

# Baker PROUD

## Alumni Magazine

### CIRCLE of GIVING

Special Section

#### LEGALAUTHORITY

*"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

est. 1858







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COVER ILLUSTRATION BY JOHN MASSON



Katie Sellers, BS '11, and Kendra Hanson, BA '10, are among Baker graduates who went on to law school.

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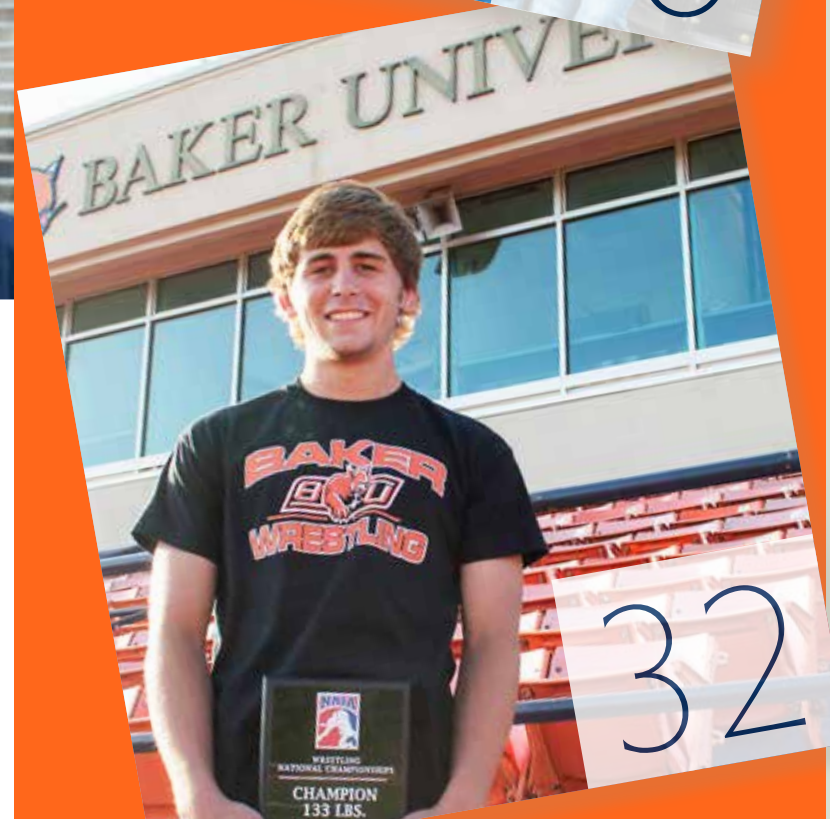
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## BAKER PROUD | Winter 2014

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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 Gessner 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 MBA 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 had a meaningful impact on the greater BU community. Whether \$18.58 or a gift to an endowed scholarship, private support does make a difference.

Since joining the Baker family in July, President Lynne Murray has traveled around the country to talk about her vision for Baker University. Alumni and friends in Kansas and Missouri, Colorado, New Mexico, California and Illinois, like all of us who work closely with the university, are all excited about this direction. Like you, they recognize that private liberal arts education must adapt in order to remain at the forefront of not only how we educate our students, but also what they learn.

The essence of Baker Magic is that we are all instantly the closest of friends, connected by something that needs no explanation. If there's one thing I have learned in more than eight years of service to Baker University, it's that Baker Magic is alive and well! The traditions remain true. And, today's students do indeed love Baker just as much as you do! To answer your questions...YES! Baker Magic endures!

Orange Forever True,

Patrick Mikesic  
Senior Director for University Advancement

# Campus News

### University ranks again as top in the state

For the fourth consecutive year, Baker University was the highest-ranked Kansas university in the *U.S. News & World Report's Best Colleges' Midwest Universities Regional* category and alumni participation factored heavily in the ranking.

The 2015 edition listed Baker 44th in the Midwest, a 12-state region that covers schools from Kansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin. Regional universities were defined as schools that offer a full range of undergraduate majors and master's programs but few, if any, doctoral programs. The regional universities are ranked against their peer group in one of four regions — North, South, Midwest and West — because, in general, they tend to draw students most heavily from surrounding states, according to the *U.S. News & World Report's* website.

“I have learned quickly of Baker's reputation as one of the premier private universities in the region,” Baker President Lynne Murray said. “The latest ranking reveals once again Baker's longstanding commitment to the students and the university's mission to provide a well-rounded education. We will continue to offer high-quality programs that will lead to enriching personal and professional lives for our graduates.”

The *U.S. News & World Report's* rankings are based on peer assessment, graduation and retention rates, student-to-faculty ratio, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources, alumni giving and graduation rate performance. The magazine collects its data from the universities and several other sources.

Baker's alumni giving rate of 16 percent was No. 1 among the Kansas universities in the category.

“Our generous alumni remain committed to supporting our academic programs,” Murray said. “They continue to look out for the best interests of our students.”



### Colleges of Distinction list Baker as hidden gem

*Colleges of Distinction*, a guidebook highlighting four-year colleges and universities that are considered “hidden gems,” has recognized Baker University in its 2014-2015 publication.

“Baker has earned a strong reputation for its outstanding faculty and stellar students who are connected to their professors and eager to excel in the classroom and in the campus community,” said Brian Posler, Acting Dean of the School of Professional and Graduate Studies and Provost.

Baker was selected “for providing innovative, teacher-centered undergraduate education and preparing their graduates for real-world success.”

*Colleges of Distinction* recognized Baker for demonstrating its dedication to the publication's core values: engaged students, great teaching, vibrant communities and successful outcomes.

Baker has been recognized as a College of Distinction for four consecutive years.

### MLA program receives national attention

Baker University's Master of Liberal Arts online degree program has been ranked fifth nationally by the wordfocus.com website.

The site selected 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 that Baker's concentration programs meet the various professional standards for study in professional disciplines.

The MLA program, provided at Baker since the mid-1970s, is known for customizing its curriculum for students with an emphasis on creative arts, history and ideas, and natural and social sciences.

### Students honored for presentation skills

Baker students are known for shining in front of an audience.

Five Baker University CAS students received prize money for their presentations in September as part of the Baker Organizational Observation for Knowledge program.

Trevor Sutton was awarded the \$1,500 grand prize. Outstanding merit awards were given to Alexia Nyoni (\$1,250), Zach Aldrich (\$1,000), Dustin Turner (\$250) and Ollie Wright (\$250). Aldrich also received a \$500 award for his presentation on the treatment of issues of social responsibility by the hosting organization.

The optional, above-and-beyond program allows Baker students interning to interview managers, department heads and CEOs. The students also research the organizations' history, mission, structure, products and services, finances and management. Once the internship is completed, students create and present a PowerPoint report to judges who are professionals and alumni in the community.

“The judges were quite impressed with the caliber of our students and their work,” said Kevin McCarthy, professor of business and economics. “Student learning and growth was evident throughout the day. It was yet another day to be proud of Baker students.”

### Business honor society selects senior

Owen Lewis, a senior from Basehor, Kan., won a \$1,000 scholarship from the Delta Mu Delta board awards competition. Delta Mu Delta is the international honor society in business. In 18 years, Baker's chapter total for scholarships has reached \$10,200.



# LEGAL AUTHORITY



## 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.

"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," 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 Hulla, BS '90; Anji Gandhi, BA '93; Kate (McGrath) 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 and excellent 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 Geenans.

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 language 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 Centurions 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 curriculum, 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 Hulla, '90**

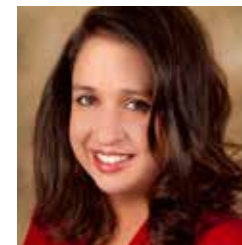
A co-leader of the Class Action Defense Group at Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak and Stewart, Pat Hulla has built a career representing employers who have been sued by current and former employees. A liberal arts education with an emphasis on critical thinking has benefited Hulla's concentration on complex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

Throughout his career, Hulla has represented multiple Fortune 100 companies in various industries, such as petro-chemical, power, retail, health care, food manufacturing, long-term care, transportation, gaming, financial services, professional services, security, pharmaceutical, medical, real estate, information technology, health insurance and telecommunications.

