FALCON PRIDE REIGNS AT HOMECOMING 2016

Fall was in the air and campus was filled with Falcon spirit during Homecoming weekend — Oct. 7 through Oct. 9. This year celebrated the 50th class reunion for the class of 1966 and the 25th class reunion for the class of 1991. Friends University football alumni of all classes were invited to a breakfast to recognize KCAC Championship teams throughout the years. Future Falcons, current students, alumni, friends and family enjoyed Friends University traditions including the parade, tailgate, carnival, football game, fall ballet and the Singing Quakers. Thanks to everyone who helped make this year’s Homecoming a great success!

PHOTOS BY ROMAN RODRIGUEZ AND SARAH SCHNAKE, SENIOR
FOCUS ON … PATHWAYS

Today’s students have many opportunities to explore various pathways as they pursue their education. Some students know exactly what they want to do and set out on their path toward their desired outcome. Others discover unexpected inspiration and are called to a different path than they anticipated.

This issue of Focus explores the various pathways some of our graduates have taken to get to where they are today. We hope you find these pathway stories inspirational. At Friends University, education is not just about giving our students the knowledge and skills they need to succeed in their profession. It is also about helping them find their true calling so they can make God’s world a better place for themselves and others.

Dr. Amy Bragg Carey
President, Friends University
Friends University graduate Lindsey (Alexander) Trusler joined Wycliffe Bible Translators in 2011. After being trained, she started her mission work in Papua New Guinea in literacy and scripture use from 2013 to 2015. During this time, she lived and worked in remote villages where she recorded audio Bibles, produced literacy materials — and even learned to cook over an open fire.

Trusler has now switched to a new role in the process of Bible translation. She currently lives and works in South Africa and will travel to Angola and other southern African countries as a language surveyor to assess which languages still need Bible translation.

Trusler graduated from Friends in 2011 with a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish, studying with Dr. Jerry Smartt. When asked how her education at Friends has helped her in her current position, Trusler said her education was so much more than just getting a degree. “It’s learning who you are and what makes your heart beat faster.” Learning Spanish was just the foundation for what Trusler does now, as she is learning about the many languages of the African regions where she works.

“Sometimes I get asked why I do what I do and honestly, there are many reasons. The biggest one is God’s word is living and active — it’s the most important book I could help produce! I am so privileged to get to be a part of giving it to Africa! Below are more reasons I love my job.

“Prayer: I love that I work in a place where you can just walk in and say, ‘Hey, can you pray with me?’ It’s been a huge encouragement to work alongside people who have hearts for God and love connecting with Him in prayer.

“Diversity: I enjoy doing a variety of things — my job allows me to have time in villages, time behind a computer, travel, share with others, be involved with many different projects — I love the diversity of what I get to do and the diversity of the many people I work with!

“When I travel different places, I realize how blessed I am and a big part of my story began at Friends University. It’s important to learn about yourself first and how you fit into the broader world. Personally, I needed to do something that was in line with my academic interests but something that also gave me a chance to make a difference. I can’t think of a better way to do that than to share God’s word.”

Trusler’s visa is good through August 2018 so right now her plan is to not return to the United States until then. If you would like to participate in Trusler’s ministry through prayer or a financial donation, please visit: www.wycliffe.org/partner/lindseyrose.

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Growing up in Wichita, small in stature but sharp as could be, John Henderson wasn’t always sure he could cut it, but he was always sure that he would try.

Blinded in his right eye at a young age, “Old Skinny Jr. Henderson” memorized an eye chart and “faked” his way into the Army during World War II because he wanted to do his duty.

After the war, he enrolled at Friends University, fulfilling the vow his mother, Olympia, made after he’d left another college to enlist: “Boy, I don’t give a darn what you do, but the first of September you’re going back to somebody’s school.”

“I didn’t realize I would be able to graduate from Friends,” said Henderson, now 95 and a resident of Denver for nearly six decades. “I told a man who worked at the post office that I didn’t know if I could cut it. But I went out there and tried, and I had a lot of help.”

The GI Bill helped pay his way, and at Friends he was involved in establishing a Wichita chapter of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), which locally pushed against segregation and played a key role in the national fight for civil rights. To support his wife, Gloria, and himself, he was a servant for an Eastborough family. In a sign of the equality that needed to be won, his rich boss offered the freshly minted 1948 college graduate a servant’s job “for life.”

“There was no way I was going to be a houseboy, washing windows and serving people for the rest of my life, after spending five years at a university,” said Henderson, echoing a spirit derived from his mother, a maid, who told clients, “I will wash, iron, clean your house and prepare your meals, but I don’t wash windows and scrub floors. My name is Olympia; don’t call me ‘Girl.’”

He’d planned to be a teacher but decided that wasn’t for him and was urged to pursue another career track after hearing the Friends commencement speaker — an older man — tell graduates it was never too late to try something in life. So, the 27-year-old went on to Kansas State University, and its architecture program started him down a path that took him to Ohio and then to Denver in 1958. There he became Colorado’s first licensed African-American architect.

“Architecture is a field, a career, a discipline that opens one’s mind to so many things. History, travel, buildings — of course — and art,” said Henderson.

He and Gloria, who died in 2014, raised a son, Lynn, and Henderson worked at several firms before joining the Federal Bureau of Indian Affairs in 1963, working on projects across the country. He also designed his home in Denver, an open, glass-filled house that reflects one of his inspirations, modernist architect Ludwig Mies van der Rohe who espoused “less is more.”

“Architecture is just one facet of Henderson. A longtime music fan, he’s seen jazz greats everywhere from west Wichita roadhouses to New York nightclubs. He delightfully recalls partying with Count Basie when the jazz legend, unable to stay in Wichita’s white-only hotels, spent the night at the home of a friend.

He and Gloria traveled the world, seeing Hong Kong, Japan, much of Europe and Africa soon after apartheid’s fall. The trips fed a venture beginning after his retirement in 1981, a business called African-American Trading Co., that sold art and objects from around the world but was a “community center” until its 35-year run ended last year. There, regulars and newcomers alike gravitated to Henderson.

“They would come in and sit and talk, and they walked out feeling better about their life,” said Jerry Cusack, a friend of Henderson.

“My rewards were from meeting interesting people, not money,” said Henderson. “It’s been a beautiful trip, and I would do it again if I had the time.”
Nicole Ensminger’s class project at Friends University went from an idea — studying procedures for nurses, doctors and other health care workers to spot human trafficking victims — to developing training for every Via Christi Health employee to help them identify and assist more than 45 victims in the past two and a half years. Now, the program is becoming a national model.

Ensminger was working as an MRI technologist at Via Christi Hospital St. Joseph in Wichita, but getting her master’s in health care leadership — Friends University was the logical choice — and heading a radiology department were part of her plan. So much for plans.

“I had no idea I would be taking the path I’m on. I’ve learned God’s plans are better than mine,” said Ensminger, who now, four years after the topic first arose, is anti-human trafficking program manager for Via Christi.

Crossing her path early on was classmate William “Skip” Hidlay, chief communications and marketing officer at Via Christi, who graduated from the program with her in 2014. He would become a partner in bringing about the protocol which provides training and a step-by-step approach for seeing the signs of trafficking and then helping the person.

“I think God put us in the same class for a reason,” Ensminger said. “Skip definitely has a talent of getting people connected with each other. He has a long history of reaching out and helping others. We really worked together to make this a reality.”

“She was the linchpin,” said Hidlay, who spent 30 years as a newspaper reporter, editor and publisher before joining Via Christi in 2011. “She was the passion and the conscience, and I was there to support her.”

That passion came out of “a simple conversation I had with an acquaintance,” said Ensminger. They talked about how families in Cambodia were selling their children into the sex trade, a common destination for trafficking victims. “It just absolutely broke my heart to know these young children were being exploited.”

She planned to go to Cambodia until reading about the extent of the trafficking locally, so she decided to stay in Wichita and work on the issue. Her law and ethics class at Friends provided an avenue to do that.

