon Rainforest to visit the Achuar community of Sharamentsa. The visit with the Achuar included hikes in the jungle, service-learning projects with the school, a minga and several fun activities such as playing soccer and volleyball in the mud. They learned about the traditional relationship the Achuar have with the rainforest and participated in some of their traditional customs.

“I was very pleased how our Wayne State College students responded to the challenges on this journey and the way they connected with these traditional cultures,” Jacobs said. “It made me proud to be from Wayne State College.”

The Ecuador trip was made possible in part by a generous donation from Jim and Barb ‘76 Kanter.

“I will never forget the incredible adventure I had in Ecuador. I experienced so many new things, activities, cultures and food, and I have met so many amazing people along the way. I never imagined all of the things I would see and do.”

– Laura Brockelsby, Sioux City, Iowa
Fundraising Set to Begin for Center for Applied Technology

Wayne State College recently secured $6.6 million through a state bond program underscoring the importance of a $15.2 million state-of-the-art Center for Applied Technology to address workforce and economic development in Nebraska. Wayne State College’s School of Business and Technology has a strong reputation of graduating well-prepared students who serve as industrial technology educators and leaders. The Center for Applied Technology will continue to attract first-rate students and faculty and increase the number of industrial technology teachers, diversified manufacturing administrators, construction and safety managers, drafters and computer programmers.

The Center for Applied Technology will also provide northeast Nebraska with a facility to support management training for industry, encourage ongoing employee development, foster small business entrepreneurs interested in manufacturing and engage in applied research with industry. The Center for Applied Technology will be built directly east of Gardner Hall.

U.S. Conn Library Update

“The Finish,” a sculpture created by artist A. Thomas Schomberg ‘64, was added this summer. Schomberg obtained his bachelor of fine arts in education at Wayne State.

U.S. Conn Library renovation is on schedule to be completed in summer 2017.
Press Box Replacement

Press Box Wayne State Foundation Fundraising Goal: $1 million
Estimated Total Cost: $1.7 million

The existing press box has served the college for approximately 40 years. There are concerns about the structural integrity of the structure, life safety concerns, building code deficiencies, handicap inaccessibility and poor function for college events. The current press box is not structurally stable enough to stand up to the high wind loads present in that portion of campus. Problems with the roof have been continuous because of wind loads and due to the lack of a rigid structure to support the roofing system.

The project will include the demolition of the existing structure and the construction of a new 5,220 square foot press box, including an elevator tower that will be built on the northwest side of Memorial Stadium. The new press box and elevator tower addition will provide space for all of the existing functions of the press box while increasing the size of several spaces to meet current and future needs.

The press box is used by members of the press, coaches, officials and college students involved in Broadcasting, and Health, Human Performance and Sport degree programs. The press box serves as an important laboratory for these students as they prepare for careers in broadcasting, journalism and athletics. The plan for the press box was developed with a vision that considers use by staff, students and alumni during collegiate and community events. Stadium and press box facilities are often used by local school districts for football and track events, which played an important role in the planning process for the new facility.

Donations can be sent to: Wayne State Foundation
1111 Main Street
Wayne, NE 68787

or online at wsc.edu/alumni

Where Giving is Needed Most

Giving is needed most for our Greatest Needs Fund, an unrestricted fund that provides the fuel to run the Wayne State Foundation. The Foundation serves as a vehicle for WSC alumni and friends, corporations and foundations to use when supporting the College.

Here are some of the programs and areas where Greatest Needs Funds are used:

- Academic scholarships
- Athletic scholarships
- Community scholarships
- Magazines, publications and mailings
- Operating expenses
- President’s executive discretionary accounts
- Program statements for capital projects
- Building/land purchases
- Donor recognition boards
- College support as needs arise

Your gifts to the Greatest Needs Fund allow the college and the president the flexibility and discretion to address unexpected needs as they arise. These funds assist the college and the president in continuing to build on WSC’s reputation as a college of distinction – a dynamic, evolving institution whose mission is to prepare students for responsible leadership and citizenship roles.
**SCHOOL OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES**

**Name:** Amy Stump  
**Hometown:** Rock Rapids, Iowa  
**Degree:** B.A. Secondary Education in Spanish and English

Stump has been active in the arts while at Wayne State. She will begin her teaching career as a full-time high school Spanish teacher in the fall.

**Why did you choose to attend college at Wayne State?** I chose Wayne State College for three main reasons: career, cost and community. I knew I wanted to become a teacher; therefore, a college with a good reputation for its education department was important. Secondly, I did not desire to pay extremely high tuition costs just for the "big name" of a particular college. Lastly, I looked for a campus that was smaller in size and had a welcoming, community-like atmosphere. After touring campus I saw that Wayne State fit all my criteria and was the obvious choice for me!

**What have been the most unique experiences for you at Wayne State?** The most unique experiences I have had at Wayne State have been a result of clubs and organizations. For example, I was a participant/performer in one of the International Dinners, a member of the Madrigal singers and the female lead in a musical. These wonderful experiences, along with many others, made my time at Wayne State unforgettable.

**About her professors:** The staff members on campus are incredibly welcoming and kind. They made a difference in my life, and I'd like to thank them for their compassion and dedication.

**Future plans:** I am excited to announce that I have accepted a full-time Spanish teacher position at a high school in Iowa! I have aspirations to continue to be involved in the arts through the school as well as the community in which I live. After fulfilling the 2016-2017 contract, however, I do not know where the Lord will lead me. I love to have plans, but I also enjoy the mystery of what the future holds!

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**SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY**

**Name:** Quinn Rochford  
**Hometown:** Omaha, Neb.  
**Degree:** B.S. Accounting, B.S. Finance

Rochford came to Wayne State to play rugby after playing the sport for three years in high school. While competing in the national sevens qualifier in Wayne during his sophomore year, he was recruited to play for a Denver-based Olympic development team. He has played for the Denver team twice in the last year. Rochford was the president of Student Senate.

