

THE ICHABOD





BRADBURY THOMPSON
ALUMNI CENTER



6-13

On the cover:

Drum major Elizabeth Fleischman marches during Homecoming on Oct. 26, 2019. David Woods, b music '65, and Ted Yungclas provided a \$50,000 matching gift last year as part of a crowdfunding effort to raise more than \$100,000 to purchase new uniforms. *Photo by Doug Stremel*



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Forensic anthropology students get real-world experience working on active crime scenes and identifying human remains



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A photo exhibit from a Pulitzer-winning photographer, panel discussions and film viewings will encourage conversations around citizenship and suffrage during the second annual WU-mester



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Janice Watkins is helping build a better community as executive director of Topeka Habitat for Humanity

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Ichabod student-athletes made 112 school visits in 2018-19 as part of Bods Care, often making priceless connections with young kids

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CONTACT US

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

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From the President

Many of the rights and the duties of citizenship are first experienced while a student is attending college. We recognize this fact and the role we play as educators in providing a forum for students to learn and practice the pillars of our democracy. We also recognize the public role we play in this matter. This spring semester, our second-annual WU-mester will cover the theme of citizenship and suffrage by weaving the topics into course offerings, lectures, panel discussions, and historical and artistic exhibitions. It will be an exciting opportunity to bring experts together and engage our students and the public in these conversations.

Suffrage was chosen because we celebrate in 2020 the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment, which granted suffrage to women, and the 150th anniversary of the 15th Amendment, which granted suffrage to African American men. From our founding nearly 155 years ago, Washburn University has been at the forefront of providing equal access to education. Voting is another right we have always strongly believed in, and we have the opportunity, if not the obligation, to encourage civil discourse and critical thinking when students exercise this right. In 1913, soon after Kansas women were first granted the right to vote in all elections, Washburn faculty “urgently begged” women to register to vote before the upcoming primaries and “be prepared to vote intelligently,” according to a Washburn Review article. That effort continues, and we were recently named a Voter Friendly Campus in no small part because of the collaborative efforts by leadership within the Washburn College Republicans and Washburn College Democrats. I have been struck by the collegiality between these organizations. It is partisan, but agreeable partisanship.

I encourage you, as alumni and friends, to join us in the discussions and events surrounding citizenship and suffrage and the challenges people face in America and around the world. Starting in February, the Mulvane Art Museum’s new acquisition of photos from Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer Brian Lanker will be on display. We acquired the prints featured in Lanker’s book “I Dream a World: Portraits of Black Women Who Changed America.” I hope when visiting this exhibit, you gain a new perspective on the struggles of women and African Americans. In June, WU-mester will culminate with Sunflower Music Festival’s debut of an original composition focusing on the evolution of women’s voting rights.

This issue of *The Ichabod* features information about WU-mester and the events you are encouraged to attend. We also feature the stories of alumni, students, faculty and staff who are working every day to keep and enhance our citizenship and voting rights. I encourage you to be a part of the conversation.





Faculty members Alexandra Klales (left) and Ashley Maxwell lead the Washburn University Forensic Anthropology Recovery Unit. Washburn is one of only five U.S. schools to allow undergraduate students to do active forensic casework. *Photo by Doug Stremel*

Active Investigators

Forensic anthropology students get an edge with crime-scene casework

By Jeremy Wangler • jwangler@wualumni.org

Law enforcement agencies have surveyed the scene and need help identifying human remains. Everything the Washburn University forensic anthropology students learned in the classroom will now be put to work. This is no longer an exercise in the dig site outside the KBI Forensic Science Center on campus. The sights, smells and emotions are all real, and perhaps overwhelming. This is an active investigation and the beginning of a recovery process hopefully bringing closure and justice.

“I was thinking to myself, ‘It’s time to be an adult. This is your future job, so deal with it,’” said Susie Athey, bs ’19, recalling her first investigation while an anthropology student with a concentration in forensics.

Alexandra Klales, assistant professor, sociology and anthropology, gets calls from law enforcement, coroners and medical examiners throughout Kansas and Missouri when traditional forensic methods like fingerprinting and facial identification may not be possible. She and Ashley Maxwell, lecturer, sociology and anthropology, bring along students who have the proper coursework and training in safety, ethics, professionalism and confidentiality. Members of the Washburn University Forensic Anthropology Recovery Unit – the WU-FARU team, as they call themselves – always have their go-bags packed, ready to leave on short notice. A van is equipped to aid in recovery and transportation. The scene may be a surface scatter, a burial, fire or, as Klales said, complex scenes with decomposed, skeletonized or badly-modified bodies.

“Most of what we see is the unpleasant side of society,” she said. “Students realize it's not as glamorous as it is on television, and I think it helps them solidify if forensic anthropology is what they want to do with their career.”

The classroom training paid off for Athey and two other students in 2017 during the first recovery at Washburn. The lead investigator on the scene told Klales how great her graduate students were. She had to correct him and say they were undergraduate students.

“When we got to the scene, the students were very professional. It was a proud moment for me,” Klales said. “They knew exactly what to do because we had done it at the KBI dig site the semester before. That's where they got all the mistakes out and got into a rhythm and a workflow with one another.”

This level of experience is rare. Klales came to Washburn in 2016 when the University added forensic anthropology after the KBI lab opened. She is one of 91 individuals actively certified by the American Board of Forensic Anthropology. Washburn's program is one of just two bachelor's-level programs in the United States and one of only five that lets undergraduates do active forensic casework. All of this gives students an advantage when applying for jobs and graduate school in this highly competitive field.

Examining skeletal remains, forensic anthropologists estimate sex, age, ancestry and height to aid investigations. They determine the cause of physical trauma to the skeleton. As a master's student, Klales developed a method for estimating sex by examining the pelvis. That method is now named after her. She recently wrote a textbook chapter titled, “A Unique Case of Skeletal Trauma Involving Scissors.” Perplexed by this case and under pressure from investigators, she went to a colleague for advice. She knew the weapon or weapons created two parallel but differing marks at each trauma point. Her colleague scanned her office and noticed a pair of scissors on the desk. They stabbed the opened scissors into clay, and that made similar marks. This evidence helped get a guilty plea.

The cases Washburn students assist with can have just as much on the line.

“I get to help bring a loved one home to somebody,” Athey said.

Holly Long, bs '19, also an anthropology graduate with

a concentration in forensics, wants to do international human rights work, bringing justice to victims of cultural and ethnic mass murders.

“Getting to re-identify someone – and then their families know what happened to them, even though it's not always a positive outcome – that's what really drew me to human rights work,” Long said.

Both students are grateful for the experience they received as they look ahead to graduate school.

“When Dr. Klales writes a letter for us for grad school or her name is on our research projects and posters, that helps. People know her,” Athey said.

Maxwell started at Washburn in January 2019 and brought a background in forensics and bio-archaeology. She recalled her first forensic anthropology casework as a graduate student in 2010.

“It was really emotional for me,” Maxwell said. “You realize this is someone recently deceased, as opposed to archaeological remains. You can put a face to it.”



Students in Alexandra Klales' Forensic Anthropology class examine the sternal ends of the ribs to estimate adult age in an unknown person. *Photo by Doug Stremel*

The relatively young field of forensic anthropology applies archaeological practices to active criminal investigations. Quick answers are crucial.

“I used to work in Poland over the summer at a field school,” Klales said. “We'd have three months to excavate these burials and we'd go back every year. We don't have that kind of time to excavate a crime scene. It can be much more emotional because you know the person's name. You see pictures of them. You're talking to people who knew them as a person. Getting justice for them is very rewarding, and I think that's why most of us do it.” 🚶



Photo by Peggy Clark

Driving Discussions

Anniversaries of voting amendments will draw focus on citizenship, suffrage

By Jeremy Wangler • jwangler@wualumni.org

In an election year, census year and year that celebrates milestone anniversaries of the right to vote in the United States, the theme of this year's WU-mester, citizenship and suffrage, is not only timely, but important. Washburn University will make the topic prevalent in many of its courses and events this spring semester.

2020 is the 150th anniversary of the adoption of the 15th Amendment, which gave voting rights to black men in 1870, and the 100th anniversary of the adoption of the 19th Amendment, which gave voting rights to women in 1920. Washburn will be a part of the national discussion surrounding these anniversaries.

"On top of that, questions surrounding citizenship and immigration – who counts as American – have been very much swirling in the public sphere and on campuses across the country," said Kara Kendall-Morwick, associate professor, English.

The idea for WU-mester came from Washburn's academic diversity and inclusion committee as an effort to bring together discussions in and out of the classroom concerning issues of diversity and inclusion. The inaugural WU-mester in spring 2019 covered freedom of speech and expression.

"WU-mester came about as a way to bridge different parts of the Washburn community and foster an in-depth, extended conversation," Kendall-Morwick said. "We are hoping to harness the energy surrounding these topics and engage our campus in important conversations about them."

Kelly Erby, assistant dean, College of Arts and Sciences, and associate professor, history, is chair of the academic diversity and inclusion committee that coordinates WU-mester.

"We want to consider citizenship and suffrage broadly," Erby said. "What has citizenship and

suffrage meant in this country, but also in other countries, and how has it changed over time? How has citizenship been used to bond people to their nation and how has it also been used to exclude people?"

Discussing citizenship is especially important to the Office of University Diversity and Inclusion, said Melisa Posey, program coordinator.

"We'll think about citizenship in a broad sense of who belongs and who doesn't belong," she said. "I'm not sure everyone feels like they belong. I hope that they do, but I think that is precisely how our office came to be on a campus. I think colleges and universities were realizing they had a lot of work to do around a growing, more diverse population."

Several panel discussions will bring together Washburn faculty and other experts on topics related to the theme. A photography exhibit at the Mulvane Art Museum will showcase important black women in history. Exhibits by the American Bar Association and the League of Women Voters will look at the 19th Amendment. Various course offerings will visit the theme, as will film showings and other presentations.

"Research shows if you can connect co-curricular events back to academics and back to the classroom, both the classroom experience and co-curricular experience can be more meaningful for the students," Erby said.

The hope is to challenge the student or attendee across many academic disciplines.

"One thing I hope will happen – and we did see it happen last year with the free speech topic – is, we have a topic everyone thinks they have some familiarity with," Kendall-Morwick said. "But, as we dig deeper into that topic and look at the different ways it has been defined, contested, reshaped, how it differs from one part of the world to another, from one person's experience to another, students will really start to see complexity in that seemingly straightforward concept, and see how it connects with their own lives and experiences and how they have something to say about this topic that is worth hearing." 

WU-mester Spring 2019 Citizenship and Suffrage

WU-mester is intended to foster a University-wide conversation on a diversity-related topic that will change each spring semester. The goal of the program is to engage the entire Washburn community in a collective learning experience on timely subjects and help students see the connections between the subjects they study in the classroom and real-world debates and problems.

MAJOR EVENTS

All events are free and open to the public. Learn more and see a full and up-to-date schedule at washburn.edu/wumester.

Jan. 21 - Feb. 4 | Historical exhibit
Washburn University School of Law Library
American Bar Association: 100 Years After the 19th Amendment: Their Legacy, and Our Future

Feb. 14 - June 13 | Art exhibit
Mulvane Art Museum
"I Dream a World: Portraits of Black Women Who Changed America"

March 16-20 | League of Women Voters exhibit
Washburn Campus
Celebrating the Centennial of the 19th Amendment-Women Vote: Learning from the Past; Imagining the Future.

