



**Trine's health
sciences, professions
continue to grow**

- SEE PAGE 26



Trine University president Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D., addresses the graduating class of 2023 for the final time as president. Read more on page 30.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

I am honored and excited to address you for the first time as the 17th president of Trine University.

These are exciting times at Trine, thanks to 23 years of outstanding leadership by Dr. Earl D. Brooks II. As we enter our 140th year, the university is at the strongest point in its history.

You'll read about many of our recent accomplishments in this issue. Our enrollment is at a record high and our finances are solid. Our recent Commencement ceremonies, featuring a call to excellence from NFL legend Terry Bradshaw welcomed a record number of graduates into the ranks of Trine alumni.

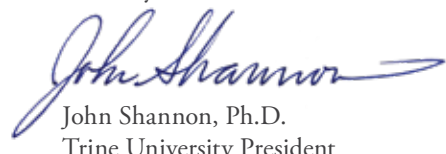
Our athletes and engineers continue to be Thunderous in competition with other universities. Our alumni are rising to new levels of leadership and service in their lives and careers.

We look forward to opening the Best Hall expansion in a matter of weeks, even as work progresses on our new Trine University Fort Wayne facility, supported by many generous donations. You'll read more about the growth in what is now the Dr. Earl D. and Melanie Brooks College of Health Professions, and our plans for the future, in this issue's cover story.

While we have much to be proud of, the challenges of a competitive higher education market demand that we keep moving forward. We must continue to build on what has been accomplished and grow and evolve as a leader and innovator in private higher education. We will move boldly into new realms while continuing to provide the personal attention, career-focused curriculum, vibrant campus experience, generous financial aid and successful outcomes that have been the hallmark of a Trine education from the very beginning.

As we move ahead into this next chapter of Trine University history, I thank every one of you for your support.

Sincerely,


John Shannon, Ph.D.
Trine University President



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CORRECTION:

Last issue's Thunder's Final Roll incorrectly included a listing for Andrew J. Whitaker, 1997 BSEE. Andrew Whitaker is very much alive. Trine magazine regrets the error.

TRINE

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“

The board is thrilled that we had an internal candidate with Dr. Shannon’s skills and expertise available to take on the monumental task of following Dr. Brooks” -

university Board of Trustees chair
Dr. Rick L. James



John Shannon named Trine University’s 17th president



Long history at Trine

Dr. Shannon previously served as Trine provost and senior vice president, a position created last year to provide additional leadership resources to accommodate growing enrollment and expanded academic offerings, and to enable the university to fully explore and embrace exciting opportunities.

At the time of his appointment, Dr. Brooks commented, “John has been largely responsible for developing and launching the exciting new academic programs that have fueled our recent enrollment growth. This includes laying the groundwork for a robust expansion of programs at our College of Health Professions, based in Fort Wayne. He has also played a very significant role in the recent success we have had attracting international graduate students, which has also been vital to our recent growth.”

Before being named provost, Dr. Shannon served two stints as vice president for academic affairs at Trine, first from 2012 to 2015, and returning in 2018 after leading academics at the Indiana Institute of Technology in the interim. Prior to serving as Trine’s vice president for academic affairs, he was dean and professor in the university’s Jannen School of Arts and Sciences for five years. He came to Trine in 2007 with extensive experience in foreign language and international education, having previously served as dean and professor at the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center in California and chair and director of the American University of Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates.

His career also includes serving with the U.S. Army in the former West Germany and as a Peace Corps volunteer teaching special education in Tunisia. He holds a Ph.D. in foreign and second language from The Ohio State University, a Master of Arts in applied linguistics from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale and a Bachelor of Arts in psychology from the State University of New York at Plattsburgh.

Dr. Brooks to serve as chancellor

In his new role as chancellor, Dr. Brooks will continue to serve the university in a variety of ways, including fundraising, providing oversight of the development of the Dr. Earl D. and Melanie Brooks College of Health Professions, and providing additional support and counsel to the Trine board and President Shannon.

“We are indeed fortunate that Dr. Brooks will continue his association with this university, and that we will all be able to draw on the experience he developed in rebuilding this university over the past 23 years,” said board chair James.

“I am very excited about being able to contribute to the university, even in retirement,” said Dr. Brooks. “Collectively, we have accomplished so much over the past two decades, and I am honored to continue to be part of this tremendous institution.”

‘Exciting times’

Dr. Shannon and his family are active members of the Trine community. His wife Grace is a registered nurse who also manages the couples’ rental properties. The family includes three children, adult daughter Nora and 16-year-old twins Aidan and Anya; along with three grandchildren, Leila, Dounia and Maysa. According to Dr. Shannon, “Away from work, our lives revolve around family. We really enjoy traveling, camping and just spending time at home together.”

Dr. Shannon is especially eager to work with the entire Trine University community to ensure the university continues on its current trajectory of success.

“At heart, I’m a college professor,” he said. “I get tremendous satisfaction from making sure that our faculty are fully equipped to meet the changing needs of our students and the organizations and companies that employ them. Higher education is changing rapidly, but we are well-positioned to be a leader in this change. These are exciting times.”

Alumnus Pellegrino donates \$3 million toward new design center

1960 Trine University alumnus John Pellegrino and his wife Mary have donated \$3 million toward efforts to build a new student design center on Trine’s Angola campus.

In appreciation for the gift, a newly proposed facility will be named the John and Mary Pellegrino Engineering Design Center.

Outstanding alumnus

John Pellegrino, who graduated with a degree in civil engineering, said he thought about giving to Trine after reflecting on photos from his childhood during the Great Depression and on what his degree has allowed him to accomplish.

After reading a proposal for supporting the design center, he felt the opportunities it will

provide for hands-on education and fabrication were a perfect fit for his interests.

“I thought, ‘Holy heck, they’re plagiarizing everything I had in mind,” he said.

In addition to providing space for more and larger senior design projects, the John and Mary Pellegrino Engineering Design Center will include state-of-the-art design and fabrication equipment to better meet the needs of student teams and industry partners. This will include a manual mill, manual lathe, CNC mill, CNC lathe, hydraulic press break, additional TIG(s) and MIG(s), welding table, tubing bender, heat treat oven, paint booth, band saw, metal fab English wheel, CNC router, 3D printers, a forklift and a car lift.



Photo: Pictured at Ridg-U-Rak, Inc. in Pennsylvania are, standing, from left, Dr. Rick L. James, chair of Trine University’s Board of Trustees, Ray Stuckey, executive director of university advancement at Trine, John Pellegrino Jr., Mark Pellegrino, John Pellegrino and Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D., Trine University president. Mary Pellegrino is seated in front. John Pellegrino, a 1960 Trine University alumnus, and Mary Pellegrino donated \$3 million toward efforts to build a new student design center on Trine’s Angola campus.



Trine sets another enrollment record, topping 9,500 for spring

Trine University continues to set enrollment records, with its recently completed official spring enrollment report of students topping 9,000 for the first time in university history.

Trine has 9,520 students enrolled in all programs for the spring 2023 semester, a nearly 70% increase from a year ago, when 5,493 students were enrolled.

“At a time when many higher education institutions are struggling with enrollment, Trine University’s innovative offerings are continuing to attract students into programs that equip them with in-demand skills and prepare them to succeed in their lives and careers,” said Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D., Trine University chancellor. “These incredible enrollment numbers are a testament to our curriculum, our faculty and to the planning and efforts of everyone on our administrative team.”

Enrollment in hybrid graduate programs at Trine’s Detroit Education Center has now exceeded 4,000 students, and enrollment at its Phoenix center is now almost 800.

The university also saw year-over-year increases in traditional undergraduate programs on its Angola campus and in dual enrollment.

Trine launches technical training center

Trine University has launched its new Trine Center for Technical Training (TCTT) to help northeast Indiana industries meet the need for skilled workers.

“The Trine Center for Technical Training serves individuals looking to skill up, high schools looking to equip their students with industry-relevant training and businesses seeking to provide workers the latest skills,” said Jason Blume, assistant vice president for Trine innovation 1. “It’s a win all the way around. Workers can advance their careers and seamlessly move in to additional educational opportunities, including certificates and degree programs. Businesses can provide employees with critical skills, and our region benefits from trained personnel who earn higher wages.”

Offering programs on Trine’s Angola campus as well as online and on-site, the TCTT will provide coursework in areas including industrial maintenance and automation. Participants can earn associate and specialist certification from the prestigious Smart Automation Certification Alliance (SACA) as well as certification in areas such as project management, Lean

Six Sigma-Green Belt, Certified Quality Engineer and network management.

The TCTT partnered with the Garrett-Keyser-Butler Community School District this year to allow Garrett High School students to earn advanced industry training.

YRG Robotics donation expands Trine Center for Technical Training capabilities

YRG Robotics, the Fort Wayne-based U.S. distributor of Yamaha robots, has donated more than \$22,000 of robotics equipment to the Trine Center for Technical Training, based at Trine University’s Angola campus.

The donation includes two industrial robots — a single-axis slider and the second a 350-millimeter Selective Compliance Assembly Robot Arm (SCARA) — plus controlling systems.

Both types of robots are designed to perform simple actions quickly.



More than \$20 million raised for Brooks College of Health Professions

Trine University has already received gifts and pledges to cover more than half the cost of its new Fort Wayne facility, now named the Dr. Earl D. and Melanie Brooks College of Health Professions (see page 29).

Opening in fall 2024, the approximately \$40 million, 110,000-square-foot facility, developed in close partnership with Parkview Health, will house health professions programs.

In addition to previously announced pledges from alumnus and Board of Trustees member Larry Reiners and his wife Judy, and from the James Foundation, the university has received other commitments that bring the total raised to well over \$20 million.

“We are grateful for the generosity of all the alumni, friends and organizations who have already pledged their support,” said Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D., Trine University chancellor. “Excitement for the impact this project will have on this region’s economy and quality of life has continued to grow as we have broken ground. We welcome all who want to partner with us to make a difference in northeast Indiana and in the lives of individual students.”

At the annual Touchstone and Homecoming Celebration Dinner, the university announced a \$200,000 commitment from university Trustee Michael D. Axel, CFA, and his wife Natalie. The university also had received a \$50,000 pledge from Trustee and alumnus Lynn Brooks and his wife Parti.

In November, Chuck and Lisa Surack pledged \$3 million toward the project. The son of 1956 Tri-State College (now Trine University) graduate Jim Surack, Chuck Surack is founder and chairman of the board for Sweetwater.

Also in November, the Steel Dynamics Foundation pledged \$3 million. Keith Busse, co-founder of Steel Dynamics Inc. and vice chair of the Trine University Board of Trustees, later personally committed an additional \$200,000 toward Trine University Fort Wayne.

On Nov. 30, the Northeast Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA) approved a \$4 million Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative (READI) grant for the project. The grant was part of \$15 million in funding announced for five projects across northeast Indiana.

One Dec. 7, the university received a \$100,000 pledge from university Trustee and alumnus Bill Dubois and his wife Barbara.

On Dec. 12, Trine University announced a \$1 million gift from the English-Bonter-Mitchell Foundation. And on Jan. 4, the university announced a pledge of \$300,000 from the Edward M. & Mary McCrea Wilson Foundation. The university also announced a \$650,000 pledge from the Dekko Foundation on April 12.

The Brooks College of Health Professions will employ 100 faculty and staff and serve nearly 700 students. In addition to state-of-the-art classrooms and laboratories, the new facility will feature, in partnership with the Parkview Mirro Center, an innovative Simulated Patient Care Center (SimCenter) including mock surgery and Emergency Room suites and exam and patient rooms. The building also will contain ample resources for student support, including a library, bookstore, gathering area, academic support and counseling services.

Engineering students earn awards

Trine University engineering students once again had a successful spring in multiple competitions.

AICHE regional competition



Trine University chemical engineering majors won multiple awards in American Institute for Chemical Engineering (AIChE) regional competitions March 30-31 at the University

of Illinois at Chicago.

The ChemE Car team placed second in a field of 13 teams to advance to national competition.

Trine team members Parker Gillespie of Solsberry, Indiana, David Deniston of Bowling Green, Ohio, Christopher (Dean) Campbell of Batesville, Indiana, Natalie Crouner of Saline, Michigan, and Travis Mersing of Swanton, Ohio, qualified for the national competition in Orlando this fall.

Trine's ChemE Jeopardy team finished second out of nine schools. Team members were Jake Doyle of Marengo, Illinois, who served as captain, Zaavan Clear of Auburn, Indiana, Aaron Phillips of Marengo, Illinois, and Deniston.

Omar Flores of Ligioner, Indiana, received second place in the student technical paper competition. Annamarie Lechleidner of Defiance, Ohio, received second place and Jeffery Feehan of Sparks, Nevada, earned third place for research posters.

ASCE Indiana

Five Trine University civil engineering students were honored at the annual conference for the Indiana Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers, held April 18 in Carmel, Indiana.



Erin Haase of Napoleon, Ohio,

and Sophie Sloneker of Monroe, Ohio, won a student project presentation competition sponsored by the Metropolitan Indianapolis Branch of the ASCE.

Haase, Grant Winterkorn of Goshen, Ohio,



Bill Kennelly of Chardon, Ohio, and Makenna Sheets of Fort Wayne, Indiana, were recognized for their contributions and dedication to ASCE through their leadership in Trine's student chapter.

ASCE Indiana-Kentucky Symposium



Three Trine teams earned awards in competitions at the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Indiana-Kentucky Symposium, held April 13-15 at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, Kentucky.

The Trine team of Ryan Hoak of Warsaw, Indiana, and Annalise O'Daniel of Indianapolis placed first in the Mystery Design competition.

Grant Winterkorn of Goshen, Ohio, Ben

Stoffel of Andrews, Indiana, and Erin Haase of Napoleon, Ohio, took second place in the concrete canoe competition, assisted by rowers Mason Fritch of Butler, Indiana, Lia Vawter of Indianapolis and Sophie Sloneker of Monroe, Ohio.

Trine's Sustainable Solutions team, made up of Haase, Hallie Fenimore of Rushville, Indiana, Makenna Sheets of Fort Wayne, Indiana, and Etseighena Alieme of Franklin, New Jersey, placed third.

AIAA Region III

A team of five Trine University seniors majoring in mechanical engineering placed second in the team category at the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) Region III Student Conference with their high-powered rocket design, held March 25 at the University of Dayton in Dayton, Ohio.



Ismar Chew of Indianapolis, Myles Taylor of Griffith, Indiana, Makena Thompson of Anchorage, Alaska, Elle Trine of Kokomo, Indiana, and Michael Worosz of Griffith, Indiana, presented their design in a paper titled, "Methods for Modeling and Controlling the Flight Path of a High-Power Rocket."

NASA Human Exploration Rover Challenge

NASA's Human Exploration Rover Challenge (HERC) returned to in-person competition in Huntsville, Alabama, for the first time since 2019.

Trine University's team finished the course under the 8-minute time limit for the first time, placing ninth in the college division.

