“The liberal arts focus on developing critical thinking, writing and oral communication skills is a big part of the reason that so many Baker graduates have had success in law school and in their careers as practicing attorneys.”

– Lee E. Green, J.D., professor of business and economics
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A Message from Patrick

Alumni back on campus, the people we meet at after-hours, fans at our athletic events all ask similar questions: What are the students like today? Do they still go to chapel? Are they still good kids, well-rounded like we were in our day? Are the Greek houses still doing well? Do they still have fun? Mostly, I think, alumni want to know if the campus is essentially the same vibrant place, and if the latest generation of Baker students loves BU as much as they do. Is the Baker Magic still intact? The answer to all of the queries is a resounding “Yes!”

What I have seen in recent years is that today's students might just be the most impressive element in the whole Baker package. Their academic, athletic and extracurricular credentials are stunning. Their diligence and drive give me pause. Their commitment to social justice and service borders on awe-inspiring. They are really great young men and women.

A benefit of being on a college campus, particularly one as magnificent as Baker's, is the opportunity to see these bright young minds interact and grow. Dr. Ivan Boyd would be pleased to see the level of knowledge flowing through the halls of the new science center bearing his name. Dean Benjamin Geenier would be thrilled at the social and intellectual interactions taking place in the newly renovated Long Student Center. Coaches Charlie Richard and Jim Irick would marvel at the abilities of our student-athletes, both on and off the court. Business leaders throughout the Midwest and nationally are impressed by the knowledge our MIA students bring to the workplace, and Baker nurses are the most respected in the region.

As our students engage one another and embrace the Baker Magic during their time on campus, I encourage each of you to remain engaged with Baker, too. Attend Alumni Weekend and STAG activities, or join us for an after-hours. Brag on Baker to your friends and colleagues. Wear that Baker orange tie or scarf as often as possible. Of course, the gifts we receive go a long way to help our students, faculty, programs and facilities also. ‘To all of you who have given, thank you!’ To those of you who have thought about it, or who believe what you do will not matter, I encourage you to read the stories of those whose generosity has done. Is the Baker Magic still intact? The answer to all of the queries is a resounding “Yes!”

I have learned quickly of Baker's reputation. It is the best in the world. So, the question is, how can we keep it going? How can we remain as the 44th best college in the country?
Undergraduate experience leads to successful careers

Instructed by faculty with legal expertise and a well-rounded liberal arts education, students interested in law have thrived in small classroom settings at Baker University for more than a century. Lee Green, a faculty member for nearly 30 years, believes he knows the reason behind the success of the students before they embark on a career in the legal field.

“ar’s liberal arts focus on developing critical thinking, writing and oral communication skills is a big part of the reason that so many Baker graduates have had success in law school and in their careers as practicing attorneys,” says Green, Juris Doctor, and professor of business and economics.

With the recent addition of a pre-law interdisciplinary minor at Baker, current students continue to be coveted by prestigious law schools as they prepare for a distinguished career. Six Baker graduates — Dale Werts, BA ‘84; Pat Hull, BS ‘90; Anji Gandhi, BA ‘93; Kate Sibert (Grady) Ellis, BS ’93; Kendra Hanson, BA ’10; and Katie Sellers, BS ’11 — recently reflected on how their Baker experiences contributed to their success. Regardless of the stage in their profession, all of the alumni conveyed common threads leading to a gratifying career: critical thinking, valuation and communication skills, inspiring faculty and valuable mentors.

Dale Werts, ’84

A double major in business administration and political science with a minor in religion, Dale Werts came to Baker from a small high school in Grain Valley, Mo. He was familiar with Baker through his older sister and believed the College of Arts and Sciences was the right size for him. Werts valued the faculty-student relationship in the small classes, saying all of his professors were great in their own way. He remembered Karen Horvath pushing him to think hard about philosophical topics, and being challenged by Preston Fambrough, Donald Hatcher and Ron Geens.

“After doing well on the GMAT and LSAT, Werts decided after graduating to pursue a joint degree in law and business administration at Washington University in St. Louis. He soon realized that as a mergers and acquisitions lawyer he immediately could be "in the thick of things" in business, dealing with corporate leaders. "I opted for the legal career over the business career," Werts says. "Really, I’m still in a business career helping businesses accomplish their goals, avoid problems and resolve problems." He also credits Baker for enhancing his writing skills, leading to a smooth transition in law school.

"I thought my writing was good coming out of Baker, but law school taught me how to be very precise with words and not verbose — great training for a contract lawyer," he notes.

After graduating from law school and serving a five-month fellowship with Senator Kit Bond in Washington, Werts joined the Gage and Tucker law firm in Kansas City. Gage and Tucker merged with another firm in 1996 and is now known as Lathrop and Gage LLP. Werts, who served seven years as the chairman of the firm’s corporate and general business department, focuses on corporate and general business, corporate finance, mergers and acquisitions, corporate governance, technology licenses and insurance operations and transactions. "I have represented both public and private clients in connection with their finance, operational and transactional needs in many different industries, including manufacturing, retail, agribusiness, transportation, financial services, telecommunications, pharmaceuticals and medical equipment, religious and educational institutions, travel and tourism, food products, entertainment, e-commerce, technology, human resources and advertising," he explains. "I have represented both buyers and sellers in connection with their purchases and sales of both stock and assets in many different industries, both regulated and unregulated."

Werts also has assisted clients with the structuring, negotiating, implementing and managing operational and special purpose joint ventures, key supplier and vendor relationships and domestic and foreign sales and distribution arrangements, including those involving enterprise software and essential technology.

Werts is active in his community and enjoys giving back with his civic and charitable contributions. He is a graduate of the Kansas City Chamber of Commerce’s Cen- turies Leadership Program and the Boy Scouts of America Wood Badge leadership program. He serves his church as congregation president, the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity and the Boy Scouts of America in many capacities. He also helped found the Northland Lutheran School Association and served as board president for seven years. The knowledge gained from Baker’s liberal arts cur- riculum, Werts says, continues to factor in his decision making.

"My experiences in Baker’s liberal arts curriculum help me see the big picture," Werts says. "As a lawyer, I am basically a problem solver. My broad background and experiences help me view situations without prejudice or a narrow perspective."

Pat Hull, ’90

A co-leader of the Class Action Defense Group at Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak and Stewart, Pat Hull has built a career representing employers who have been sued by current and former employees. A liberal arts education with an emphasis on critical thinking has benefited Hull’s concentration on complex employment litigation.

Throughout his career, Hull has represented multi- ple Fortune 100 companies in various industries, such as pharmaceutical, real estate, information technology, health insurance, medical, professional services, security, pharmaceutical, real estate, information technology, health insurance and telecommunications. "Not being so honed in to one particular discipline gives me the opportunity to be able to understand situations on multiple levels, how businesses work, how to ask questions," says Hulla, a business major who was exposed to economics, accounting, theology and sociology. "A liberal arts education helps you truly understand your clients and businesses. You have to dig a lot deeper, think critically and think on your own. The broader educational experiences at Baker served me well getting to understand a broader swath of clients."

Anji Gandhi, ’93

A dedicated student from Topeka, Kan., during her time on the Baldwin City campus, Gandhi triple-majored in mass communication, philosophy and speech communication. She fell in love with the campus after meeting friends Baker Weekend and an overnight stay at the Delta Delta Delta sorority house. Two professors, in particular, Donald Hatcher, professor of philosophy, and Ken Sibert, assistant professor of mass communication, helped prepare Gandhi for law school and a career as a practicing attorney. "Dr. Hatcher’s critical thinking curriculum helped me on both the LSAT and the bar exam,” Gandhi recalls. “Professor Sibert was my Baker Orange advisor, where I spent most of my time as editor my last year in Baldwin City."

Gandhi went on to the University of Kansas School of Law and graduated in 1996, ready to make a difference.

