

THE MAGAZINE OF TRINE UNIVERSITY

# TRINE

WINTER 2017







Keenan Bowles flips into the pond at “Trine Beach” as Judson Quinn, left, and Kristen Reece await the splash landing during Trine University’s first Beach Bash on Sept. 16. Nearly 500 students, faculty and staff attended the event, which saw a “beach” with sand, a volleyball net and the pond created on the lawn of the Rick L. and Vicki L. James University Center.



# From the President's Desk

## The heart of Trine University

Trine University is proud of our facilities and our academic programs, many of which you have read about and will read about in these pages. But while new buildings and majors that prepare our students for meaningful careers are integral to the service we provide to those who attend Trine, we would fall short if our graduates left campus without friendships, fond memories and a sense of purpose for their lives.

This edition of Trine magazine focuses on our campus community – on our vibrant campus life, on our accomplished faculty, on students taking part in experiences that not only prepare them for careers but give them a new outlook on life, and on alumni making an impact by conducting research, excelling in their professions and saving lives. You will read about:

- How the university continues to build on the vibrancy of the campus community through activities like this past fall's Beach Bash;
- The many homecoming events, including the surprise presentation of the Sagamore of the Wabash award, the highest award given by the governor of the state of Indiana, to Dr. Rick L. James, chairman of Trine's board of trustees, and his wife Dr. Vicki L. James;
- A trip by Trine University senior Kaitlyn Swick to Malawi, Africa, to volunteer with a group of orphans;
- Michael Blaz, Ph.D., professor of psychology, who is celebrating 40 years of service to Trine University;
- J.D. Collins, a 1983 alumnus who is serving as NCAA national coordinator of men's basketball officiating.

There are many more exciting things happening at Trine and many more people who are part of our community who are doing amazing things – in fact, far more than we can fit in 36 pages. Throughout this magazine you will find related content boxes referring you to additional articles available online at [trine.edu](http://trine.edu). I encourage you to visit our website and read these articles, then check back on a regular basis to read updated stories about all the positive things that are happening at Trine University.

Sincerely,

Earl D. Brooks II

Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D.  
President



More than 160 international students, faculty, administration, host families, conversation partners, student government and members of the Multicultural Student Organization attended Trine University's 22nd annual International Thanksgiving on Nov. 17.



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### ON THE COVER:

Students participated in a variety of holiday and final exam week activities at Trine University leading up to the end of the semester. Such activities are one way the university is looking to build on its vibrant campus culture.



# TRINE

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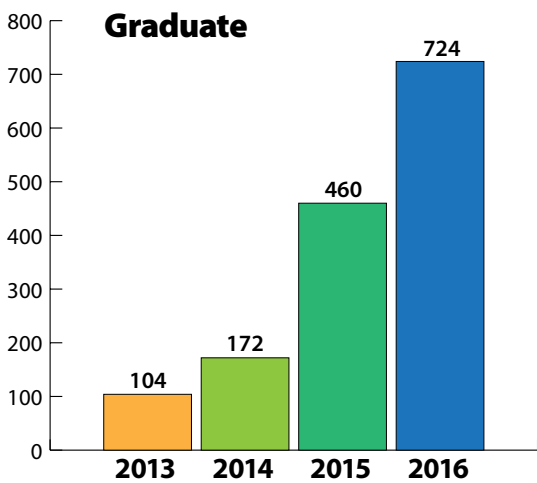
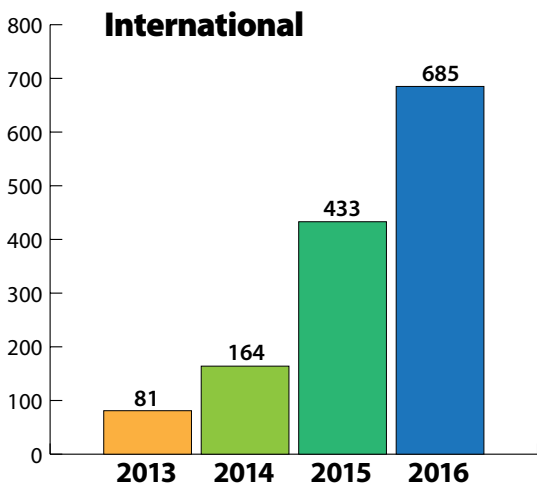
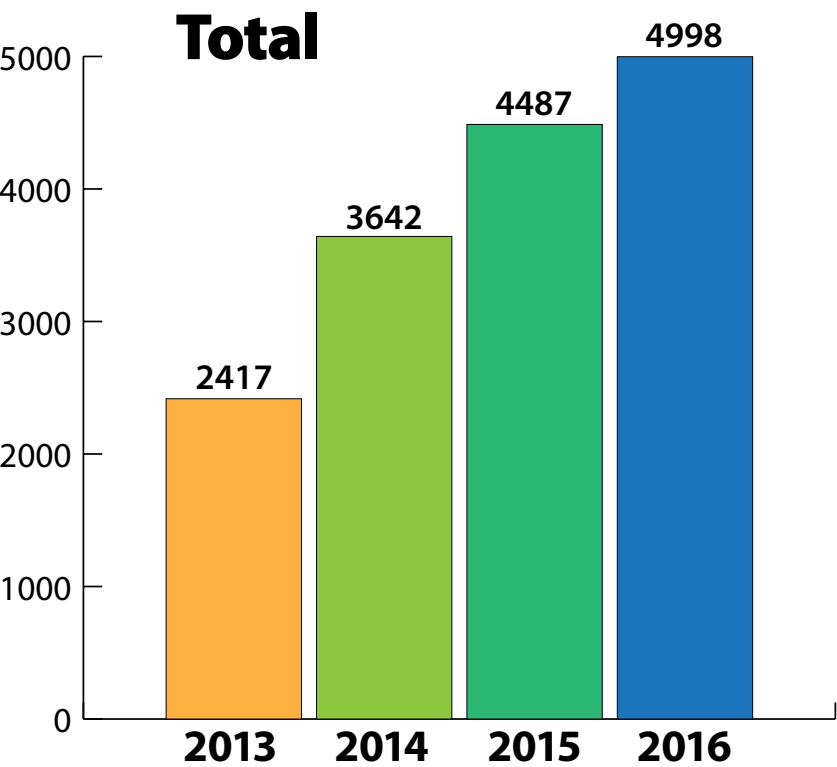
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# Enrollment sets record for 3rd straight year

Graduate and international students helped fuel a fourth straight year of record fall enrollment. Here are enrollment trends over the last four years.



# Trine education graduates have 100% placement for 4th straight year

For the fourth straight year, 100 percent of the May graduates from Trine University’s Franks School of Education who were seeking teaching positions were working as teachers in the fall. The school’s success contributed to the 99.3 percent employment rate enjoyed by Trine’s Class of 2016 (see story, p. 11).

“We are thrilled that once again all of our Franks School of Education graduates who were seeking teaching positions have secured employment,” said Anthony Kline, Ph.D., dean of the Franks School of Education.

“Our fourth straight year of 100 percent job placement is a testament to the high quality of our graduates.”

The Franks School of Education had 10 graduates in May. Of those, nine sought and successfully found teaching positions, while the tenth is pursuing a master’s degree.

Six of the nine who found positions are teaching at the high school level, while the remaining three are teaching at the elementary school level.

“Our graduates’ success reflects directly on the strong partnerships we have with our

wonderful area schools,” Kline said. “Our candidates can spend more than 200 hours in local and regional schools even before their student teaching internships begin. These clinical hours, which begin during their very first year at Trine University, prepare them to understand the joys, challenges and complexity that today’s educators encounter on a daily basis.

“Also, respondents from our most recent employer survey indicate that beginning teachers from Trine University are more prepared when compared to graduates from other teacher preparation programs.” ■

Mike Shannon became a Cass County Deputy Sheriff because he wanted to change the world. Now, he’s looking to change the future.

Shannon, who is in the home stretch of his Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice degree program at Trine University’s Logansport Education Center, recently became the criminal justice instructor for the Century Career Center, a career and technical school attached to Logansport High School.

“I’m able to influence these kids who are forming the next generation of police officers and lawyers,” he said. “When I was a deputy sheriff it became apparent that anytime someone calls for me it’s a negative. Here it’s a positive right off the bat.”

Shannon had served as a deputy for about 10 years when he said the long hours, not knowing whether he would be home safely at the end of a shift and missing out on holidays, birthdays and sporting events began to wear on him.

“My wife and I got talking and we asked, ‘Do we want to be like this the rest of our life?’ ” he said. “So the decision was made that one of us would go back to school. I had more college credits, plus Trine gave me credit for life experience.”

Shortly after that, the Cass County Sheriff’s Department sent him to do instructional development. He started instructing other police officers in the Strategic Techniques Of Patrol Stops (STOPS) and discovered he liked being in a teaching environment.

He began putting out feelers about possible teaching positions and found out the criminal justice instructor position was expected to come open at Century Career Center in a few years. It eventually opened up sooner than Shannon expected, and after 16 years as a deputy sheriff, Shannon turned in his badge for a classroom.

“It was an opportunity as a family we could not say no to,” he said.

In his new position, he teaches about 50 students in three classes. While some are interested in being local police officers, others are looking at becoming military police, conservation officers or lawyers.

Although his current job doesn’t require a bachelor’s degree, Shannon said he would not have got the position if he hadn’t continued



# Logansport student trades badge for classroom

his education and taken advantage of Trine University’s support services, including resume preparation.

“My studies at Trine influenced me to step out of my box — the confidence Trine gave me on top of the lessons that I’ve learned,” he said.

Once he completes his bachelor’s he will be able to teach more dual-credit classes,

allowing his students to earn credit toward a college degree. In June he will begin Trine’s Master of Science with a Major in Criminal Justice program.

“Once I finish my master’s, we will be able to go after four-year degree schools and add more dual-credit opportunities for the kids,” he said. ■



# SERVING IN THE WARM HEART

## Student volunteers in Malawi during summer trip

As Kaitlyn Swick stood on the opposite side of the world from home, looking at 50 smiling children in tattered clothing, one thought went through her mind:

“This was real life.”

Swick, a senior elementary education major from Tekonsha, Michigan, was part of a group that traveled to Malawi, Africa, for two weeks in July to work with a community of orphans through With Change In Mind, an organization that creates short-term volunteer opportunities in the developing world.

“From all angles I had children grabbing at me and hugging me, though they had never seen me before,” she said. “I tried taking it all in and looking every which way, but everywhere I looked I saw happy faces in such a poverty-stricken area. There was trash lying around, free-roaming animals, and women and men working hard to keep their family alive and well.

“Even if I just close my eyes I can see the children’s faces looking up at me with the biggest eyes and smiles I have ever seen. I can see the families curiously looking at me, but appreciating that we were there. I can still see the trash laying on the ground that I so badly wanted to pick up, and the runny noses on almost every child I just wanted to wipe.”

The inspiration for the trip came from one of her classes taught by Anthony Kline,

Ph.D., assistant professor in the Franks School of Education. Kline founded and directed the Malawi Field Experience while teaching at Ball State University, which allowed teacher candidates to work on

She left for Malawi on July 9. While there she worked with a group of four women at an orphan community called Adziwa, where about 60 children ages 1-5 who do not have parents are placed with someone in their family.

With Change In Mind has worked with the day care/preschool for about five years, providing most of the food for the school and helping them organize a garden they have started to help the community.

“We worked at the school teaching the kids to learn to line up, colors, numbers and letters. We broke them up into smaller groups so it was easier to keep their attention,” Swick said.