March 27-28 | Conference
suffrage.wuhistory.com
The Right to Vote: A Conference at the Centennial of the 19th Amendment

June 19-27 | Orchestra and chamber music
White Concert Hall
Sunflower Music Festival: The Year of the Woman



In a bi-partisan effort led by student political groups, the Washburn community has created a Sept. 11 memorial each of the last two years to honor the 2,977 victims of the 2001 terrorist attacks. *Photo by Emily DeShazer*

Party Lines

Bi-partisan efforts better equip students for citizenship roles

By Annie Flachsbarth

In a country that seems more politically divided than ever, Washburn University students from opposing sides of the political spectrum have united with a common goal: getting students registered to vote.

Members of the Washburn College Democrats and College Republicans organizations teamed up in the fall to encourage fellow classmates to register. Potential voters were enticed with donuts at an event on National Voter Registration Day on Sept. 24, 2019, and again with pizza at an event the week before the Kansas voter registration deadline of Oct. 15, 2019. But students got more than just free food — they got a chance to learn more about and prepare to take part in the democratic process.

College Republicans and College Democrats were on site to answer questions and persuade students to make informed decisions when they go to the polls. Between the two events, 83 students checked or updated their registrations and 47 students registered to vote.

The initiative relates to the spring 2019 WU-mester theme of citizenship and suffrage. In its second year, WU-mester engages the entire Washburn community

to make connections between what's studied in the classroom and real-world issues. Eric Grospitch, Washburn's vice president for student life, sees the conversations happening on campus as a shining example of setting students up to be lifelong learners.

"You can't turn the TV on right now without realizing there are issues we need to be addressing," Grospitch said. "Encouraging students to engage in those conversations together has been a fantastic benefit."

Not a Lost Generation

As an estimated 80-million strong generation in the United States, millennials are likely to play a large role in upcoming elections. Washburn College Republicans president Charlee Bonczkowski, a junior business major, stressed the importance of educating her fellow classmates.

"I don't think a lot of students fully realize the impact elections can have on their future," Bonczkowski, said. "I believe that's why it's the College Republicans' and Democrats' job to get them involved and encourage them to register to vote."

Both organizations have members who are active in local and state campaigns. Washburn College Democrats president Jackson Woods, a junior sociology major, believes there will continue to be an uptick in student participation.

“A lot of people didn’t like the results of the 2016 election,” Woods said. “It was a bit of a wakeup call. I see a lot more people wanting to get involved.”

Among those involved is Jane Billinger, ba ’12. Billinger has been active in politics in a variety of ways since graduation. She has helped with several county and state-level campaigns in Kansas, Maryland and West Virginia. She was also involved with both the 2012 and 2016 presidential campaigns. Billinger believes it’s her civic duty to exercise voting rights.

“I was taught if you care about something, you have to contribute. I care about what’s going to happen in my neighborhood, so I want to make sure the people running my neighborhood support my interests,” Billinger said. “We talk so much about how voting is everyone’s basic right, but so many people aren’t afforded that right even now – so it’s important we get involved.”

Through efforts to increase student voter registrations over the last few years, Washburn’s student voting rate in 2018 was 46%, up from 29.1% in 2014 and above the national institution average of 39.1% – a phenomenal outcome for midterm elections, which typically see fewer voters at the polls. As a result, Washburn was named a

Voter Friendly Campus through an initiative started by the Campus Voter Project and the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators.

Creating a Dialogue

Bi-partisan collaboration at Washburn isn’t new with voter registration drives. In 2017 and 2019, the two groups joined forces to hold public forums in which city council and mayoral candidates discussed local issues with students. Then in 2018, the groups collaborated on a Sept. 11 memorial.

“Together, we placed 2,977 miniature American flags on the student Union lawn in remembrance of the 2,977 victims in the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001,” Bonczkowski said.

They created a similar memorial in 2019.

“We have students at Washburn who weren’t born at the time of the attacks. It’s crazy to think that it’s been that long, but it’s still so pervasive in the culture,” Woods said. “Educating people about what happened that day and working together on that has been an advantage to Washburn.”

Grospitch is proud of the work the College Democrats and College Republicans are doing together.

“Even though they fundamentally disagree with each other on many levels, they’re still doing it,” Grospitch said. “I think when we talk about the importance of civil discourse, our students are really showing not only is it possible, but we’re better for it.” 🙌



Washburn students have been active in voter registration drives for many years. Thanks to students like these seen at the 2018 Community Involvement Fair, the voting rate on campus was almost seven points higher than the national average in 2018. *Photo by Emily DeShazer*

Stunning Collection

Mulvane acquires photos from Pulitzer Prize winner's book

By Sarah Towle • stowle@wualumni.org

The oldest art museum in Kansas celebrated its 95th birthday in late September with a special announcement of its acquisition of Brian Lanker's photographs from his book "I Dream A World: Portraits of Black Women Who Changed America."

Brian Lanker, a 1973 Pulitzer Prize winner when he was a photographer with the Topeka Capital-Journal, published the book in 1989. The exhibition and book presents an African American female view of the world, accompanied by the critically-acclaimed portraits and a forward written by Maya Angelou. The book "I Dream A World" is out of print, but Lanker's family maintained the original portraits that toured internationally. They have not been exhibited for 20 years.

"Acquiring this renowned collection of Lanker's photographs will continue to drive the conversation on the historical importance of African American women in a city that was an epicenter of civil rights and the start of Lanker's career," said Connie Gibbons, director, Mulvane Art Museum at Washburn University. "We are thrilled to have these exceptional photographs available for the patrons of the Mulvane Art Museum."

The first exhibition of the photographs at the Mulvane will be the public opening on Friday, Feb. 14, 2020, and it will remain on view until June 13, 2020. The exhibition will enhance conversations surrounding WU-mester, a series of events and courses exploring the theme of citizenship and suffrage this spring semester.

Richard Ross, BA '71, JD '75, former president and now honorary board member of the Mulvane Art Museum, helped acquire the portraits with others in the Topeka area and donors who knew it was important for Washburn to have the collection. Today, 22 of the 75 women in the book are alive, and the Mulvane hopes some of them will visit the exhibit.

For information on group tours or events, please visit washburn.edu/mulvane.



Maya Angelou (top) and Rosa Parks are two influential women featured in the book "I Dream a World: Portraits of Black Women Who Changed America." The Mulvane Art Museum acquired the portraits in the book. *Images courtesy of Brian Lanker Estate*

"The importance of the exhibit is in the biographies. These women are truly amazing, and it's inspiring," Ross said. "While some of the women in the book, like Oprah Winfrey, are well known, they are not all famous. Some had a common life, but Lanker thought everyone was significant in her own way. He interviewed and visited with all 75 women and didn't have anyone hesitate to tell her story."

Lanker, who passed away in 2011, started his career in photojournalism at the Topeka Capital-Journal, where he won the Pulitzer Prize for feature photography. He was twice named Newspaper Photographer of the Year, and his work for LIFE and Sports Illustrated received numerous international awards. 

Fighting Words

Washburn alumna active in national suffrage work prior to 1920 amendment

By Jeremy Wangler • jwangler@wualumni.org

The words and actions of a Washburn alumna more than 100 years ago helped fuel the national fight for women to vote.

“I am from Kansas, a full-voting citizen of that state,” said Marian (McGaw) Wellhouse, ba 1911, in a Topeka State Journal article in 1916. Earlier that year, she moved to Boston to be part of the national women’s suffrage movement. Kansas allowed women to vote in all elections, but in moving to Massachusetts, she lost that right.

“I have lost, thru no fault of my own, the first right of a citizen; and I protest against such interstate discrimination,” she said. “I never realized...my political rights would be taken away from me – that they are not safeguarded by the national government.”

Four years later, on Aug. 26, 1920, the 19th Amendment was adopted, allowing women to vote in all elections nationwide. Washburn University is commemorating the 100th anniversary of that amendment and the 150th anniversary of the 15th Amendment allowing black men to vote. The second-annual WU-mester will discuss the theme of citizenship and suffrage this spring.

Kansas recognized a woman’s right to vote in municipal elections in 1887. That same year, Argonia, Kansas, elected the nation’s first female to serve as mayor. In 1912, Kansas became the eighth state to allow equal voting



Suffragists demonstrate outside the White House in this 1917 photo. Marian (McGaw) Wellhouse participated in the Grand Picket in 1917 at the White House. *Photo courtesy of Library of Congress*



Marian (McGaw) Wellhouse

rights to women, meaning they could vote for president and Congressional representatives. Washburn faculty encouraged women to register to vote in the upcoming national election that year. Their registration drive had strong results. The Washburn chapter of the College Equal Suffrage Association brought in the national founder to speak in 1912. In 1913, the women’s debate team argued against requiring an educational qualification for voting. They won that debate.

An active student during her time at Washburn, Wellhouse later served as secretary of the Topeka chapter of the Woman’s Party, an organization working toward women’s suffrage. In 1916, she was part of the national efforts of the Woman’s Party and the Congressional Union, two suffrage organizations that later merged. She was one of three Congressional Union members to speak to Massachusetts U.S. Rep. Richard Olney, Jr., in November 1916. After meeting with the women, according to the Boston Post, Olney told the activists he felt “perfectly sure the federal amendment granting the franchise to the women of the country will pass.” It did, but he voted against it.

Wellhouse was at the March 4, 1917, Grand Picket where more than 1,000 women marched around the White House before President Woodrow Wilson’s second inauguration. A Washington Times article states she carried the banner for Kansas during the demonstration.

She married Frederick Wellhouse in 1918, and he was called to military service toward the end of World War I. Records indicate she likely lived with him on a base or was back with family in Topeka when the 19th Amendment was ratified. She and her husband later moved to California where they raised three children. She died in 1955, likely having voted in the nine presidential elections since her voice and actions helped pass the 19th Amendment. 🗳️

Celebrating Suffrage

Alumnus brings awareness, access to roles of citizenship

By Angela Lutz

One hundred years ago sounds like a long time, but the 19th Amendment that granted women the right to vote in 1920 is just as significant today. At Nashville Public Library in Tennessee, library director and Washburn University alumnus Kent Oliver, BA '77, is honoring this critical component of democracy by spearheading a multimedia experience celebrating the amendment. Opening this spring, the Votes for Women exhibit will allow essential discussions surrounding citizens' rights and the importance of voting to take place in a modern context.

"Suffrage is not a term just used for women and voting, but it's a term used for voting in general," Oliver said. "We think public libraries are maybe the most important institution in our democracy. We think it's important that a library really celebrate the opportunity to vote and talk about the importance of the vote for our society to move forward."

Nashville is a fitting location for the exhibit. The Tennessee legislature cast the clinching vote to ratify the 19th Amendment in 1920, more than half a century after the women's suffrage movement began. Additionally, much of the activity surrounding that tie-breaking decision happened at the historic Hermitage Hotel, only a block away from the library. Oliver said Votes for Women will highlight Tennessee's historical role and contribute to the library's mission of reaching all members of the community.

"Information is such a valuable commodity," Oliver said. "We can have all kinds of debates about misinformation, but I think libraries help people make decisions with the best information possible. We're very much about helping people come to their own conclusions through an intellectual freedom process where we provide access to all sides of issues."

