

Gratitude

January 1, 2017 — December 31, 2017



1858

Baker University
President's Report

Honor Roll of Donors

Mission

Baker University is committed to assuring student learning, and developing confident, competent and responsible contributors to society.

History

In 1858 a group of Methodist ministers founded Baker University in an attempt to bring education to the settlers' rough prairie existence. Named for Osmon Cleander Baker, a distinguished scholar and bishop of what is now the United Methodist Church, the school holds the honor of being the first four-year university in Kansas.

Since then, Baker has evolved into a comprehensive university with four schools — the College of Arts and Sciences, School of Professional and Graduate Studies, School of Nursing, and School of Education — serving nearly 3,500 students at campuses in Kansas and Missouri and online across the country.



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Dr. Lynne Murray,
University President

Dear Friends,

Baker University has so much to be proud of. For the third year in a row, the U.S. Department of Education confirms that our graduates earn higher average salaries 10 years after graduation than their peers from other universities in Kansas. And with Baker's consistent ranking as one of the top 50 universities in the 12-state Midwest region and eighth consecutive year as the top private university in Kansas, according to *U.S. News & World Report*, it's clear that Baker stands above the rest.

While it's gratifying to receive these accolades, they tell just a small part of the story. More compelling is the fact that Baker University continues, year after year, to build dreamers, leaders, and achievers who change their communities. Baker graduates go on to serve as compassionate healers, exemplary educators, business innovators, pioneering entrepreneurs and researchers, and role models. These distinctions and achievements wouldn't be possible without your generosity and support. Every gift made last year served to advance the educational experience of our students and the institution.

On the following pages, we have highlighted donors who value the education they received, both in the classroom and out, and explain why it is important to them to continue Baker's strong tradition of generosity. Three students express their heartfelt thanks for the financial support that allows them to pursue their dreams at Baker. Carlos, JD, and Madison are deeply grateful for the friendships, academic and athletic opportunities, and excitement for the future that create their Baker experience. The ability of these students to attend and thrive at this great university is a direct manifestation of your gifts. We consistently see that when the Baker community comes together to serve our university, the results are phenomenal.

On behalf of the entire university community, I express to you my sincerest gratitude for your continued support and your belief in a Baker education.

Sincerely,

Dr. Lynne Murray
University President



Why I'm grateful...

Carlos Galindo, Class of 2020

I've always known I wanted to play college soccer. Not only is it a game I've been passionate about for as long as I can remember, but it also offers me a way to get a great education and grow as a person. At first, I didn't know which college soccer would take me to, but there was never a doubt in my mind after my recruiting trip to Baker. The campus was beautiful and every student I met was extremely friendly. After meeting with the faculty, I knew that I could learn how to become an all-around success as a business major and that I will be well prepared when I eventually enter the business world.

Now that I'm part of the community here, I know how truly lucky I am. It's been very easy to get involved and I've met many people, both in the soccer program and in my fraternity, Kappa Sigma, who have become my closest friends. If not for my athletic and academic scholarships and the scholarships of these other students, I never would have made these connections. I certainly never would have joined Greek life, and I may not have even played college soccer.

It's cliché to say that these scholarships have changed my life for the better, but it's also very true. I'm forever grateful. 🍀

Gratitude



Why I'm grateful...

Madison Martin, Class of 2021

Growing up in a small town like Garnett, Kansas, I never felt like I fit in. I love my hometown, but I wanted to grow by meeting new people, experiencing more cultural diversity, and thinking outside the box that it's so easy to stay inside when you only know a rural life. Here at Baker, I've never felt better. All the things that I have experienced in my first year of college, I couldn't imagine doing anywhere else. I've met the most amazing friends and faculty here that I now consider my family. Anytime that I'm in need of any sort of help, the students, faculty, and staff here at Baker are always willing to lend a hand.

As a sports administration major, the opportunity Coach Garcia has given me to manage the wrestling team has provided invaluable experience, and he also understands that I'm a student first. That's something my track coach, Coach Pitts, also understands. So does Coach Peck, who knows I want to do more than perfect my form for throwing javelin. They've always checked to make sure that school and life are going well ever since recruiting me in high school last year.