The group also helped the school’s teacher by sharing different ideas and teaching strategies with her. Other duties included cooking food, washing dishes, preparing the children for snack, installing hand-washing stations and cleaning out the storage room and office.

Swick said she had to adapt to developing-world conditions, including having to shower outdoors – not always with hot water – and doing without flushing toilets and faucets with running water.

“At first you just felt dirty all the time, but after a few days you realized it was just part of the process,” she said.

Swick said one of the children who will remain in her memory was a little boy named Alex, who would take her hand during the group’s 2.5-mile walk to the school from where they were staying.



“He wanted ‘sweeties’ each day, which is candy, but we did not hand those out until the last day,” she said. “This young boy was so polite. He spoke very little English, but something just made me want to check in on him each day. I could tell in his eyes that he was sick. I just hope if I go back, I see his face again and it’s healthy.”

Her time in Malawi gave Swick an understanding of why the county is referred to as “The Warm Heart,” she said.

“My experiences were more than I asked for. I got far more out of the trip than I am able to put into words, or that I will ever be able to share with anyone,” she said.

“I already want to visit The Warm Heart again.” ■



## China trip offers study abroad, return home for students

A study abroad trip offered seven Trine University students the opportunity to get a taste of life in China over the summer. It also offered the opportunity for one of them to introduce her fellow students to the culture of her childhood.

The group participated in the China Studies trip from July 4-21 at Hangzhou Normal University in Zheijang Province, China.

Students who participated were Margaret Delmont, Yuhan (Serena) Zhang, Jimmy Bailey, Kayla Tracy, Natalie Woodley, Nicklaus Lang and Amanda Higbee. They were joined by university students from the Chicago area and from Slovenia.

For Zhang, whose family moved to the United States from China when she was 13, the trip offered the opportunity to get a taste of what college is like in that country. She had never been to Hangzhou prior to the China Studies trip.

“I was just kind of curious because I hear a lot about college from my Chinese friends,” she said. “It feels like it’s home here in the United States, but it’s also home in China. I enjoy the two different cultures a lot.”

Students said that when they arrived in China they were struck by the heat – 90 degrees with high humidity – and the number of people. They landed in Shanghai, China’s largest city, then travelled to Hangzhou, which is its fourth-largest.



*Trine University senior Amanda Higbee stands by scenic West Lake in Zheijang Province, China.*

“Coming from a small town, I could not believe I was in a city that made Chicago look like a village,” Higbee said.

The students attended classes in Chinese culture, economy, education and law as well as a kung fu class. They said the experience fueled their desire to travel more overseas.

“Traveling around the world can provide so much information and experiences that you just can’t find in the classroom,” said Woodley. “I am ready to embark on my next adventure and book my next trip.” ■

## More at [trine.edu](http://trine.edu)



Read more about Trine student summer experiences at [trine.edu/news](http://trine.edu/news):

- Elementary education major Adam Miller taught English to college students in Thailand
- Chemistry major Shayna Burrage participated in a research experience at Ole Miss
- Members of Trine’s Student Education Association attended the National Education Association–Student Leadership Conference
- Senior Laura Rosekrans learned about long-term care and rehabilitation during a summer internship
- Senior Cody Konieczki interned at a Lansing, Michigan, television station ■



# Regaining his voice

## Student project benefits Angola man

A project developed by three students in Trine University's Introduction to Biomedical Engineering class is making life easier for an Angola man who lost his vocal chords and voice box.

Dr. Stephen White, who works as an optometrist at the Angola Walmart, had his throat crushed in an accident more than 20 years ago, resulting in paralyzed vocal chords. As a result he developed throat cancer and had a laryngectomy in 2014.

White speaks using a hands-free device in a stoma (hole) in his throat. However, he found he had issues with the device falling out, and it was inconvenient to have to push the device in order to talk.

He worked on a band to try and keep the device in place, and his nephew designed an improved version for him to use. He eventually contacted Innovation One at Trine University to try to get the band printed on the facility's 3-D printers.

In turn, Jason Blume, executive director of Innovation One, reached out to Maria Gerschutz, Ph.D., chair of Trine's Biomedical Engineering Department, to see if Trine students could improve on that design.

Gerschutz gave the project to students Austin Crouse of Pendleton, Indiana; Nathan Kell from Morristown, Indiana; and Syndey Schlafer from Fishers, Indiana. Gerschutz said the group did a research report on White's condition and the clinical history behind the necessity of the band.

"As part of their project they also designed the band," she said.

"After we had a basic idea of exactly what the dimensions were and what we were supposed to be doing, we met with Mr. White and talked to him about some of his preferences," Kell said.

Improvements to the original design included making a flap on the front of the band removable, enabling White to use the band with both the hands-free device and the heat moisture environment (HME) he uses in its place when he doesn't need to talk. The students also devised a new way to get the band around his neck so that the band didn't break, as previous versions had done.

White said he was "overjoyed" when students presented the final product to him.

"They've done a really good job," he said. ■



*Kristen Martin, left, takes part in Wacky Wednesday with one of the students in Breakthrough Cincinnati during the program's spirit week.*

## Fellowship puts education student in a class of her own

Kristen Martin was googling for a summer job to develop her teaching skills. She found not only that, but the opportunity to impact inner-city students and make memories that will last a lifetime.

The senior elementary education major from Fairmount, Indiana, served as one of 32 fellows over the summer for Breakthrough Cincinnati (BTC). Described as a tuition-free academic enrichment program, BTC serves middle school students from underserved and/or underrepresented communities.

"I was looking for a way to develop my teaching skills and make a difference, so I set out to find a summer job that would help me accomplish that goal," Martin said. "I came across the Breakthrough website and eventually discovered they had a site in Cincinnati."

Martin's responsibilities included teaching literature to sixth graders for two class periods a day, teaching a creative writing course, teaching a class about creating floor plans and teaching the basics of volleyball. She developed lesson plans for each day she taught literature and creative writing.

"I got the chance to have my own classroom and be completely responsible for what my children learned," she said. "I got a chance to work with children from different walks of life than myself, which I think will help me be better prepared for wherever I teach in the future." ■

# Trine's Class of 2016 posts 99.3% employment rate

Trine University's Class of 2016 had 99.3 percent of its graduates employed or continuing their education within six months of graduation.

This marks the third year in a row the university has posted an employment rate of 98 percent or higher. Trine had a 98.8 percent employment rate for its 2015 graduates and a 99.7 percent rate for the Class of 2014, for a three-year average of 99.3 percent.

The Class of 2016 also saw 95.1 percent either employed in a field related to their major or continuing their education. That figure is the highest in Trine University's history and a more than 2 percent increase from 2015, according to Jason Blume, executive director

of Innovation One, which includes Trine's Employment Resource Center.

"The continued high employment rate, and particularly the high number who are working in their field of study, shows that businesses and organizations recognize the quality of graduates produced at Trine University," said Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D., Trine president.

The university's Ketner School of Business and mechanical engineering major – the largest single major at Trine – each saw 100 percent employment for the fourth straight year. The university's Franks School of Education had previously announced its fourth straight year of 100 percent employment.

Trine University's first class of biomedical engineering graduates also enjoyed 100 percent employment, as did the Jannen School of Arts & Sciences, marking the highest employment rate in that school's history.

Of Trine's 2016 graduates, 73.6 percent were employed by companies in the Great Lakes region – the states of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin.

The National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) reported an 85.5 percent employment or continuing education rate nationally for the Class of 2015. Figures for the Class of 2016 will be released in June 2017. The rate for the Great Lakes region was 87.6 percent for 2015. ■



## University advances in U.S. News rankings

Trine University moved up to 22nd among top Midwestern regional colleges in the 2017 edition of U.S. News & World Report's top colleges. Its engineering school also moved up significantly in national rankings.

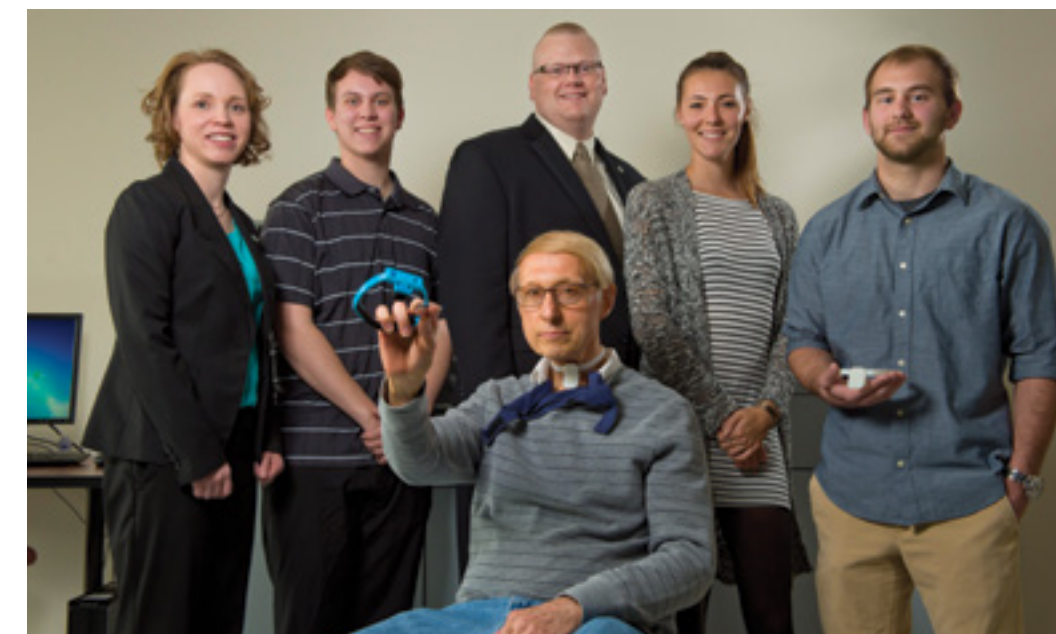
Trine's position among the Midwest's best regional colleges in the current rankings is up from 29th last year.

"We are very proud of the work we've done to enhance our academic offerings and

invest in our world-class campus facilities," said Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D., university president. "With the renovation underway at Best Hall of Science and the new Thunder Ice Arena and MTI Center coming online in the next two years, our campus facilities will only continue to enhance the lives of our students."

Trine also appeared on 10 other lists for Midwestern regional colleges and two national lists.

The university's Allen School of Engineering & Technology was ranked 88th out of 198 colleges nationally among the Best Undergraduate Engineering Schools at which a master degree is the highest degree offered; it was 122nd out of 195 last year. The ranking is based solely on peer assessment ratings from spring 2016. ■



*Dr. Stephen White, front, of Angola holds an early version of a band used to hold the hands-free device he uses to talk in place. Back row, from left, are Maria Gerschutz, Ph.D., chair of Trine's Biomedical Engineering Department; Austin Crouse; Jason Blume, executive director of Innovation One; Syndey Schlafer; and Nathan Kell.*



# Candidates for governor visit for Distinguished Speaker Series



*Lt. Gov. Eric Holcomb*

A spirited political season saw the Democratic and Republican party candidates for governor of Indiana each make stops at Trine University to take part in the annual Distinguished Speaker Series.

Lt. Gov. Eric Holcomb, the Republican candidate, invoked the state's bicentennial celebration as he spoke about Indiana's history and the progress it has made in recent years to open the Series for 2016-17.

Holcomb, who was eventually elected Indiana's next governor on Nov. 8, addressed Trine students, faculty, staff and members of the public on Sept. 13 in Ryan Concert Hall in the T. Furth Center for Performing Arts following a remembrance of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Having served as a member of Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels' administration, Holcomb discussed the strides the state has made since Daniels was elected in 2004, and how Trine students can play a role in continuing Indiana's comeback.