**Why did you choose to attend college at Wayne State?** The main reason I chose to come to Wayne State was to play rugby. I also liked how it was far enough away from home where I wouldn’t be asked to come home for dinner but at the same time could make it home in a short drive.

**What have been the best things for you about being at Wayne State?** One of the best things for me was going to nationals last year in Philadelphia where we placed fifth, and I made the all-tournament team. I loved playing rugby here. I also enjoyed being the President of the Student Senate because I have had the ability to make lasting changes on campus. The best part of being on Senate this year was being able to increase our budget by nearly half for the years to come and changing the way the representation works for applying to be on Senate. This will make it much easier for students to apply to be on Senate, and hopefully numbers will increase. The increase in budget will help build more permanent changes to campus, such as the pavilion we are putting next to the sand volleyball courts, which the Senate built last year.

**About his professors:** Thank you to my accounting and finance teachers for everything they have given me.

**Future plans:** I plan on going to graduate school in Omaha, where I will work toward my MBA and complete my 150-credit-hour requirement to sit for the CPA exam.

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“I chose Wayne State College for three main reasons: career, cost and community.”

“Thank you to my accounting and finance teachers for everything they have given me.”
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND COUNSELING

Name: Carlene Reichmuth  
Hometown: Leigh, Neb.  
Degree: B.S. Human Service Counseling (minor in Studio Arts)  
Growing up on a farm in northeast Nebraska, Wayne State was a smooth and easy transition for Reichmuth. She will be completing a summer internship in Fremont, Neb., and plans to attend graduate school in the future.

Why did you choose to attend college at Wayne State? I chose to come to Wayne because I felt at home here. I liked the small-town atmosphere, the friendly people and the opportunities Wayne had to offer me. It also is about an hour from Leigh making it a convenient location.

What have been the best things for you about your experience at Wayne State? There are so many experiences I have had the privilege to partake in while here at Wayne State. Small class sizes, intramural sports, a variety of clubs, in-depth research projects and friendly professors are only a few. I feel the most meaningful thing I will take with me from my time at Wayne State is the friendships I have made along the way.

About her family and professors: I grew up in a very close-knit family who encouraged me to pursue what made me happy and to be the best version of myself that I could. I am so very grateful to all of my family and friends who have supported me along the way, whether that be through words of encouragement, ice cream runs or goofy packages in the mail. I am also very grateful for the opportunity to work with such great professors who were always there to lend a helping hand.

Future plans: I completed an internship this summer in Fremont. I hope to later future my education through attending graduate school.

SCHOOL OF NATURAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Name: Hayden Delano  
Hometown: Miami, Okla.  
Degree: B.S. K-12 Health and Physical Education with a Coaching Endorsement  
Following graduation, Hayden Delano will not only begin his teaching career but will also serve as an athletic director and head baseball coach in Missouri, just a couple of hours away from his Oklahoma hometown.

Why did you choose to attend college at Wayne State? I really loved the small-town feel on my visit during my senior year. Also, wanting to be a teacher, I knew Wayne State had a wonderful education department.

What have been the most unique experiences for you at Wayne State? That would have to be all the opportunities I have had to go out in the field and observe multiple different teachers and schools. Starting as a freshmen, students get placed in various field experience situations which really benefit us in preparing for the future.

What things at Wayne State have you liked the most? I think the biggest benefit and what I have enjoyed the most about Wayne State would be the professors – specifically, Dr. Kevin Hill. He has done a wonderful job preparing all his students for our future careers. He is a major reason I chose to go in to the field of physical education.

About his family and professors: First, I would like to give a huge thanks to my family. From the very first day moving onto campus in the fall of 2011, they have played a huge role in helping me be successful both in college as well as in life. I would also like to thank Dr. Hill – he is hands-down the best professor at Wayne State! He does an excellent job!

Future plans: I have accepted a position at Montrose Public Schools in Montrose, Mo., for a K-12 Health/PE teacher, athletic director and head baseball coach position.

“You can find all 16 senior profiles at wsc.edu”
**SCHOOL OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES**

_name:_ Liam Hockley  
_hometown:_ Born in Chelmsford, Essex, United Kingdom. Moved to Fremont, Neb., 15 years ago.  
_degree:_ B.S. in Communication Arts (concentrations in Leadership and Public Relations) (minor in Computer Science)  

Hockley was born in England but moved to America with his mother and two siblings. Hockley said he has developed a passion for serving the poor, inspired by Mother Teresa. He volunteers frequently, has attended multiple mission trips and hopes his future career can be a voice for society’s most marginalized.

**Why did you choose to attend college at Wayne State?** My initial decision was based on affordability and location (close to home).

**What have been the most unique experiences for you at Wayne State? What things at Wayne State have you liked the most?** It is really hard to narrow down a list of unique experiences at Wayne State College. The experience as a whole has been more than I ever dreamed of. While I chose to come here because of the cost and location, I ended up finding additional value in the student-centric faculty, vibrant offering of student organizations, and plethora of opportunities to travel to conferences and network with professionals. At Wayne State College, you are not just a number. You are a valuable human being, who can be pushed to grow in ways that could never have been predicted.

**About his family and professors:** Very grateful for an extremely supportive family, both in the USA and in the UK. Additionally, I am thankful for excellent professors who have pushed me to achieve more than I ever believed I was capable of.

**Future plans:** I plan to attend graduate school at Colorado State University this fall. I will be studying for an M.A. in Communication, with an emphasis on Civic Engagement and Public Deliberation.

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**SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY**

name: Kacie Borchers  
_hometown:_ Grew up in Madison, Neb.; currently lives in West Point, Neb.  
_degree:_ Master of Business Administration  

Kacie Borchers currently works for Northeast Community College in Norfolk, where she is the director of TRiO Student Support Services. She holds an undergraduate degree in Marketing/Management from Bellevue University.