"Not being so honed in to one particular discipline gives you 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."

A mentorship from **Richmond Enochs, '60**, contributed to launching Hulla'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 ½ years after graduating from the University of Missouri at Kansas City School of Law. In more than 20 years practicing 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."



**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 joining friends for 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 communications, helped prepare Gandhi for law school and a career as a prosecuting 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.





"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 and 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, including several murders. In the fall, she ran for election as an independent candidate for Prosecuting Attorney for Cole County in Jefferson City, Mo.



**Kate (McGrath) Ellis, '93**

The small campus and scholarship opportunities in the late 1980s attracted Kate (McGrath) Ellis to the Baldwin City campus from nearby Overland Park, Kan. Inspired in the classroom by professor **Roger Boyd, '69**, she decided to major in biology while envisioning a career working at national parks.

"I did not attend Baker with the slightest intention of becoming a lawyer," says Ellis, an associate attorney for the law firm of Hughes, Kellner, Sullivan and Alke PLLP in Helena, Mont. "I started writing extensively in a different style at Baker than I was used to, and I am sure that the exposure to topics other than biology helped me adjust to law school and its demands."

Deciding to pursue a career in law 10 years after graduating from Baker, Ellis earned a Master of Science in environmental biology from Emporia State University. She then worked 10 years for the National Park Service in Grand Teton, Hawaii Volcanoes and Rocky Mountain National Parks as an interpretive ranger, a ranger/EMT and a law enforcement ranger.

Eventually, Ellis combined her biology background and law enforcement duties as a ranger into a new career, practicing civil litigation, mostly in employment and insurance law.

"My duties as a park ranger triggered my interest in the law through my training at the Law Enforcement Academy," Ellis remembers. "My initial desire to go to law school was to become a criminal prosecutor. The reason I wanted to take the next step and become a prosecutor was that it would give me the opportunity to educate officers on proper search and seizure techniques, while understanding the unique and stressful decisions that officers have to

make in the field. My hope was that if officers were able to perform their duties without some of the negative press that sometimes happens when an officer steps over the line, officer safety would be served because citizens would have a more positive view of law enforcement."

Realizing she wanted to change careers and living in a small town in Colorado, Ellis contacted Baker professor Karen Exon to guide her in preparation for the LSAT and application to law schools. Exon, who never taught Ellis, willingly took the time to assist the Baker graduate.

"Not only did Professor Exon patiently walk me through this process, she edited the essays for my application and helped me get recommendation letters," says Ellis, who graduated from the University of Montana School 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, Professor 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**

Originally from Salina, Kan., Hanson embraced the undergraduate experience on the Baldwin City campus as a political science major and Spanish minor. She earned Baker's most prestigious scholarship — the Harter — and was active in the Student Activities

Council, parMentors, University Admissions Assistant program and the Alpha Chi Omega sorority.

"When I visited Baker, I fell in love with campus and the people," Hanson recalls. "I knew I would be happy for the four years there. I felt at home there."

Hanson thrived in the classroom, especially with the personal attention from faculty such as Bruce Anderson, an associate professor of political science.

"It was a really challenging program," Hanson said. "The professors saw me going on to do bigger things than I saw myself doing. I received encouragement and support from all of them."

While at Baker, she knew in the back of her mind she would eventually attend law school.

"I knew my skills and background in political science would translate into several careers," Hanson said. "I developed skills in research, analysis and writing. Those skills are essential in a lot of careers, especially law. You have to do a lot of prep work to get there."

Hanson went on to the Washburn University School of Law, where she graduated at the top of her class and earned a Juris Doctor in 2013. Shortly after graduation, Hanson began working as an attorney for Seigfried Bingham.

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

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 style. It was important to network and develop relationships to prepare for law school."



**Katie Sellers, '11**

As a sociology major with an emphasis in criminal justice, Katie Sellers 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 under way, 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, his continued support, and for always believing in me."


Having a family connection to Baker, visiting the Baldwin 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 considering 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 and comparative law. Since graduating

from Baker, she has worked as a legal assistant and law clerk. She worked nearly 18 months with Stommes Patil LLP in Omaha, Neb., before moving back to the Kansas City area, providing legal work as an independent contractor for Cutone and Associates, a law firm in Fresno, Calif. "Law school was a very challenging experience, but I received an excellent undergraduate education that was well rounded and taught me to take charge of my own education," 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 editor-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.

"I feel like sales is a really good fit for me," she explains. "Having the opportunity to be an independent contractor has really forced me to grow in many ways professionally. I've always been independent and never a fan of unnecessary boundaries. My parents were great about encouraging me and my siblings to lead by example and do our best, but they never pushed. They empowered us to take responsibility for our own successes and accountability for our failures. I think that's a large part of why I feel comfortable leading. I'm confident I can do what needs to be done and am aware and comfortable with the fact that there might be some missteps along the way. You just have to keep moving forward."

Webb has a similar leadership mindset.

"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."

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

Webb also made the most of internship opportunities. He finished high school at Shawnee Heights in Tecumseh, 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., Cerner and Sprint. His internship at Cerner 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," 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 prepared me for my career," Webb says. "Coupled with incremental and experiential learning opportunities, Baker absolutely gave me the extra edge to get to where I wanted to go." 🍀



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

# Anatomy of a Student

*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.

"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.

## 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."

## Campus involvement

Haley stays active at Baker, serving as the student body president for student senate, Baker Ambassador and BRaV peer educator. She also is a member of the psychology honors society and vice president of public relations for the Alpha Chi Omega chapter's executive board. Nationally she is the student trustee for the Alpha Chi Omega Foundation board, educating collegians on programming and involvement opportunities.

## Passionate leader

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.



## 1940s

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

## 1960s

**Wayne Algire, '65**, 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 Baumwart, '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 Neodesha, Kan. He and his wife, Marti, have been married for 53 years

**Norm Samuelson, BS '64**, 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 Cullen, 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-graders and also serves as the curriculum and assessment coordinator.

**Nick Harris, BS '79 and MSM '99**, is a sixth-grade science teacher and football coach at Ottawa (Kan.) Middle School.

## 1980s

**Tim Brady, BA '82**, recently joined USD 233 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 Kauffman Stadium. He and his wife, **Ann, '79**, have volunteered for The Dream Factory since 1989. The Kansas City chapter granted 74

dreams in the past year. Dan has served several positions on the local board for more than 10 years and on the national board. He is on the advisory board and manages the organization's program with the Royals in which they take a child and his or her family to every home game on Wednesday to watch batting practice and meet the players.

## 1990s

**Don Austin, BS '93**, is the superintendent of schools for the Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District, which serves nearly 12,000 students in one of the highest-performing districts in California. Don and his wife, Paula (Hutchings) Austin, live in Huntington Beach, Calif.

**Teresa Commerford, BBA '94**, is the new high school business teacher in Bucklin, Kan.

**Dan Decker, BS '92**, is the superintendent of schools at Neosho (Mo.) R-5 School District.

**Rachel (Huhn) Langford, BS '99**, was selected as an All-Star Athletic Trainer by the Texas High School Girls Coaches Association. She is an athletic trainer at Wakeland (Texas) High School.

**Dave Mace, BA '92**, has joined Great Plains Communications in Wichita, Kan. He works with small to medium-sized businesses to craft solutions to their business telecommunciations and IT needs.

**Treva Scheuerman, BS '97**, is a social worker at Truman Medical Center in Kansas City, Mo.

**Michael Slife, BS '93**, is the state director of pupil transportation for the Illinois State Board of Education. He and his wife, **Melissa, '94**, live in Chatham, Ill.

**Cindy (Pipes) Swatek, BS '96**, is the head volleyball coach at Hollister (Mo.) High School. She is the founder and coordinator of MOGUATE, a retreat and support group for families with children from Guatemala. She and her husband, Matthew, live in Nixa, Mo., with their two children.

