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CONTACT US

Your news, thoughts and questions are important to us. Please write, telephone or send us an email. Letters to the editor and news of jobs, honors, weddings, anniversaries and births are always welcome. Please include your name, class year, address and daytime phone number. Letters to the editor may be edited for length and clarity.
The 150th anniversary celebration exceeded our dreams of what it could be. The programs, activities and events turned the spotlight on our students, alumni, staff, faculty and supporters. Hundreds of people gathered to enjoy our After Hours, pancake feed, tailgate and the after-game Bow Tie Bash events. Our parade was led by grand marshal Sen. Bob Dole. The Welcome Center grand opening celebrated the University’s new gathering space for students, and the beautiful new sculptures on our east and north lawns. I watched people aged 1 to 95 years getting their picture taken with Ichabod Washburn on his new bench. I believe this will be the most photographed site on the campus in the years to come. And I continue to watch from my new office window as people search for their brick in the Welcome Center plaza!

Everyone I spoke with was enthusiastic about attending the Grand Homecoming and in awe of what they found on our campus. Each person relived his or her experiences and memories. Some were sad many of the buildings they knew were destroyed by the 1966 tornado but so proud of today’s beautiful campus. The most frequent comment I heard was alumni asking about faculty members who had positively impacted their lives.

We were honored to recognize many of our benefactors. There are more supporters now than ever in our history. And we are so grateful for their generosity and how it has benefitted our students, faculty and programs.

All across campus, areas devoted time and effort to make this celebration a reality. Their efforts were noticed and meaningful for our alumni and community partners. It is not possible to recognize all involved, but we are grateful for the commitment and contributions of every person who helped with celebration events. Special recognition is deserved by Drs. Denise Ottinger, JuliAnn Mazachek and Cynthia Hornberger and Julie Olson and Amanda Hughes, as members of the sesquicentennial planning core team, for their four-year efforts.

We all serve a wonderful university. We will continue to change the lives of our students in our next 150 years.

Sincerely,

Jerry Farley
A DREAM COME TRUE

Rita Blitt was first introduced to Washburn in late May 2015. The Kansas City native was on campus to talk about her life’s dream – a permanent home for her art.

Rita is a world-renowned, award-winning artist, painter, sculptor and filmmaker. Irwin is a retired Kansas City-based commercial property developer. Together, they have made the most significant gift to the Mulvane Art Museum in its 91 years of existence.

On Oct. 16, Washburn University Foundation held a press conference to announce that the Blitts will donate a significant portion of Rita’s life work – nearly 1,000 paintings, drawings and sculptures – to the University and the Mulvane. In addition, they made a generous contribution for a stunning new art gallery addition to White Concert Hall that marks the first phase of a new performing arts venue. When completed, the venue will include the Rita Blitt Archive Gallery, a rehearsal room and an intimate recital hall that will seat 225 to 250 people, with performance space for instruction, rehearsal, concerts, small ensembles and civic events.

“Irwin and I selected Washburn as the home for my life’s work because of its commitment to the arts and its vision for the future. The Mulvane is the perfect venue to exhibit my art, a wonderful place where my pieces can live together as a body of work,” said Rita. “We are thrilled to give this gift to Washburn and to the region. This is my dream come true – more than I ever hoped for.”

“We are humbled and deeply honored to receive this priceless gift from one of the most celebrated artists of our time,” said JuliAnn Mazachek, president, Washburn University Foundation. “Rita’s generosity and vision will allow us to create a wonderful space for her art, which will continue to inspire others for generations to come.”

Rita’s works will become part of the permanent collection of the Mulvane, adding to its approximately 3,200 pieces.

“Rita’s work is a wonderful addition to the Mulvane,” said Connie Gibbons, director, Mulvane Art Museum. “This gift will have a lasting impact on the museum, our students and the art community. We are so excited to have Rita’s work, to exhibit it here at the Mulvane and...
A Gift of Art

to curate and create exhibitions that can be shared with other museums and galleries across the country.”

Randy Pembrook, vice president, academic affairs, understands what doors this gift will open to the students.

“Having Rita’s work will add another dimension to the educational opportunities we provide to our students,” he said. “They will be able to see many of her sculptures have been installed in multiple Kansas City locations – including one installed in November 2015 at the Hyatt Regency Skywalk Memorial in Kansas City – and throughout the world. “Confluence of Love and Learning,” the sculpture in front of Morgan Hall, is one of Rita’s works and was made possible through the support of Dale, bba ’69, and Susan Pond.

“Mulvane is truly a regional treasure, and Rita and Irwin’s generous gift will bring new opportunities to campus,” said Jerry Farley, president, Washburn University. “This is an investment in the community, an investment in the University and an investment in our students’ education. We are honored that Rita and Irwin have chosen Washburn as a home for Rita’s art.”

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DANCING ON PAPER

From an early age, Rita was drawn to art. Her grandfather, Isaac Sonfus, a Russian immigrant who designed embroidery patterns for a New York firm, drew flowers at the bottom of letters he sent to Rita. She did the same when she wrote back. She later said, “Perhaps my lines continue his.”

In grade school, Rita’s teacher Ruth Ann Angstead had the class draw trees, explaining that every branch, every twig grew from the roots up. “When I drew trees, I was aware that every line I drew was coming from the roots up, the branches and twigs. Every tree was alive,” said Rita. “These lines – coming from the roots up – invoked a feeling of honesty. I later realized this was very important to me as an artist.”

In her life drawing class under John Raushenberger at the University of Illinois, Rita experienced speed drawing for the first time – a technique that would have a profound influence on her art. “I loved making quick figures sketches with charcoal,” she said. “I discovered the speed with which I draw and paint today.”

While at the University of Illinois, Rita met Irwin. They married after he graduated. Throughout her career, he has encouraged and supported her work as an artist. After the birth of their daughter Chela in 1955, Rita was torn between how much time she spent with her family and how much time she devoted to her art. In 1958, she made a decision to work on her art every day in order to develop her talent. “I love it to myself to be the best artist I can be, while putting my family first,” she said.

Rita’s work evolved through the years, transitioning from doodles on paper to paintings to film and monumental sculpture. One of her sculptures, “Lunarblitt XVI,” or the “yellow ball” sculpture, Rita considers a pivotal work. The sculpture, part of the collection Rita is giving to the Mulvane, has a stainless steel base with a stainless steel arc that supports a bright yellow aluminum ball that is seemingly suspended in air. When she looked at the finished piece, Rita realized the yellow ball came from a doodle on paper. “It was the essence of me,” Rita said. “I realized the doodles I had made over the years were really me.”

From that point on, she put her spontaneous lines on paper. In 1977, she began drawing with two hands at once with music playing in the background. She later wrote that she felt like she was dancing on paper.

From her early childhood, Rita’s work has been inspired by her love of family and her concern about social injustice. Her art celebrates her love of nature, music, dance and the spontaneous flow of movement.

None more so than “Celebrating Dorianna,” an amazing 12-foot painting that Rita made following the birth of her granddaughter Dorianna in 1996.

“For months my sole focus had been helping to care for the new baby,” said Rita. “When I finally got to my studio and painted, I danced across the canvas with joy. Afterwards, I was stunned to see gestures reminiscent of birth revealed on the canvas. For the first time I admitted to myself that my art was influenced by my subconscious, something I had always dismissed before.”

Her most celebrated film is the six-minute “Caught in Paint,” a collaboration with the Parsons Dance Company. Rita’s words inspired a kindness program used in Kansas City schools and beyond, called “Kindness Is Contagious, Catch It.”

Rita invites the Mulvane community to view her art, films and other projects by visiting www.ritablitt.com.

“Celebrating Dorianna” is a 12-foot painting Rita made following the birth of her granddaughter Dorianna in 1996.
WORLDWIDE INFLUENCE
Slattery’s reach goes global, with Washburn’s help

By Jami Weisbender

Jim Slattery, bs ’70 and jd ’74, has a resume that reads like a dream: state legislator, six-term congressman, foreign diplomat and prominent District of Columbia attorney.

Given his big-time career, it’s easy to forget his small-town beginnings. He started out, like so many Kansas-born do, as a farm kid – a first-generation college hopeful, from rural Atchison County. His parents, both passionate about education and politics, taught him the importance of public service. Those lessons made an indelible impression on a young Slattery.

“My father got our first television for Christmas in 1959 so that we could watch the conventions in 1960 when John F. Kennedy and Richard Nixon were nominated for president. We watched from gavel to gavel every evening,” said Slattery, who recalls running home from school to catch President Kennedy’s news conferences.

“As I look back on my life, one of the things that I give both my mother and father great credit for is inspiring all of us to dream, and to be able to see beyond the four corners of our farm.”

And while Slattery knew there was a wider world out there, it wasn’t until arriving at Washburn that he finally got a glimpse of it. He remembers it perfectly – the day in 1968 when Lee Dodson, ba ’51, then-dean of students, tendered a life-changing opportunity: a year abroad at the prestigious Nyenrode Business University in the Netherlands. The experience blew Slattery’s world wide open.

“I give Washburn a lot of credit for instilling in me a lifelong interest in international affairs. It changed my life.”

Invigorated, Slattery wasted no time in putting more plans in motion. He earned his way into Washburn Law, making good on a “lifetime dream” to become a lawyer. He fearlessly embarked on a six-year post in the Kansas House of Representatives in 1973, while just a 20-something law student. He launched a real estate business, Brosius, Slattery & Meyer, with Washburn friend Jerry Brosius, ba ’70, in 1977. Slattery also found time to serve in the Kanzas National Guard between 1970 and 1976.

But the pull of public service – that seed his parents planted long ago – wouldn’t be denied. In 1982, frustrated by sky-high interest rates and rampant inflation, he set his sights on the U.S. House of Representatives. The reason was simple: He thought he could help. His congressional team worked to rein in the federal budget, expand Medicaid for low-income children, pass important environmental legislation such as the Clean Air Act and find a peaceful end to the civil war in Nicaragua. It was a career-defining 12 years.

“Carol (Waddell) McDowell, ba ’70 and jd ’75, was my chief of staff for 10 years. She did a terrific job leading my team in Kansas. We were deeply committed to serving the people of northeast Kansas in every way possible, whether it was problems with Social Security, Medicare or Veterans Affairs, or assisting farmers during the farm crisis of the 1980s.”

These days, with his congressional career behind him, Slattery is putting all that experience to work as a partner at Wiley Rein LLP in the District of Columbia, where he has represented a number of Kansas clients.

But true to form, he is also focused on public service. For the past decade, he has poured his time and his talents into an interfaith dialogue in the Middle East, Iran in particular. Slattery has spent thousands of hours on this pro bono project.

“The initiative has taken him to Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Egypt, Turkey, Israel and Lebanon for what he calls "people to people diplomacy."”

“Our idea was to open a conversation about the common ground shared by Muslims, Christians and Jews,” Slattery said. “We thought that it would be interesting to talk to high-ranking Iranians about how we might build a better relationship between the United States and Iran.”

For every noteworthy line on his resume – each country visited and each office won – Slattery points to a local Ichabod who made it possible. Dodson sending him on a transformative first trip abroad. McDowell working alongside him to represent the people of Kansas. Marion McDonald, former director of financial aid, digging up any and every available job to help him afford seven years of education at Washburn.

When Slattery and wife Linda gave $250,000 to Washburn Law’s campaign for a new building, it was a tribute to the Washburn faithful who have punctuated his story. Without them, Slattery said, his life would have never been the same.