**Why did you choose to attend college at Wayne State?** I chose Wayne State College because of the convenience of an online MBA program, the affordability and the great reputation of the college.

**What have been the best things for you about Wayne State?** The best thing about Wayne State has been the professors. Even though the entire program is online, I still feel like I was able to get to know them and they were able to get to know me. They created a classroom that encouraged discussion among the students, and they designed assignments that could be related back to real-life application. I also enjoyed the smaller class sizes and getting to know my classmates.

**About her family:** I want to thank my husband for being so supportive during this journey and for always encouraging me to go after my dreams.

**Future plans:** I currently work at Northeast Community College as the Director of TRiO Student Support Services, and I am excited to apply what I have learned through the MBA program.

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“I chose Wayne State College because of the convenience of an online MBA program, the affordability and the great reputation of the college.”
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND COUNSELING

Name: Jesse Gronemeyer
Hometown: DeWitt, Neb.
Degree: Education Specialist

Jesse Gronemeyer is the elementary principal of Tri County Elementary in DeWitt, Neb. He also holds a bachelor’s degree in Physical Education, a master’s in Curriculum and Instruction, and a master’s in Educational Leadership, all from Doane College.

Why did you choose to attend college at Wayne State? I heard from a friend about the great experience and wealth of knowledge he learned from his Wayne State experience. My experience was the same if not better. I enjoyed the friendly and knowledgeable staff at Wayne State.

What have been the most unique experiences for you at Wayne State? I enjoyed the professors I worked with. They were always helpful and valued my experiences. They offered many suggestions about my current position as elementary principal at Tri County.

About his family: There is nothing more important to me than my family. My mother Christine Roesler and father Jim Gronemeyer have guided and molded me into the man I am today, and I cannot thank them enough. My wife Kim is my best friend, and I cannot thank her enough for supporting me through this journey. She is the greatest mother of my three kids, Tayden (11), Macey (7) and Brinley (5). My goal was to graduate with my specialist degree so my three kids could watch me in a cap and gown.

Future plans: My immediate plans are to continue and improve at my current position as elementary principal at Tri County Elementary. Looking down the road, I would like to pursue a superintendent position. Right now I only work with kids in grades K-6. I would like to be involved with all students grades K-12.

“I enjoyed the professors I worked with. They were always helpful and valued my experiences.”

SCHOOL OF NATURAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Name: Sara Hohenstein
Hometown: South Sioux, Neb.
Degree: B.S. Applied Human and Sport Physiology

Sara Hohenstein is a Neihardt Scholar and stayed actively involved during her years at Wayne State. She was also named the Applied Human and Sport Physiology Student of the Year.

Why did you choose to attend college at Wayne State? I chose WSC because I had a brother who came here before me and liked it a lot. I also liked that it was a smaller school with small class sizes. I was also offered the Neihardt Scholarship, which helped make the decision easier.

What have been the best experiences for you at Wayne State? Some of my favorite memories at Wayne State are getting ready for and going to football games with my friends. One of my favorite things about Wayne State is the relationship you can build with the professors. With the small class sizes, the professors are able to and want to get to know each student individually. This made it a lot easier to talk to any of my professors if I was having trouble with something from class or had a question about an assignment. This year, I have seen professors I had during freshman year, and they still know me by name and always ask how things are going and what my plans are after graduation. The professors truly care here.

About her family and professors: I would like to thank my parents for keeping me level headed through my most stressful times and for always supporting me in everything I do. I would like to thank all my professors for pushing me academically throughout the four years here and for making my college experience a positive one in the classroom.

Future plans: I will be attending the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha for the Physical Therapy Program.

“With the small class sizes, the professors are able to and want to get to know each student individually.”
The Wayne State College athletic department recognized its top student athletes for the 2015-16 school year at the annual Athletic Honors Banquet held May 2 at the Kanter Student Center and sponsored by Ameritas. Seven major awards were announced at the banquet along with Most Valuable Players for each sport.

Senior track and field All-American Bryan Dunn was named Male Athlete of the Year, while junior volleyball All-American Alyssa Frauendorfer was voted Female Athlete of the Year. Freshman Athlete of the Year Awards went to football player Taylor Reedy and softball player Emily Chandler, while women’s basketball player Katie Hoskins was named recipient of the 12th annual Wildcat Inspiration Award. The Cunningham Scholar Athletes of the Year were presented to senior football player Jon Davis and senior volleyball player Leisa McClintock.

Dunn, a graduate of Hartington High School, was voted the top male athlete at Wayne State after earning All-American honors during the indoor track season. He placed sixth in the weight throw with a personal-best mark of 63’ 5” after entering nationals ranked 13th in NCAA Division II. Dunn was the NSIC champion in the weight throw, winning the event in dramatic fashion by 2 inches on the final throw.

Frauendorfer, a junior from Humphrey High School, helped the Wildcat volleyball team win its first-ever NCAA Central Region title while advancing to the Final Four with a 28-8 record this season. She averaged 3.16 kills and 0.74 blocks per set while hitting a team-high .345. Frauendorfer was a First Team All-NSIC selection for a third straight season, AVCA All-Central Region for a second straight year and was named AVCA Third Team All-American, marking just the third player in school history to be named All-American.

Reedy, a redshirt freshman from Norfolk High School, was named Male Freshman Athlete of the Year after stepping in at quarterback for the Wildcat football team after two-year starter Zach Osborn was lost for the season in the second game with a broken thumb. Reedy completed 146 of 286 passes for 1,538 yards with 10 touchdowns and just four interceptions. He had two 300-yard passing games, going 25 of 34 for 307 yards and four touchdowns in a 34-27 win over Northern State and was 32 of 59 for 351 yards and had three touchdowns vs. Upper Iowa, where he was named Egg Bowl MVP.