## 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 the new principal of Wheatridge Middle School in Gardner, Kan. He recently served as the principal at Ravenwood Elementary School and as assistant principal at Pioneer Trail Middle School in Olathe, Kan. He is currently completing his doctorate in educational leadership at Baker.

**Kristin Bryan, BSN '09**, and **Aaron Reed, BSN '08**, graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in May 2013 and were married on April 19, 2014. They are working as certified registered nurse anesthetists in Raleigh, N.C.

**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 (Nickel) Farley, BS '08**, is the communication and collaboration manager for the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. She previously was the planning and volunteer coordinator for KDHE.

**Jimmy Gillispie, BA '04**, is a sportswriter for the *Stillwater (Okla.) News Press*. He and his, wife, Rachel, are the parents of Isabelle Grace Gillispie, born on Sept. 9, 2014.

**Adam Gotsche, BS '09**, is a senior financial analyst for Hyperion Administration for WireCo WorldGroup 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 executive assistant for the Kansas Court of

Appeals. She and her husband, Dorian Hadley, live in Grantville, Kan.

**Travis Hermreck, MASL '08**, is the new K-8 principal at Crest USD 479 in Colony, Kan.

**Barbara (Ludwig) Jurgensmeier, BME '07**, is a music therapy clinic coordinator at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, Kan.

**Ashley Mason, BME '05**, is the program manager for Health Connect, the new health home 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 marketplace navigator for the Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved.

**Kristopher McDonald, BS '08**, is the social media strategist at MMGY Global in Overland Park, Kan.

**Meagan (Crough) Meneley, BA '00, MAEd '08**, teaches German at Abilene (Kan.) High School. She was presented in September with the Outstanding German Teacher of the Year award at the 29th annual German Immersion Weekend of Kansas Association of Teachers of German. In 2013, she was named Abilene's Teacher of the Year by the National Education Association.



parMentors, Front row: Debbie Field Kresie, '81; Kelsey Rockey, '10; Brenda Stasiulis, '88; Laura Peek, '02; President Lynne Murray. Second row: Marlene Eichler, BSN '05; Sara Barth, '93; Bob Renaldi, Steve Doyal, Kent Galley, '93. Back row: Jared Grantham, '58; Susanne Richardson Teel, '69; Lee Driver, '03; Jason Hess, '92, Susan Paolo

**Jason Montgomery, BA '01**, has joined the Bond, Schoeneck and King law firm in Overland Park, Kan., where he practices in the area of collegiate sports and higher education. Montgomery has extensive experience in intercollegiate athletics and NCAA regulatory matters after serving as an athletics compliance officer at a major NCAA Div. I institution and in various positions at the NCAA national office.

**Nikki (DeSimone) Pauls, BA '03**, is an adoption social worker and visiting instructor of social work at Avila University in Kansas City, Mo. She and her husband, Brian Pauls, welcomed their first child, a daughter, Yiyi Pauls, into their family on Jan. 6, 2014. Yiyi was adopted at age 10 from Guizhou, China.

**Tim Robertson, MASL '07**, is the new principal at Lakin (Kan.) High School. He previously taught at these Kansas schools: Linn High School, Frankfort High School, Wellington Junior High School, Derby High School and Campus High School in Haysville. Robertson also served as principal for Peabody-Burns Middle and High School in Kansas.

**Jon Robins, BS '04**, has earned a doctoral degree in medicine from the Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine. He recently started his four-year residency in the ER department at OSU Medical Center in Tulsa.

**Nicole Schwartz, BS '01**, was ordained elder in the United Methodist Church June 13 at the Great Plains Annual Conference in Lincoln, Neb. She serves as the pastor of First United Methodist Church in Coffeyville, Kan.

**Andy Taylor, BS '03 and Ed.D. '13**, and Sydney Eagleton were married June 28, 2014, in Carpintereria, Calif. He is an assistant principal at Wyandotte High School in Kansas City, Kan. The couple resides in Lenexa, Kan.

**Colin Waters, BS '07**, is a social media specialist at the Colorado Department of Corrections. He lives in Denver.

**Mike Wolgast, Ed.D. '08**, is the principal at Pioneer Trail in Olathe, Kan. His school was selected as the 2014 School of the Year from the National Association of Middle School Principals.

## 2010s

**Garrett Anderson, BS '13**, is a deputy sheriff for Washington County (Kan.).

**Kayla Anderson, BA '12**, is an international credential advisor for the University of Arkansas Graduate School and lives in Fayetteville, Ark.

**Hayley (Scheetz) Appelman, BSN '12**, is a registered nurse in the medical intensive care unit at the University of Kansas Hospital. She received a 2014 nursing excellence award as the outstanding new graduate nurse.



**Gloria Atanmo, BS '13**, lives in Barcelona, Spain, where she teaches private English classes, studies Spanish and collaborates on blogs. She also participates in several public speaking engagements and is developing her travel photography brand. She plays semipro basketball in Catalunya.

**Kyle Bolton, BS '12**, plays football with the Winnipeg Blue Bombers of the Canadian Football League.

**Molly Bostwick, BS '14**, has joined TPP Certified Public Accountants LLC in Overland Park, Kan., as a staff accountant. She assists clients in the CPA services division.

**Matt Brock, BS '11, MAEd '12**, is the linebackers coach at Texas Tech. He previously was the defensive quality control coach for the Red Raiders.

**Bailey Buchman, BS '13**, is a teacher for USD 501 in Topeka, Kan.

**Julie Charay, BSN '12**, is a registered nurse and works at Harborview Medical Center in Seattle, Wash.

**Dennis Charbonneau, MSSL '13**, is the new assistant principal and activities director at Wamego (Kan.) High School. He previously taught and coached at the fol-



lowing Kansas schools: Anderson County High School, Clay Center Community High School and Emporia High School.

**Kyle Davis, BS '11**, is a marketing copywriter and content producer for DEG in Overland Park, 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 Dewlen, MSSL '11**, is the principal at Argonia (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.

**Margaret Dupes, BS '12**, and **Adam Taylor, BS '11**, were married July 12 at Faultless Event Space in Kansas City, Mo. Margaret is a fifth-grade teacher for the Kansas City (Kan.) public school system. Adam is a solutions architect with Cerner in Kansas City, Mo.

**Katie Duroe, BS '14**, is attending the Baker School of Nursing in Topeka, Kan.

**Mercedes Eicher, BSN '12**, participated July 14-26 in the Streams of Hope mission trip to Kenya. She was joined by nursing faculty members **Marlene Eicher, BSN '05**, and **Ruth Ohm**. Other participants on the mission included School of Nursing fourth-level students **Alex Clark**, **Sierra Clark**, **Emilee Durgan** and **Erin Stephan**. During the trip, the group participated in three health clinics, taught about diabetes and cardiovascular health and collaborated with nursing school faculty and students. See story on page 14.

**Jeff Folger, MSSL '12**, is a secondary language arts teacher at Jackson Heights High School in Holton, Kan.

**Tanner Gleason, BS '11**, recently graduated from the Kansas Highway Patrol Training Academy and has been stationed in the Riley County (Kan.) area within the Patrol's Troop North Central Region.

**Johna Herrea, BSN '13**, was crowned Fiesta Queen at the Mexican Fiesta in July in Topeka, Kan.

**Jenny Hurlbut, MAEd '13**, is a high school mathematics teacher for USD 362 in LaCygne, Kan.

**Jan Hutley, MSSL '12**, is the new principal at Alma and Maple Hill grade schools in Kansas.

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

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



Charles Hill, '56, Jessica (Hill) Johnson, '10, and Mary Ann Hill, '55 celebrate Jessica's graduation from UMKC School of Dentistry.

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

**Bryan Kindle, BS '13**, teaches math and is the head baseball coach at Wellsville (Kan.) High School. His wife, **Heather (Gruber) Kindle, BSN '13**, is a registered nurse and works in NICU at Overland Park Regional Medical Center.

**Jennifer Konrad, BBA '14**, is an assistant vice president and banking services supervisor at Capitol Federal Savings Bank in Topeka, Kan.