“We believe we owe the Topeka community a lot. I went to school here, I met my wife here, our children were born here,” he said. “I would not be where I am today but for Washburn University and all the people in Kansas who helped me. This gift is our way of saying thank you.”
When Eugene Williams, station manager for KTWU, started 17 years ago, KTWU was a very community-oriented station, and the people in Topeka felt like it belonged to them.

Today, as KTWU celebrates its 50th year in operation, Williams said the station has more of a national connection because of technology, but still very much belongs to the community.

"Any time you can have a station last 50 years, it’s a testament to the community it operates in and to the people who have been associated with it," said Williams.

Since it signed on as the first public television station in Kansas on Oct. 21, 1965, it has seen immense changes on the local and national level: transition to digital television, financial challenges and major show premieres such as “Mr. Rogers,” “Clifford the Big Red Dog” and “Downton Abbey.”

The focus for the station now is the competition for engagement and eyes in the multi-platform environment people are accustomed to such as online streaming and a digital presence.

“KTWU has been able to provide lifetime value,” said Williams. “Many people grew up watching it and have passed it down to their children.”

Bill Shaffer, ba ’74, KTWU’s longest-serving employee with 39 years of service, has seen many of the station’s changes firsthand. As a producer for “Sunflower Journeys,” he agrees technology has offered the station the most challenges and opportunities to deliver great content.

“Technology has changed year to year, and sometimes it seems like it’s almost even faster,” he said. “I look at technology now, and I’m awestruck. Our newest camera is so small you can hardly even tell it’s there.”

Shaffer said he never expected “Sunflower Journeys” to last more than two decades, but the show has been a special part of the station’s history and growth. He no longer needs a map to travel around Kansas and is the go-to person in the office on all of the great local restaurants around the state. His favorite station memories include the Beaumont Hotel in Beaumont, Kansas, on “Sunflower Journeys” and having Red Green from “The Red Green Show” visit Topeka in 1998 to help support the station.

“Public television has a niche, and it’s going to stick around,” he said. “There are a lot of local shows on the station, and almost all of the ideas on ‘Sunflower Journeys’ are relayed to us via viewers. It’s intriguing how many they have come up with.”

Williams said the station also maintains a strong connection to the community through its volunteers, many of whom continue to come back to help with the same shows and the auction every year.

“They really get into the programs, especially when they get the behind-the-scenes experience,” he said. “Our volunteer hours are off the charts, and we are thankful to have them here.”

Highlights of KTWU’s 50 years:

Oct. 21, 1965
KTWU signs on the air as the first public television station in Kansas.

1969
“Sesame Street” premieres.

1971
Station launches its first fundraising auction, with proceeds going to purchase two portable color cameras for studio and location use.

1973
KTWU is one of six public television stations nationwide to take part in a pilot project to test closed captioning for the hearing impaired.

July 4, 1983
Station celebrates its first uninterrupted day of programming, from 6:45 a.m. to midnight. Prior to that, the station signed off for several hours in the afternoon.

1985
Construction of a tower in Iola allows KTWU to provide service to southeast Kansas.

1988

1994
KTWU moves to a new building at Washburn University, where it continues to operate today.

2002-2003
Station raises $7 million for a new broadcasting tower and transmitter to meet Federal Communications Commission requirements to switch to digital technology.

Oct. 21, 2015
Station celebrates 50 years of broadcasting.
WASHBURN NIGHT AT THE K

Ichabod and Royals pride were on display Sept. 1 as Washburn University and the Washburn University School of Law had the first Washburn Night at the K.

The event was made possible by generous donors Advisors Excel, Midwest Health, Kuckelman Torline Kirkland Lewis, Nell Hill’s, Hutchins & Haake, LLC, and Polsinelli.

Even though the Royals lost 6-5 against the Detroit Tigers, the evening was an opportunity to show off Washburn and all it had to offer people in Kansas City. Co-branded t-shirts were given to the first 10,000 people, president Jerry Farley threw out the first pitch, music students sang the national anthem, and senior Jacob Stone stood on the Royals’ dugout to sing the 7th-inning stretch song “Take Me Out to the Ballgame.”

“We are fortunate to have the generous support from alumni and alumni law firms that helped us make this opportunity available to the Washburn community,” said JuliAnn Mazachek, president, Washburn University Foundation. “We truly appreciate their generosity. It was a wonderful night for Washburn and ended up being a wonderful season for the Royals, so we can’t wait until next year!”

I SEE VIDEOS FROM WASHBURN NIGHT AT THE K ONLINE:
National anthem video:
7th-inning stretch video:

WASHBURN NIGHT AT THE K

Skuggerrr, the Kansas City Royals’ mascot, gives some advice to Ichabod on how to catch the first pitch. Photo courtesy Royals

WASHBURN NIGHT AT THE K

Washburn Law handed out several hundred cup sleeves to the first people in the stadium. Photo by Jeremy Wangler

MOMENTOUS CELEBRATION MARKS 150 YEARS

The four-year sesquicentennial celebration went out with a bang on Saturday, Oct. 14.

“The celebration was truly a pivotal point in Washburn’s history, and the weekend was a wonderful time to get together, share memories and make new friends,” said Jerry Farley, president, Washburn University, who led the surprise fireworks show during the Grand Finale. “We are happy to celebrate the history, but we are ready to pass it on to the future.”

The weekend-long celebration for alumni included the grand opening of the Welcome Center, a large After Hours celebration, and the revival of the traditional bonfire on Friday evening.

In addition to the events on Friday, the Ichabod statue and almost 2,000 personalized bricks purchased from alumni, students and friends were unveiled in the plaza in front of the new Welcome Center. An Ichabod bench west of the Welcome Center and a one-of-a-kind art piece celebrating Washburn’s history were also unveiled.

The statue, bench and art piece were funded through the generosity of donors.

“The two statues make it possible for everyone who enters the Welcome Center to know what we stand for and to remember that Ichabod Washburn is who made this place possible, and the future generations can build on his dream and vision of education for all,” said JuliAnn Mazachek, president, Washburn University Foundation.

On Saturday, a pancake feed started the celebrations off in the morning, and former U.S. Sen. Bob Dole, ’52, ’52, served as grand marshal to a large Grand Homecoming Parade. While the football team lost to the University of Central Oklahoma 27-38, more than 1,000 people attended the Grand Tailgate, and hundreds of people attended the Bow Tie Bash and fireworks show to wrap up the evening.

“Washburn has the ability to change so many people’s lives, and we are very excited for the next 150 years,” Farley said.

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GRAND HOMECOMING

FRIDAY EVENTS KICKED OFF CELEBRATION

David Manley, ba ’67, poses with Mr. Ichabod after the bench was unveiled Friday, Oct. 23. Manley was one of the driving forces behind the Ichabod bench project when he was serving on the alumni board of directors. Photo by Bruce Matthews

Steve Howard and Gary Weckbaugh, bba ’80, reminisce at Grand Homecoming’s After Hours. Photo by Bruce Matthews

Members of Zeta Tau Alpha gathered for a reunion at After Hours during Grand Homecoming. Photo by Sarah Towle

Bill Sneed, bba ’77, jd ’80, chair of the Washburn University Board of Regents, spoke at the grand opening of the Welcome Center on Friday afternoon. Photo by Peggy Clark

Carol Kaufman, b ed ’82, snaps a photo of a brick in the Ichabod Plaza in front of the Welcome Center. The opening of the plaza drew hundreds of people to see their personalized brick. Photo by Sarah Towle

(Left) Rhonda Sparks, Heather Hay Huscher, ba ’93, Jennifer Graf Smith, ba ’93, and Clayton Funk, ba ’93, get their photo with Mr. Ichabod at After Hours on Friday evening. Photo by Sarah Towle

Members of the Washburn University Marching Blues led After Hours attendees through campus to the bonfire, a tradition brought back for Friday night’s Grand Homecoming celebration. Photo by Jeremy Wangler

See more photos of Grand Homecoming at bit.ly/washburngrandhomecoming

(Left) Steve Howard and Gary Weckbaugh, bba ’80, reminisce at Grand Homecoming’s After Hours. Photo by Bruce Matthews
CELEBRATING WASHBURN 50 YEARS LATER

Centennial queen joins sesquicentennial celebrations
By Sarah Towle • stowle@wufoundation.org

Washburn University’s centennial homecoming queen, Helen Badenoch Kanatzar, relived her historic moment in 1965 by traveling from Texas this fall to attend the University’s sesquicentennial celebrations.

Susie Hoffmann, director, Alumni Association, and Jessica Barrasso, director, Student Activities and Greek Life, surprised Kanatzar and included her in many of the same activities homecoming queens took part in 50 years ago, including riding along in the parade and presenting flowers to the sesquicentennial queen, Catherine Steuart, at halftime of the football game.

Fifty years ago, homecoming queens weren’t nominated by the many student organizations as they are today. One woman was nominated from each sorority, one woman from Benton Hall and one independent woman. The Kappa Alpha Theta sorority nominated Kanatzar in 1965.

“I happened to be taking a night class during the meeting,” she said. “I came back and they said, ‘We nominated you for homecoming!’”

Kanatzar moved to Texas in 1966 right after the tornado destroyed most of Washburn’s campus, and she took off on a rewarding career as an airline hostess. The regulars she served on flights included anthropologist Margaret Mead, singer Tina Turner, Lady Bird Johnson and Speaker of the House Carl Albert.

Even though she moved to Texas, she has maintained lifelong friendships with her Theta sisters. While she hadn’t been back to campus for a homecoming celebration, she and her husband came back to wish Washburn well for the next 150 years.

“I was surprised, very surprised. It just didn’t even dawn on me that I would win,” she said. “For me, Washburn was like a wonderful living room – a classy living room. It enlightened me, encouraged me, and I had wonderful teachers who really opened my mind.”

A recipient of the Alumni Association, Sweet Foundation and Moor scholarships, she has also received recognition on the president’s honor roll. After graduation, Steuart plans to continue her education and earn a master’s degree at Washburn.

“To go to a school that has as much to offer as Washburn does and be awarded this title is something I will never forget,” Steuart said. “Being homecoming queen also inspires me to keep pushing forward and to keep striving to be the change I want to see.”

Gallion, a nursing major, is currently serving as the secretary for Alpha Delta Fraternity. His volunteer work includes with the American Diabetes Association as a Diabetic Counselor, the Washburn Big Event, Meals on Wheels, Frankfort United Methodist Church, American Cancer Society, Harvesters and Helping Hands Humane Society.

A recipient of the Garvey and Richey scholarships, he is a member of Mortar Board, Student Nurses of Washburn, Community of Caring, Student Ambassadors, and he has served the university as the summer orientation counselor intern and a resident assistant in Residential Living.

“I am excited to think that I could come back at the 200th Homecoming, just like Helen Kanatzar (the 100th homecoming queen) was here to help us celebrate, and see just how many advancements Washburn will have made,” said Gallion. “I cannot express how thankful I am to have been given this opportunity to represent the University that has helped shape me into the Ichabod I am today.”

Washburn University junior Catherine Steuart, Topeka, Kansas, and senior Parker Gallion, Frankfort, Kansas, were crowned homecoming queen and king during halftime of the Washburn University football game vs. University of Central Oklahoma on Saturday, Oct. 24.

