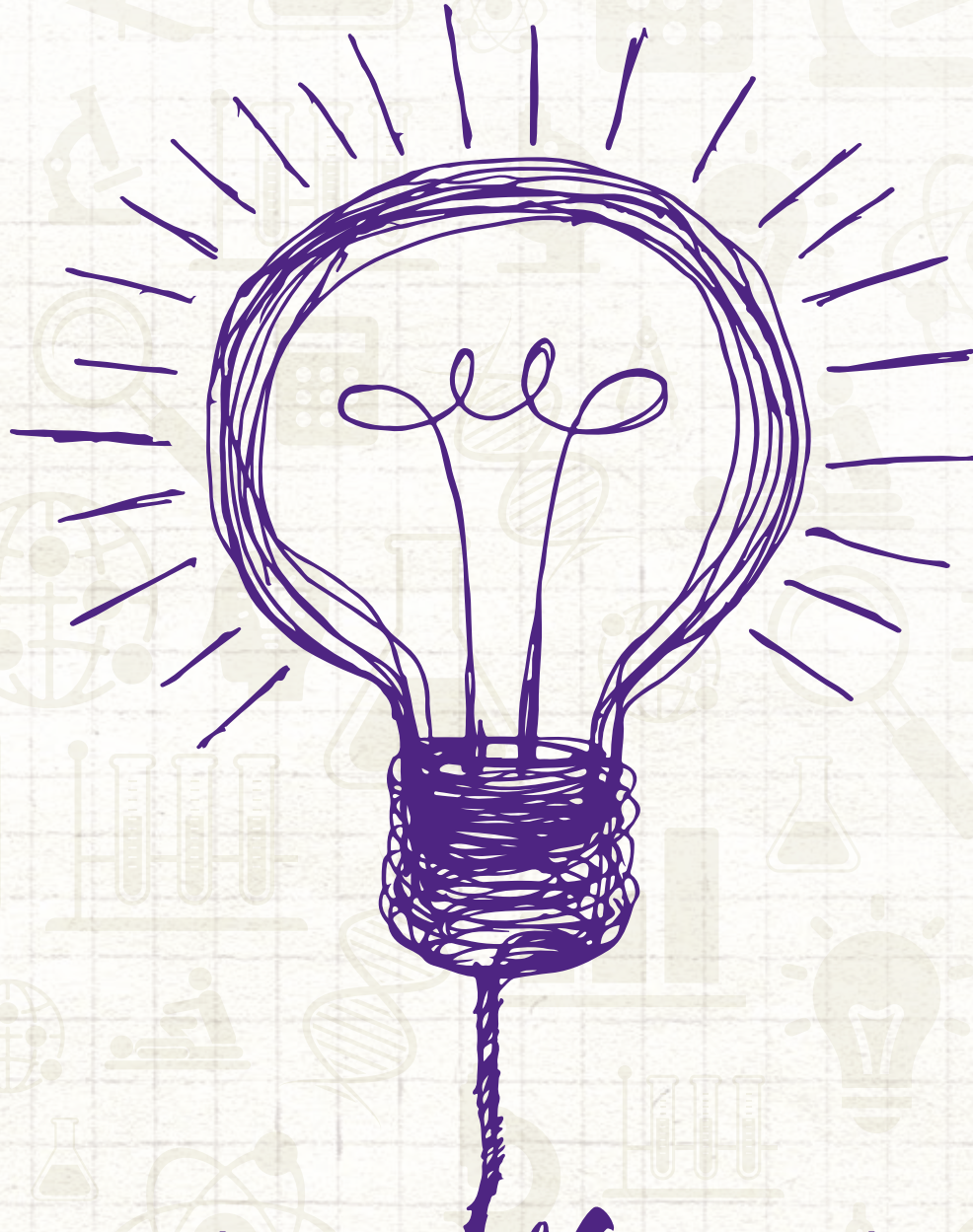


SBUlife



Magazine of Southwest Baptist University Summer 2017



Innovation *with a mission*

SBU's College of Science and Mathematics is working to make the world a better place.



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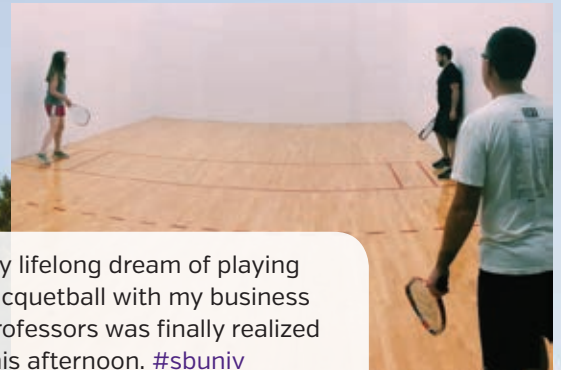
» Be Social

Read what people are sharing about SBU.

Your practices today DO effect who you will become. Practice taking the words of Jesus seriously.

-Chris Kimberling #SBUniv #chapeltweet

One of my favorite things about SBU is that teachers that you may not have anymore go out of their way to ask you how life is going!



My lifelong dream of playing racquetball with my business professors was finally realized this afternoon. #sbuniv



There is something about a student body gathering to pray for those called to travel for the Lord. @SBUniv ❤️

Best representation I've seen of this hall. We may not keep each other sane through finals, but we will keep each other laughing. #woodythird #sbuniv

[via @josiehalen on Instagram]

Be social with SBU on Twitter, Facebook, Google+ and Instagram. **#SBUniv**

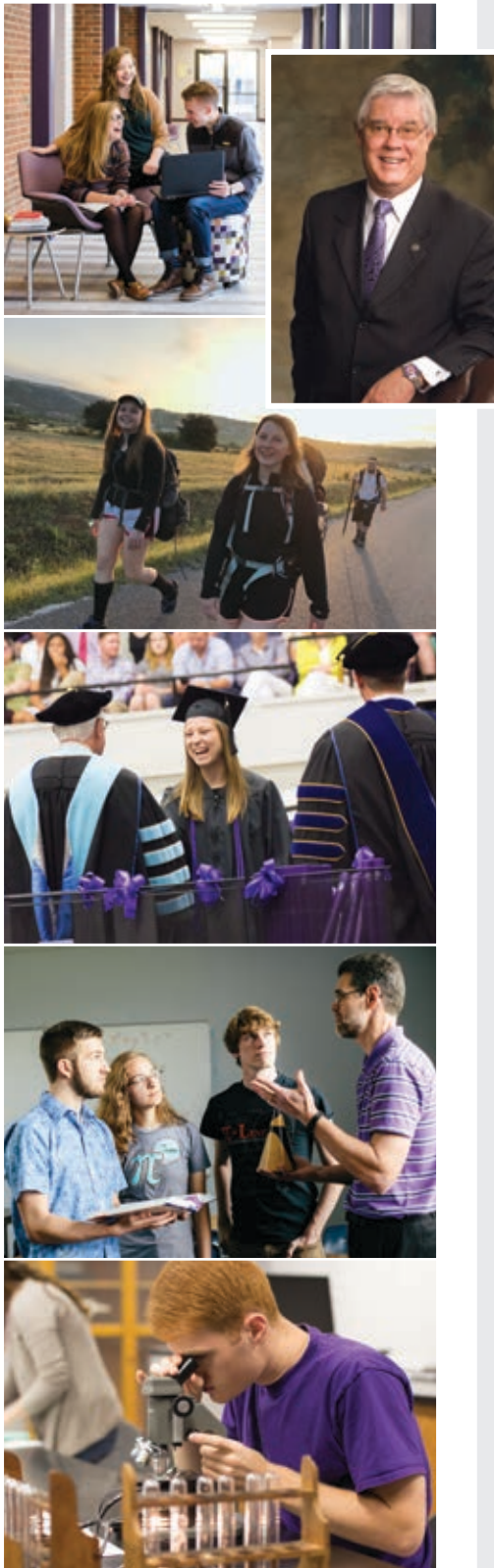


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PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



Dear alumni and friends,

As we reflect on another successful academic year at Southwest Baptist University, we are so thankful for your continued support as thousands of students find and pursue their purpose and God's calling for their lives.

A few highlights of the previous year include:

- The Master of Business Administration program enters its second year, with the addition of online classes for the professional track this summer with strong enrollment numbers.
- Courses begin this fall for a new bachelor's degree in Cybersecurity and a Master of Arts in Christian Ministry.
- Our Enactus team placed in the top eight in the nation; the Speaking Bearcats speech and debate team placed in the top three in the nation; and our competitive computer programming teams placed first and third in regional competition.
- More than 200 students traveled to 24 locations around the world on mission to serve others.
- It was the best year ever for SBU Bearcats athletics. Football made the national playoffs and was nationally ranked for the first time in program history, men's tennis made it to the final four in the nation, women's track and field was nationally ranked and competed well in national competition, and baseball and softball both had 30+ wins. SBU student-athletes also excelled in the classroom, winning prestigious awards for both athletic and academic performance.

While we rejoice in these successes, we also continue to address the reality that higher education is facing numerous challenges today, including more competition for recruiting students, increasing scrutiny of the value of a college education and many more challenges.

Like many other colleges and universities, we are making adjustments to protect the long-term health and viability of the university. Our Executive Cabinet has invested many hours determining these adjustments through a strategic planning process.

Meanwhile, we remain focused on our mission of being a Christ-centered, caring academic community preparing students to be servant leaders in a global society. I have no doubt that SBU is a great value for our students. Our graduates leave SBU well-prepared to begin their careers or to pursue further education through graduate or professional schools.

Although much of the national dialogue regarding higher education focuses on the cost, I offer you this perspective about the cost and associated value of attending SBU:

- Average student loan debt of SBU students is about half the national average.
- The average monthly loan payment after graduation for SBU graduates is only \$194.
- Our graduation rate is 8 percentage points higher than the national average.

Thank you for being part of a bright future for SBU, our students and our graduates.

C. Pat Taylor
SBU President

Guess Who?

This issue highlights stories from our College of Science and Mathematics. We have been blessed with tremendous faculty over the years who have taught students well in subjects such as biology, chemistry, physical science and mathematics.

Can you identify these former College of Science and Mathematics faculty pictured below?

1



2



3



Everyone who correctly identifies at least one of these individuals will be entered into a prize drawing. Submit your guesses by email to SBUcommunications@gmail.com or by mail to: Office of Marketing and Communications, 1600 University Ave., Bolivar MO 65613. Entries must be received by Friday, August 11.

Thank you to all who participated in the previous Guess Who contest.

The pictured individuals were Dr. Bob Derryberry, Dr. Ellen Bell and Dr. Gordon Dutile.