Research revealed that health care workers are in a unique position, because they come in contact with potential victims. “Oftentimes they need emergency medical care because they’ve been beaten by their captors, or they may be very sick because they’ve put off regular health care. So this is one of the few places where society has an opportunity to intervene,” said Hidlay.

Ensminger discovered a sad reality though, finding that no real protocols — procedures to follow — existed. Health care workers might know about the problem, but didn’t know how to identify trafficking or what to do if they did spot it. She faced the choice of changing topics or doing what she did: close that gap.

Instructor Jerree Forbes urged Hidlay aboard. “The professor turned to me after Nicole’s presentation, realizing that I was a little higher on the food chain at Via Christi than Nicole. He pointed his finger and said, ‘You know Via Christi ought to do this,’ and I said, ‘You know you’re right.’”

Hidlay met with Sister Sherri Marie Kuhn of the Sisters of the Sorrowful
Mother, the founding order at St. Francis, who embraced the idea and brought others to the table. Soon, they assembled a committee of key players in critical areas: doctors, nurses, behavioral health and social workers, spiritual care, philanthropy, security and communications. Law enforcement officials, including Sedgwick County District Attorney Marc Bennett, played valuable roles too.

Over a year, they developed procedures and launched training in February 2014. Using a variety of tools — mandatory online training, targeted small group programs, handy pocket pamphlets — the program now reaches 7,000 employees.

“The beauty of the protocol and the pamphlet is that it is literally a step-by-step guide that identifies the warning signs, the red flags and physical indicators that a patient is presenting,” said Hidlay. “It really makes it a logical protocol for the nurses and others.”

Not long after the initial training, health systems and others began calling and emailing. “People who had heard about what we’d done said, ‘Gee, we have been trying to do this but haven’t been able to pull it off,’” said Hidlay.

Dr. Jeff Barrows, an Ohio obstetrician/gynecologist and national authority on trafficking, contacted them and offered help with the fine-tuning that could take the protocols nationwide. Now, “it’s being spread across about 1,900 other sites of care,” said Ensminger.

Going from zero victims identified to 45, “that’s mind-blowing,” said Hidlay. “I feel like I am able to contribute in a bigger, larger way to direct public good than I did in 30 years of journalism, and a large part of the reason is this project.”

“It shows the tremendous value of Friends’ Master of Health Care Leadership program,” Hidlay said. “It better prepared me to be a leader in health care, and it really helped chart Nicole on a whole new career path. Once this program took off, we got grant funding and she’s now our full-time anti-human trafficking program manager. That’s fantastic.”

While doing her capstone project for the Bachelor of Arts in Organizational Leadership and Transformational Change (OLTC) degree, Garden City resident and 2016 graduate Susan Nguyen became concerned about the lack of alternative options for people to get home safely after consuming too much alcohol.

Nguyen currently works at Dodge City Medical Complex Hospital as a surgical technologist, but decided to earn her bachelor’s degree through Friends University on her path to becoming a physician assistant (PA).

She knows PA programs are looking for students who possess leadership qualities, strong communication skills and the ability to collaborate and think critically. Nguyen found that through the OLTC program she was able to increase her competency in these skills, opening a pathway to her ultimate goal.

“The OLTC program provided me the skills and tools to be the leader that my community, colleagues, co-workers, friends and families would want me to be,” said Nguyen.

Nguyen utilized the lessons learned in her program in her capstone project, which was to raise awareness of the need for a SafeRide program in Garden City. The project consisted of pitching the idea of SafeRide to local TV station KSN News, which ran a story about it; meeting with Mayor Janet Doll; writing a grant proposal; creating a budget and cost analysis for the project; and collecting signatures from local businesses in support of a SafeRide program. Unfortunately, the project did not ultimately meet the qualifications for a grant. Despite this, Nguyen gained valuable knowledge about becoming an agent for social change as well as honing other skills.

“As a person who is passionate about the health care industry and has the desire to help people in anyway I can, this project challenged me to go beyond my capabilities. I learned the changes I wanted to create, I could not do alone,” Nguyen said. “The process helped me to think like a businesswoman, but to perform with leadership qualities.”

Through her academic journey with Friends University she was able to work closely with different non-profit organizations, an experience she feels has enhanced her critical thinking ability and understanding of intercultural competency.

“Learning this concept of interacting with people of different cultures and backgrounds cannot be successful unless one has the sensitivity to understand the other person’s viewpoints,” said Nguyen. “Once I become a PA, I know I will have all of the attributes I need for when I am working closely with my patients and co-workers who are of a different ethnicity and culture.”
For nearly 20 years, students studying computer science at Friends University have gained experience beyond the classroom. They apply what they learn in the classroom to real-life projects for external community clients.

“It’s a ‘win-win’ situation for both the clients and the students,” said Dr. Dick Teter, professor of Computer Science and Information Systems. “A non-profit agency gets help with a database system or some other project they need, and the student gets actual experience implementing it and working with a client like they will once they graduate.”

The Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Information Systems (CSIS) degree program at Friends University is designed for students seeking programming, database, web application development, and business analyst skills or preparation for graduate studies, particularly in the fields of computer science, computer information systems and management information systems. Each course in the major includes a student-designed learning project that involves doing research to determine business requirements and then designing, developing and implementing the project. The final application development project class gathers business requirements from for-profit or non-profit business clients that will be used to design, develop and implement a complete application or website.

Dr. Joyce Wood Wallace, a former faculty member, implemented the addition of projects into the CSIS course work 20 years ago. Today, the program is run by Dr. Teter, who supports the program since it, “… gives the students real-world experience with an actual customer. It teaches them to ‘dig.’ When they design the project and implement it, it gives them greater confidence.”

One of the oldest CSIS projects is a database that was developed for the
Westside Good Neighbor Center in May 2004. The Westside Good Neighbor Center (WGNC) is a food bank that serves low-income and disadvantaged clients by providing additional food. By serving more than 400 families per month the WGNC is one of the largest distributors of food in Wichita. The WGNC needed an information system to track utilization by head of household and by family based on age, ethnicity and frequency of use. The information system also needed to produce reports for the Cargill Food Bank to enable the WGNC to purchase low-cost food to distribute.

Two members of the student team that developed the database are currently employed at NetApp. Adam Erker serves in manager support account management and Abhilash Jacob is a software engineering manager. Both graduated from Friends University in 2004 with a Management in Information Systems degree. Jacob then went on to pursue his master’s in MIS from Friends.

“Working with a customer on their requirements is very similar to what we do at NetApp,” said Jacob. “We would show the customer what we had developed, then make changes and then train them on the database. It was sort of a simulation of what we do. It was actually real.”

“There are a lot of professors at Friends, I probably appreciated Dick Teter the most. He was always looking out for us, helping us to get ahead,” said Erker.

The only project developed for a “for-profit” organization was developed for Aero-Spaces, LLC., a unique addition to the aerospace supply chain. The company specializes in solving problems between manufacturers and large aerospace Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs). Aero-Spaces’ primary areas of expertise are in software that manages customer inventory and they also manage third party logistics. The company tracks lot and serial numbers, maintains traceability and satisfies FAA record-keeping requirements to provide lean inventory management solutions.

A student team consisting of Brad Suderman, a 2009 CSIS graduate; Andy Rose, a 2008 MIS graduate; Elizabeth Baker, a 2010 MMIS graduate; and Justin Rone, a 2011 MIS graduate; analyzed the client’s inventory and warehouse management software and enhanced it based on user requirements to provide many of the value-added features the software provides to Aero-Spaces’ clients. Suderman is now a lead delivery analyst and Rose is a service desk supervisor at Koch Business Solutions.

“This experience taught me to think more broadly,” said Rose. “We had a lot of interaction with the customer. The knowledge I gained helped me be successful in my career up to this point. You’re so used to working on a project out of a book but it’s a different experience to work on a project in a real-world environment. When we presented to the customer, they were impressed, and I was satisfied outside of the grade.”