The scholarships I receive are crucial in allowing me to attend what I'm certain is the greatest university in the nation. Without them, I wouldn't be able to attend any place nearly as great as Baker. Thanks to the people I've met—mostly within the last year—I've made a lifetime of memories and relationships that I wouldn't trade for the world. I can only imagine all the great things that will happen over the next three years. 🌸

Gratitude



Why I'm grateful...

JD Woods, Class of 2021

My route to Baker wasn't the same as the one taken by a lot of freshmen. I attended another college first, but it didn't turn out to be the experience I had hoped for. When I decided to transfer, I was looking for a school with great academics and a football program where I could immediately contribute. One of my best friends goes to Grand View in Iowa and he loves it, but when I visited, it just didn't feel like home—but Baker did. Jake Morse, our offensive coordinator, texted me every day to make sure of it.

At a bigger school, it might be easier for people to think I was just the running back for the football team. At Baker, though, people see me for everything else that makes up my personality and my dreams, too. I'm a criminal justice major who wants to be a crime scene investigator. I'm also someone my two younger brothers can look up to as they prepare to go to college on scholarships next year.

Without my scholarship, just being in college would be difficult because my family helps my older sister with her college payments and saves for my younger brothers' futures. Not having to worry as much about the financial side of things lets me excel in all my roles: football player, student with dreams, and family member. That might not have been the case without the academic assistance I receive, and I'm so happy and thankful to have found a perfect situation like the one here at Baker. 🍁

Gratitude

Your gifts in action in 2017

Baker alumni and friends are known for their active support of the university, and this was evident in 2017. Individuals, organizations, and groups came together to give and encourage others to give. Their generosity supports scholarships, faculty excellence, curriculum development, and facility projects that make a lasting impact on the university. Our students experience firsthand the benefits of your generosity, and as you have read, they are eternally grateful.

Power in Numbers

On September 19, the Baker community came together for One Baker, One Goal, 24 hours of online giving and paying it forward for the Baker Fund for Scholarships. The inau-



Day of Giving celebration among teams.

gural Day of Giving featured competition among various teams based on an academic area, sorority or fraternity involvement, or relationship with the university. At midnight, when the competition ended, nearly 300 donors had raised over \$62,000, which will support

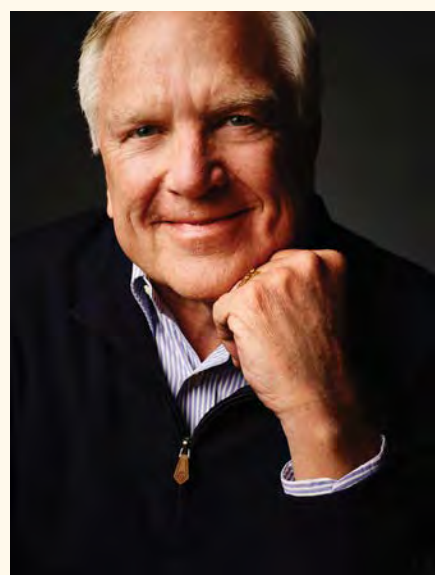
student scholarships. Baker University Board of Trustees member **Richard Howell** and his wife, **Shannon**, both '74, were instrumental in the success of the event. The Howells provided a \$15,000 challenge match to start the day.

To promise a better future for the Baker community, Board of Trustees member **Hoot Gibson**, '73, and his wife, Kathleen, established the Gibson Legacy Challenge. The challenge encourages alumni and friends to give back to the university that has provided lifelong friendships and a quality education. To encourage donors to make a new planned gift to Baker, the Gibsons will make a \$1,000 donation to the Baker fund of the donor's choice.

Singular Impact

While Day of Giving and the Gibson Legacy Challenge are testaments to how members of the Baker community come together to make a difference, last year also saw how an individual can have a transformational impact. Baker University received a \$3.4 million privately held stock gift from **Martha "Marty" Mather**, a generous supporter and benefactor. The gift is the largest single donation by a living donor to the university and is the latest expression of Mather's longstanding connection to Baker.

Last year, we also experienced firsthand your gifts in action when events were held in the newly renovated Rice Auditorium, home to theatre and music performances, guest lectures, and nationally recognized entertainers. Phase I, a \$400,000 project funded by a Sunderland Foundation grant and private gifts, included new seating and carpet, a flexible stage, and relocated control rooms with new lighting and sound controls.