We had a record participation with 127 correct responses! The following individuals submitted correct responses:

Cheri (Falcone) Adcock, Shannon Alcantara, Renee Alvarez, Megan Ast, Rebecca Banderman, Michelle (Rainwater) Barnes, Brenda Bartz, Eric Bennett, Barb (Anderson) Bickford, Juanita Boro, Dr. Michael Brenneis, James Browning, Maeanne Browning, Christy Burchett, Ruth (Harris) Cantrell, Pat Carpenter, Jeremy Casper, Dr. Eric Chaffin, Timothy Clarkson, Charlotte Cochran, Sandra (Herren) Colhour, Tim Cossins, Rhonda (Simpson) Crosby, Stella Cunningham, Kay Davis, Karolyn Degraffenreid, Cecilia Dixon, Jennett Downey, Laurel Driscoll, Roger Driskill, Cheryl Elder, Ruby Eller, Tanya (Agee) Emery, Mark Ester, Kristen Feola, Pam Ferguson, Betty Fish, Melissa (Herndon) Fockler, Donna Frazier, Terri Freeland, Amy Green, Judy Griffin, Leanne (Connell) Haggard, Doug Hamilton, Stephen Harris, Marshal Harroun, Jennifer Hayes, Ida Mae Hays, Dale and Cecile Hertzberg, Juanita Highfill, Mick Hood, Cliff Hutchins, Robert Ingold, Patricia Jameson, Dorothy Johnson, Nancy Johnson, Chris Keller, Connie Kimball, Cordell Kirk, Kyle and Zoy (Northcutt) Langford, Mark Leenerts, Malissa (Hann) Lokey, Jim Lowery, Jennifer Lundgren, Bob and Leslie Marsden, Joe Marsden, Linda Masteller, Brenda McGill, Marilyn McNally, Julie Mefferd, Julia (Williams) Melton, Martin and Carol Micke, Kelly (Hahn) Miller, Katrina (Fisher) Mitchell, Pat (Mitchell) Mullen, Kenneth Murray, RJ and Lori Myers, Marjorie Northington, Daniel Olson, Karen Parsons, Margarette (Crawford) Payne, Dani Sue (Hodgins) Peterson, Frances (Sheehy) Phillips, James Phillips, Julia Price, Michelle Ray, Spencer Ray, Doug Reichenberger, Pattie (Wilson) Reitz, April (Maxey) Rodstrom, Roderic Russell, Gratia (Rinehart) Sammons, Janice Sartin, Colleen Shuler, David Simon, Gloria Simpson, Michelle Sloan, Bruce Smith, Laura Smith, Mark Stephens, Teri Stiles, John Stillwagon, Todd Sukany, Stan Sullinger, Marvel Surrette, Darren Sutton, Lynda Thiele, David Thiessen, Cathy Tisher, Dr. Jim Truelove, Darlene Truitt, Leslie Tucking, Elva Upshaw, Sam Upton, Rick Vance, Marilyn VanderLinden, Jolene Vereecke, Jim Villalobos, John Vose, Helen (Sagerser) Votaw, Diane Walker, Lisa Ward, Susan Ward, Melissa (Leck) Warden, Sarah (Burkhead) Whittle, Lynne (Baurichter) Wilson, Nick Wilson.

Congratulations to Sarah (Burkhead) Whittle who won the prize package!



PUTTING KNOWLEDGE INTO ACTION

BY DENISE ELSON TUCKER '89

SBU'S PHYSICAL THERAPY CENTER FACULTY PRACTICE AND JUDY TAYLOR PHYSICAL THERAPY GARDEN

ALLOW PT STUDENTS TO OFFER EXPERTISE, HOPE TO AREA PATIENTS

Southwest Baptist University's doctor of physical therapy program continues to make great strides in the education and preparation of tomorrow's physical therapists.

Prior to the Spring 2017 semester, students in SBU's DPT program progressed through the program's path, which included classroom lectures and clinicals – standard for a physical therapy program.

Now, those students have the opportunity for a more hands-on education that includes patient treatment at the Warren B. Davis Family Physical Therapy Center Faculty Practice and Judy Taylor Physical Therapy Garden.

The 2,700-square-foot faculty practice, which was dedicated on Oct. 6, 2016, is a student-learning lab that treats select patients from

the surrounding community, incorporates high-level care for patients and provides invaluable learning experiences for students. The open-spaced clinic includes two treatment rooms, a sports performance area and consultation rooms.

The faculty practice serves two purposes for patients in the Bolivar area, said SBU President C. Pat Taylor, Ed.D., "to help people improve their health and to be a teaching facility."

"The faculty-student practice has really been a dream before even I came on in teaching," said Dr. Josh Layman, associate professor of physical therapy. "That's been a development process to try to figure out how we integrate a clinic setting where faculty can get our hands on patients and stay current with our practice area, still staying fresh

with working with individuals and not just teaching about it.

“I think being with patients helps keep us relevant and reminds us of exactly what we’re trying to prepare our students to do. Students being able to, earlier on, get their hands on patients and seeing physical therapy in practice as they’re actually learning about it is another big part of why we wanted this practice to develop.”

First-year DPT students have already seen the benefits of the faculty practice in their education.

“This is such a unique experience here at SBU, because we’re being taught and mentored by our own faculty,” said first-year DPT student Glory Reichard. “We’re coming in with it, kind of new, so I know that the goal is to help students get used to practicing with patients to get us ready for clinicals. We need to know how to represent our school, know how to apply the knowledge and adapt it to quickly changing situations and different patients.

“I think that it’s a good resource for the community. They’re being encouraged because they can teach us and help us learn, and they’re getting the services that they need.”

Life changes in a moment

One of the clinic’s first patients was longtime SBU business faculty member Dr. Ronda Credille.

Exactly two years before the dedication of the faculty practice, Ronda was in an accident that would change her life forever.

“It was Monday morning after SBU Homecoming in 2014,” Ronda said. “It was Oct. 6, and as was my practice for several months, I went out for a morning bike ride before I got ready to go to teach. I had lights on my bike, reflective vest – thought I was pretty visible – and was riding east on Division Street. There was an unusual amount of traffic coming west, so I was being very careful to stay over to the right. It is a bike route, so motorists should be aware of that.

“All of the sudden, I realized one of the oncoming vehicles, without signaling, was making a left turn into a private driveway, and I wasn’t prepared for that. Had it been an intersection, I might have been more aware, but he just whipped into this driveway, and I could not stop. I was right on top of him and we collided. I don’t think I ever lost consciousness.”

Fortunately, one of the very first people who stopped out of that string of traffic was a local nursing student.

“She started barking orders at people to not move me, and she stabilized my head and neck until the ambulance got there,” Ronda said.

“I was flown to Cox South (in Springfield) and they assessed my injuries and decided that I had fractures of the fourth and fifth vertebrae. I ultimately learned that my spinal cord had been severely bruised.”

Ronda underwent surgery and was at Cox South until Oct. 15. She was then flown to Denver and admitted to Craig Hospital – a world-renowned rehabilitation hospital that specializes in the neuro-rehabilitation and research of spinal cord injury and traumatic brain injury patients.

She remained at Craig as an inpatient until Jan. 16, 2015, and then stayed an additional two weeks as an outpatient – “kind of a trial run.”

“They have outpatient apartments, so you and your caregiver, in this case, (my husband) John, stay in that apartment with kind of the safety net of the hospital next door if you do anything really stupid,” Ronda said. “We stayed there two weeks and then we flew home.

“I had applied for admittance into the NRN (NeuroRecovery Network) program, and we were told it would be a couple of months. Instead, they had an unexpected opening in three weeks, so we were back on a plane and flew back to Denver. We lived out there – well, I did – most of eight months.”

During the time that John was helping care for Ronda in Denver, SBU arranged for him to be able to work remotely, as registrar for the University.

“I don’t think we would have chosen to spend those months away from home, otherwise,” Ronda said.

Prior to her return to Denver for the NRN program, Ronda was utilizing a power lift to help her navigate from

her chair to the bed. When she first returned to Bolivar on Jan. 31, 2015, the lift that was delivered to her home was not the same one she had been using at Craig.

Fortunately, she had been practicing “sit-to-stand,” where she stands up from her chair, pivots and moves.

“We never used the lift and (the company) took it back,” Ronda said. “It really turned out to be a huge blessing that it never worked for us because it forced me to (sit-to-stand).”

Working with Ronda

Even before she returned home and before the faculty practice and garden were open, arrangements had been made for SBU PT to work with Ronda.

“The summer that I came home – Summer of ’15 – they were displaced,” Ronda said. “They were getting ready to move in to the new

“
We might not be her
class, but she’s still
investing in us. So, I
was very motivated that
she took such an awful
situation and she’s still
using her talents to
help other people.
”



Glory Reichard
first-year DPT student

facility, but it wasn't all ready yet. They had to do my therapy here at the house, which was great because we practiced with me walking on this pile of carpet, which was different. And, they immediately had me start going up and down our stairs. I had done stairs at Craig, but it wasn't the same as hardwood stairs without treads; the handrail was different, etc.

"They immediately had me start doing things in the house to make sure I was comfortable being at home alone. It was wonderful. They had already helped John choose arrangements of furniture and that sort of thing, so that the house was ready for me. They just continued to help me adapt to being at home. Not only did I have a faculty person with me for all those sessions, but a couple of students. They really were encouraging. They weren't afraid to challenge me to continue to improve."

Therapy has helped in how to accomplish tasks and in repetition, John said.

"They consistently ask what she wants to do again, and try to accomplish that, as well," John said. "Therapy at the clinic is the beginning and we continue it at home. We do therapy at home every day."

Layman, one of a handful of neuro-certified physical therapists in Missouri, has been instrumental in Ronda's therapy.

"With the spinal cord population, I look to see where their main problems are, in terms of mobility and getting around," Layman said. "Often, that's related when somebody's had an incomplete spinal cord injury, meaning they have some preservations of movement. It has to do with simple movement tasks, walking and balance, those kinds of things.

One piece of innovative equipment that is used with Ronda's therapy is the Open Area Support System (OASUS), which is designed to hold the patient upright or offer them support, so if they lose their balance it will catch them.

"It allows us to do more high-end balance training things that might be unsafe to do otherwise," Layman said. "I've found some pretty good results working with that to challenge balance in a safe way, so we can gain in ways that couldn't be gained otherwise."

Ronda's progress not only has impressed her therapists and students, but John, as well.

"Considering the fact that her injury made her totally dependent on others, Ronda's recovery has been remarkable," John said. "When I reflect to those early months, I am in awe of her hard work, the help and knowledge of her physical therapists and the grace of God, in how much Ronda can do without my assistance. Then, when I do help with many tasks, my total help is much less than it used to be."

Judy Taylor Physical Therapy Garden

In addition, the clinic is able to utilize the Judy Taylor Physical Therapy Garden for patient therapy.

Dr. Steve Lesh, chair and professor of physical therapy, approached Dr. Taylor with the idea of developing a physical therapy rehabilitation garden to honor SBU's late first lady Judy Taylor.

The garden was built to assist patients with gait difficulties by incorporating a variety of terrains, ramps and walking paths. The garden is located in front of the Davis Family Physical Therapy Center.

Lesh's vision was sparked by Judy Taylor's dedication to the beautification of the SBU campus.

"Judy believed that everything should have a function," Taylor said, "and this garden is beautiful, but it does have a function. And I'm very pleased that the very first patient that went through a rehab assignment here was her good friend, Ronda Credille. And I know Judy was smiling when she saw Ronda here.

"Judy would be thrilled with this and she would want it to help people."

Ronda enjoys the chance to get outside during her therapy.

"The garden gives me several different surfaces for what they call, in this case it is literally, over-ground walking because I even get out and walk in that gravel," Ronda said. "It's different surfaces, changing levels

either doing the steps or the slope, and just being outside and the sunshine... It's prepared me to be able to walk around in our yard and our grandson's yard. I really like the outdoors, so that's been a great experience for me."

Community support

The Bolivar community has been receptive to the services and the purpose of the clinic.

"We weren't sure how heavy the demand would be, but very quickly we were able to fill the schedules and we're actually working on a little bit of a waiting list right now," Layman said. "It's a good challenge to have figuring out how to triage and prioritize those who have the most acuity of need and making sure we're trying to balance that all out, with the ultimate goal of the clinic being that learning experience for the student."