**Cody Liebelt, MSSL '13**, is the grades 7-12 athletic director at Chaparral (Kan.) High School. He previously was the middle school and high school social studies teacher at Osage City (Kan.) High School, where he also was the head girls basketball coach, assistant football coach, head baseball coach and assistant strength and conditioning coach.

**Bruce Lolling, MSSL '13**, is the new assistant principal at Augusta (Kan.) Middle School.

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

**Seth Malloy, BS '09**, is a histotechnologist at Children's Mercy Hospital of Kansas City.

**Brianna Mangan, BSN '11**, is a pediatric psychiatric nurse at Crittenton Children's Center in Kansas City, Mo.

**Jon Ramon McGillivray, BBA '14**, is a delivery manager for Lowe's Home Improvement.

**Patrick Mirch, BA '12**, is a producer at KMBC in Kansas City, Mo.

**Emily Mitchell, MAEd '14**, is a kindergarten teacher at Swenson Early Childhood Center in Osawatomie, Kan.

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

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

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

**Chelsea (Twietmeyer) 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 strategist at the Oklahoma State University Foundation.

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

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

**Jennifer Schmelzle, MAEd '11**, is the K-12 band and vocal teacher for Axtell (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.

**Katie Sellers, BS '11**, received her Juris Doctor with a concentration in International and Comparative Law from Creighton University School of Law in May 2014.

### Submit Alumni Notes:

**Baker University  
Alumni Relations Office**

alumni@bakerU.edu  
or 888.781.2586

**Rachel (Hawkins) Shuck, BS '12**, is the senior alumni relations consultant for Pennington & Company. She and her husband, **Kirsten, BS '12**, live in Lawrence.

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

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

**Jeromy Swearingen, MASL '04**, is the new Derby (Kan.) High School assistant principal. He previously was an assistant principal at two Haysville middle schools.

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

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

**Amy (Huebert) Wells, MSSL '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 '05**, is a social studies teacher at South Gray Junior High School in Montezuma, Kan.

## In Memoriam *Forever Orange...*

**Harold G. Boone, '56**, 79, Zeta Chi, June 21, 2014, Longview, Texas.

**H. Anne (Whalen) Coleman, MSM '97**, 72, June 29, 2014, Lawrence, Kan.

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

**D. Mike Ford, '80**, 57, Zeta Chi, July 6, 2014, Abilene, Kan. Survivors include his wife, **Kathy (Taylor) Ford, '80**, and daughter, **Kinsey Taylor, '18**.

**Edward D. Garfield, '70**, 67, July 21, 2014, Hillsboro Beach, Fla.

**Katharine (London) Goodnow, '58**, 77, Alpha Chi Omega, July 19, 2014, Lenexa, Kan.

**Frank E. "Frankie" Hamell IV, BBA '11**, 33, Sept. 12, 2014, Andover, Kan.

**Sarah J. (Wright) Ingle, '64**, 73, Delta Delta Delta, Aug. 1, 2014, Osawatomie, Kan.

**Lillian "Lil" R. (Turner) Jewell, '48**, 87, Phi Mu, June 14, 2014, Georgetown, Texas. Survivors include a sister, **Evelyn "Ev" (Turner) Lucas, '47**, and a brother-in-law, **Virgil "Luke" Lucas, '49**.

**Mary JoAnn (Martin) Johnson**, 84, Feb. 2, 2014, Leavenworth, Kan. She attended summer school at Baker University and taught in a one-room schoolhouse with eight students in eight different grades near Baldwin City.

**Elaine H. (Handlen) Kalen, BA '44**, 90, Zeta Tau Alpha, June 24, 2014, Olathe, Kan. Survivors include her husband, **Kenneth E. Kalen, '43**, and a son, **Daniel A. Kalen, '81**.

**Sandra M. (Villa) Kelly, '72**, 63, Zeta Tau Alpha, March 30, 2014, Overland Park, Kan.

**Tong Il Kim, AAB '61**, 78, June 30, 2014, Cerritos, Calif.



**Zachary T. Kindler**, 35, Aug. 4, 2014, Olathe, Kan. He served seven years (2007-2014) as Baker's head cross country coach and head track and field coach.

**Amy Jo Ann Kvasnicka, MLA '08**, 45, June 7, 2014, Lawrence, Kan.

**Jean M. (Thompson) Larson, BA '32**, 103, Delta Delta Delta, May 21, 2014, Garden City, Kan.

**Lola "Marcene" (Landsberg) Longanecker, '67**, 91, July 20, 2014, Wellsville, Kan.

**Marjorie J. (Riley) Marshall, BBL '46**, 89, Jan. 8, 2014, Florence, Ala.

**Lynda (Mauch) Hayden McCray**, 76, Zeta Tau Alpha, March 19, 2014, Liberty, Mo. Survivors include a brother, **C. Alan Mauch, '72**, and a sister, **Pam Mauch, '70**.

**James B. McLaughlin, BBA '68**, 67, Kappa Sigma, Aug. 17, 2014, Prairie Village. Survivors include his wife, **Annette (Miller) McLaughlin, '69**.

**Susan J. (Peters) Olsen, AB '75**, 60, Delta Delta Delta, June 14, 2014, Watertown, Mass.

**Ramalee E. Pearson, BA '48**, 88, Phi Mu, July 31, 2014, Tempe, Ariz.

**Marc H. Rainen**, 66, Aug. 23, 2014, Kansas City, Mo.

**Barbara "Babs" Reed**, 85, Sept. 1, 2014, Baldwin City, Kan. She was the house mother at Kappa Sigma from 1986 to 1992 and the house mother at Phi Mu from 1992 to 1998.

**Dorothy J. (Filley) Rockers, '42**, 91, Alpha Chi Omega, April 15, 2014, Independence, Kan.

**Duane Rowe, '66**, 70, Sept. 22, 2014, Topeka, Kan. Survivors include his wife, **Kay (Lanter) Rowe, '66**.

**Edward A. Rowe, '65**, 73, Kappa Sigma, Sept. 13, 2014, Lenexa, Kan.

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

**Betty B. (McDougal) Stevens**, 88, Aug. 2, 2014, Louisburg, Kan.

**Alice M. "Monnie" (Frandsen) Van Dyck, '42**, 93, Alpha Chi Omega, Sept. 15, 2014, Paris, Tenn.

**Wayne L. Walker, BA '48**, 89, Zeta Chi, May 30, 2014, Saratoga, Calif.

**Dianne (Drown) Ward, '72**, 64, June 12, 2014, Chanute, Kan.

**Robert G. Williams, MBA '94**, 57, June 3, 2014, Atlanta, Ga.



*We also honor our veterans  
who are no longer with us.*





Fourth-level nursing student Alexandria Clark, Junction City, Kan., visits with a patient at a health clinic.



Emilie Durgan, a fourth-level nursing student from Lawrence, Kan., tests a patient during a medical mission.



Nursing students, faculty assist with mission work in Kenya

# Streams of Hope

**B**aker University School of Nursing faculty, alumni and students continue to assist **Ephantus Kimori Mwangi, BSN '08,** and **Hottensiah Kimori, BSN '08,** in delivering on their medical mission of promoting health care in Kenyan communities through Streams of Hope International.

In July for the organization's sixth medical mission, nursing professor Ruth Ohm and assistant nursing professor **Marlene Eicher, BSN '05,** joined a team of volunteers, including nursing students Alexandria Clark, Cierra Clark, Emilie Durgan and Erin Stephan. Two Stormont-Vail HealthCare nurses **Mercedes Eicher, BSN '12,** and **Lorin Feiden, BSN '14,** also made the 12-day trip, including days spent housed in living quarters with mosquito nets.

The Baker students and alumni all brought suitcases filled with 50 pounds of donated medical, school and hygiene supplies as well as children's clothing. They joined nursing and medical students from the University of Nairobi and Moi University to provide services to 750 patients at two clinic sites.

"Ephantus and Hottensiah came from Kenya to our nursing program because they wanted to give back and help their native country," said Ohm, who presented evidence-based practice research content at Ngong Sub-District Hospital for health-care staff and the faculty at Egerton University School of Nursing. "It was amazing to see how much these facilities could make out of limited

resources. The Baker nursing students were wonderful, very professional and very kind."