A mentorship from Richmond Enochs, ’60, contributed to launching Hull’s career. “I got to know Rich well, ask him questions before I graduated and decided to go to law school at the last minute,” says Hulla, friends of the Enochs family for more than 30 years. “He was an incredible mentor and a real stand-up human being. From him, I realized you could be a lawyer and a decent person.” Enochs, whose son, Rick, BS ’91, was a Kappa Sigma fraternity brother and soccer teammate of Hulla’s, passed away in October 2013. Hulla played club soccer for Richmond and eventually worked for his law firm for 4 1/2 years after graduating from the University of Missouri at Kansas City School of Law. In more than 20 years prac- ticing law, Hulla has learned the importance of being a “stand-up” human being. He realized early that to sustain a career one must be moral and ethical. “Ethics are mandated by the state and from a broader perspective morality is incredibly important in terms of longevity for the career,” says Hulla, who has worked in his current position for nine years. “You won’t make it very long if people don’t trust you.”
"While law school is grueling, the skills I learned at Baker, specifically writing, critical thinking and public speaking, were essential to getting through it," says Gandhi, who while in law school began her career in prosecution with a clerkship with the Jackson County prosecuting attorney in Kansas City, Mo. "Through my work there in the violent crimes unit I knew I wanted to devote my career to prosecution. I saw the real-world difference that a skilled prosecutor can make in the lives of victims of crime. I could think of no better way to use my law degree."

Since law school, Gandhi has worked in Missouri in Jackson County, Boone County and Cole County. She has handled approximately 50 felony jury trials, includ-
ing several murders. In the fall, she ran for election as an independent candidate for Prosecuting Attorney for Cole County in Jefferson City, Mo.

"I did not attend Baker with the slightest intention of becoming a lawyer," says Ellis, an associate attorney for the law firm of Hughes, Keller, Sullivan and Allee LLP in Helena, Mont. "I started writing extensively in a different style at Baker than I was at the University of Montana College of Law. "Professor Exon, a complete stranger, went out of her way to help me because I was a Baker alum. While I was inspired by other circumstances to go into law, Pro-

fessor Exon certainly helped me realize that the choice I was making was the right one. I cannot say enough good things about Professor Exon and the invaluable help she provided to me."

Kendra Hanson, '10

Kendra Hanson

"I knew my skills and background in political science would eventually lead me to law school," says Hanson. "It was a really challenging job, but I loved it. It helped me see different and challenging issues, and I don't have to pi-

egrate myself."

Hanson is beginning to do more work in the courtroom, meet with clients, draft pleadings and draft briefs for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit. "My favorite part of the job is getting to learn about the different businesses," she said. "I am not ready to narrow my niche right now."

"The academic programs were critical in helping with research and writing. I didn't feel like I had to make up ground once I was in law school." – Kendra Hanson

"We pride ourselves in being a general business prac-
tice firm, most often working on issues in employment, contracts, transportation and estate litigation," Hanson says. "It's a great fit for me because I can be involved in different and challenging issues, and I don't have to pi-
gotone myself."

Hanson feels comfortable knowing Baker prepared her well, no matter her future path in law. "The academic programs were critical in helping with research and writing," she said. "I didn't feel like I had to make up ground once I was in law school. I had to learn to write in legal style rather than academic. It was important to network and develop relationships to prepare for law school."

Katie Sellers, '11

Katie Sellers

"As a sociology major with an emphasis in criminal justice, Katie Noonan was inspired in the classroom by Jake Bucher, BA '02, associate professor of sociology. She became acquainted with Bucher during the second semester of her freshman year, when she enrolled in an introduction to sociology and a juvenile delinquency course. After the semester was over, she asked the professor if he would be her advisor. "From that point on, he challenged me academically and encouraged me to pursue my goals," Sellers says. "He helped me become a better student, guided me in a course of study that I truly loved, and supported me through every phase of the law school application process. I am forever grateful that I had an opportunity to study from Professor Bucher's continued support, and for always believing in me."

Having a family connection to Baker, visiting the Bald-
win City campus when the leaves were turning colors and receiving dance and academic scholarships influenced Sellers' decision to attend Baker. A meeting with Professor Green "sealed the deal."

"I knew I wanted to go to law school, so I was consid-
ering a degree in business," remembers Sellers, originally from Salina. "When my family met with Professor Green, he told us about his legal career, his decision to stay at Baker to teach, and more about life as a member of the Baker community. Then when he went on to tell me about Harlaxton College, I turned to my parents and said, 'I'm going'"

Sellers has long wanted to pursue a legal career. She always knew she wanted to help people. "Becoming an attorney seemed like the perfect career choice that would combine my academic strengths and personality traits with the ability to help others," she says.

Sellers graduated in 2014 with a Juris Doctor from the Creighton University School of Law with a concentration in international law and comparative law. Since graduating from Baker, she has worked as a legal assistant and law clerk. She worked nearly 18 months with Stommes Patton LLP in Omaha, Neb., before moving back to the Kansas City area, providing legal work as an independent contrac-
tor for Cutone and Associates, a law firm in Pescos, Calif. "Law school was a very challenging experience, but I re-

ceived an excellent undergraduate education that was well rounded and taught me to take charge of my own educ-a-
tion," she says. "What I believe most prepared me for law school was the research and writing skills I developed as part of my sociology education. Researching and writing skills are maybe the most important skills one can have in law school and are highly valued in the legal community. I was very thankful that these were skills I developed before law school, as it led me to having an article published and becoming the edi-
tor-in-chief of the International and Comparative Law Journal."
Born Leaders

Since graduating 10 years ago from Baker University, the university’s first recipients of the Fran Jabara Leadership Award have embodied the spirit of the honor. Christy Renyer, BS ’04, and Jason Webb, BS ’05, received the award during the May 2005 commencement ceremony for, as the mission of the honor states, demonstrating a capacity for future leadership based on his or her leadership in the classroom, with service clubs, on the athletic field, or in student government.

“The connections I made with so many people definitely stand out in my mind.” – Christy Renyer, BS ’04

In September, the two alumni, both members of the prestigious Bronston Fellows program while undergraduates, reminisced during lunch at a restaurant in Overland Park, Kan., about life after Baker and discussed their plans. “My Baker experience was amazing,” says Renyer, originally from Sabetha, Kan. “From the beautiful campus to the smaller class sizes, it was such a nice feeling to really know the professors and be surrounded by familiar faces. The connections I made with so many people definitely stand out in my mind.”

A member of Delta Mu Delta, the national honor society for students in business administration, Renyer participated in as many events with the organization as she could. Before graduating as a business major in December 2004, she accepted an analyst position with Cerner Corporation in Kansas City, Mo., and worked there 3 1/2 years, primarily in the consultant department. During that time, she was a member of a five-person team responsible for starting up a new line of business. Renyer is currently an independent contractor, working in sales in the brand marketing industry.

Webb also made the most of internship opportunities. He finished high school at Shawnee Heights in Topeka, Kan., where he served as an international trustee for the Key Club. As a Baker student, he secured internships at U.S. congressman Jim Ryun’s office in Washington, D.C., Corner and Sprint. His internship at Sprint included meeting a class once a week at the Kansas City facility. Each team was challenged to develop a solution to a business problem and gain an understanding of software development life-cycle technologies and processes.

“The internships paid off for me. I was able to convert an educational experience into a paying job and career.” – Jason Webb, BS ’05

Christy Renyer and Jason Webb received Baker’s first Fran Jabara Leadership Award a decade ago.

“From my perspective, a leader has to be full of integrity and also willing to make tough decisions, and have some tough conversations when they need to be had,” Webb said.

Webb, a dual major in economics and business management, says Baker faculty played a key role in preparing him for the leadership honor and a successful career. “If there ever was something I needed to understand more, the professors were always willing to take the time and help,” Webb remembers. “That’s what I appreciated most during my time at Baker. The doors were always open. Looking back I realize how valuable that is.”

“Making Baker my alma mater was one of the greatest decisions of my life, and keeping Baker a family tradition is truly something special that we are all able to uniquely share together,” she says.

Attracted to Baker University because of its small class sizes, academic reputation and leadership opportunities, Rachel Haley has thrived in the campus community. Majoring in psychology while minoring in church service and leadership, religion and English, the student from Lawrence, Kan., found Baker to be the ideal university, encouraging her to excel in the classroom and follow her passions.

For generations, the Haley family has established strong ties to Baker. From a young age, she heard firsthand how relatives’ college experiences were some of the most enriching and rewarding times of their lives. As Haley prepares to graduate in May, she can certainly say the same.

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“The internships paid off for me,” Webb says. “I was able to convert an educational experience into a paying job and career.”