Chandler, a 5-9 freshman outfielder from Simi Valley, Calif., had a sensational freshman season for the Wildcat softball team earning First Team All-NSIC honors. She hit .444 for the season with 11 home runs, a single season school record 53 runs batted in and a school record 119 total bases. Chandler led the NSIC in slugging percentage (.744) and on-base percentage (.508) while ranking third in average, total bases and doubles (13). She had 23 multi-hit games with a team-high 15 games of two or more RBIs.

Hoskins received the Wildcat Inspiration Award. The senior from Wayne High School has had her career slowed by injuries, starting in her freshman season with an ankle injury. Her sophomore campaign was cut short by a ligament injury in her knee suffered on the final play of the team’s Thanksgiving weekend trip to Alaska. This year, Hoskins tore her ACL during the first week of her senior season and was forced to redshirt and will come back for her senior season in 2016-17.

Davis, a 6-0 180-pound senior defensive back from Webster City, Iowa, was named the Bob Cunningham Male Scholar Athlete of the Year. Davis carries a 3.86 grade point average majoring in Chemistry/Health Sciences and Pre-Medicine and was a two-time Academic All-District selection and Second Team Academic All-American. On the field, Davis was All-NSIC South Division honorable mention this season after leading the Wildcats in tackles with 95 to tie for eighth in the Northern Sun Conference.

McClintock, a 5-7 senior setter from Sioux City Heelan High School, carries a 4.0 grade point average while working on a master’s degree in Physical Education and Exercise Science. She earned the Butch Raymond Scholarship this year and received the Elite 90 Award at the NCAA National Volleyball Championships as the student-athlete with the top grade point average. On the court, McClintock earned All-NSIC honors (First or Second Team) all four years at Wayne State and is the career leader in set assists with 5,088. She played on three NCAA Tournament Teams, including this year’s team that won the Central Region title and advanced to the Final Four in Tampa, Fla.
Wildcat Softball Records
10th Straight Winning Season

The Wayne State softball team had a roller coaster ride of a season, finishing 27-26 overall for a 10th straight winning season and fifth place in the NSIC with a 21-9 league mark.

The season started slow, with the Wildcats winning just five of their first 20 games. WSC then won 20 of the next 25 games and was in first place in the NSIC entering the final week of the regular season. The Cats then dropped three one-run games in the last week of the regular season and lost six of their last eight games to end the season.

Regular season highlights included a no-hitter from senior Cassy Miller on April 9, a 13-0 win over Minnesota Crookston. Freshman outfielder Emily Chandler set a new single season record for RBIs with 53, breaking the old mark of 50 held by Michelle Lewis in 2000. Senior outfielder Lexie Loos broke her own single season runs scored record and became the all-time leader in runs scored at Wayne State with 158, surpassing the previous school record of 154 set by Amy Sandstrom from 2007 to 2010.

Six Wayne State players were named to the 2016 NSIC All-Conference Softball Team. Loos was named NSIC Player of the Year and First Team All-NSIC for a second straight season after matching her school record with a .467 batting average this season. The Millard North High School graduate reached base safely in 52 of 53 games this season and had 92 hits and 29 multi-hit games.

Senior second baseman Morgan Hoeg was named NSIC Newcomer of the Year after batting .321 while starting all 30 league games at second base.

First Team All-NSIC honorees also included junior first baseman Melanie Alyea (Phelan, Calif.), hitting .384 in NSIC games and .344 overall.

Freshman outfielder Emily Chandler (Simi Valley, Calif.) and freshman designated player Abbie Hix (Wayne) also received First Team All-NSIC accolades. Chandler hit .444 during the season with 11 home runs and a school record 53 RBIs, leading the NSIC in slugging percentage (.744) while ranking third in average and total bases (119). Hix recorded a stellar .331 average this season with five home runs and 20 RBIs.

Senior pitcher Cassy Miller was a Second Team All-NSIC selection after posting a 21-17 record in the circle with a 3.85 ERA. The former Wayne High standout led the NSIC in innings pitched this season (229.1) ranking third in strikeouts with 229.

Eight Wildcat players were selected to the NSIC Spring All-Academic Team – Melanie Alyea, Monique Alyea, Lexie Loos, Cassy Miller, Alyssa Schropp, Rachel Shumaker, Katelyn Wobken and Jalyn Zeiss.

Loos was later named NFCA (National Fastpitch Coaches Association) All-Central Region First Team and All-American Second Team, joining Katie Goetzinger (2010-11) as the only Wildcat softball players to be selected All-American twice.

Loos was also selected to the 2016 CoSIDA Academic All-America Division II Softball Team, voted on by the College Sports Information Directors of America. Loos received First Team honors and is just the third player in school history to earn Academic All-American honors, joining Goetzinger (First Team – 2011, Second Team – 2010) and Heather Conley (Second Team in 2002). Loos and Wobken were also named to the CoSIDA Academic All-District VII First Teams.

Loos maintains a 3.758 grade point average majoring in applied human and sport physiology while Wobken, a sophomore from Scribner-Snyder High School, carries a 3.974 grade point average majoring in Chemistry and Health Sciences.
Spenner Wins NSIC Decathlon; O’Connor NSIC Women’s Discus Champion

The Wayne State College men’s track and field team placed seventh with 52 points May 13-14 at the 2016 Northern Sun Conference Outdoor Championships in Sioux Falls, S.D. The Wildcats had one NSIC champion and two All-NSIC performers.

Sophomore Josh Spenner, a graduate of Columbus Scotus, won the NSIC decathlon with 6,496 points. He won three of the 10 events in the competition, taking first in the shot put, pole vault and discus.