Striking that balance has been a little bit of a challenge, but the community has been supportive.

“It's given me tangible hope. I have hope in the Lord, but knowing that they are pouring so much expertise into helping me continue to improve, it's given me hope that I can continue to improve.”

Dr. Ronda Credille '80
SBU business faculty emeritus

"I think it's been great for the community," said first-year DPT student Ethan Hodges. "When I first learned about it, Dr. Lesh was telling me about how it was going to be free for anyone in the community that would come. I've already seen the benefits from that, and I think it's going to be great from here on out for the community and for the students that are coming into the program after us."

And this experience will help the students become better service-oriented therapists.

"I think that realization of the whole person will really help them understand the role that PT has in restoring patients' function and recognizing that whole entity in serving them to help them attain their ultimate goals," Layman said. "Also, recognizing that sometimes what we have in mind when we do our tests and our measures and we see these issues, we can kind of get a preconceived idea of what we need to work on. But, it needs to be focused on the patients' goals. Sometimes, they don't always match with what we think they should be working on, but we need to make sure we're serving them and not our own interests."

The faculty practice has also been about give-and-take between the students and the patients, as well as a great source of encouragement.

Once a teacher, always a teacher

"Miss Ronda – she was a teacher, and I can tell because she added to my education," Reichard said. "I was a little nervous coming in. She went out of her way to explain things. She's heard the explanation several times, but she's like, 'Hey, I want you to hear this. I want to show you this,' and I can tell that she is invested in her students. We might not be her class, but she's still investing in us. I was very motivated that she took such an awful situation and she's still using her talents to help other people."

Ronda has been encouraged, as well.

"I participated in a panel session a couple of weeks ago, and one of the students asked what had been beneficial to me that a therapist had done or said during my rehab," Ronda said. "I told them it seemed like many of my therapists had also, perhaps, been former cheerleaders because they were just so encouraging and could always find something to compliment me on, or a way to make me feel like I was making progress."

"I think just seeing the proverbial light bulb come on when they connect something they've learned in class to something that they help me with, that it just solidifies what they're learning and I know they're going to be able to help hundreds or, perhaps, thousands of patients in the future because of that. That's encouraging to me, that I can still be helpful in a small way."

But the best thing to come out of her therapy at SBU is... hope.

"It's given me tangible hope," Ronda said. "I have hope in the Lord, but knowing that they are pouring so much expertise into helping me continue to improve, it's given me hope that I can continue to improve."

"I have been told that most of SCI patients' improvement comes within 12 months; very little after 18 months. I was concerned once I got close to two years, that that was going to be it, and I wasn't where I had hoped I would be. I've had that practical hope restored that I can keep working, and that there are techniques and tools and therapies that continue to help me improve." ■



Top: Dr. Josh Layman (center) guides first-year PT students Ethan Hodges (left) and Karla Jamison as they conduct The FITLIGHT Trainer™ system with patient, Dr. Ronda Credille.

Middle: Dr. Ronda Credille '80, SBU business faculty emeritus, shares the story of her accident, her road back and the hope that the SBU PT faculty clinic staff and students have given her.

Bottom: First-year PT student Karla Jamison (left) works with Dr. Ronda Credille on her range of motion.

[MORE THAN A MEDICAL MISSION]

BY DENISE ELSON TUCKER '89

ATHLETIC TRAINING PARTNERS WITH THE COURAGEOUS CHURCH TO PROVIDE MEDICAL AND SPIRITUAL NEEDS TO PEOPLE IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

“God has given us a vision to reach the impoverished residents of Bani by providing a medical clinic, church, and basic needs like clothing and shoes for families,” reads the fundraising letter of students in Southwest Baptist University’s athletic training department.

During the summer of 2016, athletic training students made their first trip to the Dominican Republic to serve the people of Baharona, and returned to the Dominican Republic this summer, thanks to a partnership with The Courageous Church of Springfield.

Dr. Troy Morrison, who serves as orthopedic surgeon for SBU’s athletes, as well as at Citizens Memorial Hospital in Bolivar, shared with SBU head athletic trainer, Mike Wolhoy, that he and his wife were going on mission to the Dominican Republic with The Courageous Church.

The idea of partnering with SBU’s athletic training students “evolved from there.”

“We partnered with the ministry ‘The 99,’ (Al Extremo) which Kendra’s uncle leads,” Morrison said. “It’s a reality theater ministry. They were going international, and expanded it, and the Dominican Republic was the first place they were going.

“Our mission is to help the people in the Dominican Republic; to get healthcare to them and to spread the gospel of Jesus,” said Morrison, who also donates his time every week by holding sports clinics for SBU athletes and treating their orthopedic injuries.

“The 99” helped last year’s team with meals and placement, and partnered with the team to send supplies to Baharona.

This summer, the team traveled to Bani, which is located about an hour west of the country’s capital, Santo Domingo, and sent medical supplies, new shoes and backpacks full of clothes. More than 50 percent of the

population lives in poverty and does not have access to medical care.

While the residents might be able to see the doctors, they usually are unable to afford the medication or medical supplies necessary for treatment.

“Last year, our main focus was working in the pharmacy of the clinic,” said Kylie Heim, a 2012 athletic training graduate. “We were able to get a lot of medicines donated. After patients would see the doctors in the free clinic, the doctors would write prescriptions for what they needed and we would be able to fill them. The two students who went with me last year – we aren’t pharmacists; so being able to get familiar with the medicines we’re giving out, what the dosages should be, what these medicines are used for, and working in a different realm than what we’re used to was a lot of fun and very educational.”

Another realm the students had the chance to experience on the trip was assisting Dr. Morrison in surgery.

“The last day we were there, we were able to observe and assist Dr. Morrison in his surgery,” Heim said. “The students got to scrub in on surgery, and that never would have happened in the U.S. without being certified and having the credentials to be able to do something like that. I ran the X-ray machine, and was able to be in the OR and be very hands-on.

“Students we took said multiple times that it was a once-in-a-lifetime experience ‘that I will never forget, and I loved every bit of it and will tell that story from here on out.’ We were just able to do a lot of cool things as far as that goes.”

Not only was it a once-in-a-lifetime experience for students, but it was also a life-changing experience for one student, in particular.

Alexis Edwards, a 2016 athletic training graduate who traveled with the

team last summer, returned home with a new career path in mind.

“During my experience in the D.R., Dr. Morrison gave me and two other athletic training students an opportunity to assist him in a surgery,” Edwards said. “It was my first time ever being in the operating room. I just thought it was the coolest thing ever. Operating rooms there are much different than in the U.S., which gave me even more of an awe-like experience. I went the rest of the year unable to keep that experience out of my mind, but did nothing about it.”

Edwards was renewing her CPR certification at SBU when Wolhoy told her about an operating room tech position at CMH. She contacted Morrison, accepted the job and plans to take classes to become a certified surgical tech.

“I love going to work every day,” Edwards said. “I believe it was a ‘God thing’ that led me to where I’m at now.

“We went to the Dominican Republic with a very large group, about 35 or so. We were able to get so much done with so many working hands. We set up four clinics and treated around 1,000 people.”

This year, the group set up and facilitated medical clinics in remote areas, but the trip is not just medical missions, Morrison said.

“Last year, we built two houses from the ground up. This year, we’re building a church. It’ll serve as a church on Sunday and a school during the week. We handed out school supplies, as well as over 1,200 pairs of shoes last year. This year, we will be handing out over 1,800 pairs of shoes.”

And the team collected donations of items to send to Bani.

“This year, we’re filling drawstring backpacks with underwear, socks and clothes,” Wolhoy said. “One of the hurdles that we face is that it’s illegal to ship used clothes, so we can’t ship used clothes or used shoes. I think they filled 400-plus backpacks with clothes and things like that. It’s really aimed more at young kids.”

Edwards said the most rewarding part of the trip, for her, is making an immediate difference in people’s lives.

“During some of our clinics, we had many

children and elderly come in who couldn’t even walk,” Edwards said. “By the time they were leaving our clinic, they could walk. I specifically remember when a kid came in without shoes with glass in the bottom of his feet. Dr. Morrison and our other doctors attended to him and removed the glass. We then gave him a pair of shoes so he could walk like normal.

“There were many occasions where we were able to give elderly people walkers. They had such smiles because something as simple as a walker could help them get around rather than before where they could not travel very long distances without any assistance.”

Instances like these can be blessings – for both the team and the residents.

“I think anytime that you go to any country where the culture is different, you’re going to gain something out of it,” Heim said, “let alone a third-world country where you are really shown how other people in the world live on a daily basis. That adds a whole other aspect of something you can bring back with you, and that’s not something you un-learn or forget about. It just changes your worldview about how you live daily life.

“I lived in Mexico for a year and that was a third-world country, and I can tell you going into the Dominican – that’s a whole other level of third-world country that I had never seen before, and I had lived in the midst of poverty for a year. I know for a lot of people on the trip, whether it was their first mission trip or not, it was very eye-opening. There’s a lot to be learned there.”

Morrison sees the partnership between SBU and The Courageous Church continuing, and the benefits it provides the athletic training students.

“It’s been great because a lot of the students shadow me in surgery and in clinic at CMH, so we just continue that learning experience when we get on the trip,” Morrison said. “I get to teach them here and also teach them there.”

“This is a trip I would absolutely do again,” Edwards said. “The trip was amazing in the way we impacted the people, but also in how it led me to where I am today. I am truly blessed.” ■



Top: Alexis Edwards '16 assists patients in the pharmacy on Athletic Training's trip to the Dominican Republic.

Second: Students on the 2017 Dominican Republic trip – [front row, left to right]: Hannah Stewart, Abby Martin and Whitney Wright. [Back row, left to right]: Mike Wolhoy, SBU head athletic trainer, Luke Mock and Sydni Kaden, graduate assistant athletic trainer.

Third (left to right): Rachel Bausinger '16, Kylie Heim '12 and Alexis Edwards '16 were part of the first Athletic Training group to travel to the Dominican Republic on mission.

Bottom: Alexis Edwards '16 assists Dr. Troy Morrison in the operating room.



[SHARPENING YOUNG MINDS]

BY DENISE ELSON TUCKER '89

SBU'S MATH CONTEST CAMP PROVIDES UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY

FOR ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOL MATH STUDENTS

In the summer of 2006, Dr. Kevin Hopkins, started a unique program at Southwest Baptist University that is entering its 12th year this summer.

SBU's annual Math Contest Camp was a calling for Hopkins, chair of SBU's department of mathematics and professor of mathematics, but it didn't happen overnight.

The idea was inspired by an area college that runs a number of programs for gifted pre-college-aged students during the summer.

Hopkins said he looked at the program information when his kids would receive it and noticed there wasn't anything for math.

"I'm a university teacher," Hopkins said. "I don't know anything about math at that level, so I didn't do anything. But then, my son saw the MATHCOUNTS® National Math Countdown on ESPN when he was in the fourth grade, and said, 'I want to do that.'"

Hopkins started a math club at Bolivar's middle school and realized the concept might also work at an area college's summer gifted program. He applied and worked in the program for two years, and decided that he might be able to run a math-specific summer program at SBU.

He approached John Bryant, SBU's longtime tennis coach and professor of mathematics, about starting a math camp. Bryant had led tennis camps at SBU for several years, and with his math background, Hopkins knew he would be the perfect advisor.