At Washburn University, history Professor Rachel Goossen also insists it's vital to continue talking about how women gained the right to vote. She has been teaching 20th-century U.S. social history for more than 20 years, and part of that includes the story of women's suffrage – a story many of her students are hearing for the first time.

"I'm always so amazed – many students did not know this story," Goossen said. "It's one of the most inspiring stories we have in our nation's history. When students do learn this story, I think it affects how they think of their own right to vote, and they don't take the right to vote for granted."

Goossen said women's suffrage in America gained traction at the same time as similar movements around the world, particularly in New Zealand and Scandinavian countries. It also dovetailed with the rising prominence of other women's rights issues, including property rights and divorce rights, as well as the civil rights movement. For decades after the 19th Amendment passed, many African Americans



Rachel Goossen considers the fight for women's suffrage in the United States to be one of the nation's most inspiring stories. *Photo by Doug Stremel*



Kent Oliver, ba '77, is director of the Nashville Public Library. The main branch will display the Votes for Women exhibit this spring to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment. He says it's important for libraries to be part of efforts to enhance voting rights. *Photo by the Nashville Public Library*

continued to be denied access to voting through poll taxes, literacy tests and other barriers.

This spring, Washburn's annual WU-mester, which is intended to foster a University-wide conversation on a diversity-related topic, has a citizenship and suffrage theme. This will give students the chance to discuss the rights and responsibilities of citizenship both in the United States and around the world.

"We consider (women's suffrage) to be a 72-year struggle," Goossen said. "The roots of it date back to 1848, when Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and a variety of other advocates got together and discussed their grievances about the lack of women's rights in the country at that time. Voting was not their sole cause, but it was part of a whole constellation of human rights issues, including abolition of slavery, that they worked on in a concerted and diligent way."

Oliver sees a strong connection between his history degree and his current role as a library director, and he credits his time studying at Washburn and working at the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library

with helping grow his love of stories and their role in intellectual discovery.

"There's an element of story in history, and that is the part I've always found intriguing," Oliver said. "I've always wondered what went on before us and how we got here, and I think there's a lot of history tied up in library work."

Oliver's work at the library also seeks to address modern challenges related to citizenship, literacy and other social issues. To help people gain access to the resources they need, Oliver ensures the library and its programs are visible in the community. He believes knowing and talking about our shared history is fundamental to ensuring everyone continues to enjoy the right to vote, a sentiment echoed by Goossen.

"It's actually a broader human right to be able to participate fully in the political process," Goossen said. "It's a privilege to be able to vote, but there's also a responsibility to make sure that other people's rights are not trampled over in the way that women's were for many years." 

Legendary Legacy

Alumna from Kenya started nursing agency; her brother carries on her dream

By Angela Lutz

During her lifetime, Lydia Akumu Oika, bsn '02, was always a pioneer. In 1998, she moved to Topeka from her home in Nairobi, Kenya, to pursue a degree in nursing at Washburn University. She had never been to the United States – she had only done research at her local library.

After she arrived in Kansas, she regularly sent pictures back home, and three years later, her brother, Richard Ochieng, mba '03, bsn '09, joined her at Washburn, along with several other people from their African community.

“Everybody else came because she was there,” Ochieng said. “She was looking for a place where cost of living is not that high, and she ended up with Washburn. She was the first in our family to come to America.”

Sadly, Oika passed away in 2018 from brain cancer at the age of 40. She left behind a legacy of hard work and determination – as well as a thriving business she built from the ground up. If anyone knew about her potential for achievement, it was Ochieng, who recalled his sister’s near-legendary dedication to her studies. In 2000, Oika

was pregnant with her first child, but she wasn’t willing to let anything stand in the way of her goals.

“She came back to class on Monday after giving birth to the baby over the weekend,” Ochieng said. “Nursing school is that tough, and she did not want to drop out.”

After graduation, she worked at a hospital in Topeka before moving to Bakersfield, California, as a travel nurse – but she quickly recognized she could take on a much larger role in filling hospitals’ staffing needs. In 2005, she founded her own travel nurse agency, Century Health Services.

“In the beginning years, she had to also work as a nurse to supplement and pay her nurses,” Ochieng said. “Her kids would barely see her at home. It was quite a rough start, but she believed in what she was doing, and she knew it was doable, so she did it.”

Over the years, her business opened offices in multiple states and began staffing many of the prisons in California. In 2015, Century was voted the most successful minority and woman-owned business by the Greater Bakersfield Chamber.

“To see somebody do something so neat – to be a minority woman and to establish a business – I just say rock on, Lydia,” said Caren Dick, assistant professor, School of Nursing. “She did tremendous work in the School of Nursing, and I knew she would change the lives of whoever she encountered.”

When Oika received her difficult diagnosis in 2017, her brother stepped in to help run the company. He plans to continue Century’s upward trajectory in her absence, largely for the benefit of her two sons, Alvin, 19, and Andre, 15.

“She made it a very profitable business,” Ochieng said. “She was able to do a lot – she had grown it to where we are able to staff hospitals in any state. It would be a shame to just let it go.” 🚶



Richard Ochieng, mba '03, bsn '09, with his sister, Lydia Akumu Oika, bsn '02. Photo submitted



Suzanne Lane, mba '01, leads KEPCo, a cooperative supplying power to 300,000 rural Kansans. *Photo by Doug Stremel*

Energized Executive

Alumna grows in her leadership of energy co-op

By Chris Marshall

Suzanne Lane's career in the energy industry has surged in the past year. When the CEO of Kansas Electric Power Cooperative, Inc. announced he was leaving just six months after Lane joined the company, she was chosen to lead the Topeka-based not-for-profit organization. Nineteen years of experience at Westar Energy provided Lane, mba '01, the knowledge she needed to take the reins as KEPCo's CEO and executive vice president on Oct. 1, 2018. Less than a year into her new role, the Topeka native jumped at another opportunity.

Lane was invited to a three-week nuclear reactor technology program at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts, to learn more about the safety aspects, benefits and challenges of nuclear energy. She also learned more about its carbon-free aspects and its lower environmental impact compared to other forms of energy. This gave Lane a new perspective she's shared with KEPCo, which is a joint owner of Wolf Creek Generating Station in Burlington, Kansas, along with Evergy, formerly known as Westar. KEPCo serves 19 member-owner distribution cooperatives that supply power to about 300,000 rural Kansans.

"I'm a strong advocate of nuclear power," she said. "Walking away from that program as a leader of a company that owns part of a nuclear power plant makes you say, 'My goodness, we are so lucky to have this important generation asset here in Kansas.'"

Lane, a Seaman High School graduate, attended Fort Hays State for undergraduate work then returned to Topeka to start her career at Westar and get her MBA. Her Washburn education remains top of mind.

"Partnering on projects with students from other industries allowed us to get into theory of the business world and practical applications," Lane said. "I've been able to apply a lot of the things I learned."

Lane said the most important aspect of furthering her education through world-class programs like the one at MIT is she gets to implement that knowledge back in her hometown.

"Being able to stay here in the community, give back and be involved has been, and continues to be, a great experience." 



Janice Watkins, ba '05, is executive director of Topeka Habitat for Humanity. As a Washburn student, she earned Washburn Women's Alliance scholarships for single parents. Now, she's helping give back by serving on the WWA board. *Photo by Doug Stremel*

Building Community

Alumna's commitment to serve is lifelong charge

By Annie Flachsbarth

Janice Watkins' passion for nonprofit service started at an early age when her grandmother set the family expectation, "If you're old enough to work, you're going to serve." Her grandmother, Marge Roberts, was the founding director of Topeka's Let's Help. Watkins followed her lead and has always been a go-getter with a drive to do good.

"I served food at my grandmother's food bank from the time I was 5 years old on," said Watkins, ba '05. "I remember seeing the transient population come and go. And I remember issues with poverty and food access and things that impact the health of our community."

The experience made a lasting impression. Now, as the executive director for Topeka Habitat for Humanity, Watkins is continuing to do her part to make a difference in the lives of Topekans.

A Hand Up

After graduating high school, Watkins moved to Chicago, where she planned to attend college and join the Peace Corps. When she learned she was expecting her first child, Gabriel, she moved back to Topeka and enrolled at Washburn University. On top of being a new mom and taking on a full course load each semester, Watkins still found time to tutor at the English writing

center, work at the Washburn Review and work part-time at Kansas Legal Services, a nonprofit law firm and community education organization. Her ambitious schedule was assisted by scholarships she received from the Washburn Women's Alliance – an organization providing financial assistance to help single parents so they can focus on continuing their education.

“The scholarships allowed me to pay my housing costs and to continue to focus on school without having a lot of student loans,” Watkins said. “I am so proud of that degree because the skills I learned have served me very well in my career.”

Last summer, Watkins returned the favor by joining the WWA board and the scholarship committee.

“I reviewed 50 applications from students who were just like I once was – working and trying to do their best for their children,” Watkins said. “I read their stories and thought, ‘I know exactly what that feels like.’ To come full circle and be a part of that was pretty incredible.”

While at Washburn, Watkins met her husband, Travis Watkins, bba '07, and their family grew with the birth of their daughter, Eden. A few years after graduating from Washburn with an English degree, Janice had the opportunity to go back to Kansas Legal Services full time. Then in 2016, at the encouragement of her boss and mentor, the Honorable Bethany Roberts – now a judge in Douglas County – Watkins took the job at Topeka Habitat for Humanity.

“Janice has always demonstrated such a strong commitment to public service, and you can't teach that level of dedication to humanity. In addition, her organizational and leadership skills are unmistakable,” Roberts said. “When an opportunity like Habitat presented itself, I can't think of anyone who would be better than Janice.”

Leading the Change

Topeka Habitat for Humanity continues to make a difference under Watkins' leadership.

“We have changed locations, added new programs, jumped into neighborhood revitalization, and we have a strong aging-in-place program that allows aging individuals to live in their homes with autonomy, dignity and respect by addressing deferred maintenance

and accessibility. We are constantly looking at ways we can make a greater impact,” Watkins said.

A staff of 11 runs the Topeka Habitat. Six employees work in the ReStore, where donated furniture and building materials are sold to raise funds to build homes in Shawnee County. Five employees, including Watkins, manage the service aspect of the organization. Together, they serve more than 300 families a year with various community outreach programs like the Tool Bus, which is a mobile tool lending library, and the Voices of Women, a nine-week course in home maintenance.

“I'm blessed to have this team of innovative dreamers and people who think outside of the box,” Watkins said. “We come together with all of our ideas to break a problem down piece by piece, resulting in some incredible things.”

On top of her work at the Topeka Habitat, Watkins is active in the community and has volunteered with SilverSundays through the Silverbackks volunteer organization for the last seven years. There she serves meals to homeless and transient individuals – proving no matter how busy you are, you can always find time for the things that are important.

“I strive to make our community better to show people there's power in believing in yourself, because that's what someone did for me,” Watkins said. 🦿



Janice Watkins (right), her husband, Travis Watkins, bba '07, and their children pose in a house Topeka Habitat for Humanity built in 2019. *Photo by Doug Stremel*

Musical Culture

A life surrounding African American music inspires curator of new museum

By Sarah Towle • stowle@wualumni.org

Dina Bennett grew up in Topeka around blues and gospel music, or whatever her father's band Roland Bennett and the Rockin' Whalers were playing that evening.