Steuart, an elementary education major, is a current member of Delta Gamma women’s fraternity where she has served as vice president of finance and vice president of social standards. Her volunteer work includes Brewer Place, grocery shopping with senior citizens, Kansas State School for the Blind, the Washburn Big Event and St. Matthew’s. She is a member of the Washburn Education Association, Student Alumni Association, Panhellenic recruitment counselor team and served the university as a peer educator.

A recipient of the Alumni Association, Sweet Foundation and Moor scholarships, she has also received recognition on the president’s honor roll. After graduation, Steuart plans to continue her education and earn a master’s degree at Washburn.

“Going to a school that has as much to offer as Washburn does and be awarded this title is something I will never forget,” Steuart said. “Being homecoming queen also inspires me to keep pushing forward and to keep striving to be the change I want to see.”

Gallion, a nursing major, is currently serving as the secretary for Alpha Delta Fraternity. His volunteer work includes with the American Diabetes Association as a Diabetic Counselor, the Washburn Big Event, Meals on Wheels, Frankfort United Methodist Church, American Cancer Society, Harvesters and Helping Hands Humane Society.

A recipient of the Garvey and Richey scholarships, he is a member of Mortar Board, Student Nurses of Washburn, Community of Caring, Student Ambassadors, and he has served the university as the summer orientation counselor intern and a resident assistant in Residential Living.

“I am excited to think that I could come back at the 200th Homecoming, just like Helen Kanatzar (the 100th homecoming queen) was here to help us celebrate, and see just how many advancements Washburn will have made,” said Gallion. “I cannot express how thankful I am to have been given this opportunity to represent the University that has helped shape me into the Ichabod I am today.”
GRAND HOMECOMING

EXCITING FUTURE

Thousands of Alumni, Friends Pay Tribute to University on Saturday

(From Left) Former Washburn football players Ken Schranke, ba ’88, Jim Bernard, ba ’86, and Blake Redd, ba ’94, hosted their 15th annual Rib Fest during Grand Homecoming. Photo by Peggy Clark

Sandy Crimmins, bba ’59, Jean Trupp, Ann-Marie Brown, and Laurie Crimmins, b ed ’87, show off their Washburn spirit during the tailgate on Saturday. Photo by Bruce Matthews

Nathalie Bonilla poses with Mr. Ichabod at the pancake feed on Saturday, Oct. 24. Chris Cakes got the crowd ready for the day by flipping pancakes in the air for people to catch. Photo by Sarah Towie

(From Left) Sheena Smith, ba ’07, Josh Shald, ba ’07, Bethany Dunham, b ed ’09, Taylor Dunham, b ed ’08, Jason Degenhardt, b music ’09, and Kellie Degenhardt celebrated Washburn’s sesquicentennial at the Bow Tie Bash on Saturday, Oct. 24. Photo by Sarah Towie

Lauren Frost and Frank Matande, second-year law students, enjoyed tailgating before the football game. Photo by Bruce Matthews

Sen. Bob Dole, ba ’52, jd ’52, served as the grand marshal in the parade on Saturday, Oct. 24 and rode with Jerry Farley, president, and Susan Farley. Photo by Jeremy Wangler

Abby Mikkelsen, a senior nursing major, and her husband, Malcolm Mikkelsen, a junior biochemistry major and vice president of the Washburn Student Government Association, enjoyed the Bow Tie Bash. Photo by Jeremy Wangler

Kaitlyn Truesdell, a senior business major from Topeka, Kansas, and Forrest Evans, a senior music education major from Topeka, Kansas, rode in the parade as two of the 10 Homecoming royalty candidates. Photo by Jeremy Wangler

See more photos of Grand Homecoming at bit.ly/washburngrandhomecoming
POLITICAL SCIENCE STUDENT RECEIVES FIRSTHAND EXPERIENCE IN BRITISH ELECTIONS

By Sarah Towle • stowle@wufoundation.org

Jack Van Dam, junior, political science major (back center), posed with other supporters and Sarah Jones (front center), a Labour party candidate, in May during his trip to the United Kingdom. He was encouraged by his professor to visit and help candidates campaign for office.

Photo courtesy of Jack Van Dam

Jack Van Dam woke up in the United Kingdom a few days before the British elections in May, turned on the television and saw a news report on deputy prime minister Nick Clegg, who was running for office. Van Dam was thrilled to see himself in the background of the shot, not believing the opportunity he had been given.

The junior political science major traveled to the U.K. at the urging of his professor, Bob Beatty, who taught a comparative politics course in spring 2015, and with the assistance of scholarships to help pay for the learning experience. Van Dam and John Shively, junior political science major, left on April 29 and spent the next 11 days getting involved in various campaigns.

“I spent the whole semester studying Nick Clegg and made a few presentations to our class,” Van Dam said. “So it was neat that the experience came full circle, and I was able to meet Clegg and work for the campaign while we were there.”

The two walked 10 to 12 miles per day going door to door in neighborhoods campaigning for Clegg and Sarah Jones from the Labour Party. Van Dam said the election process is much different across the pond as candidates do a lot more door-to-door campaigning, spend less money and aren’t allowed to take out television ads.

Van Dam said he was able to strike up good conversations with voters as he went to their houses, and they were fascinated by how much money is spent on American elections. He had such great conversations with voters, by the end of his time there, he was training others how to canvass from door to door.

It was heels to the ground on Election Day as they walked 20 miles, starting at 5:30 a.m. and ending around 9 p.m.

Locally, Van Dam is helping to organize the Washburn group Students for Civic Engagement and helping to run voter registration drives. He and many other Washburn students were also able to travel to Iowa in September to have dinner with seven presidential candidates.

“Americans have some important decisions to make in 2016, and it’s important for them to vote,” Van Dam said.

Scholarships made it possible for him to have this experience, and Van Dam said he is very thankful for the opportunities. During his time at Washburn, he’s been able to travel to Estonia and South Korea on scholarships as well.

“We sit in a classroom and we are told how this works, but to go and experience it firsthand allows us to really paint a picture, and the benefits are tremendous,” he said. “Scholarships were critically important to my ability to take this trip, so I’m thankful to all of the donors who make these trips possible.”

Jack Van Dam (back right), junior, political science major, traveled to the United Kingdom this past summer to work the campaigns in the British elections. He was able to campaign with deputy prime minister Nick Clegg (front center), who was running for office. Photo courtesy of Jack Van Dam
HEALTH CARE SIMULATION LAB TO PROVIDE STATE-OF-THE-ART TRAINING

Washburn Tech officially unveiled its new, state-of-the-art Health Care Simulation Center on Nov. 12. This multimillion-dollar lab, built to mirror a hospital setting, will train future health care workers by utilizing the latest technology, including patient simulators that breathe, talk and even bleed.

“Our new simulation lab will provide students a safe and realistic environment to experience nursing scenarios,” said Jerry Farley, president, Washburn University. “This opportunity allows them to refine their clinical decision-making skills without adverse consequences, providing them with confidence and promoting patient safety.”

The new facility is part of the KanTRAIN project that is supported by a $11.9 million U.S. Department of Labor grant awarded to Washburn University, which oversees the project. The funding is divided among Washburn Tech and three other Kansas colleges to provide job-driven training efforts. Washburn Tech, while working with Washburn University’s School of Nursing and School of Applied Studies, is receiving $3.2 million of the grant to train future workers for the fast-growing health care field.

“Our new Simulation Center provides added opportunities to partner with area health care providers,” said Clark Coco, dean, Washburn Tech. “We greatly appreciate the support we have received and look forward to not only working with local professionals, but also providing highly skilled individuals to work beside them in the near future.”

The initiative is part of the U.S. Department of Labor Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training program. It is the second time Washburn University has received money from the program. Four years ago, a $29.6 million grant was awarded to fund Technical Retraining to Achieve Credentials, with Washburn Tech providing advanced manufacturing training.

APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR LEGACY SCHOLARSHIPS

Thanks to yearly support from donors, the Washburn Alumni Association has been granting scholarships since 1944. The Association awarded more than $34,000 for the 2015-16 academic year to 65 students, and about the same is expected for the upcoming year.

Legacy students can apply for Washburn Alumni Association scholarships through the Feb. 15 deadline by following the link at the bottom of this page. A legacy student is any current or incoming student with a parent, grandparent, sibling or spouse who is an alumnus and a member of the Association.

“We expect to have the same amount or more to award next year, thanks to a great turnout at the Bow Tie Run,” said Susie Hoffmann, director, Alumni Association. “Interest grows every year in these scholarships.”

Delanie Atteberry, ba ’14, participated in the Bow Tie Run as a way to give back after receiving legacy scholarships. Her brother, Davis Atteberry, is attending Washburn with a legacy scholarship. The two have numerous relatives, including their parents, who are Washburn alumni.

“Knowing that I participated in an event that has assisted me, my brother and many others who require financial aid is very humbling,” she said. “The scholarship, along with others, helped me continue my studies without the added stress of loans and debt.

I was able to focus more on the reason I was at Washburn rather than on how I was going to afford to stay.”

She said her family didn’t pressure her to attend Washburn. She chose it for the majors offered and the affordability.

“In our own way, we figured out that it was the best place for us to learn and grow as a student and an individual,” she said.

Gifts to the Alumni Association, funds from the Bow Tie Run and funds generated by purchasing a Kansas license plate with the Ichabod logo all support the scholarships. The Bow Tie Run, previously called the Fun Run and Campus Walk, typically raises $5,000 and has more than 150 participants.

“We have so much fun with the run and walk every year, and I think people enjoy knowing their support is immediately going to scholarships,” Hoffmann said.

By Jeremy Wangler • jwangler@wufoundation.org

Nearly 150 runners and walkers participate each year in the Bow Tie Run. This year’s race was held on Oct. 3, 2015. Photo by Jeremy Wangler

Read more and apply online: bit.ly/legacyscholarships

ONLINE

Applicants for legacy scholarships must fill out the application online by Feb. 15, 2016. Applicants for scholarships through the University’s financial aid office will not qualify for an Alumni Association scholarship.

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Read more and apply online: bit.ly/legacyscholarships
Eight alumni were honored for success in their fields during the Fellows Luncheon on Nov. 13, 2015.

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

John S. Augusto, ba ’91, assistant vice provost for experiential learning, University of Kansas

John Augusto was born in Hutchinson and now resides in Lawrence, where he works as assistant vice provost for experiential learning at the University of Kansas (KU). He founded and directs the Center for Undergraduate Research and directs the Center for Civic and Social Responsibility.

He started at KU in 1993 as an academic program coordinator and then worked for two years as director of multicultural affairs at Rockhurst University in Kansas City, Missouri. He began his professional career at Washburn as an admission counselor in 1991. Augusto is a lifetime member of the Society for the Advancement of Chicano and Native Americans in Science. He presents every year at the Annual Biomedical Conference for Minority Students and is an elected member of the Council on Undergraduate Research.

About Washburn: “My best memory is talking to Professor Tom Averill. He gave me so much confidence and showed me how hard work can lead to success. Washburn gave me academic courage and confidence. It gave me a place to start.”

SCHOOL OF APPLIED STUDIES

Dan Francis, bsw ’04, msw ’05, retired staff clinician and crisis clinician, Family Service and Guidance Center

Dan Francis grew up in Ellwood City, Pennsylvania, and moved to Topeka after a 20-year career in the military. He retired in 2011 as a staff clinician and crisis clinician in outpatient psychiatry at Family Service and Guidance Center in Topeka.