All-NSIC finishers for the Wildcats included senior Bryan Dunn, a graduate of Hartington High School, taking second in the hammer throw (182’ 1”) and sophomore Clay Kramper (Homer) placing second in the 200-meter dash (21.57).

Two school records were set during the outdoor season for the men’s team as Kramper eclipsed the 200-meter dash school record with a time of 21.34 seconds to win the event at the Howard Wood Dakota Relays on May 7, topping the previous mark of 21.52 set by Alex Timperley in 2012. Spenner also set a school record in the pole vault, placing fourth at the NSIC Championships and clearing 15’ 6½”, just edging the previous school mark of 15’ 6” held by Matt Doggett in 2007.

Dunn received USTFCCCA All-Region honors by recording the third-best mark in the hammer throw during the season – 185’ 9” March 26 at the Wildcat Classic in Wayne.

Seven members of the Wildcat men’s team were named to the NSIC Spring All-Academic Team. They include Spenner, Allen Arauz, Nicholas Fly, Kole Heller, Derek Lahm, Corbin Lehn and Nick Schmit.

The Wildcat women’s team was 13th out of 15 teams at the NSIC Outdoor Championships scoring 12 points.

The highlight of the meet was sophomore Kacie O’Connor winning the discus with a personal-best mark of 158’ 7”, which was an NCAA qualifying mark.

It also marked the third time in the last four years that a Wildcat thrower won the NSIC discus title as former All-American Sara Wells won the NSIC discus in 2013 and 2014. O’Connor competed at the NCAA Division II Outdoor National Championships on May 27 in Bradenton, Fla., and placed 18th overall with a top mark of 141’ 1”.

Senior Kyndra Sturm also scored points for WSC at the conference meet, placing seventh in the hammer throw at 168’ 6”.

Ten members of the Wildcat women’s team received NSIC Spring All-Academic honors, including Mary Alderson, Shelby Connett, Michaela Dendinger, Andrea DeSimone, Kelsey Dietrich, Tessa Ives, Molly Kingsley, Melissa Kroll, Ellen Wulf and Siera Zach.

The ‘Cats are just a click away at wscwildcats.com
It was a hard-luck season for the Wildcat baseball team. The Wildcats were 1-8 in games decided by one run and 2-3 in two-run contests as Wayne State finished the year at 15-28 overall and ninth place in the NSIC with a 12-16 league mark.

Offensively, it was one of Wayne State's best seasons in years, hitting .331 as a team (highest average since 2009) and scoring 20 or more runs in three games during the year. Senior first baseman Albert Johnson recorded a team-high 22-game hit streak, recording at least one hit in games from March 28 through May 4. Junior third baseman Cody Jenkins was named Most Valuable Player after hitting .337 during the season with five homers and 29 RBIs, ranking third on the team in hits with 55 and second in doubles (13).

Junior Aaron Krier was named Northern Sun Conference Player of the Week and National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association (NCBWA) National Player of the Week on May 5 after going 15 for 23 at the plate (.652) with two home runs and 12 RBIs in six games against Sioux Falls and Southwest Minnesota State. Jenkins was also named Northern Sun Conference Player of the Week on March 1.

Wayne State had two players named to the NSIC All-Conference Team as senior outfielders Nathan Ackerman and Curtis Bussard were both Second Team selections. Ackerman, a 6-1 215-pounder from Langley, British Columbia, hit .324 during the season with a team-high 12 homers and 39 RBIs. He also led the team in stolen bases (10-12) and triples (3) despite missing the last two weeks of the season with an injury. In NSIC play this season, Ackerman posted a .400 average with nine home runs and 22 RBIs.

Bussard, a 6-0 170-pounder from Papillion, had a .357 average this season to rank third on the team while hitting seven homers with 34 RBIs. He led the team in runs scored (42) and tied for the team lead in hits with 60 and walks (23). Bussard recorded a team-best 18 multi-hit games during the season while starting all 43 games in center field. As a relief pitcher, he was 1-3 in 10 appearances this season and finished as Wayne State's all-time leader in saves with 14.

Nine players received NSIC Spring All-Academic Team honors to end the season, including Ackerman, Bussard, Krier, Matt Faulkner, Joey Greco, Alex Kreft, Joey Lenihan, Spencer Morris and Dalton Smith.

Former Wayne State College head baseball coach John Manganaro is one of six individuals inducted into the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference Hall of Fame during the league's 17th annual Summer Kickoff event July 12 in Burnsville, Minn. Manganaro became the fourth individual from Wayne State to enter the Hall of Fame, joining Sarah (Herrick) Wagenfuhr (soccer, softball) in 2015, Brady Borner (baseball) in 2012 and the late Pete Chapman (athletic director) in 2006.

Manganaro coached baseball at Wayne State College for 20 years, including the last 17 (1993 to 2009) as head coach. He built Wayne State into one of the top programs in NCAA Division II under his tenure, producing a 506-309-1 record (.620) that included a 198-54 mark (.785) in NSIC play. The Wildcats won six NSIC regular season titles under Manganaro from 2004 to 2009 while advancing to the NCAA Tournament all six seasons with two trips to the regional championship game (2004 and 2009).

Under Manganaro, WSC qualified for the NCAA Tournament seven times in nine years and was the 12th winningest program in NCAA Division II during the 2000s with a 368-157-1 record (.671). Manganaro was a four-time NSIC Coach of the Year (2001, 2006, 2007 and 2009) and led the Wildcats to five NSIC Tournament titles. WSC produced six All-Americans in the last seven seasons under Manganaro with two players selected in the Major League baseball draft (Travis Mortimore, 2007, 21st round – Seattle Mariners; and Nick Schumacher, 2008, 28th round – San Diego Padres).