"Our state's script will illustrate just how a small state in the Midwest can



*John Gregg*

become a national model for advanced manufacturing for aeronautics, for defense development, for precision data-driven agriculture and for life sciences, relying on you, Trine graduates, to support and supply today's talent even for tomorrow's industries," he said.

John Gregg's return to Furth Center on Oct. 27 featured the Democratic candidate discussing his plans for Indiana's economy.

Greg said it was not the first time he had been inside the building. He had attended the funeral of state Rep. Orville Moody, R-Angola, in 1989 when the Angola Christian Church was housed there.

Gregg, who served as a member and later Speaker of the Indiana House of Representatives and also was the Democratic Party nominee for governor in 2012, encouraged Trine students in attendance to be involved and engaged in the election process.

"Elections do matter, and so do the policies and priorities of those we elect," he said. ■

## Sheets receives Sagamore of the Wabash in ceremony at Trine

Longtime friend and supporter of Trine University Charles R. (Chuck) Sheets of Angola was presented the Sagamore of the Wabash by Lt. Gov. Eric Holcomb on Sept. 13. The presentation was made at Trine before Holcomb spoke as part of its Distinguished Speaker Series.

Prior to bestowing the honor, Holcomb lauded Sheets as "an individual who has done not only so much for Steuben County, but really for the state of Indiana at large ... a man whose distinguished career in business is matched by his incredible example for so many to follow in terms of his philanthropic commitments to his neighbors."

The successful owner of Sheets LP Gas and a real estate developer, Sheets was one of the founders of the YMCA of Steuben County and a founding board member of the Steuben County Community Foundation. In 2016, his family donated more than 4 acres of land to the YMCA.

Sheets established the Harcourt & Elsta Sheets Scholarship at Trine University in memory of his parents and has supported the T. Furth Center for Performing Arts, the Humanities Institute and Trine's general scholarship fund. He also has responded to unique opportunities such as contributing top soil for capital projects.

The Sagamore of the Wabash award, created during the term of Indiana Gov. Ralph Gates, is the highest honor the governor of Indiana bestows. ■

# Blaz celebrates 40 years of teaching at Trine

By Annabelle Elder  
Communication '17

Often seen riding his bike around campus with a smile on his face, Trine University psychology professor Mike Blaz, Ph.D., is well-known even outside the Jannen School of Arts and Sciences by students from all majors.

Blaz is celebrating 40 years of service at the university, but says he did not originally plan to stay this long.

"People don't stay 40 years at a single job anymore, but my wife and I became established here," he said. "She got a good job teaching French at the high school and we both enjoyed our jobs. I couldn't imagine a better situation."

Blaz started teaching at Tri-State University in 1976. He graduated from the University of Minnesota with a degree in psychology and later earned his doctorate in experimental psychology from the University of Kentucky.

Tri-State was his top choice due to its closeness to his wife's family, who lived in the Chicago area. He also loved the people he met at the interview, especially the faculty members.

Blaz was quickly taken under the wing of James Zimmerman, a history professor who had hired him. Zimmerman continued to mentor Blaz during his time at the university.

"Dr. Zimmerman was a true scholar, a historian who studied diplomacy, the Middle East, the Philippines, as well as worked in the White House. It was like taking a long graduate seminar, just having him around," said Blaz.

Over the years Blaz taught many students and worked diligently to help them find their niche in the world of psychology. One of his former students, Cisco Ortiz, eventually became a professor at Trine, teaching criminal justice.

"I never thought in a million years I would be teaching alongside (Blaz)," Ortiz said. "It was a great experience to have a professor like Dr. Blaz and an even greater honor to be able to work alongside him today."

Blaz said there are many reasons he enjoys working at Trine.

"I think Trine generally gives faculty more freedom to teach a wide variety of classes, which I think allows them to be better-rounded," he said. "Also, it's not just being able to converse easily with students, which is nice, but also I value the opportunity to speak with highly intelligent faculty in other fields (e.g. engineers like Dr. Sean Carroll and Dr. John Wagner, for instance), which has furthered my own education. In the early years, I was fortunate to spend a lot of time with as well as share an office with faculty in the English department like

Prof. Bill Sangiacomo, Dr. Tom Tierney and Dr. Dennis Petrie."

Craig Laker, former Dean of Jannen School of Arts and Sciences, said Blaz's sense of humor and interesting teaching style are some of his most valuable qualities.

"Blaz is one of the best professors we've ever had," Laker said. "Students adore him. His teaching style, while a little quirky at times, is excellent and he has this great sense of dry humor. He's incredibly insightful and well-researched in the field of psychology. It shows in his lectures."

"Graduates all say that they benefited from Blaz exams when they were thrown into the real world," Laker added.

Blaz has received numerous awards for his excellence in teaching over the years, including the Jannen Renaissance Award, the Barrenbrugge Award for Faculty Excellence and the McKetta-Smith Excellence in Teaching Award, which he has received several times.

Blaz said he plans to teach for a few more years until retirement, then eventually move closer to his son and daughter, who are in Milwaukee and Chicago, respectively.

"I look forward to making my classes more interesting for students in these final years," he said. "I want to keep improving student participation and have there be more interaction instead of just all lecture." ■



## Wagner guides students to excel in national competition



For some ten years, John Wagner, Ph.D., has pitted projects designed by Trine University chemical engineering students in national competition against students from schools like Michigan State, Mississippi State and Oklahoma State.

As often as not, Trine students have come out on top.

"It's very gratifying. The students really put forth the effort," Wagner, professor in the McKetta Department of Chemical & Bioprocess Engineering, said.

When Michael Sheperd of Bryan, Ohio, a 2016 Trine University chemical engineering graduate, was named the individual category winner of the American Institute for Chemical Engineering (AIChE) National Student Design Competition, it marked the fifth time a Trine student or students had been recognized. Sheperd also was named winner of the AIChE National Design Safety Award and two teams of Trine students were recognized with safety awards, which are awarded to student projects judged to have a safety element deserving of award.

In the contest, students are given about 30 days to devise a solution to a problem developed by chemical engineers working in industry, representing a real-world design situation.

"Typically students will turn the project in right before spring break," Wagner said. "After the spring break they present it. We'll usually have four or five faculty members and some members from our professional advisory board listen in and they'll defend it, similar to a thesis defense. Then I'll go through and grade them all and look for the best projects."

If he feels Trine has a strong entry, Wagner submits up to two best individual and team solutions to the national contest. He said about 20 to 25 universities submit entries each year, with Trine being the smallest school to compete.

While he appreciates the contest accolades, Wagner said the most important part of the contest for him is seeing his students show the skills that will allow them to complete real-world designs.

"The contest is nice, but the best part is where I can see them using engineering logic," he said. "They really turn into colleagues at that point. It's when I see their work and it's like, 'Yes, this is a young engineer. This isn't a student anymore.'"

And while he is responsible for submitting the projects, Wagner said Trine's success reflects more on the faculty as a whole than on his efforts.

"I'm doing the design teaching, but really this is a capstone design," he said. "If the other faculty in chemistry and chemical engineering or the other subjects aren't doing a great job I don't have anything to work with. I can't start from scratch." ■



## 'Patron Saint of the Faculty'

Dr. John J. McKetta Jr., BSCE 1937, holds a proclamation by Trine University faculty naming him "patron saint of the faculty," presented to him on behalf of the university by Dr. Tom Tierney, professor emeritus of English at Trine, on Sept. 8. He went on to serve on the energy and environmental boards of five United States presidents and the boards of directors of six companies, and was named the Outstanding Engineering Educator in the United States. In 1988, he established the McKetta Teaching Awards because of Trine University's influence on his education and career. McKetta also held an essential role as one of the few faculty voices on the Trine University Board of Trustees, serving as a trustee for 50 years. ■

## Laker named dean of new CGPS



Trine University has merged its Graduate School and School of Professional Studies into the new College of Graduate and Professional Studies (CGPS) under the leadership of Craig Laker as dean.

"This new structure will enable much stronger academic and administrative coordination between the university's main and branch campuses, and its graduate programs," said A. Allen Hersel, Ph.D., vice president for academic affairs. "It will allow us to streamline operations and work more efficiently to serve our growing population of graduate and adult students."

Laker, associate professor in the Department of Criminal Justice, Psychology and Social Sciences, had served as dean of the Jannen School of Arts & Sciences since 2013.

"I'm very excited for the opportunity to promote and advance the new College of Graduate and Professional Studies," Laker said. "I look forward to expanding the opportunities for our adult learners in the undergraduate and graduate programs offered here at Trine."

"As dean of the Jannen School of Arts and Sciences, Craig has worked closely with Trine's graduate and professional programs in the past," said Hersel. "His existing relationships make him ideally positioned to build stronger links between Trine's main campus and its branches."

A Fort Wayne native, Laker joined Trine in 1999 as an assistant professor in the Department of Criminal Justice, Psychology and Social Sciences and became chairman of the department in 2002. ■

## Swick named associate dean for health sciences school



Catherine Swick, Ph.D., has been named associate dean for the Rinker-Ross School of Health Sciences at Trine University.

The naming of the new school was announced at a groundbreaking ceremony for the Best Hall expansion last summer.

Swick has led Trine University's Department of Exercise Science to significant enrollment growth and received the Prof. Gerald H. Moore Overall Excellence in Teaching Award from Trine University in 2013. She has extensive global health experience in Asia and Europe, presenting at the University of Madrid on Best Practices in Global Health in 2015 and creating and delivering a 2014 MOOC on Global

Wellness in the E-World. She serves on the Physical Therapy Advisory Board and is advisor to the Health Science Association, and is a member of the American College of Sports Medicine and the International Health and Wellness Society.

"I am excited about the new Rinker-Ross School of Health Sciences at Trine University," she said. "We are entering a new era for northeast Indiana with a state-of-the-art building, new science labs and cutting-edge programs in the health science area including chemistry, biochemistry, biology, forensic science, exercise science, pre-med, pre-physical therapy and pre-physician assistant. I am proud to work with a dedicated group of outstanding faculty, students and staff in the Rinker-Ross School of Health Sciences." ■

new faces, new places

## Nicholls named dean for Jannen School



Amy Nicholls, chair and assistant professor of the Department of Humanities and Communication, has been named dean for the Jannen School of Arts and Sciences at Trine University.

Nicholls will oversee five departments – Mathematics, Informatics and Physics; Criminal Justice, Psychology and Social Studies; Music; English as a Second Language; and Humanities and Communication.

"I'm excited about the opportunity to be an advocate for the Jannen School of Arts and Sciences, for general education and for the majors and the programs of our school," Nicholls said. "I hope I can continue in the same spirit as Craig Laker and model my position after what he has done." ■

## Kline to head Trine education



Anthony Kline, Ph.D., has been named dean for the Franks School of Education at Trine University.

Kline has served as an assistant professor in the Franks School since 2013. Prior to working at Trine, he was a faculty instructor and later assistant professor in the Department of Elementary Education at Ball State University, and an elementary teacher at The Orchard School in Indianapolis.

He has given presentations on teaching at local, state and national levels and co-authored three articles in scholarly publications.

"It is an honor to lead the next chapter of the Franks School of Education," he said. "The profession of education plays such an important role in society, as we all can fondly recall special teachers who supported, challenged and inspired us to be better both in and out of the classroom. At Trine University, our teacher preparation program is driven to prepare each of our graduates to be the next generation of passionate educators who will positively impact and shape the lives of students."