"I came from a musical home," said Bennett, ba '90. "My dad is a musician, and he and his brother had a band. They recorded a couple of 45 records, and they played throughout Topeka and Lawrence."

Her dad, Dick "Sweet Root" Bennett, played the harmonica and bass and her uncle, Roland Bennett, was the lead and saxophonist. At the age of 7, she followed in her family's musical footsteps and attended Melody Brown Fun Factory, a local musical camp formerly held on the Washburn University campus.

"They saw some ability in me and they offered to give me piano lessons for free," she said of the life-changing

moment. She started playing in her church, school and recitals while also picking up the clarinet.

While her life is far from the piano recitals she held as a child, Bennett is living her dream today as curatorial director of the National Museum of African American Music, a new museum set to open in the summer of 2020 in downtown Nashville, Tennessee. When finished, it will be the only museum that looks into all of the music genres created and influenced by African Americans.

"This museum shows the legacy of African American music from its very beginnings," she said. "It covers blues, jazz, gospel, R&B and hip-hop, and visitors will not only find out about these genres, but also learn about the experience of the music and how it permeates society."

After earning her degree from Washburn University, she earned her master's from Kansas State University and her doctoral degree from Indiana University in a field many are not familiar with: ethnomusicology, which is the study of music of different cultures. She completed her dissertation studying the revitalization of the 18th and Vine Historic Jazz District and the creation of the American Jazz Museum in Kansas City, Missouri. She knew when her current position opened it would be a culmination of not only all she has worked for, but what she grew up around.

"I studied ethnomusicology and African American and African Diaspora studies because I wanted to understand more about the people, why they created the music, and I wanted to be in the field and weave the stories around it and preserve the material culture" she said.

Building a museum from the ground up – not only bricks and mortar, but also the collection of artifacts and information – hasn't been an easy task. Bennett said the process has been unlike anything she's ever done because she has always worked in previously established museums. Today, she works with many people involved



Dina Bennett, ba '90, is curatorial director of the National Museum of African American Music. *Photo submitted*



The National Museum of African American Music will open this summer in downtown Nashville, Tennessee. *Courtesy of National Museum of African American Music*

in the constructing of a museum – exhibit designers, construction, development, and marketing managers, as well as fabricators. The NMAAM curatorial team has worked to be intentional in the designs of the exhibits and has made sure the information and artifacts are authentic and accurate. This fall, the team went through the final design approval of the galleries – proofreading and suggesting revisions with a team of renowned historians and ethnomusicology experts. The museum doesn't just focus on the musicians, but also the creatives in the music business industry.

The work completed now will be on the walls and seen by patrons for years, so as one of the experts in the field, she leads a team of curators to make sure the information and displays are correct. For example, one of the interactive pieces in the religious music gallery will allow visitors to sing with a gospel choir – Bobby Jones and his choir – through green screen technology.

“We are working with a media team who are not African American, so there is a learning curve there,” she said. “We stay in step with them because we have to guide the material and storyline.”

Working for a museum is not new to her. Before she came to the National Museum of African American Music, she was the associate director of operations and programs for the Mulvane Art Museum at Washburn University where she was able to get experience in museum administration. She also previously worked as the education director for the B.B. King Museum and Delta Interpretive Center in Indianola, Mississippi.

“I think this is everything I've worked for, this is what I'm trained to do, and have lived and breathed,” she said. “I have not only studied it, but I am a tradition-bearer of the culture.”

Once the museum opens, the curatorial team will continue to work on the rotating exhibits, obtaining accreditation and writing grants for new exhibits.

“Hopefully this museum will thrive to become a cultural center for African American music and culture,” Bennett said. “As an ethnomusicologist and musician, the legacy we are leaving our children is really engrained in me.” 🚶

Alumni Fellows

Eight graduates of Washburn were honored by the Washburn University Alumni Association and Foundation on Nov. 8, 2019, for achieving notable success in their field.

Trey Cocking, bs '02 | School of Applied Studies Honoree



Trey Cocking grew up in Derby, Kansas, and resides in Topeka where he is deputy director of the League of Kansas Municipalities. Advocating on behalf of more than 500 Kansas communities, he manages legislative activities in the

Kansas State Capitol and coordinates six lobbyists, city officials across Kansas and contract lobbyists. Cocking was city manager of Atchison, Kansas, from 2009-17 where he managed a \$25 million budget and 128 employees. Cocking received the Washburn University

Alumni Association Graduate of the Last Decade Award in 2012.

How has Washburn contributed to your life: I think the course of my life was forever changed my freshman year when I stayed in Topeka over Labor Day weekend while my roommates went home. I ended up meeting the men of Kappa Sigma fraternity, and that led to being involved on campus, serving in Washburn Student Government Association and, as fate would have it, meeting my wife, Jen (ba '04, jd '12). Washburn has served as the foundation of my professional and personal life.

Priti Lakhani, ba '91 | College of Arts & Sciences Honoree



Dr. Priti Lakhani grew up in Topeka and resides in Lawrence, Kansas. She is principal of Edicine Health where she advises multiple U.S.-based health systems and non-profit organizations by deconstructing inefficient

systems, overhauling existing procedures and creating approaches to use data technology to improve patient and provider experiences. Lakhani received a doctor of podiatric medicine from Des Moines University (Iowa) and a master's of health care management from Harvard

University. She credits her time in Mumbai, where she saw several people die of preventable causes, to her passion for medicine, specifically diabetic podiatry. She is involved in projects across four continents to improve community health outcomes, including efforts to decrease maternal fetal deaths in East Africa.

What are your greatest memories of Washburn: I am a founding member of Washburn's Biology Club. We did it because all the cool kids have clubs like the French Club, College Republicans and College Democrats. We had our own political agenda, and it was biology.



Nancy Mortiz, bba '82, jd '85 | School of Law Honoree



The Honorable Nancy Moritz was born in Beloit, Kansas, and grew up in Tipton, Kansas. In 2013, President Barack Obama nominated Moritz to the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit. The United States Senate confirmed her to that position in 2014. She previously served on the Kansas Supreme Court starting in 2010 and before that on the Kansas Court of Appeals starting in 2004. She was a United States assistant attorney in Kansas City, Kansas, and later in Topeka, working in the civil division and then as the appellate coordinator.

What are your greatest memories of Washburn:

Under cover of night, my fellow Carruth Hall dormies (who wish to remain unnamed) and I scurried down to White Concert Hall where we dumped loads of laundry detergent into the fountains. Luckily, 35 years later, the suds had dissipated, and Washburn University graciously hosted my formal Investiture as a member of the Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit at the unmarred White Concert Hall. I have never been more proud to be an Ichabod (and happy that the statute of limitations had run)!

Brad Owen, bba '80 | School of Business Honoree



Brad Owen grew up and resides in Topeka. He is shareholder and treasurer in the accounting firm of Mize Houser and Company P.A., working primarily in the accounting and auditing practice areas. He is also responsible for several areas of firm administration and provides technical support on accounting and auditing matters. Owen serves on the boards of the Topeka Community Foundation and the Kansas Dental Lifeline Network and has served on the

boards of Ronald McDonald House in Topeka and the Phi Delta Theta House Corporation.

How has Washburn contributed to your success:

I remember sitting for the CPA exam shortly before graduation. At one of the breaks, I overheard a group from another university express frustration that one of the exam questions was on a topic not covered in their classes. How thankful I was that Dr. Walt James, Dr. Richard Moellenberndt and others had fully prepared us for the exam and for being able to apply that knowledge in the real world of business.

Melissa Perkins, bsn '08 | School of Nursing Honoree



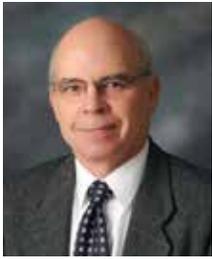
Melissa Perkins grew up in Leavenworth, Kansas, and resides in Fort Drum, New York, where she is an Army family nurse practitioner at Guthrie Army Health Clinic. She maintains preparedness for deployments to provide combat medicine or humanitarian aid. Perkins previously deployed as an emergency nurse in Afghanistan and served as a clinical nurse officer in charge for the medical-surgical-pediatric inpatient unit and the orthopedic-podiatry outpatient clinic at Evans Army Community Hospital in

Fort Carson, Colorado. She earned a doctor of nursing practice from the Uniformed Services University, graduating in 2018. There, she completed courses in military mountain medicine, winter skills training and avalanche rescue. She also went to Rwanda and trained Rwandan military nurses in combat trauma medicine.

How has Washburn contributed to your life:

Washburn offered opportunities that were outside of my comfort zone and provided an environment that helped me push through my self-doubts. These led to profound personal and professional growth and great memories.

Richard D. Ross, ba '71, jd '75 | College of Arts & Sciences Honoree



Richard Ross grew up in and resides in Topeka. He retired in 2016 as reporter of decisions for the Kansas Supreme Court and Court of Appeals, a position he held since 1977. He was a charter member and president of the International

Association of Reporters of Judicial Decisions. Ross earned the Ruth Garvey Fink Award from the Washburn University Alumni Association in 2007 and the Distinguished Service Award in 2017. He serves as a trustee and previously as a director for the Washburn

University Alumni Association and Foundation. He created and chaired the Mulvane Art Fair in 1993 and received the first Richard Ross Mountain Plains Award in 2017 presented to individuals instrumental in the success of the fair.

How has Washburn contributed to your life: Perhaps the biggest contribution to my life's fulfillment was the opportunity Washburn afforded me to study abroad. It opened my eyes to the world, and I've never stopped exploring it.

Michael W. Trimble, certificate '03, certificate '12, as '14, certificate '16 | Washburn Tech Honoree



Michael Trimble grew up in Topeka and now lives in Commerce City, Colorado. He is maintenance manager at Bimbo Bakeries, leading a team of 18 skilled individuals consisting of 14 mechanics, one parts clerk, one control clerk and

two supervisors. Trimble manages the maintenance department of a two-line bread/bun high-speed commercial bakery. His Washburn Tech certificates are in machine tool, advanced system technology and computer

repair and networking. His associate of science degree is in technology administration. He was a member of the National Honors Society.

How has Washburn contributed to your success: Washburn has been key to the growth of my career. It gave me the tools to get into maintenance as a mechanic. It taught leadership skills to get me to a supervisor level. It has been supporting me through the years to reach for more knowing I can contribute to myself and others. I wouldn't be where I am without Washburn.

Robert O. Viets, ba '65 | College of Arts & Sciences Honoree



Robert Viets grew up on a farm near Brazilton, Kansas, and resides in Naples, Florida. Retired, he served as CEO of CILCORP Inc. in Illinois from 1988-99. There, he played a significant role in deregulation of retail energy markets and was the

first to demonstrate the benefits by opening customer test markets to competition. CILCORP's financial returns to shareholders during his time as CEO were among the highest in the industry. In addition to his economics degree from Washburn, Viets earned a juris doctor from

Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. Viets has served on boards of several publicly traded companies and as chair of several non-profit boards. He received the President's Award from Bradley University in Peoria, Illinois, and the Distinguished Alumnus Award from Washington University.