"As I was thinking about moving (the math camp) to this campus, I talked a lot with John Bryant and asked, 'What all is involved; how does

the budget work;' and he had a lot of good insights. Probably the best insight was, 'You're never going to know unless you try it. You can think and plan, but at some point, you're just going to have to take the risk and go in and see what God's going to do with it.'

"He gave me other good advice, but I think that was the best advice, in terms of 'just see what happens.'"

So Hopkins used Bryant's camp model and hosted the first SBU Math Contest Camp in 2006.

"I tried it here and had one group the first year," Hopkins said. "The second year, I was planning two groups (two weeks). When I had to make a decision, there weren't enough people for two weeks, so I combined them into one week and ended up with 29 students, when I wanted to cap it at 24."

The following five summers, there were two weeks of camps; the next two summers had three weeks of camps; and the past two summers have been host to four weeks of camps. Ideally, Hopkins likes to cap the number of campers each week at 24, but will often allow a few more to attend, and will typically host up to 100 campers each summer.

SBU also hosts math contests for more than 600 elementary and middle school students during the school year.

"Hosting a contest is a huge undertaking, and Dr. Hopkins goes above and beyond to make sure it's a good experience for everyone involved – students, teachers, parents and volunteers," said Alex Archer, instructor of

mathematics at SBU and math camp counselor. "One awesome thing about our contests here at SBU is that any student can compete, which means a lot to some students who may not qualify for other contests or haven't competed before. It's a great environment for students to get their feet wet in the math contest world, to practice sharpening their skills, or to even qualify for further levels of competition."

The source of the problems students work on during camp comes from various contests.

"Depending on the contest, they will have different formats," Hopkins said. "Sometimes, there's a team component, so we try to do some in a team setting. Sometimes, there are questions with buzzers – that's actually what my son saw on the MATHCOUNTS® National Math Countdown – so I incorporate some time with questions with buzzers."

"The first day, we do a skills test. I typically split them into two groups based on how they did on the skills test, so that we can go at a slightly different pace and level of material with the two groups."

There also are a couple of components where students work together on questions, like they might do at contest.

"Another thing is to help them realize how to share their ideas because, for a lot of them, they are the No. 1 student and they're not used to sharing their work," Hopkins said. "They don't want to have to explain what they did. They just saw it and gave the answer. At least if they're with people who understand, they can begin to think, 'OK, how would I explain it and let people know how I came up with that answer.'"

Hopkins also said that it is good for those students to listen to what others have to say; to listen to how someone else might have found the right answer. That is something they may not be used to doing.

"It's OK to take on a challenge and to see what you learn from the challenge, even if you don't get the correct answer at the end," Hopkins added. "There are still things you can learn from taking on the challenge."

But it's not all work at math camp.

In between hour-long math sessions, campers have the opportunity to play outside, as well as climb on the rock wall, go swimming and watch a movie toward the end of the week. Hopkins also invites speakers to come two or three times during the week to talk about how math problem-solving and faith have worked together in their lives, and expose that idea

to campers. An awards show/parent program is held on the last day before the campers head home.

"Last summer, I had some former campers who were interning, and so I Skyped with a couple of them (during camp)," Hopkins said. "One was interning at WolframAlpha (mathematics) and another was interning at a lab that works with NASA, doing some stuff on a Mars Landing module. That was kind of cool to do that."

Hopkins also has former campers return as either junior counselors or counselors.

Hannah Robertson of El Dorado Springs started attending the camp with her family when she was in the fourth grade, and has served as a counselor for about four or five years.

"As a camper, I learned so many different math techniques, grew in my math and social skills, and gained friends who I continue to keep in contact with even today," she said. "As a counselor, I get to help and see kids experience what I got to when I was a camper. It is a job that I look forward to every summer and I am honored to be a part of this camp."

Hannah's entire family – father, Brad; mom, Jenny; brother, Kyle; and twin sister,

Sydney – started attending the camp in 2007. Brad and Jenny served as counselors, and when the children were old enough, they began working as junior counselors and then counselors.

"It has always been a wonderful experience working with Dr. Hopkins and getting the opportunity to be a part of such a unique experience for students who enjoy doing mathematics," Jenny Robertson said. "Students of all ability levels are challenged to learn and push themselves to improve their own skills. Although it is competitive at times, all students are celebrated and encouraged by both the staff and fellow campers. It is truly a one-of-a-kind experience where you are cool if you are smart, and even cooler if you love math. Students do not feel out of place, and there is something for everyone including the extra activities during the week of camp."

"My own students have come to camp and have loved the experience. As educators, Brad and I find it very satisfying to get to spend time with the outstanding math students who want to learn. We enjoy seeing the alumni of Math Contest Camp at various math contests throughout the year and love to see them be very successful." ■

DO YOU HAVE A STUDENT WHO MIGHT BE A FUTURE CAMPER?

Find everything you need to know about Math Contest Camp at:

<http://bit.ly/2tMztgl>

You can register, find answers to frequently asked questions, look back at previous camps, read camper and parent evaluations from previous camps and more!





RESEARCH REACHES OVERSEAS

BY DENISE ELSON TUCKER '89

SBU BIOLOGY STUDENTS HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE

IN RESEARCH WITH FACULTY AT TUNGHAI UNIVERSITY IN TAIWAN

A casual conversation at the 2015 Sigma Zeta Conference turned into an opportunity that Dr. Dennis Siegfried knew he could not pass up.

Siegfried, associate professor of biology at Southwest Baptist University, met some professors from Millikin University, both chemists. Siegfried happened to mention that his wife is from Taiwan and was told that he should talk with a professor who travels to Taiwan for research.

Siegfried was told that the professor takes students and works in the chemistry department and with the faculty at Tunghai University in Taichung, Taiwan. The students join Tunghai's faculty on their research projects, helping, working and learning from them.

Millikin's biology faculty have their own research interests, but had no desire to travel to Taiwan, so the chemistry professor invited Siegfried and SBU biology students to make the trip with his group and join the biology faculty at Tunghai University.

"I thought, 'That sounds like a great idea,'" Siegfried said. So, when he returned home, he got the ball rolling.

"I put up a flyer around Wheeler (Science Center), looking for students who would be interested and had an informational meeting time set up in late November of 2015," Siegfried said.

Three students responded to the flyer – Joe Barnes, Michael Edwards and Lindsey Ray Midkiff.

"I wasn't sure, at first, if I needed to have a research project that I was doing with the students, but the students actually worked with the (Tunghai) faculty on their projects. Michael worked with fish, Joe did some stream ecology, looking at pollution levels, and Lindsey worked with a graduate student on techniques to isolate a new bacteria that lives in hot springs."

In preparation for the trip, Joe, Michael and Lindsey worked to raise their own funds to travel. The group also met throughout the 2016 spring semester, mostly to learn about Taiwan.

"We would talk about some of the cultural aspects and some of the things that they might expect and experience that would be different," Siegfried said.

The group stayed in the campus dorms, which was a humbling experience.

"Lindsey was in one room with two Taiwanese students. Joe had two students with him and Michael had one, but they shared a dorm room," Siegfried said. "If the students here saw those dorm rooms, they wouldn't

be complaining. There are bunkbeds with desks underneath, and four to a room. You get a cabinet, and you get your desk, and you get your bed. The bed has a piece of plywood on the bottom and whatever mat you go get, that's what you sleep on. So, it took a little while for them to get used to the beds. That was a big eye-opener.

"And then, community showers and toilet... To the students' credit, they went with it and worked really hard."

The research trip was the first of its kind for SBU. The students had no idea what research they would be doing when they arrived in Taiwan, but once they got their assignments, it was five weeks' worth of research.

Barnes worked with Dr. Pi-Han Wang on Diatom Community Structure in the Fazi River in Taichung.

"The research was on the effects of pollution on benthic diatoms (river bottom-dwelling algae)," Barnes said. "The goal was to see if the effluents in a given body of water correspond to the diatom community structure in a way that one could accurately predict the other."

Midkiff worked with Dr. Shao-Lun (Allen) Liu on the isolation of a new species of algae that lives in hot springs in Taiwan.

"Lindsey was in more of a genetics lab, actually trying to isolate bacteria," Siegfried said. "She actually helped them with some of their technique. They were having trouble isolating it, and she helped them figure out why."

She also helped with the planning of the research project.

"It was helpful for me to see a lab out of the context of the scheduled lab time and brainstorm how to get a project going," Midkiff said. "I had to read around 20 papers to get caught up with the subject matter (algae), which took up most of my personal time in the lab. I was also able to help translate the papers to the students working with me. It was much easier for me to read the paper in English and give them the gist of it."

Edwards worked with Kuo-Chang (Collin) Wen. His research looked at the role of grazers in the coral reef ecosystem with the primary focus on the role of school size on feeding frequency in Surgeonfish (Acanthuridae) and Parrotfish (Scaridae).

"For the majority of my research experience, I reviewed video recordings that other students had previously recorded while diving," Edwards said. "While watching the videos, I determined the school size and counted how many bites an individual took for the time that individual appeared on the frame. Then, for one week during my research, I traveled with Dr. Wen and four of his other students to a coral reef off the coast of Taiwan to help gather data for our projects.

Our preliminary findings suggested that school size affected the feeding behavior in both types of fish."

But it wasn't all work for the students. They had the opportunity to see the sights and taste the local cuisine.

"My favorite weekend trip we took was to Taipei," Barnes said. "We went to the top of Taipei 101 (tallest green building in the world), visited the National Palace Museum, saw pandas and other unique animals at the Taipei Zoo, and took a glass-bottomed gondola (like a ski-lift, not the ones in Venice) ride over the forested mountains outside Taipei.

"On the weekends, we also visited the mountains and beach, relaxed at the hot springs, ate traditional food, and visited historical sites to learn more about Taiwanese culture."

Before departing Taiwan, each student prepared a presentation on their research as well as a group presentation developed to share their cultural and personal experiences.

Upon their return to the United States, the students presented their research for SBU's Biology Club, and Barnes was selected to present his research at the Sigma Zeta Conference in March at Marion University in Indianapolis.

Sigma Zeta is a National Honor Society for the College of Science and Mathematics. About 8-10 chapters, which included SBU's Gamma Kappa chapter, attended the Sigma Zeta Conference in March.

Barnes' research presentation was well-received by the faculty judges, who awarded him with a second-place finish among the presenters.

Siegfried, who will serve as Sigma Zeta president-elect for the 2017-18 academic year, is planning a return research trip to Taiwan for SBU students in 2018.

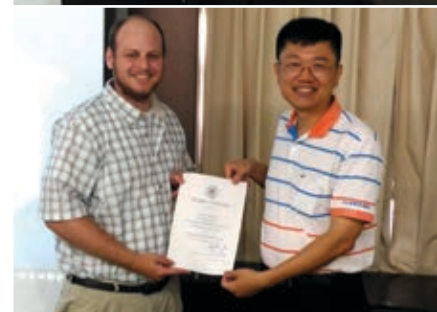
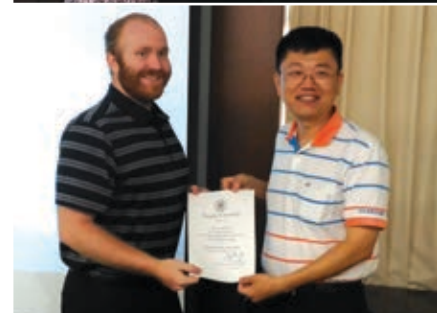
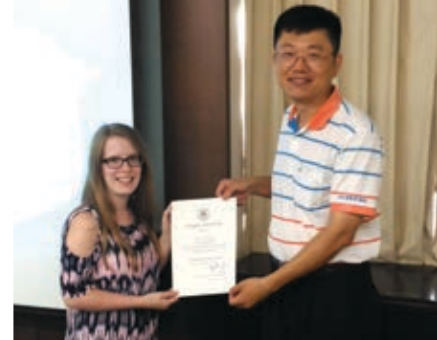
"They receive three summer credit hours for it," Siegfried said. "That's in addition to the total cost of the trip. It's not just going for the experience.