"Teacher education has been central to Trine's mission since we were established more than 130 years ago, and we are committed to being a leader in its transformation," said A. Allen Hersel, Ph.D., vice president for academic affairs. "Anthony is the ideal person to lead us in training the educators of the 21st century." ■



## Trine names Jacobs men's head soccer coach

Trine University has named David Jacobs head coach of its men's soccer team.

Jacobs most recently served as head coach at Ancilla College in Plymouth, Indiana. While at Ancilla, Jacobs led the Chargers to their first outright Michigan Community College Athletic Association title in program history. Jacobs went on to lead the team to a semifinal appearance in the National Junior College Athletic Association Men's Soccer National Tournament and an overall record of 18-2 this past season.

"I'm excited for the opportunity to make an impact at Trine University," Jacobs said. "I'm looking forward to changing the trajectory of the program and creating a winning culture on the field, in the classroom and in the community."

In addition to his time at Ancilla, Jacobs has head coaching experience at both the high school and club levels, as well as assistant coaching stops at Bethel College and Judson University. Jacobs also played goalkeeper in professional organizations in the United States and Mexico. ■

Read more faculty news at [trine.edu/news](http://trine.edu/news).







## Trine Giving Day raises more than \$88,000

Trine University's second annual Giving Day, held Nov. 17, raised \$88,206 with 351 gifts made to the university.

The total represents more than a 17 percent increase in funds raised from last year, given by 20 percent more donors.

"We are grateful for the generosity of the many alumni, friends, employees, Trine parents and even students who supported Trine University as part of the annual Giving Day, especially those who made an extra effort to encourage support for the event," said Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D., Trine president. "Each gift, no matter how large or small, makes a difference in lives of students who benefit from a quality education at Trine."

Giving Day was a virtual, 24-hour challenge to benefit many programs on campus. Gifts could be directed to the student scholarship fund or any area on campus, and were made by alumni, current and retired faculty and staff, parents, friends and 35 current Trine students.

An honor roll of those who supported Giving Day is at [trine.edu/givingday](http://trine.edu/givingday).

Those who missed Giving Day 2016 may still support Trine financially by going to [trine.edu/give](http://trine.edu/give) or calling 844.665.GIVE. ■

## Trine forms Eberhardt Environmental and Community Outreach Center

Trine University has launched the Art Eberhardt Environmental and Community Outreach Center to coordinate the university's sustainability efforts and help provide student volunteers for environmental efforts.

"By having a hub like this, people will know where to go and things can be more organized," said Brandy DePriest, director of the new center and assistant professor in Trine's Department of Humanities and Communication. "By having one center, we will have a stronger connection with the community and departments across campus."

Eberhardt, who served as professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer



Engineering at Tri-State College/University from 1952 to 1990, coordinated the first Earth Day on the campus of Tri-State College on April 22, 1970. A citation from the university

naming Eberhardt as professor emeritus noted his "leadership in and dedication to environmental concerns."

The center will be housed in the Department of Humanities and Communication. For more information, visit [trine.edu/ecocenter](http://trine.edu/ecocenter). ■

# THE RUNNING DEAD

## Trine helps host first Zombie 5K

An event co-sponsored by Trine University's Centreville (Michigan) Education Center used the undead to help make life better for its community.

Trine Centreville partnered with Glen Oaks Community College to host the first St. Joseph County United Way Zombie 5K Run as a fall and community service outreach event.

The Zombie 5K was held Oct. 22 on the Glen Oaks campus, where Trine is also located.

About 60 runners participated, and a total of \$3,847 was raised for the St. Joseph County United Way through runner entrance fees and sponsorships from area businesses. ■

## Space Grant Consortium aids Trine students with scholarships, competition grant

The Indiana Space Grant Consortium (INSGC) awarded scholarships to six Trine University students and provided a grant for Trine students to participate in a national aircraft design competition.

Blake Trusty, a sophomore chemical engineering major from Fremont; Nicole Walters, a senior chemical engineering major from Sunbury, Ohio; Allison McCrady, a freshman biomedical engineering major from Lancaster, Ohio; Caroline Hipskind, a sophomore mechanical engineering major from Fort Wayne; Laura Rosekrans, a senior biology major from Williamson, Michigan; and Kaethe Henke, a senior design engineering technology major from Davenport, Iowa, each received a \$1,500 scholarship from the Indiana Space Grant Consortium (INSGC) for study at Trine during the 2016-17 school year.

It is the largest number of students Trine has had win INSGC scholarships. A total of 15 Trine students have received the scholarships over the past five years.

"The fact that the Indiana Space Grant Consortium chose to award these additional scholarships speaks volumes about the fantastic students we have here at Trine University," said James Canino, Ph.D., associate professor in the Wade Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering.

To qualify, students must be attending an INSGC affiliate institution, be a U.S. citizen, enrolled in good standing as an undergraduate throughout the scholarship period and major in a science, technology, engineering or mathematics (STEM) discipline or STEM education.

INSGC also awarded Canino \$5,000 to cover travel expenses for Trine students to compete in the 2017 AIAA Design Build Fly competition in Tucson, Arizona.

Student teams will design, build and demonstrate the flight capabilities of an unmanned, electric-powered, radio-controlled aircraft that can best meet specified parameters of range, payload and speed.

"This will give our students the opportunity to compete against some of the best aerospace programs in the country and show them what Trine students can do," Canino said.

The Indiana Space Grant Consortium was created in 1991 under NASA's National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program. The Space Grant national network includes organizations working to expand opportunities for Americans to learn about and participate in NASA's aeronautics and space projects by supporting and enhancing science and engineering education, research and public outreach efforts. ■



## Elementary students learn about college opportunities at Trine

With Disney music playing from a football field public address system on a warm first day of the fall, about 1400 elementary school students from LaGrange and Steuben counties learned about some of the opportunities they have after high school.

The students were on Shive Field at Trine University on Sept. 22 for "Walk into My Future," an annual event through LaGrange County Promise and Steuben County Promise that introduces children to the idea of a college education. Second-graders from Westview Community Schools, Lakeland Community Schools and Prairie Heights Community Schools in LaGrange County participated in the morning, and first- through third-graders from the Metropolitan School District of Steuben County, Fremont Community Schools and Hamilton Community Schools were part of an afternoon session.

As Trine mascot Storm walked among the groups, students learned what causes a boat to float and built their own boat, learned how to count in other languages from international students at Trine, hit golf balls with instruction from golf management students and learned about entrepreneurship by trying to come up with their own invention and "sell" it to Trine students, among other activities.

Casey Weimer, director of Cole Center Family YMCA in Kendallville, said the hope is that through the activities at "Walk into My Future" and talking to Trine students, elementary students will be introduced to the idea of education after high school and get a taste of what college is like. ■

## Trine student honored by business society

A Trine University student has earned a scholarship from the Delta Mu Delta International Honor Society in Business, the third year in a row a Trine student has qualified for an award from the organization.

Brian LeGalley of Bowling Green, Ohio, was selected to receive a Regional Award, presented each year to an outstanding student in business. He received \$500 from the organization for the honor.

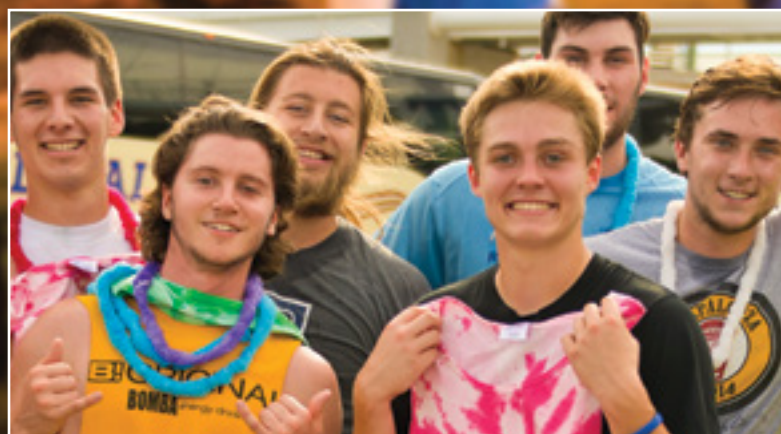
LeGalley is a junior majoring in accounting.

"We are proud of Brian's accomplishments and this well-deserved recognition of his hard work and dedication to his academic career," said Toby Swick, dean of the Ketner School of Business at Trine University. "We are also pleased that for the third straight year a student from the Ketner School of Business has received a Delta Mu Delta scholarship. We know we have outstanding students, but the external recognition validates the hard work of our students and faculty. These awards help motivate our students and strengthen the KSB brand." ■



Read more campus news at [trine.edu/news](http://trine.edu/news).





# CAMPUS VIBE GROWING AT TRINE

It's an overcast but still warm-enough September day. As the smell of a hog roast wafts through the air, Trine University students wearing pastel-colored beach shirts – joined by faculty and staff — listen to the music of the group Island Vibe, enjoy fruity treats, play sand volleyball and run, belly flop and even backflip into the nearby water.

But this tropical paradise isn't on some Hawaiian island or even at nearby Pokagon State Park. "Trine Beach" is right on the university's main campus, set up on the lawn of the Rick L. and Vicki L. James University Center.

The university's first Beach Bash is one of many ways Trine hopes to build on the vibrancy of the campus community, according to Randy White, vice president for student services.

"Our goal is to see happy students on campus with a lot of smiles, where students really have engaged in our activities and therefore back into the university," he said.

Hundreds of students have attended events like the Beach Bash as well as new and enhanced events during Week of Welcome and Homecoming. A number of smaller-scale events also have added to campus life, from a day with miniature golf holes set up throughout campus to Musical Jeopardy, which was won by a team of faculty.

"The events are not only student-driven, but they involve the entire campus," White said. "The campus is a better place to be, regardless of if you're a student, faculty or staff member."

The drive to enhance community has even brought changes to the physical campus. The fire pit has been moved outside the University Center and converted to burn wood, allowing events with s'mores and other campfire trappings to be held weekly. A new gazebo has been added, providing a place for students to study or sit outdoors.

"I've heard that already this year there's been one wedding proposal that was accepted in the gazebo," White said.

"I feel like our campus culture has changed tremendously since I arrived in 2013," said senior Ryleigh Gordon. "Student Services has done a wonderful job ensuring that there are a variety of events that we can be involved in." ■





# Students, alumni, parents Celebrate Good Times

More than 400 alumni joined students, parents, faculty and staff for Homecoming and Family Weekend 2016: Celebrate Good Times, Sept. 30 to Oct. 2.

Homecoming celebrations began for students during the week, with the following groups emerging victorious in the Thunder Games:

- Sidewalk Painting – Multicultural Student Organization
- Banner Design – Gamma Phi Epsilon
- Sand Volleyball – Fiesta Pantaloons
- Dodgeball – Sigma Phi Epsilon
- Pie Eating - Acacia
- Lip Sync Battle – Men's Lacrosse
- Tour de Trine - Kappa Sigma/  
Kappa Sigma Alpha

The weekend kicked off with a pep rally in Hershey Hall including about 600 students, faculty and staff. During the rally O'Shea Owens and Lucy Sare were crowned 2016 Homecoming king and queen.

The Thunder football team romped to a 62-19 win over Concordia (Ill.).

More than 120 Kappa Sigma brothers were on campus to celebrate the fraternity's 50th reunion charter year, and 67 Alpha Sigma Phi alumni were on campus for the dedication of the new house. The Alumni Cup went to Alpha Sigma Phi. ■



First lady Melanie Brooks, left, hosted the wives of Trine University trustees at her home during Homecoming.