Francis started at Family Service and Guidance Center in 2003 as a post-graduate fellow and subsequently specialized in work with children aged birth to 6 years. He worked for two years before that in social work generalist and clinical internships at Calmercy-O’Neil VA Medical Center.

He was in the military intelligence service in the United States Army from 1977-97. Among his honors were three Meritorious Service Medals, three Army Commendation Medals, two Army Achievement Medals and the Master Instructor qualification. During his service, he was a senior and chief instructor at the Military Intelligence Corps NCO Academy from 1990-93, where he trained junior and senior NCOs in leadership and advanced technical subjects in eight military intelligence disciplines.

About Washburn: “Every class I took at Washburn contributed to the person I am today. I learned things in both general education and my specialty areas that I later used in my professional practice. While I attended and taught many undergraduate and graduate courses in military schools, I will always consider Washburn to be my alma mater.”

Jeffrey Hewett grew up in Topeka and resides in Houston where he founded Granite Legal Systems, Inc., in 2004 and serves as chief executive officer.

Granite is a legal software and discovery services company that provides project and technical consulting for large-scale litigation in the pharmaceutical, medical device and energy industries.

Jeffrey R. Hewett, jd ’95, CEO, Granite Legal Systems, Inc.

Previously, Hewett worked as a practice group leader for Baker Robbins & Company. He managed litigation, records management and case management groups providing services to corporations and law firms.

About Washburn: “While in law school, I appreciated the personal nature of the Washburn learning experience. Professor Ronald Griffin took the time to discuss business concepts and make recommendations for good, practical business practices. The information continues to provide guidance and insight today.”

SCHOOL OF LAW

James L. P. Hurd, ba music ’67, professor of music, El Camino College

James Hurd grew up in Topeka and currently lives in Los Angeles where he is a professor of music at El Camino College. He teaches organ, piano and music appreciation.

Hurd has served as organist and director of music for numerous churches and organizations in Topeka, Chicago and Los Angeles. He is currently the organist and music director at St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church in Redondo Beach, California.

He is an active member of the American Guild of Organists and has performed all across the United States and Europe. The First Presbyterian Church of Inglewood awarded him the status of A Living Legacy after he served as organist and music director from 1973-96.

The Los Angeles Museum of Tolerance has invited him to speak on several occasions on his experiences as a student at Monro Elementary School in Topeka at the time of the Brown v. Board of Education Supreme Court decision.

About Washburn: “As I started taking organ lessons, I realized I would like to be doing exactly what my professor, Max Elsberry, was doing: teaching college, supervising the music and playing a big pipe organ for a large church. For what I was searching for in life, he was an excellent role model.”

Jeff Myers, ba ’87, president, The Summit

Jeff Myers, a native of Great Bend, Kansas, currently lives in Manitou Springs, Colorado, where he works as president of The Summit.

Myers started at The Summit in 2001 and directs the Christian-based program that prepares students for college.

The organization trains 50,000 students a year through 12-day intensive programs offered in three states and curriculum offered to schools and churches throughout the United States.

He has had a distinguished career lecturing on leadership and producing training materials in the field for students, churches, businesses and political organizations.

Myers has authored 11 books and delivered more than 1,000 keynote speeches and leadership seminars during the last 25 years in the United States and 12 foreign countries.

About Washburn: “I have had the privilege of influencing several million emerging leaders and not a day has passed that I have not drawn on the content, the academic skills and the leadership experiences I gained at Washburn.”

SCHOOL OF ARTS & SCIENCES

James L. P. Hurd, ba music ’67, professor of music, El Camino College

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Granite is a legal software and discovery services company that provides project and technical consulting for large-scale litigation in the pharmaceutical, medical device and energy industries.
David Roberts was born in Kansas City, Kansas, and lives in Overland Park where he is president of Power Sales and Advertising.

Roberts oversees a company that offers more than 185 different product lines to the premium and incentives industry. Power Sales and Advertising has 113,000 square feet of office and warehouse space with 70 employees in Lenexa. His father started the company as Don Roberts and Associates, and David Roberts served as president until 1992 when he formed the current business.

Roberts has coached youth baseball and basketball teams and has been a board member of Blue Valley Senior Baseball and Blue Valley Northwest High School booster club.

About Washburn: “I lived all four years in the Phi Delta Theta house. We had a lot of guys who became doctors, lawyers and business professionals who took being a student fairly seriously. Several of them set a good example when I arrived as a 17-year-old freshman, and I learned how to study and prepare for class. I decided to be a business major right away.”

Manya Schmidt grew up in Topeka and works at St. Francis Health’s Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery center as a certified nurse-midwife (CNM) and advanced practice registered nurse.

Schmidt has worked for St. Francis Health since 2004 and is a professor in Washburn’s doctor of nursing practice and family nurse practitioner programs. She has devoted her career to caring for women and families during and after pregnancy. She was the first certified nurse-midwife to attend hospital births in Topeka in 1994, paving the way for nurse-midwifery care to become established in the community. Schmidt is a preceptor for many CNM and nurse practitioner students throughout the Midwest.

Schmidt has worked to deliver midwifery care in a variety of underserved areas throughout Topeka and northeast Kansas, providing direct patient care in many different local and outreach clinics.

About Washburn: “The School of Nursing provided diverse educational opportunities, which allowed me to choose a career path that best met my personal and professional goals. The concept of being a change agent equipped me with the determination to make midwifery care available to women desiring a hospital birth experience.”

Topeka resident Eric Showalter is a collision repair instructor at Washburn Institute of Technology.

Showalter began at Washburn Tech in 2004 when it was Kaw Area Vocational-Technical School. Prior to that, he worked for Shawnee County Public Works as an assistant traffic supervisor for a year, and he owned and managed Mirror Image, Inc., an I-CAR Gold Class repair shop from 1991-2003.

He is a Master Certified Technician from Automotive Service Excellence and I-CAR platinum certified. He was named the I-CAR South Central Instructor of the Year in 2012.

Showalter helped Washburn Tech start the Recycled Rides program in 2011. Washburn Tech students work side by side with industry professionals to repair donated vehicles and gift them to community members in need. The program has presented 14 cars to local residents since its inception.

About Washburn: “We are striving to become the Midwest leader in collision repair technology in the education field. Recycled Rides has been a very positive direction for us in promoting our school not only to the general public, but to businesses that hire our students. It has opened up new lines of communication, which leads to increased opportunities for our graduating students.”

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Eric Showalter, collision repair ’76, instructor of collision repair, Washburn Institute of Technology
Three Washburn alumni had honorary degrees conferred on them during Grand Graduation in May 2015.

**EDWARD GLOTZBACH**

**Honorary Doctor of Public Service**

Ed Glotzbach earned a bachelor’s degree in mathematics and statistics in 1970 from Washburn University and a master’s degree from the University of Southern California in 1979. Throughout his career, Glotzbach has served in many leadership roles in both the private and philanthropic sectors. He retired from Information Services Group, Inc., in 2012, where he had served as chief officer of Scout Investment Advisors and also serves on the board of directors of the Boy Scouts of America. He is a leading and respected expert in the energy industry. Glotzbach’s expertise earned him the title of BusinessWeek’s 2005 Stock Market Strategist of the Year. He is a member of the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) Institute and a member of the Kansas City CFA Society. Glotzbach currently serves as chairperson for U.S. Sen. Nancy Kassebaum from 1980-84 and then was elected a Kansas senator from 1984-89. He managed Government Relations and Legislative Services for the Federation of State Medical Boards in Texas before she retired. He is past chairperson for the Washburn University Foundation Board of Directors and has served on the board since 2006.

**JEANNE HOFERER**

**Honorary Doctor of Public Service**

Jeanne (Smith) Hoferer graduated summa cum laude from Washburn University in 1980 with a bachelor of business administration degree and received a master’s degree in public administration from the University of Texas-Arlington. She worked at Washburn as alumni director and director of university relations from 1989-96. Prior to that, she served as regional chairperson for U.S. Sen. Nancy Kassebaum from 1980-84 and then was elected a Kansas senator from 1984-89. She managed Government Relations and Legislative Services for the Federation of State Medical Boards in Texas before she retired. She is past chairperson for the Washburn University Foundation Board of Directors and has served on the board since 2006. She has been a Foundation trustee since 1987. Hoferer received the Ruth Garvey Fink Award from Washburn University in 2005 and was chosen to participate in the Nonoso Women’s Honorary Society. She was named the Zona Club of Topeka “Woman of Achievement” in 1995.

**WILLIAM GREINER**

**Honorary Doctor of Commerce**

Bill Greiner earned a bachelor’s degree in economics and finance from Washburn University in 1980 and has spent more than 30 years becoming a leading and respected expert in the finance and investment industry. He is chief investment strategist of Mariner Wealth Advisors, where he oversees all investment-related matters and drives the firm’s economic and capital markets outlook. His expertise in the industry has led him to appearances on Bloomberg Television, CNBC and CNBC Worldwide. He also has been featured in respected publications such as Barron’s, The Wall Street Journal and BusinessWeek. Greiner’s financial expertise earned him the title of BusinessWeek’s 2005 Stock Market Strategist of the Year. He is a member of the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) Institute and a member of the Kansas City CFA Society. Greiner worked as chief investment officer of Scout Investment Advisors before starting at Mariner. He was directly responsible for Scout’s global equity investment process. He started in 1999 at Scout’s parent company, UMB Financial Corp., where he worked as manager of the trust investment division and was responsible for all portfolio managers. He also worked for Northern Trust Asset Management in Chicago.

Greiner became a Washburn University Foundation trustee in 2007 and has served on the board of directors since 2008. He currently serves on the investment committee. He also supports the Greiner Family Lecture Series in Economics and Free Enterprise, a Washburn University School of Business annual lecture series.

Greiner is a leading and respected expert in the finance and investment industry and a loyal supporter of Washburn University.
Alumni News

Three alumni joined the Washburn Alumni Association Board of Directors effective Aug. 1, 2015.

Jennifer (Fenton) Cocking, ba ’04, jd ’12
Atchison, Kansas
Current position: Kansas Supreme Court, research assistant to the Honorable Lawton R. Nuss, Chief Justice of the Kansas Supreme Court

While on campus: Kappa Alpha Theta; Nonoso; Order of Omega; Editor-in-chief, Washburn Law Journal Vol. 51; Structured Study Group Leader, Women’s Legal Forum

Memories: “I met my husband, Trey, bs ’02, at a Kappa Sigma party my freshman year – my very first night out on campus. We started dating a couple of months later and have been together ever since.”

Hobbies: Spending time with my husband and our dogs Claire and Lizzie, traveling, reading, going to the Kansas City ballet, learning to sew

Thoughts: “I am so honored to serve on the Washburn Alumni Association Board of Directors. My time as a student in undergrad and law school was so great because of the support given to me by the University and the people who were such a huge part of my life for seven years. Serving on the board makes me feel like I can play a small part in ensuring current and future students will continue to have the opportunity to experience Washburn at its best.”

Ross Hendrickson, bba ’93, mba ’97
Chanute, Kansas
Current position: President, MRH Insurance Group, Inc.
While on campus: Phi Delta Theta, Student Alumni Association, Interfraternity Council, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, Greek intramural sports

Memories: “I met my wife, Amy (Robinson) Hendrickson, ba ’93, at Washburn. I attended Enjoyment of Music and met music professor John Buckner who knew every student’s name on the first day of class and for years afterwards.”