"This was the first time we had done (this trip), so there was a lot of learning curve going on."

And, the students who went in 2016 were rewarded by both the research and cultural opportunities.

"It was a wonderful experience," Edwards said. "We met many kind individuals who helped us when we struggled to communicate. For this research trip, I was given the opportunity to immerse myself into the culture and in return not only did I receive a better understanding and appreciation of the people and the culture, but I also learned immensely from the research. I highly recommend to students wanting to take a summer to research to take this opportunity to research in Taiwan."

According to Barnes: "I would go again in a heartbeat." ■



Lindsey Ray Midkiff '16, Joe Barnes '16 and Michael Edwards '16 receive certificates from Yang Ding-Yah, dean of the college of science, for their 180 hours of research with the faculty of Tunghai University in Taichung, Taiwan.

Bottom (left to right): Joe, Lindsey Ray and Michael outside of Tunghai University in Taichung, Taiwan.



[NEW ADDITIONS]

BY DENISE ELSON TUCKER '89

CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT PURCHASES NEW EQUIPMENT,

WHILE PHYSICS STARTS A NEW MAJOR, WITH A 3+2 PRE-ENGINEERING PROGRAM

Southwest Baptist University's Department of Chemistry and Physics has purchased new equipment to enhance student learning, as well as started a new physics major, while offering a 3+2 pre-engineering program.

One of the recent purchases, which will support classes and undergraduate research, is a scientific instrument called an FTIR to replace and upgrade what SBU has used in the past.

"In general, it's a spectroscopic device that allows identification of elements and compounds in a sample," said Dr. Perry Tompkins, dean of the College of Science and Mathematics and professor of physics. "It is a very standard instrument in chemistry analysis, and so we have to teach that instrument to our students as part of their chemistry education.

"Dr. (John) Patton (chemistry chair) was wanting to look at using it in organic chemistry as part of the lab. One of the challenges in organic chemistry is to identify compounds. This is one of the instruments that would allow students (to do that), if they're given a mystery compound, especially in lab exams and in labs.

"Then, they have certain things that they have to check with that compound to find out what it is, and one of them is to put it into the FTIR to get an idea."

A brand new piece of equipment is the 24-core workstation, which is made specifically for computer modeling.

"Way back in the day when computer modeling was just getting started, we used what are called super computers," Tompkins said. "You'd

have to log on, have to get time and it cost a bunch of money because they were very expensive. This 24-core system is more powerful than some of the early super computers because now everything has gone down and onto your desk."

Dr. Joseph Michalka, assistant professor of chemistry, said it will allow him to run parallelizable code more effectively, which essentially speeds up the simulation of large systems comprised of thousands of atoms.

"Some of the systems I will be examining include model catalysts composed of platinum, palladium, silver, and gold and modeling how various gaseous adsorbates affect the structure and physical properties of the systems," Michalka said.

"It is like a chemical reaction that he is modeling, and modeling takes a lot of time," Tompkins added. "(Michalka) can divide the problem by 24 and have each core process part of the problem, so it automatically goes 24-times faster and it doesn't take nearly as long."

Dr. Jena Whetstine, an analytical chemist and assistant professor of chemistry, has been working to reach the younger generation of scientists.

"I am researching ways of integrating science more in the primary schools by developing experiments and class lessons," Whetstine said. "These ideas/kits not only help students become interested in the sciences, but also allow educators to build up confidence in presenting the topics."

New offerings

Recently, SBU started a new physics major along with offering a 3+2 pre-engineering program. This program allows students to finish an engineering degree from an engineering school, in addition to earning a physics degree from SBU.

In the past, SBU would enroll 1-3 pre-engineering students. This program has been well received with eight physics/pre-engineering program students starting in the Fall 2016 semester, and an estimated 10-12 for Fall 2017.

"The desire was as much to get the 3+2 pre-engineering program started as to actually have a physics major," Tompkins said.

The physics major is a secondary major; the student must have a primary major.

"By having the ability to give a degree in physics, we are able to offer the 3+2 program, where the student will come here for three years and fulfill the requirements for the physics major," Tompkins said. "Then, they can go to an engineering school for two years. As long as they complete the requirements to get a degree at the engineering school, as well as SBU's requirements while they're here, they will also get a bachelor of science in physics from SBU."

Jeremiah Bechtold, who earned degrees in chemistry and physics, with a math minor in 2016, was among the first in the new major.

"Jeremiah was an outstanding student," Tompkins said. "Officially, for the honors program he was supposed to work the Fall 2015 semester on his honors thesis. He started the summer before, and we spent all summer working. He was not paid. It was all on his honors program and we were able to do a much bigger project with his honors program than we would have been able to do, if he had just shown up in August."

By the time August rolled around, Bechtold had most of the equipment up and running and their experiment working. He and Tompkins submitted an abstract for the American Association of Physics Teachers Conference in New Orleans in 2016. Bechtold presented the dual-authored experiment, while Tompkins ran the computer to show the experiment.

"The experiment we developed was actually controlled over the internet, and so we didn't just show pictures and show simulations," Tompkins said. "We actually brought the experiment up during the presentation and ran it and took a measurement with the experiment live during our presentation."

Bechtold, who is currently in graduate school at Purdue University, credits the faculty at SBU for preparing him for grad school.

"Dr. Tompkins took me under his wing my final year and a half at SBU, and is ultimately the reason I am at Purdue," Bechtold said. "Dr. Tompkins

not only invested in my future and education, but lives out the SBU mission statement.

"Dr. (Craig) Masters and Dr. Patton both played an important role, as well. Dr. Masters' interest in philosophy was a great addition to our studies in science and understanding how faith and science work in a secular world. Dr. Patton challenged me continually and helped prepare me for graduate school."

Bechtold is in the inorganic chemistry division at Purdue and works under Dr. Shelley Claridge. Her research is focused on utilizing the patterning abilities of lipids, the molecules that form cell membranes, to enhance current surface patterning techniques for applications such as nanoelectronics and organophotovoltaics.

"The program runs typically five years, so I am far from graduating but currently I see myself working at another small university, like SBU or maybe even SBU, or using my degree for adult resources like job training."

Marissa (McClure) Jones, a 2016 chemistry and chemistry education graduate who was an advisee of Whetstine, also is continuing her education at Vanderbilt University.

"She was a chemistry education major and took physics as a freshman because she had the math skills," Tompkins said. "I contacted her and said, 'I'd love for you to be my lab TA (teaching assistant),' as a sophomore."

Through that experience, Jones learned about the Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) and the possibility of graduate education in chemistry.

"After my sophomore year, I accepted a summer REU with Dr. Tompkins in physics," Jones said. "He was, in fact, the person who told me that grad school in chemistry was possible, and started me on a path to make my dream of starting a doctoral program a possibility.

"Vanderbilt had the research and the environment I was looking for, so I chose to attend Vanderbilt on an Analytical Chemistry Ph.D. track. I now work in Dr. Richard Caprioli's lab in Imaging Mass Spectrometry. We often work to help enhance technology to better understand a variety of diseases.

"When I originally decided to go to graduate school, I thought I wanted to be a professor, so I obtained my chemistry and chemistry education degrees from SBU. Both departments were very cooperative in allowing me to go on graduate school visits and assisting me in pursuing my goals. Although I now envision a career in the research industry rather than teaching, I've used the teaching knowledge I gained at SBU in my role as a TA for general chemistry lab at Vanderbilt." ■



Left: Marissa [McClure] Jones '16, chemistry education graduate, is attending Vanderbilt University on an analytical chemistry Ph.D. track.

Middle: Students participate in a recent physics lab.

Right: Jeremiah Bechtold '16, chemistry and physics graduate, is in the inorganic division at Purdue University.

It is an exciting time at the College of Science and Mathematics at Southwest Baptist University. Our students have met with considerable success in graduate school, professional school or moving directly into their careers. Our success is mainly due to two factors: being an un-apologetic Christian university and the quality of a caring faculty and staff.

Studying science can be thought of as studying General Revelation, or how God reveals Himself through his creation. What an awesome way to honor and worship Him. We are all blessed to be part of a faculty that is committed to excellence while worshipping the Creator. Not unrelated is the congeniality within the college. Because of this, students are highly supported in their efforts to master challenging material. Faculty and staff are approachable, helpful, and are truly concerned about the success of our students.



The SURE program — SBU Undergraduate Research Experience — continues to support one to two students and one to two faculty members each year with summer research experiences critical to the health of the college and the student's ability to thrive in graduate and professional school. More than 15 students have benefitted by participating with this program during the last eight years.

Our athletic training department has just finished its second consecutive year with a 100-percent first-time pass rate on the professional certification exam. This success is in large part due to the hard work of the faculty and professional athletic trainers housed in this department.

Biology is welcoming the return of Dr. John Murphey who joins us to head up our anatomy and physiology classes. Biology remains the largest of the undergraduate departments within the college, and many students go on to graduate school, medical school and to our own doctor of physical therapy program.

Chemistry and Physics just purchased an FTIR and a 24-core workstation in support of our classes and undergraduate research. Recently, we started a new physics major along with offering a 3+2 pre-engineering program. This popular program allows students to finish an engineering degree along with earning an SBU degree.

Mathematics continues to inspire students to use mathematics for success in careers and graduate school. A number of current students have given professional presentations at regional and national conferences. Our secondary teachers are very successful in finding teaching positions.

Physical therapy recently opened the new faculty practice, where current students get residency-like experiences starting their first semester. Physical therapy also leads the college with active mission work in Haiti, China, El Salvador and Peru. Students travel during breaks to gain practical experiences and serve patients in other countries.

The Strait Center supports the college in general as it provides biology, chemistry, mathematics and physics “through the eyes of faith” classes. The focus of this center is on the synergistic relationship of Christian faith and the study of science. It is truly a blessing to be part of a science-focused college within a Christian liberal-arts university.

Perry A. Tompkins, Ph.D.
Dean, College of Education and Social Sciences
Professor of Physics

5 Questions

with **Bill Marr**



In each issue of SBULife magazine, we interview one of our staff members so you can meet the people who help make SBU a Christ-centered, caring academic community.

Bill Marr is the Clinic Manager at the SBU Faculty Practice Clinic and the Integrated/ Interdisciplinary Clinical Experiences (ICE) Coordinator in the Department of Physical Therapy. He started there in June 2016, and also has taught as an adjunct in the Robert W. Plaster College of Business and Computer Information Systems since August 2015.

What are your responsibilities as clinic manager?

I coordinate physical therapy students to observe with faculty providers who see patients in the clinic. I also perform administrative functions of the clinic with student observers, including obtaining referrals/orders from outside medical providers, scheduling patients, completing paperwork, maintaining data in the electronic medical record, ensuring that supplies and equipment are available to providers and patients and other daily operations. I also am the Interdisciplinary Clinical Experiences (ICE) coordinator. I arrange for doctor of physical therapy students to observe at various types of healthcare sites in the Bolivar and Springfield area.