“My experience at Friends helped me understand the project mindset,” said Suderman. “The experience of getting outside the classroom with a hands-on experience is fulfilling and valuable. Being able to see your contribution to a for-profit or non-profit company is really gratifying.”

A more recent CSIS project was completed in spring 2016 for The Derby Historical Museum. The museum houses thousands of historical artifacts, including an 1870 log cabin that was originally built near Oxford, Kan. and was moved from Friends University to the Derby Historical Museum in 1995. Inside the cabin are antique items representing an actual cabin from that time period.

Student teams developed a website for the museum over two academic years — 2015 and 2016 — complete with a “virtual tour” of each of the rooms. At the 2016 client presentation, Dr. Teter invited a few additional business people to attend to see the “talent” Friends’ program was producing. The vice president of corporate financial technologies at Speedy Group started asking some questions and was obviously impressed with one of the students, Savana King, who was graduating in May. That Saturday, King received an email from Dr. Teter letting her know that Speedy Group would like to invite her in for an interview. She interviewed twice with them prior to graduation. After a couple additional phone interviews, King began her employment with Speedy Group as an IT quality assurance analyst this past July.

“It helped me so much to know what a deadline is, know about time management, how to work with a group and how to work with developers. I was lucky to be part of this program. Professor Teter’s classes are all hands-on — each prepared me in a certain way,” said King.
Halley Groom

Graduation Year: 2016  
Degree Earned: Bachelor of Science in Accounting  
Employer: Flint Hills Resources  
Title: Accounting Associate  
Hire Date: February 2016

What are your main responsibilities at your company?  
Ensure invoices are processed in a timely and accurate manner and provide excellent customer service to internal and external customers. As accounting associates, part of our responsibility is to audit each other’s work to ensure accuracy.

What internships, student-worker experiences or other jobs (related to your field of study) did you have while you attended Friends?  
While attending Friends University, I worked on campus as the student worker in Student Account Services. I worked as the cashier, helped keep accurate student records and answered all questions. I also participated in the Student Phonathon to help raise money for the university.

How did your internship or student-worker experience prepare you for the job you earned after graduation?  
I feel that working at Student Account Services taught me a valuable work ethic, improved my keying skills and sharpened my math skills. Working alongside other students at the Phonathon, I feel my experience taught me valuable interpersonal skills as well as how to work with others to achieve a common goal.

How do you feel your other experiences at Friends University helped you get this first job and become the person you are today?  
I feel Friends University helped prepare me to go out into the workforce armed with valuable work and life skills. The business department taught me in-depth accounting knowledge, how to host a business dinner and even how to prepare my own taxes. With the life skills I learned at Friends University, I am able to be successful after graduation not only in my chosen career, but in life as well.

Dr. Lacey (Warn) Diebold

Graduation Year: 2011  
Degree Earned: Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences  
Employer: Sweetbriar Veterinary Clinic  
Title: Associate Veterinarian  
Hire Date: May 2016

What are your main responsibilities at your company?  
I am responsible for seeing patients, performing surgery, consulting with clients and managing in-hospital cases.

What internships, student-worker experiences or other jobs (related to your field of study) did you have while you attended Friends?  
During my time at Friends, I worked at Sweetbriar Veterinary Clinic as a veterinary assistant. I assisted in surgery, worked with clients and supported the veterinarian with many different aspects of veterinary practice.

How did your internship or student-worker experience prepare you for the job you earned after graduation?  
After graduating from veterinary school, I was offered a full-time veterinary position at Sweetbriar Veterinary Clinic.
Working at the clinic gave me a better understanding of what a career in veterinary medicine would be like. I also learned many skills that helped during my years in veterinary school. I believe this opportunity not only helped me get into veterinary school, but provided a wonderful job opportunity afterward.

How do you feel your other experiences at Friends University helped you get this first job and become the person you are today?
Being a part of Friends University’s supportive community of teachers and students gave me the confidence to apply to veterinary school. Advisors and other professors really pushed me to succeed and to develop the habits that helped me graduate from veterinary school. I loved being a part of a university that shared my values and worked tirelessly to help me achieve my dream.

What are your main responsibilities at your company?
My responsibilities range from brainstorming for an ad campaign to designing a poster for an event, and anything creative you can think of in-between. It is hard to pinpoint these responsibilities exactly because my job changes from one day to the next. (That’s one of the things I love about it.)

What internships, student-worker experiences or other jobs (related to your field of study) did you have while you attended Friends?
While attending Friends, I worked as a student worker in the Marketing and Communications Office for about two years. While there, I worked on a lot of collateral for the University. My assignments ranged anywhere from taking photos at events, creating and scheduling social media posts, and designing numerous print pieces as well. I also interned at Associated Integrated Marketing for a year. Some of my projects included logo design, brand development and advertising campaigns for web, print and social media.

How did your internship or student-worker experience prepare you for the job you earned after graduation?
I believe my student worker position at Friends University helped me to develop a strong understanding for brand management and the importance of staying true to a brand. This experience also really helped me to build my portfolio, which in turn helped me to get my internship at Associated. While working at Associated, I learned so much. One of the biggest things I learned was that I wanted to be working at an agency. I learned how to manage so many different projects with different clients at a time. Friends University may have been my stepping-stone, but Associated was my gateway into the industry I want to be working in. I was very fortunate that Associated had a position open after my internship.

How do you feel your other experiences at Friends University helped you get this first job and become the person you are today?
Obviously learning to do graphic design was one reason I got this job, but beyond that, I think there were so many others as well. One of the biggest being learning how to be myself and expressing myself artistically. Being “you” is a huge part of this industry and if I had not figured out how to do that, then I’m not sure where I would be right now.

Mary (Lebeda) Hetherington
Graduation Year: 2015
Degree Earned: Bachelor of Arts in Art
Employer: Wichita Community Foundation
Title: Communications Coordinator
Hire Date: February 2016

What are your main responsibilities at your company?
At the Wichita Community Foundation (WCF), I manage the design and writing of our newsletters and other annual publications, communications and marketing strategies, website maintenance, marketing collateral, social media accounts and media relationships.
What internships, student-worker experiences or other jobs (related to your field of study) did you have while you attended Friends?

While at Friends, I worked in the Athletic Department for nearly three years as the graphic design intern. I worked on a variety of projects, including the website, game-day programs and media guides, and photography, to name a few. My experience there positioned me to be asked by the commissioner of the Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference (KCAC) to do freelance work for the Conference. I created the new KCAC logo and bits of the collateral behind the new brand.

How did your internship or student-worker experience prepare you for the job you earned after graduation?

In the Athletic Department, Joe Zimmerman and Luke Dechant gave me a wide variety of projects to work on. However, I didn’t realize at the time that the variety of work would give me a leg-up on the competition when I was searching for a job. Having a well-rounded skillset is so valuable these days.

How do you feel your other experiences at Friends University helped you get this first job and become the person you are today?

Without my internship in the Athletic Department, I would have never been noticed by the KCAC to do freelance work for them. Without my freelance gig with the KCAC, I never would have had such striking pieces in my portfolio. My professors at Friends University taught me much more than design skills though, they taught me how to be a compassionate person as well as a hard worker. My resume landed me an interview at the WCF, but my people skills and character are what sealed the deal. For that, I can thank my family and Friends University.

Nicholas Vazquez

Graduation Year: 2014
Degree Earned: Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Information Systems and Business Administration
Employer: NetApp
Title: Technical Support Engineer Level 2
Hire Date: September 2014

What are your main responsibilities at your company?
At NetApp we specialize in data storage. My role as a technical support engineer is key to our customer satisfaction. I’m responsible for providing a reliable and efficient customer experience. I provide enterprise support for data center storage solutions to mid-size and Fortune 500 companies. My specialty is with our E-Series and StorageGRID product line. When something is broken or not working as designed we are who gets the call.

What internships, student-worker experiences or other jobs (related to your field of study) did you have while you attended Friends?