For nine years, Webb has worked at Accenture, a multinational management consulting, technology services and outsourcing company. His roles have consisted of analyst, consultant and now senior manager. Active in the Kansas City community, he serves as board chair for Passages Youth Center, an organization in Kansas City that serves gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning youth.

“The liberal arts, critical thinking aspects of Baker absolutely gave me the extra edge to get to where I wanted to go.”

Haley savors the moments when she can serve the greater Baker community and give voice to the concerns and issues of her peers. As student body president, she values the direct input students have as undergraduates in enhancing the campus and making positive changes that endure. She has learned to embrace different perspectives and utilize the strengths of all members.

Career aspirations

Haley’s current career aspiration is to work in ministry as a full-time youth director and travel, completing missionary work throughout the world. Her long-term career goal is to earn a doctoral degree in clinical and counseling psychology and teach on the collegiate level.

“My course work, internship experiences and leadership roles have equipped me with knowledge to succeed,” she says. “I could not envision a better place to have grown into the strong-willed, determined, confident and competent individual that I am today.”

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1940s
Margaret (Meyer) Jones, BA ’48, and her husband, Harold, recently celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary. The couple lives in Lawrence, Kan.

1990s
Wayne Aligre, ’95, and Barbara Jane (Bell) Algire, BA ’65, are retired and live in Tucson, Ariz. Wayne previously worked as a foreign service officer for the U.S. Department of State. Barbara previously worked as a counselor.

Lloyd Baumbart, ’61, is a dentist and earlier this year celebrated a longtime dream of opening of his new dental office at Sixth and Main streets in Neosho, Kan. He and his wife, Marti, have been married for 53 years.

Norm Samuelson, BS ’14, received the 2013 Faculty Teacher of the Year award from Wayne County Community College in Detroit, Mich. His fellow faculty nominated him for the honor.

1970s
Nancy (Hey) Arnold, BS ’76, recently retired after working 36 years as a physical education teacher at Edgerton (Kan.) Elementary School.

Theresa Walsh Culen, BA ’78, MASL ’01, is part of the founding faculty of De La Salle Academy, a middle school in Concord, Calif., for boys of academic promise and from low-income families. She teaches language arts and history to the fifth- and sixth-grade students.

1980s
Jim Brady, BA ’82, recently joined USD 223 to become the activities director for Olathe (Kan.) High schools.

Dan liston, ’80, was honored on July 30 in the Buck O’Neil Legacy Seat at KU Stadium. He and his wife, Ann, ’79, have volunteered for The Dream Factory since 1989. The Kansas City chapter granted 74

2000s
Matt Berens, MASL ’06, is the new principal at St. Marys (Kan.) High School. He has been in education for 18 years, including six as a principal.

Jim Brockway, MASL ’07, is an assistant principal at R Vineyard College Preparatory Academy in Salina, Kan. He previously served as a principal.

Myron Ellegood, MSSL ’11, is an assistant principal and athletic director at Great Bend (Kan.) Middle School.

Sarah Ellegood, MSSL ’11, is a physical education teacher at Park Elementary in Great Bend, Kan.

Emily (Nicki) Farley, BS ’08, is the communication and collaboration leader for the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. She previously was the planning and volunteer coordinator for KHEC.

Jimmy Gillespie, BS ’04, is a sportswriter for the St. Louis (Mo.) Dispatch. He and his wife, Rachel, are the parents of Isabella Grace Gillespie, born on Sept. 9, 2014.

Adam Gateshe, BS ’09, is a senior financial analyst for Hyperion Administration for WEcoWorld Group and lives in Kansas City, Mo.

Emily Grabner, BA ’06, is a corporate trainer for Global Medical Staffing.

Melissa Green, MASL ’07, is the assistant principal at Trail Ridge Middle School in Gardner, Kan. She previously served as a school counselor at Grand Star Elementary School.

Justine Greve, BA ’09, is a judicial ex-ecutive assistant for the Kansas Court of Appeals. She and her husband, Daved Hayley, live in Granville, Kan.

Tara Hennecy, BA ’08, is the new K-8 principal at Crest U.SD 479 in Colby, Kan.

Barbara (Ludwig) Jungemeyer, BME ’07, is a music therapy clinician coordinator at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, Kan.

Ashley Mason, BME ’07, is the program manager for Health Connect, the new health program of Pawnee Mental Health Services in Manhattan, Kan. The program, part of Kansas Medicaid, provides coordinated physical and behavioral health care for eligible KanCare consumers. Mason is a certified health insurance market-maker for the Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved.

Kristen Brynn, BSN ’09, and Aaron Reed, BSN ’09, graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in May 2013 and were married on April 10, 2014. They are working as certified registered nurse anesthetists in Raleigh, N.C.

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For more information, visit www.baker.kstate.edu/news.
lowing Kansas schools: Anderson County High School, Center Grove Community High School and Emporia High School.

Kyle Davis, BS '11, is a marketing copywriter and content producer for DEG in Olathe, Kan., a full-service marketing firm that specializes in digital marketing, commerce and collaboration strategies. He and his wife, Amanda Davis, '10, live in Lawrence, Kan.

Aaron Dewlin, MSSL '11, is the principal at Agora (Kan.) Junior-Senior High School. He has worked in education for 13 years, including three years as a principal. He previously taught science and was a coach in Haven, Kan.

Jan Hufley, MSLL '12, is the new principal at Alma and Maple Hill grade schools in Kansas. 

Sarah Hutchings, BSN '13, is a registered nurse at Colmyer-O'Neil VA Medical Center in Topeka, Kan.

Lauren Jacoba, BA '14, is an English teacher at Olathe (Kan.) South High School.

Briania Mangan, BSN '11, is a pediatric psychiatry charge at Cotterman Children's Center in Kansas City, Mo.

Jenny Hurlbut, MAEd '13, is a high school Fiesta Queen at the Mexican Fiesta in July in LaCygne, Kan.


Lauren Jaqua, BA '14, is a producer at KMBC in Kansas City, Mo.

Emily Mitchell, MAEd '14, is a kindergarten teacher at Swaner Early Childhood Center in Olaton, Kan.

Patricia Miroch, BA '12, is a producer at KMEC in Kansas City, Mo.

Alex Skov, BS '10, is the community outreach representative at Helix Education in Overland Park, Kan.

Tige Stone, MSLL '10, is the principal at Colwich (Kan.) Elementary School. He and Jennifer Taylor Nicolas, July 12, 2014, in Wichita, Kan., where the couple lives.

Clayton Naff, BS '13, is the group fitness instructor at the Rehab and Fitness Center at Neosho Memorial Regional Medical Center in Neosho, Kan.

Andrew Patch, BS '10, MBA '14, is a business development associate at Kforce Inc., in Overland Park, Kan.

Sheri Ratliff, BSN '14, is director of total rewards at Sprint Corporation. She lives in Olathe, Kan.

Chelsea (Twitemeyer) Robinson, BA '11, is the marketing manager for the College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology at Oklahoma State University. She previously was the digital and social communications specialist at the Oklahoma State University Foundation.

Josh Rydberg, BS '13, is a risk analyst for Lockton. He lives in Overland Park, Kan.

Mies Sanderson, BS '13, is an assistant baseball coach at the Lines: Elite Baseball Academy in Shawnee, Kan.

Jennifer Schmelze, MAEd '11, is the K-12 band and vocal teacher for Avail (Kan.) Public Schools.

Sara Schwarz, BS '11, is a special education teacher at Jefferson School in Independence, Kan. She previously taught two years at Community Elementary School in Coffeyville, Kan.

Tara Lyons, BS '14, is a Web production assistant for the NFL's Atlanta Falcons.

Tige Stone, MSLL '10, is the principal at Colwich (Kan.) Elementary School. He and Jennifer Taylor Nicolas, July 12, 2014, in Wichita, Kan., where the couple lives.

Tom J Kim, AAB '11, 70, June 30, 2013, Centosa, Calif.

The University of Kansas Winter 2014

Tige Stone, MSLL '10, is the principal at Colwich (Kan.) Elementary School. He and Jennifer Taylor Nicolas, July 12, 2014, in Wichita, Kan., where the couple lives.