Hobbies: Working at the family ranch, reading, golfing, hunting and snow skiing

Thoughts: “I love my family and treasure my experiences and memories created at Washburn. I am proud of my role in helping with the successful fundraising campaign to fully renovate the Phi Delta Theta house. I’m blessed to be involved in family businesses that include insurance, cattle business of commercial grazing in the Flint Hills that dates back six generations, and management and ownership of professional commercial properties in Topeka.”

Richard Vaughn, bba ’88
Overland Park, Kansas
Current position: Toshiba America Information Systems, director of channel sales (U.S. channel chief)

While on campus: Alpha Delta, Topeka Morning Optimist Club, Kansas Air National Guard 1983-1988

Memories: “My fondest memory is meeting my wife, Nancy (Anthony) Vaughn, b ed ’88, while attending Washburn. I was an Alpha Delta and Nancy was a member of Zeta Tau Alpha. We married our senior year and lived in the old married student housing complex. Rent was inexpensive, gas was free and there was no insulation of any kind. Thus, winters were warm, but summers were challenging to stay cool.”

Hobbies: Any activity that involves spending time with my family – learning to keep, raise and ride horses for 4-H and the Kansas Horse Circuit Series; raising and training show cattle; coaching and watching soccer and basketball; cooking and competing in national and local BBQ competitions; and traveling nationally and internationally

Thoughts: “Nancy and I often talk about how lucky we were to attend Washburn. We developed a circle of friends that we still remain close with today. I have been blessed to be happily married for more than x8 years. I have measured my success not by any single accomplishment but through a multitude of moments, including the highlight of my career to date – being named U.S. Channel Chief for Toshiba.”

THREE JOIN ALUMNI BOARD

By Kathy Busch • kbusch@wufoundation.org

On Sept. 15, 2016, Upsilon Chapter of Alpha Phi will celebrate 100 years at Washburn University. Plans are currently underway for a grand celebration.

The chapter is working to make contact with all of its alumnae and is hoping to hold the celebration in September 2016.

If you are an alumna of Alpha Phi, please update your contact information at www.topekaaphialumnae.weebly.com by clicking on Update Your Contact Information. The organization is urging all alumnae to do this, even if the organization already has contact information, to make sure it is accurate.

If an alumna is not able to update her information online, or would prefer to update it personally, please contact Amy (Hirschke) Birch at 785.633.8629.

ALPHA PHI COLLECTING CONTACT INFORMATION BEFORE 100TH ANNIVERSARY
Ryan Alexander, chair, criminal justice and legal studies department, has spent the last two years working with colleagues at Washburn and the Kansas Bureau of Investigation to develop a new forensic investigation major. The department will start having classes in the new building this spring.

Photo by Earl Richardson

KBI AND WASHBURN
Collaboration key to creating unique programs

PART 1: Criminal Justice, Anthropology to host first classes spring semester

By Sarah Towle • stowle@wufoundation.org

The Kansas Bureau of Investigation Forensic Science Center opened on Washburn University’s campus in November, offering multiple opportunities to students and new programs.

Many departments jumped on board to expand their programs in conjunction with the new building, and criminal justice and anthropology programs will start offering classes in the building this spring.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE
Ryan Alexander’s calendar has been filled with appointments from potential students interested in the new forensic investigation major that specializes in crime scenes.

Alexander, chair, criminal justice and legal studies department, said it’s not just students direct from high school but also from community colleges who have been interested in the program to further their four-year degrees.

“There is such a need for trained crime scene investigators in the field. Throughout the process of developing the curriculum, we consulted a number of different law enforcement agencies and we’ve come up with classes that will prepare the student for the career,” he said. “We’ve got a great facility, it’s state-of-the-art, it’s a great investment from the University and I think something the University will benefit from.”
When Alexander first heard the building would be on campus, he thought it was a unique opportunity for the department. It will be the only forensic investigation major with a crime scene emphasis offered in Kansas.

“Any time a university can team up with any agency in the field and team up in the true sense of a really strong partnership that’s not just lip service, it’s great,” he said. “We’ll do research, share our findings, share some resources. We’ll have agents come in and speak in class, and our students will work there as interns. That’s a true partnership.”

Alexander and his team set out to make forensic investigation a unique piece of the forensic science arena. Forensics is split into two parts—the identification and collection of evidence at the crime scene, and the analysis of that evidence. Most programs in the country only focus on the analysis.

The collaboration creates not only a hands-on education but also a pipeline to a potential career for students. The University purchased much of the same technology KBI uses, so the students will already have quite a bit of the training it takes to work at crime scenes. Students who complete internships will have already been put through much of the vetting process once they start looking for a job.

“The University has not cut any corners in investing in this program,” Alexander said. “We are very appreciative of that investment by the school, the state and KBI. It’s going to make this program top notch.”

A new program director will be hired and charged with reaching out to current law enforcement agencies to see what type of training Washburn can provide them.

“When Alexander first heard the program, they spent an entire weekend writing a proposal on the strengths of the anthropology program and why it should play a part in the initial footprint of the partnership. Their hard work turned into developing the first bachelor’s-level forensic anthropology concentration in Kansas.”

“The folks at KBI really recognized what anthropology could offer and helped pave the way for it,” said Sundal. “There aren’t very many bachelor programs for forensic anthropology in the United States, so this is something unique we can contribute.”

KBI currently doesn’t have a forensic anthropologist on staff, and Sundal believes it’s one of the reasons the agency was drawn to include the program.

“One of the things KBI was so interested in was to partner up with us to teach current law enforcement about preservation of evidence and what to do when you find human remains,” said Childers. “KBI thought it was a unique opportunity to expand our program significantly.”

When Alexander first heard the building would be on campus, he thought it was a unique opportunity for the department. It will be the only forensic investigation major with a crime scene emphasis offered in Kansas.

“The University has not cut any corners in investing in this program,” Alexander said. “We are very appreciative of that investment by the school, the state and KBI. It’s going to make this program top notch.”

Alexander and his team set out to make forensic investigation a unique piece of the forensic science arena. Forensics is split into two parts—the identification and collection of evidence at the crime scene, and the analysis of that evidence. Most programs in the country only focus on the analysis.

The collaboration creates not only a hands-on education but also a pipeline to a potential career for students. The University purchased much of the same technology KBI uses, so the students will already have quite a bit of the training it takes to work at crime scenes. Students who complete internships will have already been put through much of the vetting process once they start looking for a job.

“The University has not cut any corners in investing in this program,” Alexander said. “We are very appreciative of that investment by the school, the state and KBI. It’s going to make this program top notch.”

A new program director will be hired and charged with reaching out to current law enforcement agencies to see what type of training Washburn can provide them.

“This will help out a lot of medium and smaller police departments and their officers,” Alexander said. “They might not have the time and resources to have someone specifically be a crime scene technician, but if you have some people who have a general knowledge of identification and collection, then it will certainly help out.”

ANTHROPOLOGY

“Fast and furious” is an accurate description for how the sociology and anthropology department has been moving for the last two years to develop a new forensic anthropology major in conjunction with the new KBI building.

“A light bulb went off for us that we should be involved in this,” said Mary Sundal, associate professor, anthropology. “We previously taught a forensic anthropology course that is required for the forensic chemical science major, but we saw this as an opportunity to expand our program significantly.”

After hearing of the program, they spent an entire weekend writing a proposal on the strengths of the anthropology program and why it should play a part in the initial footprint of the partnership. Their hard work turned into developing the first bachelor’s-level forensic anthropology concentration in Kansas.

“The folks at KBI really recognized what anthropology could offer and helped pave the way for it,” said Sundal. “There aren’t very many bachelor programs for forensic anthropology in the United States, so this is something unique we can contribute.”

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“One of the things KBI was so interested in was to partner up with us to teach current law enforcement about preservation of evidence and what to do when you find human remains,” said Cheryl Childers, chair, sociology and anthropology department.

Sundal said the forensic anthropology field is growing partly because of media attention.

“Unfortunately, you have these natural disasters or the excavations of mass burials, and we need people to identify who these individuals are,” she said. “It’s unfortunate to have a need for forensic anthropologists, but it is growing.”

After graduating with the new forensic anthropology degree, students can move into careers working in a medical examiner’s office, law enforcement agencies or historical museums.

To make up the major, six classes were created, and a new faculty member will be hired in the fall to expand the program. Childers worked with the chair of the biology department to have a structured biology minor for the students to enhance the natural science aspect of the degree. The anthropology program will share lab space with the criminal justice department at the new building and, outside of the lab, there will be a special dig site.

“Forensic anthropology will really have two major contributions to forensic science overall,” Sundal said. “The first is the lab analysis of trying to determine who people are and how they died. The second is excavation methods: how you preserve it, how you excavate it properly and how you maintain the evidence.”

Childers said they will have six total skeletal casts and numerous other bones to teach students.

“With the new lab set up, we’ll have four tables large enough to lay out a skeleton, and then a digital camera will be above one of the tables so the professor can project the bones onto the whiteboard,” Childers said. “It’s a lot of hands-on work.”

Sundal said it’s always written on her class reviews that students want more time and experience with the bones, and this new lab and program will afford them that opportunity.

“The anthropology program has been wanting a real lab for a long time, and this will be much better for the students,” said Childers.

Both agreed one of the most exciting aspects of creating the program was to see so many different departments coming together to create new programs in the building.

“‘It was exciting to work with people across campus to see what classes we can cross-list between majors and opportunities to team-teach classes,’” Sundal said.

Mary Sundal, associate professor, anthropology, displays some of the skeletal cast parts that will be used by students in the new lab space. Photo by Earl Richardson

NEXT ISSUE: See Part 2 in the KBI series on how the biology, chemistry and computer information sciences programs jumped on board to offer more student opportunities.

ONLINE: Learn more about the programs at washburn.edu/forensics.
RIPPLE EFFECT
New student housing to create new dynamic on east side of campus
By Sarah Towle • stowle@wufoundation.org

A fter four years with campus housing stretched to maximum capacity, Washburn will be ready to welcome almost 350 students to the new Lincoln Hall in August.

While construction on the new housing and dining center is moving along, Washburn is ready for the energy that comes with more students living here. When the Living Learning Center opened on campus almost 15 years ago, University officials started seeing a transformation in student life as more people were attending activities and becoming involved in student organizations.

Lincoln Hall, named in honor of President Abraham Lincoln and Lincoln College, which was the University’s moniker before it was named after benefactor Ichabod Washburn, will be located behind Stoffer Science Hall. It will add a new dynamic to the campus’ east side with student housing, the new Kansas Bureau of Investigation building and the future School of Law building.

In addition to having a housing wait list the past four years, the University has seen an increase in the number of international students and more inquiries from Washburn Tech students about living on campus. All of these factors led University officials to conclude more housing was key.

Denise Ottinger, vice president for student life, thinks the new residence hall will interest more science and nursing majors as well as athletes wanting to live closer to where they study and practice.

“It’s always exciting to have more residents on campus,” said Ottinger. “It will be a pebble in the pond on that east side, and the ripple effect will result in more activities, especially in the evening.”

Mindy Rendon, director of residential living, said residential living at Washburn tries to adopt a good small town mentality no matter which residence hall people live in.

“We are going to do our best to get to know you, give you opportunities, hold students accountable and get everyone to do their part in our community,” she said.

Rendon said the University sought student approval and advice on many aspects of the new building including room configurations.