While attending Friends University, I worked at the Wichita campus in the Center for Online Learning and Academic Technology (COLAT)/IT. I provided tier 1 tech support services for PC and Mac-based computer users and telephone-based help desk services to faculty, staff and students. I was responsible for composing documentation for classroom equipment and providing training to faculty, students and staff on new equipment and software. I also set up speakers, audio mixers and various other A/V equipment for both small and large event venues. Outside of working on campus I did freelance projects designing logos and websites for various local companies. This was successful due to the network connections I was able to establish through my college advisor and other business contacts.

How did your internship or student-worker experience prepare you for the job you earned after graduation?

Working on campus for the COLAT/IT helped me improve my troubleshooting skills. Whether it is troubleshooting why a speaker is not working or why a customer cannot access their storage, the processes are the same. This position also allowed me to network with others in the IT field and helped me get my foot in the door. This led to getting a career in the field I wanted.

How do you feel your other experiences at Friends University helped you get this first job and become the person you are today?

Applying to Friends was one of the decisions I was proudest of. The reason I decided to attend Friends was because I liked that for IT they incorporated a business background as well. The professors and staff had great network connections and practical knowledge in their fields of study. Without my connections to Friends, I don’t think I would have obtained the job that I did. The networking that I got was extremely valuable and eventually led me to a connection that pointed me to NetApp. I then set my goal to work there. My advisor, Dr. Richard Teter, and the staff did everything to help me obtain this goal, and for that I am grateful.
For Dr. Leroy and Eva Brightup, supporting Friends University through charitable giving is just one way the couple — married 61 years — stays connected with their alma mater. It’s also their way to help other college students, including family, fulfill their dreams of higher education.

“We understand the need that students have for support and money for scholarships,” said Dr. Leroy Brightup. “Eva and I both benefited from scholarships to make it possible for us to attend school and then we taught here for so long that our paychecks came from the school. In a way, they supported us. In our later years, we felt we needed to pay it forward and contribute back to help others get the advantages we had.”

After graduating in 1956 from Friends Bible College (now Barclay College), a two-year junior college in Haviland, Kan., the Brightups wanted more education and decided to enroll in Friends University. While there were many factors that helped lead them to Friends — the Quaker connections in the community and a persistent cousin who worked at the University — they both received academic scholarships to help pay tuition, which was a big help to the newlyweds who had to support themselves.

After Dr. Brightup graduated in 1958, he completed Seminary school in Kansas City and then joined the faculty at Friends for several years. After a two-year break to complete his doctoral work in Denver, the Brightups moved back to Wichita for good.

The couple established their roots here — Dr. Brightup joined the Friends faculty in the religion department and taught for 40 years before retiring in 2002; Eva worked full-time for the University in the University Relations department. The couple has three children — all alumni of Friends University — and when their two daughters were half-way to graduation, Eva enrolled in classes part-time at Friends to make up the hours she needed to earn her bachelor’s degree in English. Eva graduated with her daughters in 1986.

To help their children — and now their grandchildren and other Friends students — pay for college, the Brightups experimented with a deferred gift annuity when Eva was still working at the University. “It occurred to me that if I think this is good for other people to do, I should try it myself and see if it works,” said Eva. Over the years, the funds multiplied and each of their four grandchildren receive semi-annual payments to put toward tuition, books, etc., from 18 to 22 years of age. “We also set up a scholarship in our names that we will add to at our death,” said Eva. “All it cost us was what we paid for those shares in the beginning years ago. By now they have enough value to help our grandkids and eventually Friends University.”

In their retirement, Leroy and Eva have enjoyed traveling, helping with chapel service at their retirement village and keeping up with their grandchildren and great grandchildren. If you would like to join the Brightups in supporting Friends University through your own charitable giving, please contact Brie Boulanger, director of development (interim) at 316-295-5525 or brie_boulanger@friends.edu.
Friends University welcomes experienced faculty and staff to enhance educational offerings

DR. CECIL RINEY
Returning to Friends University after 45 years of service as the chair of Fine Arts is Dr. Cecil Riney. He is filling the position of interim chair of Fine Arts. Since his 2005 retirement, Dr. Riney has been actively involved with other pursuits, including teaching occasional classes at Friends University, directing the Friends University Singing Quakers Alumni Choir, leading the choir at his church and helping with various community fundraising projects. In 2013, he also retired from his “second job” as chorus director for the Wichita Symphony Orchestra after 20 years.

Dr. Riney is a 1953 graduate of Friends University. He earned his master’s in music from the University of Kansas and his doctorate from the University of Southern California.

DR. PRINCE NII AGBEDANU
Friends’ new assistant professor of biology, Dr. Prince Nii Agbedanu, earned a bachelor’s degree in biochemistry from Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in Ghana, a master’s degree in medical technology from the Norwegian University of Science and Technology and a doctoral degree in biomedical sciences from Iowa State University.

Dr. Agbedanu has served as an adjunct instructor at various colleges, including Grand View University, Upper Iowa University and Des Moines Area Community College. He has also been a guest lecturer, tutor, mentor and advisor of undergraduates.

DR. DAVID CARTER
Dr. David Carter is serving as assistant professor and program director of the Organizational Leadership and Transformational Change program. He was the instructional curriculum and design specialist at Friends University from August 2013 to August 2016. He also was a professor at the Washburn University Leadership Institute and an adjunct professor of history at Butler Community College.

In addition to speaking at events across the nation, Dr. Carter has filled other roles at colleges, such as being the curriculum designer at Allen Community College and a department chair at Bryan University. He has received numerous awards, including Professor of the Year from the Washburn University Leadership Institute.
in 2015. He is also an author who wrote a 2013 bestseller — “Mayday Over Wichita: The Worst Military Aviation Disaster in Kansas History.”

Dr. Carter graduated from Benedictine University with a Ph.D. in Higher Education, Leadership and Organizational Development. He also earned a Master of Arts in Military History from Norwich University and a Bachelor of Arts in History from the University of Maryland University College.

DR. GUY CMIESLEKI

Dr. Guy Chmielecki is the new campus pastor and dean of campus ministries. He oversees programs and services that help students grow in their faith.

Dr. Chmielecki has extensive experience in the area of campus ministries, including serving as the university minister at Belmont University in Tennessee, the coordinator of chapel/convocation at Pepperdine University and the coordinator of campus ministries at Palm Beach Atlantic University.

Dr. Chmielecki is a regular speaker at conferences and events and has authored three books.

Dr. Chmielecki earned a Doctor of Ministry from George Fox Evangelical Seminary after completing a Master of Arts in Ministry from Palm Beach Atlantic University and a Bachelor of Arts in Youth Ministry from Bethel University, St. Paul, Minn.

ANN CRANE

Anne Crane is the new director of the Friends University library. She has been promoted from her previous position of library systems administrator, head cataloger and library web master at Friends University, where she has been employed for approximately 18 years.

Crane has also served as an adjunct faculty member at Hutchinson Community College and an assistant at the Wichita Public Library.

Crane received a Bachelor of Arts in Music Therapy and Bachelor of Arts in Music Education from the University of Wisconsin, Master of Arts in Teaching from Friends University and Master of Library Science from Emporia State University.

JONATHAN LANNING

Jonathan Lanning has been appointed as the new director of the Master of Cyber Security program and assistant professor of cyber security. Lanning holds a master’s degree in security administration from Southwestern College and a bachelor’s degree in computer science from the University of Kansas. He also has 13 years of experience as an officer in the U.S. Air Force and a background in leadership.

Lanning has served as the Lead Defensive Cyberspace Operations planner at the 624 Operations Center, where he was responsible for planning global defense of the Air Force’s $10 billion information network. He also was the senior instructor for Crew Commander training on the Air Force Cyberspace Defense System, which is the Air Force’s primary network defense capability operated by the Air Force Computer Emergency Response Team (AFCERT).

continued on next page
Friends University has started the first chapter of the National Association of Women MBAs (NAWMBA) at a private university in Kansas. The NAWMBA Friends University Chapter hosts local and regional events throughout the year to provide opportunities for professional women to build knowledge and leadership skills.