Manganaro is also credited with developing the Pete Chapman Baseball Complex, one of the finest baseball facilities in the Midwest. Following his retirement from Wayne State in 2009, Manganaro moved to Omaha where he served as director of the Ultimate Baseball Academy indoor complex from 2009 to 2013. He remains active as an instructor/consultant and has served as the Dean of Coaches for the Pacesetter, Gladiator and Bandit youth baseball organizations in Omaha since 2012.
What is the Wayne State College GOLD Club?

GOLD is a club that helps Wayne State College’s young alumni stay connected. Creating and maintaining relationships, encouraging alumni to stay involved and helping young alumni network professionally are GOLD’s main objectives. Members of the GOLD Club represent almost 35 percent of WSC’s total living alumni.

A Graduate of the Last Decades (GOLD) alumnus is defined as a Wildcat who has graduated within the last two decades.

How do I get involved with the GOLD Club?

It’s easy. Simply like “Wayne State College GOLD Club” on Facebook and click on the “Sign Up” button at the top of the page to fill out an Alumni Spotlight Form.

You can also sign up on the website, wsc.edu/alumni, by clicking on the GOLD Club link to fill out an Alumni Spotlight and update your information.

Alumni Spotlights are highlight stories and photos of our alumni posted regularly on our social media pages and website. We love to see what our alumni are doing after graduation.

Upcoming GOLD Club Events

Saturday, Oct. 8: GOLD Club Homecoming Tailgate
All GOLD Club alumni and their families are welcome to attend the GOLD tailgate at WSC on Saturday, Oct. 8, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. to help celebrate Homecoming. Food and beverages will be provided. The tailgate will be set up on the north side of the Rec Center. The event is free. If you are a graduate of the last two decades, please join the fun. Please RSVP to Laura Robinett at 402-375-7370, larobin1@wsc.edu, or post on the Facebook page.

Future Events

Three more GOLD Club events will take place during the 2016-17 year. Stay tuned for details and more information to come on this year’s events in Lincoln, Omaha and Norfolk.

What does the GOLD Club do?

Members of the GOLD Club get together to network socially and professionally during our four events held each year at various locations. During a GOLD Club social, you can reconnect with fellow graduates, exchange business cards with other alumni in your field, make connections that can help you professionally, and hear from WSC administration, faculty, staff and students on exciting changes and events happening at Wayne State College.

Need more information?

Contact Laura Robinett, Director of Alumni Relations, at 402-375-7370 or larobin1@wsc.edu.

GOLD Club News

Members of the GOLD Club participated as a team in the Catbacker Golf Tournament on Friday, June 3, in Wayne. GOLD golfers were Jake Childers ’12, Josh Wolfe ’11, Aaron Scheffler ’13 and Laura Robinett ’13.
alumni notes

(Towns and cities listed on these pages are in Nebraska unless noted or generally understood. Efforts are made to keep our news current.)

1941

H. Nicholas Windeshausen, Citrus Heights, Calif., was among 20 accomplished University of Nebraska-Lincoln alumni recognized at their annual Alumni Awards Banquet held May 5. Nic enjoyed a successful career as a business professor and educational consultant. He was a founder of the California State University – Sacramento chapter of Delta Sigma Pi and a lifetime adviser for the national fraternity. Nic serves as a trustee of the Wayne State Foundation and supports numerous WSC scholarships.

1943

Constance Fouts, 92, still resides in her home built by her husband 65 years ago in Lincoln. She received her associate’s degree from Wayne State and has taught in Sloan, Iowa; Sioux City, Iowa; and Lincoln, where she has lived for the past 70 years. She has five children, 15 grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren. She said she remembers the bombing of Pearl Harbor and President Roosevelt declaring war. Her roommate, Mary Lynn Burge, is still living as well, and they keep in touch! “I was very happy at Wayne and treasure my memories,” she said.

1983

Paul Lane, Missouri Valley, Iowa, received the Lifetime Achievement Award from Missouri Valley Chamber of Commerce, Missouri Valley, Iowa.

2002

Drew and Ashley (Dittmann ’04) Erks announce the birth of daughter, Breckyn Cynthia, on Dec. 22. She was welcomed into their home in Lincoln by big brother Ryker. Drew is employed with CHI St. Elizabeth as an athletic trainer and cover Pius X High School. Ashley serves as an administrative assistant in communications at Christ Lutheran Church.

2005

Molly (Muir, MSE ’08) D’Agosta and husband, Anthony, welcome home their daughter Francesca Irene, born May 3. Molly teaches Spanish at Elkhorn South High School, Elkhorn.

2009

Kevin and Jennifer (Kittelson) Patras announce the birth of son Brayden, on March 6. Kevin is a probation officer in Norfolk. Jennifer is employed at the courthouse in Neligh. They reside in Tilden.

2017 Events

Jan. 7: Tucson Reunion
Jan. 8: Sun City Reunion
March 18: Northern California Reunion

Upcoming Events

Sept. 15: Grand Island Reunion
Oct. 6: Scholarship Luncheon
Oct. 6-8: Homecoming
Oct. 8: GOLD Club Homecoming Tailgate
Oct. 19: WSC hosts Norfolk Chamber Business After Hours
Oct. 27: Des Moines Reunion
Nov. 4: Wayne State vs. Creighton Basketball Game and Alumni Reunion in Omaha
Dec. 11: President’s Holiday Gala
Dec. 16: Commencement

2015 Events

Jan. 14: Tucson Reunion
Jan. 15: Sun City Reunion
March 16: Northern California Reunion

1965

Van Steckelberg, 72, retired in May from a 39-year career as a starter for high school and college track and cross country meets. A Stanton native, Steckelberg competed in track at Wayne State as a sprinter and jumper. In 1973, he moved to Galesburg, Ill., and coached football, swimming and track at Knox College. He began starting track and cross country meets in 1977, about the time he became co-owner of Gale Wards Sporting Goods. Steckelberg has been involved with athletics for more than 60 years, and though his starting career has ended, he will continue serving as the treasurer for the Galesburg Booster Club and as an employee of Breedlove’s Sporting Goods in Kewanee, Ill.