The hall will have multiple room configurations that range from two to six beds per suite. The hallways will also have two-story gathering lounges for more people. The spacious new living center will have a dining facility larger than the one in the Memorial Union that the University hopes will become the destination spot for a bite to eat after a game. Rendon said the different lounges were very important to the students and contribute to creating a better community atmosphere.

“If a student walks by a lounge area after class and sees other students hanging out and studying, set down their backpack and be alone,” she said.

“’It’s about opportunity and availability – if you see someone else doing it, you could join them.’

Building those connections allows for a better campus experience for students and results in higher retention rates and graduation rates for students.

“We try to make sure students know there is someone here who cares if they get involved and how they are doing in classes,” Rendon said.

BY THE NUMBERS:
Number of beds in Living Learning Center – 400
Number of beds in Lincoln Hall – 350
Total number of students who can live on campus after new residence hall – 1,000
Square feet of new residence hall – 96,510
Square feet of new dining hall – 17,701
FL players trying to return to training camp without being reinjured. Olympic hopefuls desperate to get healthy in time to qualify. Injured high school athletes worried they’ll lose their college scholarship.

Nicole Perkuhn, bba ’11, aas ’11, has seen all these situations since starting in June as a doctor of physical therapy at Colorado Center of Orthopaedic Excellence (CCOE), a clinic that treats elite-level athletes, including Olympians from the Colorado Springs Olympic Training Center.

Perkuhn grew up in Topeka and pitched on the Washburn softball team from 2006-10. She graduated with a double major in business marketing and management, an associate’s degree as a physical therapist assistant (PTA), and a certificate in leadership. She earned her doctor of physical therapy last May from Wichita State University.

A lingering history of injuries gave Perkuhn an interest in physical therapy. She was president of Washburn’s Physical Therapist Assistant Club and she did a study abroad in China her senior year. Perkuhn used her business and health care skills to study the differences in health care professional development between the United States and China.

“The experience solidified that I wanted to be in a profession to help better the lives of others,” Perkuhn said.

During her final semester at Wichita State, Perkuhn completed a clinical rotation at CCOE, and they offered her a permanent position. They told her this would be an opportunity to work with and learn from some of the most renowned clinicians in the world while treating elite-level athletes.

“The Center’s well-established standards and expectations have set a precedent of excellence in the orthopedic world, and I am grateful to be a part of their visionary efforts,” Perkuhn said.

She takes pleasure in the relationships she develops with each patient and the uniqueness of each case she encounters.

“One develops a lot of character when you go through adversity,” Perkuhn said. “Physical therapy doesn’t solely encompass physical healing. It’s dealing with the mental, emotional and spiritual elements as well.”

There is also a sense of urgency when working with elite-level athletes.

“Athletes may be directly under our care for a brief period of time before returning to the city where they’re training,” Perkuhn said. “You’d be amazed at the elements necessary to return an athlete to sport. An essential component is thorough and effective education.”

Back at home, no one was surprised about Perkuhn’s success.

“Nicole was determined to do what she was being drawn toward,” said Jean Sanchez, assistant professor, allied health. “This is the culmination of everything she’s worked so hard for.”

Perkuhn still recognized her need to continue to learn and grow.

“Experience, it is said, is the thing you often get just after you need it,” she said. “Continued mentorship post-graduation was very important to me, and I believe the Center will help me continue to develop professionally.”

And there were some things she had to learn on the spot.

“I had to Google what a skeleton was in Olympic competition,” she admitted. “That’s one of the many exciting attributes of my job: constantly researching and expanding my knowledge.”

She quickly educated herself on the needs of her head-first, ice sledding patient. She’ll be ready to treat many other athletes as the 2016 Summer Olympics approach.

Perkuhn is in a position to improve the lives of others and grow as a physical therapist.

“At the Center, the mission isn’t just about returning an athlete to sport,” she said. “It’s about providing them with the ultimate opportunity: to represent their country.”

Nicole Perkuhn pitched for the Lady Blues softball team while earning several degrees. After earning a doctor of physical therapy from Wichita State University last year, she started working at the Colorado Center of Orthopaedic Excellence. The Center treats elite-level athletes including Olympians.

Photo by Gene Cassell
Chris Jones was ushering soccer players off the field in Hays, Kansas, in the summer of 2015 when he got a call from the 785 area code. Lightning strikes delayed a camp he was hosting so he figured parents were checking on their children. The call was actually from Washburn athletic director Loren Ferré offering Jones his first head coaching job.

“My emotions were all over the place,” Jones said. “After I sat back and let them calm down, it became an easy choice.”

Jones accepted, and on July 10, Washburn introduced him as head coach of the women’s soccer program. He had less than two months before the team that went winless the year before would play its first game.

Jones spent the previous two years as assistant coach at Fort Hays State University while earning a master’s in health and human performance. He earned a bachelor’s in sociology in 2013 from the University of Oklahoma while coaching the men’s club soccer team. Before that, the Tulsa, Oklahoma, native played goalkeeper at Northeastern State University from 2007-09.

“Being a goalkeeper, you can see the whole field,” Jones said. “As a coach, you have to see the whole field and be able to adjust and move people around.”

Jones originally wanted to become a teacher, but his work with the Sooners got him interested in coaching.

“I realized teaching may be what people saw me as being good at, so why not teach the game I love,” Jones said.

Washburn soccer, in its 13th year, has had success with a conference title in 2006 and NCAA tournament berths in 2006 and 2008.

“The women are excited and motivated to show that last year is not who they are,” Jones said. “Their mindset has been totally reset.”

The Ichabods made dramatic improvements. They went 5-9-5, doubled their goal output from a year ago and made the MIAA tournament with a sixth-place finish.

“They put pressure on themselves to get that first win,” Jones said. “Once we got over the hump, it really changed the tide. It’s a tough conference from top to bottom. You have to bring it every week, especially late in the season when there’s a battle to get into the conference tournament.”

Ferré knew things would turn around after the first couple wins.

“Sometimes it’s as big a mental hurdle as it is a physical hurdle,” he said. “I love Chris’ energy, enthusiasm and knowledge of the game. He has a passion for bringing this program back where it was.”

After a whirlwind summer, Jones is excited to have a full off-season to recruit and build his program.

“We can’t just settle for a good player,” Jones said. “We need great players who will help us build this team in the long run.”

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“We can’t just settle for a good player,” Jones said. “We need great players who will help us build this team in the long run.”
In August, Washburn hired Topeka native Cameron Babb to lead the restoration of men’s and women’s cross country and indoor and outdoor track and field. The sports were discontinued in the early 1980s.

Babb was head coach for two years at Limestone College (S.C.) and then assistant coach last year at West Texas A&M before coming to Washburn.

“I was prepared to move all over the country before getting to coach close to home,” he said.

Babb was a multi-sport athlete at Santa Fe Trail High School in Overbrook. He wanted to compete in track and field in college, so that ruled out Washburn. He went to Emporia State University (ESU) and competed from 2003-07, specializing in jumps and the decathlon.

He earned a bachelor’s degree in health promotion from ESU in 2007 and a master’s degree in health, physical education and recreation in 2014.

“Cameron brought the experience and knowledge to be a great coach,” said Loren Ferré, Washburn athletic director. “He competed in our conference while at ESU and knows the level of athletes you need to succeed.”

Cross country will start practice in August. Track and field will start in September. Many of Babb’s student-athletes will be seeing their first collegiate competition. That won’t bother Babb. All freshmen are like that.

“When I got to college, I was used to winning at almost everything,” he said. “Our athletes are going to be young and used to finishing near the top. When they get to college, everybody’s good. They might get whooped in the first couple meets.”

The wide range of events track and field and cross country offer may give other Washburn sports a recruiting boost.

“A number of our coaches have lost student-athletes to other schools because they wanted to compete in track and field and another sport,” Ferré said.

Craig Schurig, head football coach, has players who can excel at the runs, jumps or throws involved in track and field.

“‘We’ll be able to get the dual-sport high school athletes who didn’t want to give up the chance to do both,’” Schurig said. “‘We’ve lost those kids in the past.’

Track and field individuals or relay teams qualify for the postseason during regular season meets and then score points for their team in the NCAA championship. Teams qualify for the cross country championship, but top runners are also invited if their teams don’t qualify.

“If we get a few top-notch individuals, we’ll be able to put ourselves in a national meet,” Babb said. “Once we put enough pieces together, I think we’ll be able to finish in the top few in the conference and place in the NCAA.”

SIX SPORTS, ONE COACH

Cameron Babb will be coaching six different sports when his first student-athletes come to campus this fall. Cross country starts in the fall, indoor track and field occurs in the winter and outdoor track and field takes place in the spring. Washburn will field men’s and women’s teams in all three sports.

CROSS COUNTRY

Men compete on a five- to six-mile course and women compete on a course about three miles long.

INDOOR TRACK AND FIELD EVENTS

60 Meters, 60 Meter Hurdles, 200 Meters, 400 Meters, 800 Meters, Mile, 3000 Meters, 5000 Meters, 4x400 Meter Relay, Distance Medley Relay (1200, 400, 800, 1600), High Jump, Pole Vault, Long Jump, Triple Jump, Shot Put, Weight Throw, Pentathlon, Heptathlon.

OUTDOOR TRACK AND FIELD EVENTS

100 Meters, 200 Meters, 400 Meters, 800 Meters, 1500 Meters, 3000 Meter Steeplechase, 5000 Meters, 10,000 Meters, 100/110 Meter Hurdles, 400 Meter Hurdles, 4x100 Meter Relay, 4x400 Meter Relay, High Jump, Pole Vault, Long Jump, Triple Jump, Shot Put, Discus Throw, Hammer Throw, Javelin Throw, Decathlon, Heptathlon.
**CLASS NOTES**

Submit your news online at washburn.edu/alumni-notes, post it on facebook at facebook.com/washburnalumni, or email wualumni@washburn.edu. For the deadline for the spring 2016 edition of the magazine is Feb. 1. Any class notes received after the deadline will be published in a later edition.

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**1950s**

John Caton, b. ’73, Baldwin, Kansas, was elected president of the Kansas School Attorneys Association. He is a partner at Martinelli Sweater Shaffer Ridgway LLP in Hutchinson and Garden City. Caton was editor of the Washburn Law Journal.

Richard Evans, b. ’74, Wichita, Kansas, received the Distinguished Government Service Award from the Kansas Bar Association. He has been the Sedgwick County counselor for 14 years. Evans was an intern in the law clinic at the Washburn University School of Law.

Ron Rodewald, b. ’71, Topeka, received an honorary membership from the Kansas Bar Association. He retired in 2015 after more than 30 years as the education-information officer in the administrative office of the Kansas Supreme Court. Reeker was a member of the Washburn yearbook and Yearbook Review staff.

Paul McDonald, b ’67, Topeka, was inducted into the Topeka Shawnee County Sports Council Hall of Fame in June. He led Topeka High School to two state golf championships and was a three-time All-American golfer in college. McDonald has won several city and state golf championships in Michigan and Kansas. He was a middle school and high school counselor, elementary teacher and instructor at Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan. McDonald was a member of Sigma Phi and Phi Mu Alpha at Washburn.

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**1970s**

Bernice Faye Smith

Albright, b. ’73, Hays, Kansas, was inducted into the Kansas State High School Hall of Fame in Topeka. She worked for Washington Dental Service, Morris Magnet Inc. and PBC Environmental Management.