Team members were design engineering technology majors Jacob Clark of Jackson, Michigan, Reagan Guthrie of Genoa, Ohio, Austin Hensley of Noblesville, Indiana, Emma Oslakovich of Coal City, Illinois, Michael Simmons of Angola, Indiana, and Ernesto Vieyra of Angola, Indiana.



Team members from Engineers Without Borders, including three Trine University students, pose with residents of Comuna Guangaje, Ecuador, during a trip in October to measure the flow in the village's drinking water system. Trine teams have worked on the project since 2017.



From left, Trine University students Bill Kennelly, Madison Ruen and Arizona Lenski in the mountains of Ecuador.

Team finds Ecuadorian village has water in abundance thanks to Trine EWB project

Their cup runneth over. Or at least, their storage tanks do.

For five years, teams from Trine University's student chapter of Engineers Without Borders (EWB) have worked in tandem with the Indianapolis professional chapter of EWB to increase the amount and quality of drinking water for the community of Comuna Guangaje, a remote village in Ecuador.

The most recent Trine team to visit, in October 2022, found the efforts have exceeded expectations.

"The community was originally receiving two liters per minute from a spring catchment," said Bill Kennelly, a junior from Chardon, Ohio, majoring in civil engineering, who was part of that team. "We measured on this trip that the community can now receive up to 22 liters per minute from the very same spring catchment."

"We were originally expecting much less water than what was actually there. Some of their storage tanks were even overflowing!"

Working since 2017

Prior to the work by EWB and the Trine teams, community members, about 400 indigenous people, often had to carry water from a distance,

especially during Ecuador's dry season.

In 2017 and 2018, Trine student teams visited the village to survey its water system and recommend possible improvements. In March 2020, a group of Trine students helped construct two long French drain systems to increase the capture of groundwater into storage tanks.

The 2022 team traveled to the community to evaluate the long-term success of the 2020 trip's construction. In addition to Kennelly, that group included Arizona Lenski, a senior from Merrillville, Indiana, majoring in civil engineering, and Madison Ruen, a sophomore from Antwerp, Ohio, majoring in chemical engineering.

Tim Tyler, Ph.D., professor in the Reiners Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and EWB advisor, also was part of the team, as he had been for the prior trips. Overall, 15 Trine students and Tyler have visited the community over the past five years in order to improve the drinking water system.

Measuring water flow

While in Comuna Guangaje, the Trine team measured the flow rate of the village's drinking water catchments. They also spoke, through

translators, with village leaders and residents about the new water system, learning that the village no longer has to ration water.

“

We were originally expecting much less water than what was actually there. Some of their storage tanks were even overflowing!” - Bill Kennelly, Civil Engineering

"We were able to confirm that the water flow to the community had drastically increased," Ruen said.

The group also took GPS coordinates of the village's irrigation system for a possible future project that would allow residents to have more productive farming seasons.

MSOL curriculum helped student thrive in sudden role change

When Emily Leisten started the Lou Holtz Master of Science in Organizational Leadership, she did not realize how soon she would put the skills she learned in class into practice.

Emily said she had thought about graduate school for years, but had never taken the next step to pursue additional education.

“When I applied to Trine, the program seemed a custom fit for my schedule, wants and needs,” she said. “I made my dream a reality, and it was surprising how easy and right it felt.”

“Trine’s program contains the coursework and area of study I wanted while being flexible and affordable, as I knew I would be pursuing a degree while working full-time.”

Shortly after enrolling in the program through TrineOnline, Emily was thrust into additional leadership responsibility when, due to unexpected attrition at her employer, she went from supervising 14 employees to 40 in a span of 10 days.

Support from faculty, classmates

She said TrineOnline faculty and her classmates gave her “the courage, support and confidence to keep going” in her new situation.

“In my early coursework, we discussed the difference between managers and leaders,” she recalled. “The distinction struck a chord because I was in a situation where I needed help. Control of 40 is not realistic or sustainable.”

“By engaging with my classmates on the discussion boards, I brainstormed solutions for coaching my emerging leaders on the team. The variety of our backgrounds, life and work experiences made for excellent idea generation. It assisted me with honing my formal mentoring and delegation skills.”

In addition, faculty provided real-world applications for class concepts that assisted Emily in leading her employees.

“In my communications course, I learned strategies for empowering my employees to take ownership of their interactions and relationship,”

she said. “In various courses, I discovered my strengths as a leader, which also enabled me to see my areas of opportunity. I was able to put the work in to grow my skills and get that feedback.”

“One of the professors used the phrase ‘learning and growing’: A journey of learning never stops even as one continues to increase responsibility,” she said. “I took that phrase to heart and took risks, pivoting as needed, and saw our most successful results of 2021.”

Outstanding student

Emily was named Outstanding Student for the Lou Holtz Master of Science in Organizational Leadership at the December 2022 Hooding Ceremony. Her long-term goal is to advance to a C-suite role.

“To me, leadership is a balance between business acumen and knowing people,” she said. “My coursework at Trine has helped me develop and fine-tune these skills. I think differently and have a broader perspective and bank of knowledge and experience to draw on in business and life situations.”

“I value my time at Trine. It was an amazing accomplishment to graduate, and it takes a village. I appreciate all the support from my advisor, my professors and my cohort.”

“

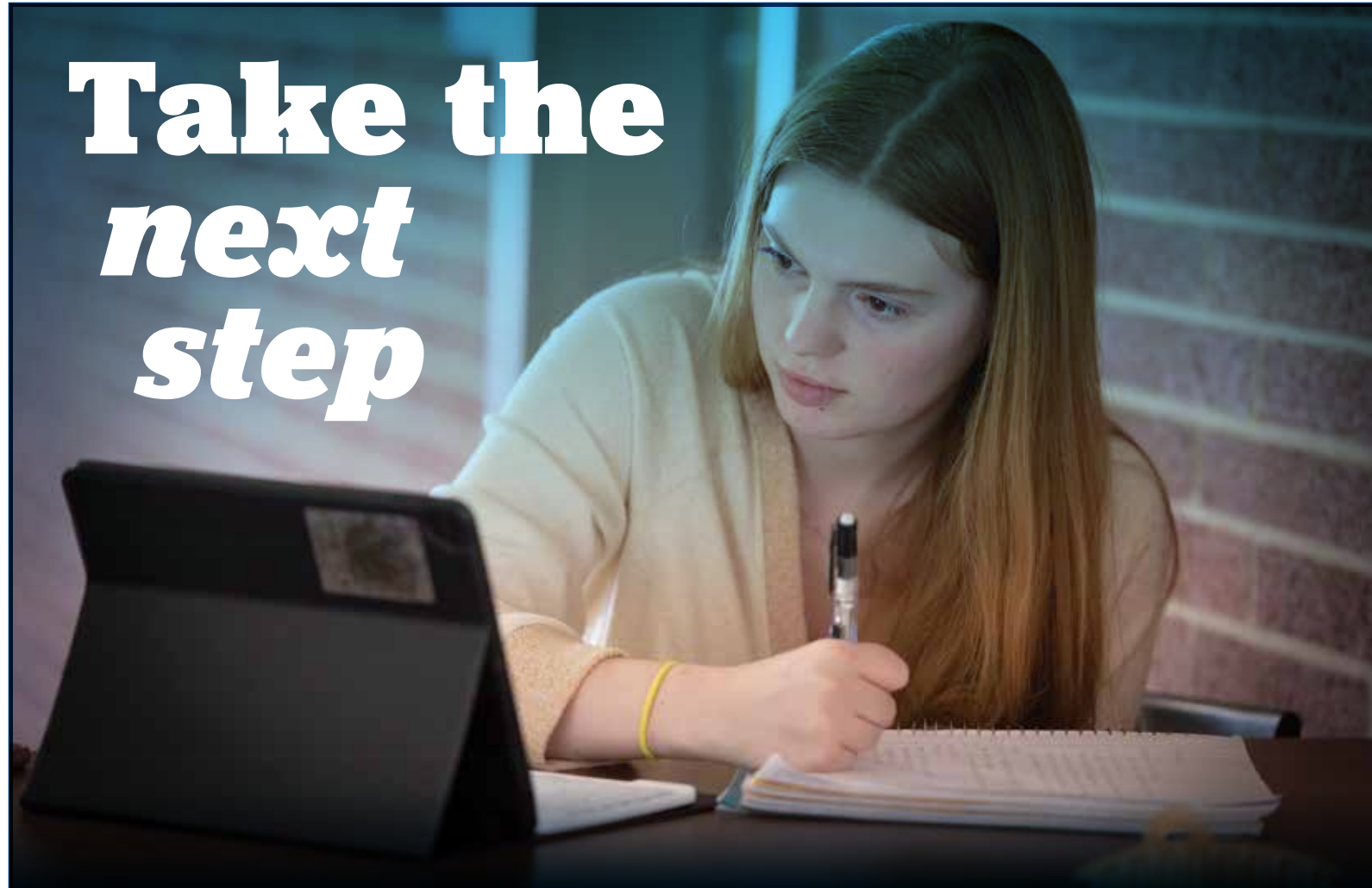
My coursework at Trine has helped me develop and fine-tune these skills. I think differently and have a broader perspective and bank of knowledge and experience to draw on in business and life situations.” - Emily Leisten



Emily was named Outstanding Student for the Lou Holtz Master of Science in Organizational Leadership at the December 2022 Hooding Ceremony.



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Gollnick reflects on beginnings, growth of track and cross country



He's the father of cross country and track and field at Trine University, not only in launching the program, but because of the many students he mentored over the years.

"We couldn't have had a better bunch of young men and women to work with," said retired Coach Dick Gollnick, who turned 88 in January. "So many of our kids are sending their kids to school here now. You just can't say enough about those kids and what they did in the early years."

From New York to Indiana

Born and raised in New York, Coach played football and ran track in high school and college. He became a graduate assistant at Kent State University for men's track and field and cross country, then coached at Aurora High School in Ohio for six years.

Then he got a call from Ken Shuler, athletic director at Glen Oaks Community College in Centreville, Michigan.

"He told me I could do what I want, build it the way I want," Coach recalled. "So I thought, 'Why not?'"

He had been at Glen Oaks for three years when Mark Peterman, then basketball coach and athletic director, talked to him about coming to start a program at Tri-State College (now Trine).

His wife Joan was excited for the opportunity, since her father had graduated from Tri-State. And Joan contributed greatly to Coach's longevity at Tri-State and Trine.

"Every time I had a job offer, my good wife would say no," he said. "And I really enjoyed it."

Making do

Coach taught in 1971 during his first year of coaching at Tri-State, and "then Dr. Bateman (president Richard Bateman) took me out of that and said get on the road."

The new program did not have many resources and had to improvise in its early days.

"We had a cinder track outside that, every spring, they'd bring in humongous trucks from Toledo and they'd dump them on the far side, and that would last most of the track season," he recalled. "And then you'd see it go down during the summer because that was just a swamp out there."

The team collected foam rubber from furniture companies to use as mats for pole vaulting.

"We ran on parking lots. We ran on roads. We improvised everything we did," Coach recalled.



"That generation took it as a challenge. We sold them on the idea that you may not have it all, but you'll have good teammates."

"And they responded. There were a lot of fancy schools in Indiana, and they cleaned their clocks. They just believed and they still come back today."

Coach credits Joan for much of the program's success. He said Joan ran the study table, fed the athletes, took care of them when they were sick, and kept in touch with graduates.

"She just had a knack for people and kids and parents, recruiting visits, like that; so our numbers went up right away," Coach said. "I just did the fundamental stuff: get the bus ready, get the food on it, get the kids going, and she'd do the rest."

"We had a very good relationship with the kids and their parents," Dick said. "The parents helped us an awful lot. It's what we lived for and what we did and that's how it got going."

The program grew and prospered. Coach's tenure included eight state championships, five nationally ranked teams, 44 conference championships and six All-Americans.

Credit to the institution

Coach has been proud of the continued growth and success of cross country, track and field since he stepped down from coaching in 2002.

"That's what you live for," he said. "It brings credit to the institution as well as the program."

He's also proud of the growth in Trine University. He said he shakes his head every time he walks across campus, looking at "plush" residence halls and a student center where there was "one big empty dump."

"When they hand out halos, they've got to hand one to Dr. Brooks," he said. "Old-timers can really appreciate it because they know what it was. I wish more of our old staff was alive to see it."

Part of that growth has included the Keith E. Busse/Steel Dynamics Inc. Athletic and

Recreation Center, which includes the Richard and Joan Gollnick track, dedicated in 2009. Dick said he was embarrassed by the attention but very happy for Joan, who passed away in 2003.

"She did an awful lot for that track and cross country program," he said.

He continues to help the teams with fundraising and remembers his years as coach fondly.

"It was a great run. I thoroughly enjoyed it," he said. "We were very fortunate."

“

We ran on parking lots. We ran on roads. We improvised everything we did. That generation took it as a challenge. We sold them on the idea that you may not have it all, but you'll have good teammates.”

“And they responded. There were a lot of fancy schools in Indiana, and they cleaned their clocks. They just believed and they still come back today.”

- Coach Dick Gollnick



Scholarship GALA

Successful return: Scholarship Gala raises over \$1.4 million

It was a successful reunion for both Jaylon Smith and supporters of Trine University as the annual Scholarship Gala raised more than \$1.4 million on Feb. 11.

Keynote speaker Smith, starting linebacker for the New York Giants, said the last time he had been on the Trine University campus, he was participating in the university's football camp.

During that event, prior to his senior year of high school, the Fort Wayne native committed to Notre Dame to play college football.

The Gala also served as a reunion for many of the 364 guests who gathered in the elegantly decorated Keith E. Busse/Steel Dynamics Inc. Athletics and Recreation Center. The event had not been held in person since 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Generosity continues

The layoff did not impact the generosity of Trine University's supporters, who contributed



toward scholarships and Books and Beyond through donations, silent auctions, and a live auction conducted by former State Sen. Dennis Kruse, emeritus member of Trine's Board of Trustees.

The total raised included a \$300,000 matching gift from Trine board chair and alumnus Dr. Rick L. James and his wife, Dr. Vicki L. James, and The James Foundation, Inc.

"Our students depend on donors like all of you to make their education possible," Gretchen M. Miller, vice president for administration and chief of staff, encouraged those in attendance. "Your generosity truly makes an impact on the lives of our students and their families."

The Gala, launched in 2004 by Trine University first lady Melanie Brooks and trustee Dr. Sheri Trine, has raised millions of dollars throughout its history for Trine University scholarships and funding for Books and Beyond, which assists with books and other student expenses not typically covered by financial aid.



Paying it forward

Those who attended the Gala were inspired by video testimonials from Trine University students who received scholarship aid.

Latrell Lapsley, a 2023 business administration graduate, also offered remarks prior to giving the invocation for the event.

Lapsley reflected on the challenges of growing up in a single-parent household. He said he wanted to attend college from a young age, not only to improve his own life, but to help others.