How has Washburn contributed to your life: My time at Washburn and in Topeka was a learning, working and growing experience that provided an education from a highly respected university and a great respect for its faculty and the people with whom I worked. 🏃



Be Well, Be More

Mental health screenings help Ihabod student-athletes improve their game

By Chris Marshall

If an athlete sprains an ankle or pulls a hamstring, treatment and frequent monitoring will undoubtedly take place until the injury heals. Mental health hasn't always received the same kind of attention in the world of sports.

Washburn University's athletic and psychology departments have been proactive about changing that mindset, teaming up to ensure every student-athlete is able to operate with optimal health, physically as well as mentally.

"It's all about performance. That's what our student-athletes told us: 'We want to be focused on performance and being better,' and I think for that reason it helps to reframe it as, it's not that you're less than, it's that you can be more." - Brittany Lauritsen

Brittany Lauritsen, assistant athletic director for compliance, and athletic trainer Kristan Todd approached Dave Provorse, associate professor in psychology, and Crystal Leming, director of Washburn Counseling Services, to ask if graduate students and staff would be willing to conduct mental health screenings on student-athletes who are new to the University. They jumped at the opportunity, and the results have been beneficial for everyone involved.

"I often talk about how the university setting is optimal for doing this kind of thing," Provorse said. "We have students who are trying to get experience

and use clinical skills, so we're always looking for opportunities to provide those. Any time you can do that and also serve Washburn or the local community at the same time, it just makes perfect sense."

Freshmen and transfer students who arrive at Washburn go through a physical to determine NCAA eligibility, and in the past two years, a mental health diagnostic screening process was added to the testing for newcomers.

Second-year students in Washburn's psychology master's program provide a written questionnaire that establishes a baseline for each student-athlete and allows areas of concern to be addressed from day one.

If there are red flags in any of the 13 mental health domains, such as depression, anxiety or anger management, a more in-depth questionnaire is provided on the specific area. When it's determined a student-athlete could benefit from counseling, or if they were already receiving help elsewhere before moving to Topeka, they are directed to resources like Washburn Counseling Services or the Psychological Services Clinic, which is affiliated with the psychology master's program.

An NCAA study released in 2016 showed about 30% of student-athletes were "intractably overwhelmed," and nearly one fourth of participants reported being exhausted from mental demands of their sport.

"The thing that sets student-athletes apart, I think, is their competitiveness and their drive to perform at a high level. So, if you're already performing at 85% or 90%, maybe seeking out some sort of counseling or psychological services bumps you to 95%."

Establishing a relationship with the psychology department up front helps make the student-athletes more comfortable reporting any problems down the road.

"It seems more lines of communication between us and the athletic department have opened up a bit,"



Graduate students from the Washburn Psychological Services Clinic discuss increasing access to mental health for student-athletes during a Student-Athlete Advisory Council meeting. *Photo by Jeremy Wangler*

Provorse said. “I received inquiries from three or four athletes already this fall about broad, off-the-field issues impacting performance, which is probably more than I received in the previous 15 years here.”

Todd said the time she sees student-athletes most in need is after suffering an injury, especially if it’s season-ending, because they’re suddenly forced to adjust to a new schedule and even a loss of their identity.

“You see them go through a grieving process when they’re injured,” she said. “They go through anger and denial and sadness, and that really slows down their healing process of whatever injury they have. So having this connection with the psychology students helps them get through that.”

From the student-athlete perspective, Lauritsen said it’s no surprise mental health screenings have been embraced.

“It’s all about performance,” she said. “That’s what our student-athletes told us: ‘We want to be focused on performance and being better,’ and I think for that

reason it helps to reframe it as, it’s not that you’re less than, it’s that you can be more.”

The proactive approach to mental health care is already paying off. Representatives from the football, volleyball and track teams joined Provorse’s team of graduate students in a presentation to the Student-Athlete Advisory Council in October discussing the progress that can be made from mental health initiatives.

Lauritsen said seeing the screenings develop from an idea she and Todd had a couple of years ago into a department-wide initiative is another encouraging development in the trend of treating mental wellness the same as any other aspect of health.

“This started out as a passion project for Kristan and I,” Lauritsen said. “Sometimes it felt like we were just looking for a light switch in the dark, which is also what mental health feels like sometimes. Now that we’ve got people who are on board, I think two years down the road, it’s going to look a lot different because we’re going to have a curriculum that makes sense and put more things in place.” 🏃



Basketball player Hunter Bentley talks with Meadows Elementary School students during a Bods Care visit.
Photo by Jeremy Wangler

These Bods Care

New program connects student-athletes with area school children

By Jeremy Wangler • jwangler@wualumni.org

With messy faces and between bites of pizza, kids at Meadows Elementary School in Topeka visited with four student-athletes from the Washburn University women's basketball team in October. Lunchtime topics included their favorite sports, how many siblings they have and their favorite subject.

"It's always recess or P.E.," said redshirt freshman Katie Glatczak.

The visit is part of Bods Care, a program that coordinates, enhances and increases community outreach efforts by Washburn's intercollegiate athletics teams.

Meadows kindergarteners through third graders shuffled in for their turn to eat. After warming up to their guests, the conversations picked up in volume and excitement. At times, the teachers would turn off

the lights until the students lowered their voices. Kids who weren't eating enough would get gentle reminders.

As the conversations continued, senior Sabela Reigosa and a boy discussed if there are eight or nine planets; Pluto was demoted in 2006. Others debated putting ranch dressing on pizza; junior Hunter Bentley and at least one student were fans of the combination.

"For me, it's just getting to see how much of an impact you can have on their lives by being with them for a small moment, talking about everyday things and just getting to make their day a little bit better," Bentley said.

Matt Hutchinson started as director of marketing and promotions in athletics in 2018 and developed Bods Care, adopting it from community outreach programs he operated while at the NAIA and Rockhurst University in Kansas City, Missouri. Many Washburn teams were already doing their own community service. Bods Care packaged it all together. After just one year, the initiative won a bronze award in community engagement and public relations from the National Association of Collegiate Marketing Administrators. He hopes that was just the beginning of the success.

"We're trying to get people engaged with Washburn by engaging with them," Hutchinson said. "We work to create a lot of relationships with different groups. The off-campus piece is one we looked at and thought, 'How do we really get into the community? How do we get our branding out there and create a program around it?'"

"Growing up in Topeka and around Washburn, I have friends who have never stepped foot on campus," he said. "That's why we target elementary schools and try to get them involved at an earlier age."

Bods Care events include two visits a month to each of the 16 partner schools to eat lunch, read to kids or play during recess. Last year, student-athletes made 112 visits to account for 950 hours. Other events include pep rallies and the annual Bowling with the Bods Special Olympics event. This October, 750 kids had lunch, got autographs and watched the men's basketball team scrimmage in Lee Arena.

"Anything we do, the kids are on the edge of their seat, screaming and yelling," Hutchinson said. "They don't know if that basketball player plays in the NBA or whatever. He's 6'8" and he's giving me a high five. That's pretty cool."

Hutchinson sees interest in Bods Care when he meets with business leaders to discuss athletics sponsorships. It's also a strong recruiting selling point.

"We don't even make it mandatory for student-athletes. It's just something we do. It's now part of our infrastructure," Hutchinson said. "We have good people around here who are willing to do this."

While Bods Care hopefully increases game attendance, sponsorships and enrollment, the immediate and most important impact is on the young and old students involved.

"I want to be a P.E. teacher someday, so I love working with kids," Glatczak said. "To see their faces when they see us, it doesn't seem like it to us how important we are, but once we get there, they are so hyped."

With just pizza and milk to get in the way, the student-athletes had the kids' undivided attention during the Meadows visit.

"Not all of them have older siblings," Bentley said. "I think it's good for them to see older kids who grew up the same way they are, just being around them and getting to see what it's like to be older." 🏃



Sabela Reigosa and a student from Meadows Elementary School discuss if there are eight or nine planets in the solar system. *Photo by Jeremy Wangler*

Mentoring Matters

Leadership Institute celebrates 10 years of its flagship event

By Bayley Baker • bbaker@wualumni.org

Lauren Edelman was a senior at Washburn University when she served as the first Leadership Challenge Event student fellow in 2011. Today, she's the interim director of the Leadership Institute and mentors the current fellow, senior Claire Leffingwell, for the upcoming 10th annual Leadership Challenge Event.

Since her freshman year, Leffingwell has been heavily involved in the Leadership Institute, working her way up through various volunteer positions for the Leadership Challenge Event before becoming the fellow this year. Edelman has been with her every step of the way.

"Since I arrived at Washburn, Lauren and I have connected and worked together as a mentor/mentee pair," Leffingwell said. "I love that her passion for the event and the impact it has on students shines through our work together, and I am extremely fortunate to have her encouragement and leadership."

The Leadership Challenge Event is the only one of its kind in the nation. The event simulates the real-world process of leadership through a two-day interactive competition. The event challenges students to address situations where the outcome is dependent on the leadership decisions made throughout. It encourages leadership development by offering participants education, hands-on experience and recognition in a competitive environment. This structure honors intellectual achievement and practical experience while building camaraderie and networks between competitors.

Edelman, a '11, remembers her time as a student at Washburn fondly.

"I would consider being the Leadership Challenge Event fellow to be a really transformational experience for me," Edelman said.

It's a meaningful experience to see Leffingwell take on the same role 10 years later.



Lauren Edelman (left) has been a mentor for senior Claire Leffingwell. *Photo submitted*

"Working with Claire is awesome because she pushes me both as a faculty member and as a person passionate about leadership," Edelman said. "Claire's brilliant. It's really fun to work with a student who has limitless potential."

The event provides an opportunity for the Washburn campus and the community to connect through sponsorships and volunteer positions. Each year, the Leadership Institute raises more than \$30,000 to fund the event.

Additionally, the event results in positive exposure for Washburn by giving high school students the opportunity to spend time on campus and learn more about Washburn and the Leadership Institute.

"I'm learning a lot about myself and I'm excited to keep developing content for the event," said Leffingwell of this year's competition. "I think the 10th annual Leadership Challenge Event is a huge milestone for Washburn and the Leadership Institute, and I can't wait to watch it continue to grow." 🏃

The 10th annual Leadership Challenge Event is March 5-6, 2020. Learn more and register to volunteer at washburn.edu/lce.

Ichabods named Millennium Fellows

Eight Washburn University students were chosen in September as 2019 Millennium Fellows from more than 7,000 applicants worldwide. Millennium Fellows are undergraduate students who illustrate exemplary leadership on projects that advance the United Nations sustainable development goals in their respective communities. These students are selected by the Millennium Campus Network and the United Nations Academic Impact annually as part of their joint Millennium Fellowship program.

Washburn was one of only 20 United States universities with fellows and the only school in Kansas. The students spent the fall semester in a leadership development program improving their organizing, partnership building and community impact skills. Fellows were challenged by campus directors to share best practices and take collective action on U.N. sustainable development goals. This is

Washburn's first class of Millennium Fellows, however encouraging students to apply what they learn in the classroom in meaningful ways in the local, national and global community is at the core of the University.

"Many at the University have put a lot of effort into me. This is my opportunity to return good to the community," said Anna-Marie Lauppe, senior, psychology. "In many ways, the Millennium Fellowship is my undergraduate education and experiences at Washburn coming full circle."