Bob Carr, CEO and president of the Give Something Back Foundation.

One of the first events in Rice Auditorium was Baker's Convocation ceremony in October, in which keynote speaker **Bob Carr**, CEO and president of the Give Something Back Foundation, presented a \$1 million gift to Baker University. The gift is earmarked for scholarships specifically for first-generation college students.

Each of these gifts shows how the Baker community embraces the notion of helping one another and of assuring that more students have the opportunity to realize an exceptional education. Each and every student that walks on Baker's campus for decades to come will benefit from our donors' immeasurable kindness. 🍀

Baker University Honor Roll of Donors

The list reflects gifts and pledge payments made from **January 1, 2017, to December 31, 2017**. Not represented in this list are the full multiyear pledges acquired by the university during this time frame. The list is long and omissions and errors are possible, and for that we do apologize. For corrections, or if your name appears other than your preference, contact Kathy McCrary at University Development, PO Box 65, Baldwin City, KS 66006-0065, by phone at 800.726.1554, or via email at kathy.mccrary@bakeru.edu.

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William “Bill” C. Iwig and Deborah R. “Debbi” Iwig

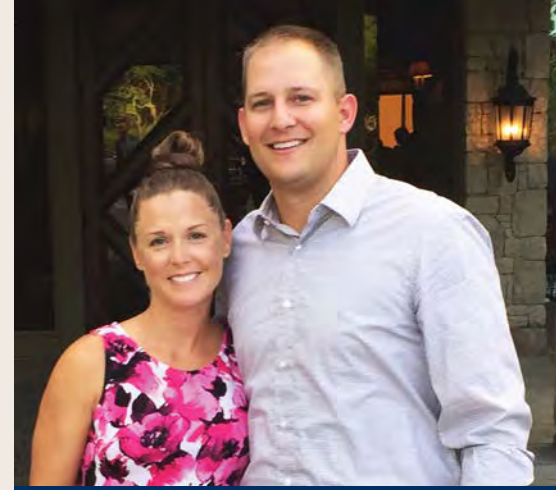
Bill, '73, and Debbi (Smith), '74, Iwig met while math students at Baker University, their friendship turning into a courtship during a travel interterm to Germany. The couple married in 1975. The Iwigs cherish their Baker memories, especially those made during activities outside the classroom. Bill traveled with the men's basketball team as scorekeeper, and Debbi was a member of the Baker Choir, now known as Concert Choir, and took organ lessons from Dr. Douglas Brown. Debbi still participates in choral singing in a group in Washington, D.C., where she and Bill live.

“The community feel of Baker and the professors and staff were all so supportive, especially for students who felt they might have gotten lost in a larger school,” Bill said.

This support laid a firm foundation for the Iwigs' professional success. Bill earned a master's in statistics from Texas A&M in 1974 and spent his career working as a statistician, retiring in 2013 after 38 years at the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Washington, D.C. Debbi earned an MBA from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln in 1976 and began a career in accounting, working for 20 years at Marriott International and for the last 15 years as a vice president and CFO for not-for-profit organizations. Debbi recently retired from the German Marshall Fund of the United States in Washington, D.C.

The Iwigs give to Baker University because they value the opportunities an education affords young adults, and they understand the importance of financial assistance: Academic scholarships allowed both to attend Baker. Their planned giving bequest will help future students attend Baker University to create their own memories and prepare for meaningful careers. 🍁

“We're hopeful that promising students at Baker will be able to take advantage of a myriad of opportunities, reaching their full potential.”



Lee and Jill Driver

Lee Driver, '03, a fourth-generation Baker graduate, and **Jill (Noel) Driver, '05**, both from small towns in Kansas, found just what they were looking for in a college experience at Baker University: a close-knit environment and supportive atmosphere.

Jill, who is from La Cygne, majored in elementary education, and Lee, who is from Williamsburg, was a member of Kappa Sigma and a shooting guard for the Wildcat basketball team. He majored in accounting and finance.

The college sweethearts now call Olathe home, where they work and raise their family. Jill taught in both the West Franklin district and the Shawnee Mission district and now stays home with their three small children. Lee is a partner at the public accounting firm Grant Thornton.