"I wanted to go to college to be that individual who was able to put others in a better situation, because of the ones who helped me," he said. "Each and every one of you here has helped me to be able to pay it forward."

"I see your giving to this scholarship fundraiser as a way of giving hope."

Thanks to support from scholarships as well as Books and Beyond, Lapsley has been able to not only attend Trine, but participate in organizations including football, the Multicultural Student Organization, Black Student Union, Trine Broadcasting Network and Residence Life.

"This engagement as a student has helped me grow and mature. I have learned how to overcome adversity," he told those in attendance. "Thank you all very much for being here tonight and supporting a great cause, a cause that has profoundly impacted my life."

Always a Hoosier

Presenting his address, Smith recalled riding to his grandmother's cottage in the Angola area from Fort Wayne and thinking it was a long drive — until he experienced traffic in Dallas and New York.

He grew up idolizing his older brother Rod, who was a star running back at Paul Harding High School and inspired him to excel at football. Jaylon went on to win four state championships at Bishop Luers before going on to play college football at Notre Dame.

While his career since then has taken him to the Dallas Cowboys and New York Giants, the NFL linebacker said he's never forgotten his roots.

"One thing I know is Indiana has my back," he said. "I care deeply about where I'm from, and I wouldn't be here without Indiana."



All in the family:

Sears earns Trine's top award 30 years after his dad



When Benjamin (Ben) Sears of Angola presented the response from the Class of 2023 at Trine University's Commencement ceremony on Saturday, he was following in his father's footsteps.

Both Ben and his father, Chris, won the Robert B. Stewart Award winners for their respective class.

The award is the highest honor Trine gives to a graduating senior, with the recipient representing the graduating class in giving a response to the alumni welcome at the Commencement ceremony.

"I'm not a person that likes to have attention brought to me," said Chris, who graduated with an electrical engineering degree from what was then Tri-State University in 1993. "If I'd known I had to speak I might not have tried so hard."

Two majors plus MBA

Ben graduated from Trine with a double major in accounting and finance, and earned his MBA as well.

He's the third family member to graduate from Trine. His older brother Bryan graduated with a degree in computer science and information technology in 2021.

"They both ended up at Trine because I told them I wasn't taking out any debt for them," Chris said. "Trine ended up giving out some good scholarships for them. They were able to live at home or live in a rental we had. They'll graduate without any debt."

Ben agreed that Trine was a cost-effective option, and "it just made sense with my family being so close."

"I already had friends here, which made it easy for me to get assimilated with them," he said.

Ben became very involved on Trine's campus while completing a double major and a graduate

degree, participating in the Commuter Club, Ehinger Fellows and Trine Christian Athletes, and serving as treasurer in Accounting Club, social chair and treasurer in the Christian Campus House, president in Delta Mu Delta, and Ketner School of Business Senator in Student Government.

He also volunteered extensively off campus, including going on three mission trips and serving with the Lake James Christian Camp and Retreat Center.

He said his dad's example inspired him to excel at Trine.

"I've seen my dad excel in his personal life and professional career," Ben said. "I've always looked up to him and wanted to be like him, and that inspired me to excel in my studies, to ask questions in class and to be a community leader."

He said his mom, Jennifer, also taught him the importance of serving and helping others through her example.

"She did this through her career as a nurse and then as a teacher at Angola High School," he said. "I wanted to emulate her service mindset in my life."

A different world

Chris said Ben's involvement stands out more than it would have when he was at Tri-State.

"It was a different world back then," he said. "There were only 200 people in my class when I graduated. I was part of everything back then. You had to be because there were only 200 of you."

Ben said there was never any pressure from his dad to earn the Stewart Award. However, Chris did ask him about it from time to time.

"It was more of a making fun, 'Hey I got this when I was your age,'"

Ben said. "It was cool when I was able to call and say I got this award. I was super surprised when I got it and super grateful and humbled as well."

Ben will move to Indianapolis start his career in the leadership development program at Republic Airways, where he interned as a Trine student. Ben had three internships during his time at Trine.

In the meantime, Chris is proud of what Ben has accomplished this far.

"It's exciting," he said. "He's a hard worker. It's neat to see some tradition going."

Trine University Distinguished Students Class of 2023

Benjamin Sears, Angola, Indiana, Ketner School of Business

Stella Sholl, Fort Wayne, Indiana, Brooks College of Health Professions

Angela Lymon, Fort Wayne, Indiana, College of Graduate and Professional Studies

Aaron Streit, New Paris, Indiana, Allen School of Engineering & Computing

Andrea Davenport, Downers Grove, Illinois, Franks School of Education

Máire Sullivan, Plymouth, Michigan, Jannen School of Arts and Sciences

Andrea Wright, Plainfield, Indiana, Rinker-Ross School of Health Sciences

Retiring faculty reflect on more than a century of combined teaching

Boasting well over 100 years of combined teaching experience, three retiring faculty members have witnessed the incredible transformation that has occurred during their time at Tri-State and Trine.

Michael Blaz, Ph.D., professor, Department of Psychology and Social Sciences, Ira Jones, Ph.D., professor of biology and chemistry, and Mike Biegas, associate professor, Department of Psychology and Social Sciences, ended their teaching careers with the spring 2023 semester.

All three noted the tremendous growth in the university's enrollment and facilities during their time here, and said they will cherish memories of interactions with students and colleagues.

Michael Blaz

Michael Blaz, Ph.D., arrived in 1976 to teach psychology, one year after Tri-State attained university status.

He and his students had to dodge bats and hornets in Fawick Hall's classrooms. He's glad the building has long since been remodeled and its unwanted visitors evicted.

He's grateful for the friendships he built with colleagues and students he taught over 47 years.

"I hope there are some students who can overlook how hard I made them work and can see some value in attempting to add rigor to my classes," he said. "I feel very fortunate to have spent my adult life conversing with so many highly educated people here at Trine."

He and his wife, Debbie, will move to a small apartment on the north side of Chicago this summer to be close to their children.

Ira Jones

Jones joined Tri-State 40 years ago after seeing an advertisement at the end of his postdoctoral tenure at the University of Florida.

"We liked the community, I enjoyed teaching, and my colleagues were helpful and supportive," he said.

He's been pleased at the growth of the sciences at Trine. When he arrived, there were only two



From left, Michael Blaz, Ph.D., Ira Jones, Ph.D., and Mike Biegas.

chemistry and one biology faculty, plus Jones teaching both.

"Now there are eight full-time chemistry faculty and five full-time faculty in biology with two positions open," he said.

He said Trine "has been a very nice place to work," with no politics or infighting.

"I hope my former students, as they move out to their professional lives, will remember that I was the source of at least some of their information and approach to problem solving," he said. "Some of what they got from me I got from my former professors."

Mike Biegas

Biegas moved to the Angola area from Detroit and was glad to have the opportunity to work for an academic institution when he joined the

university in 1995 as laboratory technician for mechanical engineering.

While working, he earned his degree in social studies from Tri-State. He went on to earn a graduate degree in American history and started teaching history in 2005.

He said the beautification of the campus has been amazing. He's looking forward to more time for hobbies such as running, birding, opera and antique cars in retirement, and will cherish the memories of discussions with students.

"I taught political science and we had a lot of time to talk," he said. "The small class really made it nice to have great conversations."



Mark Music

3 named to Trine Board of Trustees

The Trine University Board of Trustees has added three new members. **Mark Music**, president and CEO of Ruoff Mortgage, to its membership, joined the board in fall 2022. Since arriving at Ruoff in 2007, Music has led the company’s growth from 18 employees to nearly 1,000, and one location in Fort Wayne to 74 lending centers.

He was named the Ernst and Young Entrepreneur of the Year award in the Financial Services category in 2017, and has been honored by INC 17 times as CEO of three different companies, including a current streak of 10 consecutive years for Ruoff Mortgage.

Ken Ehinger, 1976 BSMGT, and **Andy Hein, 1998 BSChE**, were named to the board at its spring 2023 meeting.

Ehinger, a financial services executive for more than 45 years, is founder and chief executive officer of KRE Strategies, LLC, an independent business that assists clients in building business venture, compensation, continuity and successions plans.

Ken and his wife Kathy have supported the university through the annual fund and donated to its athletic programs since Ken graduated, including providing financial support for the Ehinger Fellows in the Ketner School of Business. Ken also serves on the Ketner School of Business Advisory Board and is a past member of the alumni board.

Hein is a partner at Crown Point Transactions, LLC, with decades of experience in the intellectual property and legal fields.

His career has included work for Fortune 500 companies and some of the largest manufacturers in the medical device and pharmaceutical sectors, involving technology and products worth billions of dollars. He was named one of the top 300 global intellectual property strategists in the world.

Hein has continued to support Trine University financially since graduation and has remained involved with the McKetta Department of Chemical and Bioprocess Engineering. He received Trine University’s Distinguished Service Alumni Achievement – Young Alumnus Award in 2013.



Ken Ehinger



Andy Hein

Trine Board of Trustees selects officers

Trine University’s Board of Trustees has elected officers to lead the board for the next two years. The trustees voted to retain **Dr. Rick L. James** as chair. James, a 1977 Trine business administration graduate and chairman and co-founder of Metal Technologies Inc. (MTI), has served as board chair since 2012 and has been a member of the board since 2010.

Keith E. Busse, co-founder of Steel Dynamics Inc., was elected vice chair. A member of Trine’s Board of Trustees since 2003, Busse chairs the Executive Committee.

Lynn A. Brooks, a 1975 Trine University graduate, was elected board Treasurer. Brooks retired as president and chief executive officer of Rieke Packaging Systems in Auburn.

He has served on the Trine University Board of Trustees since 2007 and is chairman of the audit/finance/investment committee.

Elizabeth Rooney, a member of Trine’s Board of Trustees since 2014, was elected secretary. Rooney is vertical marketing lead for Google and represents the third generation of her family to serve on Trine’s board.

Rooney currently serves as vice chair of the board’s Enrollment and Marketing Committee and as a member of the Committee on Trustees.



Dr. Rick L. James



Keith E. Busse



Lynn A. Brooks



Elizabeth Rooney

99.5% of Trine’s Class of 2022 employed

Trine University’s Class of 2022 saw 99.5% of its members obtain their desired career outcome within six months of graduation, lifting the placement average for Trine graduates to more than 99% over the last decade.

Trine’s employment rate for its graduates is more than 15% higher than the most recent national figures.

Trine’s Franks School of Education announced in the fall 100% of its graduates seeking teaching positions have now been employed for 11 straight years.

The university brought a record 265 employers to campus for career fairs this past school year.

Placement figures for the class of 2023 will be announced later this calendar year.

University adds, promotes administrators

Trine University has welcomed an alumna to its Cabinet and promoted several other administrators.



Rachel Troutman, 2010 BACOM, who has gone on to a successful marketing leadership career after graduating from Trine, has returned to her alma mater as vice president for university marketing and communications.

While at Trine, Troutman was a member of the women’s basketball team and Kappa Sigma Alpha sorority.

She served as an admission counselor at Trine after graduating, and has continued to remain actively involved with the university. She joined the board of directors for the Trine University Alumni Association in 2015 and served as president of that board from 2019 until this year.



Catherine Swick, Ph.D., has been promoted to provost, replacing John Shannon, Ph.D., who became president June 1. Dr. Swick had served as vice president for academic affairs since 2022 and previously served as a faculty member, associate dean and dean.



Tony Kline, Ph.D., has been promoted to vice president for academic affairs. Dr. Kline has been part of the Franks School of Education since 2013 and has been dean of the school since 2016.

Under Dr. Kline’s leadership, the Franks School of Education has grown its enrollment by more than 180%, added Indiana’s only university-based Montessori teacher education program and earned Council for the Accreditation of Education Preparation (CAEP) accreditation.



Megan Tolin, Ed.D., 2010 BSSciEd, will replace Kline as dean of the Franks School of Education. Dr. Tolin has served as a faculty member and director of educational technology and pedagogy in the Franks School of Education since 2019.

Dr. Tolin has presented at numerous conferences and trains educational communities in elements of educational technologies.



Lexie Staten has been promoted to dean of the Rinker-Ross School of Health Sciences. She joined the Trine faculty in 2019 and most recently served as chair of the Department of Exercise Science.



More than \$90K given during Trine Day

#TrineDay23 raised **\$92,987.85** for academics, athletics, organizations, scholarships and more at Trine University. Held April 21, #TrineDay 23 saw 615 donors make donations during the 24-hour period. Thank you to everyone — alumni, staff, faculty, parents, students and friends — who participated!

Trine honors faculty with annual awards

Trine University honored faculty members with its annual year-end awards during a special ceremony May 1 in Sponsel Administration Building.

Several faculty received the McKetta-Smith Excellence in Teaching Awards, established by trustee emeritus and 1937 alumnus Dr. John J. McKetta in 1989.

• **Megan Tolin, Ed.D.**, associate professor in the Franks School of Education, was awarded the Prof. Gerald H. Moore Overall Excellence in Teaching Award as well as the Robert Ewing and Gail Stewart Smith Excellence in Teaching Award.

• **Kimberly Precht**, assistant professor in the Department of Physics, received the Helen Smith McKetta Excellence in Teaching Award.

• **Brian Lapp**, assistant professor in the Master of Physician Assistant Studies program, received the Robert Andrew and Ann Ewing Smith Excellence in Teaching Award.

• **Emily Watkins, DPT**, associate professor in the Rinker-Ross School of Health Sciences, received the Merle J. and Anna Mae McKetta Thomas Excellence in Teaching Award in Arts and Sciences.

• **Deb Richard**, chair of the Ketner School of Business, received the Charles William, Nelle Paris and Mary Ann McKetta Excellence in Teaching Award in Business.

• **Melanie G. Watson, Ph.D.**, associate professor of biomedical engineering, received the Charles and Sue Ragan Gelet Excellence in Teaching Award in Engineering.

• **Tim Jenkins, Ph.D.**, professor of design engineering technology, received the Steve and Mary Yacynch McKetta Excellence in Teaching Award in Engineering.

• **John Koch, Ph.D.**, professor in the Wade Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, received the Frank and Julia Gelet McKetta Excellence in Teaching Award in Engineering.

• **Tim Tyler, Ph.D.**, professor in the Reiners Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, received the John J. and Mary Gelet McKetta Excellence in Teaching Award in Engineering.

More awards

The university also recognized retiring faculty members **Michael Biegas, Michael Blaz, Ph.D.**, and **Ira Jones, Ph.D.**, with professor emeritus rank.

The university presented an Academic Service Award, which recognizes those who have gone

well beyond regular duties and have committed an extraordinary amount of time, resources and dedication to the betterment of Trine University, to **Mechelle Snyder-Bruns**, administrative assistant in the Franks School of Education.

Megan Rosswurm, clinical coordinator for the surgical technology program, received the Excellence in Teaching Award for the College of Health Professions.

Trey Calver (Angola Campus), **Valerie Carson** (TrineOnline) and **Hassan Taleb** (Graduate Programs) received Outstanding Adjunct awards.