Photo courtesy of The Register-Mail (Lewis Marien)
in memory of

Susan H. Sohler ’30, (106), Hartington; June 13.
Willis A. ‘Bill’ Kruetzfeldt ’41, (99), Salt Lake City, Utah; Dec. 5.
W. Ward Reynolds ’42, (95), Des Moines, Iowa; March 28.
William H. Maben ’49, (89), Lees Summit, Mo.; Feb. 10.
Merle D. Ring ’49, (89), Wayne; March 3.
Edward W. Heffner ’50, (87), Santa Clara, Calif.; June 13.
Leon E. Scott ’51, (86), Le Mars, Iowa; March 25.
Jay R. Wacker ’80, (58), Alameda, Calif.; Nov. 7.
James T. Rounds ’52, (89), Battle Creek, Mich.; Feb. 23.
Jewel (Taylor) Piper ’55, M.S.E. ’59, (91), Norfolk; Feb. 10.
Donald J. Flynn ’56, (84), Bettendorf, Iowa; March 17.
Charles R. Heim ’56, (83), Sabetha, Kan.; June 10.
Dale ‘Pete’ Kropp ’56, (85), Omaha; March 28.
Marion (Snider) Nelson ’57, (89), Bristow; May 25.
Herbert D. Youngman ’59, (82), Council Bluffs, Iowa; May 9.
Kenneth D. Sanne ’61, (83), Flint, Mich.; Nov. 11.
Bessie (Nissen) Hawks ’63, (103), Neligh; March 25.
Keith D. Oatman ’65, (83), South Sioux City; April 25.
Claire (Kolden) Munger ’66, (91), Newman Grove; Jan. 1.
Doris (Kloppel) Schmer ’66, (88), Columbus; May 6.
Roland K. Steinhauser ’66, (72), Hernando, Fla.; March 3.
G. ‘Al’ Albert Wetenkamp ’66, (72), Isanti, Minn.; March 5.
Linda (Preston) McFarland ’67, (69), Lincoln; March 19.
Ralph Heckert ’68, (70), Neligh; Feb. 9.
Arlene (Vaage) Schurr ’69, (98), Lincoln; Feb. 9.

Frederick Chadwick, M.S.E. ’70, (73), Sioux City, Iowa; April 23.
Lavanye (Sunderman) Garvin ’70, (89), Pierce; April 6.
Arlene (Wacha) Kluck, M.S.E. ’73, (91), Schuyler; Feb. 5.
Shirley (Wheeler) Woodward ’73, (81), Allen; Feb. 9.
Noreen (Nelson) Gould ’78, (59), Laurel; Feb. 10.
Deborah (Green) Schnell ’78, (59), Randolph; June 4.
Bonnie (Rahn) Buhr ’79, (85), Ponca; March 20.
Jay R. Wacker ’80, (58), Alameda, Calif.; Nov. 7.
Janice (Nahrstedt) McCallum ’86, (77), Madison; May 27.
Joann (Bauermeister) Kramer ’92, M.S.E. ’94, (70), Athol, Kan.; May 23.
Ryan E. Groene ’01, (38), Gothenburg; Feb. 10.

FRIENDS WE WILL MISS

Charles ‘Chuck’ Carhart (87), Wayne; March 31.
Joe W. Nuss (81), Bodega Bay, Calif.; April 4.
Ronald D. Vick, Sr. (56), Wayne; March 27. Ron was hired at WSC in 1997, served as a licensed counselor and certified professional counselor, and provided advising and other services for international students. He was the longtime advisor of the Wayne State Science Fiction and Fantasy Club, which sponsors WillyCon, an annual science fiction and fantasy fan-based convention that has been hosted on the WSC campus every year since 1999. Ron was, by all accounts, the heart and soul of the annual convention.

IRA Charitable Rollover Permanently Extended

The IRA charitable rollover, which allows taxpayers age 70½ or older to make tax-free charitable gifts of up to $100,000 per year directly from their Individual Retirement Accounts to eligible charities, including colleges, universities and independent schools, is now a permanent part of the U.S. tax code.

The IRA charitable rollover, or qualified charitable distribution (QCD), is a special provision allowing qualified donors to use their IRA assets to make donations directly to public charities, including the Wayne State Foundation.

• A qualified charitable distribution is money that individuals who are 70½ or older may direct from their traditional IRA to eligible charitable organizations.
• The provision has a cap of $100,000 for charitable distributions from individual IRAs each year.
• Individuals may exclude the amount distributed directly to an eligible charity from their gross income. This amount will also count toward the IRA mandatory distribution.
• Your gift will be put to use today, allowing you to see the difference your donation is making.
• Distributions to the Wayne State Foundation must come directly from your IRA custodian.

Please feel free to contact your IRA custodian or Kevin Armstrong for more information on how to make an IRA charitable rollover gift.

Kevin Armstrong
Chief Executive Officer
402-375-7534
kearmst1@wsc.edu
Wayne State Foundation
1111 Main St.
Wayne, NE 68787
402-375-7510
Federal Tax I.D. 47-6032870
alumni reunions


St. Louis WSC Alumni Reunion – Terri Monk and Craig Weldon hosted WSC alumni May 13 at their rooftop clubhouse in St. Louis. Front: Ruth (Beck) Carrington ’71, Joyce (Root) Best ’50, President Marysz Rames, Manjit, MSE ’75 (Sodhia) and Jagindar Johar. Back: Laura Robinett ’13, director of alumni relations, John Carrington ’68, Terri (Siemens) Monk ’73, Craig Weldon, Jaina Best, Sarah Cady ’03, MSE ’07, Anthony Lichty ’94, Kevin Armstrong ’99, MBA ’15, CEO of the Wayne State Foundation.