Along with Lauppe, the Millennium Fellows are Dylan Babcock, sophomore, accounting; Cecelia (Marie) Caraccilo, junior, accounting; Sydney Frantz, sophomore, mass media; Emily Gile, senior, elementary education; Hannah Kirby, sophomore, communication studies; Emma Staats, senior, integrated studies; and Brooklyn Wiens, senior, psychology. 🏃

Student earns mentorship award

The National Resource Center for The First-Year Experience and Students in Transition named Shelby Herring, ba '19, a recipient of the 2020 Jordan Smith Undergraduate Student Fellowship. Herring, an English literature graduate, is the fourth Washburn

student in the last five years to earn this honor. She was recognized for her work as a peer educator and because of the crucial role peer educators contribute to initiatives of the Washburn Center for Student Success and Retention. 🏃

Ichabod selected to senior bowl game

Senior offensive lineman Kyle Hinton earned an invitation to the NFL Players Association Collegiate Bowl Jan. 18 at the Rose Bowl in Los Angeles, California. Representatives from all 32 NFL teams will be in attendance. Hinton ended his Washburn football career with a second team All-America award and a first team all-MIAA award. He is a member of the track and field team where he owns the school record in indoor weight throw and outdoor discus. Hinton is studying psychology and has been named to the MIAA Academic Honor Roll every year. 🏃



Class Notes

The Washburn University Alumni Association and Foundation loves to receive your news and updated information, and your former classmates are interested in what you have accomplished. Submit your news and updates online at wualumni.org/alumninotes or to Bayley Baker at bbaker@wualumni.org by March 25, 2020, to be included in the spring magazine.

1960s

Col. Jack Bender, ba '66, jd '69, Halstead, Kansas, Air Force ROTC, was elected to a fifth term as president of Kansas Learning Center for Health.

Thomas Forbes, ba '69, and **Melody (Weyer) Forbes**, ba '68, Topeka, Kansas, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Dec. 27, 2019.

Jerry Taylor, bba '67, Lenexa, Kansas, Alpha Delta, recently retired as corporate claims manager for Hostess Foods. He also celebrated his 53rd wedding anniversary with a family trip to Mexico.

Robert Viets, ba '65, Mequon, Wisconsin, was honored as a 2019 Washburn University Alumni Fellow. The Alumni Fellows program recognizes alumni each fall who have distinguished themselves in their careers.

1970s

Tom Becker, ba '74, jd '77, Des Moines, Iowa, retired after 10 years as academic director of the Air Force Judge Advocate General School. Tom had previously served 22 years as an Air Force judge advocate, retiring in the grade of colonel, and 10 years in Iowa state government including two terms as state public defender. In March 2019, Tom received the National Public Service Award from the American Society of Public Administration.

James Hanni, ba '74, Lawrence, Kansas, Alpha Delta, was elected secretary of the board of directors of the Gettysburg Foundation, the non-profit partner of the National Park Service at the Gettysburg National Military Park and the Eisenhower National Historic Site.

JoAn (Mattingly) Lindfors, b ed '72, jd '75, Marquette, Kansas, retired in June 2019 after nearly 45 years of criminal law practice.

Richard Ross, ba '71, jd '75, Topeka, Kansas, Sagamore Society, Alpha Delta, was honored as a 2019 Washburn University Alumni Fellow. The Alumni Fellows program recognizes alumni each fall who have distinguished themselves in their careers.

Rebecca Sanders, ba '75, jd '78, Topeka, Kansas, was appointed by Kansas Secretary of Labor Delia Garcia in July 2019 to the workers' compensation appeals board for a four-year term.

Michael Smith, b music '75, St. Louis, Missouri, Sagamore Society, Phi Kappa Phi, is the E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professor of Music Education and music department chair at the University of Missouri St. Louis.

1980s

David Chavez, ba '88, Olathe, Kansas, was inducted into the Highland Park Hall of Fame.

Ann (Hastings) Frigon, jd '80, Dodge City, Kansas, joined Farm Bureau Financial Services as a wealth management advisor. Ann brings more than \$100 million in assets under management and joins Farm Bureau Financial Services with a strong background in the investment management and financial services industries.

Laura Ice, jd '84, Wichita, Kansas, was promoted to vice president and general counsel of Textron Financial Corporation in Wichita.

Craig Kaufman, jd '82, Tucson, Arizona, and Lake Lotawana, Missouri, retired after 34 years of practicing law. His practice focused on heavy civil construction disputes and Native American law.

Brenden Long, bba '82, jd '85, Topeka, Kansas, Alpha Delta, was named general counsel at TFI Family Services Inc. Long will provide legal guidance and support to TFI staff on all matters affecting the organization.

Tom Meier, bba '88, Topeka, Kansas, Basketball, was inducted into the Kansas Sports Hall of Fame.

Nancy Moritz, bba '82, jd '85, Delta Sigma Psi, Student Council, Law Journal, was honored as a 2019 Washburn University Alumni Fellow. The Alumni Fellows program recognizes alumni each fall who have distinguished themselves in their careers.

Brad Owen, bba '80, Topeka, Kansas, Phi Delta Theta, Accounting Society, was honored as a 2019 Washburn University Alumni Fellow. The Alumni Fellows program recognizes alumni each fall who have distinguished themselves in their careers.

Don Reif, jd '88, Hoisington, Kansas, was appointed to the Fort Hays State University Foundation board of trustees.

Adam Rogers, bba '84, Durango, Colorado, was hired as the finance director for La Plata County in Colorado.

Brigadier Gen. Deborah Rose, bsn '82, h '12, Overbrook, Kansas, Sigma Theta Tau, Student Nurses Association, was named by Leadership Kansas as the recipient of its Jim Edwards Alumnus of the Year Award.

Debra Stewart, b ed '80, m ed '05, Topeka, Kansas, Student Council, was named the Topeka Public Schools Distinguished Staff Middle School Educator of 2019.

Phyllis Webster, jd '86, Wichita, Kansas, was appointed by Gov. Laura Kelly to fill a 13th District court seat.

1990s

Kandis Barker, ba '96, bfa '96, mls '05, Topeka, Kansas, was selected as the Outstanding Museum Art Educator of the Year by the Kansas Art Education Association. She is the curator of education at the Mulvane Art Museum.

Michelle Bowman, jd '96, Washington, D.C., Phi Delta Phi, was confirmed by the United States Senate to serve a full 14-year term on the seven-member Federal Reserve board.

T.C. Broadnax, ba '91, Dallas, Texas, Basketball, was inducted into the Topeka High School Graduate Hall of Fame.

Shelly (Wells) Brown, bs '96, Leawood, Kansas, was promoted to the principal group at engineering firm Burns & McDonnell. This is a senior level of leadership marking high performance over a lengthy time working for the company.

Ed Collazo, jd '97, Topeka, Kansas, Phi Delta Phi, was hired by the city of Topeka to assume the role of police auditor.

Jason Green, mba '99, Fort Smith, Arkansas, was awarded the Arkansas Economic Developers & Chamber Executive's Volunteer of the Year Award.

Jim Hicks, bsn '94, Manhattan, Kansas, retired from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs on June 30, 2019, after working at the clinic at Fort Riley since April of 2010.

Jess Hoeme, ba '99, Cheney, Kansas, Sigma Phi Epsilon, was honored by Best Lawyers in America in the areas of criminal defense and DUI/DWI defense. His practice is focused on criminal litigation across the state of Kansas, and he has represented clients in 80% of all Kansas counties.

M. Kristine Lawless, jd '91, Osage City, Kansas, Phi Delta Phi, Environmental Law Society, was honored by Missouri and Kansas Super Lawyers 2019. Fewer than 5% of all attorneys in Missouri and Kansas are selected as Super Lawyers in their respective states.

Priti Lakhani, ba '91, Lawrence, Kansas, Biology Club, God's Bods, Student Alumni Association, was honored as a 2019 Washburn University Alumni Fellow. The Alumni Fellows program recognizes alumni each fall who have distinguished themselves in their careers.

Rusty Monhollon, ba '91, Columbia, South Carolina, Sagamore Society, was named president and executive director of the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education.

Jennifer Siehndel, ba '99, Overland Park, Kansas, is senior field account executive at salesforce.org, working with universities in Kansas and Oklahoma.

Brandon Smith, jd '92, Weehawken, New Jersey, was hired by Summit Financial as the director of the integrated planning group.

Phillip Smith-Hanes, jd '95, Ellis, Kansas, Phi Delta Phi, became the county administrator for Saline County.

Gail (Gottschalk) Urban, mba '99, Manhattan, Kansas, opened a new practice, AMICUS Wealth Partners. She is an accredited asset management specialist and certified financial planner.

2000s

Vincent Bowhay, ba '08, Independence, Kansas, Sigma Phi Epsilon, Washburn Student Government Association, was named vice president of student affairs at Independence Community College in Independence, Kansas.

Amanda Bundren McNelley, jd '02, Kirkwood, Missouri, Phi Alpha Delta, Moot Court Council, was appointed as an associate circuit judge in St. Louis County.

Cody Burger, bcj '08, Topeka, Kansas, Criminal Justice Association, was selected as a 2019 Topeka's 20 Under 40 honoree.

Whitney (Philippi) Casement, ba '09, jd '12, Topeka, Kansas, Mortar Board, Phi Kappa Phi, Sigma Tau Delta, Moot Court Council, was selected as a 2019 Topeka 20 Under 40 honoree.

Monique Centeno, jd '05, Wichita, Kansas, was appointed by Gov. Laura Kelly to fill a district court seat in Sedgwick County. Judge Centeno will be only the second African American woman to serve as a judge in the 18th District and only the 10th woman.

Trey Cocking, bs '02, Topeka, Kansas, Sagamore Society, Kappa Sigma, Washburn Student Association, and **Jen Cocking**, ba '04, jd '12, Topeka, Kansas, Kappa Alpha Theta, Law Journal, welcomed a new baby boy in Sept. 2019. Trey was honored as a 2019 Washburn University Alumni Fellow. The Alumni Fellows program recognizes alumni each fall who have distinguished themselves in their careers.

Tara (Rae) Cunningham, ba '00, Fort Worth, Texas, Dancing Blues, Phi Kappa Phi, Washburn Student Government Association, accepted the senior associate dean of student affairs position at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mt. Sinai in New York City.

Clay Curtin, ba '03, San Mateo, California, Sigma Phi Epsilon, Sagamore Society, College Republicans, was appointed to a leadership position for the city of Menlo Park, California. He will fill the newly created public engagement manager role.

Lori Ferguson, m ed '04, Girard, Kansas, will be the new K-6 inclusion and resource instructor at West Bourbon Elementary School in Uniontown, Kansas.

Nathan Gaswick, bba '09, Imperial, Nebraska, Phi Kappa Phi, Football, has joined the teaching staff at Chase County Schools. He teaches middle and high school physical education and body conditioning and is an assistant high school football and wrestling coach.

Jake Henry, jd '06, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Tax Law Society, was promoted to assistant dean of student affairs at Louisiana State University.

Ethan Kaplan, jd '06, Hutchinson, Kansas, Moot Court Council, was hired as general counsel by IdeaTek Telcom.

Paul Kitzke, jd '05, Hugoton, Kansas, was appointed to the Fort Hays State University Foundation board of trustees.

Kathy Liu, ba '02, Wichita, Kansas, became a faculty member at University of Colorado-Cororado Springs as an associate professor in the department of health sciences department.

Michael Mayer, jd '07, Houston, Texas, was hired as an immigration attorney at law firm Davis and Associates.