The College of Graduate and Professional Studies presented two awards. **Melissa Brown**, graduate advisor, TrineOnline, received the Open Education Resource award, given in recognition of exceptional service in promoting a culture of utilizing Open Education Resources. **Randi Barr**, faculty in the Lou Holtz Master of Science in Leadership program, received the CGPS Faculty Service Award in recognition of excellent service to TrineOnline and the College of Graduate and Professional Studies at Trine University.

Amanda Malefyt, Ph.D., chair of the McKetta Department of Chemical and Bioprocess Engineering, received the Barrenbrugge Award for Faculty Excellence, which recognizes all-around excellence in teaching, scholarship and service to the university.

Trine again voted region's Best College

For the second year in a row, readers of Fort Wayne Newspapers voted Trine University the Best College in the Greater Fort Wayne region.

The recognition was announced in the Sept. 25 Journal Gazette as part of the newspaper's annual Readers' Choice awards. Journal Gazette readers voted for the best in each of 260 categories.

Trine was received the most votes of 20 Indiana public and private colleges nominated for the honor.

Earlier in September, Trine University President **Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D.**, was recognized along with Trine University faculty members **Anna Glowinski, Ph.D.**, and **Justin Bock** with Greater Fort Wayne Business Weekly's Education Awards. Dr. Brooks earned the Lifetime Achievement award, while Glowinski was recognized as the Emerging Star and Bock as honored in Athletics for his career as baseball coach at Fremont High School.



Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D.



Anna Glowinski, Ph.D.

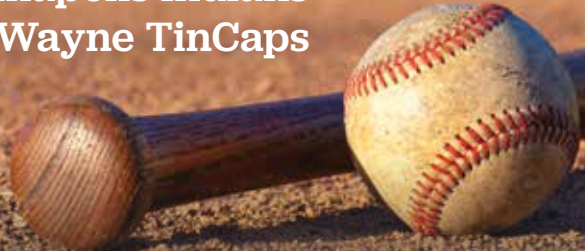


Justin Bock

ALUMNI SUMMER BASEBALL SERIES

Reunite with your fellow Trine alumni to enjoy food and baseball at these summer gatherings:

- June 21: South Bend Cubs
- July 7: Indianapolis Indians
- Sept. 1: Fort Wayne TinCaps



For more information, visit alumni.trine.edu/trinebaseballseries



Benson named Indiana PGA president

Cat Benson, dean of Trine University's Ketner School of Business and director of its golf management program, was elected the first female president of the Indiana Section PGA on Feb. 27.

Benson was elected to the position by the Indiana PGA Section's 493 members during its annual business meeting at the Horizon Convention Center in Zionsville, Indiana. She will serve a two-year term.

As president, Benson's duties will include presiding over all Section meetings, appointing committees and chairpersons, serving as chief spokesperson for the Indiana PGA, representing the Association at events and with the public, and consulting with the executive director.

She is one of four female PGA Professionals who currently serve as a section president.

33rd Annual 2023 Alumni and Friends Golf Outing

AUG. 4

To register visit alumni.trine.edu/golf

Shake hands, breathe deep, smile: Trine’s largest graduating class gets advice from Bradshaw

Reflecting the university’s spectacular growth, Trine University’s Commencement featured the largest graduating class ever and even a larger-than-life personality in NFL and sportscasting legend Terry Bradshaw, who presented the keynote address.

About 1,800 students made up the Trine University Class of 2023, with about 6,700 graduates, faculty, family and friends gathering in the Keith E. Bussee/Steel Dynamics Inc. Athletic and Recreation Center on May 6 to celebrate.

Following an invocation and singing of the national anthem, the three-hour-long ceremony opened with a welcome by Trine University President Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D.

Dr. Brooks, presiding over the ceremony for the last time, encouraged the graduates to savor the memories from their college experience.

“Never forget the small moments, the quiet conversations, or the walk into town on a beautiful spring day. All these moments are what come together to make your college experience uniquely yours,” he said.

“Thank you for the many contributions you made to the Class of 2023 and to this university. And please move forward with the confidence that comes from knowing that, even in challenging times, you have built the best possible foundation for a bright future.”

Keeping it simple

Noting that the graduates didn’t need anything too intellectual because they had already received enough of that through their Trine experience, Bradshaw kept his remarks simple, often poking fun at himself and others on stage.

He began by having everyone in the audience turn around and shake the hand of someone next to them.

“You just learned the most important lesson in life, and that’s how to greet and say hello to people,” he said. “You’ll never accomplish anything from this day forward that you won’t have to say thank you to somebody else.”

He told the graduates he begins each day by drawing in a deep breath, and recommended the graduates do the same.

“When you draw in air, you are drawing in God’s gift of life,” he said.

He also said it’s important to learn to smile at people.

“You break down barriers when you smile. The smile on your face tells everyone that you’re a nice person,” he said.

He also encouraged the graduates to take control of their own lives.

“It’s not always going to be easy, it’s not always going to be rewarding, but from this day forward take control of your life,” he said. “Don’t expect anything less than greatness from you. You’re the one that’s in charge.”

He also said we need to learn to like people and be kind to others.

“It will never cease to be about somebody else,” he said. “You can have the most brilliant mind, the most creative mind in the world, but if there’s nobody who wants to work with you or wants to pay attention to you, you’ve accomplished nothing.”

Following the address, the university presented Bradshaw an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree.



The university also awarded Trine alumnus and Board of Trustees member Larry E. Reiners an honorary Doctor of Engineering degree. Reiners has spent more than 50 years in engineering design,

project management, construction management, manufacturing management and corporate management.

He and his wife Judy have generously supported many projects on campus, including the Reiners Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, the Larry and Judy Reiners Residence Hall, the Thunder Ice Arena, the MTI Center, the Larry and Judy Reiners Endowed Scholarship Fund and the new Trine University Fort Wayne campus.

Degrees and welcomes

The university presented a posthumous civil engineering degree for Luciano Bonaveri Diettes, a Trine student who died in an automobile crash in 2022, to his father Pablo. Family members traveled to the university from Colombia to be part of the ceremony.

Following the distribution of degrees, Sally Rafferty, vice president of the Trine University Alumni Association, welcomed the organization’s newest members.

“You will be the university’s representatives in many disciplines and in many locations throughout the world, and we trust that your work will reflect honor upon, and bring greater strength to our university,” she said.



Benjamin Sears, Robert B. Stewart Award winner for the Class of 2023, responded by expressing thanks to families, faculty and staff, fellow students, student organizations, area employers, the city of

Angola and God for the part each played in the graduates’ success.

“As we leave this place, I know that we’ll take the things we’ve learned here at Trine to succeed, lead and serve into our communities, our workplaces and our homes,” he said. “Congratulations, Class of 2023. This chapter is over, but the next one is just about to start.”

Dr. Brooks offered closing remarks, noting, “It’s a great privilege for me to be the first to congratulate you on receiving your degree.”

“I wish you well and I offer the hand of hospitality on behalf of the entire campus community,” he said. “You can come home again, and we will steadfastly stand behind you as you seek your way in the world, just as we have over the duration of your studies here at Trine University.”

The program closed with a benediction and the singing of the alma mater.

66 It’s not always going to be easy, it’s not always going to be rewarding, but from this day forward take control of your life. Don’t expect anything less than greatness from you. You’re the one that’s in charge.”



Healthy growth: Rinker-Ross, Brooks College of Health Professions continue to expand



Like everything at Trine University, health sciences and health professions programs were established to meet a need.

“We’ve always had a great relationship with Parkview Health in terms of listening to and trying to be responsive to needs in the marketplace,” said Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D., Trine University chancellor. “We’ve had discussions with Lutheran and Fort Wayne Orthopedics and Orthopedics Northeast and all the partners in northeast Indiana about gaps or skill sets needed in the health care industry.”

The continued need for healthcare workers has stoked meteoric growth at Trine, with what began as one major little more than a decade ago now encompassing two academic schools and hundreds of students in undergraduate and graduate programs.

That growth has also created a need for new facilities, with a second expansion to Best Hall preparing to open in fall 2023 to accommodate growth in the Rinker-Ross School of Health Sciences, and the Dr. Earl D. and Melanie Brooks College of Health Professions set to open in fall 2024.

The beginning: Exercise science

Dr. Brooks said nursing and athletic training majors were both considered for the university’s initial forays into the health sciences, with demand high in both areas. However, at the time, university officials felt there were already too many competing programs in the area.

As demand for nursing continued to grow and outstripped what area programs could accommodate, Trine eventually added its online RN-to-BSN program in 2020. However, the beginnings of health sciences at Trine came with the launch of the exercise science major in the Ketner School of Business in 2010.

“We probably were thinking a little bit about health care, but didn’t have a really clear path yet,” Dr. Brooks said.

“We determined where there was need and where could we fill a gap where there was not competition. That’s how we arrived at physical therapy.”

DPT stokes exercise science growth

In 2013, the university announced plans to begin enrolling students for its Doctor of Physical Therapy program in fall 2014. Parkview Health generously provided a renovated home for the program on the campus of its Parkview Randallia Hospital.

“We had always had a desire to get into healthcare programs and professions. We thought it would be a good fit with our professional-oriented degree programming,” Dr. Brooks said.

“Once we got started into the health science realm, we started looking at those undergraduate programs that would provide all the prerequisites for direct admission into physical therapy. Exercise science seemed to be the fit.”

Lexie Staten, dean of the Rinker-Ross School of Health Sciences, said the exercise science program was originally located in Shambaugh Hall and enrolled about 20 students each year. Most majors planned to go into areas like strength and conditioning or personal training.

That changed once direct entry into the Doctor of Physical Therapy program began.

“We started recruiting a different student,” Staten said. “After our first PT class graduated, we gained full accreditation, and that’s when the undergraduate component really exploded.”

Staten said offering direct entry into physical therapy not only provided more options for undergraduate students, but better options financially.

“When you’re going into personal training, or you’re going to go work for a nonprofit YMCA, financially speaking, you don’t have the same earning potential that you do as a physical therapist,” she said.

The 3+3 option that most direct entry students choose provides even more financial benefits, Staten said.

“People always look at it as just cutting off the year of the undergraduate tuition, but where it really financially makes a huge difference for students is they get to be out in the working world a year earlier and start working their way up that corporate ladder a year earlier,” she said. “As a general rule, especially in the hospital-based systems, physical therapists are paid based on their years of experience. So the sooner you get out, the more your earning potential is.”

Beyond physical therapy

After the successful launch of the physical therapy program, Trine added Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS). Catherine Swick, Ph.D., provost said that program now attracts the most applications of the graduate programs in the Brooks College of Health Professions.

In addition to MPAS, the university has added surgical technology as well as the RN-to-BSN to the Brooks College of Health Professions. Trine plans to launch a Doctor of Occupational Therapy program in the future.

On the undergraduate side, the university brought programs in biochemistry, biology, chemistry and forensic science into the Rinker-Ross School of Health Sciences. In fall 2022, the university added a Bachelor of Science in applied health science, which will prepare students for graduate health sciences programs.

“Students can go on to our physical therapy or physician assistant programs, or to other health science programs. This opens up a lot of different opportunities in administration,” Staten said.

Trine also received approval from the Indiana State Board of Nursing to add, in partnership with Cameron Memorial Community Hospital in Angola, an associate of science in nursing (ASN) program on the Angola campus. The program will launch this fall. (See sidebar.)

“It’s a great partnership model between a healthcare institution and higher education,” Dr. Brooks said. “We just continue to expand our footprint in healthcare.”

Personal attention, hands-on experience

Staten and Dr. Swick said the advantages of Trine’s health sciences and health professions programs include the personal attention given to every student.

“At the undergraduate side, I think the biggest value is how much time we focus on getting the students to the next level, whatever that is,” Staten said. “Our faculty are also the advisors. They are also, a lot of times, working in that field.”

For several years, 100% of Trine exercise science majors who have applied to physical therapy school have been accepted. Staten said the university also has a good track record with students who go on to medical school.

“For the students who come in here and say they want to go into PT school, the advisors are working with them from day one to get into PT school,” she said. “When the student comes in and says they want to go to PT school, we’re asking them from the first semester, ‘What are the four PT schools you want to go to?’ We then have them look up the prerequisites for their PT schools and help them along the way to make sure they’re ready to go.”



At the graduate level, students benefit from Trine’s teaching focus as well as its partnership with healthcare systems throughout the region. Dr. Swick said the university’s CARE program, part of the Doctor of Physical Therapy degree, has been hailed as unique by accreditors.

“After two weeks of starting classes, students are getting out into the hospital systems,” she said. “The first-year students are working in the clinic or in the hospital with a second-year student and a clinician. It’s a multi-level learning experience for everyone.”

With the demand for healthcare workers continuing to grow, Dr. Brooks expects health sciences will become the largest academic area at Trine University within a few years.

“We can fill the need and do so with outstanding quality that we know Trine University provides

on a daily basis,” he said. “We’re very proud to be part of the solution to the need for healthcare workers.”

New President John Shannon, Ph.D., agrees healthcare will be a key element in Trine’s academic programming going forward.

“Healthcare represents one of the fastest-growing industries regionally, nationally and globally,” he said. “Trine University is very well-positioned to meet some of their most pressing workforce needs through our outstanding health science and health professions programs, and we look forward to expanding our offerings as additional healthcare needs are identified.”

Trine names health professions college, building in Brooks’ honor

Trine University’s new Fort Wayne facility and the academic division it houses have been renamed in honor of retiring university President Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D., and his wife Melanie.

At a reception May 5 in Club Z on Trine’s Angola campus, Dr. Rick L. James, chair of the university Board of Trustees, announced that the College of Health Professions and the Fort Wayne facility will be designated the Dr. Earl and Melanie Brooks College of Health Professions.

The Board of Trustees voted to bestow the honor in recognition of their transformational leadership, commitment to excellence and impact during Brooks’ 23-year tenure.

“Earl Brooks is an education entrepreneur. He thinks differently than most college presidents,” said James as he made the announcement. “He has a business approach to running this school and he’s always looking for new ways to achieve better outcomes.”

In response, Brooks credited many who have partnered with Trine University to expand its programs and facilities.

“It’s one thing to have ideas; it’s another thing to get people to believe and trust in the vision of



Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D., Trine University president, right, reacts after Dr. Rick L. James, left, chair of the Trine University Board of Trustees, announced the university’s College of Health Professions and its new Fort Wayne facility will be named in honor of Brooks and his wife Melanie, center.

what you’re doing and invest their hard-earned dollars to make it happen,” he said.

“Great things are going to happen with that facility and what we’ll do in Fort Wayne. There couldn’t be a more incredible future ahead for this university in terms of where it’s positioned now and going forward.”

The Dr. Earl and Melanie Brooks College of Health Professions facility, scheduled to open in fall 2024, was developed in close partnership with Parkview Health. It will employ 100 faculty and staff and serve nearly 700 students. The new space will allow the Brooks College of Health Professions to add new programs including

occupational therapy, respiratory therapy, medical science and emergency medical sciences.