Dominque Tonneas crosses the finish line at the Tour de Trine Tricycle Race.



From left, Samantha Ihrie, Paige Stark and Annie Phillips show their Trine spirit during Homecoming.



Jim Bock, 1954 alumnus, talks with his wife Joan during the Homecoming football game.



## Drs. Rick, Vicki James awarded Sagamore of the Wabash

From left, Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D., Dr. Vicki L. James, State Senator Dennis Kruse, State Representative Dennis Zent and Dr. Rick L. James.

Noted for their leadership in many community efforts throughout northeast Indiana as well as their longtime support of Trine University, Drs. Rick L. and Vicki L. James were presented the Sagamore of the Wabash award, the highest award bestowed by the governor of the state of Indiana, during the university's annual Touchstone and Homecoming Celebration Dinner on Sept. 30.

"Over the course of your lives you've been motivators to so many givers and transformers in your community. You've inspired a countless number of folks to pursue their passions with your philanthropic spirit behind it all," Indiana Lt. Gov. Eric Holcomb said in a recorded message. "Your spirit of giving is changing lives all across the region and the state is better off for it."

"They are inspirational, successful, creative, caring, compassionate and so much more," Trine President Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D., said of the couple. "They have been instrumental in infusing new life into Northeast Indiana, especially in Auburn and Angola, and to Trine University, Rick's alma mater. They are significant contributors to a variety of causes, and Indiana, especially Northeast Indiana, is fortunate that they have selected to remain engaged, supportive and dedicated to their region and community."

"We've been blessed in our lives with more than we could ever imagine," Rick James said in accepting the award, "and certainly our involvement with Trine University is one of those special blessings for both of us."

Rick James, a 1977 business administration graduate from Tri-State University, serves as chairman and CEO for Metal Technologies Inc. (MTI), a company he co-founded. He serves as chairman of Trine's Board of Trustees, of which he has been a member since 2010.

In 2012, Trine bestowed Rick with its highest honor, the Pillar of Success Award. He also previously received the Distinguished Service Award. In 2014, Vicki was honored with the university's Woman of Distinction Award. In 2013, Rick and Vicki both received honorary doctorates from Trine University.

Trine's University Center was named in honor of Rick and Vicki James in May 2012. They provide annual support to the Trine Fund and have financially supported The Metal Technologies Inc. Health and Fitness Center in Fred Zollner Athletic Stadium, a stadium suite in the Athletic Stadium and a flagpole near the football field, an additional house for use by Campus Christian House, the Jim and Joan Bock Center for Innovation and Biomedical Engineering, the T. Furth Center for Performing Arts, the Ford Hall renovation, Reiners Residence Hall, the expansion of Best Hall, and creation of the Books and Beyond Scholarship. They also led the way with a major gift for the recently announced Thunder Ice Arena and MTI Center.

The Sagamore of the Wabash was created during the term of Indiana Gov. Ralph Gates. It is a personal tribute usually given to those who have rendered distinguished service to the state or to the governor. ■

## University expands Invest in Excellence campaign

After raising more than \$80 million to fund scholarships, make significant campus improvements and grow its endowment, Trine University has announced the expansion of its Invest in Excellence Capital Campaign from its original \$75 million to \$125 million.

The campaign, which began in 2009, has raised more than \$84 million, about 66 percent of the final goal.

The expanded campaign seeks to raise a total of \$30 million for the Trine Fund for operations and annual scholarships — double the amount of the original campaign — as well as \$20 million for the university endowment and \$75 million for capital projects. Projects that have been added to the expanded campaign include the new Thunder Ice Arena and MTI Center, and an expansion of Fawick Hall, home of the Allen School of Engineering & Technology. ■

### More awards

Read more about these awards given at the Touchstone and Homecoming Celebration Dinner at [trine.edu/news](http://trine.edu/news):



**Richard Oeder, 1965 BSCE**, an alumnus, trustee and longtime supporter of Trine University was surprised with the Pillar of Success award.

**Rita Nedele, 1973 BSGS**, a lifetime Angola resident, was honored with the Woman of Distinction Award.

Outstanding Achievement Award:  
**Cliff Ryan, 1966 BSBA**

Distinguished Service Award:  
**Edward R. Gerecke Jr., P.E., 1970 BSCE**

Distinguished Service Young Alumnus/a Award:  
**James Sturgeon, 2002 BSME and Amanda Sturgeon, 2002 BSBIO**



# At the top of his game

## Trine alum leading NCAA men's basketball officials

For J.D. Collins, a Hoosier through and through, basketball is a natural part of life.

"I grew up in Indiana," he said, noting his family farm near Bluffton, Indiana — a bit over an hour from Trine University's main campus — had a basketball hoop on the side of the barn similar to the movie *Hoosiers*.

Between that and a gift for resolving conflicts, the 1983 Tri-State University graduate is in his natural element as NCAA national coordinator of men's basketball officiating, a position he was named to in 2015.

It's light years away from the family farm — even though his current home in Hartford City, Indiana, is little more than a half hour away from that farm — and the journey began with high school teachers who encouraged him to expand his horizons.

"As many of us do, I had people who pressed us to do more, try more. I had teachers in high school who pressed me to get a college education, and I had the internal drive to be the very best I could be," he said. "I wanted to try other things and Tri-State was the vehicle that gave me that opportunity."

Arriving at the Angola campus, he found new opportunities and the ability to form connections with people from diverse backgrounds and cultures.

"Tri-State was the first opportunity where the world opened to me. It was my first step out," he said. "Nothing was off the table. I think Tri-State offered the starting point to become whomever you wanted to be. Things were made available for you to consider. Nothing after that really scared me."

He said the whole community at Tri-State encouraged him toward excellence.

"At Tri-State everyone pushes you in that direction — fellow classmates, the people you live with in the dorm and the guys I ran track with," he said. "All of us were trying to better ourselves. All of them had a piece in bringing me a step forward."

Though his basketball playing career had continued through high school, he opted

to run track instead at Tri-State. However, he took an officiating class taught by then-basketball Coach Dick Hack, applying for a state high school officiating license as part of the class and then refereeing intramural games at Tri-State.

After he graduated with his associate's degree in drafting and design he began working in the engineering department at Hartford Concrete Products, owned by fellow Tri-State alumnus Bill Schantz 1944 DDT.

But the refereeing continued on the side. Collins refereed high school basketball for three years, then spent the next several years doing small-college basketball before moving to NCAA Division I, where he was an official for 19 years.

"It was a part-time add-on. It was a juggling act taking care of my responsibilities at work and officiating at a high level," he said, noting that he paid a friend to fly him in a private twin-engine plane to referee games around the nation.

He said that even though officiating involves working as a team, he was still drawn by the competition it involves.

"Even the guys who referee high school ball, there's a competitive nature. You want to get better games and the state tournaments," he said.

"Beyond that, I learned I had skills in conflict resolution. I enjoyed finding ways to build relationships in an adversarial situation, trying to build relationships with the coaches and doing my job to the best of my ability."

In the meantime, his career at Hartford Concrete also was taking flight. He advanced into sales and then sales management, then sales and marketing and then became vice president. In 1996, the employees purchased the company from Schantz under an employee stock ownership program and Collins was named president and CEO.

"The progression of my career at Hartford Concrete mirrors my refereeing," he said.

"I am always trying to provide excellence."

In 2006, Hartford Concrete was sold to a large firm and Collins retired from his work there, turning to refereeing full-time until a knee injury during the 2009-2010 season forced him off the floor.

He went to work on the administrative side, serving as a consultant to the Big Ten Conference men's basketball officiating program and becoming officiating coordinator for the Summit League and the Mid-American Conference before being tapped for the NCAA position.

He said there are two main focuses to his job. The most obvious is to identify, select and advance the 100 best officials in the country to referee the NCAA tournament. Collins works with four assistants to observe games starting in November through February.

"My job is to advance (officials) through the tournament based on performance," he said.

His first priority, he said, is to influence how the game is called on a daily basis. That means working with coordinators and officials on how they call the games, and educating fans and media on the rules of college basketball.

"It's a teaching and training position," he said. "Relationships and impacting people is in everything I do, and I hope I influence them in a positive way."

His long-term goal, he said, is for the NCAA to be a model for basketball officiating.

"I want people to look at college basketball officiating and say, 'these guys are the best in the world,'" he said. "To me that is obtainable. We can become the standard that people look to."

He gives credit for his success to his wife of 32 years, Jenny (Sprunger) Collins, a 1984 TSU grad who is now an associate professor at Taylor University working on her Ph.D.

"She's the better half," he said. "She's the real deal; I'm just a farm boy trying to do good." ■





# Trine grad making waves in midget racing

For Jessica Bean, 2012 BSM, there is nothing like being behind the wheel of a race car.

“I’m a competitive person and a little bit of an adrenaline junkie,” she said. “I love the competitive nature of racing.”

Bean finished her second season racing for Radical Race Gear in the USAC Eastern Midget Series, an open-wheel midget race car series based on the East Coast, in October, placing third in the standings. Her season highlights included becoming the first woman to win a race at Carteret County (North Carolina) Speedway, which opened in September 2015.

She started racing at age 12, after watching her younger brother race for a year.

“I got bored with sitting on the sidelines watching him, so I gave it a try and I’ve been racing ever since,” she said.

She won her first seven races in the Novice division of Quarter Midgets. During her six years racing Quarter Midgets, she claimed six track championships and more than 60 feature wins, posting three track records.

Although she enjoyed the “competition and the adrenaline rush,” her family couldn’t afford to finance her career beyond Quarter Midgets, so she took some time off, and in the meantime, enrolled at Trine.

“The plan all along was to go to college and try to race along the way,” she said. “Three things brought me to Trine. In high school I did track and field, and when I had the opportunity to run track at Trine it was hard to turn down. Second, I was very impressed with Trine’s education program and staff, which was my original major. And finally, I liked the small class sizes and personal touch at Trine.”

Even though she wasn’t racing, she still continued to go to the track with her father, where they helped friends who were racing at the next level. After about a year and a half away from racing, her boss from her summer job at a local trophy shop found someone who had a midget car but no driver.



“We were able to put a test together and agreed to run a handful of races that same summer,” she said. “Since then and for the past eight years I have been racing midgets in various parts of the country.”

In the middle of the 2010 season Kenyon Midget Series owner and car owner Don Kenyon called Bean and asked her to drive some races, and the next season she drove for him full-time, winning Rookie of the Year honors and the 2011 Series Championship.

“Balancing racing with college wasn’t as hard as it may seem. The majority of the races are during the summer months. And midget races are typically scheduled on Friday and Saturday nights,” she said.

After graduating from Trine she looked at several job leads and graduate school, but nothing came together, so she returned to the trophy shop and racing. As the summer ended, a friend asked her to visit North Carolina.

“I never made it back to Indiana full-time,” she said. “I got a job working for Radical Race Gear, which makes driver’s uniforms, crew uniforms and such.”

She said her business classes at Trine have been key in both her racing career and her job at Radical Race Gear, where she serves as an executive partner, with responsibilities in product development, product design, shipping, sales and more.

“Every business class I took at Trine has helped me with the business side of racing,” she said. “Before taking business-related classes I had very little understanding about the business world, but I knew that I would need to grasp the business of the racing world to attract sponsors and teams. The amount of knowledge I gained about the business world while at Trine could never be replaced. Not only has it helped me to attract sponsors but it has allowed me to be a large part of a growing company.”

She plans to return to the USAC Eastern Midget Series next year and compete for a championship, but said she is always looking for opportunities in other series. If she wins five more races in the USAC, she will become the winningest female in series history.