Lee credits the leadership of business professors **Martha Harris, '79, MLA '14**, and Dr. Kevin McCarthy and many others for helping him feel confident in embarking on a successful professional career. The Drivers support Baker to give back to those who helped shape them and have started an endowed scholarship fund with Lee's sister, **Laura (Driver) Peek, '02**; brother, **Scott Driver, '07**; and father, **Roger Driver, '75**. Their intent is to help students from small towns have the opportunity to attend Baker and get involved in extracurricular activities. 🍁

“We want to pay it forward, especially helping those students from small towns who might really need the extra assistance.”

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William “Bill” R. Gordon

As a young man growing up in Hutchinson, Kansas, **William “Bill” R. Gordon** was drawn to Baker University in 1954 because of its “great reputation in Kansas.” Gordon was looking for small classes and an appealing curriculum, and at Baker he found what he was searching for.

Gordon credits the unwavering support of former Dean Benjamin Gessner and his professors in helping him realize his goal of earning a degree after a break in his studies. Gordon had to leave school for some time when his father passed away, and Dean Gessner encouraged him to return when he was ready. Gordon did return and graduated in 1960 with a double major in English and sociology.

Gordon retired as the executive director of the American Library Association in Chicago after 20 years, having previously worked in Washington, Maryland, Minnesota, and Idaho. Over the years, he has been a strong advocate for the university, and his gifts have focused on helping students with financial needs and helping sustain Baker’s infrastructure. Gordon has established estate plans to benefit Baker University, and he hopes his legacy will continue to help those who most need it. 🍁

“I’m grateful for this support, and it wouldn’t necessarily have been available at other institutions. Baker University ranks very high in my heart.”

Pulliam Society

Pulliam Society members leave a lasting legacy in the Baker community, further our mission, and support our students by including the university in estate gifts, wills, annuities, and other planned giving options. Planned gifts are designed to align a donor’s personal values with those of the university and preserve them for the future.

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Mr. and Mrs. Kenton Schroer
Ms. Sylvia Schultz
Mr. and Mrs. Don Schwartz
Mr. and Mrs. Gary L. Scott
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Seele
Mr. and Mrs. Albert J. Seitz
Sexual Trauma and Abuse Care Center, Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Owen Shaffner
Dr. Alice R. Shanaver
Mrs. Carol Shankel
Mrs. Carolyn Sharp
Ms. Martha J. Shaw
Mr. and Mrs. Morris E. Sheffield
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry J. Shubert
Ms. Taylor Shuck
Mr. and Mrs. Eugene F. Sikorovsky
Ms. Pam Sill
Mr. Brad Smith
Christin Smith
Mrs. Lisa Smith
Ms. Penny Smith
John Smoot
Mrs. Susan Spann
Ms. Peggy Sparks
Lynne K. Speierman

Jean Powell Sprinkle
Mrs. Lisa M. Stalcup
Ms. Sonda Stancliff
Mrs. Becky Stanley
Mr. Ben Steinlage
Ms. Danielle E. Price
Mr. and Mrs. Dick Stephens
Stephens Insurance, Inc.
Ms. Loralee Stevens
Ms. Mary Ellen Stover
Mr. Richard W. Sumpter
John S. Sutherland
Shelby and Leon Swafford
Mr. Warren Swenson
Ms. Mariana Taney
Kasey Taul
Ms. Bridget Tennant
Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Tennant
Mr. and Mrs. William Tennant
Mr. Charles Tillie
TOPS KS 1088
Mrs. Chris Trotta
Ms. Debbie L. Turner
Mr. and Mrs. David Ufford
Ms. Jeanne Ulrich
Ms. Amy Umbeck
Unified School District No. 434
United Way of Douglas County
Mrs. Jennifer A. Upton
Ms. Paige VanBooven
Mrs. Sherrell Varner
Mr. Keith Vasey
Lindsay and Justin Vise
Ms. Caroline Vollrath
Ms. Alicia Vonstein
Ms. Kathleen A. Wagner
Mr. and Mrs. Tim Wagner
Mr. Bill Walden
Mrs. Linda Walker
Billie Wiese Watson
Mr. and Mrs. Alan Welty
Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Werner
Dr. Barry E. and Lori A. Wesselowski
Mr. and Mrs. Peter White
Mr. Jeff Wichman
Ms. Joyce Williams
Mr. Paxton M. Williams
Ms. Betty Jane Wilson
Steven and Marcia Wilson
Mrs. Marian S. Wilson
Mrs. Suzanne L. Wilson
Mr. and Mrs. Brock J. Winans
Deborah J. Winter

