Interterm Classes Keep C.A.S Students Challenged...

For the previous forty years Baker CAS students have had the combined requirement and opportunity to participate in a somewhat unique educational experience known as Interterm. Designed to be the middle portion of a then new curriculum (a 4-1-4) originally brought to the University in 1968, interterm was intended to take students into areas outside of typical classes and majors and perhaps even away from personal comfort zones to a certain extent.

Though the modern derivation of the experience may have changed somewhat from the original design, students can still find new and exciting offerings available from which to choose for their three-week class each January. Here’s a brief sampling of classes:

As has been the case for many of the years since his arrival on campus, former professor and now Dean of the College of Arts and Science, Dr. Rand Ziegler, offered a Caribbean diving experience as a class this past month. This year’s dive-interterm class consisted of scuba diving certification classes and pool-work at a local Kansas City dive center prior to departure for an intensive submersion in diving off the island of Curacao near the coast of South America. Twenty one individuals took part in the trip with positive reactions to this new life-long activity shared by all the student-participants.

Another interesting interterm was offered by Professor of Business and Economics, Lee Green, who took a class of 23 students with him to Washington D.C. In addition to the study of the U.S. government and its workings the students enjoyed a number of tours of historic buildings and, most importantly, an opportunity to witness the Inauguration of President Barack Obama first hand.

Yet another class was taught by A. D. Dan Harris and his wife, Interim Dean-School of Education, Peggy Harris, who lead a group of students to New York City. Included in the trip were stops at museums, Ellis Island, the Statue of Liberty and three separate Broadway shows. Baker Alumnus Charles Agro ’79 who directs the Office of Emergency Management for the Port Authority of New York was able to hook up with the class and gave them a memorable personal tour of “Ground Zero” of the World Trade Center in which his office was originally located. Thanks, Charles!!!
Donation Idea...

During the month of January I attended a conference in Kansas City organized by CASE (Council for Advancement and Support of Education) where I was also on the faculty, presenting a number of sessions to those new to the profession. One of the interesting sessions that I listened in on dealt with colleges and universities receiving gifts from alumni and donors consisting of stamp and coin collections. Many of us have now acquired sometimes expansive collections which have in some cases been handed down generation to generation. Often these collections are relegated to life on shelves and in drawers further collecting dust. The leader of this discussion pointed out that such a collection—when properly valued—can make an excellent gift-in-kind to a University, can provide a tax-deduction for certain donors and can help the school continue important programs or scholarships for outstanding and deserving students. If you have such a collection that you would like to consider giving to Baker, why not contact Patrick Mikesic, Director of Development at Patrick.mikesic@bakeru.edu or @ 800.726.1554. This form of giving has my “official stamp of approval”!

Baker Trivia for February...

Name the last United States President to have visited the Baldwin City Campus of Baker...for extra credit...what year???
The answer will appear on page four of the March Arbor.

Bott Inducted Into Hall of Fame...

Lynn Bott, who directs the University’s program in Sports Medicine has been inducted into the Mid-America Athletic Trainers’ Association Hall of Fame. Prior to coming to Baker in 2005, Lynn served the University of Kansas first as an Assistant Athletic Trainer, and then as the Director of Athletic Trainer Services from 1976 through 2004. Congratulations Lynn!!!
Alma Mater Words Revealed…

At the request of Paul Brockman ‘59 (who has a 50th class reunion coming up this May) I am including the words to Baker’s Alma Mater in this Arbor issue. Paul was thinking it would be great to be able to know/sing the words to this song when he visits this Alumni Weekend...so for Paul, and all the rest of you who were afraid to ask...here are the words to the Alma Mater, the title of which is ...“To the Orange”.

To Dear Old Baker Unto Thee... Our Grateful Song we Sing... In Triumph Sound Throughout the Land... Loud let Thy Praises Ring.

Our Alma Mater will Reign... Across the Vast Fair Kansas Plain... Hearts to the Orange Forever True... We’re Children of Old Baker U!

Music by Dr. Roger Kugler
Lyrics by Warren Shepard

Memories Continued from January...

I received a few more memories regarding entertainers appearing on/near the Baker campus through the years and thought I would go ahead (like a good professor) and accept these late submissions-though for a one letter-grade deduction! :)

Bruce Gilbert ’71 reminded me that both Danny Cox and that stylish sitar player, Ravi Shankar, appeared on the BU campus in the spring of 1968.

Dick Driver ’61 wrote that “The Worried Three Trio”—composed of Baker students (who shall go un-named) also appeared. (Ed's note: Dick-I was worried someone would remember that too!) :)

Don Thompson ’63 stopped water skiing on nearly frozen Lake Lotawana long enough to write that he saw Peter, Paul and Mary three times near campus and several other big names of the times. He added an ominous tone at the end by saying “It's hard to believe that Jim Croce, Ricky Nelson and Elvis have been gone for decades now while we mere mortals just keep chugging along. It goes to show us that money and fame won't get us everything and...you can’t take it with you!”

Mike O'Bryhim ’69 mentioned two great dance bands...Anne Brewer & the Flames and The Fabulous Flippers! (Ed's note: How weird would it have been to have had Jerry Lee Lewis and Ravi Shankar together?)

University Receives Mid-America Arts Alliance Performing Arts Grant...

Baker University has announced that it was among a select group of Midwest institutions chosen to receive a Mid-America Arts Alliance grant. This award will support an upcoming Baker Artist and Lecture Series performance of Step Afrika! at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 10, at Rice Auditorium. The stomp troupe will also be involved in community and outreach activities at 11 a.m. at the auditorium.