Once her racing career is done, she’s not sure where she’ll head next.

“My life has been revolving around racing for so many years that it’s hard to imagine life without it,” she said. “Once I hang up the helmet I’d like to continue being involved in the racing community in some shape or form. Exactly what I’ll do when that time comes is unknown to me at this point. I’m enjoying my time behind the wheel while I can.” ■

For updates on Jessica Bean’s racing career, follow her on Twitter @JessicaBean3 or on Facebook @JessicaBeanRacing.



# 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 Racheal Benner at [bennerr@trine.edu](mailto:bennerr@trine.edu).

Join Trine’s alumni Facebook group at [www.facebook.com/groups/TrineUniversityAlumni/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/TrineUniversityAlumni/)

## 1940s

**Susanna B. Schreiber, 1942 ASEC**, was one of four Bayman sisters to attend Tri-State. She married **Al Schreiber Sr., 1948 BSME**, and is the mother of **Al Schreiber Jr., 1972 BSBA**.

**Lloyd Thompson, 1949 BSCE**, has passed his company, Border States Paving Inc., on to his children. The company does asphalt paving in North Dakota, South Dakota and Minnesota.

## 1950s

**William D. Jones Sr., 1955 BSCE**, enjoys using ham radio; his call letters are N8GGV. He also enjoys reading about Trine University and viewing university videos on YouTube.

**Sidney Miller, 1956 BSChE**, is planning a reunion for the members of the Beta Sigma Tau Fraternity for Homecoming 2017. He looks forward to seeing his fellow fraternity brothers.

**William Saunders, 1958 BSChE**, has been



enjoying retirement since December 2012. He and his wife Anne recently visited the Trine University campus for the first time since he graduated in 1958.

**Kenneth Shelton, 1959 BSME**, originated the electric bi-fold door system for General Aviation. He started a manufacturing company specializing in aircraft hangars and door systems. His company supplies product in all 50 states and internationally, to military, private and government agencies. Kenn is currently retired but the corporation still provides the majority of product to General Aviation.

## 1960s

**Pete Durocher, 1961 BSME**, and his wife, Mary, celebrated 50 years of marriage on Oct. 15, 2016.

**Teddis Dumbauld, 1962 BSME**, lives in Charlevoix, Michigan, and winters in Sun City, Arizona. He and his wife of 58 years, Marilyn, have four children and 13 grandchildren. They recently visited the Trine campuses in Angola and Peoria, Arizona. Ted is proud to be a Tri-State/Trine alumnus. God bless students, staff and administrators.

**William Dennison, 1963 BSBA**, and his wife Brenda will celebrate 55 years of marriage in June 2017. They enjoy visiting with fellow alumni **Ronald Calvin, 1963 BSBA**, and **Edward Schendel, 1964 BSBA**, at their lake homes in varied states; they have also taken two group cruises together. Life gets shorter, friends are longer!

**Jon Jebb, 1963 BSME**, resides in Winter Haven, Florida, where he enjoys watching Trine baseball when the team visits for preseason tournaments. He spent his career as a plan engineering manager at Ford Motor Company thanks to the education he received

from Trine many years ago. He is proud of his Trine education.

**Lellan “Mac” McFarland, 1963 BSAE**, serves as treasurer at MAPS Air Museum at CAK and volunteers at numerous nonprofit organizations. He is still the proud owner of a ‘66 Mustang Fastback, ‘67 Mustang convertible and a C5 corvette.

**J. Leland Kallmyer, 1964 BSEE**, is employed full-time as an electrical engineer at Airtex Construction Inc., at 75 years young.

**Jim Morley Sr., 1965 BSCE**, has stepped down as president of Morley and Associates, where he served as president for 40 years. While his son has taken over the role of president, Jim remains the chairman of the board and reports to work every day.

**William Rank, 1966 BSME**, retired from Delphi/GMC in February 2001 as a product supervisor. He went to work for S&K Technologies until 2009, where he analyzed the corrosion and fatigue of aluminum in military aircraft. He and his wife Virginia are fully retired, enjoying volunteer work and traveling.

**Arthur Taylor, 1966 BSEE**, is currently working to find a publisher for his nonfiction book titled “The Imminent Space Elevator Ride to Orbit.” He resides in Orlando, Florida, with his wife of 32 years, Olga.

**John “Jack” Bell, 1969 BSME**, sold his company, Midwest Plastics Systems, and fully retired. He moved from Troy, Ohio, to Loveland, Ohio, to be closer to family. He and his wife split time between Ohio and their home in St. Petersburg, Florida.

—continued



1960s

Jack Nickels, 1967 BSChE, was a member of



the 42-voice St. Anthony Camerata Chorale Festival Choir. The choir toured three cities in Italy and performed during the Papal Mass at St. Peter’s Basilica on Jan. 3, 2016.

1970s

Steve LaHood, BSBA 1970, and his wife Wendy



enjoyed a European vacation with fellow alumni **Brian McNamara, 1970 BSBA**, and **Frank Hall, 1970 BSBA**, and their wives Deb McNamara and Beth Hall. They spent several days in France and then enjoyed a riverboat cruise down the Danube from Nuremberg to Budapest. The guys reminisced about their time together at Tri-State; the wonderful college time together. It never gets old telling tales!

**Robert Hindley, 1971 BSME**, retired in 2015 from PPL Montana as a power plant maintenance manager. He is now enjoying the outdoor life in Montana.

**Scott Jones, 1971 BSEE**, is a registered PE in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Pennsylvania. He formerly held registrations in South Dakota, Iowa and New Mexico.

**Raymond T. White Jr., 1971 BSChE**, is enjoying retirement.

**Dale Davenport, 1972 BSME**, is the process and facilities engineer at Molex, Tampa Bay. He and his team were recently recognized by the Florida Public Service Commission with the Triple E Award for Energy Efficiency Efforts during National Energy Awareness Month. Over the past decade Molex has implemented many energy conservation projects, which have equated to a 50 percent reduction (\$500,000) in annual energy costs.

**Mel Budreau, 1977 BSBA**, and his wife of 35 years, Vicki, moved full-time to Lake James in Fremont, Indiana, in 2010. Mel spent 23 years as a successful agent for Prudential before starting his own financial services company, Budreau Financial Inc., in 2002. Mel and Vicki have three children and are expecting their seventh grandchild in the near future. Besides spending time with their family, Mel and Vicki enjoy boating with family and friends on the Lake James chain of lakes.

**Bruce Heyman, 1979 BSEE**, is the executive director of Los Angeles Maritime Institute, a nonprofit organization that provides opportunities for LA’s underserved youth.

Linda (Piersimoni) VandenBosch, 1979 ASEC,



married John VandenBosch on Oct. 27, 2015. In April 2016 she finished a Bachelor of Science in organizational leadership at Goshen College, Goshen, Indiana. On July 1, 2016, she was promoted to associate dean of admission at Goshen College.

1980s

**Michael Keene, 1980 BSCE**, was recently named acting president of Syncom Space Services LLC (S3). S3 is a joint venture between PAE and BWX technologies that provides facility support services to NASA.

**Jorge Betancourt, 1981 BSME**, and **Maria (Valery), 1981 BSSS**, reside in Caracas, Venezuela. Maria is a political activist with Voluntad Popular, a political party that is fighting the Chaves-Maduro Communist regime in Venezuela. Jorge was recent awarded the “N°1 by MARAVEN”, former PDVSA affiliate company, for high productivity: balancing equipment on site.

**Bruce Price, 1982 BSBA**, and his wife **Mary Kay, 2000 BAM**, recently relocated to a different area of Noblesville, Indiana.

**Jim Decker, BSCE 1983**, plans examiner, city of Mentor, Ohio, Building Department, has been elected as president of the Building Officials Conference of Northeast Ohio (BOCONEO). This position also, by default, names Jim as a director (voting member) of the Ohio Building Officials Association (OBOA). Both organizations are chartered to offer state-mandated continuing education courses for building officials, plans examiners, building inspectors, engineers and architects. Both boards also offer policy opinions as to the development of Ohio’s State Building Codes, which are based on the International Code Council series of building codes. Jim is happily married with two adult children.

**Pam Schmidt, 1983 BSBA**, celebrated 25 years with Johnson & Johnson. She is currently a senior executive specialist for Janssen pharmaceutical.

**Byron “Burne” Miller, 1984 BSCE**, a member of the Elkhart Morning Rotary Club since 2003, was awarded the Rotary Foundations “Citation for Meritorious Service” in 2016 by Rotary International.

**Mahmoud Farawi, 1988 BSCE**, is employed by Skanska USA, building since 2004. He resides in Raleigh, North Carolina.

1990s

**Celeste “Ann” Vrablic, 1991 BSBA**, is serving her second term as Branch County treasurer in Coldwater, Michigan.

**Abdulaziz Ali Al-Fehaid, 1993 BSME**, appreciates his TSU experience. His education is a great honor and something he will cherish for life.

—continued

1990s

**Danielle Bash, 1998 BSBA**, moved to Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, where she works as a financial management officer at the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the U.S. government agency primarily responsible for administering civilian foreign aid. She will be on assignment in Tanzania until summer 2019. Prior to serving in Tanzania, Danielle was assigned to Dhaka, Bangladesh.

**Seth Kramer, 1999 BSCS**, has participated in 100 lifetime marathon or longer races.

2000s

**Corey Pressler, 2001 BSCE**, accepted a new job at the Indiana Department of Transportation in Vincennes, Indiana, as a highway engineer. He also volunteers at the George Rogers Clark National Historic Park in Vincennes.

**Michael Reinhold, 2005 BSCJ**, has collaborated with Golden, Colorado-based knife company, Spyderco, on his custom knife design, the Reinhold Rhino. The knife will be on the market in the near future. Michael and his wife **Lindsay (Hohenberger), 2005 BASS**, live at Crooked Lake, Indiana, along with their Maltese dog, Poppy.

**Tyler Benner, 2008 BSBA**, changed career paths after working in the Office of Admission at Trine University for eight years. He serves as an agent at Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance. He and his wife **Racheal, BSCJ 2012 MSL 2014**, reside in Fremont, Indiana, with their sons, Ashland, 10, and Graeme, 3.

**Stephanie Dowe, 2008 BAEN**, and her husband Justin welcomed their first child, a girl, Finley Jeane Dowe, on June 26, 2016. They reside in Zionsville, Indiana.

**Leslie Wilson, 2008 BSBA**, was recently promoted to deputy director of finance administration for the city of Three Rivers, Michigan.

2010s

**Derek Marucci, 2011 BSCE**, recently celebrated one year of living in Dallas and working at L.A. Fuess Partners. He graduated from the University of Cincinnati’s Graduate Civil Engineering program in December 2015 with an MSCE.

Austin Hamsher, 2010 BSBA, proposed to



his girlfriend Stephanie Meyers during her graduation ceremony from Indiana University South Bend. They were married Dec. 31, 2016.

Jarred McCain, 2010 BSEE, and Kerri (Fish),



**2013 BSBA**, welcomed their son, Desmond McCain, on April 11, 2016. They recently relocated to West Point, Mississippi, where Jarred is a senior controls

engineer at Yokohama Tire.

**Holly Holewa, 2011 BSBIO**, recently accepted a position working for the Diagnostic Center for Population and Animal Health at Michigan State University.

**Lauren (Phillips) Maxson, 2011 BSBA**, earned her Juris Doctor degree from Notre Dame Law School in May 2016. She is an associate at Yoder, Ainlay, Ulmer & Buckingham in Goshen, Indiana.