Marlene taught cardiovascular health and diabetes management to people already diagnosed. Ephantus interpreted her English presentation in Swahili for the patients. Because of a lack of education, many of the patients hadn't checked their blood pressure or blood sugar, Marlene said.

**"There's a feeling of warmth you come away with by helping them. It changes you forever. It changes you inside." – Marlene Eicher, BSN '05**

"There's a feeling of warmth you come away with by helping them," Marlene said. "It changes you forever. It changes you inside."

Alexandria Clark, who will graduate in December from the School of Nursing, embraced the opportunity to travel abroad for the mission trip. Once she saw promotional material distributed at the School of Nursing in Topeka her first semester, she began raising funds to travel to Kenya. When she arrived in Kenya, Alexandria was eager to apply the assessment skills she learned in nursing school. She was responsible for weighing and measuring the patients in addition to organizing the flow of the patients.




Hottensiah Kimori, BSN '08, and Ephantus Kimori Mwangi, BSN '08, founded Streams of Hope International to assist with health-care needs in Kenyan communities.

"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.

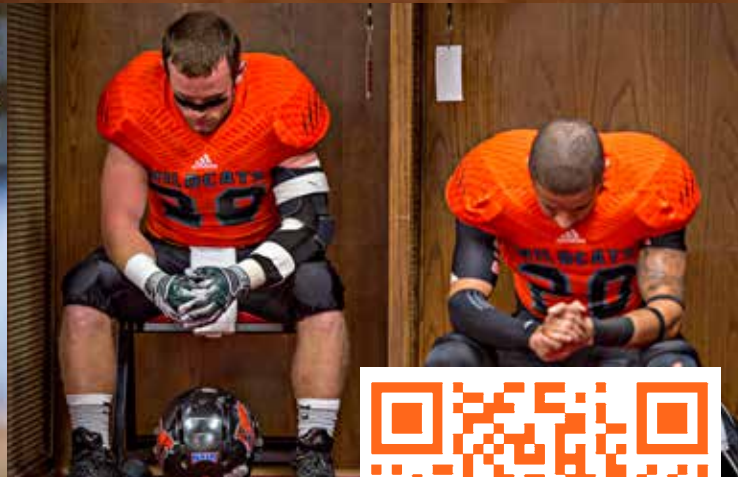
"The international medical mission has truly expanded the students' world view of health care and nursing vision for the future," said Marlene, an advisor for Nurses for Cultural Awareness at the School of Nursing.

Alexandria takes pride in knowing Baker alumni developed plans for Streams of Hope.

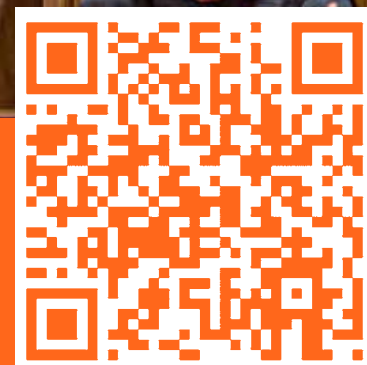
"Ephantus and Hottensiah had a dream in nursing school, everything came together and now they are seeing their dream in action," she said. They are not content and are looking ahead to next year. It makes me so proud to say that they are alumni from Baker's School of Nursing." 







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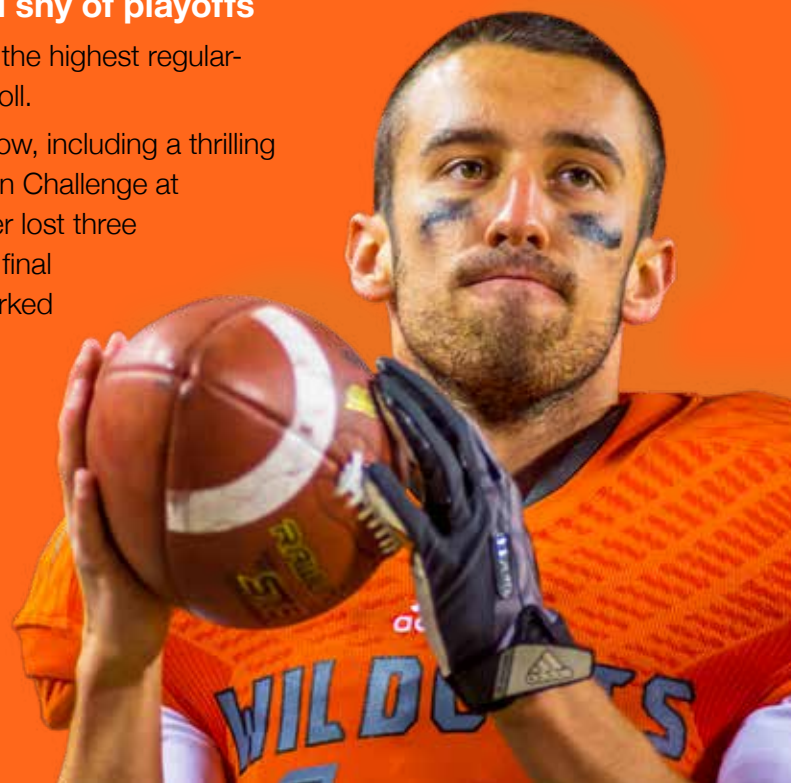
## Wildcats reach No. 2 in national rankings, fall shy of playoffs

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.

PHOTOS BY EARL RICHARDSON



# Sports Highlights



Junior center Mary Wallisch returns for the women's basketball team, picked to win the HAAC.



Jimmie Rose catches a pass from Dan Harris during Hall of Fame recognition.

## 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.



Bob London



Rayburn Moore



Janet Moore Nickel



Jimmie Rose



Mike Stouffer

## 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](http://www.bakerwildcats.com) provides features, stats and video for the Wildcats' 19 teams.

## Athletes touted by conference

Through the height of the fall season, Baker earned the respect of the Heart of America Athletic Conference with several player of the week accolades. Through October, Wildcat honorees were Camren Torneden (football, special teams), Sara Slater (volleyball, twice as libero), Amer Didic (men's soccer, defensive player), Krista Hooper (women's soccer, offensive player), Eduardo Esquivel (men's cross country, twice), Rachel Ash (women's cross country), Jillian Benson (women's cross country), Adam Novak (football, defensive player) and Hannah Bettge (volleyball, setter and player, twice).

## 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 Slone Brady, Tara Chumley, Sammie Schroeder, MaKayla Greeve, Malorie Nelson, Frankie Farrant, Bailey Cain, Ilona Miller, Renata Dill and Alyse Menghini. Baker also ranked No. 13 on the 2013-2014 NFCA NAIA All-Academic Teams list with its 3.424 team GPA.



# CAMPUS BEAUTY

Acres maintained by Baker grounds crew: **13**

Trees in Ivan Boyd Arboretum: **400** trees and **100** species

Tulips planted in fall 2013: **1,200**

**A**n 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."





“The grounds crew takes a great deal of pride in the work they do. They know that the effort they put in shows right away”

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.





# CIRCLE of GIVING

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.



Emilee and Ryan Kuhn with their son, Owen.

**R**yan, '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 pres-

WHY I GIVE...


## Students come first

“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.”

ident 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,” the Kuhns say. “Our Baker experiences set us up for success early in our careers so we want to give back however we can, in hopes that others might have similar experiences as well.” 





“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...

## 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 Sproxtton, 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 management with an emphasis in international business. “Without this grounding, we live in a world that will consume us. I learned some great lessons in my studies at Baker, but nothing provides me with the important lessons that are learned through faith.”

Johnson, originally from Leawood, Kan., was an active member in Baker Ambassadors, a religious leadership group that travels to United Methodist churches to visit with college-bound students and participate in community service projects. His generosity to his alma mater, specifically the Chapel Fund, assures students can continue to develop leadership skills by providing service to others and creating meaningful social change.