What has been the most gratifying thing you have witnessed during your time in the job?

One purpose for the faculty practice clinic is for doctor of physical therapy students to get early interactions with actual patients. It is great to see students working with faculty providers to see patients who have benefited from the services provided. Comments from students like, "We just studied this in class and I got to practice it in clinic

today" and the positive impact on patients who are helping to train up the physical therapists of tomorrow are very encouraging.

What is your favorite aspect of your job?

Participating in the learning process for doctor of physical therapy students. It is gratifying to hear from students about what they have learned while working with patients in the faculty practice clinic or during external observations at various healthcare facilities.

What do you think makes SBU unique?

The faculty and staff in the Department of Physical Therapy are concerned about the students' spiritual, emotional and physical health, in addition to learning the discipline of physical therapy. The emphasis on service learning from a Christian perspective adds depth to what the students take with them upon completing their course of study.

How do you enjoy spending your free time?

My wife and I live on a small farm south of Bolivar. I enjoy being surrounded by God's creation and the various animals that live with us on the farm.



Orien B. Hendrex Award winner (second photo, left): Dr. Bob Glasgow '84, professor of mathematics on the Bolivar campus, received the Orien B. Hendrex Distinguished Teacher Award.

The award is presented annually to a faculty member who has been judged by the previous three years' graduating classes to be outstanding in both teaching ability and personal guidance. The SBU Board of Trustees designated this award in memory of Hendrex, a former academic dean.

2017 GRADUATION

347 undergraduate. 198 graduate. **545 graduates.**



Life Beautiful Awards: The award is given annually to an exceptional man and woman in SBU's spring graduating class whose outstanding scholarship and character demonstrates that they live a "life beautiful."

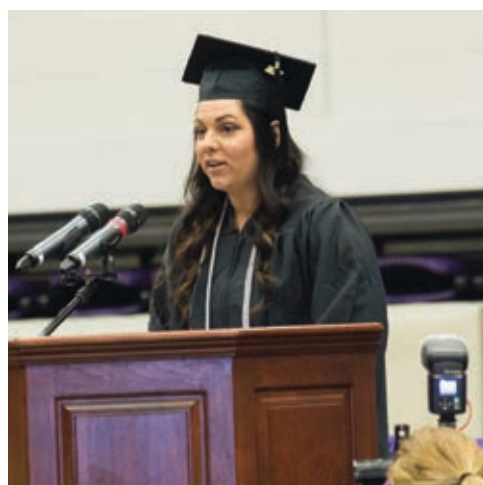
Aric Gooch (left), a social science education and political science major, is the son of Curtis and Vicky Gooch of Bolivar.

Michelle Austin (right), a web systems and design major, with a minor in writing, is married to Jon, and they have five children.



Bob R. Derryberry Senior Address speaker (right): Kaylee Dye, who graduated with a degree in commercial art, encouraged her classmates to practice what she began a few years ago to remember moments and lessons learned at SBU.

Senior musicians (far right): Ashley Nicole Fox, who graduated with a degree in music education, performed "Amazing Grace," as arranged by Paul Basler, on horn and was accompanied by Zach Shelton on piano, for the senior music.





Commencement speaker (right): Chad McDonald '99, senior pastor of Lenexa Baptist Church, Lenexa, Kan., said the pursuit of success is something that people have in common, but also disagree about its definition and how it is attained.

“There is one foundational key that rises above all the others – and that one key is Christ. The Bible tells us that true, lasting and eternal success is not found in some thing. It is found in some one. And, his name is Jesus. It is impossible to have success in the life to come apart from Jesus Christ.”



2017 FACULTY RETIREES

Faculty members (pictured below) Wayne Clark, Curtis Goss, Dr. Martha Hicks, Dr. Kelly Martin, Linda Tappmeyer '76, Dr. Linda Wooderson '78, and Dr. Mark Tappmeyer '74 (pictured left) were recognized for their retirements from SBU.

Clark, chair of the department of accounting and assistant professor of accounting, has taught at SBU since 1992; Goss, assistant professor of Spanish, started at SBU in 1994; Hicks, chair of the department of music and professor of music, has taught at SBU since 1997; Martin, professor of criminal justice, started teaching at SBU in 2000; Linda Tappmeyer, assistant professor of English, has taught at SBU since 1992; Mark Tappmeyer, chair of the Department of Language and Literature and professor of English, started teaching at SBU in 1979; and Wooderson, professor of physical education, has taught at SBU since 1989.



SBU Enactus finishes in top 8 at national competition

Southwest Baptist University Enactus matched its best result in the Enactus U.S. National Exposition by placing in the top eight after finishing runner-up in its league in the semifinals at the competition held May 21-23 at the Kansas City Convention Center.

"This year's team is very special," said Dr. Angie Brown-Peterson, department chair and assistant professor of business administration. "They have worked tirelessly to serve and better the Bolivar community. They truly embody SBU's mission of being Christ-centered, servant leaders.

"We are so blessed with amazing students at SBU."

The last time SBU finished top eight in the nation was under Trevor Parrish's leadership as president of Enactus in 2013. This year, his brother, Taylor, led the team as president to another top-eight finish. SBU President Dr. C. Pat Taylor, Provost Dr. Lee Skinkle and his family, plus several of the team's family members, were among the supporters at the national competition.

SBU Enactus qualified for nationals after winning a regional championship at the April 10 competition in Dallas. It was the team's 32nd regional championship out of the past 33 competitions.

"We have had a phenomenal group of student-

leaders this year," said Dr. Nathan Wright, assistant professor of business administration. "They have made a sustainable difference in our local community. The judges recognized this by placing our team in the top eight in the country. I am so proud to work with this group."



The team's mission is: "Southwest Baptist University Enactus is a team of servant leaders that promotes free enterprise as a critical means of preparing others to lead rewarding, self-sufficient lives in a global society."

The presentation team included: Samantha Martin, a sophomore marketing major from O'Fallon; Stephen Pierce, a sophomore marketing major from Lee's Summit; Ashley Bell, a sophomore computer information science major from

Dodgeville, Wis.; Erin Corner, a junior public relations major from Green Bay, Wis.; and Taylor Parrish, a senior management and marketing major from Blue Springs.

The 2017 Enactus officers included: Parrish, president; Jordan Price, a senior marketing and international business major from Wichita, Kan., vice president of projects; Hannah Louvier, a senior management major from Salem, Ill., vice president of competition; and Emily Raines, a sophomore management major from Marshall, vice president of operations.

Project leaders were: Larissa Duckworth, a sophomore elementary education major from Eldon, who led the "Sentrepact" project; Colton Masters, a sophomore management major from Troy, Ill., who led the "COM" project; and Adriana Gallaher, a sophomore management major from Quincy, Ill., who led the "Downtown Bolivar" project.

"I am proud of our team and their commitment to our community and improving lives where we live," said Dr. Levi Bridge, Master of Business Administration director and instructor of business administration. "They represented themselves and SBU well by remaining focused on Christ and being servant leaders."

Two new degrees being offered this Fall – B.S. in Cybersecurity, M.A. in Christian Ministry

Southwest Baptist University will offer a bachelor of science in cybersecurity beginning Fall 2017, as well as a Master of Arts in Christian Ministry, with classes starting Fall 2017, having received approval from the Higher Learning Commission, the University's accrediting body.

"This (cybersecurity) degree program is a perfect fit for a student who is interested in being on the digital front-lines in the ongoing cyber battle between forces of good (innocent individuals, small business, corporations, government) and forces of evil and anarchy (digital thieves, corporate saboteurs, terrorists and even nation-states)," said Dr. Tim DeClue, professor and chair of the Department of Computer and Information Sciences.

Cybersecurity specialists are in extremely high demand. According to Forbes, more than 200,000 cybersecurity jobs went unfilled in 2016. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics says the demand for

cybersecurity professionals is expected to grow by 18 percent by 2024, much faster than average, the median salary is above \$90,000 and the typical training is a bachelor's degree.

The degree program has been developed with advisement by individuals who work in data security.

The 42-hour Master of Arts in Christian Ministry degree program will take less than half the time for completion of a Master of Divinity and is designed for individuals who desire advanced study in ministry in order to serve the church more purposefully.

"A primary purpose of the program is to bring up and train students to approach ministry in innovative ways," said Dr. Zach Manis, professor of philosophy and director of the Master of Arts in Christian Ministry program. "We want our students to engage the culture and think through new and difficult problems."

Students must complete four core courses, one each from the categories of leadership, theology, community and service. At least nine elective courses are required, allowing students to select courses that emphasize areas of study that are conducive to each student's own vocational and ministry goals.

Courses begin Fall 2017 with two concurrent enrollment courses available to current SBU undergraduate students. The course schedule will expand for the Spring 2018 semester, when courses also will be available for students who have already completed a bachelor's degree. Incoming or current SBU undergraduate students who anticipate completing both a bachelor's degree in a related field and the master's degree in Christian ministry can reasonably complete both degrees in five years. A student who already has a degree in a related field can complete the degree in two years.

SBU PBL takes eight top-10 awards at nationals

Southwest Baptist University's Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) organization had nine students compete at the PBL National Leadership Conference on June 24-27 in Anaheim, Calif., and brought home eight top-10 finishes.

SBU PBL, which competed against more than 2,000 students, has claimed 21 top-10 finishes at nationals the last four years.

SBU students qualified for the national competition after an impressive showing at the PBL State Leadership Competition in April in Springfield. At the state competition, SBU PBL competed against 208 students and 15 universities and had 20 top-five finishes, including six first-place winners.

"I am amazed each year by the commitment, effort, and performance of each student," said Meilani Conley, SBU PBL advisor and instructor of computer science. "Watching them become student leaders and work as a team has been extremely rewarding.

"They are strong representatives of SBU and the quality of academics available here."

SBU national competitors included:

- **Allison Hawkins** — sophomore, St. Joseph; fourth place — Programming Concepts
- **Emily Woods** — junior, Osceola; 10th place — Future Business Executive
- **Jalen Supancic** — senior, Lynchburg; seventh place — Contemporary Sports Issues
- **Jessalyn Kliewer** — junior, Lee's Summit; honorable mention — Organizational Behavior and Leadership; Sports Marketing and Management
- **Josh Adams** — sophomore, West Plains; 10th place — Cyber Security
- **Kiersten Harper** — sophomore, Monett; sixth place — Public Speaking
- **Stephan Munsell** — junior, Belton; ninth place — Information Management

Team events

- **Chase Bussey-Austin Masters** — Second place — Mobile Application Development
- **Woods-Munsell** — Sixth place — Management Analysis and Decision Making

"PBL is an organization focused on service, education and progress," said Emily Woods, SBU PBL president. "This organization has helped me put my classroom knowledge to the test and pushed me to become a better leader through volunteering, networking and competing in many of the competitive events."

Future Business Leaders of America-Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) is a nonprofit education association with a quarter million students preparing for careers in business and business-related fields.

"I encourage other students, regardless of their major, to join PBL," Jalen Supancic said. "There are several majors represented in our organization. It is a rewarding experience and I look forward to competing next year."

O'Keefe earns top MIAA, CoSIDA honors

Southwest Baptist University track and field/basketball graduate Natalie O'Keefe has added more awards to her trophy case.

For the second consecutive year, O'Keefe was named the MIAA Ken B. Jones award winner, the highest honor handed out by the MIAA. O'Keefe becomes only the second female in MIAA history to earn the award twice during her career.

O'Keefe also was named the CoSIDA Women's Track & Field Academic All-American of the Year.