In keeping with NAWMBA’s mission, Friends University’s chapter is dedicated to empowering female business professionals, assisting women into leadership and enhancing the diversity of the workforce.

Some of the many benefits NAWMBA members receive are as follows:

- **Education and Professional Development**
  Members are educated on career opportunities and necessary skills through chapter programs and events at the national and international levels, including an annual leadership conference.

- **Mentorship**
  Mentoring relationships are encouraged between NAWMBA members. In 2016, NAWMBA plans to launch a beta program connecting mentors and mentees from its professional and student membership.

- **Networking**
  Students and alumni are given opportunities to network with schools, organizations and companies that are committed to the development of women’s roles in business.

- **Collaboration**
  Increased communication and collaboration are facilitated among graduate business school programs, employers and peer organizations regarding their initiatives to educate and encourage women in business.

NAWMBA serves four related client groups — female MBA students, female business professionals and MBA-level entrepreneurs, universities and corporate partners. Michelle Case, assistant professor and MBA program director, is the Friends University NAWMBA chapter director.

NAWMBA was founded in 1978 as the National Network of Graduate School Business Women by the Women’s Association at the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania. These women believed an organization dedicated to addressing the issues women face in business was critical to their future success. The women met with a group of women from Harvard Business School, at which time they realized the need to organize a national organization.
Friends University ranks at No. 37 in the nation for lowest student debt, according to Best Value Colleges. The University has also been ranked No. 44 by LendEDU’s 2016 College Risk-Reward Indicator (CRRI). Friends University is one of only two Kansas institutions included in the list of “Top 50 Universities with the Lowest Student Debt” by Best Value Colleges. Friends University came out substantially lower than the national average student loan debt of $28,110 according to usnews.com. Graduates of Friends University have an average debt of $15,289, which is approximately $9,000 less than graduates of other private, four-year colleges in Kansas, according to Best Value Colleges.

The organization compared all four-year institutions in the United States (online, private, public and for-profit), with the exception of specialty institutions. The rankings were based upon the students’ average total debt upon graduation. Data from the 2013-14 school year was used.

For the CRRI, LendEDU compared more than 1,000 public and private four-year colleges and universities throughout the United States and ranked them in terms of average student loan debt (risk) and median early career salary (reward). Friends University is the only Kansas university listed in the top 250. The CRRI number is calculated by dividing reward by risk. Friends University, with a CRRI number of 2.72, came out well ahead of the national average of 1.677. Friends University’s average student debt is $15,289, and the average early career pay for alumni with zero to five years of experience is $41,600. “Friends University provides its students with a quality education at an affordable price, especially when compared to other universities across the nation,” said Dr. Amy Bragg Carey, Friends University president. “Around one fourth of our graduates have no student debt, and approximately 69 percent of our undergraduates have their needs fully met. Need-based grants, Pell Grants, work-study grants and scholarships help students pay for college.”
NEW AND UPDATED PROGRAMS OFFERED THIS FALL
BY AMANDA HAWKINS, SOPHOMORE

Friends University is offering a new cyber security master’s degree and a special education licensure program this fall. The Spanish bachelor’s degree has also been re-focused on interpretation and translation.

CYBER SECURITY GRADUATE PROGRAM
Friends University launched a new graduate degree in cyber security that prepares graduates to be on the front line of defense against hackers determined to do harm.

The Master of Science in Cyber Security (MSCS) is a two-year graduate program for leaders who are responsible for defending the critical information infrastructure of the nation’s businesses, government and military.

“The program uses a creative, responsible and ethical approach to teach graduate students how to provide leadership for preparedness, prevention and protection against cyber vulnerabilities and cyber threats,” said Dr. David Hofmeister, dean of the Graduate School. “Students will gain proven competence in working with others, connecting unique individual strengths, leveraging independent personal experiences and applying teamwork to address potential and actual cyber threats.”

Graduates will demonstrate proficiency in the state-of-the-art core curriculum standards specified by the National Security Agency (NSA) as required to align with the Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense (CAD/CD) designation. The NSA defined these requirements in joint collaboration with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

“The field of cyber security is predicted to grow much faster than average according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics,” said Dr. Hofmeister. “Graduates will be in high demand to create innovative solutions to minimize risk and maximize security in systems, networks, mobile technology and cloud computing.”

SPECIAL EDUCATION LICENSURE PROGRAM
Friends University launched a new licensure program available as a specialization within the Master of Education degree. The licensure program, approved by the Kansas State Board of Education, prepares teachers with an existing teaching license to meet the growing need for special education teachers and complete the Kansas Department of Education licensure requirements.

The Special Education High Incidence (P-12) licensure program is designed for teachers who want to teach students in preschool through 12th grade with high-incidence disabilities (e.g., learning disabilities, mild or moderate mental retardation, communication disorders, and behavior or emotional disorders).

During the past 10 years, the number of students receiving special education services has risen 30 percent, according to the National Education Association. Currently, a shortage of special education teachers exists in 49 states, including Kansas, according to the U.S. Department of Education.

“Special education licensure can be completed in one year with teachers taking only six core courses,” said Dr. Dona Gibson, professor of education and psychology and director of the program. “Teachers can begin working as a special education teacher as they complete their licensure requirements. These students can then choose to complete their master’s degree in special education by taking 12 graduate workshop credits.”

The program will prepare graduates to assess disabled students; construct individualized instructional strategies; create positive social and environmental interactions; and communicate and collaborate with professionals, family members and community members.
SPANISH DEGREE

Friends University re-focused its Bachelor of Arts in Spanish degree program to prepare students for translation and interpretation starting this fall. This new direction makes it the first Spanish major to be focused so strongly on translation in the state of Kansas and helps the program meet the demands of the 21st century.

“According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, interpreters and translators are one of the fastest-growing, highest-demand occupations along with psychologists and health care workers,” said Dr. Jerry Smartt, professor of Spanish. “Increasing globalization and an increasing number of non-English speakers are driving this demand. We need Spanish graduates who, once they graduate, are able to help businesses and organizations communicate in the marketplace.”

Students in the re-focused Spanish degree will take four conversation courses that are assessed by an outside evaluator using national criteria. They will then complete a capstone course focusing on translation either through an internship or through a special project. Students will still take foundation courses in grammar, linguistics, literature and culture.

“By the time they graduate, we will ensure our graduates are performing at a very high level,” said Dr. Smartt. “They will be prepared to help their companies and organizations navigate a diverse and changing world. Being fluent in another language will also make our graduates more marketable to potential employers.”

Dr. Smartt said prospective students could also receive retroactive credit for prior Spanish credits they earned during high school if they can complete a higher-level course at Friends with a “B” or better. For students who are already highly proficient in Spanish before they attend Friends, this may mean they could complete the program in fewer years and could spend that additional time studying abroad and gaining experience in a Spanish culture.

CAREER SERVICES: PROVIDING PATHWAYS TO PROFESSION

BY AMANDA HAWKINS, SOPHOMORE

An average of 120 students visit Career Services per month during the fall and spring semesters seeking assistance with preparation for their career. The office equips students with the resources they need to develop successful professional lives and serves a wide variety of students — approximately 50 percent of visitors are traditional students and the other 50 percent are adult and graduate school students or alumni.

“Career Services staff members want to be used as a resource for all students, faculty, staff and alumni as we all have one common goal — successful graduates!” said Sanya Wiles, director of Career Services.

The office offers a variety of different services to students and alumni, including career assessments, resume/cover letter assistance, internship connections, alumni mentors and career workshops. Career Services also conducts classroom visits, including “Don’t Cancel that Class” sessions for faculty who are unable to teach due to scheduling conflicts.

Recently, Career Services has been expanding its services and outreach. An additional staff member, Danielle Frideres, career development specialist, has been added to the staff. Community and employer relationships as well as experiential learning opportunities are continually being developed. Career Services is now responsible for administering the graduation survey, and Institutional Research is collecting and analyzing important employment data.