This presentation is supported by Mid-America Arts Alliance with generous underwriting by the National Endowment for the Arts, Kansas Arts Commission, and foundations, corporations and individuals throughout Kansas, Arkansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma and Texas.

Mid-America Arts Alliance enriches communities through cultural experiences throughout America’s heartland to share in and to enjoy the arts and cultures of the region and world.

“Baker University is to be commended for their commitment to serving their community with this distinctive event,” said Mary Kennedy McCabe, Mid-America Arts Alliance Executive Director. “Audiences in Baldwin City will have the opportunity to see the exciting work of Step Afrika!, many for the first time, and Mid-America Arts Alliance is proud to help support this work and Baker.”

During the Mid-America Arts Alliance project, students from Baldwin Elementary School Primary Center and Baldwin Elementary School Intermediate Center will learn more about the stomp troupe’s intricate kicks and rhythms with an emphasis on teamwork, discipline and commitment.

For more information about the event, contact Susan Buehler, director of the Artist and Lecture Series, at 785.594.8421.

Nursing Professor, Alumni Honored...

A Baker professor and two School of Nursing alumni were honored on Jan. 15 during the Stormont-Vail Health Care Excellence in Nursing Awards ceremony. Bobbe Mansfield, assistant professor, received the Distinguished Community Service Award. Jeff Bradbury ’94, was recognized for Excellence in Nursing Leadership and Lori Korber Marteney ’01, for Excellence in Nursing Preceptorship. Congratulations to one and all!!!!
Did you Know???

The Methodists, like other denominations, split into 3 branches prior to the Civil War, slavery being one issue. It took until 1939 for those bodies to reunite (in the then new Municipal Auditorium in Kansas City). There’s a plaque inside to this day that heralds the reunification.

It was interesting to note that even though the church was divided, individual bodies actually agreed to assemble a joint hymnal. In fact, the feat was accomplished in 1905. Two things are interesting about that:

1. Selected delegates from the divided entity were able to join together in the creation of a hymnal 34 years before they could join in the creation of a merged church and accompanying doctrine.
2. One member of the hymnal committee from the Methodist Episcopal side was Baker’s own Bishop William Alfred Quayle, the first alumnus of Baker to serve as its president (1890-1894).

One of my personal favorite hymns at Christmas for years has been “There’s a Song in the Air”. Originally it was a poem written by Josiah Holland. Karl Harrington was another member of the team working on the new hymnal with Quayle. Harrington was familiar with the poem by Holland… liked it and then wrote the musical score just so it could be included in that 1905 hymnal. I think it’s an interesting historical note to learn that Bishop Quayle would most likely have been one of the first people in the entire world to have heard that carol.

*Information for the story above was researched and sent by Rev. Dr. Norton C. “Butch” Ritter, former Minister to the University and former member of the Board of Trustees. Thanks very much, Butch!!!

Holt-Russell Gallery...Art Show Times...

60 Years! Three Dedicated Artists, Teachers and Friends-Selected Paintings by Tom Russell - Wilbur Niewald - Bob Sudlow
Exhibit Dates: Feb. 1 - Feb. 28
Monday - Friday, 1 to 4 p.m.
To schedule an appointment outside regular hours, please contact Lee Mann, professor and chair of the art department, at 785.594.4588 or lee.mann@bakerU.edu
The Holt-Russell Gallery is located in Parmenter Hall on the Baldwin City campus. I hope you will be able to attend the show!
Charitable Deferred Gift Annuities…

Several years ago now a Baker former student couple invested $30,000 in what they believed to be an attractive stock. It turned out to be a very wise decision, because the value of the stock increased to $70,000 a few years later. Though they were not in any great need of additional income at the time, the couple had made a decision to cash in on this growth and began considering selling the stock.

They had had a good year and were looking for ways to maximize deductions and reduce what they owed in taxes. At the same time, they had been exploring the best way to make a gift to Baker for a campaign we had at that time.

They were both age 50, in good health and still working. They really didn’t need any extra current income at that time and were planning to retire at age 65. Their goal (as is it for many of us) was to retire comfortably and fill those days in retirement with activities and travel to far off lands and to visit friends and family.

She: “I remember when we met with you to talk about a gift to Baker that you explained several options—one of which was about the benefits of setting up a deferred gift annuity—which I had never heard of. Instead of selling our stock and being hit with the capital gain, we learned that we could give it to Baker to formulate a deferred gift annuity and receive an immediate charitable tax deduction. Plus, when we turned 65, the deferred gift annuity would make annual retirement income payments to us for our lifetime on a tax-favored basis.”

He: “We decided to set up the deferred gift annuity. And we experienced first hand each of the benefits my wife mentioned: we received a charitable tax deduction and tax savings immediately. And now that we’re retired, we receive income each year that helps make our retirement travel possible. On top of all of this, the deferred gift annuity makes a portion of the income payments we receive tax-free and the charitable remainder has been structured to pour over into an endowed scholarship fund in honor of our parents upon our death.”

For more information on the potential benefits of a deferred charitable gift annuity for you please contact me in any of the following ways:

Jerry L. Weakley  
Vice President for Endowment And Planned Giving  
% Baker University  
P.O. Box 65,  
Baldwin City, KS 66006  
Or:  
785.594.8332 (Office at Baker)  
913-449-9540 (Cell Phone)  
Or:  
Jerry.weakley@bakeru.edu

As Dr. James Chubb ‘22 used to say when he visited classmates and alumni while on the road for Baker...

“Please remember to leave something for Baker in your will!”

*The Above information is provided only for your consideration and should not be construed as “Legal or Tax Advice”. You should always consult your own professional advisor before acting upon such information.