"Natalie had an unbelievable career for the Bearcats," SBU Director of Athletics Mike Pitts stated. "We are so proud of who she is - and what she's done."

The award is named in honor of Ken B. Jones who served as the MIAA's first full-time commissioner. Jones retired in 1997, passed away in May 2004, and was inducted into the MIAA Hall of Fame in the inaugural Class of 2010.

"What an awesome way for Natalie to cap off her career at SBU," SBU head track and field coach Corey McElhane stated. "This award encompasses what it means to be a student-athlete and we are so excited that the MIAA sees Natalie as the best representative of this award. I have enjoyed getting

to know her and how great of a person she is. We have been blessed to have her in our program and could not be more proud of her."

O'Keefe capped off an impressive 2016-17 season by winning the league's top honor. She became



the first SBU student athlete to win back-to-back NCAA National Championships after winning the women's high jump at the Indoor National Championships. O'Keefe also became only the second athlete in school history to earn the NCAA Elite 90 award in back-to-back years, an award which is handed out to the athlete holding the highest GPA of all athletes competing at the National Championships. During her career, O'Keefe has been a five-time NCAA All-American, earning the honor at least once in each year while at SBU.

O'Keefe, who graduated with a perfect 4.0 GPA in Art, was named a CoSIDA 1st Team Academic All-American for the second straight season. She has also earned two NCAA Elite 90 awards, and will now advance to the ballot for the possibility of being named the CoSIDA Academic All-American of the Year for the entire NCAA Division II. O'Keefe has been named an MIAA Scholar Athlete four times, was the recipient of the MIAA Academic Excellence award four times, and has been named to the MIAA Honor Roll for four years.

O'Keefe also is actively involved in the Bolivar, Springfield, and Granite City communities. She has spent time volunteering at the Halloween "Trunk or Treat" event on the campus of Southwest Baptist, the "Share your Christmas" project to provide presents for underprivileged children in Springfield, and serving as a girls' ministry volunteer for elementary age girls in Granite City.

O'Keefe joins a rare class of SBU athletes who have earned this prestigious honor, and is the first female in SBU history to be named the CoSIDA Academic All-American of the Year. William Shell earned the award in 2014 for men's track and field, Landon Young in 2015 for baseball, and Christian Binger in 2016 for baseball.

1950s

Margaret (Barrett) Lanier '59 is married to Don and lives in Rockford, Ill. She can be reached at lanierdonmaggie@gmail.com.

1960s

Robert LaFever '67 lives in Smithville, Mo., and can be reached at robertlafever@hotmail.com.

1970s

Donna Frazier '74 was recently awarded the honor of "Citizen of the Year" by the Excelsior Springs Chamber of Commerce. This award is given in recognition of 30+ years of volunteer and community service. Donna can be reached at ditsydiva52@gmail.com.

Michael Jones '77 lives in Dallas, Texas, where he is a senior graduate academic advisor, adjunct professor and registrar at Argosy University. Michael can be reached at m_jones54@hotmail.com.

Kevin Kerr '78 is married to Joyce and lives in Olive Branch, Miss., where he serves at First Baptist Church. He can be reached at revkev56@gmail.com.

1980s

Sara (Westmoreland) Mullins '80 lives in Clearwater, Fla., where she has spent five years in business as an agent for emerging local artists. Her company, Galleries on the Go, brokers art gallery spaces in public places. Sara can be reached at sara@galleriesonthego.com.

Wayne Corum '84 and his wife, Amy, live in Fort Worth, Texas, and have two children, Kearston (14) and Kaleb (11). Wayne can be reached at the4corums@att.net.

Brad Newbold '88 and his wife, Janis (Ostrom) '86, live in Lohman, Mo., and have two adult children, Seth and Sara. Brad recently accepted the worship pastor position at Concord Baptist Church in Jefferson City. The family can be reached at bnewbold2010@gmail.com.

Gary Wade '88 lives in San Jose, Calif., and can be reached at garywade@desisoftsystems.com.

Brad Conley '89 and his wife, Carol, live in Parkville, Mo., and have two children, Bethany (16) and Lyndsey (14). Brad can be reached at Brad.Conley@juno.com.

David Donahue '89 is married to Veronica. They have lived in Virginia for 24 years and David has served as pastor at Manassas Baptist Church since 2015. There are people from 51 nations represented at the church.

1990s

Mike McDaniel '90 and **Lori (Martin) McDaniel '92** will be leading a 12-day "Journeys of Paul Tour Through Turkey and Greece," along with Dr. Gordon Dutille, former SBU provost and professor in the Redford College of Theology and Ministry, in March 2018. Highlights of the journey will include: Athens, Corinth, Greece, Istanbul, Port City of Kusadasi and Turkey. Mike currently serves as pastor of Grace Point Church of Northwest Arkansas in Bentonville. Mike and Lori can be reached by email at anya@gracepointchurch.net.

Michelle (Gentile) Litle '92 is married to Larry and they have two children, Natasha (16) and Logan (8). Larry has been working for McKesson Corp. in Springfield, Mo., for 13 years and Michelle has been working for Walker Tek Solutions for 11 years. Their children are preparing to enter the 11th and third grades. The family can be reached at scc1fan@gmail.com.

Valerie (Foster) McGrady '93 is married to Jim and they have three children, Caleb (20), Eli (18) and Madelyn (15). Eli will be joining the SBU Bearcat family this fall! Valerie can be reached at vmcgrady@wheatland.k12.mo.us.

Jennifer (Robertson) Shenberger '93 lives in St. Louis, Mo., and can be reached at jennifershenberger@claytonschools.net.

Dani Sue (Hodgins) Peterson '95 is married to David and they have four children, Leanna (9), Samuel (7), Victoria (5) and Zachary (2). She can be reached at dsp@delpindustries.com.

Dr. Kimberly (Dyer) Hall '96, '98, '07, and her husband, Dan, live in Kankakee, Ill., and have two children, Holden (10) and Melaina (6). She can be reached at kimp@yahoo.com.

Callie Grantham '97 lives in Kansas City, Kan., and has three children, Regiauaana (14), Desiree (13) and Deajah (10). She can be reached at calliej@sbcbglobal.net.

Jamon Abercrombie '99 and his wife, **Jennifer (Taylor) '99**, live in Lee's Summit, Mo., and have two children, Taylor (14) and Jordan (13). The family can be reached at jaberacrombie@firstbaptistraytown.com.

Allison Holcomb '99 is married to Michael and they have two children, Madison (12) and Preston (6). The family lives in Fort Worth, Texas, where Allison serves as children's director at Hallmark Baptist Church. Allison can be reached at allison@hbcfw.org.

2000s

Rayden Hollis '00 and his wife, **Sarah (Dearborn) '02**, are planting roots in the Edwardsville, Ill., area and helped plant Red Hill Church a little over a year ago. They have three children, Kaleb (13), Nathan (12) and Aubri (9). The family can be reached at rayden@redhill.tv.

Max Smith '00 and his wife, **Amanda (Dial) '01** have three children, Breanna (10), Emersyn (2) and Hunter (1).

Sarah (Mercer) Ballard '01 is married to Josh and they have two children, Isaac (5) and Lyla (1). Sarah can be reached at sjballard04@hotmail.com.

Andrea (Elder) Denison '01 and her husband, Dallas, live in Fort Gibson, Okla., and have two children, Jackson (5) and Abby (3). Andrea can be reached at a_piano97@yahoo.com.

Nicholas Haines '01 and his wife, Susan, live in Oklahoma City, and have four children, Ruth (9), James (6), Lydia (4) and Levi (1). Nicholas can be reached at Nicholas_haines338@yahoo.com.

Brett Marti '01 and **Debbie (Sarver) '00** live in Springfield, Mo., and have three children, Ryleigh (10), Makenzie (6) and Greyson (1). The family can be reached at brett_marti@yahoo.com.

Christy (Lemmon) Vaughn '01 and her husband, Brandon, live in Dexter, Mo., and have two children, Brayden (8) and Mabree (5). Christy can be reached at Vaughn.christy@gmail.com.

James Lighthill '02 and his wife, **Rochele (Capps) '03**, live in Kansas City, Mo., and have two children, Blake (8) and Cade (5). The family can be reached at rochelelighthill@sbcbglobal.net.

Clayton McCullah '02 and his wife, **Amanda (Byars) '02**, have four children, Cael (12), Owen (9), Maisie (8) and Finnegan (5). Both Clayton and Amanda work for the Bolivar R-1 School District. The family can be reached at amcullah@bolivarschools.org.

Terrie (Parsley) Reno '02 is married to Brian and they have two daughters, Sydnie Grace (6) and Lyndsie (4). Terrie can be reached at tparsley2@hotmail.com.

Scott Beever '03, '06 and his wife, **Melissa (Tribble) '04**, live in Springfield, Ill. and have three children, Hannah (10), Aubrey (7) and Levi (3). The family can be reached at smbeeper@gmail.com.

Ivan Peterson '03 and his wife, **Keri (Cochra) '04**, live in Blue Springs, Mo., and have two children, Izaiah (3) and Kegan (2). The family can be reached at kpeterson71908@gmail.com.

Brendan Angel '04 and his wife, **Emily (Powers) '04**, live in Latham, Ill. and have one child, Eli Jesse (10). The family can be reached at bwa6481@yahoo.com.

Joshua Bohanon '04 and his wife, **Julie (Worzalla) '04**, live in Bentonville, Ark., and have four children, Seth (12), Taylor (11), Scott (8) and Ethan (7). Josh is currently working on a master's degree in theology through Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. The family can be reached at jbohanon2@gmail.com.

Melinda Ellison '04 lives in Caulfield, Mo., and has one child, Cassidy (9). She can be reached at Melinda.ellison38@gmail.com.

Robyn (Pierce) Taylor '05 and her husband, Steven, live in Salem, Mo. They have three children, Grace (5) and twins Emily and Benjamin. Their twins were born eight weeks premature last New Year's Eve. The family spent seven weeks in NICU at Mercy Hospital in Springfield. Robyn will begin her 13th year teaching at Salem High School this fall. She can be reached at robyn.taylor@salemr80.org.

Rick Ragsdale '06 and his wife, **Kayla (Jaques) '05**, live in Cassville, Mo., and have two children, Riley (8) and Harper (3). They can be reached at ragsdale.kayla@gmail.com.

Brandon Taylor '06 was recently recognized as one of the Springfield Business Journal's "Dynamic Dozen," as the Top Local Financial Executive for 2017. Taylor, who earned bachelor of science degrees in accounting and business administration from Southwest Baptist University, serves on SBU's College of Business and Accounting advisory board, and is the chief financial officer and chief operations officer for Legacy Bank & Trust Company.

Lauren (Wynn) Choate '07 and her husband, Mitchell, live in Mt. Vernon, Mo., and have two children, Cole (8) and Anson (almost 1). Lauren can be reached at lauren.n.choate@gmail.com.

Ashley (Wells) Gadberry '07 and her husband, Andrew, live in Wright City, Mo., and have one daughter, Lorelei. Ashley can be reached at gadberrys@live.com.

Luke Oldweiler '07 and his wife, **Amanda (Geier) '06**, have two children, Amelia (7) and Tabitha (5).

Tony Harris '07 and his wife, **Ruth (Dinwiddie) '07**, live in Bolivar with their children, Emily (9) and Zander (6). Tony is employed by Citizens Memorial Hospital. Ruth is currently homeschooling their children and working on her doctorate degree. The family can be reached at rharris5@liberty.edu.