**Amy Van Bonn, 2012 BSCRJ/BSPSY**, graduated from the University of Michigan School of Social Work with a Master in Social Work in April 2016.

**Derrick Gray, 2013 BSINF**, is now a disaster recovery specialist for Roche Diagnostics in Fishers, Indiana.

Alaina (Cowgill) Turner, 2010 BSBA, and her



husband Nathan welcomed their first child, a boy, Jameson Alfred Paul Turner, who weighed 11 lbs., 2 oz. and was 23 1/2 inches long.

Mike Huesman, 2013 BSET, and Kayla (Reno),



**2013 BSCJ**, were married in March 2016. They reside in Anderson, Indiana, where Kayla is employed by the Department of Child Services and Mike is employed as a mechanical design engineer at Progress Rail in Muncie.

**Shelby Thornburg, 2013 BSPSY**, graduated from Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law in May 2016. She sat for and passed the Indiana Bar Exam in July 2016, and was admitted to the Indiana Bar and the northern and southern United States District Courts of Indiana on Oct. 11, 2016.

**Jeffrey Schnipke, 2014 BSCE**, recently relocated and changed careers; he is employed by EL Robinson Engineering in Columbus, Ohio, as a field engineer.

—continued



Tim Thielka, 2013 BSCE, and his wife Kristie



(Davis), BSPSY 2011, have lived in Charleston, South Carolina, for the past three years. As Tim completed his time at Trine, he entered the U.S. Navy through the NUPOC program and became an Instructor at the Nuclear Power School, teaching Heat Transfer and Fluid Flow. He received a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal and recently was named Instructor of the Year. In December 2016, Tim completed his Master of Science in Civil Engineering degree from Ohio University. Kristie has mainly worked from home for a local doctor’s office while raising their son, Landon, who is now 3 years old. In 2015, she gave birth to a little girl she carried for a couple as a gestational carrier. In 2016, she returned to work in the office for the same medical practice. Tim and Kristie celebrated their five-year wedding anniversary on July 2, 2016.

**Ryan Schreiner, 2014 BSEIEd**, relocated to Kansas City, Kansas, after earning his master’s degree from Dordt College. He teaches eighth-grade geometry and algebra at Wood Middle School in the Kansas City public system.

**Stephanie Carson, 2015 BSGM**, began working at the Quechee Club as the second assistant golf professional. The Quechee Club is a premier private golf and ski resort in Vermont.

Colby Parks, 2014 BACOM, and Jessica (Roberts),



**2014 BACOM**, were married Sept. 24, 2016.

**Haley Agard, 2016 BSCJ/BSPSY**, is pursuing an MBA in marketing from Indiana Institute of Technology.

Zach Carder, 2015 BSME, and Kyla (Dietrich)



**2015 BSChE**, welcomed their first child, Averie Jean Carder, born Oct. 11. She was 6 lbs., 11 oz. and 19 inches long. The family resides in Greenfield, Indiana.

**Michael Anderson, 2016 BSCE**, accepted a position with the Jackson County Department of Transportation in Jackson, Michigan.

**Hallie Roof-Hildreth, 2016 BSDET**, started working at General Motors in Warren, Michigan, as a designer, creating models in NX9 after graduation. She is a track and field coach at Warren Woods Middle School.

**Catherine Wheaton, 2016 BAM**, recently relocated to the Kansas City, Missouri, area. She is excited for the career opportunities that are in the area and is looking forward to putting her Trine education to work.

Read more alumni stories at [trine.edu/news](http://trine.edu/news).

# Hill receives Meritorious Service Citation

A Trine University alumnus who serves as a patrolman for the Fort Wayne Police Department was recognized with a Meritorious Service Citation during the department’s annual awards ceremony last year.

Clint Hill, BSCJ 2001, an officer with the FWPd for 11 years, heard a dispatch call for an EMS medical run. Even though he was not dispatched to the scene, he proceeded there and was the first to arrive.

Hill found the victim not breathing and without a pulse. He immediately began administering CPR and continued to do so until relieved by the fire department and medics.

The victim was later revived. The citation reads, “Officer Hill’s quick and professional actions were responsible for greatly increasing the victim’s chances of survival.” ■

# Sharkey named Indiana’s Outstanding County Highway Engineer

Jen Sharkey, 2007 BSCE, who serves as Steuben County Highway Engineer, was named the 2016 Outstanding County Highway Engineer by the Association of Indiana Counties.



The statewide award recognized her contributions made to county government.

Sharkey began with the Steuben County Highway Department in 2013. Steuben County was without a highway engineer for some time when Sharkey was appointed to lead the department and has led the county on a path of unprecedented growth in terms of upgrades and reconstruction of roads. ■

*Courtesy of The Herald Republican, Angola, Indiana*

# Meegan co-authors research on blood vessel inflammation

A 2013 Trine University graduate recently co-authored a research manuscript published in the journal, “Nature Communications.”

Jamie Meegan has been a part of the Ph.D. Program in Integrated Biomedical Sciences at the University of South Florida Morsani College of Medicine since shortly after graduating from Trine with her chemistry degree.

“The lab I work in focuses on better understanding the cellular and molecular regulation of cardiovascular function in health and disease,” she said. “In other words, we are trying to understand how and why blood vessels become damaged during disease, and explore new ways we can prevent or treat that damage.”

The manuscript covers research the lab did involving an enzyme called DHHC21 that is found in mammals. The researchers found that blocking the activity of the enzyme in mice and rats resulted in less damage to and less inflammation of the blood vessel lining, less damage to tissue and ultimately, a lower death rate. ■

# Trine University annual golf outing raises nearly \$100,000 for scholarships

Trine University supporters came together Aug. 5 on the links of Zollner Golf Course for fun, food and fundraising.

A total of 71 teams raised more than \$97,000 at the 26th Annual Alumni & Friends Scholarship Golf Outing, setting records for participation and total money raised at this event.

First place was won by Kappa Sigma alumni Alex Lorencz ’10, Shawn Floyd ’09, Andrew Leshner ’10 and Mat Iacobelli ’09. Second place was captured by a team representing the Risk Strategies Company. Auburn Concrete and Masonry came in third place.

The annual golf outing benefits the Trine Fund for student scholarships, which enables deserving students to earn a degree at Trine. The 2017 outing is scheduled for Aug. 4. ■



# Kappa Sigma Celebrates 50 Years

More than 130 Kappa Sigma Alumni, along with their wives and guests, joined the undergraduate brothers to celebrate 50 years of brotherhood at the Theta-Xi Chapter of Kappa Sigma Fraternity during Homecoming 2016. The weekend’s events began Friday morning with 16 brothers competing in the Annual University Cup Golf Outing at Zollner Golf Course. Saturday included the Annual House Corporation Business Meeting, with the presentation of scholarships to four undergraduate brothers from funds raised at last summer’s 11th Annual Sig Cup Golf Challenge. At halftime of the football game, seven of the 41 charter members who founded the Theta-Xi Chapter of Kappa Sigma in 1966 were recognized on the field by Trine University President Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D. Saturday afternoon and evening saw a large gathering at the Chapter House for a hog roast and reunion program.

# Send stories for Trine history book

**Author:** Dr. Tom Tierney, professor emeritus

**Expected publication date:** 2018

**Coverage:** Primarily from the millennium on; however, numerous sidebars and text boxes will dip into the past for “Did You Know?” items of interest.

- Needed from you:** The goal is to include as many stories of interest as possible:
- Have you or any of your classmates gone on to do great things?
  - Any quirky, funny anecdotes of memorable faculty, administration, staff or fellow students or events?
  - Any fond stories of your time here?
  - Are you especially grateful to the university for any particular part of your education?
  - Anything not covered here that would be of interest to the extended university family or would make us proud of the institution?

**Disclaimer:** Obviously not all stories will appear in the text. A History of the University website for great stories that don’t quite make the final cut is planned.

**How to submit:** Email [tierneyt@trine.edu](mailto:tierneyt@trine.edu). Use the word **History** somewhere in the subject line.



# IN MEMORIAM

(current as of Nov. 1, 2016)

## 1930s

**Otto G. Acker, 1937 BSAE**, Columbus, Ohio, Aug. 13, 2016  
**Wilma G. Wilhelm, 1938 ASEC**, Auburn, Indiana, Aug. 12, 2016

## 1940s

**John J. Lehman, 1940 BSCHE**, Fredericksburg, Texas, Sept. 13, 2016  
**Ramona Snyder Lowe, 1943, ASEC**, Angola, Indiana, Aug. 8, 2016  
**Virginia P. Brooksbank, 1944 ASEC**, Loudon, Tennessee, Aug. 9, 2016  
**Rev. Howard R. Quinn, 1944 BSAE**, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, July 19, 2015  
**Robert Reiland, 1944 BSAE**, North Palm Beach, Florida, July 9, 2016  
**Ned L. Benedict, 1946 BSME**, Westerville, Ohio, July 6, 2016  
**Michael L. Fantina, 1946 BSBA**, Basking Ridge, New Jersey, Sept. 27, 2016  
**Thomas H. Cape, 1947 BSME**, Battle Creek, Michigan, Feb. 21, 2016  
**Ronald F. Hansing, 1947 BSME**, Elkhart, Indiana, Aug. 9, 2016  
**Frank D. Krider, 1947 BSAE**, Tampa, Florida, Apr. 7, 2016  
**Paul W. McMahon, 1947 BSME**, Rome, New York, June 11, 2016  
**Edwin A. Anderson, 1949 BSME**, La Junta, Colorado, Sept. 30, 2016  
**Marion L. Shepard, 1949 BSME**, Washington, Indiana, May 26, 2016

## 1950s

**William L. Bergmann, 1950 BSME**, Sarasota, Florida, Aug. 21, 2016  
**Gail E. Davis, 1950 BSBA**, Corry, Pennsylvania, July 29, 2016  
**Wilbert E. Felton, 1950 BSEE**, Apollo, Pennsylvania, Sept. 11, 2016  
**Edgar F. Paski Sr., 1950 BSRE**, Downingtown, Pennsylvania, Nov. 20, 2015  
**William F. Thomas, 1950 BSAE**, Connersville, Indiana, Sept. 11, 2016  
**Robert M. Anthony, 1951 BSBA**, South Bend, Indiana, June 5, 2016  
**Joseph J. Dean, 1951 ADDT**, Greenwood, Indiana, Nov. 16, 2009  
**Guy D. Hunter, 1951 BSME**, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina, Aug. 15, 2016  
**Dominic Luppino, 1951 BSBA**, Akron, Ohio, July 30, 2016  
**Theodore R. Ruth, 1951 BSRE**, Mohnton, Pennsylvania, June 13, 2016  
**Charles N. Higginbotham, 1952 BSAE**, Indianapolis, Indiana, Sept. 28, 2016  
**Larry Lind, 1952 BSEE**, Auburn, Indiana, Aug. 4, 2016  
**Louis M. Personte, 1952 BSME**, Williamsburg, Virginia, Aug. 13, 2016  
**Charles W. Bowman, 1953 BSRE**, Pickerington, Ohio, Aug. 24, 2016  
**William F. Pett, 1953 BSME**, Chesterfield, Missouri, July 2, 2016  
**Jerome M. Simpson, 1953 BSEE**, Sarasota, Florida, July 9, 2016  
**Robert E. Stewart, 1953 BSCE**, Albany, New York, Aug. 10, 2016  
**Lewis J. Moliue, 1955 BSME**, Beloit, Wisconsin, May 10, 2016  
**Wayne E. Badders, 1956 BSME**, Hudson, Michigan, Sept. 25, 2016  
**Alvin V. Bilodeau, 1956 BSEE**, Culpeper, Virginia, July 30, 2016  
**Paul Van Etten, 1956 BSRE**, Clinton, New York, May 26, 2016