The new facility will offer state-of-the-art classrooms and laboratories and feature, in partnership with the Parkview Mirro Center, an innovative Simulated Patient Care Center (SimCenter) including mock surgery and Emergency Room suites and exam and patient rooms. The building also will contain ample resources for student support, including a library, bookstore, gathering area, academic support and counseling services.

Dr. Brooks retired May 31.

Trine partnering with Cameron on new ASN program

Trine University is partnering with Cameron Memorial Community Hospital in Angola to help meet healthcare needs in Steuben County and the surrounding region, beginning with the university’s new associate of science in nursing (ASN) program.

Approved by the Indiana State Board of Nursing on March 16 and enrolling students for fall 2023, the ASN program will aid in addressing

existing and projected nursing shortages anticipated over the next decade.

The program lasts five semesters and allows graduates to apply for licensure as a registered nurse by examination.

Offering personal attention, practical experience and state-of-the-art facilities in Trine University’s Best Hall expansion as well as the new Education and Innovation Center planned

at Cameron, Trine’s ASN program will graduate nurses who are equipped with the nursing knowledge and critical thinking and reasoning skills to provide safe, compassionate, patient-centric holistic care to diverse populations while working collaboratively with other healthcare professionals.

To learn more about the program, or to apply for admission, visit trine.edu/asn.

University honors alumni, supporters, Dr. Brooks at Touchstone

Trine University's annual Touchstone and Homecoming Celebration Dinner on Friday, Sept. 30, featured top awards given to alumni and supporters of the university,

Alumnus and trustee Keith Turner, co-founder of Metal Technologies Inc., was honored with the university's Pillar of Success Award.



Pillar of Success

Born in Parma, Ohio, and graduating from Valley Forge High School there at 17, Turner came to what was then Tri-State College to study engineering. He has served on the Trine Board of Trustees since 2014 and is actively engaged on the Audit, Finance and Investment Committee as well as serving as Vice Chair of the Campus Planning Committee.

The university honored Steel Dynamics Inc. executive and university Trustee Theresa Wagler with its annual Woman of Distinction Award.

Wagler has served as executive vice president, chief financial officer and corporate secretary of Steel Dynamics since May 2007. She joined the Trine University Board of Trustees in 2011, where she is actively engaged on the Audit-Investment-Finance Committee as well as the Compensation and Board Officers Committee.

Distinguished alumni

Three distinguished graduates received alumni awards.

Ed Stowe, a 1960 electrical engineering alumnus who now lives in Essex, Vermont, was honored with the Distinguished Service Award.

Stowe is a recipient of the President's Lifetime Achievement Award, presented to him by former President Barack Obama for his many years of volunteer work. He had a successful career at IBM and now spends much time doing volunteer work.



Woman of Distinction

Steward Cline, a 1976 aeronautical engineering alumnus who lives in Guilford, Indiana, received the Outstanding Achievement Award.

After graduating from Trine, Cline went on to receive his M.S. and Ph.D. in aeronautical engineering from Cal Tech. Cline has won the Chuck Chadwell Customer Advocacy Award from GE Aviation and the Edison Award for outstanding engineering from GE.

The Outstanding Young Alumni Award was presented to Kelsey Ford, a 2010 elementary education alumna who lives in Metamora, Ohio.

Ford currently teaches fifth grade English Language Arts at Evergreen Elementary in Metamora, Ohio. Since graduating, she has received Teacher of the Year twice (2017-2018 and 2020-2021).

Athletics Hall of Fame

Trine President Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D., was a surprise Athletics Hall of Fame inductee.

Though he never scored a point for the Thunder, Dr. Brooks radically transformed athletics at Trine University as its 16th president. One of the early cornerstones of his presidency was the move from NAIA to NCAA Division III, resulting in Thunder sports becoming the powerhouse it is today.

In addition to Dr. Brooks, the university added three former athletes to the Hall of Fame: Tyler Bourdo, Brianna Fuller and Jared Holmquist.



Athletic Hall of Fame

A 2015 Trine University graduate, Bourdo was a four-time NCAA All-American as a track and field athlete; two in the indoor season and two in outdoor. He competed six times at the NCAA National Championships in his time at Trine, including a career-best fifth-place finish in the 400-meter dash at the 2014 event.

Fuller graduated from Trine University in 2015 and was a two-time Capital One Academic All-American, in 2013 and 2014, in softball.

A Trine University 2016 graduate, Holmquist currently sits 10th in men's basketball program history with 1,538 career points. After his senior season, he received the 2016 Robert L. Greim Award for Top Male Student-Athlete.

Homecoming 2022: Old traditions, new facilities

About 7,000 alumni, families of students and friends of the university enjoyed beautiful weather for Homecoming weekend, Sept. 30-Oct. 2. The weekend included the dedication of the new Steel Dynamics Inc. Center for Engineering and Computing, the annual Touchstone dinner, tricycle racing, tailgating, athletic events and more. Be sure to mark your calendar for Homecoming 2023, Oct. 6-8.





class notes

keep connected with alumni and friends

Share what is happening in your life with your fellow alumni. Class notes, including births, marriages, promotions, additional education, relocations, etc., may be submitted to alumni@trine.edu.

Join us on social media: **Facebook** (facebook.com/TrineUniversityAlumni), **Twitter** (twitter.com/trinealumni) or **Instagram** (instagram.com/trineuniversityalumni)

1970s

Alan (Al) Rhodes, 1975 BSME, retired as Penn High School's head boys basketball coach in April after 15 seasons. Al is an alumnus of Penn High School. His 693 career wins rank him 11th all-time in state history and he was third among current coaches in wins at the end of the 2022-23 season.

1990s

The Berrien Community Foundation welcomed **Kelly Ferneau, 1990 BSME**, onto its Board of Directors in February. Kelly currently serves as American Electric Power's Nuclear Generation Site Vice President, overseeing all plant production organizations, regulatory affairs, the corrective action program, site protective services, emergency planning, training and document control. Her passion for Berrien County sparked her interest to join the Board. "One of the things I like about the foundation is it meets all different kinds of needs — from animal shelters to people who need food," she said. "I'm an engineer by trade, so I have a good grasp on how to get things done in the most efficient way. I hope to be a good partner in implementation with the Board. I feel good about being part of this."

Troy Rippy, 1995 BSMK was appointed Midwest district sales manager of Sygenta U.S. in March. In his new role, he leads a team of nine territory managers covering the central region of the U.S. within the turf and ornamentals businesses. Prior to joining Syngenta, Troy served as a golf course superintendent at Eagle Glen Golf Course

before working with Simplot as a distributor sales representative. Since joining the Syngenta team in 2006 as a territory manager in Indiana and northwest Ohio, Troy has established a strong track record of customer focus and vast industry experience.

Indiana State Police Sgt. **Dale Reber, 1996 BAM**, retired on Aug. 24, 2022, from the



Indiana State Police after 36 years of dedicated service to the citizens of Indiana. Sgt. Reber spent his entire adult life in service to others.

After his graduation from South Side High School in Fort Wayne, Indiana, in 1982, he spent the next six years with the 122nd Fighter Wing of the Indiana Air National Guard, where he specialized in communications. During that same timeframe he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Applied Management from Tri-State University. Prior to becoming a State Trooper, Sgt. Reber worked for two years with the Motor Carrier Division as a civilian Weighmaster until June 1988, when then Weighmaster Reber was selected to attend the 46th Indiana State Police Academy. Sgt. Reber has spent his retirement with his family – Kelli, Sarah, Chelsey and Audrey.

Alanna (Feasby) Dames, 1999 BAM, was named chief financial officer of Ashtabula County



Medical Center Healthcare System May 15. She joined the ACHC Healthcare System in 2009. Alanna said, "I am excited for the opportunity

to serve the organization as Chief Financial Officer. It has been an honor to work alongside a great group of caregivers for the last 14 years and I look forward to continuing that in my new role."

Heidi (Funston) Stohman, 1999 BSChE, was added to the Central Noble (CN) High School Hall of Fame in Feb. Heidi graduated from Central Noble in 1993, where she excelled on the basketball and tennis teams. She was a three-time All-NECC performer in both sports and was also a three-time KPC All-Area selection in basketball. Upon graduation, Heidi was the CN girls' basketball record holder for three-pointers in a season and in a career, points in a game and in a season, and steals in a season. She was second in career scoring when she graduated. She earned Academic All-State honors in her senior season in 1993. Heidi graduated from Trine as the winningest Thunder women's tennis player in school history.

2000s

Todd Martin, 2003 BSME, was promoted to engineering manager for Chore-Time, Inc. Todd will work with product management to guarantee current projects are relevant and needed in the industry. He will ensure that those projects are completed in a timely manner while also being of high quality. Todd resides in Roann, Indiana.

Nathaniel (Nathan) Turner, 2004 BSME, was named Chief Growth Officer for Intermountain Electronics' Denver facility on March 1, 2023. Nathan joined Intermountain Electronics in 2015 and previously held the positions of Vice President of Quality and General Manager of the facility. He said, "My passion for manufacturing has always been wrapped around people, process and strategy. With IE's ambitions for continued growth, there is no time like the present for us to formulate more efficient solutions and strategies for our people and products. We are headed into a very exciting time as a company, and I'm honored to be a part of that."

2010s



Alyvia Ann Turner Fulwider was born to **Alaina (Cowgill) Turner, 2010 BSMGT**, and Robert Fulwider on Dec. 5, 2022, weighing 10 pounds, 9 ounces, and measuring 21.5 inches.

Chelsea (Oren) McGhee, 2012 BSEXS, was named head coach of the Minster High School volleyball team in April.



Andrea (Andi) Gasco-Shaw, 2013 BSPSY, has been named head coach of the softball team at Petoskey High School, her alma mater. Andi was a pitcher and designated hitter

for Thunder softball and broke 20 school records while at Trine. She was inducted into the Trine University Athletic Hall of Fame in 2019. Andi said, "Softball is something I'm super passionate about, so being able to share knowledge and help people not only grow in the game and grow as individuals is something I find super rewarding."

David Curry, 2014 BSFIN, was promoted to Vice President, Commercial Banking Officer at Lake City Bank in March. In this position, David will develop relationships with commercial clients to provide financing and banking solutions. He has been with the bank for eight years. David also serves as Vice President of Fund Development for Young Leaders of Northeast Indiana and volunteers with Junior Achievement and United Way.

Erica (Hoot) Drerup, 2018 BSEXS/2021 DPT, and **Bo Drerup, 2019 BSDET/2021 MBA**, were married Nov. 26, 2022, in



Downtown Fort Wayne, Indiana. The Drerups traveled to Jamaica for their honeymoon. The couple currently resides in Wolcottville, Indiana, and are expecting identical twin baby girls in fall 2023!

Lindsay Roberts, 2019 MSOL, became the first Assistant Vice President of Online Programs at Marian University based in Indianapolis, effective March 1. Lindsay will lead the vision of offering enhanced online program choices to all kinds of degree-seeking students as well as developing more educational options for traditional students.

JaydeLynn (Abenth) Hiatt, 2018 BSMK, and **Hunter Hiatt, 2019 BSSM**, welcomed



their first child, Grace Lynn, on Jan. 15, 2023. The Hiatts reside in Charlestown, Indiana.

Sarah (Westman) Thiel, 2018 BSEE, and **Zachary Thiel, 2018 BSDET/2018 MSEM**, welcomed their first child, Paisely

Judith, on April 17, 2023, at 6:17 p.m. The family lives in Hamilton, Indiana.



Chandler Wyse, 2018 BSCE, and his wife Ashton welcomed their second son, Weston

Barry, on Nov. 24, 2022. Weston joins his big brother, Boede David. The family resides in Archbold, Ohio.



2020s

Jenna (Gales) LeSueur, 2020 BSEXS/2022 DPT, and **Joseph LeSueur, 2020 BSBME**, were married May 6, 2023,



in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. They currently reside in Greenfield, Wisconsin. Joseph is pursuing his Ph.D. at Marquette University in Milwaukee and Jenna serves as a physical therapist at Team Rehabilitation Physical Therapy in Hales Corners, Wisconsin.

Brittani Smith, 2020 BSBME, was



engaged Jan. 28, 2023, to Manny Ritchie while on a trip to Houghton Lake in Roscommon County, Michigan. The couple resides in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Brittani is a medical device guru at Greenlight Guru and Manny is a fiber drop technician at Ritchie Installation and Communications, LLC.

Courtney (Reece) Wheaton, 2020 BSBIO, and **Adam Wheaton, 2021 BSSM**,



were married March 18, 2023, in Bargersville, Indiana. They traveled to Kauai, Hawaii, for their honeymoon and currently reside in Indianapolis with their dog, Stryker.

Lauren (Beebee) Cline, 2021 BSBME, and **Austin Cline, 2021 BSMK**, welcomed



their first child, Colton Matthew, on April 21, 2023. The Cline family resides in South Bend, Indiana.



Stewart Haas in his Marine days



Elaine and Stewart Haas

TRINE'S TOP GUN CONNECTION

By Stewart R. Haas, 1961 BSAE

With all the excitement about the Top Gun movie sequel "Maverick" in 2022, Trine students should know that the school was represented at the Top Gun training station back at its inception in 1968. I'm hoping this short article encourages young engineers at Trine to work hard and dream.

Before I attended Tri-State College, I was a Marine. After I graduated from Tri-State with an Aeronautical Engineering degree in 1961, I went to work for McDonnell Aircraft, where I tested the F-4 in wind tunnels. We placed an F-4 model in low- and high-speed wind tunnels to test performance at different speeds. The F-4 fighter plane itself first entered service about 1962.

After working for McDonnell Aircraft for about five years in St. Louis, Missouri, I then went to work for Link, in Binghamton, New York. Link was a private aeronautical company known for building flight simulators and training systems. At Link, I was given the job of designing an upgraded digital F-4 simulator for the Air Force. Previously, the simulators were analog devices.

In 1968, while with Link, I was sent to the Miramar Base in San Diego, California, to assist in the installation of the F-4 digital simulator. This Navy and Marine base, also referred to as Fighertown USA, was the home of the Top Gun training station. The Top Gun training station was founded to improve combat flight training, as the U.S. was losing a lot of aircraft in the Vietnam War. I worked at the base for several days, where I tuned up the taking off and landing simulator for the F-4.

The simulator at the base was a new, four-axis motion system designed for F-4 aircraft carrier landings. Different "sea states" had to be integrated into the simulations. Because the simulator needed to have visual systems for night, Link had some engineers with optical

degrees to assist in its development. F-4s flew at such high speeds that a pilot cannot have lag in the visuals, so the simulator was tuned so it would be like a real airplane. After the base's F-4 simulator was certified, two fighter pilots would train in the simulator at a time, with one being the main pilot and the other acting as a navigator focused on radar for combat.

P.S. My son says I look a bit like a young Tom Cruise in my Marine uniform. Haha. Go Trine!