Casey McNeil, bs '06, Salina, Kansas, entered his first year of residency at the University of Kansas School of Medicine Wichita Family Medicine Residency Program at Smoky Hill.

Chrishundra Mitchell, ba '07, Topeka, Kansas, was recently promoted to deputy director of audit for the Kansas Department of Revenue.

Melinda Neuman, bba '07, Topeka, Kansas, Zeta Tau Alpha, Leadership Institute, was selected as a 2019 Topeka 20 Under 40 honoree.

Tiffany (Walter) Noller, bsn '02, Topeka, Kansas, Zeta Tau Alpha, Phi Kappa Phi, Gamma Sigma Alpha, was selected as a 2019 Topeka 20 Under 40 honoree.

Melissa Perkins, bsn '08, Black River, New York, God's Bods, Washburn Student Government Association, Student Alumni Association, was honored as a 2019 Washburn University Alumni Fellow. The Alumni Fellows program recognizes alumni each fall who have distinguished themselves in their careers.

Becky (Schirmer) Shaw, bba '06, Holton, Kansas, Accounting Society, was nominated for the 2019 Kansas Society of CPAs Women to Watch Emerging Leader award.

Jared Smith, jd '00, Lutz, Florida, Christian Legal Society, was appointed as a circuit judge for Hillsborough County's 13th Judicial Circuit.

Michael W. Trimble, certificate '03, certificate '12, as '14, certificate '16, Commerce City, Colorado, was honored as a 2019 Washburn University Alumni Fellow. The Alumni Fellows program recognizes alumni each fall who have distinguished themselves in their careers.

Patrick Vogelsberg, ba '06, jd '10, Topeka, Kansas, Washburn Student Government Association, Phi Alpha Theta, God's Bods, became the manager of government affairs for Kansas Gas Service.

Katie (Schuetz) Whisman, bs '03, Topeka, Kansas, graduated from the 2019 Leadership Kansas class and will join distinguished alumni. She serves as the executive officer for the Kansas Bureau of Investigation.

Nick Woolery, bpa '08, Baytown, Texas, Washburn Student Government Association, Christian Challenge, Model United Nations, International Politics Club, was named assistant city manager of Baytown.

2010s

Hillary (Hughes) Brunner, ba '13, Eau Claire, Wisconsin, Bod Squad, Volleyball, Physical Therapy Club, recently joined the Rehabilitation Services Department at Mayo Clinic Health System in Eau Claire.

Joshua Decker, jd '12, Olathe, Kansas, joined Spencer Fane's estate planning group as of counsel in the firm's Overland Park and Kansas City office. In Decker's practice, he advises individuals and families on various aspects of estate planning and trust and estate administration.

Jack Greever, msw '17, Newton, Kansas, Phi Alpha Mu, was appointed as an adjunct instructor of social work at Bethel College.

Lindsey Hammes, bsn '18, and **Luke Williams**, aa '17, bcj '18, Topeka, Kansas, got married on Aug. 17, 2019.

Alix Hernandez, ba '13, Topeka, Kansas, accepted a job with Monogram Foods as their safety manager and moved to Pipestone, Minnesota.

Michelle Keim, b ed '13, Sabetha, Kansas, accepted a position as a first grade teacher at Sabetha Elementary School.

Lara McDonald, ba '13, Topeka, Kansas, Sigma Tau Delta, was named the Kansas Region Two Secondary Teacher of the Year.

Daphne (Philips) Reynolds, ba '12, Leavenworth, Kansas, Mortar Board, received her master of business administration from the University of Saint Mary in May of 2019. In the same month, she and her husband welcomed their first son.

Brady Rothrock, bba '11, Lawrence, Kansas, Phi Delta Theta, Mortar Board, Phi Kappa Phi, received his master of science in business intelligence and analytics from the Rockhurst University Helzberg School of Management in August 2019.

Brady Skeens, bba '18, mba '19, Lenexa, Kansas, Basketball, Mortar Board, signed a contract with the Canadian professional basketball team Sudbury Five.

John "Bo" Turney, jd '14, Topeka, Kansas, Moot Court Council, was selected as a 2019 Topeka 20 Under 40 honoree. 🏆



In Memory

The following information was received from the Washburn University Alumni Association and Foundation between Aug. 1, 2019, and Dec. 2, 2019. Submit any omissions to Bayley Baker at bbaker@wualumni.org by March 25, 2020.

1940s

William Davis, bba '48, 98, Overland Park, Kansas, Phi Delta Theta, Basketball, on Sept. 6, 2019
Adeline (Comer) Erwin, b music '41, 100, Merrillville, Indiana, Alpha Kappa Alpha, on Aug. 13, 2019
Virginia (Woodbury) Martinson, ba '49, 92, Topeka, Kansas, on Oct. 14, 2019
Kent McAlexander, ba '49, bfa '49, 95, Monett, Missouri, on July 17, 2019
Paul Wise, ba '42, jd '47, 99, Scottsdale, Arizona, Phi Delta Theta, Pi Gamma Mu, Washburn Employee, on Oct. 3, 2019

1950s

Ruth (Durkee) Anderson, b ed '59, 94, Overbrook, Kansas, on Aug. 20, 2019
Robert "Bob" Beal, bba '58, 86, Topeka, Kansas, Association of Business Students, Young Republicans, on Sept. 12, 2019
William "Bill" Bishop, ba '53, 87, Scottsdale, Arizona, on June 24, 2019
Ray "Pat" Calihan, ba '51, jd '53, 92, Gold Canyon, Arizona, Delta Theta Phi, on Oct. 18, 2019
Harold "Bud" Chapman, bba '50, 93, Colorado Springs, Colorado, Phi Delta Theta, on Sept. 13, 2019
Violet "Ruth" (Greemore) Collins, b music '54, ba '54, 95, Topeka, Kansas, on Nov. 9, 2019
Theresa (Byrd) Counts, ba '54, b music '54, m ed '67, 88, Topeka, Kansas, Delta Sigma Theta, on Oct. 29, 2019
Mary "Alice" (Vargas) Dominguez, ba '56, 84, Topeka, Kansas, Association of Business Students, on Nov. 7, 2019
James Harlan Edmonds, bba '55, 95, Topeka, Kansas, Young Republicans, Sagamore Society, Association of Business Students, on Oct. 22, 2019
John Gaston, bba '56, 86, Missouri City, Texas, Football, on April 21, 2019
James Ingenthron, b ed '50, 91, Sioux City, Iowa, on July 3, 2019
Richard "Dick" Jones, ba '55, jd '55, 88, Olympia, Washington, Air Force ROTC, Delta Theta Phi, on Aug. 7, 2019
Roy Keck, ba '54, 88, Layton, Utah, Football, Sagamore Society, on Sept. 7, 2019
Ralph Larson, jd '54, 94, Lindsborg, Kansas, Delta Theta Phi, on Sept. 17, 2019
Myron Listrom, jd '51, 93, Hot Springs, Arkansas, Delta Theta Phi, on Aug. 14, 2019
Paul "Mac" McAlister, ba '50, jd '52, 92, Topeka, Kansas, Phi Alpha Delta, on Sept. 16, 2019
Ted Morgan, ba '53, llb '56, jd '70, 88, Lakin, Kansas, Kappa Sigma, Sagamore Society, Delta Theta Phi, Baseball, Basketball, on Sept. 17, 2019
Robert Neibling, bba '57, 85, Daphne, Alabama, Alpha Delta, on Sept. 22, 2019

Harold Richardson, bba '59, 86, Montgomery, Alabama, Association of Business Students, on Aug. 15, 2019
Lela Stoner, b ed '56, 84, Sequim, Washington, Zeta Tau Alpha, Phi Kappa Phi, on Aug. 13, 2019
Alfred Wipperman, bba '51, 91, Topeka, Kansas, Alpha Delta, on Oct. 26, 2019

1960s

Harold Beims, jd '68, 80, Atwood, Kansas, on Aug. 30, 2019
Claudia (Riggin) Bishop, ba '61, 84, Scottsdale, Arizona, in 2019
Otis Blocher, ba '62, 84, Ellsinore, Missouri, on Sept. 11, 2019
Jerry "Mike" Cormack, b ed '64, m ed '69, 83, Lawrence, Kansas, on Sept. 3, 2019
Donald Critchfield, bs '66, 79, Sarasota, Florida, Phi Kappa Phi, on Sept. 10, 2019
Robert Derstein, jd '64, 83, Topeka, Kansas, on Aug. 3, 2019
Wilburn Dillon, jd '66, 79, Topeka, Kansas, on Sept. 12, 2019
John Gernon, jd '61, 84, Hiawatha, Kansas, on Sept. 10, 2019
Edward Hamilton, bba '68, ba '69, 78, Topeka, Kansas, on Oct. 24, 2019
Wanice (Walker) Haas, m ed '68, 89, Berryton, Kansas, on Sept. 13, 2019
Judith Hofer, b music '65, 76, Junction City, Kansas, on Oct. 14, 2019
John Hubbard, bs '63, 83, Olathe, Kansas, Sigma Phi Epsilon, Marching Band, Chemistry Club, on Sept. 8, 2019
John Knapp, ba '60, 82, Denver, Colorado, Kappa Sigma, Association of Business Students, on Oct. 7, 2019
Ellen Kurtz, m ed '63, 81, Topeka, Kansas, on Nov. 13, 2019
Berta (Selzer) Miller, b ed '64, 98, Hesston, Kansas, on June 29, 2019
Patricia (Milliken) Mize, ba '68, 72, Derby, Kansas, Zeta Tau Alpha, Panhellenic Council, on Aug. 5, 2019
Linda (Wedoff) Osslander, b ed '64, m ed '69, 77, Topeka, Kansas, on Sept. 17, 2019
Carl Peters, b ed '63, 84, Colby, Kansas, Choir, on Aug. 11, 2019
Raymond Robl, ba '69, 82, Ellinwood, Kansas, on Aug. 20, 2019
John Schell, bba '61, 81, Topeka, Kansas, Phi Delta Theta, Association of Business Students, on Oct. 12, 2019
Richard Schultz, jd '60, 89, Bradenton, Florida, Delta Theta Phi, on Sept. 15, 2019
Judith Volkman, bsw '67, 74, Lakewood, Colorado, on June 25, 2019

1970s

Daniel Bayha, ba '75, 66, Meade, Kansas, on Sept. 18, 2019
Martha (Stewart) Bisanar, ba '70, 70, Glendale, Arizona, Delta Gamma, on Sept. 6, 2018

Mark Buck, jd '78, 67, Overland Park, Kansas, on Sept. 14, 2019

George Burket, jd '72, 77, Kingman, Kansas, on Oct. 31, 2019

Craig Davidson, ba '71, 71, Bella Vista, Arkansas, Rowing Crew, on Oct. 2, 2019

Maxine (Thompson) Dawson, b ed '70, m ed '73, 99, Topeka, Kansas, on Nov. 20, 2019

Larry Glasgow, aa '79, 74, Topeka, Kansas, on Oct. 28, 2019

Helen Hansen, m ed '70, 89, Concordia, Kansas, Delta Gamma, on Oct. 11, 2019

Robert Kintner, bba '70, 74, Hallsville, Missouri, on Aug. 27, 2019

Steven Koons, bba '78, 78, Wakarusa, Kansas, on Sept. 28, 2019

Mary Langer, b ed '73, 68, Topeka, Kansas, on Oct. 23, 2019

Dwayne Ripperger, bba '78, 64, Reeds Spring, Missouri, on Aug. 25, 2019

Dennis Sheets, ba '74, 68, Topeka, Kansas, on Aug. 9, 2019

Marian (Gates) Swain, bba '75, 80, Baldwin City, Kansas, Alpha Phi, on July 26, 2019