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**1980s**

Kyle Brys, b. ’84, Tucson, Arizona, was appointed to the presiding judge of the Kansas County Superior Court. He previously served as a probate judge, court commissioner and judge pro-tempo. Brys was an attorney in the law clinic at the Washburn University School of Law.

Kurt Budke, b. ’84, Washburn, Kansas, was posthumously inducted in the Kansas High School Hall of Fame in June. Budke, a longtime successful coach at several senior colleges and universities, died in a plane crash in 2011 while serving as the head coach at Oklahoma State University. The native of Salina was a graduate assistant coach at Washburn and also coached women’s basketball at Trinity Valley Community College in Texas and Louisiana Tech. Budke played basketball at Washburn.

Gerald Butters, b. ’83, Aurora, Illinois, recently published a book “From Sweetheart to Superbabe: Race and Film Audiences in Chicago’s Loop.” Butters is a history professor at Aurora University. Previous publications include “Banned from Kansas: Montage of Censorship, 1915-1966.”

Natalie Camacho Mendoza, b. ’80, Boise, Idaho, was appointed to the director of the Office of Police Oversight in Boise. She is an attorney with an private practice, Camacho Mendoza Law.

Christopher Gomez, b. ’89, Mitchell, South Dakota. He is the men’s and women’s golf coach at Dakota Wesleyan University in Mitchell. He is the third head women’s golf coach at Washburn and a native of Topeka.

Thomas Wilda, b. ’77, Pueblo, Texas, was the president of BancorpSouth Market in Dallas, Texas. He has worked at multiple banks in Texas during his 37-year career.

Plumb Place. Halleran was a member of the Corrections and Criminal Justice Association in Kansas and Residence Hall Association at Washburn.

Jeff Jochems, b. ’88, Olathe, Missouri, is the president of the Richmond Valley Campus for the Ozarks Technical Community College. The Pratt Community College Foundation honored Jochems as its 2011 Outstanding Alumnus of the Year during the spring. Jochems played baseball at Washburn.

Glen MacNeil, b. ’83, Malone, New York, is the acting district attorney in Franklin County in New York. He is an intern in the law clinic at the Washburn University School of Law.

**1990s**

Paul Davis, j.d. ’98, Lawrence, Kansas, received the Outstanding Service Award from the Kansas Bar Association. Davis is a partner at Fagan Emerz and Davis LLC and served for 12 years on the Kansas Board of Regents. He is a registered judge pro tem of the Kansas Bar Association.

Mary Schmidt, b. ’80, Las Vegas, Nevada, is the chief executive officer of Hodges Inc., Inc. She is an attorney with the Nevada Attorney General’s Office and a member of the company’s national multistate tax services practice.

Jennifer (Van Leeuwen) Foster, b. ’92, Kansas City, Missouri, is a senior counsel at Hunt Capital in Kansas City. Foster was named after Cyrus K. Holliday, one of the founders of Topeka. The boutique hotel, which will have 79 rooms, a restaurant, a courtyard, a rooftop garden area and space for events, is tentatively scheduled to open in fall 2017. Foster and her wife, Sarah at Washburn, Foster, b. ’98, have two children, Dylan and 10, and Ella, 7.

L. J. Leatherman, j.d. ’92, Topeka, received the Outstanding Service Award from the Kansas Bar Association. He is a partner at Palmer Leatherman White and Gill LLP. While at Washburn, Leatherman was an intern in the law clinic and a member of the Association for Public Interest Law.

Chris Maddox, b. ’90, Lawrence, Kansas, recently moved back to Kansas after living in Los Angeles. He purchased Stockton motels and hotels and re-branded them as The M Motel.

John Caton, j.d. ’73, Baldwin, Kansas, was elected president of the Kansas School Attorneys Association. He is a partner at Martinelli Sweater Shaffer Ridgway LLP in Hutchinson and Garden City. Caton was editor of the Washburn Law Journal.

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**Alumni Association members are highlighted in blue.**

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**Class Notes**

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**Class Notes**
specialist at the Washburn Alumni Association and was editor of its Ishibahd alumni magazine.

Todd Wheat, bba ’93, Quinton, Alabama, a lieutenant with the Alabama Department of Corrections, is now the northern region recruiter for the state.

BIRTHS
Robin (Kranschka) Moser, ba ’99, Topeka, and Scott Moser, bba ’11, adopted a son, Benjamin Neil, born April 12. She will return to her position at Washburn Alumni Association as assistant director. She is a member of Kappa Alpha Theta. While attending Washburn, she was a member of Washburn Choir, Campus Activities Board and Washburn Student Government Association. He is an accountant at Barnett Trahan & Co. & Co.

Washburn. Brian Carman, jd ’05, Wichita, Kansas, is an attorney at Stinson, Lassewell & Wilson LC and was granted membership into the American Association of Premier DUI Attorneys. He was an intern in the law clinic at Washburn. Jamie Karascek, jd ’04, McPherson, Kansas, is the chief deputy county attorney and interim county attorney for McPherson County. She previously worked as a research attorney with the Kansas Court of Appeals and assistant district attorney in Shawnee County. Karascek was a member of Moot Court Council at the Washburn University School of Law. Caleb Map, jd ’06, is director of the Henderson County Public Library System in Henderson, Kentucky.

David Johnson, ba ’06, Wichita, Kansas, is a federal administrative law judge with the Social Security Administration. He previously worked as an attorney at McPherson County attorney, municipal judge for the City of Linwood, and prosecutor for the Newton City. Page was a member of the Christian Legal Society. He also was a Bonner Leader at Washburn.

Sarah Shipman, jd ’05, Topeka, Kansas, is a general counsel for the Kansas Board of Regents. She was a member of the Washburn Student Government Association Board of Directors.

Pete Hoeller, jd ’02, Topeka, is an attorney at Gonzalez Saggio & Harlan LLP. He was a member of the Most Court Council at the School of Law.

Cindy Holt, bba ’90, Topeka, is an intern in the law clinic at Washburn. She previously served as a shift commander at Washburn Regional Public Hospital. She was a member of Sagamore, Blue Key International Law Society, as well as a member of Campus Christian Club.

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Washburn. Brian Carman, jd ’05, Wichita, Kansas, is an attorney at Stinson, Lassewell & Wilson LC and was granted membership into the American Association of Premier DUI Attorneys. He was an intern in the law clinic at Washburn. Jamie Karascek, jd ’04, McPherson, Kansas, is the chief deputy county attorney and interim county attorney for McPherson County. She previously worked as a research attorney with the Kansas Court of Appeals and assistant district attorney in Shawnee County. Karascek was a member of Moot Court Council at the Washburn University School of Law. Caleb Map, jd ’06, is director of the Henderson County Public Library System in Henderson, Kentucky.

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Worked at Turney Wood Products and Bank Credit Life Insurance Co. as a bookkeeper.

Marjorie McElrumin, b. 93, 94, Lena, Kansas. Oct. 6. She worked at the former Milling Foundation in Topeka as a secretary for more than 25 years. While at Washburn, she was a member of the Kappa Alpha Theta sorority and Nonoso.

Sellen was a member of Pi Gamma Mu, the Review and the Kaw while at Washburn. Survivors include her brother Albert Sellen, b. 89, Zebulon, Iowa.

Laura (Steppe) Sandler, b. 49, md 68, 78, Topeka. On Oct. 19. She taught high school biology and home economics and then grade school until retiring in 1989. Survivors include her daughter Cheryl (Snelson) Mitchell, b. 88, Auburn, and her granddaughter Haley Mitchell.

Sharon Caplinger Keyes, b. 50, jd 51, 89, Savannah, Georgia, on July 26. After being honorably discharged, she returned to Kansas for a teaching position at Emporia State Teachers College. In 1966, she moved to Tempe, Arizona, to become a professor in the College of Education at Arizona State University, where she taught for the next 25 years before retiring in 1990.

Martha (Maynard) Brown, b. 51, 87, Topeka, on July 15. She was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta. Survivors include daughters Suzanne (Brown) McDonald, b. 76, Fort Worth, Texas, and Sarah Brown, attendent, Topeka.

James Caplinger Sr., b. 53, md 53, 86, 86, Topeka. On June 28. He served as a judge in the Air Force and was Kansas County attorney before a long career in Kappa Alpha Theta. She was a member of Pi Gamma Mu, the Review and the Kaw while at Washburn. Capital was appointed securities escorts created by Government Docking in 1958 and was the assistant general counsel for the Kansas Corporation Commission. He had a private practice, James M. Caplinger, Chl., and co-founded the State Independent Telephone Corporation.

Albert Huske, b. 75, Wilma Jones, b. 50, 88, Tulsa, Oklahoma, on Oct. 14. She was co-owner of Radio K & E Electric before working at the University of Texas, Dallas, where she was an economist and cis director of the accounting department. While at Washburn, she was a member of the Delta Phi Theta Phi. She attended, Topeka.

Alice Hightower also directed kindergarten and first grade. Hightower also directed Mother’s Day Out Cooperative.

In Memory

Survivors include her daughter Sarah Brown, attendent, Savannah, Georgia.

Phillip Le, b. 38, md 84, Wichita, Kansas, on Aug. 27. He practiced law in Wichita, Kansas. Survivors include his daughter David Leon, b. 91, Wichita.

Manuel Mendoza, b. 38, md 84, 93, McAllen, Texas, on Aug. 25. He served in the Army Reserve, achieving the rank of sergeant. Mendoza worked at the Topeka State Hospital before a 40-year career with State Farm, where he worked as a field claim representative, claim superintendent, divisional claim superintendent, general claim superintendent and senior counsel. He was a member of Delta Phi Theta Phi and the First American- American to receive a law degree from Washburn. Survivors include his daughter Jennifer, b. 94, Texas, and former Ms. Mendoza, b. 76, md 79, Lubbock, Texas.

Benjamin Ramos, b. 33, md 59, Springfield, Springfield, Missouri, on Aug. 12. She attended, Topeka.

She was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta and Delta Theta Phi. She served in the U.S. Navy aboard the USS Topeka, on Oct. 11. He served in the Army before working as a president of Association Services Corp. and as a developer. Survivors include son Michael Birch, b. 50, Denver, Colorado, and daughters-in-law Amy (Hinchliffe) Birch, b. 62, Topeka, and Terry Birch (Roth). She was a member of Phi Delta Theta and Delta Theta Phi. Survivors include daughters Douglas Roth, b. 78, Wichita, and daughter Denise (Roth) McKnight, b. 92, Wichita.

Sharon Caplinger Keyes, b. 50, jd 51, 89, Savannah, Georgia, on July 26. After being honorably discharged, she returned to Kansas for a teaching position at Emporia State Teachers College. In 1966, she moved to Tempe, Arizona, to become a professor in the College of Education at Arizona State University, where she taught for the next 25 years before retiring in 1990.
the Social Security Administration. While attending Washburn, he also served in the National Guard. Survivors include wife Sheree (Amos) Lovick, b’85, Topeka.

Monte Rammel, b’83, law school attendee,retired in 2015. Survivors include wife Marilyn, Topeka. Rammel practiced law and delivering fuel to local farms and was a member of the Masonic Lodge in Topeka. While at Washburn he was a member of the Alpha Delta fraternity.