THUNDER’S FINAL ROLL

(current as of Dec. 31, 2022)

1940s

James B. Duvall, 1940 BSEE, Washington D.C., Oct. 24, 2022

Gene M. Bauck, 1941 SEC, Seminole, Florida, Nov. 16, 2014

Emerson D. Gilbert, 1943 BSAE, Fishers, Indiana, Aug. 13, 2016

Robert G. Maybee, 1943 BSAE, Madison Heights, Michigan, Nov. 28, 2014

Richard R. Kitten, 1947 BSAE, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Jan. 22, 2014

Clifford E. Glassmeyer, 1948 BSAE, Peachtree City, Georgia, May 26, 2013

Donald L. Theurer, 1948 BSRT, Portland, Indiana, Dec. 9, 2022

Kendall W. Griffin, 1949 BSACC, Madison, North Carolina, Feb. 24, 2012

Thomas A. Helmheckel, 1949 BSRT, Cincinnati, Ohio, Oct. 4, 2014

Francis L. Messier, 1949 BSME, Wheelwright, Massachusetts, July 19, 2021

Grace E. Shrum, 1949 BSRT, Fort Collins, Colorado

1950s

Robert W. Charron, 1950 BSME, Glastonbury, Connecticut, May 18, 2022

Emil T. DeSpirito, 1950 BSBA, Newark, New Jersey, Nov. 28, 2022

Donald E. Rice, 1950 BSAE, Athens, Alabama, Nov. 2, 2011

Norman S. Craven, 1951 BSAE, Renton, Washington, March 22, 2021

Olen D. Dygert, 1951 BSCE, Battle Creek, Michigan, Oct. 2, 2022

Richard G. Lalmond, 1951 BSRT, Merrimack, New Hampshire, Sep. 13, 2020

Anthony D. Rossi, 1951 BSRT, Queenstown, Maryland, Dec. 15, 2022

Edmund R. Webb, 1951/1952 BSME/BSAE, Sikeston, Missouri, Feb. 25, 2017

Khaldoon A. Ashoo, 1952 BSME, Houston, Texas, Oct. 29, 2022

Charles R. Betz, 1952 BSACC, Sherman Oaks, California, Aug. 23, 2022

Louis F. Caruso, 1952 BSEE, Norwalk, Connecticut, Feb. 14, 2018

Howard D. Dixon, 1952 BSCE, Poland, New York, Dec. 27, 2022

Edwin C. Henderson, 1952 BSRT, Altamonte Springs, Florida, June 25, 2020

Wilbur Allion, 1953 BSEE, Mint Hill, North Carolina, Oct. 14, 2020

Edward E. Menzigian, 1953 BSME, Haverhill, Massachusetts, Oct. 28, 2022

Wayne E. Peck, 1953 BSAE, Littleton, Colorado, March 5, 2017

William T. Dohner, 1954 BSCE, Lebanon, Pennsylvania, July 5, 2022

Archie R. Bosman, 1954 ADDT, Jacksonville, Florida, April 11, 2016

James L. Donmoyer, 1954 BSME, Vero Beach, Florida, Sept. 13, 2022

William R. Graham, 1954 BSRT, Gainesville, Florida, June 2022

Robert F. Mattson, 1954 BSRT, Webster, Massachusetts, Aug. 1, 2022

Rudy J. Mende, 1954 BSBA, Tucson, Arizona, April 25, 2014

Gerald M. Rodmaker, 1954 BSME, Zephyr Hills, Florida, Aug. 15, 2021

Robert W. Wiesener, 1954 BSME, Albemarle, North Carolina, Dec. 1, 2022

Charles F. Hollman, 1955 BSEE, Traverse City, Michigan, Sept. 18, 2022

Richard L. Jusko, 1955 BSME, Mason, Ohio, Aug. 1, 2022

Edward C. Ott, 1955 BSME, Elma, New York, March 31, 2022

Kwan Rim, 1955 BSME, Iowa City, Iowa, March 4, 2018

Ronald M. Urgitus, 1955 BSAE, Prescott Valley, Arizona, Aug. 27, 2021

Howard J. Dingman, 1956 BSEA, Salt Springs, Florida, March 26, 2022

Charles T. Fancher, 1956 BSCE, Rogers City, Michigan, Jan. 26, 2022

Charles G. Hilsdon, 1956 BSCE, Hanover, Massachusetts, March 1, 2020

David O. Knopp, 1956 DDT, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan, Oct. 3, 2020

Robert E. Knupp, 1956 BSME, Dayton, Ohio, June 28, 2022

Ewald E. Lang Jr., 1956 BSRT, Wills Point, Texas, July 28, 2013

Charles D. Morgan, 1956 BSME, Elgin, Illinois, July 30, 2022

Edward T. Nakama, 1956 BSEE, Anaheim, California, Aug. 8, 2021

Bernard J. Rolfes Jr., 1956 BSBA, Bedford, Virginia, Dec. 1, 2015

Donald C. Wehrhahn, 1956 BSME, River Vale, New Jersey, Feb. 3, 2018

Leon H. Arnold, 1957 BSCE, Nichols, New York, July 10, 2019

John H. Brown, 1957 BSEE, Robinson, Illinois, Aug. 28, 2022

Phillip E. Emanuel, 1957 BSAE, Saint Charles, Missouri, Feb. 14, 2021

Keith T. Hinshaw, 1957 BSCE, Columbus, Ohio, Sept. 3, 2020

Donald Keilen, 1957 BSRT, Hayden, Idaho

Richard D. Lilley, 1957 BSME, Oriental, North Carolina, Dec. 22, 2020

Glenn W. St. Clair, 1957 BSME, Berrien Springs, Michigan, Oct. 13, 2022

Gene F. Czerwinski, 1958 BSEE, Grand Rapids, Michigan, Oct. 23, 2016

Thomas F. Frappier, 1958 BSEE, Fort Wayne, Indiana, Aug. 17, 2022

Eugene F. Hagen, 1958 BSEE, Palm Harbor, Florida, Aug. 10, 2012

Robert D. Hills, 1958 BSME, Waldron, Michigan, Aug. 6, 2022

Paul G. Horton, 1958 BSCE, Rutland, Vermont, Aug. 23, 2022

Gene L. Klock, 1958 BSEE, Rock Falls, Illinois, March 19, 2018

James L. Kostka, 1958 BSME, Ocala, Florida, April 28, 2016

Kurt K. Rim, 1958 BSCE, Lyndhurst, Ohio, July 9, 2022

Paul G. Davies, 1959 BSEE, Sherwood, Michigan, Aug. 17, 2022

George A. Gecowets, 1959 BSBA, Leo, Indiana, Dec. 6, 2022

Donald J. Gorgis, 1959 BSME, Middleton, Wisconsin, Dec. 19, 2022

Reginald D. Grantham, 1959 BSAE, Seattle, Washington, July 17, 2022

Robert J. Kimble, 1959 BSEE, Churubusco, Indiana, Dec. 1, 2022

Robert C. Korb, 1959 BSEE, Traverse City, Michigan, Nov. 18, 2022

Albion Mulling, 1959 BSEE, Merritt Island, Florida, Sep. 19, 2018

Alvin B. Parmiter, 1959 DDT, Marietta, Ohio, Oct. 25, 2022

Rex L. Simmerman, 1959 BSME, Coldwater, Michigan, Oct. 1, 2022

Lt. Col. (Ret.) Eugene Voyt, 1959 BSME, Trussville, Alabama, March 30

Gerald H. Weidenhamer, 1959 BSME, Defiance, Ohio, Sep. 8, 2022

1960s

Vaughn D. Kestner, 1960 BSChE, Laramie, Wyoming, Dec. 19, 2022

Robert K. Sweeney, 1960 BSChE, Worth, Illinois, July 26, 2020

David L. Marchand, 1960 BSME, La Verne, California, Aug. 16, 2022

Errol F. Plata, 1960 BSEE, Williamsport, Pennsylvania, Dec. 18, 2022

Bernard P. Ruettger, 1960 BSME, Brook Park, Ohio, July 7, 2010

James H. Talbot, 1960 BSCE, St. Joseph, Michigan, Jan. 12, 2017

Thomas G. Weiskittle, 1960 BSEE, Quincy, Ohio, Aug. 20, 2022

John J. Castrichini, 1961 BSBA, Altoona, Pennsylvania, Jan. 5, 2021

Stuart S. Lundie, 1961 BSEE, Hudson, Massachusetts, Sept. 2, 2019

David O. Rupert, 1961 BSBUS, Arvada, Colorado, Aug. 1, 2018

William C. Bissett Jr., 1962 BSME, Biloxi, Mississippi, Sept. 18, 2020

James E. Rollo, 1962 BSEE, Greenville, Michigan, Feb. 15, 2010

Fred A. Firme, 1963 BSChE, Loves Park, Illinois, Dec. 1, 2022

Robert S. Kashmer, 1963 BSEE, Penn Yan, New York, July 12, 2020

Robert R. Kegerreis, 1963 ADDT, Northville, Michigan, Jan. 22, 2016

Gerald D. Lee, 1963 BSEE, Lady Lake, Florida, June 11, 2022

Felix C. Miles, 1963 BSME, Dandridge, Tennessee, March 16, 2013

Daniel Woods, 1963 BSME, Forsyth, Missouri, Dec. 8, 2022

Timothy J. Kilroy, 1964 BSME, St. Charles, Illinois, Nov. 18, 2020

William E. Muffley, 1964 BSBA, Akron, Ohio, July 27, 2015

Anthony L. Owcharenko, 1964 BSEE, Cheektowaga, New York, Aug. 5, 2008

Manfred O. Schaber, 1964 BSEE, Poughkeepsie, New York, Sept. 25, 2012

Donald G. Feistamel, 1965 BSEE, Saugerties, New York, April 22, 2021

John E. Paskevicz, 1965 BSChE, Arlington Heights, Illinois, Oct. 22, 2022

Jack D. Rainbolt, 1965 BSME, Mt. Vernon, Missouri, Sept. 7, 2022

Dale A. Rice, 1965 BSME, Pendleton, Indiana, July 15, 2022

Mahendra C. Shah, 1965 BSChE, Naperville, Illinois, Nov. 22, 2022

Max E. Balkema, 1966 BSBA, Berne, Indiana, Oct. 20, 2022

James S. Pogorzelski, 1966 BSEE, Georgetown, Texas, Dec. 16, 2021

Rex A. Waymire, 1966 BSBA, Auburn, Indiana, Aug. 23, 2020

John W. Windhauser, 1966 BSBA, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, June 21, 2022

Dennis C. Berry, 1967 BSBA, Dexter, Michigan, Sept. 15, 2022

Jack L. Nickels, 1967 BSChE, San Antonio, Texas, Dec. 16, 2022

Frank A. Olsofka, 1967 BSME, O’Fallon, Missouri, May 16, 2021

Curtis D. Barnett, 1968 BSBA, Comstock Park, Michigan, Nov. 1, 2019

Clement R. Cwiklinski, 1968 BSBA, Huber Heights, Ohio, Sept. 23, 2022

Gerald D. Godi, 1968 BSME, Saginaw, Michigan, April 23, 2020

Thomas P. Shomsky, 1968 ADDT, Stratford, Connecticut, May 10, 2015

Robert K. Spencer, 1968 BSBA, South Bend, Indiana, Sept. 19, 2022

Stanley T. Bankus, 1969 BSBA, Summit Hill, Michigan, Oct. 26, 2022

Armon L. Boonsopon, 1969 BSCE, Fort Myers, Florida, March 26, 2019

Norman A. Bovee, 1969 BSBA, Wolcottville, Indiana, Aug. 10, 2022

1970s

William H. Hoskins, 1970 ABA, Lansing, Michigan, July 14, 2022,

David E. Little, 1970 BSME, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, Aug. 24, 2022

Gary W. Schreck, 1970 BSME, Carmel, Indiana, Dec. 15, 2022

Stanley C. Shuler, 1971 BSME, Mechanicsville, Virginia, Oct. 1, 2015

Dale L. Anello, 1972 BSBA, Indianapolis, Indiana, July 5, 2022

Wesily R. Fedorow, 1972 BSEE, Albion, Michigan, June 11, 2022

Ronald E. Swiatek, 1973 BSCE, Elma, New York, Sept. 19, 2015

Norman E. Gelbogis, 1975 BSCE, Lewes, Delaware, Aug. 9, 2022

William R. Wills, 1976 BSBA, Trussville, Alabama, June 29, 2022

Preston L. Gentry, 1977 ABA, Avon, Indiana, July 1, 2022

Dr. Bryan N. Grover, 1977 BSME, Haines City, Florida, April 12, 2021

Terry A. Zeigler, 1979 BSME, Byron, Illinois, July 16, 2022

1980s

John C. Feller, 1982 BSCE, Pensacola, Florida, Dec. 15, 2021

Thomas J. Martin, 1982 BSEE, State College, Pennsylvania, July 16, 2022

Steven E. Smith, 1983 BSBI, Blissfield, Michigan, Oct. 21, 2022

Jane A. Tubergen, 1988 BSEngEd, Westfield, Indiana, Dec. 14, 2022

1990s

Dean W. Rosener, 1998 BSTM, Auburn, Indiana, Sept. 16, 2022

Gilbert L. Martin, 1999 BSAM, Osceola, Indiana, Nov. 6, 2022

2010s

Julia A. Kerr, 2010 BBA, Wolcottville, Indiana, Dec. 10, 2022

Jessica L. Johnson, 2014 BBA, Angola, Indiana, Dec. 3, 2022

Brad L. Black, 2015 BAM, Fort Wayne, Indiana, June 24, 2022

Aaron K. Wright, 2016 BAM, South Bend, Indiana, Aug. 30, 2022

Like clockwork: My sojourn to and through the Summer of 1973



By Bud Cancasei, Class of 1973

I first came to Tri-State in the fall of 1965 as an electrical engineering major. I left in the fall of 1966 to try out Cleveland State University. That turned out to be a poor decision on my part, so I returned to Tri-State in the spring of 1967.

Since I skipped a quarter before returning to school, the local draft board decided I was a perfect candidate for the Army. I enlisted in the Air Force in August 1967. After Air Force tech school in Denver, I was stationed at Wurthsmith AFB in Michigan and was able to apply for an AF program that sent me back to school for a quarter to enhance my grade point average. So back to Tri-State I came in the fall of 1969.

Upon returning to the base in Michigan, I found out the squadron I was stationed with had been disbanded and they lost me in the shuffle.