Ms. Michelle Wolf
Mr. Matthew Wolfe
Mr. and Mrs. Roy Worthington
Mr. Richard Wright
Ms. Sheryl Wright
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Yarick
Ms. Angie Young
Ms. Rebecca Yoxall
Mrs. Barbara L. Zak

Recognition for 2017 Day of Giving

Mrs. Jodi L. Akers
Mr. Josh and Mrs. Molly Anderson
Ms. Nancy Andrzejczak
Ms. Callie S. Ballenger
Mr. David and Mrs. Carrie Barth
Mr. Doug and Mrs. Sara Barth
Mr. Connor and Mrs. Savannah Bechard
Mrs. Wende Beeson
Mr. Pete and Mrs. Kelly Belk
Mr. Murray and Mrs. Diane (Wilson) Blackwelder
Mrs. Elizabeth A. Bloye
Mr. Ken Bowman
Mr. Ron and Mrs. Diane Brees
Mr. Spencer and Mrs. Joann Spencer Breithaupt
Ms. Lauren Breithaupt Langston
Ms. Elaine M. Brewer
Mr. Tim Burkindine
Mr. Charlie Carey
Mr. Michael J. Cattaneo
Mrs. Shanda S. Chambers
Mrs. Laurie Chapman
Ms. Melanie Chaussee
Ms. Gwen E. Chisholm
Ms. Lacy Chubb
Mr. Drew and Mrs. Abby Clement
Mr. Gary and Mrs. Mary Coleman
Mr. Michael L. Compton
Mr. Eric and Mrs. Wendy Conaway
Mr. Tom and Mrs. Jan Correll
Mr. Ryan P. Costello
Ms. Erin Curtis-Dierks and Mr. Andy Dierks
Mrs. Connie and Mrs. Roy Deel
Mr. Kevin W. Dellinger
Mrs. Kristen (Snow) DePew
Reverend Ira and Mrs. Barbara DeSpain

Mr. John and Mrs. Mary Dill
Mr. Sean and Mrs. Nicole Dooley
Mr. Julio C. Dos Santos
Mr. Steve and Mrs. Cathy Doyal
Mr. Roger and Mrs. Ann Driver
Mr. Chris Duderstadt
Mr. Mark and Mrs. Kathy Elliott
Dr. Kimberly D. Erickson
Mr. Fred and Mrs. Carol Farmer
Mr. Scott and Mrs. Kelly Fink
Dr. Mark and Mrs. Rebecca Foland
Dr. Emily and Mr. Jason Ford
Mr. Harvey C. Foyle
Mrs. Debby Freeman
Mrs. Megan Freking
Mrs. Shirley Frizell
Mrs. Tara From
Ms. Linda Gastelum
Ms. Emily Gibson
Mrs. Rebecca Griffiths
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hamner
Mr. Aaron Hannon
Mr. Andrew Hannon
Ms. Annie Hannon
Mr. Asher Hannon
Mr. Philip and Mrs. Charlene Hannon
Mr. Christer M. Hanson
Mr. James T. Hardy
Mr. Benjamin Harp
Mr. Nick and Mrs. Martha Harris
Mr. Mel and Mrs. Alice Hawk
Mrs. Tammy (Spiva) Hawks and Mr. Dale Hawks
Mr. Eric and Dr. Lisa Hays
Mr. John and Mrs. Kim Heckathorne
Mr. Andrew Heim
Mr. Ted and Mrs. Anita Hempy
Mrs. Joan Henry
Ms. Megan Henry
Mr. Jason H. Hodges
Mr. David Houchen
Mr. Nate and Mrs. Erica Houser
Mr. Richard and Mrs. Shannon Howell
Mr. Tyler W. Hudson
Mr. Bill and Mrs. Deborah Iwig
Mr. Darold and Mrs. Janice Jackson
Ms. Laurel J. Jackson
Mr. Morgan James