Michael Rossony, b’84, 74, Salina, Kansas, on May 31. He worked in higher education for 42 years. Survivors include wife Kathryn (Pierpont) Rossony, b’86, Topeka, and daughter Ward Summerville, b’10, 17', 76', Bradenton, Florida, on Nov. 7. He was an attorney for the U.S. government in Kansas City and the District of Columbia, and served as a law clerk to a U.S. district judge in Wichita. Rossony served as a manager of a new business career and then went into the banking business in Wichita, Kansas. In 1978, he moved to Wyoming, where he opened a new law firm and alcohol abuse counseling before retiring in 2000. Survivors include his brothers Gilbertt VI, b’80, Indipendence, Indiana, and Robert VI, b’85, Mopon, Wisconsin.

Mary Wurtman, b’68, 91, Topeka, on Nov. 9. She taught elementary education in Topeka for more than 25 years before retiring in 1987. Survivors include son Todd Harmon, b’79, Asl, 82, Topeka, daughter Rhonda Otto, b’75, Topeka, son-n-law Douglas Otto, at ’79, Topeka, and grandchildren Lisa Otto, b’70, Topeka.

70s

Thomas Brown, b’73, 76, Valley Falls, Kansas, on July 6. He served in the Army Reserve and was vice president of the Kendall State Bank, where he worked for nearly 50 years.

Geronimo Dominguez, b’73, 63, Kansas City, Kansas, on Dec. 4, 2016. He served in the Army during the Vietnam War and was working in industrial relations with MASON & Hangar-Silas Mason Co. Doyle also worked for Dan’s & Bradley, the Phillips Petroleum Co. and Duble Refining Co. He was a co-owner of the ATECH Paving before retiring in 2010.

Carol Anne Dresden, b’78, 62, Minisink Valley, Kansas, on Nov. 6. She was a University of Kansas, Lawrence, and the University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City, Kansas, for more than 25 years in administrative positions. She then went to work for Celtris Weeks in Overland Park, Kansas, retiring in September 2015. Survivors include her nieces Wendy Dresden, b’31, Topeka, Michael DAO, b’78, 79, Olarte, Kansas, on Nov. 5. He was a litigation attorney at Wallace Saunders, Austin Brown & Ewins for 12 years.

Constance (Gwinnder) Fifer, b’74, 64, Stewiawville, Missouri, on July 15. She was a sixth-grade teacher and worked in real estate for nearly 40 years.

Farmer was a member of Phi Kappa Phi. James Foner, b’73, 71, Topeka. James graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. During his early career and then went into the banking business in Wichita, Kansas. In 1978, he moved to Wyoming, where he opened a new law firm and alcohol abuse counseling before retiring in 2000. Survivors include his brothers Gilbertt VI, b’80, Indipendence, Indiana, and Robert VI, b’85, Mopon, Wisconsin.
Steve Cowen, mba '97, Lawrence, Kansas, on Oct. 12, 2014. He spent his career serving clients at BlueRidge Community Mental Health Center, the Housing Authority and the Veterans Administration in Lawrence and Topeka.

Jeffrey Glove, jd ’59, 62, Monroe, Utah, on Oct. 19. He practiced law in Richfield, Utah, and worked for the Internal Revenue Service from 2005 to 2015.

Donna (Manuel) Heath, az ’99, 65, Topeka, on Sept. 28. She worked as a paralegal before her retirement. Survivors include her daughter Tera Randall, jn ’80, Spring Hill, Kansas, and daughter-in-law Dawn Graf. bba ’98, Silver Lake, Kansas.

Nancy Logan, b ed ’91, m ed ’05, 71, Topeka, on June 10. She was a special education teacher in the Topeka Unified School District for more than 20 years after serving in the Air Force. Brian Nash, ba ’90, 67, Round Rock, Texas, on Oct. 8. He was a community volunteer and a baseball coach and umpire. Survivors include his wife, Carey (Emmott) Nash, ba ’92, Round Rock, Texas, and his sister Cindy Weiler, ba ’93, az ’94, Holton, Kansas.

Laura (Reichle) Riddle, az ’90, bba ’98, Silver Lake, Kansas, on July 7. She worked in hotel management and for the Montana University System. Survivors include her father, Kenneth Reichle, ba ’36, Anchorage, Kansas.

Dennis Schlarmann, ba ’75, 55, Ogata, Kansas, on Feb. 6, 2014. Ellen Tray, jd ’72, 79, Lawrence, Kansas, on Oct. 2. She practiced law with the firm Martin, Pringle, Oliver, Wallace & Bruer, llp in Wichita, Kansas.

Patricia Watridge, az ’94, 54, Topeka, on Oct. 1. She served as the battalion secretary for the 541st Maintenance Battalion Commanding Officer and Battalion.

2000s

Sharon Davidson, ba ’04, Topeka, on Sept. 16.

Patrick Laird, ba ’02, 39, Tecumseh, Kansas, on Aug. 1. He worked in surgical research at the University of Maryland and published several papers on optimal heart bypass procedures. Survivors include father Charles Laird, ba v4, Tecumseh; brother Tim Laird, ba ’87, Melbourne, Florida; uncles Gregory Laird, ba ’74, Topeka, and Mark Laird, ba ’78, m ed ’95, Topeka; aunts Linda Laird, ba ’65, Topeka; and sisters-in-law Suzanne Laird, b ed ’90, Clovis, Iowa.

2010s

Garrett Keen, az ’10, 50, Topeka, on July 25. He served in the Army and was a veteran of Desert Storm, receiving several honors, including the Achievement Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Commendation Medal with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters, Bronze Star, Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon and three Bronze Service Stars. Keen achieved the rank of sergeant. He worked at Goodyear and the Topeka Veterans Administration Medical Center.

Andrea Burton, 48, Topeka. She taught education in the College of Arts and Sciences. Survivors include her husband and former assistant professor Russell Burton, mow ’13, Topeka.

Bruce Carlson, 61, Dublin, Ireland. He was a visiting professor at Washburn Law from 2008-2009.

Hannah Dawson, 88, Topeka, on May 18. She worked in the library at the School of Law.

Mark Hill, 89, Sarasota, Florida, on Oct. 1. He served as vice president at Washburn for four years.

Mary (Allen) Jones, 74, Topeka, on June 29. She was a secretary in the Department of Social Work for more than 25 years.

Robert McCaig attended, 88, Koloa, Hawaii, on May 9. He served in the Air Force during World War II and the Korean Conflict, achieving the rank of second lieutenant. McCaig managed the family HVAC business and owned the Washburn View Shopping Center in Topeka.

He was a member of the Washburn University Foundation Board of Trustees.

John McMahon, 75, Topeka, on Nov. 1. He worked as a campus police officer at Washburn.

Susan Mosey, 85, Allentown, Pennsylvania, on April 26. She was a director of three preschool child development centers in New York, New York, and the director of volunteers for Brooklyn’s Prospect Park.

Survivors include husband Donald Mosey, jn ’70, Allentown.

Bonnie Peterson, 71, Lawrence, Kansas, on April 8. She was an assistant professor of nursing at Washburn.

Peterson was a nurse in Kansas City and taught at Avila University before working as an administrator in several hospitals.

Survivors include husband Oscar Peterson, jn ’72, Lawrence, Kansas.

C. Imogene (Randall) Quinlan, attended, 89, Topeka, on Aug. 13. She worked for the Kansas Highway Commission and in the office of governors Edward Arn and Andrew Schoepf. Quinlan was a member of Zeta Tau Alpha.

Survivors include sister Dema (Randall) Fink, attended, Medix, Pennsylvania, and cousin David Nelson, bs ’56, Gross Junction, Virginia.

Christine (Waldeer) Renberger, 67, Topeka. She worked at Washburn in the Registrar’s office.

Irving Sheffel, honorary doctor of humane letters ’87, 96, Topeka, on May 18. He was a vice president at the Menninger Foundation.

Survivors include granddaughters Alexa (Cocolis) Scarlett, bs ’02, Prairie Village, Kansas, and Miranda Madden, bba ’70, Topeka; son-in-law Sara (Shelton) Cocolis, b ed ’76, m ed ’73, Prairie Village, and Mary (Shelton) Madden, bs ’70, and son-in-law Timothy Madden, bba ’78, Topeka, and Angela Cocolis, bba ’70, Prairie Village.

Katherine Smith, 85, Topeka, on May 5. She worked at Mabee Library.

Louis Smith, attended, 88, Boise, Idaho, on Oct. 23. He taught business administration and marketing at Washburn. Survivors include his wife Francis (Hall) Smith, bs ’31, bs ’50, Boise, Idaho, and sister Narrs (Smith) Asher, bs ’31, jd ’39, Walnut Creek, California.

Elon Torrence, 98, Topeka, on Nov. 11. He was a Friend of the Musgrave Art Museum.

Survivors include his son-in-law Steve Tallen, ba ’90, Topeka.

Donald Watson, attended, Topeka, on Sept. 28. He played football while attending Washburn and was a member of the Kappa Sigma fraternity. Survivors include his sons Paul Watson, bs ’93, Goddard, Kansas, and Matthew Watson, bs ’96, Fort Worth, Texas.

Susan Watson, attendee, 86, Topeka, on July 17. She was a senior pursing a degree in criminal justice. Winner served in the Marines. Survivors include father James Winner, bba ’71, Topeka.

Brick sales are back! If you missed your opportunity to buy a brick in time for Grand Homecoming, you now have a second chance.

Bricks will be on sale through May 2016. Phase II bricks will be added to Ichabod Plaza in August 2016.

GiveToWashburn.org/bricks

1-844-ICHABOD (1-844-424-2263)

Leave a lasting IMPRESSION

The Brick Campaign for Morgan Hall
GERMANY, AUSTRIA AND SWITZERLAND: MAY 22 - JUNE 1, 2016
Join us in the spring on what will undoubtedly be another fantastic trip as we travel to Germany, Austria and Switzerland – and spend a morning on Lake Como in Italy.

Spend two nights each in Munich, Zermatt and Lucerne and one night each in Innsbruck, St. Moritz and Lugano. Along the way, visit nearby cities of Salzburg, Oberammagau, Fussen and Como. Cost is $3,775 per person (double occupancy) and includes airfare, hotel, tours, eight breakfasts, one lunch and two dinners. Trip is fully escorted with an English-speaking guide, and Susie Hoffmann, alumni director, will travel with the group.

For a detailed itinerary and registration form, visit the Alumni Association website: washburn.edu/alumni-travel.

CUBA: FALL 2016
Susie Hoffmann, alumni director, recently traveled to Cuba with our travel agent and a dozen other alumni directors from universities around the country to learn more about a travel program to Cuba. Consequently, we plan to schedule an alumni trip there next fall. The trip will include visits to Havana, Cienfuegos, Trinidad and Santa Clara. Once the dates are finalized, we'll begin promoting the trip. In the meantime, if you have any interest in traveling with us to Cuba, please contact Susie at susie@washburn.edu.

The price has yet to be determined, but it will be in the neighborhood of $5,800 per person (double occupancy), which will include round trip airfare between Miami and Havana, hotels, tours and most meals.

Although diplomatic relations are changing between the U.S. and Cuba, open travel between the two countries is still restricted. Our travel agent holds a People-to-People license from the U.S. Department of the Treasury, Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), authorizing registered travelers on this educational exchange program to visit Cuba.

MORE INFORMATION ON OUR TRIPS
For more information about Alumni Association travel opportunities, visit washburn.edu/alumni-travel or contact Susie Hoffmann at 785.670.1641.