Back on campus

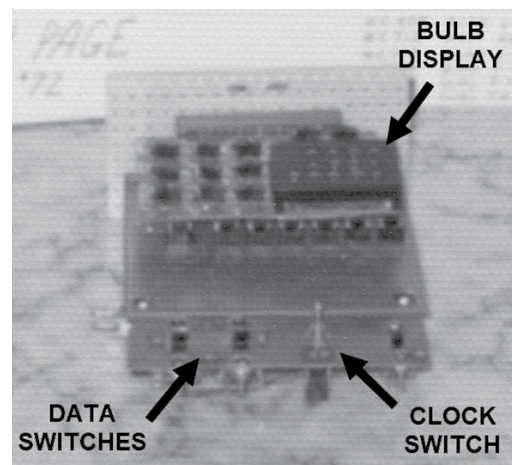
I got an early out to come back to school in June 1971. I found myself a part-time job repairing radios, stereos and small black-and-white TVs at Arkwright's TV Service, located on South Washington Street. This is where I met Bill Kriete, who was also a student at Tri-State, along with being an ex-AF enlisted person.

Integrated Circuits (ICs) were just emerging from puberty. The digital electronics lab at Tri-State was receiving surplus ICs from Motorola in the form of their 700 series of logic devices.

What was emerging as the logic devices of choice at this time was Texas Instruments' 7400 series of devices. These were Transistor-Transistor Logic types of ICs. These still had resistors integrated into them, but took less power than previous designs.

There were so many of the Motorola devices around the lab that Bill Page (1972 BSEE) and I decided to do a "small" senior lab project based upon these devices in the fall of 1972. We designed a "Serial Adder."

Using Boolean logic, we generated a schematic that could use most of the existing devices we had in the lab. After that, we had to construct the Adder Circuit also using material that was available in the labs. It was crude, but worked, and the professors were impressed.



Serial Adder for senior lab project using Boolean logic and existing devices from the lab.

Onward and upward

As the summer of 1973 approached, I decided to up my digital design prowess by designing something using the 7400 series of logic. Since the school lab did not have any devices of that nature, I funded this project myself.

I set out to design a digital clock as a Super Senior Project that I would donate to the Electrical Engineering department as a

graduation gift. I decided to make it a desktop clock versus a wall-mounted clock.

My clock design was based upon 7400 series logic devices. My concept used the AC power line frequency of 60 Hertz as my clock source. I took this conditioned signal to a pre-scaler circuit, which divided it by 60. That gave me a 1-hertz signal to go to my seconds counting and display circuits. This consisted of a divide by 10 counter connected to a divide by six counter, configured to display 00 to 59.

This, in turn, produced a one-minute pulse to the minutes counting and display circuits. The output from the minutes circuit was a one-hour pulse. This is where the counting and display design had to change.

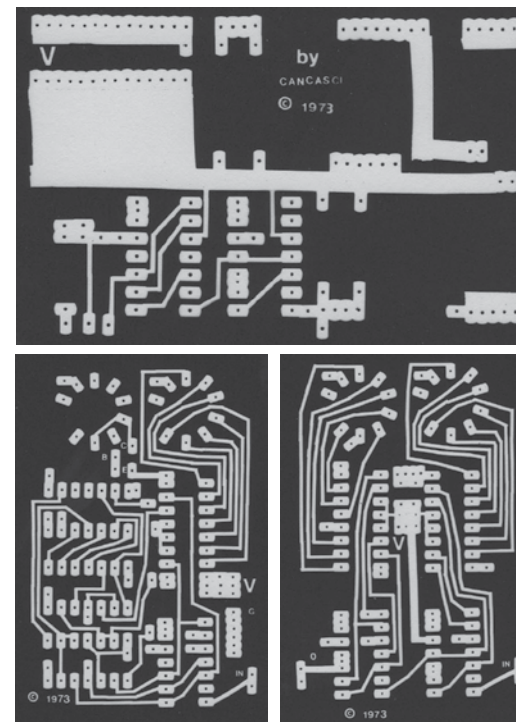
I used a decade counter IC, 7490, as my primary counting device. I connected three pairs up as a divide by 10 connected to a divide by six circuit. Each pair gave me a divide by 60 modulus. The seconds and minutes modules where then each connected to 7447 series seven-segment display driver IC devices to drive the displays themselves.

This left the hours decoder design to complete. There were no existing IC devices that had a divide by 12. What I ended up doing was using a hexadecimal counter IC, 7493 series, and configuring it into a divide by two, then divide by six, to give me a divide by 12 for an hours counter configuration.

Printed circuit boards

Finally, this clock had to be encased in something. Luckily, Lakeland Instrument Labs, operated by Prof. Lloyd Hanson, another Tri-State instructor, carried enclosures used by hobbyists and Amateur Radio enthusiasts.

There were three circuit board layouts: for the power supply and scaler, the seconds/minutes display and the hours display.



Power supply and scaler, seconds/minutes display and hours display circuit board layouts.

After the sketches were double-checked for layout errors, I proceeded to tape up some master positive layouts on mylar film. After these positives were completed, I needed to get negative films made of the printed circuit board (PCB) layouts. Fortunately, the Steuben Printing Company could provide that service for me, and it only cost \$2.25 for all three negatives.

Hobbyist creations of PCBs required negative films used with the photographic process of spraying a clean copper-clad PCB material with a photoresist. Once the photoresist dried, you placed the negative on the sensitized copper and exposed it to a very strong flood of UV light to harden the photoresist chemical. You then removed the negative film that was attached to the sensitized copper, and removed the photoresist chemical that was not hardened by the light.

Once the photoresist stripping process was complete, you had to place the board in a bath of ferric chloride solution to remove the copper that did not have photoresist material remaining on it. Once the copper was etched

away, the PCBs were cleaned of any remaining chemicals. Then holes were drilled for mounting all the components, and the etched board was cut to the proper size.

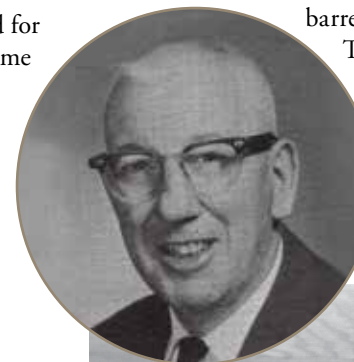
My co-worker and fellow student Bill Kriete (1974 BSEE) was an amateur radio operator and had all these materials at his house.

Putting it all together

Down to the home stretch during the summer of 1973, the parts and devices required to complete my project trickled in while I was finishing the PCBs. Before the quarter was finished, I started getting the enclosure ready to accept the PCBs. I finished assembling the PCBs at Arkwright's TV shop (the advantage of working there) and tested them.

Outside of the Electrical Engineering Department office doors was a double-bay class display case. During the spring quarter it displayed various items related to the department, and it was cleaned out when that quarter ended.

It was a perfect place to display my digital clock project. Of course, since it was a double-bay, the other side of the case was going to look barren.



The lightbulb went off in my head. I thought I would pay a visit to < Clyde Shaw, one of our beloved crochety old professors, before I graduated.



I visited Professor Shaw's lab and got his approval to borrow some of the items he had on display. So, while I was working on my digital clock design that summer for half a bay, I quickly came up with some items for that display case as a tribute to Professor Shaw. The display

case was based upon one of Prof. Shaw's favorite sayings: "Transistors are worthless."

Moving on

Upon graduating in August 1973, I went to work in the Cincinnati area for Cincinnati Milacron. After sojourning through a multitude of companies, I have finally come to rest at the Space and Sensors Division of L3HARRIS Technologies in Mason, Ohio, where I have worked for 15 years and serve as the senior principal components engineer.

We make some of the largest infrared (IR) sensors used around the globe and in space. We also make most of the avionics boxes that go on the United Launch Alliance (ULA) rockets that launch satellites, and the moon and Mars rovers. In addition, we have made the radio transceivers on the International Space Station (ISS) and most of the rovers sent into space.

I am still having fun being a "guru" in electronic components.



*Bud Cancasei
BΦΘ, ΔΧ*

3 MIAA SOFTBALL TEAMS NOW HEADED BY TRINE ALUMNI



Brittney Harvey, left, celebrates with Kaylee Fox during the 2017 NCAA D3 National Championship playoffs in Oklahoma City.



Trine softball saw familiar faces in the opposing dugout this spring

By John Clampitt, Communication '26

For many years, Trine University softball players have been part of Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA) all-conference teams.

Now Trine's alumni are making up more of its head coaching ranks.

Kaylee Fox, a 2018 graduate, became head coach for Adrian College softball and Brittney Harvey, a 2010 graduate and former Trine assistant, took the reins at Hope College last year. They joined Trine University Coach Donnie Danklefsen, a 2003 alumnus, in the MIAA head coaching ranks.

"Each one has been a huge part of our success and I am looking forward to watching them grow and create their own culture," said Danklefsen. "I'm really proud to sit back and say they played here and know they're taking their own piece of Trine and building something special on their own."

Trine won close games against Hope and Adrian this season on its way to the conference title. The Thunder defeated Adrian 1-0 and 3-1 during the regular season and 2-1 in the MIAA tournament, and beat Hope 3-0 (in eight innings) and 1-0.

"I knew going against Trine, it would have to be a good game," said Fox. "I knew there would be emotions around it as well. It was great to see us compete against them, but we knew it was deeper to go against my alma mater."

Danklefsen said coaching against Harvey, in particular, was a chess game because the two of them had worked together.



Donnie Danklefsen

"It was preparing for what we'd think she would do compared to what she actually did," he said. "Some of my guesses were right and some of my guesses were wrong. It was fun trying to battle back and forth."

Inspired by professional softball



Kaylee Fox

After graduating, she was selected with the 38th pick in the American Softball Association (ASBA) draft. She played a season in that league, receiving First Team All-ASBA recognition, and returned for one more season as a field coach.

Fox said her professional softball career led her to pursue coaching.

"I got to play with so many different softball players from around the world. Seeing how coaches impacted them inspired me to want to make the same impact on my players," she said. "I never saw myself as a softball coach until I got done with my first season of professional softball."

She returned the following season as a field coach for the league, where she helped with game-day operations and organized the communication between athletes and management.

She held several assistant coaching roles before being named to lead Adrian. She said it felt great to come back to Trine and face the coaches who made her who she is today.

"I am most excited to see where we can build from this season," she said. "Most of our team is back so I am excited to see them grow and build from the culture we set this year."

Giving back



Brittney Harvey

She served two stints on Trine's coaching staff, 2008-09 and 2011-13, before rejoining the staff again in 2016.

Harvey said her time at Trine was a blessing in her life, and she is grateful for the opportunity she now has at Hope College. She's also proud to see her fellow softball alumnae giving back to the game at all levels.

"Besides those of us coaching in the MIAA, there are many former Trine softball players coaching travel ball all the way through college," she said. "It's incredible to see."

New rivalries

Danklefsen expects Hope and Adrian to challenge Trine for the conference title in upcoming years.

"There are going to be new rivalries popping up quickly because they're going to push their programs to get to a higher level fast," he said. "I think you'll see them be in the tournament consistently every year fighting us for conference championships."

"They know what it took to get there as players, and now they're putting their teams in the same position. It'll be exciting to see how fast both of them get there and it will be fun trying to keep them from reaching us."



It was fun trying to battle back and forth." - Coach Danklefsen

Trine skating continuing to grow, succeed

By John Lewis, Communication '26

Though one of Trine University's younger athletic programs, Trine University's figure and synchronized skating teams have quickly risen to achieve immense success in their first five seasons as a program.

Launched under Coach Rachel Franchock in 2018, Trine's skating program has grown to a roster of 50 athletes across four teams, with more growth expected in the seasons to come.

The increase in quantity has not come at the cost of skater quality. Trine skating has placed in the top ten in the nation at every competition it has joined.

Last year, the figure skating team placed sixth out of over 100 schools in the country at their first National championship appearance. The team went on to an undefeated conference season and their first conference championship this year.

The Trine University Collegiate Synchronized Skating Team finished fourth, its highest ever, at the

2023 U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships, earning the title of National Pewter Medalists in their final competition of the season.

Creating community

Despite the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic had on effectively canceling the 2022 competition cycle, the Trine skating community has seen an impressive rise in student engagement.

Coach Franchock believes that a large part of this success comes from the community aspect of the program.

"We've created a program that welcomes skaters from a variety of backgrounds and while we're quite competitive, our inclusive approach has helped this program create a supportive and encouraging training environment," Franchock said, "We've leveraged this mindset to help us thrive as we've expanded

the program year after year; this season we have three synchronized skating teams as well as a figure skating team."

Bringing in new skaters is a priority for any collegiate program, and Franchock has a good perspective on how to find the students who best fit not only the skating program, but Trine as a whole.

She explained, "The way I recruit is by trying to find students who can find what they need at Trine, and for whom

our skating program adds value. They may place school first, but they are all looking for an opportunity to continue the sport they love with a team that feels like a home away from home."

As Trine skater Kaci McComis recounts, "I only started skating for Trine last year. My freshman year of high school, Coach Franchock reached out to me. I knew I wanted to skate in college, but I didn't know where. I started going to Trine events, and every time I did it felt more and more like home."

"Coach Franchock is very determined in a way that I haven't seen before in a coach," she said. "She wants us to be better skaters and better athletes, and helps push us all forward. My skating has grown exponentially since I started skating for Trine. Skating at the collegiate level is a lot different than skating elsewhere, since you get to work with people of all different backgrounds and skill levels, and we all learn from each other."

Three-year captain of the figure skating team, Zak Yousef, agreed. "I think Coach Franchock is an incredible leader for our program," he said. "She makes sure we're

always on track to keep growing and keep up with our competition. She's a very hard worker and handles so much of both the skating and administration. I really appreciate her work ethic and leadership style."

Fully funded

Trine is one of only three universities in the country to fully fund its skating program as a varsity sport, making it a very attractive option for high school skaters researching their college options. The least competitive team at Trine

still goes to two competitions a season, while the mid-level team and the figure skating team go to three to four each, and the most competitive team goes to five or more.

Trine skating places a large emphasis on community, both within each team and across teams. Coach Franchock holds a season-long competition (Thunder Cup) within the program that mixes teams and classes. Student athletes can earn points for their team through various activities like volunteering for campus events, doing well in the classroom, dressing up for spirit practices or even winning games during the team's annual Holiday Party or Thunder-Olympics Practice. Having the skaters work together to be competitive in a healthy way helps motivate the team and positively shapes each individual's experience at Trine in athletics and academics.

McComis and Yousef also said skating competitions are some of the most impactful moments of their careers at Trine so far.

"Placing top ten in the nation our first time at a major competition is a memory I'll carry with me for the rest of my life," Yousef said.

McComis stated, "The camaraderie at competitions is a lot different than skating in a youth skating environment. The intercollegiate competitions have a lot of club teams as well, who want to win but are really more just doing it for the fun of it."

McComis and Yousef are each planning on coaching skating in the future rather than continuing to skate competitively, but Franchock mentioned that many of Trine's skaters leave the

program feeling good about skating and wanting to continue. For example, recent graduate McKenzie Brouk has worked with the company "Get It Called" creating skating-focused social media and news articles, and Jamie Vartoogian is working to start a collegiate skating program at Concordia University Ann Arbor. Of the athletes who graduated this year, Lainie Kuckkahn, Beth Carley and Julianna Foy are all considering skating professionally in shows.