Mr. Marvin and Mrs. Norma Jardon
Mr. Andy Jett and Mr. Brad Ozias
Mr. Dave and Mrs. Kelly Johns
Mr. Steve and Mrs. Becky Johns
Mrs. Jennifer and Mr. Matt Johnson
Dr. Jessica Johnson
Matt and Jen (Kinard) Johnson '93 and '94 (respectively)
Mrs. Melba Johnston
Mr. David and Mrs. Jayne Jones
Ms. Danielle Jones Rease
Mr. Steve and Mrs. Bonnie Kay
Mrs. Phyllis S. Kidd
Mr. Brian and Mrs. Barbara King
Ms. Christine Krebs
Mr. Kevin and Mrs. Meredith Kropf
Mr. John and Mrs. Barbara Krueger
Mr. Ryan and Mrs. Emilee Kuhn
Mr. Gordon and Mrs. Marti Lansford
Mr. Tim Laughlin
Mrs. Jennifer Letner
Mrs. Cari Lile
Ms. Ingrid Lohneiss
Dr. Robyn E. Long
Mr. Ian C. Losasso
Mr. Eric and Mrs. Erin Lundstrom
Dr. Trilla Lyerla
Mr. Dan and Mrs. Maria Mai
Mrs. Cheryl and Mr. George McCrary
Ms. Anna T. McCullough
Mrs. Paula and Mr. Larry McCurry
Mr. Benjamin and Mrs. Beth McMahan
Dr. Tes Mehring
Mr. Gene And Mrs. Carol Meyer
Mr. Cecil and Mrs. Carol Lee (Turk) Miller
Mr. Bill J. Miller
Mrs. Mona (Dippold) Mills
Mr. LukeMiltz
Mr. Jacob Mogle
Mrs. Candace and Mr. Chris Moore
Mr. Wayne L. Morris
Mr. George and Mrs. Debbie Murphy

Dr. Lynne and Mr. Jeff Murray
Ms. Melissa Ness
Mr. Anthony Nguyen
Mrs. Kelsey Nolte
Mrs. Deb (Tomkins) and Mr. Tim North
Mr. Chad and Mrs. Darcey O'Bryhim
Mr. Don and Mrs. Charlotte Parker
Mrs. Karen M. Pattison
Dr. Jerald and Mrs. Rochelle Pelofsky
Mr. Brad and Mrs. Kristin Peterson
Mrs. Alyssa and Mr. Ryan Petrik
Mr. Bill and Mrs. Joy Phillips
Ms. Annette Pierce
Mrs. Nancy Pierce
Mr. John Polakowski
Ms. Danielle E. Price
Mr. Don and Mrs. Megan Pridmore
Mr. Paul D. Reichert M.D.
Mr. Michael W. Rethman
Mr. Don and Mrs. Cindy Rogers
Ms. Megan Rosa Caldwell
Mr. Tim and Mrs. Jean Rose
Mr. Jeff Ruediger
Mrs. Nancy Russell
Mr. Julian Sansano
Mr. Brandon and Dr. Courtnay Scarborough
Ms. Hannah Schaake
Mr. Chad J. Shaffer
Mrs. Carol Shankel
Mrs. Rachel and Mr. Kirsten Shuck
Ms. Taylor Shuck
Dr. Richard and Mrs. Janice Simpson
Dr. Steve Q. Simpson
Mrs. Julie Sizemore
Ms. Christin
Mr. Christopher Smith
Ms. Cynthia R Smith
Mr. Ken and Mrs. Dottie Snow
Mr. Tom and Mrs. Perk Snow
Mr. Gary and Mrs. Connie Sollars
Mrs. Amy Spikes
Mrs. Brenda and Mr. Brad Stasiulis
Ms. Loralee Stevens
Mr. Gregory Stoskopf
Mrs. Missy and Mr. Jim Sullivan