Chris Dodson '09 and his wife, **Sarah (Minott) '09**, have one son, Charlie (2). Chris finished his Ph.D. in Theology from University of Aberdeen last year. Both Chris and Sarah now teach at a private Christian school in Sarah's hometown. Chris primarily teaches high school English and history, and Sarah teaches middle school English and history. Charlie is enjoying spending time with grandparents and great-grandparents, as well as the students at the school when he visits.

2010s

Tori (Jones) Morris '16 is married to Ryan and they live in Ash Grove, Mo. Tori works for Ozark Electric Cooperative and can be reached at torikmorris829@gmail.com.

Future Bearcats



Berrik Brumley '05 and his wife, Rachel, announce the birth of their son, Griffith Raymond, on June 12, 2017. Berrik can be reached at worshiparts@fbcmumelle.org.

Sarah (McDaniel) Bryant '08 and her husband, Andy, announce the birth of Alia in April 2017. She is welcomed by big sister Lily (4) and big brother Levi (2). The family lives in Louisville, Ky., and can be reached at andy.sarah.bryant@gmail.com.

Josiah Coen '12 and his wife, **Katie (Landing) '14**, welcomed their first child, Finn, in November 2016.

Patricia (Schierholz) Jordan '01 and her husband, Sam, announce the birth of Isabella Jane on February 5, 2017. The family lives in the area of Forth Worth, Texas, where Sam works for his family's business and Patricia is now a stay-at-home mom. You can reach Patricia at paschierholz@gmail.com.



Matt Latall '10 and his wife, **Laura (O'Connor) '10**, '13, welcomed their daughter, Gabrielle, in September 2016. Gabrielle was born 3 months early and was 2 lbs, 6 oz. After an emergency delivery, the family stayed in NICU for

121 days (4 months) while focusing primarily on lung growth and development. They were incredibly blessed by loving nurses, doctors, and hospital staff while they saw God work miracles in their little girl day after day. Gabrielle is now healthy and growing, and the Latall family is praising God for His indescribable gift!

Shelley (Miller) Mulford '03 and her husband, **Ben**, recently welcomed their third child, Ember, who joins big brother Ezekiel (7) and big sister Elysa (3). The family can be reached at shelleymulford@gmail.com.

Tyler Parrish '11 and his wife, **Kristy (Schick) '10** welcomed their first son, Raylan Ellis, on August 9, 2016.

Bruce Robidou '07 and his wife, **Jan (Henbest) '07**, '10, announce the birth of their second child, Lucas Adrian, born on August 22, 2016. Lucas is welcomed by big brother, Duncan (3).



Jeff Robidou '13 and his wife, **Dr. Kristin (Hanson) '10** announce the birth of their first child, Edward Alan on April 27, 2017. The family can be reached at robidou22@gmail.com.

Damon Sewell '15 and **Lisa (Yount) Sewell '15** announce the birth of their son, Elijah, on March 16, 2017.

Diana (Jordan) Wiard '05 and her husband, Brett, announce the birth of their son, Grant, in April 2017. He is welcomed by big sisters, Hannah (7), Violet (4) and Cora (2).

In Memory

Donna M. (McColm) Young, who attended SBU in 1949-50, passed away in her home in Carthage, Mo., on March 8, 2017, at the age of 85. Donna and her late husband, John, owned and operated Young's IGA in Sarcoxie from 1964 to 1975; Young's Quick Stop in Diamond for six years and Young's Deli and Donut in Sarcoxie from 1988-1994. She is survived by her four sons; 10 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; three step-grandchildren; and one sister.

Doris (Kellhofer) Johnson '61 passed away in Kansas City, Mo., on March 23, 2017 from liver cancer at the age of 75. Doris was very involved at SWBC, including serving as freshman class treasurer, freshman Mozarkian Princess, cheerleader, Homecoming Queen and Miss Southwest candidate. She is survived by her husband, Clifford, two children, four granddaughters, three sisters and two brothers.

Dr. Carol Wilson '61 passed away on March 28, 2017. Carol received the SBU Life Service Award in 2008. Carol was an educator for more than 40 years and served as pastor's wife to nine congregations in eight different states. She was married to the late Gary Wilson until he passed in September 2015. She is survived by her three children and three grandchildren. A memorial service was held June 10 in Springfield, Mo.

George A. Campbell '81 passed away on January 8, 2017 at the age of 83 after battling non-alcoholic cirrhosis of the liver. George retired from the Air Force in 1979 and then traveled to Bolivar to attend school at SBU and serve as the Veterans Affairs Officer. After graduation, he worked for SBU as security personnel before returning to government service in 1983, working in Washington, D.C., in the state department until his retirement in 1996. George is survived by his wife, Dr. Elizabeth Jane Campbell, of Lawrence, Kan., 10 children and their families.

Richard "Rick" Mullan, BA '81, BS '83, passed away March 5, 2017, in Chicago, Ill., at the age of 57. Rick served in churches in Springfield, Ill., Fairview Heights, Ill., St. Petersburg, Fla., and Orlando, Fla., and was an associate pastor of Friendship Baptist Church, Plainfield, Ill., since 1998. He is survived by his devoted wife of 33 years, Lanette; daughter, Kyrstin, and son, Jonathan. A private family interment was held.

Recommended Reads

In each issue of *SBUlife*, we ask one of SBU's noted faculty to highlight a book that has had an impact on his or her life.



Dr. Bob Glasgow

Professor of Mathematics

RECOMMENDED READ: *Intentional Walk* by Rob Rains

Why do you recommend “Intentional Walk?”

As a St. Louis Cardinals fan, I love reading about my favorite players, but the book also gives insight into the importance of faith in Jesus for so many of these players. In that way, I can relate to them.

The title, “Intentional Walk,” is obviously a play on words, incorporating baseball terminology and spirituality. Being a Cardinals fan, what does it mean to you to know that the players on your favorite team are willing to share their testimony?

It is encouraging to me to know that the players I like to watch on the field are living real lives and struggling to be disciples of Jesus in the same way I struggle. It also encourages me that they are willing to share the gospel message, when it may not always be accepted by others. I recently watched a video testimony about former Cardinal pitcher Chris Carpenter and how, because of the way Adam Wainwright shared with him, he came to follow Jesus.

What do you like to read in your spare time?

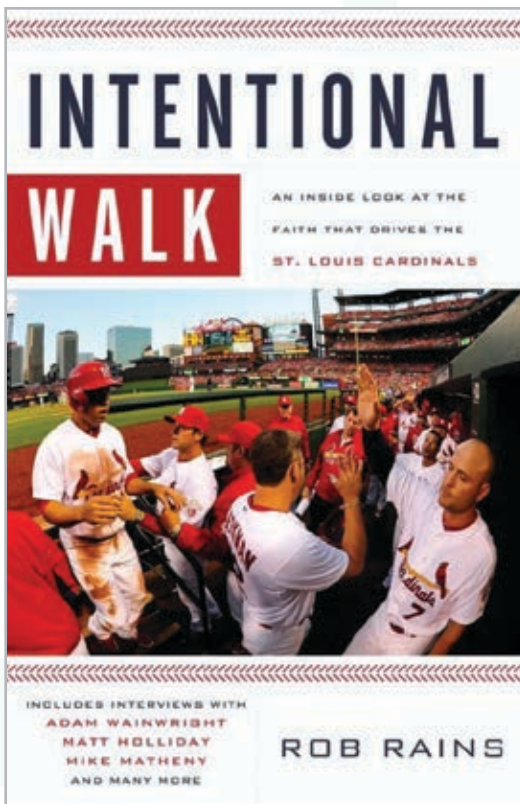
I like to read historical books, autobiographies, and, of course, books about the history of mathematics. I have not been reading a lot of fiction recently, but have in the past. I learned to love to read at an early age, and as a student at SBU, I minored in English just so I could take literature classes for fun. Former SBU professor, Dr. Tom Padgett, could talk about a book for two minutes and make me want to read it, so I have read many because of him.

What are you currently reading?

I just finished reading “UnPhiltered” by Phil Robertson of Duck Dynasty. I also read “Mathematical Mindsets” by Jo Boaler, which is about helping students develop their mathematical thinking. I am currently reading a book about chaos theory called, “Does God Play Dice?” by Ian Stewart.

Are there any books on your bookshelf that you think your students or colleagues would be surprised to find?

Probably! I also used to read every Kurt Vonnegut novel, so they are all on my shelf as well as other “science fiction” types of books. My daughter, Melody, used to like to put books she had read in places she knew I would see them, and I would pick them up and read them. So, I have read many “teen” novels, such as “The Uglies” series.



Published by Thomas Nelson [April 29, 2013]

Summer is here! The campus is beautiful; and while busy with summer camps, campus always seems peaceful and calming when the summer months roll in. The still campus is an immense difference from just a few short weeks ago in May when the campus of SBU was full and bustling. One of my favorite times of the year comes each May (and December) – commencement at SBU. Parents and families fill the campus and students joyfully gather together in their regalia to commemorate a special time in their lives. I have the pleasure of inducting the graduating class into the Alumni Association at each commencement ceremony, allowing me to sit on the stage and look out among the newest SBU alumni. I enjoy watching the nervous excitement of our newest alumni: The excitement of reaching their goal, but the nervousness of starting a new season in life. Alumni of SBU are serving all over the world as professionals who have been equipped to be servant leaders to the world around them.



It amazes me how quickly a new season begins with the start of each academic year. The peacefulness of campus will be replaced with the new excitement of SBU's freshman class and returning students coming to campus to find their home in the Bearcat family.

Soon, another favorite time of the academic year will arrive – Homecoming weekend. Homecoming is an amazing time of fellowship and reminiscing. Homecoming preparations are being made and reunion classes are being contacted to gather for class reunions during Homecoming weekend. Centerpieces are being constructed and the schedule for Homecoming is being finalized. Yet, the most important part of Homecoming is you! Whether an SBU student, alumna, parent of a current student, or a friend of the University, we are all part of the SBU Bearcat family. Many life-long friendships are made at SBU, and Homecoming provides an opportunity to reconnect with those friends. Mark your calendars for September 22-23 to join us as we celebrate Homecoming 2017.

The fall semester will fly by, and before I know it another group of SBU graduates will be inducted into the Alumni Association. Serving as the Director of Alumni Engagement at SBU is an honor. Having the ability to send future Bearcats gifts and read the stories of how SBU alumni are acting as servant leaders is such a rewarding responsibility. I enjoy sharing stories and learning new stories of SBU with the alumni I meet along the way. As always, if there is ever any way the Office of Alumni Engagement can serve or assist you, please do not hesitate to contact me. I look forward to another great year at SBU!

Holly Bridge '08

Director of Alumni Engagement

Alumni@SBUuniv.edu

(417) 328-1806



Spring Commencement 2017



Homecoming 2016



Jackson, son of Sheldon '11 and Courtney [Tallant] Toler '10, sporting his Future Bearcat gift



If you have a Future Bearcat who would like to receive something from SBU, fill out a "Keeping in Touch" form at www.SBUuniv.edu/alumni/keeping-in-touch.php.



Southwest Baptist University
1600 University Avenue
Bolivar, MO 65613

REGISTER NOW FOR HOMECOMING 2017

September 22-23

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Pre-registration begins August 1

www.SBUniv.edu/Alumni/Homecoming.php

.....
Contact Holly Bridge, director
of alumni engagement,
at [417] 328-1806
or alumni@SBUniv.edu.