For more career information and a list of upcoming events, visit friends.edu/career-services. Alumni seeking career assistance should contact Career Services by going to room 216 in the Davis Administration Building, calling 316-295-5885 or emailing career@friends.edu.
Friends University’s online Master of Health Care Leadership (MHCL) degree has received two separate distinctions this year. The MHCL program was ranked No. 22 in the nation and was the only Kansas program included in onlinecolleges.net’s list of top 25 master’s degree programs in health care administration. The scores were based upon academic quality, online offerings, cost and student aid support.

According to Best Colleges and Values, employment in supply chain or operations management is projected to increase 26 percent from 2010 to 2020. Friends University’s online MBA programs offer concentrations for students in this rapidly expanding field.

Friends University offers two types of MBA degrees — a Professional MBA and a Global MBA. Both programs offer the supply chain concentration, including an online and an on-campus format, and do not require the GRE/GMAT for entrance.

The Professional MBA degree is designed to prepare students for leadership positions in business. The purpose of the program is to develop students’ skills in the functional areas of profit and non-profit organizations. The Global MBA develops leaders with a global perspective, cross-cultural business skills and social responsibility. It is committed to teaching major competencies in leadership, ethics and complex business skills, which are critical for gaining sustainable competitive advantage in a global business environment.

The Supply Chain Management and Logistics concentration equips students to keep pace with the increasing demands of the global economy whether they are involved in exporting, importing, production and business along the I-35 corridor between Canada and Mexico or in various areas of the U.S. or world. The Supply Chain Management and Logistics concentration will broaden students’ understanding of Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) systems, obtaining certificates in Six Sigma, conducting lean manufacturing reviews and developing supply chains.

The cost depends on the specific program and location, ranging from $18,930 for the on-campus Professional MBA to $21,111 for the online Global MBA (not including additional costs for a business residency abroad).
Niche.com Inc. has ranked Friends University’s residence halls No. 1 in the state of Kansas, based on student satisfaction.

Offering six unique, on-campus residence halls, Friends University provides students with many options, amenities and services.

Freshmen typically reside in Green Residence Hall. After completing one year of school, students may choose among five other residence halls, including Falcon Glenn (a 24-unit apartment complex) and Friends Village (with one- or two-bedroom apartments).

“One of my favorite parts about living on campus is having freedom and independence,” said Tatyana Barnes, a junior living in Friends Village, an apartment complex that houses approximately 90 students. “Living in the residence halls has helped me create amazing memories that I will cherish forever.”

Green Hall, built in 2004, is comprised of fully furnished, three-bedroom suites for up to six students. Each suite includes cable, Internet, a functional kitchen (with a refrigerator and microwave), two bathrooms, a lounge area and a card-scanning entry system. Students living in all residence halls have access to free laundry facilities and free campus parking.

“I do my laundry as frequently as possible for free,” Barnes said. “Also, when the weather is bad, I park near the entrance without worrying about paying a fee and without wondering if the slot is reserved. Another great thing about living on campus is being able to go to the gym.”

As of fall 2016, Residence Life allows students to add additional roommates to certain apartments in order to reduce costs. “Our goal is to make on-campus living accessible to all students, and we continue to look for creative ways to do that,” said Kelley Martin, director of Residence Life. In addition to more roommates being allowed per apartment this year, Martin said campus housing is now available to adult and graduate students as well.

A recent report shows that students who live on the Friends campus are 50 percent more likely to graduate and have a GPA that’s 3 percent higher than those who live off campus.

Residence Life offers programs that align with the “wellness model” to ensure the residential education meets the holistic needs of students, and residence halls provide an extension of classroom learning and social interaction.

“Friends University is committed to building community, developing tradition and having fun by offering annual events such as the Variety Show, Falcon King and Spring Carnival,” Martin said.

Niche’s rankings were based 70 percent on student satisfaction, 10 percent on average housing cost, 10 percent on housing capacity and 10 percent on student housing crime rate.
Friends University once again claimed the Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference Commissioner’s Cup in 2015-16, becoming the first school to win the trophy both twice and back-to-back in the fourth year of its existence. Falcon teams notched 139.5 points over the course of the year, beating second-place Southwestern by 24.5 points.

Friends was paced by first-place finishes by women’s cross country, women’s indoor track and field, men’s indoor track and field, softball, women’s outdoor track and field, and men’s outdoor track and field. Women’s basketball and men’s soccer came in second, and volleyball, men’s tennis and men’s cross country were third. The 11 top-three finishes were the most in the conference in the 17 sports scored. Southwestern was next with eight.

The Falcons participate in 15 of the 17 sports of the Commissioner’s Cup, averaging 9.30 points per sport. Southwestern was next at 7.67.

Teams are awarded points based on their finish in each of the 17 sports, with first place getting points equal to the total number of teams participating in the sport. Point tallies continue in reverse order until the last-place team is awarded one point.

Sprinter Natali Engle loves being out on the track because she’s competitive, and it’s a place where she can run and think about nothing else. As successful as the four-time NAIA All-American has been in individual events, she finds something special about relays.

“We joke all the time that our times are always faster when we have a baton in our hands,” said Engle. “When I am running in a relay, I am not thinking about myself or about how bad I am hurting. I am thinking about how I have three other girls who are relying on me to get this baton across the line. It puts a drive in you that you just wouldn’t believe.”
The men’s 4x800m relay team for Friends University saw unprecedented success over both the indoor and outdoor 2015-16 track and field seasons, bringing home the NAIA National Championship at both meets.

The team for the indoor season consisted of Isaac Clark, Jacob Clark, Jesse Lyle and Maxwell Burley. At the NAIA Championships, the Falcons won their heat with a time of 7:41.68, beating perennial track power Wayland Baptist by 1.27 seconds to make the finals. In the finals, they had their best time again, this time with an amazing run of 7:34.31, beating another NAIA power in Indiana Tech by 2.77 seconds to win the National Championship in the event.

Kris Mathur replaced Burley for the outdoor season, and the results remained the same with a preliminary heat win at the NAIA Championships, running 7:36.75. It was the fastest time of prelims, as they were in the faster heat and were pushed the whole way. The Falcons once again topped Indiana Tech in the finals, winning with a time of 7:36.40 (Tech ran 7:41.89).

The two titles gave the Friends men’s track and field program three total in their history, with the other coming at the 2015 NAIA Outdoor Championships (Derek Racette - Javelin).

For trivia buffs, both National Championship runs came on a relay team member’s birthday — Lyle’s for the indoor season and Mathur’s for outdoor.
This fall, Friends University weekly Chapel sessions returned from 9:30 to 10:20 a.m. on Thursdays in Alumni Auditorium. Students, faculty, staff, alumni and members of the community are welcome to attend.

Chapel is a time to gather for worship, prayer and to explore what it means to be a follower of Jesus. This fall semester’s theme is Justice, Kindness and Humility, and is based on Micah 6:8, “He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?” (ESV)

This fall’s Chapel presenters have included Jason Jaggard, Mitch McVicker, ’95, and Natasha Sistrunk Robinson among others. Visit friends.edu/chapel for a schedule and more details on remaining fall and upcoming spring Chapel sessions.
Friends University is offering a new graduate program intended to provide lay people, pastors, church staff and ministry leaders the tools and resources to develop a framework for spiritual formation while growing personally and spiritually as well.

The Master of Arts in Christian Spiritual Formation and Leadership (MCSFL) is a two-year graduate program that combines online learning with on-site sessions. Graduates will be able to:

- Demonstrate a deeper understanding of Christian spiritual formation through rhythms and practices, leading to a Christ-centered, with-God life.
- Demonstrate an approach to building vibrant, sustainable spiritual formation in various ministry contexts.
- Demonstrate the ability to cultivate community with people from various backgrounds through real, long-term relationships.