Jeremy Swearengen, MSAL '04, is the new deputy (Kan.) High School assistant principal. He previously was an assistant principal at two Hayville middle schools.

Megan Vail, BA '13, is an interrelated teacher at Paula (Kan.) High School.

Hector A. Vasquez, MMS '14, is a command chief warrant officer at Joint Force Headquarters in Topeka, Kan.

Amy (Hubert) Wells, MSLL '10, is the new principal at Cooper Elementary School in Goddard, Kan.

Billy Wicks, BME '14, is the secondary instrumental and vocal music instructor at Hill City (Kan.) Junior-Senior High School.

Ryan Young, BA '01, is a social studies teacher at South Gray Junior High School in Monticello, Kan.

In Memoriam


H. Anna (Whalen) Coleman, MSAL '97, 72, June 24, 2014, Lawrence, Kan.

Carolyn (Tarvin) Evel, BS '61, 74, Aug. 27, 2014, Hutchinson, Kan.


Lauren Jaqua, BA '14, is a producer at KMBC in Kansas City, Mo.

Jessica (Hill) Johnson, BS '10, recently graduated from the University of Missouri at Kansas City School of Dentalistry. She is an Advanced Education in General Dentistry Resident at UMKC and lives in Lenexa, Kan.


Zeta Tau Alpha, March 19, 2014, Liberty, Mo. Survivors include a brother, C. Alan Malm, '72, and a sister, Pam Mauk, '70.

Tige Stone, MSLL '10, is the principal at Colwich (Kan.) Elementary School. He and Jennifer Taylor Nicolas, July 12, 2014, in Wichita, Kan., where the couple lives.

Vicki B. (Scott) Self, BBA '05, 58, June 12, 2014, Topeka, Kan.


Alice M. "Mommy" (Frandsen) Van Dyck, 83, Alpha Chi Omega, Sept. 15, 2014, Paris, Tenn.


Dianne (Drown) Ward, '72, 64, June 12, 2014, Chesapeake, Va.


We also honor our veterans who are no longer with us.
It was rewarding to practice what I learned in nursing school,” she said. “In my mind, I would diagnose what I thought the patients’ condition might be and then later I would find out what happened.”

While working with other volunteers, the Baker faculty and students gained a deeper appreciation for the culture in Kenya.

“The international medical mission has truly expanded the students’ world view of health care and nursing vision for the future,” said Marlene, an advisor for Nurses for Cultural Awareness at the School of Nursing.

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Wildcats reach No. 2 in national rankings, fall shy of playoffs
Baker University in October climbed to as high as No. 2 — the highest regular-season ranking in program history — in the NAIA football poll.

The Wildcats opened the season with seven victories in a row, including a thrilling 27-21 triumph over Benedictine College at the NAIA Gridiron Challenge at Arrowhead Stadium, home to the Kansas City Chiefs. Baker lost three of its final four games to finish 8-3 overall and No. 18 in the final regular-season poll to miss the playoffs by two spots. It marked the eighth consecutive winning season for the Wildcats.

Baker's first appearance at Arrowhead featured traditional tailgates, complete with orange and black Wildcat tents in the stadium parking lot. Several alumni enjoyed gathering in the Arrowhead suites to eat and to watch the game.

Kansas high school musicians from Baldwin, Anderson County, DeSoto, Gardner-Edgerton and Wellsville joined the Wildcat Pride Band for a pep rally and halftime performance on the field.

Website ranked No. 1 in nation
Baker's athletics website, the go-to source for everything Wildcat sports, received the No. 1 national ranking in the prestigious 2014 NAIA-Sports Information Directors Association In-House athletics website contest. The site at www.bakerwildcats.com provides features, stats and video for the Wildcats’ 19 teams.

Alumni added to Athletics Hall of Fame
Family members, friends and teammates joined the celebration homecoming weekend to honor the newest members of the Baker University Athletics Hall of Fame. Baker added on Sept. 26 five alumni — Bob London, ‘79; Rayburn Moore, ‘99; Janet Moore Nickel, ‘80; Jimmie Rose, ‘94; and Mike Stouffer, ‘70 — into the hall, which numbers 137 members and is housed in the rotunda of the Collins Center.

The reception at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Overland Park also included the recognition of Baker's scholar-athletes who earned conference and national honors in 2013-2014.

Wildcat basketball team picked to win
Coming off its first regular-season conference championship in 31 years, Baker's women's basketball team was voted No. 1 in the 2014-2015 coaches’ preseason basketball poll. The Wildcats finished 27-7 overall last season and 17-1 in the conference before reaching the second round of the NAIA Div. I national tournament in Frankfort, Ky.

Softball players honored
Ten members of the 2014 Baker softball team earned a spot on the National Fastpitch Coaches Association Scholar-Athlete list. The players recognized for achieving a 3.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale were Sloane Brady, Tara Chumley, Sammie Schroeder, Madelyn Greve, Malorie Nelson, Frankie Farrant, Bakly Cain, Ilona Miller, Renata Dill and Alyaa Menghini. Baker also ranked No. 13 on the 2013-2014 NFCA NAIA All-Academic Teams list with its 3.424 team GPA.
An aesthetically appealing landscape has the power to sway a student’s decision to attend a university.

If you ask freshman what influenced their decision to attend Baker, a common response is the beauty of the Baldwin City campus. Students find serenity in reading a book sitting next to one of the many trees or by the slowly flowing stream.

“The grounds are visual every day,” notes Jeremy Portlock, MBA ’05, director of physical plant and facility operations. “The landscape and facilities are the first things visitors see.” Lead groundskeeper Steve Wright guides the grounds crew. Other members are Sam Foye, grounds assistant; Tom Kennedy, landscape specialist; and Steve Pfeiffer, athletic grounds coordinator.

The Arbor Day Foundation has noticed the group’s work, recognizing Baker four consecutive years as a Tree Campus USA for its commitment to promoting healthy trees and engaging students and staff in the spirit of conservation. Baker was the first Kansas university honored with the distinction.

“The grounds crew takes a great deal of pride in the work they do,” Portlock said. “They know that the effort they put in shows right away.”
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Jeremy Portlock, MBA ’05, director of the physical plant and facility operations.

“The landscape and facilities are the first things visitors see.”

Upper left: Tom Kennedy, landscape specialist, hauls away a tub of trimmed branches.

Center left: Sam Foye, grounds assistant, trims branches near the Osborne Chapel.

Center right: Steve Wright, lead groundskeeper, uses a hedge trimmer on bushes next to the chapel.

Bottom: Tom Kennedy, Steve Wright, Steve Pfeiffer and Sam Foye maintain the Baker University grounds as a Tree Campus USA.
Ryan, '06, and Emilee (Merry) Kuhn, '06, met as freshmen in 2002 on the Baldwin City campus before dating two years later. The couple have been together ever since and their affinity for Baker University continues to grow.

Originally from Burlington, Kan., Emilee valued the small class sizes, campus landscape and scholarship opportunities Baker had to offer. Ryan came to Baker from Lenexa, Kan., after one of his friend's parents, both Baker alumni, encouraged him to visit the campus. The couple enjoyed planning events for the Student Activities Council, participating in Greek life, serving as ambassadors and attending chapel.

They created lasting memories along the way. Ryan will never forget the friendships made with his Kappa Sigma brothers and an interterm trip to Washington, D.C. Emilee cherishes the bonds made with her Alpha Chi Omega sisters, the Making the Band interterm her freshman year, studying abroad at Harlaxton and traveling with the Baker jazz band.

The classroom experience was also rewarding. Emilee was recognized her senior year as a Fran Jabara Leadership Award recipient for her significant contributions to Baker.

Since graduating from Baker, Emilee has pursued an actuarial career, focusing on property and casualty insurance pricing. She obtained her Fellowship in the Casualty Actuarial Society in 2010. She now serves as the vice president of underwriting for a division within Arch Insurance Group. Ryan worked five years in nonprofit development before returning to marketing. He recently formed a partnership with his brother and sister to open Tri-plicity Marketing Solutions, which provides creative services and marketing strategy for small and medium-size businesses.

Because their education was funded, in part, by scholarships, the Kuhns provide financial support to benefit current Baker students. They also give to building projects and volunteer to speak at classes, judge competitions and help others learn about their professions.