“My time at Baker was a formative experience that to this day impacts my perspectives and ambitions,” Johnson said. “I would like to help students build and rely on their faith as they begin their professional lives.”

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 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.” 

## WHY I GIVE...

## Follow your passion

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 throughout 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 two 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 threw 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.” 





# Global Citizenship

*Recent graduate volunteers with WorldTeach in American Samoa*



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."

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.

"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." 🇺🇸

**"Baker gave me the confidence I needed to enter a classroom by myself in a foreign culture." – Bryan Williams, BA '14**





# Council supports fraternities' endeavors

With an alumni base of nearly 6,000 graduates affiliated with a fraternity or sorority, Baker University is known for 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.



Jack Bowerman

"Our Greek organizations work hard to try and maintain close ties with their alumni, which benefits 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 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," Bowerman said.

The council actively participates in several Baker events on campus throughout the year. During University and Presidential Scholarship Day, group members present to prospective students and their parents the benefits that come with fraternity membership, including leadership roles and lifelong rewards. The group participates in summer orientation sessions for incoming students and their parents to provide information about the fraternities and

encourage the students to learn more about Greek life by participating in the fall rush events.

The group also works closely with the undergraduate Interfraternity Council on the Baldwin City campus to provide advice and financial support. It partners with several offices, including admissions, student life and athletics, to promote their work. The council also keeps in constant communication with prospective incoming students through periodic letters and mailings.

For more information on this group of fraternity alumni, contact Bowerman at [rbowerman@icloud.com](mailto:rbowerman@icloud.com) or go to the LinkedIn group for alumni and active chapter members. An Alumnae Greek Council was formed last year 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 insure 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-sponsored scholarships and sharing of costs for on-campus and off-campus student activities;
- To learn about the lifelong 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.

# New national chapter award honors memory of Baker alumnus


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, '73**, presented the inaugural award at the convention on July 26 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 of Arts 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. 



James Selzer

# Greek round-up

**Alpha Chi Omega** | Upgrades continued to the sorority house with hardwood floors installed in all bedrooms before the fall semester. At the national convention in the summer, the Omicron chapter received the award for Excellence in Ritual and Fraternity Appreciation. During formal recruitment, the sorority added 19 members.

**Delta Delta Delta** | The sorority welcomed 20 new members for the fall semester.

**Delta Tau Delta** | In the spring semester, the fraternity recognized seven Kershner Scholars for maintaining a grade-point average of at least 3.5. The Deltas started the fall semester with 16 pledges.

**Kappa Sigma** | The fraternity added 15 pledges in the fall. The new members were chosen because of their character and commitment to the Beta Tau chapter, now celebrating its 111th year.

**Sigma Phi Epsilon** | The fraternity announced 21 new members for the fall. Portions of the house are being remodeled after a faulty fire sprinkler caused damage. For more information, check out its website at <http://www.bakersigep.com>

**Zeta Chi** | The chapter has 29 members, including seven newcomers 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-Brown, Rashida Simpson and Ty Sloan. The sorority 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 Rachel Theobald was honored as homecoming queen in September.





**Baker University's dedicated faculty and staff are active in their professional organizations and communities.**

**Cynthia Appl**, professor of German, was elected in September to a second two-year term as secretary for the Kansas Association of Teachers of German.

**Marc Childress**, professor in the School of Education graduate degree program, was presented in July with the Jonathan Bacon Outstanding Leadership Award at the Summer Institute on Distance Learning and Instructional Technology. **Verneda Edwards**, associate professor, presented "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 questions: "Sponsors seem to be placing big bets on there 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 Business, had his paper "On Robinson, Robertson, and the Industrial Organization View" accepted by *History of Political Economy*.

**Tes Mehring**, interim dean of the School of Education and professor of education, had a chapter "My Journey" published in *White Voices in Multicultural Education: How They Came to Be*.

**Leonard Ortiz**, associate professor of history, has been elected to the board of directors for the Kansas Humanities Council. The council is a nonprofit organization that supports community-based cultural programs, serves as a financial resource through an active grant-making program, and encourages Kansans to engage in the civic and cultural life of their communities. He joins a 22-member board representing leaders from across the state. Ortiz serves as the vice president of the Kansas Association of Historians.

**J.D. Parr**, professor of music, spent seven weeks teaching and performing the clarinet at Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp near Muskegon, Mich. Parr, who has performed at the camp for 31 years, played principal clarinet in the Opera Orchestra, performing eight productions of "Hansel and Gretel" by Humperdinck, as well as principal clarinet in the camp's Festival Band and Orchestra, ensembles comprised of faculty members and camp counselors. Along

with three other clarinet faculty soloists, he performed C.M. von Weber's 2nd Concerto for Clarinet before an audience of about 1,200 campers and community attendees. The concert was also broadcast live over the local NPR station throughout western Michigan. The Festival Band has been selected to perform the same concert in early February 2015 at the Ohio Music Educators Convention in Cleveland.

**Joe Watson**, associate professor of mass media, presented his paper "Toward a Mission to Inform, Educate, and Entertain: Influences on Story Selection at the British Broadcasting Corporation" at the annual convention of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication in Quebec. Earlier in the summer, Watson's tweet in reaction to a reporter shown rummaging through personal belongings of a downed Malaysian airliner was picked up nationally. Watson called it a "horrible moment for journalism." The tweet was mentioned in several outlets, including the *Daily Mail* and the *Telegraph*, two London papers; the *Sydney (Australia) Morning Herald*; the *New Zealand Herald*; iAfrica.com; Yahoo! news and about a dozen other Internet news sites.

## For nearly a decade, Awava has fulfilled its mission of empowering women in Uganda.

**Ryan Gibb**, assistant professor of international studies and 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 Awava founders intended. Gibb first went to the African county to teach at a high school before returning a couple of years later to conduct dissertation research. For his most recent trip this past summer, he traveled to Gulu in northern Uganda to complete research, deliver supplies and visit friends.


In particular, Gibb has become close to Lucy, an artisan who has benefitted from the program. He makes sure to visit with her to learn more about the success of her business.

"I helped Awava by acting as a courier for the goods that women in northern Uganda made for their online marketplace," Gibb says. "I traveled up to Uganda to greet friends, talk with them about their U.S. marketing strategies, and deliver goodies that I brought from the United States. They

really love American chocolate and Nutella, and the kids especially love glow stick bracelets and games. I can't bring them enough money or supplies to live on, but I can bring some treats to lighten up their sometimes desperate situations."

Lucy has benefitted from Awava. According to its website, the organization teaches women such as Lucy new artisanal skills. It also helps them improve on existing skills, teaches women how to cost products and keep books and provides additional technical skills such as computer and Internet use.

"Seeing Lucy's face again is always the best part of visiting," Gibb proudly exclaims. "She is like an aunt to me, and she always receives me so warmly to her house and business. Meeting her reminds me of her daily struggles, and her work makes me remember how lucky we are in

the U.S., that our American struggles, inconveniences and arguments are petty and slight in comparison to what so many in the third world face every day." 



# Year in Review

*A look back at another special year's worth of celebrating with our alumni and friends.*

**JUNE 2013** | For its performances in national events, Baker University finishes No. 20 nationally in the prestigious 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 Roudebush scholarship golf tournament, a fundraiser supported by The Sherwin-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 that supports adult learners in the Wichita 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 the renovated 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 \$1.1 million lead gift from donor Susanne Richardson Teel spearheaded the project. • *Colleges of Distinction*, a guidebook highlighting four-year institutions that are considered "hidden gems," has recognized Baker University in its 2013-2014 publication. Baker is honored for its commitment to engaging students, excellent faculty, vibrant communities and successful outcomes. *Colleges of Distinction* is designed to provide students, counselors and parents with information about schools that excel in these key areas. It describes schools that take a holistic approach to admission decisions, consistently excel in providing undergraduate education, and have a truly national reputation.