The 30-hour program begins in the fall with the Apprentice Experience and consists of 15 credits online and 15 credits completed on-site. Combining a balance of academic rigor and experiential learning, it will help students grow deeper in their relationship with God and other like-minded Christians.

Relationships are at the center of the MCSFL program, as students will learn in a closed group designed to promote community and accountability.

“Students will come together through online discussion forums, small groups, conferences and on-site retreats over their two years of study,” said Dr. James Bryan Smith, associate professor of religion and executive director of the Apprentice Institute for Christian Spiritual Formation. “They won’t just learn together, but will ‘do life’ together.”

The program is founded on the teachings of Dr. Dallas Willard and on the Triangle of Transformation, a model developed by Dr. Smith that emphasizes that people are formed and transformed by narrative, exercises and community. New faculty member David “Keas” Keasler will be the program director and will teach in the program. Additional faculty will include Scot McKnight, Shane Claiborne and Jan Johnson.

For more information about the program, contact 316-295-5300 or adultrecruitment@friends.edu.

Dr. James Bryan Smith, associate professor of religion and executive director of the Apprentice Institute for Christian Spiritual Formation, leads a group discussion at The Apprentice Gathering.

Keasler will be the program director and will teach in the program. Additional faculty will include Scot McKnight, Shane Claiborne and Jan Johnson.

For more information about the program, contact 316-295-5300 or adultrecruitment@friends.edu.

Davis Laughlin, a nationally recognized education speaker, leads a keynote session at the Ignite! Conference at Friends University June 13-16. Teachers from around Kansas attended the conference to renew and recharge, and share ideas, strategies and best practices.
IN MEMORY

“In Memory” passages with more details were submitted by family and friends. Information received after Aug. 31, 2016 will be included in the next issue. We reserve the right to edit as space allows.

Kristin Marie Anderson, ‘09, died April 6, 2016. She was the youth director at Church of the Cross in Salina, Kan.


Aaron L. Aubuchon, ‘54, died June 17, 2015. He was a retired teacher and a former Navy fighter pilot.

Marilyn L. Blume, ‘55, died April 26, 2016. She was a stay-at-home mother, school administrative assistant, library aide and more.

Julie Renee Burris, ‘91, died April 29, 2016. After graduating from medical school, she practiced family medicine from 1996 to 2012.

Rosemarie Douchette, ‘03, died April 29, 2016. She worked at Blue Cross and Blue Shield for 30 years.

Linda Diane Douglas, ‘91, died May 16, 2016. She retired from USD 259 in 2007, but continued working in education.

Joyce E. (Swymeler) Drydale, ‘91, died March 31, 2016. She worked for USD 259 and Wichita Area Technical College.

Kendra Kay Earley, ‘02, died May 15, 2016. She worked at North Kansas City Hospital for 20 years.

Theron Oliver Easter, ‘59, died May 6, 2016. He taught at Fairland High School in Oklahoma for 29 years. He was an author, artist, ordained minister, locksmith, bowler and more.

Vivian Fleming, ‘50, a former professor of voice and music education at Friends University, died July 1, 2016. She taught at Friends University for 38 years after teaching in the Wichita public schools for two years.

Show your pride in Friends with our new landscape stones! Choose from images of Freddy Falcon, the Davis Administration Building or our new Faith | Friends | Future tagline. Check out the options at friends.edu/landscapestones.
She was a graduate assistant at Oklahoma University, where she earned her Master of Arts in Music Education. She also served as a church soloist and choir director for 44 years, recitalist, oratorio soloist, opera soloist and performer with the Wichita Symphony Chorus and Music Theatre Wichita. She was a member of the Wichita Music Club and Mu Phi Epsilon and served on several Friends University committees throughout the years.

Albert “Duane” Gale, ’51, died June 23, 2016. He graduated from Friends University with a degree in business after serving in the Marines. He worked for Boeing Computer Services for 37 years as a programmer, analyst and supervisor.

Walter S. Gick, ’39, died June 4, 2016. He served in the military and the U.S. Labor Department.

Gregory D. Gorrell, ’81, died May 15, 2016. He was the co-owner of Walter’s Refrigeration Services.


Dr. Walter Grist, ’48, died Dec. 13, 2015. He was a Methodist minister and evangelist.

Paul Leroy Hodson, ’74, died June 16, 2016.

Dr. Raymond P. Lansdowne, ’64, died Feb. 26, 2016. He was a dentist.

Sharon Lee Lansdowne, ’64, died Sept. 10, 2016.

Diana Lee Marr, ’00, died April 11, 2016. She worked for the City of Independence and retired from the Tourism Department.

Dr. Naomi Athalene “Atha” McNay, ’72, died March 27, 2016. She wrote Sunday School curriculum for the Southern Baptist Sunday School, led a Sunday School class for people with special needs, educated teachers on the best practices for teaching special needs students and coached people with ADHD.

Janice Kay Menzie, ’61, died March 5, 2016. She was a retired USD 260 elementary school teacher in Derby.

Mary Margaret Moreland, ’57, died Feb. 17, 2016. She taught elementary school and served as a tutor for English as a second language.

Chester “Chet” Mueller, ’57, died March 5, 2016. Following graduation from Friends he received a Master of Divinity from Asbury Theological Seminary in Kentucky. He served as a pastor and as the Tri-State District Building coordinator for the Wesleyan church. He also worked for Bartlesville Wesleyan University in development.

Emma Lucille Parli, ’48, died July 1, 2016. She was actively involved in the Kansas Association for the Blind and Visually Handicapped and worked for Catholic Charities.

Mildred Roberta (Stauffer) Patterson, ’46, died Feb. 29, 2016. She was an award-winning teacher for 42-plus years.

Manual Alberto Pavon, ’62, died Feb. 25, 2016. He was a veteran and a master mechanic.

Jewell Lorene (Dareing) Qualls, ’62, died Feb. 26, 2016. She worked for Western Union in Clovis, N.M., and then moved to Wichita with her husband and taught in the Wichita public schools until she retired in 1987.

Ross F. Scott, ’43, died Jan. 23, 2016. He served with the U.S. Postal Service for 28 years. After serving as a pilot in World War II, he earned a Purple Heart.

June Z. Setzkorn, ’99, died Jan. 12, 2016. She and her husband, Alfred, started Setzkorn’s and Son’s Meat shop and operated it for 45 years. She also worked for Garden Valley Retirement Village as director of social work, for Social and Rehabilitation Services in Dodge City and for USD 443 as a substitute teacher.

Carolyn Davis Smith, ’42, died Jan. 12, 2016. After graduating from Friends, she received a bachelor’s in library science from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. She served as a librarian at various libraries, including the West Genesee School District in Camillus, N.Y., where she served for 27 years. She earned her master’s degree in library science in 1956.

Norbert Everett Stigge, ’51, died March 15, 2016. He was a World War II veteran and was awarded the Bronze Star. He practiced optometry in Manhattan from 1953 to 2007.

Donald (Don) Stowe, ’53, died Feb. 6, 2016. Among his endeavors were being a Navy veteran, football player at Friends, physical education teacher and driver’s education teacher.

Ruthanna (Mardock) Stowe, ’51, died Feb. 19, 2016. She taught at Canon Elementary School in Colorado Springs for 30 years.

Dr. William Franklin Vest, ’73, died Feb. 11, 2016.

BABY FALCONS
To Geoff Louvar, ’01, and wife Hilary, two twin baby girls, Jordan and London, born Dec. 1, 2015. They were born three months premature and were in the NICU/hospital for 95 days, but are now healthy and happy.

To Brad Kirk, ’06, and wife, Diana, a baby boy, Tobin Wise, born Feb. 4, 2016.
Paul G. Martinson, ’50, received a master of art from Boston University and master of education from the University of Southern California and has completed all but the dissertation from Ohio State University. He has taught philosophy at several institutions, including Friends University.

Karen Askerooth, ’75, is an elementary music teacher at Jefferson Elementary in Valley City, S.D., and has served as president of the Valley City Education Association. She serves on the board of directors for the National Education Association and has been active in lobbying in Washington, D.C., with North Dakota senators and congressmen.