The Kuhns give back, in large part, because of the alumni who supported their academic endeavors a decade ago.

“The students are what it is all about, so we enjoy interacting with them and helping them with their careers the same way past alumni did for us.”

As another extraordinary year draws to a close, we at Baker University sincerely express our gratitude to every member of our Circle of Giving community for their generosity in 2013-2014. The stories behind your reasons to support the university, including the Baker Fund for Scholarships, continue to amaze us. Your gifts do indeed matter as we ensure that Baker provides better opportunities for all students.
“My time at Baker was a formative experience that to this day impacts my perspectives and ambitions. I would like to help students build and rely on their faith as they begin their professional lives.”

**WHY I GIVE...**

Since taking a political science class just for fun her first semester at Baker, Jennifer Yocham Poersch, BA ’95, has been hooked on governmental affairs. The class came at the perfect time for the young student. It was 1991, a year before Bill Clinton became president of the United States. “I had volunteered on a couple of campaigns before then in my hometown of Springfield, Mo., but once Clinton was elected, I knew that I wanted to be part of the action,” she says.

After graduating from Baker, she landed a job assisting with Jay Nixon’s campaign for Missouri attorney general and worked on his 1996 re-election and his bid for U.S. Senate in 1998.

“College is not only a time to get a quality education, but also a time to mature into adulthood and figure out what to do with the rest of your life.”

“The energy levels and work ethic that are necessary to thrive on the campaign trail have served me well through my career,” Poersch notes.

The time on the campaign continued to fuel her political aspirations. In 1999, she moved to Washington, D.C., to take a position with the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee and worked up to the highest levels of Democratic politics for more than 15 years. Four years ago she was appointed senior vice president of a medium-sized government affairs firm, which enabled her to put her government background and advocacy skills to work in new ways. Soon thereafter, she left that position along with other senior-level officers to start their own firm of Hannegan Landau Poersch Advocacy.

“Having my own government affairs firm in Washington, D.C., is a dream come true,” says Poersch, who lives in Alexandria, Va., with her husband, J.B., and two daughters, Catie and Claire. “I truly love what I do and feel so blessed. Some days I have to pinch myself and smile.”

Poersch gives back to Baker because she believes the university allows students to find their passion and follow it. Early on at Baker, she discovered that the university was a place where she could grow inside and outside the classroom while pursuing many interests. “The first organization she joined her freshman year was the Zeta Tau Alpha sorority. As an only child, she quickly adjusted to gaining 70 “sisters” overnight. As her interest in government blossomed, she joined student government, serving as sophomore class secretary and senior class president. She also started the Baker chapter of Young Democrats, wrote for the Baker Orange, served as an orientation leader and became a parMentor.

“The parMentor program was fantastic for young adults,” she remembers. “I learned some priceless lessons about networking and self-presentation. My time as a parMentor at Baker has served me well in my various jobs and social obligations over the years.

During her time at Baker, Poersch spent a semester at Harlaxton College. “The campus near Grantham, England, served as the setting for a life-changing event. “It was a major factor in my decision to attend Baker, and I was very focused on participating from day one,” she says. “College is not only a time to get a quality education, but also a time to mature into adulthood and figure out what to do with the rest of your life. My time at Harlaxton really helped me focus on my journey ahead. I realized, for the first time in my life, what a big world we live in and what great opportunity is out there if you are willing to work hard and aspire to greatness. I came back from Harlaxton with a new outlook on life and a plan for future success.”

She wants to make sure her contributions help provide opportunities for Baker students to be exposed to similar experiences.

“I give to Baker because I am able and think it is the right thing to do,” Poersch explains. “Extracurricular involvement is such an important tool for personal growth in college, and I happily throw myself into a lot of different activities at Baker. I know there are a lot of good projects going on at Baker, so I generally leave it to the discretion of the university to decide how best to spend the small amount I am able to give each year.”

**Lessons learned through faith**

As a Baker University student during the turn of the millennium, Philip Johnson, BA ’03, arrived on campus at the perfect time. It was a couple of years after the Clarice L. Osborne Chapel, moved brick by brick from Spryton, England, found a permanent home at the university. Johnson was immediately attracted to the spiritual center and what it had to offer to the campus community.

“I believe that faith in Jesus Christ and the realization that we live for Him is fundamental to living a solid foundation and life,” says Johnson, who majored in business administration and law degree simultaneously from Michigan State University and handled multiple specialist and supervisory roles for John Deere for seven years. For the past two years he has served as a supply chain integration manager in Iowa. He primarily focuses on developing supply chain strategies that meet his customers’ needs.

In addition to being involved in religious life at Baker, Johnson was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity, the Student Activities Council and Student Senate.

“I very much enjoyed the bonds of being a part of Kappa Sigma,” Johnson says. “It was an incredible opportunity to grow and develop as a person and a great experience overall. When I think of my best friends, it is no coincidence that we all shared an address for a few years off Eighth Street in Baldwin City.”

“Forever grateful for the opportunities provided at Baker,” Johnson is looking forward to giving back to assist the next generation of students.

“Baker was a tremendous experience for me,” Johnson said. “While my gift was modest, I do hope that I can continue to do more to help Baker.”

Known for his drive, Johnson has furthered his education and advanced in his career since graduating from Baker. He has worked as a financial analyst for a couple of small companies, earned a Master of Business Administration and life, says Johnson, who majored in business administration with an emphasis in international business.

“College is not only a time to get a quality education, but also a time to mature into adulthood and figure out what to do with the rest of your life.”

“For me, Baker was a formative experience that to this day impacts my perspectives and ambitions. I would like to help students build and rely on their faith as they begin their professional lives.”
Since graduating six months ago from Baker University, Bryan Williams, BA ’14, has found a place educating others on an island in the South Pacific. Williams, an English and secondary education major at Baker, has embraced serving as a WorldTeach volunteer in American Samoa, 6,000 miles from the comfort of Baldwin City. WorldTeach partners with governments and other organizations in developing countries to provide volunteer teachers to meet local needs and promote global citizenship. The organization works with the American Samoa Department of Education to place volunteers at schools that need assistance. For the first three weeks, he and 20 other volunteers lived together in a classroom for orientation.

Williams believes Baker’s liberal arts education prepared him for the global experience. “Baker gave me the confidence I needed to enter a classroom by myself in a foreign culture,” says Williams, who teaches five English classes daily. “Without that confidence I would have never been able to live on an island in the South Pacific that is not even shown on most maps.”

In his volunteer role, Williams teaches at Manu’a High School, the only high school in the remote Manu’a islands of Ofu, Olosega and Ta’u, which have a total population of 1,500 people. Williams teaches English and “doing what is best” for his students in the high school with about 70 students.

“WorldTeach has been our advocate when dealing with the American Samoa Department of Education,” explains Williams, whose contract ends at the end of the school year in June. “They have helped us with placements, housing, transportation, safety and cultural awareness.”

Williams learned about the program when Bret McSpadden, BA ’08, visited Baker students on the Baldwin City campus and shared his experiences with WorldTeach in Namibia. McSpadden has now advanced to a program director position.

“I had found the program years ago while trying to find summer teaching programs abroad,” Williams says. “Bret made me comfortable and confident in choosing WorldTeach as my contractor.”

Williams is from a family of educators and Baker graduates, including his father, Gary, BS ’80, a high school science teacher and coach in Arizona. Baker appealed to Bryan because of the family’s connection and the idea of attending the same school as his younger sister, Cami, and cousin Emily Liston. Bryan also followed in the footsteps of his father and uncle, Darin Liston, ’87 and MBA ’97, on the football field. All three were punters for the Wildcats.

“There was no way I could turn down an opportunity like that,” Bryan said. Bryan’s interest in education as a career continued when he worked as a paraeducator at Hi-Star Center for Children in Phoenix before transferring to Baker. The experience helping others and the interaction with Baker faculty, especially Amy Wintermantel, associate professor of education, inspired him to pursue teaching.

“Dr. Wintermantel always put me in my place and made sure that I stayed grounded and focused on the now,” he said. “Although I want my career to end with being in education policy reform, Dr. Wintermantel made sure that my focus is on my students in the classroom.