**SEPTEMBER 2013** | The Theatre Department opens the fall season with "New York," a play originally written to raise funds for volunteer psychiatrists dedicated to helping patients who were

psychologically affected by 9/11, at Rice Auditorium. • A Quayle Bible Collection exhibit titled "Illuminating the Bible: Woodcuts and Engravings" opens in the Helen Foresman Spencer wing of the Collins Library and is scheduled to run through July 2014. • **Kendra Knight**, '04 and assistant professor in Christopher Newport University's Department of Communication, is awarded the 2013 Gerald R. Miller Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation Award from the National Communication Association (NCA). The award is presented to the most outstanding dissertations completed in the field during the previous academic year. Her dissertation focused on marital division of household labor, and her research showed that the negotiation of household labor is largely a function of each spouse's response threshold, or the point at which a person is so bothered by a mess that he or she feels compelled to address it. • The Baker University and Baldwin City community collect nearly 3,000 items for the Baldwin City Food Pantry to win the "Tackling Hunger Food Drive" over Ottawa University. • For the third consecutive year, Baker is the highest-ranked Kansas university in the Midwest Regional category in the *U.S. News & World Report's Best Colleges*. The region covers schools from Kansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin. • Ruth Sarna, director of student health services since 1989, announces her plans to retire from Baker at the end of the fall semester in December. In 25 years at Baker, Sarna served approximately 15,000 students and several faculty and staff members. • The university announces an overall enrollment of 3,076 students for the fall semester.

**OCTOBER 2013** | Ben Sobek, a junior from Lee's Summit, Mo., is named Baker University's Student Leader of the Month for September. Sobek, a Spanish and French major, is president of Zeta Chi fraternity, Interfraternity Council, Baker Rallies Against Violence, and Alpha Mu Gamma, an honor society for students. • More than 1,000 area high school musicians compete at the 15th annual Baker University Class 1-5A Marching Festival at Liston Stadium. • Ben Sobek and Nancy Delgado, a senior from Emporia, Kan., are crowned Baker University's homecoming king and queen on Saturday, Oct. 5, at Liston Stadium. • SPGS hosts a networking workshop at its Overland Park campus. It helped participants develop a 30-second "elevator speech," learn how to build rapport when networking, determine when and how to use connections, and learn how to handle rejection. The attendees also will receive information about upcoming networking opportu-





Kayla Infanti and Lauren Bechard placed first in multimedia sports.

nities and local organizations to expand their network. • Baker celebrates the grand opening of its Speech Center, designed to enhance communication skills for the campus community,

at Parmenter Hall. • 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 (Kan.) Innovation Center, \$300; Mike Hobbs, Olathe, Kan., senior, who interned with the Kansas City (Kan.) T-Bones baseball team, \$300; and Jordan Honore, Stafford, Texas, senior, who interned at Hooper and Honore Attorneys at Law in Atlanta, \$300. • The Baker University choirs present a fall concert, "This Shining Night," at the Baldwin First United Methodist Church. • Two longtime university administrators — Vice President and Dean of the School of Education Dr. Peggy Harris and Vice President and Dean of the School of Nursing Dr. Kathy Harr — announce their plans to retire at the end of the 2013-2014 academic year. • Dr. Tes Mehring, associate dean and chair of the School of Education graduate degree programs, is appointed interim dean of School of Education for the 2014-2015 school year. During her time at Baker, Mehring has been instrumental in guiding the development of the Ed.D. in Leadership in Higher Education program, a distinction for the first university in Kansas. • Students Kayla Infanti and Lauren Bechard, members of the *Baker Orange* staff, place first in the multimedia sports category at the Associated Collegiate Press and College Media Association national convention in New

Orleans. Competing against schools of all sizes across the nation, Bechard and Infanti were recognized for their multimedia package on 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. Tera Lyons, a senior from Strasburg, Colo., and Xiomara 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 interterm 2013. • Baker honors five alumni and scholar-athletes 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, '70; and Johnnie Seals Jr., '80. • Baker recognizes 44 NAIA Scholar-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 Ad Astra Percussion quartet. She also has played timpani with the Kansas City Civic Orchestra and percussion with the Northland Symphony Orchestra. • Internationally acclaimed jazz vocalist **Kevin Mahogany**, '81, 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. • Liz Jordan, a senior from Leavenworth, Kan., is named Baker's Student



Freshman Bryce Shoemaker is crowned national wrestling champion.

Leader of the Month for October. Jordan, an art history major, is a resident assistant at Irwin Hall, an active member of Baker Rallies 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 enhance 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 Conrade, Topeka, Kan.; Kaci Dillingham, Topeka, Kan.; Kristina Heinrich, Wilson, Kan.; Jaime Hodge, Ottawa, Kan.; Allisa Houchin, Gypsum; Ryenn Johns, Lenexa, Kan.; Emi Kniffin, Wichita, Kan.; Sione Maumau, Highlands Ranch, Colo.; Luke Miltz, Lecompton; James Newton, De Soto, Kan.; Heather Nichols, Lecompton, Kan.; Logan Pope, Republic, Mo.; Darrell Randall, Overland Park, Kan.; Jami Sanborn, Independence, Kan.; Caylea Siler, Bonner Springs, Kan.; Rebecca Simkins, Merriam, Kan.; Elizabeth Stover, Olathe, Kan.; Kiana Turner, Tatum, Texas; Evelyn Vila, Overland Park, Kan.; Zach Vredenburg, Olathe, Kan.; Madison Wendt, Chanute, Kan.; Steph Woltkamp, Overland Park, Kan.; and Anna Wright, Lawrence, Kan. • Baker celebrates International Education Week Nov. 18-22, highlighted by a forum led by international students and study abroad students. • SPGS announces the start of two new degree programs — the Bachelor of Science in Accounting and the online Bachelor of Science in Mass Media. • Two School of Education students — Lindsey Brown and Bryan Kindle — are honored as Teachers of Promise during a recognition ceremony in Wichita, Kan. Brown, a senior from Overland Park, Kan., and Kindle, 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 Kansas State 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 Grossner is named HAAC coach of the year. Baker reached the national quarterfinals for the first time since 1993 with a 10-7 victory over Sterling at Liston Stadium in the first round of the NAIA 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 automatically 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.

**DECEMBER 2013** | Brandon Haefke, a junior biology major from Holton, Kan., is named Baker University's Student Leader of the Month for November. Haefke is president of Zeta Chi fraternity, vice president of the Baker concert choir, vice president of marketing for the Student Activities Council and a member of the student leadership organization parMentors. He also performs with the praise band at the weekly worship service at the Osborne Chapel on the Baldwin City campus. • An administrative leader known for raising the national and international profiles of educational and non-profit institutions, Dr. Lynne Murray is announced by Board of Trustees Chair **Rich Howell**, '74, as the 29th president of Baker. Murray is currently the vice president for development, international and alumni relations at Washington, D.C.-based Gallaudet University, the world's only university for deaf and hard of hearing people. For 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 choirs, conducted the choruses. Other conductors are Dr. Susan Emel, director of the speech choir; Ray James, director of bands; Dr. J.D. Parr, director of jazz ensemble; Mark Pretzel, director of orchestras; and Steve Riley, percussion instructor. • The School of Nursing partners with Streams of Hope International, which provides medical supplies and health care in Kenya, for a fundraiser at Victory Bible Church in Lawrence, Kan. • The Eta Kappa Chapter-at-Large of Sigma Theta Tau International inducts 14 School of Nursing graduates and two Baker alumnae into its national honor society for nursing. Baker students inducted are Jennifer Andrews, Sara Busby, Allison Decker, Sarah Ernst, Shannon Good, Leslie Hart, Johna Herrera, Sarah Keenan, Olivia Kennedy, Haley Knowland, Jessica Luvisi, Paula Mattern, Emily McGinnis, Kristina Vazquez



Janet Hill Wozniak, '84, addresses graduates at May commencement.



and Stephanie Walters. Alumnae Amy Kincaid, '93, and Elizabeth Deng, '11, are inducted as community members. • Nearly 300 undergraduate students and 300 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 NAIA scholar-athletes for the fall semester.