Judy (Stockebrand) Swibold, b ed '72, 83, Derby, Kansas, on Sept. 26, 2019

Bruce Thompson, ba '71, 79, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, on Jan. 28, 2019

John Williamson, bba '75, 66, Topeka, Kansas, on Oct. 7, 2019

1980s

Peggy (Lempka) Black, ba '83, 66, Topeka, Kansas, on Aug. 15, 2019

Barbara Bowman, ba '89, 74, Soldier, Kansas, Washburn Employee, on Oct. 12, 2019

Marie (Frey) Bradley, aa '81, 86, Topeka, Kansas, on July 26, 2019

Carolyn Carlson, bba '85, 57, Shelbyville, Kentucky, Zeta Tau Alpha, on Oct. 5, 2019

Anne Garlinghouse, jd '85, 76, Vancouver, Washington, on Sept. 14, 2019

Paul Goebel, ba '84, 67, Lawrence, Kansas, Washburn Review, Washburn Employee, on Oct. 15, 2019

Jerome Gutierrez, b ed '81, m ed '94, 61, Topeka, Kansas, Football, on Sept. 11, 2019

Kenton Hall, jd '88, 68, Kansas City, Missouri, on July 27, 2019

Doris (Powell) Kinnett, ba '88, 86, Topeka, Kansas, on Sept. 18, 2019

Patrick Macfee, ba '83, 70, Topeka, Kansas, on Aug. 18, 2019

Christine (Wehrkamp) Oesterreich, bsw '82, 69, Topeka, Kansas, on Sept. 5, 2019

Candice Reynolds, bcj '81, jd '84, 60, Wichita, Kansas, on Aug. 14, 2019

Kevin Robinson, certificate '84, 61, Topeka, Kansas, on Aug. 21, 2019

1990s

Todd Allison, jd '95, 49, Wichita, Kansas, on Sept. 6, 2018

Karen Arnesman, msw '99, 62, Ottawa, Kansas, on Feb. 4, 2019

Susan (Liston) Horn, ba '91, 86, Topeka, Kansas, on Aug. 26, 2019

Paula (Kieffer) Inman, ba '98, 75, Berryton, Kansas, Sigma Tau Delta, Washburn Employee, on Oct. 13, 2019

Suzanne (Aurner) Short, bba '91, 59, Topeka, Kansas, Accounting Society, on Aug. 14, 2019

2000s

Derek Nelson, aas '07, ba '13, 33, Topeka, Kansas, on Sept. 30, 2019

Marie (Cappalleti) Pisani, ba '01, mcj '04, 49, Topeka, Kansas, on Sept. 8, 2019

Danelle (Groth) Schiffelbein, bfa '07, 35, Satanta, Kansas, Washburn Review, on Nov. 23, 2019

2010s

Taylor Edwards, certificate '19, 20, Independence, Kansas, on Sept. 12, 2019

Joy (Clark) Schmidt, certificate '15, 63, Scranton, Kansas, on Sept. 12, 2019

Friends

Judge Terry Bollock, Washburn Employee, 79, Topeka, Kansas, on Aug. 2, 2019

Forrest Cowell, 92, Topeka, Kansas, on Aug. 4, 2019

Robert Dick, 82, Phoenix, Arizona, on Oct. 1, 2019

Hilda Enewold, 75, Topeka, Kansas, on Aug. 3, 2019

Doris (Drennon) Enloe, 87, Topeka, Kansas, on Nov. 20, 2019

Leonard Eudaley, Washburn Employee, 85, Topeka, Kansas, on Oct. 14, 2019

Dorothy "Dottie" (Welty) Harder, Washburn Employee, 89, Topeka, Kansas, on Nov. 15, 2019

Dorothy Henricks, Washburn Employee, 92, Pretty Prairie, Kansas, on Nov. 2, 2019

Annita (Bentz) Huff, Washburn Employee, 74, Salina, Kansas, on Sept. 10, 2019

Alwyn Johnson, 90, Wichita, Kansas, in Oct. 2019

Dale Kelley, Washburn Employee, 102, Topeka, Kansas, on Sept. 1, 2019

Cherrie (Bengtson) Koehn, 89, Topeka, Kansas, on Oct. 16, 2019

Joseph Logan, 98, St. Louis, Missouri, on Sept. 5, 2019

Martha Martin, Washburn Employee, 92, Topeka, Kansas, on Sept. 18, 2019

Leslie McCulley, McKinney, Texas, on Oct. 11, 2019

Jill Monie, Washburn Employee, 54, Topeka, Kansas, on Nov. 22, 2019

Mary Darlene Nicklin, Washburn Employee, 89, Topeka, Kansas, on Aug. 27, 2019

James "Dick" Pratt, 90, Topeka, Kansas, on Oct. 23, 2019

Gordon Slusser, 85, Topeka, Kansas, on Sept. 29, 2019

Kristopher Steele, Washburn Employee, 65, Topeka, Kansas, on Aug. 23, 2019

Janet (Holmes) Strukel, 83, Topeka, Kansas, on Oct. 18, 2019

Nelda (Hetzl) White, 86, Holton, Kansas, on Oct. 24, 2019

Mary Wieggers, 84, Marysville, Kansas, on Sept. 6, 2019

Rev. Dortha Yoder-Foster, 73, Rochester, New York, on Sept. 21, 2019

Barbara Clark, ba '69, c '95, Professor Emeritus, Associate Dean, School of Nursing, Washburn University, 80, Meriden, Kansas, on Dec. 15, 2018



Barbara Clark taught in the Washburn University School of Nursing from 1980-2009, retiring as professor emeritus and associate dean. She began her nursing education at Stormont Vail School of Nursing and

then earned a bachelor of arts in biology from

Washburn in 1969. She went on to earn master and doctoral degrees. She was a registered nurse at Stormont Vail and St. Francis and she taught at Stormont Vail before teaching at Washburn. She was a strong proponent of Washburn's mobile health van and she volunteered in the nursing skills lab after retirement.

Jorge Nobo, Professor Emeritus, Philosophy, Washburn University, 79, Topeka, Kansas, on Aug. 7, 2019

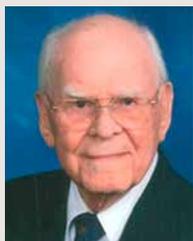


Jorge Nobo taught philosophy at Washburn University for 39 years from 1972-2011. He was said to have taught thousands of students in his World Views and Moral Values course and taught numerous core courses

for philosophy majors. He authored "Whitehead's

Metaphysics of Extension and Solidarity," and co-edited "The Individual and Society." Nobo served on various academic committees at Washburn and was chair of the commencement committee and grand marshal for eight years. Born in Cuba, he came to the United States permanently in 1960. He earned his doctor of philosophy from the University of Texas at Austin in 1973.

Carl Nordstrom, ba '38, h '03, Washburn University Alumni Association and Foundation Trustee, Washburn Alumni Association Director and President, 103, Topeka, Kansas, on Aug. 16, 2019



Alpha Delta, Sagamore, Tennis

Carl Nordstrom is credited with helping found what is now the Washburn University Alumni Association and Foundation. He served on its board of trustees

from 1978-79 and 1986-96 and then became a trustee emeritus. During his time, he took the Washburn Endowment Association from a fund management organization to a fund development organization. Nordstrom is a member of the Washburn Athletics Hall of Fame and received an honorary doctor of public service in 2003.

He earned the Alumni Association's Distinguished Service Award in 1992. After service in World War II, Nordstrom spent 36 years of his career with the Kansas Chamber of Commerce, serving 10 years as president before retiring in 1982. He co-founded Leadership Kansas and in 1982, the Native Sons and Daughters of Kansas named him Kansan of the Year. He was an officer and life member of the Kansas Calvary, member of the board of the Kansas Development Credit Corporation and the Employment Security Advisory Council and was recipient of the Governor's Silver Stirrup Award for economic development. 🏃



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The Land of Fire and Ice is a beacon of nature's majestic beauty. Among other things, soak in the famous Blue Lagoon, visit the Vikingaheimar Museum and travel the Golden Circle. Admire the beauty of the waterfalls, volcanoes and black sand beaches. Cost is \$2,750 per person for two people sharing one room and includes round trip, non-stop airfare between Kansas City and Reykjavik, five nights lodging and sightseeing. The trip is sold out. Ask for your name to be added to the waitlist by emailing susie@wualumni.org.

CRUISE: ITALY, FRANCE, SPAIN AND MONACO

Nov. 3-11, 2020

Sail to some of the most cultured cities on the western Mediterranean aboard Oceania Cruises' Marina. Fly to Rome, board the ship and cruise to the ports of Florence (Livorno), Ajaccio, Palma de Mallorca, Valencia, Barcelona, Marseille and Monte Carlo. Pricing begins at \$2,299 per person for two people sharing one room and includes airfare and cruise. Extend your trip with a pre-cruise stay in Rome or post cruise stay in Monte Carlo. More than 70 people have already booked the cruise. It will likely sell out, so don't delay.



We invite you to join the Washburn Alumni Association and become a member of our travel club for advance notification of our trips. Hundreds of Ichabods join us each year in exotic destinations, historic sites and some of the most beautiful scenery on Earth. All travelers must be a member of the Washburn Alumni Association, so join today at wualumni.org/join and book yourself on one of these exciting trips. Most of them sell out! You don't have to be a graduate of Washburn to join or be a member of the travel club. We would love to see you on our next trip!

For more information, contact Susie Hoffmann
785.670.1643 | susie@wualumni.org | wualumni.org/alumni-travel

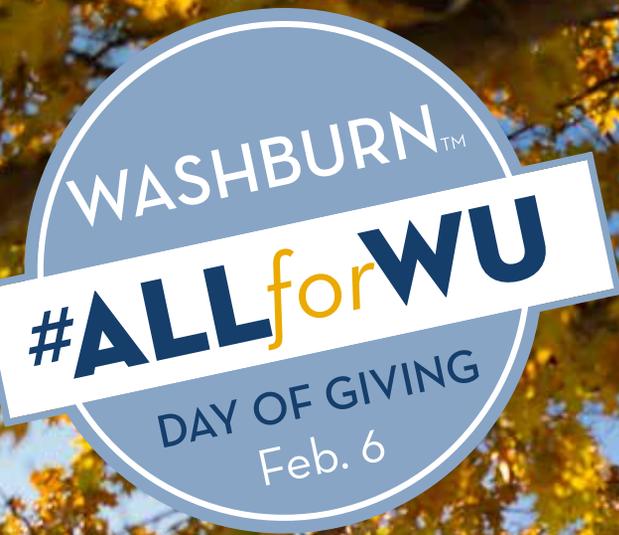




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FEB. 6, 2020

washburngivingday.org

How can you get involved?

- Sign up as an Ambassador and promote your favorite projects.
- Make your gift online on Thursday, Feb. 6, Washburn's 155th birthday.
- Go #AllForWU on your social accounts and let all Ichabods know you gave.