Mr. Tom and Mrs. Melany Sutherland
Mr. James and Mrs. Denna Sweeney
Mr. Warren Swenson
Mr. John and Mrs. Holly Thomson
Mrs. Jennifer A. Upton
Mr. Tony Varner
Mrs. Lindsay and Mr. Justin Vise
Mrs. Jeanie (Robinson) and Mr. Richard Vought
Mr. Graham and Mrs. Anne Walker
Mrs. Linda Walker
Ms. Denise Greufe Ward
Mr. Jerry and Mrs. Patti (Francisco) Weakley
Mrs. Elizabeth and Mr. John Wendorff
Dr. Mark and Mrs. Shari Wendt
Mr. Dale and Mrs. Sally Werts
Dr. Barry E. and Mrs. Lori A. Wesselowski
Fred and Marie Wicke, '57 and '59
Mr. Kenneth and Mrs. Janet Wickham
Mr. Chad and Mrs. Dawn Wilkins
Mr. Bob and Mrs. Kay Williams
Mr. Steve and Mrs. Megan Wilson
Mrs. Danielle and Mr. Jeff Yearout
Mrs. Barbara L. Zak

The year in review:

SPRING 2017

◆ For the second year in a row, Baker University has received a \$5,000 gift from the Spencer C. Duncan “Make It Count” Foundation to benefit student veterans. The gift will fund 10 scholarships of \$500 each, awarded to veterans who are undergraduate students at Baker’s School of Nursing, College of Arts and Sciences, and School of Professional and Graduate Studies. The awards are to be used to pay for books. Megan and Dale Duncan started the foundation to honor the memory of their son, Spencer C. Duncan, who joined the military with a dream of making a difference in the world. He was killed in action while serving as a U.S. Army Specialist on the crew of a Chinook helicopter that was shot down on Aug. 6, 2011.



◆ The Baker University exercise science program earned accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (caahep.org), making it the first fully

accredited program in Kansas. This recognition means the program meets all educational standards and guidelines established by the allied health professions.

◆ In recognition of their accomplishments in the study of education, the School of Education named **Jesse Austin** and **Brittany Windom** the 2017 spring Teachers of Promise. Each semester, two graduating Baker University students are selected to represent the program at the Kansas Excellence in Education Conference, where they are officially recognized.

◆ Baker student **Chad Phillips** was recognized in March with the J. Edward Zollinger Outstanding Senior Award at the Sigma Phi Epsilon Carlson Leadership Academy conference for the Midwest region.

◆ For the first time in program history, the Baker women’s basketball team captured the Heart of America Athletic Conference regular season and conference tournament crowns and finished the season with a school-record 30 victories. They advanced to the NAIA quarterfinals of the 2017 NAIA National Championship in Billings, Montana, in March.

◆ Baker’s competitive dance team finished third in the first NAIA Competitive Dance National Championship, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, in March.

◆ A partnership established in March between Baker University and Wichita Public Schools allows educators from USD 259 to pursue a master’s degree from Baker University with their colleagues. Classes are held at West High School in Wichita. Students receive a locked-in tuition rate, discounted for Wichita Public Schools staff.

◆ In April, Baker University and Cleveland University – Kansas City forged a partnership that provides qualified undergraduate exercise science students an opportunity to matriculate to Cleveland University’s chiropractic school after three years. The program’s 3+3 model allows participating students to enter the job market earlier after completing a bachelor’s degree in exercise science from Baker and a Doctor of Chiropractic Science from CUKC in six years as opposed to the traditional seven.

◆ Junior **Brenda McCollum** highlighted the 2017 NAIA Outdoor Track and Field National Championship in Gulf Shores, Alabama, in May, placing fourth in the women’s 5,000-meter race walk and earning All-America honors.

◆ Baker University alumnus **Amer Didic**, ’16, was signed by Sporting KC of Major League Soccer in June.

◆ In June, Baker University announced the launch of an MBA in Health Care Administration.

◆ Many proud Baker alumni reunited for an alumni social at the Boulevard Brewing Company in Kansas City, Missouri, on June 29 in support of the Baker Fund for Scholarships. Ticket sales and donations raised more than \$5,200 to be used for student scholarships.

FALL 2017

◆ The Omicron Chapter of Alpha Chi Omega at Baker University was awarded the 2016-2017 Small Chapter National Council Trophy on August 13. The trophy is awarded based on a chapter’s overall performance and display of significant achievements in chapter management, member support, and development.