Jacque (Webb) Darbyshire, ’76, and husband Mike Darbyshire, ’92, recently retired and returned to Kansas. They live in Haysville.

Andrea Conlee, ’88, has been married 23 years, graduated with a bachelor’s and a master’s degree in social work from the University of Kansas, was a private practice psychotherapist and retired July 1, 2013.

Jody Colby, ’86, graduated from Luther Rice College and Seminary in Lithonia, Ga., in May 2016 with a Master of Arts in Biblical Counseling.

Steven Loyd Parscale, ’86, completed his Ph.D. and was published in the “Advanced Management Journal.”

Michael T. Schmidt, ’85, celebrated 30 years of working at the Menninger Clinic in December 2015.

Jennifer Sparlin, ’93, had her novella, “Jaleth and the Dragons,” published in the March 2016 issue of the online magazine, FICTION on the WEB. She writes under the name J.R. Sparlin.

Melissa Lunsford, ’97, began employment in May 2016 with Four County Mental Health Center in Independence, Kan., as their grant projects manager. Melissa is responsible for securing and managing grant opportunities that further the agency’s mission in providing quality behavioral health and substance abuse services to individuals and families.

Jim Bradley, ’95, is retired from the United States Air Force. He celebrated his 80th birthday Nov. 13, 2015. When he was in the USAF, the Air Force paid his tuition and books to attend Texas A&M to study computer science. That was in addition to getting his full pay and allowances and maintaining flight status so he received his flight pay. He received his Master of Computing Science (MCS) in December 1970. He retired from the Air Force in February 1980 and worked for Boeing for 15 years, retiring in July 1995 with a “golden handshake” that gave him a 20-year retirement from Boeing. He now lives on the farm where his wife was born and raised.

Mike Darbyshire, ’92, and wife Jacquie (Webb), ’76, recently retired and returned to Kansas. They currently reside in Haysville.

Jennifer Seymour, ’00/’02, successfully defended her dissertation on “The Interaction of Faculty Status and Course Delivery Method on Student Retention and Success in General Education Courses at a Community College” and graduated with a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership in May 2016.

Ryan Mackey, ’09, was consecrated as an auxiliary bishop for Province USA in the Communion of Evangelical Episcopal Churches Jan. 6, 2016.

Amanda Pascoe, ’13, graduated with a Master of Science in Family Life from Concordia University - Nebraska in May 2016 and is on her way to be certified as a family life educator.
Daniel YoNash, ‘12, relocated his financial advisor practice to Wellington, Kan.

Mark Britton, university registrar, has been elected for a two-year term as the commander for the Kansas Department of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Vallerie Gleason, adjunct faculty member in the Graduate School, was named CEO of Newton Medical Center in March and assumed her new role as president of the organization in September.


Dr. David Hofmeister, dean of the College of Adult and Professional Studies and the Graduate School, completed site visitor training with the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP). He is also a peer reviewer for the Higher Learning Commission.

Tony Lubbers, director of financial aid, presented “Seven Sides of Leadership” at the Spring 2016 Kansas Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators Conference April 20-22 in Manhattan, Kan.

Dr. Tony Lybarger, professor of business, gave a peer-reviewed poster presentation titled “Strategies for Protecting Your Family Member from Harm While in Out-of-Home Placement” June 7 at the American Association of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities annual conference in Atlanta, Ga.

Dr. Sarah Lyon, assistant professor of marriage and family therapy, was elected to the Kansas Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (KSAMFT) for a three-year term as treasurer.

Dr. Joseph Myers, associate professor of science and math, wrote a web article titled “Performance Optimizations for High Speed JavaScript,” which has received many recent website visits.

Brandon Pierce, senior director of admissions and financial aid, presented at this year’s Salesforce Higher Education Summit in New Orleans March 31-April 1. The two sessions he presented in collaboration with Modacto were “Integrating Salesforce with Banner ERP: Answering the ‘Build or Buy’ Question” and “Marketing Automation for Higher Ed.”

Dr. Steve Rathbun, professor of marriage and family therapy, was awarded the Kansas Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (KSAMFT) Service to the Profession Award at the KSAMFT Conference in Overland Park March 4.

Dr. John Rhodes, associate professor of education and professional education unit assessment coordinator, completed lead site visitor training with the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP). He also mentored a team of new CAEP reviewers for their training in Portland, Ore. This fall, he presented a draft of new standards for preparing biology teachers to the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) Professional Standards Commission.

Theresa Hubbard, ‘06, was appointed in July to the State Committee of Marital and Family Therapists in Missouri by Gov. Jay Nixon. The State Committee of Marital and Family Therapists licenses and regulates providers of mental health services by licensees and individuals under supervision for licensure. The state committee enforces licensure standards through the implementation of legislative and administrative regulations and provides guidance to supervisors and applicants for licensure to ensure compliance with Missouri law and regulations.

A licensed clinical therapist in Missouri and Kansas, Hubbard runs a private practice in Liberty, Mo., where she works with individuals, couples and families. She specializes in the treatment of trauma, various types of head injury, including concussions from sports injuries and accidents, and other concerns such as anxiety, depression, attention issues and grief. She is the treasurer of the Missouri Association for Marriage and Family Therapy and is the president of the Greater Kansas City Chapter of the Missouri Division of the Association for Marriage and Family Therapy. Theresa received her Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy from Rockhurst University, and her Master of Science in Family Therapy from Friends University. She is an AAMFT approved supervisor. Gov. Nixon has appointed her for a term ending Jan. 26, 2020.
**Dr. Donna Stuber**, professor of human services/psychology, received the 2015-16 Florence L. Denmark Faculty Advisor Award from the International Honor Society in Psychology.

**Caylen Sunderman**, adjunct faculty member in the marriage and family therapy program in Kansas City, was awarded the New Professional Award at the KSAMFT Conference in Overland Park.

**What’s your favorite Homecoming tradition? Tell us on Facebook!**

**Dr. Dezi Waterhouse**, director of academic coaching, wrote the article “The Importance of High Touch Intrusive Academic Success Coaching: Making it Work,” published by the website EvoLLLution.

**Dr. Timothy S. Nelson**, former professor of marriage and family therapy, died Jan. 25, 2016. Tim and his wife, Dr. Jennifer Nelson, taught with Friends University’s Marriage and Family Therapy program in Kansas City for 10 years until they moved north to teach at Bethel University in St. Paul, Minn.

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**WE WANT YOU!**

Share your accomplishments with your classmates and friends. Submit birth and marriage announcements, job changes or promotions. In addition, please keep us informed of address changes or corrections by using this form, emailing alumni@friends.edu or filling out the form at friends.edu/update.

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☐ Please send me more information on Alumni Association volunteer opportunities.

Alumni Relations Office | Friends University | 2100 W. University Ave. | Wichita, KS 67213 | friends.edu
IT’S A WIN! FRIENDS STUDENT WINS FREE TUITION FOR A YEAR

Friends University hosted a Football Frenzy competition for prospective and current students during the Sept. 10 football game. Two prospective students’ and five current students’ names were drawn to participate in a contest to win free tuition for a year.

Current student and soccer player, Leo Sosa, successfully passed, punched and then kicked a field goal during the competition. The event also gave prospective students the opportunity to take a tour of campus, meet President Carey and enjoy a tailgate before attending the football game.

PHOTOS BY DR. JOSEPH MYERS AND ROMAN RODRIGUEZ
UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec. 2-4
Christmas Candlelight Concert
Wichita Campus
Sebits Auditorium

Dec. 9-11, 16-17
The Nutcracker
Wichita Campus
Sebits Auditorium

April 8, 2017
34th Annual Easter Egg Hunt
Wichita Campus
Davis Administration Building, Front Lawn

May 13, 2017
Commencement
INTRUST Bank Arena

MOR EVENTS AND NEWS
Check friends.edu for more news.

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ATHLETICS EVENTS at friendsathletics.com