**JANUARY 2014** | Dr. Vernon 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 United Methodist Church since 2009, will succeed the Rev. Ira DeSpain, who announced last year his plans to retire after the 2013-2014 academic year. Hopkins will officially assume his duties at Baker 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 presidential search committee. • Gordon Lansford III, '93, is promoted to chief executive officer and president at JE Dunn Construction Co., becoming the first non-family member to lead the company. • Defender Andy Griffin earns National Soccer Coaches Association of America's First-Team All-America honors, becoming Baker's third first-team All-American in program history.

**FEBRUARY 2014** | More than 100 instrumentalists from area high schools participate at the 16th annual Concert Honor Band Festival and concert at Rice Auditorium. The concert featured the Baker University Symphonic Winds under the baton of Raymond James, director of bands. Clarinetist Dr. J.D. Parr, professor of music, performed with the Symphonic Winds. • Fifty-nine Baker University students are recognized by Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges for 2013. The students were honored for their grade-point average, campus involvement and leadership as well as personification of Baker's mission and vision.

**MARCH 2014** | Patrick Tubach, '96, is a nominee for an Oscar in the Best Visual Effects category for his work as a co-visual ef-



Susanne Richardson Teel, '69, helps dedicate the Dr. Patricia (McCaslin) Long Student Center.

fects supervisor on the movie "Star Trek Into Darkness." • Senior Lauren Williams, an elementary education major from Olathe, Kan., is chosen as the NODA Region IV Student Leader of the Year. The regional student leadership award recognizes students for their creativity, energy, enthusiasm and outstanding abilities to enhance successful and dynamic orientation programs. To be considered, the nominee must have been involved in orientation between May 1, 2013 and March 1, 2014. Region IV encompasses Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Texas. Williams was the lone student selected from a four-year institution in the region. • Lauren Jaqua and Nicole Welch-Ward are honored as Teachers of Promise in a recognition ceremony at Capitol Plaza in Topeka, Kan. Jaqua, 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 Mungano, 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 All-American at the 2013 NAIA Women's Outdoor Track and Field National Championship in Marion, Ind., where she placed third in the 100-meter hurdles, third in the 400-meter hurdles and fifth in the 4x100-meter relay. • Katelin Colby, a senior from Paola, Kan., places third in creative nonfiction essays at Sigma Tau Delta International 2014 on Feb. 26-March 1 in Savannah, Ga. More than 1,000 students and faculty attended the English honors society event featuring the best student writers in the country. Colby is majoring in English and sociology. Her concentrations are creative writing and literature. • Ira DeSpain, '70, the Minister to the Uni-

versity since 1992, delivers his "Last Lecture" at Rice Auditorium as part of a series hosted by Baker's Student Activities Council.

• Katie Thurbon, a track and field student-athlete, is named the 2013 Dr. LeRoy Walker Character Award winner by the NAIA. Created in honor of Dr. LeRoy Walker, former NAIA president and president emeritus of the United States Olympic Committee, this award annually recognizes a junior or senior student-athlete who has embraced the five core values of the NAIA Champions of Character program and demonstrated outstanding academic achievement, campus and community leadership, athletic achievement and future ambition. She also is selected to be the U.S. female representative for student-athletes at the International University Sports Federation forum this week in South Korea. • The Baker women's basketball team won the HAAC title for the first time since 1983 and reached the second round of the national tournament in Frankfort, Ky., before finishing 27-7 overall and No. 11 in the final poll for the Wildcats' highest ranking in program history. Baker's Ben Lister was named conference coach of the year and BriAnna Garza was named conference player of the year. • Freshman Bryce Shoemaker goes 4-0 to win the 133-pound weight class at the NAIA National Championship at the Kansas Expocentre in Topeka, Kan., becoming Baker's first national wrestling champion. • The Wildcat men's and women's track and field teams sweep the conference titles in Lamoni, Iowa. The Baker dance team places third at the 2014 NAIA Cheer and Dance National Invitational Championships in Oklahoma City.

**APRIL 2014** | The Baker University choirs and Johnson County Chorus performs its Masterworks Concert, featuring the Midwest premiere of Mark Hayes' Requiem. • Baker's student-led radio and television stations KNBU-FM and KNBU-TV receive six awards from the 2013 Kansas Association of Broadcasters in the annual student broadcast awards competition. The Baker award winners are the following: radio enterprise news package — EJ Carter, St. Louis, Mo. "Gathright Chooses Gessner," second place; radio sports play-by-play — Brad Barnes, Gardner, Kan., "Baker vs. Evangel," second place; radio dee jay personality — Jordan Honore, Stafford, Texas, second place; television complete taped newscast — KNBU-TV staff, "Wildcat Watch," second place; television complete sports feature: Brad Barnes, "Baker Wrestling Places at Nationals," second place; radio sports play-by-play: Sean Webb, Wamego, Kan., "Baker vs. Central Methodist," honorable mention. • Folk and jazz singer Erin Bode returns to the Baldwin City campus for a free concert, performing many songs from her latest and recent album, "Be Still, My Soul." • The 13th annual Community Wellness Festival, sponsored by the Baldwin City Recreation Commission and Baker University, is held at the Collins Center. Approximately 70 exhibitors participated in the free health fair, which annually attracts more than 300 people. • Sierra Wallace, a senior biology major from New Cambria, Kan., 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 mass media, receives the Jennie Howell Kopke and Verda R. Kopke 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 300 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 May 10 SPGS ceremonies. Dr. Patricia N. Long, the 28th president in Baker's 156-year history, speaks at the CAS ceremony. • Dr. Ira DeSpain, '70, retires after serving as Minister to the university for 22 ½ years.

**JULY 2014** | Baker University's Master of Liberal Arts online degree program is ranked fifth nationally by the wordfocus.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 concentration programs 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 highlighting four-year colleges and universities that are considered "hidden gems," recognizes Baker University in its 2014-2015 publication. • The university mourns the sudden passing of track and cross country coach Zach Kindler, who guided Baker to 17 team conference 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 Universities Regional category 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 Marti Mihalyi, as recipients 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.



# HOMECOMING



## Alumni added to Athletics Hall of Fame

New Athletics Hall of Fame inductees and current members of the hall celebrate in the rotunda at the Collins Gym. They are Jimmie Rose, '94; Rayburn Moore, '99; Mike Stouffer, '70; Fred Purvis Jr., '70; President Lynne Murray, Tim Burkindine, '71; Deb Cowin, '81; Bobby Bates, '82; Janet Moore Nickel, '80; Bob London, '79; Director of Athletics Theresa Yetmar, '02 and '06.

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.



Know someone who should be a **Wildcat**?

## Call Cheryl to set up a campus visit.



Cheryl McCrary, '87 and MLA '13

Director of the Campus Visit Experience

785.594.7891 | [cheryl.mccrary@bakerU.edu](mailto:cheryl.mccrary@bakerU.edu)

[www.bakerU.edu/visitbaker](http://www.bakerU.edu/visitbaker)

# Event Calendar

## 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

8

**Musical production** "Working" 2 p.m., Rice Auditorium

27

**Spring choral concert** 7:30 p.m., Baldwin First United Methodist Church

## April

16

**Universitywide celebration** Baldwin City campus



Weekly chapel services are held in the Clarice L. Osborne Memorial Chapel Thursdays at 11 a.m. throughout the academic year.

23-25

**Theater production** "Agnes of God," by John Pielmeier, 7:30 p.m., Rice Auditorium

26

**Theater production** "Agnes of God," by John Pielmeier 2 p.m., Rice Auditorium

27

**Percussion ensemble concert** 7:30 p.m. McKibbin Recital Hall

28

**Symphonic winds guest artist concert** 7:30 p.m., Rice Auditorium

30

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

Keep up with alumni events throughout the year by visiting [www.bakeru.edu/AlumniEvents](http://www.bakeru.edu/AlumniEvents).





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OFFICE OF ALUMNI RELATIONS  
P.O. Box 65  
Baldwin City, KS 66006-0065

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



# THEN & NOW

Senior Rachel Theobald, a  
member of Zeta Tau Alpha  
sorority, is crowned the  
2014 homecoming queen.