WOMEN'S BASKETBALL RETURNS TO NATIONAL TOURNAMENT

The Trine University women's basketball team finished had another successful season in 2022-23 after claiming a conference championship and making an NCAA DIII Women's Basketball Tournament run for the second consecutive season. The Thunder and head coach Andy Rang went 23-7 overall this season and Coach Rang reached the 100-win mark in December in just his fifth season at the helm of the program.

Trine knocked off then-number one Hope College 76-64 on the road en route to a 14-2 Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA) record to become co-regular season champions of the league with the Flying Dutch. It is the second straight season that the Thunder won a share of the conference prize. In the MIAA Tournament, Trine defeated Calvin University 66-61 to reach the Championship game, but came up short to Hope, 76-65.

Their resume was still good enough to receive an at-large bid to the NCAA Tournament, where the team traveled to Dubuque, Iowa, for their first and second round games. In their opening round game, the Thunder

topped Washington University 79-69 behind an 18-point, 9-rebound and 9-assist performance



Makayla Ardis



Abby Sanner

from senior guard **Makayla Ardis**. Against the host, Loras College, in the second round, Trine came back from being down nine at halftime to topple the Duhawks 60-54 and advance to the Section Semifinals. Freshman forward **Abby Sanner** led the way with 19 points, including 15 in the first half alone. Sophomore guard **Sidney Wagner** put the game away at the free throw line, had a double-double with 17 points and a career-high 12 rebounds.

New York University was able to beat Trine the next weekend 66-49 to conclude the year.

The duo of Wagner and Ardis were both named to the All-MIAA First Team and Wagner became the second MIAA MVP in program history. D3hoops.com has tabbed Wagner a First Team All-Region 7 honoree and Ardis received Third Team All-Region 7. D3hoops.com also honored Wagner as a Third Team All-American, the third All-American in program history since Trine joined the NCAA.



Sidney Wagner



Men's track takes 4th straight indoor championship

The Trine University men's track and field team won their fourth straight Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA) Indoor Championship at home with two student-athletes winning event championships.

Jake Gladieux was the MIAA champion in the 60-meter hurdles with a time of 8.13 seconds and **Ethan Spahr** won the long jump at 6.65 meters (21' 10.00"). Eleven different men's track and field athletes were inside the top three in their respective events for the Thunder as well, including **Joseph Packard**, **Ryan Hoopingarner**, **Greysen Spohn**, the distance medley relay team consisting of **Lucas Tutrow**, **Blane Johnson**, **Samuel Slough** and **Joshua Maier**, **Ben Williams**, **Theodore Samra**, **Alexander Lewis** and **Jacob Barkey**.

At the regional level, three were named United States Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCA) All-Region in Gladieux, Samra and Spohn. Gladieux was tabbed thanks to being first in the region in the 60-meter hurdles, while Samra finished top four in the weight throw and Spohn was third in the 60-meter hurdles and fifth in the high jump.

Gladieux's time in the 60-meter hurdles was also good enough to qualify for the NCAA DIII Indoor National Championships. He ran an 8.15-second time in the preliminary to earn a spot in the event finals. It was there where he ran a career-best and school record time of 8.01 seconds to secure his fourth career All-American award and second in a row in the 60-meter hurdles.



Jake Gladieux



Ethan Spahr



Joseph Packard



Ryan Hoopingarner



Greysen Spohn



Lucas Tutrow



Blane Johnson



Samuel Slough



Joshua Maier



Ben Williams



Theodore Samra



Alexander Lewis



Jacob Barkey



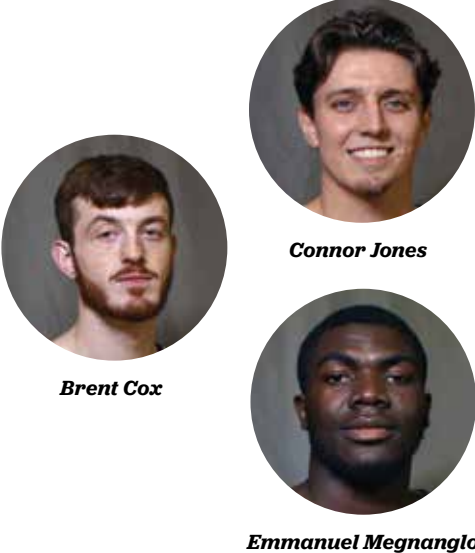
Men's basketball sets mark for DIII wins

The Trine University men's basketball team finished the 2022-23 season with a 22-4 record, the most wins in the program's NCAA DIII history. Head coach Brooks Miller led the Thunder to a 12-2 mark in Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA) play, good for second place in the conference standings. After a round one bye, Trine was defeated by the eventual MIAA Tournament champions Hope College 67-56 in the semifinal round.

The team had three members receive All-MIAA accolades: seniors **Brent Cox** and **Connor Jones** as well as junior **Emmanuel Megnanglo**. Cox was tabbed First Team All-MIAA after averaging 17.1 points per game, good for fourth in the league. On Feb. 4 against Alma College, he became the 48th player in team history to cross the 1,000-point mark. D3hoops.com named Cox an All-Region player as well in the postseason.

Jones also found himself on the First Team after averaging a team-high 3.9 assists per game (second in MIAA). Megnanglo made it on to the All-MIAA Second Team thanks in part to his efforts defensively. He swatted away 67 opposing field goal attempts this season and has the most blocked shots in Trine's NCAA DIII history with 147.

The signature win this season for the Thunder came on Dec. 10 when Trine knocked off the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse on the road 67-64. The Eagles were ranked third in the nation at the time. The Thunder also defeated Hope College at home 89-84 in double overtime in a game that saw Jones net a career-high 44 points, a mark that ties Ian Jackson for the most points in a game (NCAA DIII era).



Brent Cox

Connor Jones

Emmanuel Megnanglo



Men's hockey has best NCHA season

The Trine University men's hockey team had one of the best seasons in the program's young history finishing with the second highest-win total in program history with an 18-9-1 overall record. The team finished 12-6 in Northern Collegiate Hockey Association (NCHA) play, the

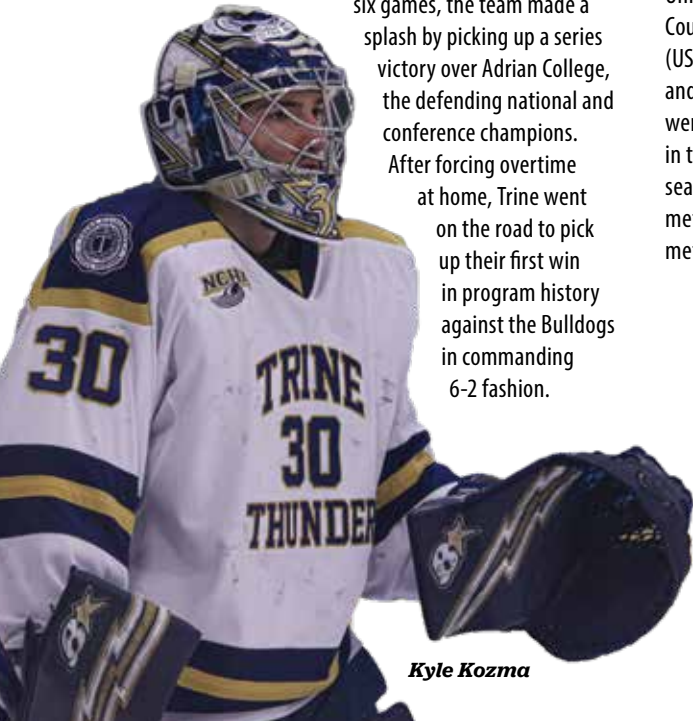
Garrett Hallford



most wins in conference for the program. For the second season in a row the team finished fourth in the NCHA standings, earning hosting duties for the opening round of the Harris Cup Playoffs.

The Thunder built an impressive resume through the 2022-23 season. After

struggling through the first six games, the team made a splash by picking up a series victory over Adrian College, the defending national and conference champions. After forcing overtime at home, Trine went on the road to pick up their first win in program history against the Bulldogs in commanding 6-2 fashion.



Kyle Kozma

Next the team forced a tie on the road against Utica College and then later defeated St. Norbert College in overtime, both nationally ranked teams.

After losing game one of the first round of the playoffs, Trine won both the second game and the mini-game to head to the semifinals for the second straight year, the third time in four seasons. In addition to advancing, the team was rewarded with the 15th spot in the USCHO.com national poll, another first for the program.

Garrett Hallford and **Kyle Kozma** represented the team on end-of-year NCHA honors. Hallford had another fantastic offensive season and earned a spot on the all-conference team, while Kozma solidified himself as the starter in net and earned a spot on the all-freshman team.

Third-place finish for women's track

The Trine University women's track and field team completed the indoor portion of their schedule and placed third at the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA) Indoor Championships.

The Thunder had a group of second-place finishes in multiple events, including the 60-meter dash (**Mackenzie Miller**), 60-meter hurdles (**Brynn Mericle**), distance medley relay (**Bailey Puckett**, **Anissa Rios**, **Eleanor Young** and **Hannah Parker**) and weight throw (**Madelyn Summers**).

The Thunder had two student-athletes on the women's side named All-Region by the United States Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA). **Emma Forker** and **Haley Livingston** were All-Great Lakes region in the long jump, with season-best leaps of 5.54 meters (18' 2.25") and 5.48 meters (17' 11.75").



Bailey Puckett



Hannah Parker



Anissa Rios



Madelyn Summers



Brynn Mericle



Eleanor Young



Haley Livingston



Emma Forker



Women's hockey
rebounds from
slow start

The Trine University women's hockey team turned around after a slow start to finish the season with just the second 10-win season in program history. After starting the season on a seven-game skid, the Thunder finished out the season with a .500 record to post a 10-17-0 overall record. It marks the second-best season in program history by winning percentage. In addition, the team earned 18 points toward the Northern Collegiate Hockey Association (NCHA) standings with a 6-10-0 record, finishing sixth and earning another appearance in the NCHA Slaats Cup Playoffs.

A pair of sophomores paced the team offensively. **Payton Hans** led the way with 29 points, including 21 goals, matching the program single-season record. Hans also recorded the first five-goal in one game and seven points including four assists in another, all new program



Payton Hans



Grace Hicks



Kailey Mleko



Casey Frank

bests for Trine. Junior **Grace Hicks** also recorded a four-assist game to tie the record. **Kailey Mleko** came in second on the team with 25 points, including 18 goals.

Freshman **Casey Frank** led the way in net for the team and earned the team its only end-of-year honors by being named the NCHA All-Freshman Team.

Strong finish for
men's wrestling

Four placers and a ninth-place finish at the 2023 NCAA Division III Central Regional highlighted the season for the Trine University men's wrestling program. The Thunder ended the season with their best performance of the season. Four members of the team reached the second day of the competition and earned enough team points to put the team in ninth among the 20 present.

Junior **Jett Boots** led the way with a fourth-place finish at 141 pounds while **Isaac Hawkins** and **Joseph Langeman** finished in sixth and **Mason Custer** finished in seventh. Trine posted a team record of 4-4 through the dual match portion of the season, finishing fourth in Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA) competition. Langeman and Boots each earned All-MIAA status.



Jett Boots



Isaac Hawkins



Joseph Langeman



Mason Custer

Morrison leads
women's wrestlers

For just the third season, the Trine University women's wrestling team took to the mats, this time under the direction of new head coach Theresa Rankin. The team doubled in size for the season and found some success for each individual.

Leading the way for the team was junior **Riley Morrison**, who finished fifth at the team's 2023 National Collegiate Women's Wrestling Championship Regional.



Riley Morrison



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For more information, contact Steve Oursler, director of development and planned giving, at ourslers@trine.edu or (269) 300-9811.

Class of 2023 Memories...

“My favorite memory from Trine has to be the first Friday Night Pancakes of the year, every year. The first pancakes always has the best attendance and the most interactions, and it sets a great trend and tone for student activities for the year. Always a blast and a great tradition at Trine.” - Zac Thomas, Social Studies Education



“My favorite memory at Trine would be winning Big Man on Campus in 2022. It was really great because I got connected with nine other guys that I either knew a little bit, or not at all, and we really got connected at the end of the event. I honestly didn’t care about winning right after it happened, because I was so proud to do it with those guys and to have raised over \$24,000.” - Caleb Kruse, Mechanical Engineering

“My favorite memory was helping organize Big Man on Campus every year. It was always so much fun to be part of the planning and organizing of the event. I especially loved seeing how the entire Trine community would come together to support and help in any way possible to make the event a success and be able to give back to the community.” - Ingrid Rosales Perez, Accounting



“My favorite memory is when our triathlon team won nationals. It was an awesome moment we shared with our families in Arizona, and then the congratulations we received when we got back to campus were so cool. Trine is such a great community and I’m very thankful for that!” - Amira Faulkner, Business Administration

“My favorite memory is all the fun spirit weeks and dress-up days we had at the Franks School of Education.” - Hannah Phair, Elementary Education

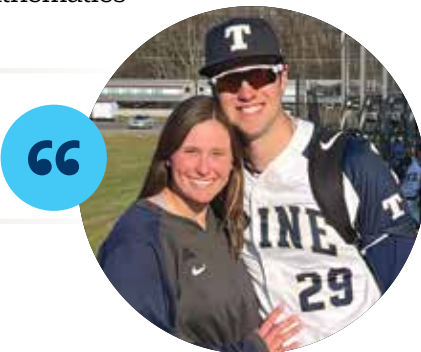


“My favorite memory is making it to the Final Four for basketball!” - Sophie Sloneker, Civil Engineering



“My favorite memory from my time at Trine is the relationship I was able to develop with Dr. Anthony Vasaturo in the mathematics department. There were many afternoons where Dr. Vasaturo would stay far after hours with me in his office, providing me with guidance for the future as my advisor but also as a friend.” - Jacob Roeder, Mathematics

“Hanging out with my girlfriend and teammates.” - Lukas Cline, Criminal Justice



“My favorite memory is being part of the acro and tumbling inaugural roster and winning our first national event final trophy last year.” - Kristen Azzue, Biology/Pre-Physician Assistant

“My favorite memory from Trine is participating in the Lip Sync battles every year for Homecoming. I participated all four years with the dance team, and we placed third every year!” - Eugena Mack, Design Engineering Technology



“My favorite memory is when Mr. Ortiz showed me how to properly iron my dress clothes for an interview and how to tie a tie.” - Afolabi Eniitan, Mechanical Engineering



“My favorite memory at Trine is getting to learn more about a major that truly excites me while meeting some amazing people and playing lacrosse with my best friends for life.” - Ella Dougherty, Exercise Science



“My favorite event on campus is Big Man on Campus, which is hosted by Theta Phi Alpha. My junior year I was fortunate enough to be nominated and elected chairwoman, and we had our first of two back-to-back record-breaking years!” - Maddie Clutinger, Finance

“My favorite memory at Trine has been cheering on the Thunder football team with friends.” - Bianca Johnston, Elementary Education/ Special Education





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