◆ **Nate Houser**, ’94, was named the athletic director and senior advisor to the president. Houser continued his role as head men’s soccer coach, his 10th season in that role. Susan Decker, was named assistant athletic director. Decker served as the head women’s basketball coach from 2000 to 2011 and served as an assistant professor from 2000 to 20012.

◆ Baker University welcomed one of the largest incoming classes in school history when 308 new students began the fall semester on August 23, tying the record for incoming students set in 2009.



◆ Senior football player **Clarence Clark** became the NAIA’s all-time leading scorer with 526 points during Baker’s win over William Penn on Aug. 26. Clark ended his career at BU with 669 points. Baker football went on to capture its third-straight Heart South Conference title and appeared in its fifth NAIA-FCS playoffs in the last six seasons.

◆ In August, Baker University announced three new undergraduate programs on the Baldwin City campus: health humanities, public health, and recreation.

◆ Baker’s October 17 Convocation Ceremony was the first event in the newly renovated Rice Auditorium.

◆ In October, Baker University launched an online Doctor of Education in Instructional Design and Performance Technology degree, the only online doctoral program of its kind in the region. The first cohort of this online program is scheduled to begin spring of 2018. The EdD in IDPT program prepares professionals in a variety of organizations to improve the performance and education of employees and learners through instructional design and performance technology, particularly in the field of online learning and training.

◆ **Lauren Everett**, ’16; **Emily Gibson**, ’11; **Chris Giuliani**, ’05; **Scott Hughes**, ’03; and **Gordon Lansford**, ’93; are among the Baker University alumni featured on *Ingram’s* magazine’s October distinction lists.



◆ In celebration of Veterans Day, Baker University hosted *John Musgrave: Poet, Storyteller, Vietnam War Veteran* on November 19 at Rice Auditorium on the Baldwin City campus. The conversation and question-and-answer session also featured readings of Musgrave’s

poetry by the Baker Speech Choir. A former Baker student, Musgrave is featured in *The Vietnam War*, a documentary film series by Ken Burns and Lynn Novick that debuted in September on PBS.

◆ In its fifth-straight appearance in the NAIA Men’s Soccer Opening Round in November, the Baker men’s soccer team advanced to the NAIA final site in Delray Beach, Florida.

◆ In December, Baker University selected **Brendan Hulla** of Overland Park, Kansas, and **Megan Reynolds** of Olathe, Kansas, as recipients of the 2018 Harter Scholarships, the university’s most prestigious academic award.

◆ In recognition of their accomplishments in the study of education, the Baker University School of Education named **Amanda Conrade** and **Josh Ortiz** the 2017 fall Teachers of Promise.

◆ Baker junior midfielder **Austin Halsey** became the seventh Baker Wildcat to be selected to a CoSIDA Academic All-America College Division Team in December.

◆ The Baker University Athletic Department announced the creation of two new varsity sports starting in fall 2018: women’s wrestling and men’s bowling.

◆ In December, senior history major **Brenda McCollum** was accepted into the Oxford University African Studies Center. A Harter Scholar at Baker, McCollum plans to complete a Master of Science in African Studies before pursuing a doctoral degree from either Oxford or the University of Wisconsin.



Administrative Leadership

Dr. Lynne Murray
University President

Dr. Tes Mehring
Interim Provost

Danielle Yearout
Vice President of Enrollment and Marketing

Martha Harris, '79, MLA '14
Interim Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences

Dr. Bernadette M. Fetterolf
Dean of the School of Nursing

Dr. Marcus Childress
Dean of the School of Education

Dr. Cassy Bailey, EdD '12
Dean of Students

Dr. Emily Ford, MLA '03
Interim Dean of the School of Professional and Graduate Studies

Andy Jett
Vice President of Strategic Planning & Academic Resources, Chief Information Officer

Shelley Temple-Kneuvean
Vice President for Finance and Administration

Nate Houser, '94
Director of Athletics

University Development

Danielle Jones Rease
Chief of Staff & Senior Director of Development

Phil Hannon, '86
Assistant Director of Special Gifts

Amy Spikes
Gift Officer, Leadership Giving

Rachel Hawkins Shuck, '12
Annual Fund Officer

Doug Barth, '91
Director of Alumni Relations

Kathy McCrary
Manager of Constituent Relations

Lynda Lewis
Development Administrative Assistant