“My Baker experience was fantastic. I was challenged by my professors, and I got to challenge them as well. They gave me academic freedom and the ability to pursue areas that I was passionate about. I will always be indebted to them for the freedom and opportunity they gave me in academia.”

“Baker gave me the confidence I needed to enter a classroom by myself in a foreign culture.” – Bryan Williams, BA ’14

“My long-term plan is to move into educational policy reform through academia or as part of a state board of education,” Williams said. “In one way or another, my place will always be in education.”

After his time in American Samoa ends next year, Williams will consider several options. He might receive a contract extension, transfer to another WorldTeach program in Thailand or China, or begin working toward a master’s in education.
Council supports fraternities’ endeavors

With an alumni base of nearly 6,000 graduates affiliated with a fraternity or sorority, Baker University is known in its strong Greek community willing to serve its alma mater in various ways. To enhance the Greek experience and strengthen the bond between the houses and university, a group of loyal alumni recently formed the Alumni Interfraternity Council.

“Our Greek organizations work hard to try and maintain ties with their members, and we want to benefit them and the university,” said Jack Bowerman, ’70, the president of the council and an independent management consulting professional in Overland Park, Kan. “Over half of the private money that was raised in the university’s recent capital campaigns – the Ivan L. Boyd Center for Collaborative Science Education and the Dr. Pat Long Student Center – came from fraternity and sorority alumni.”

“Our fraternities and sororities provide opportunities for our undergraduates to have a well-rounded college experience with support for all of their extracurricular activities, development of leadership skills and a lifetime of rewards through networking with other members.” – Jack Bowerman, ’70

The Alumni Interfraternity Council consists of more than 30 alumni passionate about student endeavors. Council members meet monthly to share ideas on how to improve the campus culture for fraternity chapters. “Our Greek organizations work hard to try and maintain ties with their members, and we want to benefit them and the university,” said Jack Bowerman, ’70, the president of the council and an independent management consulting professional in Overland Park, Kan. “Over half of the private money that was raised in the university’s recent capital campaigns – the Ivan L. Boyd Center for Collaborative Science Education and the Dr. Pat Long Student Center – came from fraternity and sorority alumni.”

The council actively participates in several Baker University events and programs to promote the sorority experience and help boost recruitment numbers at Baker.

The Mission:
The Alumni Interfraternity Council will work with the University, the Interfraternity Council and the leadership of its member organizations to identify, discuss and resolve issues that impact the advancement of each of our fraternities, the Greek community and the university as a whole.

We will seek to ensure that all Baker male students have the option:

• To learn about the fellowship, scholarship and leadership opportunities that our fraternities provide while attending the university whether their shared extracurricular interests are in athletics, student organizations and activities or in outside civic endeavors.

• To learn about the value proposition offered by our fraternities through lower cost room and board, the availability of fraternity-sponsord scholarships and sharing of costs for on-campus and off-campus student activities.

• To learn about the Kkeling networking and mentoring opportunities that our fraternity alumni can provide.

• We will seek to maximize the fraternity experience of all of our student members by serving as a forum in conjunction with the Interfraternity Council to share ideas and experiences among our member organizations and by building a sense of community.

• We will seek to augment and support the existing alumni relations efforts of all of our member organizations and provide a forum for our alumni to interact with each other.

Greek round-up

Delta Tau Delta fraternity presented for the first time in late July, the James O. Selzer Award for Chapter Excellence in support of the fraternity’s partnership with the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

Presented at the fraternity’s national biennial convention, the award recognizes the work of chapters that support the larger national partnership between Delta Tau Delta and the foundation. The two award recipients were the Epsilon Nu Chapter of Missouri University of Science and Technology and the Theta Xi Chapter at Eastern Michigan University.

The award is named after former Delta Tau Delta international president James Selzer, ’70, who battled Type 1 diabetes from adolescence until he passed away in 2010 while serving as the 49th president of Delta Tau Delta. His widow, Barbara, was appointed to the inaugural award at the convention on July 28 in New Orleans.

Selzer earned bachelor-degrees in physics and mathematics from Baker University, where he played offensive guard and safety for the Wildcat football team. He continued his education in molecular biology and physics at the University of Oregon, earning a Master’s degree in 1974. Selzer in 1977 earned a law degree from the University of Kansas and was admitted to the Missouri bar in 1977 before becoming a partner at Linde, Thomson, Langworthy, Kohn and Van Dyke. In 1991 he moved to the firm of Morrison, Hecker, Curtis, Kuder and Parrish. He represented a variety of closely held and public clients in general corporate and securities matters.

Selzer’s love for his fraternity was unbounded. At Baker he served as president of the Delta Tau Delta chapter and was appointed to the first Undergraduate Council of the Fraternity. After continuous devotion to the fraternity and numerous positions of service, Selzer became the first Baker Delt to serve as international president. His service and commitment to the fraternity lives on through the Delta Tau Delta and Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation national partnership.

Zeta Chi | The chapter has 29 members, including seven new-comers in the fall. Community involvement for the Zeta Chi house includes a booth at Maple Leaf to support their philanthropy, the Special Olympics, and adopting a family for Christmas. The men remain committed to various activities, including the performing arts, athletics, Student Senate and campus ministry.

Zeta Phi Beta | Members for this year are Lauren Allen-Boone, Raina Simpson and Ty Sloan. The chapter continues to support its national philanthropy, the March of Dimes. In the spring, Zeta Phi Beta won the Greek Games title.

Zeta Tau Alpha | Zeta Tau Alpha achieved the top grade-point average for sororities on campus in the spring of 2014 and has 16 new members. In October, the sorority hosted several events in conjunction with its philanthropy, breast cancer education and awareness, on campus. The sorority raised more than $1,500 in October. Senior Rachael Theobald was honored as homecoming queen in September.
Cynthia Appl, professor of German, was elected in September to a second two-year term as the president of the Kansas Association of Teachers of German.

Marc Childress, professor in the School of Education graduate degree program, was presented in July at a Bacon Outstanding Leadership Award at the Summer Institute on Distance Learning and Instructional Technology.

Verna MacDonald Edwards, associate professor, present- ed "Creating New Media Rubrics" at the same conference.

Ron Christian, assistant professor of sports administration, was part of a World Cup 2014 study and expert panel. He addressed the following question: "Spon- sors seem to be placing big bets on these being record U.S. interest in the World Cup — will they be right?" and "What do you think the net effect of Brazil hosting the World Cup will be on the country?"

Lowell Jacobsen, Elizabeth H. Rhodes Professor of International Economics, has finished his paper "On Robinson, Robertson, and the Industrial Organization View" accepted for publication.

Elizabeth H. Rhodes, professor of political science at Baker, has traveled four times to Uganda to volunteer with the organization, witnessing the positive effects of the socially conscious business practices on producers in East Africa that the organization teaches women to engage in to improve on existing skills, teaches women to teach at a high school before returning a couple of years later to conduct dissertation research. In his dissertation, he describes schools that excel in these key areas. It describes schools that take a holistic approach to admission decisions, consistently excel in providing undergradu- ate education, and have a high national reputation.

JUNE 2013 | For its performances in national events, Baker University finishes No. 20 nationally in the prestigous Learfield Cup standings, the highest ranking among all schools in Kansas and the Heart of America Athletic Conference.

JULY 2013 | Ashley Werner, of Pittsburg, Kan., is announced as the recipient of the 2013-2014 Recognition Scholarship by the Kansas Independent College Fund. In addition to her studies and many campus activities, she played on the Baker women’s basketball team and is a leader for Baker Serves, a group dedicated to mobilizing students to do community service in and around Baldwin City.

AUGUST 2013 | The sixth annual Marc Roubethush schol- arship golf tournament, a fundraiser supported by The Sher- win-Williams Company for student scholarships at the Wichita campus, is held at Sand Creek Station Golf Course in Newton, Kan. The tournament has raised more than $50,000 to support the Baker scholarship program for adult learners in the Baldwin City area. • The Princeton Review, an education services company known for its test prep programs and college and graduate school guides, selects Baker University for its Best in the Midwest section of its 2014 Best Colleges: Region by Region. Students celebrate the opening of a community-constructed dining hall in the Student Union on the Baldwin City campus. Phase one of the renovation features stations similar to the food court at a shopping mall. A $11 million lead gift from donor Suzanne Richardson Teel spearheaded the project. • Colleges of Distinction, a guidebook featuring schools in the third consecutive year, Baker University is the highest-ranked Kansas university in the "Tackling Hunger Food Drive" over Ottawa University. • For its performances in national events, Baker University finishes No. 20 nationally in the prestigous Learfield Cup standings, the highest ranking among all schools in Kansas and the Heart of America Athletic Conference.
Kayla Infanti and Lauren Bechard placed first in multimedia sports.