Buller ’15 Reflects on Transition to WSC After Deployment

The terror attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, had a drastic impact on everyone, including Staff Sergeant David Buller of Atkinson, Neb., who at age 11 knew he wanted to defend his country someday after seeing the World Trade Center Towers collapse on television.

Following in his grandfather’s footsteps, David enlisted in the U.S. Army National Guard on Oct. 30, 2007, as a high school senior. He joined the 181st Engineer Detachment Firefighting Team stationed in Norfolk, Neb.

David was following his dream of serving in the military, but he still wanted to get a college degree. He enrolled at Wayne State College and started pursuing his double major in Construction Management and Drafting, Planning and Design in the fall of 2009.

“I chose Wayne State because I could get a four-year degree, and because they have a great drafting program,” David said.

It wasn’t long after that David met his future wife, Melissa Leaver, of Stanton, Neb., who was attending Wayne State College for Elementary Education and a K-6 Endorsement.

David and Melissa got engaged in December 2010, but a significant challenge lay ahead for both of them.

David withdrew from WSC in the spring of 2011 in preparation for a deployment the following fall. On Sept. 11, 2011, David deployed with his firefighting unit to Afghanistan for a 12-month mission.

“When I was getting ready to deploy, my advisor Don Buryanek ’76 was very understanding of when I or Melissa had to be gone,” David said. “All of the faculty were very friendly about it.”

Melissa said being at Wayne State was also very helpful to her while she waited for her fiancé to return from his deployment. “If I wasn’t in college, it would have been a lot harder,” Melissa said. “It was easier to talk to friends, and I was able to stay busy by living on campus and staying involved.”

David returned home on Sept. 7, 2012, to the open arms of family and friends, but still faced the difficult transition of assimilating back into civilian life.

The transition for David back to college life was very difficult, and he was about ready to drop out of school. After stepping back and taking a look at his future, he realized that earning a degree from Wayne State would be best for himself and his family. He stuck it out.

“What helped me was when I got back, I played intramural flag football with some friends,” David said. “It helped me gradually get used to being around people, and it was a fun way to stay involved.”

“The Registrar’s Office was also very helpful. They helped me register for classes and handled my GI Bill. They were extremely helpful from day one when I started school as a freshman.”

David and Melissa continued to pursue their degrees together and got married on June 8, 2013. In May 2015, they graduated together in the Willow Bowl. They said they are proud of their degrees from WSC and are thankful for the support and understanding of the college while they were students.

David is currently a team leader for the 1075th Transportation Company in Columbus, Neb., but will soon be transitioning to the 128th Combat Engineering Battalion, also in Columbus. He works as a mechanical drafter at EBM Corporation in Norfolk and Melissa recently accepted a 4th grade teaching position at Jefferson Elementary in Norfolk. They live in Madison, Neb., with their 13-month old daughter, Evelynn.
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<td>Thursday, October 6</td>
<td>11:30 a.m. Scholarship Luncheon (Scholarship donors invited), Frey Conference Suite, Kanter Student Center</td>
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|              | Friday, October 7  | 5:30 p.m. Outstanding Alumni Social & Banquet - Frey Conference Suite, Kanter Student Center  
Banquet begins at 6:15 p.m. Social for banquet ticket holders                                                                                      |
|              | Friday, October 7  | 6:30 p.m. Planetarium Show “Earth, Moon, and Sun” - Carhart Science Building                                                                                                                     |
|              | Friday, October 7  | 7 p.m. Volleyball - WSC vs. Minnesota State University-Mankato, Rice Auditorium                                                                                                                     |
|              | Friday, October 7  | (General admission $5; K-12 $3)                                                                                                                                                                    |
|              | Friday, October 7  | 8:30 p.m. Homecoming Coronation - Ramsey Theatre                                                                                                                                                  |
| Saturday, October 8 | 7:30 a.m. Homecoming 5K Fun Run/Walk - Willow Bowl (Register online at wsc.edu/homecoming)                                                                                                         |
| Saturday, October 8 | 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. Homecoming Parade - Parade begins at the south end of Main Street                                                                                                               |
| Saturday, October 8 | 9:30 a.m. Band Day - Parade participation, Concert in the Willow Bowl will follow the parade at 10:30 a.m.                                                                                           |
| Saturday, October 8 | 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Presidents Society Brunch (Presidents Society members invited) - Frey Conference Suite, Kanter Student Center                                                                 |
| Saturday, October 8 | 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Honored Class Brunch - '66, '76, and '91 Classes Celebrating 50, 40 & 25-year reunions  
Nobebra/Elkorn Rooms, Kanter Student Center  
(Food served 10:30-11:30) (Prior registration is required, please see form)                                                                  |
| Saturday, October 8 | 11 a.m. - Noon Campus Tours - Campus buildings will be open for alumni tours                                                                                                                                 |
| Saturday, October 8 | 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. GOLD Club Tailgate - North of Rec Center, All GOLD Club alumni (graduates of the last two decades) are invited, food and beverages provided |
| Saturday, October 8 | Noon Football Affinity Reunion - Watch the game and tailgate with fellow teammates!  
Stay tuned for details regarding a special reception Friday evening on campus.                                                                                                              |
| Saturday, October 8 | Noon Wildcat Tailgate Party - Bob Cunningham Field, Cost: $10/person at the event                                                                                                          |
| Saturday, October 8 | 12:30 p.m. Homecoming Royalty introduced - Football field                                                                                                                                           |
| Sunday, October 9 | 1 p.m. Soccer - WSC vs. Concordia-St. Paul, WSC Soccer field                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

For information contact:  
Laura Robinett • Alumni Office • Wayne State College • Wayne, NE 68787 • 402-375-7370 • larobin1@wsc.edu  
For homecoming updates, go to wsc.edu/homecoming
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