Five students are honored as award recipients for the Baker Organizational Observation for Knowledge (BOOK) program. The program expands basic summer internship opportunities by inviting students to participate in presenting a profile of their hosting or sponsoring organization by researching the company’s history, mission, structure, products and services, finances and management. Molly Bostwick, a senior from Baldwin City, Kan., is awarded the top prize and received $1,500 for her presentation about her internship at Wal-Mart in Bentonville, Ark. She also received $500 from Baker’s Institute for Leadership and Positive Change initiative for her profile on Wal-Mart’s social responsibility efforts, including sustainability considerations and community involvement. Outstanding merit awards are presented to Caitlin Campbell, Topeka, Kan., senior, who interned at West Ridge Lanes and Family Fun Center in Topeka; $600, Alex Henning, De Soto, Kan., senior, who interned at K-State Olathe; and $300, Jordan Honore, Stafford, Texas, senior, who interned at the Kan.) Innovation Center, for their package on roller derby. Taylor Shuck, a junior from Lawrence, Kan., received honorable mention in multimedia feature for an athletes and injuries in “High Risk Sports.” Infanti, a junior from Olathe, Kan., is majoring in public relations and behavioral psychology. Bechard, a junior from Gardner, Kan., is majoring in mass media with an emphasis in public relations. Baker also received three honorable mentions at the national event. Tara Lyons, a senior from Strasburg, Colo., and Kimmonee Nunez, a senior from Dallas, received honorable mention in multimedia sports for their package on roller derby. Taylor Shuck, a junior from Lawrence, Kan., received honorable mention in multimedia feature for intern term 2013. Baker honorees five alumni and scholars-at-arms during its annual Athletic Hall of Fame Induction and Awards Banquet at the DoubleTree Hotel. The new inductees are Jim Dick, ‘63; Jerry Jones, ‘64; Meghan Lewis Houtsma, ‘02; Bob Peters, ‘78; and Jodyne Sears, ‘80. Baker recognizes 44 NAIA School-at-Athletes, 67 All-HAAC performers, 27 NAIA All-Americans, eight Capital One Academic All-District selections, four Capital One Academic All-Americans and three HAAC coaches of the year at the banquet.

NOVEMBER 2013 | President Dr. Pat Long delivers her “Last Lecture” at Rice Auditorium as part of the series in conjunction with the common book program. | Mai Tadokoro, an active percussionist and educator in the Kansas City area, performs at McKibbin Recital Hall on Baker University’s Baldwin City campus. A native of Nara, Japan, Tadokoro is a founding member of the Astra Percussion quartet. She also has played timpani with the Kansas City Civic Opera and percussion with the Northland Symphony Orchestra. | Internationally acclaimed jazz vocalist Kevin Mahogany, ‘91, returns to the Baldwin City campus to perform in the 16th annual Baker University Jazz Festival at Rice Auditorium. During the week of Nov. 18-22, Mahogany served as an artist in residence, working with Baker students focusing on jazz education, the life of a professional musician and rehearsing with the Jazz Ensemble. | Lit. Jordan, a senior from Leavenworth, Kan., is named Baker’s Student Leader of the Month for October. Jordan, an art history major, is a resident assistant at Irwin Hall, an active member of Baker Railies Against Violence, a manager for the men’s and women’s cross country teams, and the residence life representative for student senate. | More than 20 first-year and transfer students from Baker participated in the annual Emerging Leaders Summit at Camp Chippewa in Ottawa, Kan. The event is designed for the students to develop their leadership skills, enable other students to act, establish values and respect and develop teamwork. Baker’s Emerging Leaders Summit Class of 2013-2014 is the following: Bree Busch, Manhattan, Kan.; Jordan Buscher, Overland Park, Kan.; Amanda Conrad, Topeka, Kan.; Kaci Dillingham, Topeka, Kan.; Kristin Heinrich, Wilson, Kan.; Jaime Hodge, Ottawa, Kan.; Alissa Housh, Gypsum; Ryenn Johns, Lenexa, Kan.; Kir Kniffin, Wichita, Kan.; Sine Maumeau, Highlands Ranch, Colo.; Bob Piber, Lecompton, De Soto, Kan.; Logan Pope, Pope, Mo.; Darrell Randall, Overland Park, Kan.; Jami Sanborn, Independence, Kan.; Caytlin Siler, Bonner Springs, Kan.; Rebecca Simkins, Merriam, Kan.; Elizabeth Stover, Olathe, Kan.; Knights Tatum, Tatum, Texas; Evelyn Visa, Overland Park, Kan.; Zach Weatherburn, Olathe, Kan.; Madison Weldon, Chouteau, Kan.; Stephen Wollkopf, Overland Park, Kan.; and Anna Wright, Lawrence, Kan. | Baker celebrates International Education Week Nov. 18-22, highlighted by a forum led by international student and study abroad students. SPSG announces the start of two new degree programs — the Bache- lor of Science in Accounting and the online Bachelor of Science in Mass Media. | Two School of Education students — Lindsey Brown and Bryan Kinkle — are honored as Teachers of Promise during the Doctoral Hooding ceremony in Wichita, Kan., Brown, a senior from Olathe, Kan., and Kinkle, a senior from Eudora, Kan., are both majoring in secondary education and mathematics. The two seniors graduated in December. The Teachers of Promise award is presented by the Department of Education to recognize, recruit and retain the best Kansas teachers for Kansas children. The Wildcat football team finishes with an 11-2 overall record, including an 8-1 mark in the Heart of America Athletic Conference to claim its first conference title in 20 years. The 11 victories are a school record and coach Mike Grosser is named HAAC coach of the year. Baker reached the national quarterfinals for the first time since 1993 with a 10-7 victory over Stetson at Loson Stadium in the first round of the NCAA Football Championship Series. The men’s soccer team captures the Heart of America Athletic Conference tournament championship with a 1-0 victory over MidAmerica Nazarene to qualify automati- cally for the national tournament. The Wildcats entered nationals with a 14-5-2 record and No. 3 ranking, the second highest in program history. Senior Lauren Jaqua wins the HAAC individual women’s cross country title for the third consecutive year to lead the Wildcat women to the team crown.

Katy Hill Wozniak, ‘84, graduates address audience at May commencement. More than 20 years, she has worked collaboratively with community partners, initiating national and global partnerships, spearheading fundraising efforts and generating increased revenue. The Department of Music presents the 83rd Annual Christmas Candlelight Vespers at Rice Auditorium. Cathy Crispino, interim director of choir, conducted the choirs. Other conductors are Dr. Susan Emler, director of the speech choir; Pay, James, director of bands; Dr. J.D. Parr, di- rector of jazz ensemble; Mark Prestel, director of orchestras; and Steve Riley, percussion instructor. The School of Nursing part- ers with Streams of Hope International, which provides medical supplies and health care partnerships, spearheading fundraising efforts and generating increased revenue. The Department of Music presents the 83rd Annual Christmas Candlelight Vespers at Rice Auditorium. Cathy Crispino, interim director of choir, conducted the choirs. Other conductors are Dr. Susan Emler, director of the speech choir; Pay, James, director of bands; Dr. J.D. Parr, di- rector of jazz ensemble; Mark Prestel, director of orchestras; and Steve Riley, percussion instructor. The School of Nursing part- ers with Streams of Hope International, which provides medical supplies and health care partnerships, spearheading fundraising efforts and generating increased revenue. The Department of Music presents the 83rd Annual Christmas Candlelight Vespers at Rice Auditorium. Cathy Crispino, interim director of choir, conducted the choirs. Other conductors are Dr. Susan Emler, director of the speech choir; Pay, James, director of bands; Dr. J.D. Parr, di- rector of jazz ensemble; Mark Prestel, director of orchestras; and Steve Riley, percussion instructor. The School of Nursing part- ers with Streams of Hope International, which provides medical supplies and health care partnerships, spearheading fundraising efforts and generating increased revenue. The Department of Music presents the 83rd Annual Christmas Candlelight Vespers at Rice Auditorium. Cathy Crispino, interim director of choir, conducted the choirs. Other conductors are Dr. Susan Emler, director of the speech choir; Pay, James, director of bands; Dr. J.D. Parr, di-
and Stephanie Walters. Alumnae Amy Kincaid, ‘93, and Elizabeth Deng, ‘11, are inducted as community members. Nearly 300 undergraduate and graduate students are honored at commencement at the Collins Center. Dr. Patricia N. Long, the 28th president in Baker’s 155-year history, delivers the keynote address at all three commencement ceremonies. Baker produces 19 NAI A scholar-athletes for the fall semester.

JANUARY 2014 | Dr. Yemen Percy Howard Jr., senior pastor at Second Baptist Church in Kansas City, Mo., is the keynote speaker at Baker’s annual Martin Luther King Jr. celebration at the Osborne Chapel during the first worship service of the spring semester on the Baldwin City campus. • The Rev. Kevin Hopkins is named Minister to the University. Hopkins, the senior pastor at Leavenworth First Methodist Church since 2006, will succeed the Rev. Irís DeSpain, who announced last year his plans to retire after the 2013-2014 academic year. Hopkins will officially assume his duties at Baker, Mo., on July 1.

The Arbor Day Foundation recognizes Baker as a 2013 Tree Campus USA for its commitment to promoting healthy trees and engaging students and staff in the spirit of conservation. To be honored, Baker met the five core standards for effective campus forest management: a tree advisory committee, a campus tree-care plan, dedicated annual expenditures for its campus tree program, an Arbor Day observance and student service-learning project.

• Zach Aldrich, a junior business finance, economics and math major from Topeka, Kan., is named Baker University’s Student Leader of the Month for December and January. Aldrich is a member of Baker’s tennis team and has been recognized on the dean’s list for maintaining a 3.5 grade-point average for the semester. He also was the student representative on the president’s search committee for Baker’s 28th president. A biology and pre-doctoral student at Kansas State University, Aldrich plans to pursue a career in health services at Osborne Chapel on the Baldwin City campus.

• Lauren Jaques and Nicole Welch-Ward are honored as Teachers of Promise in a recognition ceremony at Capitol Plaza in Topeka, Kan. Jaques, a senior from Lansing, Kan., is majoring in English and secondary education. Welch-Ward, of Gardner, Kan., is completing her teacher certification licensure through Baker’s elementary education program. • Tyler Sloan, a junior exercise science major from Kansas City, Kan., is named Baker University’s Student Leader of the Month for February. Sloan serves as president of Mugango, a student-run diversity organization, and is the treasurer of the Pi Sigma chapter of Zeta Phi Beta sorority. She also performs as a praise dancer during university worship services at Osborne Chapel on the Baldwin City campus. A standout track and field performer, Sloan was a three-time NAIA Women’s Outdoor Track and Field National Championship first team honoree from the 100-meter hurdles, third in the 400-meter hurdles and fifth in the 4x100-meter relay. • Katie Colby, a senior from Paola, Kan., places third in creative nonfiction essays at Sigma Tau Delta International on Feb. 26-March 1 in Savannah, Ga. More than 1,000 students and faculty attended the English honorees society event featuring the best student writers in the country. Colby is majoring in English and sociology. Her concentrations are creative writing and literature. • Irís DeSpain, ’70, the Minister to the University since 1992, delivers his “Last Lecture” at Rice Auditorium as part of a series hosted by Baker’s Student Activities Council. • Katie Thurban, a track and field student-athlete, is named Baker University’s Student Leader of the Month for March. She is president of Delta Delta Delta on the Baldwin City campus and president of the Student Activities Council.

MAY 2014 | Joe Watson, associate professor of media arts, receives the Jennie Howell Kopie and Verda R. Kopie Award for Distinguished Teaching during commencement ceremonies at the Collins Center. The award recognizes a faculty member, without regard to rank or years of service, who has a record of excellence in teaching and in transforming students into scholars, who brings honor to the university and who exhibits good moral character. Recipients also receive a $5,000 cash award. • The university dedicates the Dr. Patricia (McCaslin) Long Student Center during Alumni Weekend. More than 200 undergraduate students and 250 graduate students are honored at the spring commencement ceremonies at the Collins Center. Janet Hill Wozniak, ’84, and a member of Education Worldwide for Apple, addresses the graduates at the spring graduation ceremony. Dr. Patricia N. Long, the 28th president in Baker’s 155-year history, speaks at the NAI A ceremony. • Irís DeSpain, ’70, retires after serving as Minister to the university for 22 1/2 years.

JULY 2014 | Baker University’s Master of Liberal Arts online degree program is ranked fifth nationally by the wordstrum.com website. The site selects Baker for its dedication to “refining their undergraduate accomplishments” and accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission, North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. It also noted Baker’s conjugation banquet meeting the various professional standards for study in professional disciplines. • Dr. Lynne Murray officially assumes the leadership position as the university president.

AUGUST 2014 | Colleges of Distinction, a guidebook highlight- ing four-year colleges and universities that are considered “hidden gems,” recognizes Baker University in its 2014-2015 publication. • The university unveils the statue of track and cross country coach Zach Kindler, who guided Baker to 17 team con ference championships and was named conference coach of the year 20 times.

SEPTEMBER 2014 | For the fourth consecutive year, Baker is the highest-ranked Kansas university in the Midwest Region in the 2015 edition of the U.S. News & World Report’s Best Colleges. • The university reports an overall fall enrollment of 3,116 students.

OCTOBER 2014 | The Kansas Independent College Association announces 18 college faculty members, including Baker University Assistant Professor of English Mark Mihaly, as reci pients of the association’s inaugural Faculty of Distinction award. • Michaela Jamison, a sophomore history and communication major with a pre-law minor from Shawnee, Kan., is named Baker University’s Student Leader of the Month for September.
December
5
Last day of classes

7
Christmas Candlelight Vespers
2 p.m. and 5 p.m., Rice Auditorium

14
College of Arts and Sciences, School of Nursing, School of Education, School of Professional & Graduate Studies undergraduate degree commencement, 1 p.m.

14
School of Professional & Graduate Studies, School of Education graduate degree commencement, 4 p.m.

23
Winter Break Begins

January
10
Alumni Advisory Council Meeting
10:30 a.m., Baker Alumni Center

19
Martin Luther King Jr. Day
campus closed

23
Spring classes begin

February
12
Founders Day

12
Honor band festival, all day; concert, 7 p.m., Rice Auditorium

March
4
Alumni luncheon (Tentative)
Green Valley, Ariz.

5
Alumni luncheon
Sun City, Ariz.

5-7
Musical production
"Working"
7:30 p.m., Rice Auditorium

April
16
Universitywide celebration
Baldwin City campus

30
Chris Grubb Memorial Jazz Concert
7:30 p.m., Rice Auditorium

Colter Schacher, a senior from Harrisonville, Mo., and Rachel Theobald, a senior from Overland Park, Kan., were crowned Baker University’s homecoming king and queen during halftime ceremonies on Sept. 27 at Liston Stadium. Baker rolled to a 41-0 victory over Graceland in the game.

Schacher represented Delta Tau Delta fraternity and Theobald Zeta Tau Alpha sorority.

Also during halftime, Baker recognized the Athletics Hall of Fame Class of 2014. The new inductees were Bob London, ’79; Rayburn Moore, ’99; Janet Moore Nickel, ’80; Jimmie Rose, ’94; and Mike Stouffer, ’70.

Alumni added to Athletics Hall of Fame


Call Cheryl to set up a campus visit.

Cheryl McCravy, ’87 and MLA ’13
Director of the Campus Visit Experience
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www.bakerU.edu/visitbaker

Keep up with alumni events throughout the year by visiting
www.bakeru.edu/AlumniEvents
Senior Rachel Theobald, a member of Zeta Tau Alpha sorority, is crowned the 2014 homecoming queen.

Kris (Bolin) Stouffer, ’72, is crowned Baker’s 1969 homecoming queen.