**James L. Dunnie, 1957 BSME**, The Villages, Florida, Oct. 11, 2016  
**Ora Geren, 1957 BSME**, Terre Du Lac, Ohio, Oct. 22, 2015  
**Gordon F. Karns, 1957 BSCE**, Marshall, Michigan, Aug. 8, 2016  
**Garrett W. Kruizenga, 1957 BSAE**, Kalamazoo, Michigan, Aug. 14, 2016  
**Ralph E. Milsom, 1957 BSME**, Bradenton, Florida, May 31, 2016  
**Jack B. Shank, 1957 BSCE**, Richmond, Indiana, Oct. 18, 2016  
**Bert K. Sisson, 1957 BSME**, Cadillac, Michigan, May 23, 2016  
**Robert H. Altwies, 1958 BSBA**, Port Richey, Florida, July 16, 2016  
**John J. Mulkern Jr., 1958 BSEE**, West Hartford, Connecticut, Aug. 8, 2016  
**Janet Ann (Jewson) Prebys, 1958 BSAE**, Phoenix, Arizona, Feb. 27, 2016  
**Eugene H. Scheffield, 1958 BSAE**, Bedford, Ohio, June 16, 2016  
**Donald L. Sharpe, 1958 BSCE**, Tremont, Illinois, May 12, 2016  
**Hideo Yoza, 1958 BSME**, Honolulu, Hawaii, July 1, 2016  
**David L. Buesink, 1959 BSCE**, Ripley, New York, June 11, 2016  
**David E. Carpenter, 1959 BSAE**, Skaneateles, New York, July 8, 2016

## 1960s

**William R. Byrne, 1960 BSBA**, Angola, Indiana, June 28, 2016  
**Donald L. Collins, 1961 BSBA**, Atlanta, Georgia, Sept. 5, 2016  
**Armand E. Cote, 1961 BSEE**, Dryden, Michigan, Oct. 16, 2016  
**Donald S. Merrill, 1964 BSEE**, Navarre, Ohio, Oct. 20, 2016  
**Bruce H. Bodin, 1965 BSEE**, Melbourne, Florida, Sept. 6, 2016  
**David J. Fisher, 1965 ADDT**, Grand Haven, Michigan, Sept. 15, 2016  
**Gerald R. Haller, 1965 BSCE**, Orlando, Florida, June 15, 2016  
**James J. Levesque, 1966 BSBA**, Albany, New York, July 1, 2016  
**James T. Lukasavage, 1966 BSME**, Oakville, Connecticut, Aug. 22, 2016  
**Gary J. Slock, 1966 BSBA**, South Bend, Indiana, June 3, 2016  
**Dale G. Linnemeier, 1967 ADDT**, Fort Wayne, Indiana, Aug. 26, 2016  
**Robert B. Moyer, 1967 BSAE**, Tucson, Arizona, June 19, 2016  
**Thomas M. McMaken, 1968 BSME**, Piqua, Ohio, June 16, 2016

## 1970s

**James R. Elder Jr., 1971 BSME**, Cypress, Texas, Aug. 15, 2016  
**Roger Hutchins, 1971 ABA**, Fremont, Indiana, Oct. 17, 2016  
**Daniel J. Moffett, 1976 ADDT**, Hayward, Wisconsin, Aug. 17, 2016  
**Raymond G. Plummer, 1976 BSME**, Perrysburg, Ohio, July 30, 2016  
**Jane A. Kuruzovich, 1977 ASEC**, Ellettsville, Indiana, Oct. 25, 2016



## Former groundskeeper passes at 70

Robert W. “Bob” Sowles, 70, of Angola, Indiana, passed away at his home Aug. 4, 2016, with his family by his side. He was born on Aug. 4, 1946, in Coldwater, Michigan, the son of Shirley Dale and Arlene Jane (Lint) Sowles. They preceded him in death. He attended Scott Center School until the closing of the school, and later graduated from Fremont High School. Bob served in the Indiana National Guard for six years. He married Gloria K. Burch on Dec. 21, 1968, at the Fremont United Methodist Church, and they were married for 47 years. She survives.

Bob was a farmer all his life, raising crops and Angus cattle. He also worked at the Aro Corporation in Angola for 36 years, as a tool and die maker and a machine operator, and later worked at Trine University for 12 years, where he served as a groundskeeper until the fall of 2015. His hobbies included antique tractors, and he was a member of the Steuben County Antique Power Association. He also was a member of the Fremont Moose Lodge.

Survivors include his wife, Gloria Sowles of Angola, Indiana; two sons, Chad (Christina) Sowles and Jarrod (Tia) Sowles, both of Angola, Indiana; nine grandchildren, Joshua, Dalton, Hunter, Alex, Tristan, Levi, Cam, Brody, Lila; and four great-grandchildren.

eye on the storm

## Trine athletes earn MIAA honors

Trine student-athletes captured numerous individual accolades during the fall season in helping their teams achieve success.

The Thunder football team led the way, with six players earning All-MIAA honors. First team honorees included wide receiver and kickoff return specialist Jeffery Barnett, offensive lineman Derek Scott and cornerback Marcus Winters. Offensive lineman Mitchell Watts, defensive lineman Me’Leick Miles and linebacker Taylor James were named to the second team. Winters finished the season with the second-most interceptions in the nation. Trine set a program record for rushing yards per game on its way to a 6-4 record.

Two football players were honored for academic excellence. Senior Zachary Denig was named the recipient of the Pete Schmidt Memorial Scholar-Athlete Award, the MIAA’s highest scholar-athlete award for a football player. Senior Brandon Rooze earned Academic All-District honors from the College Sports Information Directors Association.

Adam Schaaf led the Thunder men’s cross country team to a third-place finish in the MIAA with the second All-MIAA first team honor of his career. Schaaf finished fifth in the MIAA Championship race. Kyla Binfet earned her second straight All-MIAA second team recognition in leading the women’s cross country team to a fourth-place finish in the conference. She is the only Thunder women’s runner to earn All-MIAA honors twice.

Grant Brettnacher and Julia DeBelly led Trine’s golf teams to fourth-place finishes in the MIAA with All-MIAA second team performances. Brettnacher, a freshman, won individual medalist honors in two conference events. DeBelly became the first Thunder women’s golfer to earn All-MIAA recognition four times.

Gigi Jarratt was recognized as an All-MIAA second team performer for the women’s soccer team. She scored one game-winning goal and assisted on another in helping lead Trine to its highest win total in MIAA play since joining the conference in 2004. ■

*Marcus Winters was named to the All-MIAA first team for football.*



# Watt, Coates inducted into Athletic Hall of Fame



Eric Watt

Trine University inducted former football All-American Eric Watt and track and field standout Robert D. “Bob” Coates into its Athletic Hall of Fame over Homecoming weekend. Watt and Coates were formally inducted at the university’s Touchstone dinner.

Watt won the 2010 Gagliardi Trophy, given to the most outstanding football player in NCAA Division III and considered the Division III equivalent of the Heisman Trophy. Watt also received national acclaim as an All-American that season. He led the Thunder to a third straight MIAA Championship and postseason appearance while leading the nation in passing efficiency. Watt helped lead the team to a first-round victory over DePauw, giving Trine a postseason win in back-to-back years.

Other individual accolades earned by Watt included back-to-back MIAA Offensive MVP honors, three All-MIAA recognitions and seven MIAA Offensive Player of the Week Awards. He was named the 2011 winner of Trine University’s Robert L. Greim Award, the highest honor for a student-athlete at the school, given to the senior male



Bob Coates

student-athlete who best embodies the values of leadership, character, citizenship, scholarship and athletic accomplishment.

Upon the conclusion of his career, Watt held 12 school records. He still holds eight of those records.

Coates was a standout in shot put and discus for a string of successful Tri-State University track and field teams from 1976-80.

Coates earned All-Mid-Central Conference honors three times from 1978-90. A three-time co-captain, Coates was instrumental in leading his teams to four straight MCC titles. He was a varsity letter-winner for four consecutive conference championship teams. His teams won the NAIA District 21 meet three times.

Coates received national acclaim in being named to Who’s Who Among American College and University Students, one of the nation’s oldest and most prominent organizations for recognizing students. He was also named to Outstanding Young Men of America, an annual award given by the United States Junior Chamber (Jaycees) organization. ■



## Gollnick recognized for 45 years of service

Trine University honored former track and field coach Richard “Dick” Gollnick for 45 years of service at its annual Touchstone and Homecoming Celebration Dinner on Sept. 30.

Gollnick and his wife Joan came to Tri-State College in 1971 to launch track and field and cross country programs after building a national powerhouse program at Glen Oaks Community College. In just a few years, despite lacking facilities, Tri-State runners qualified for national events and consistently won NAIA district championships.

Gollnick’s teams went on a 16-year run as Mid-Central Conference track and field cross country champions. They were champions again from 1998-1990 before Tri-State entered the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference, where his teams won championships in 1991-1994 and again in 1998. Gollnick’s tenure as coach included eight state championships, five nationally ranked teams, 44 conference championships and six All-Americans.

In honor of the time and financial resources they contributed as well as their athletic success, the couple was inducted into the Trine University Athletic Hall of Fame in 1996 and the track in the Keith E. Busse/Steel Dynamics Inc. Athletic and Recreation Center was named in their honor in 2009. The plaque in the Hall of Fame cites not only their accomplishments on the track but the time they invested in students, recognizing them as not only the founders, but the “parents” of the cross country and track programs at Tri-State.

Joan Gollnick passed away in 2003.

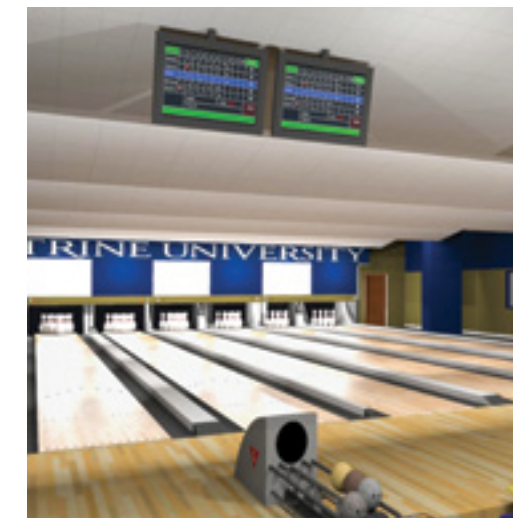
Richard Gollnick has continued to raise funds for Trine University as well as provide personal financial support, and he coordinates the university’s annual Track Reunion. ■

# MTI Center to house esports, bowling teams



Trine University has announced two new Thunder athletic programs to be housed in the MTI Center when it opens in 2018.

Trine’s esports program will launch in fall 2017 and will be housed in a temporary facility prior to moving into the MTI Center upon the facility’s completion. Esports events involve competitive online video gaming. Trine joins a growing number of colleges and universities offering esports programs.



Trine has named Alex Goplin, who currently serves as an assistant director of admission, as its director of esports.

Trine will also launch women’s and men’s club bowling teams in 2017. National and league affiliations are in the process of being determined and will be announced at a later date. Team competition is expected to primarily take place in tournament settings.

Bill Burke has been tabbed the head coach of both programs. Burke, owner and president of Burke’s Family Bowl and Angola Bowl, most recently served as the head coach at Angola High School, where he led the Hornets to a State Championship in 2015.

With a projected cost of \$13.3 million, the MTI Center will also feature three basketball courts, a fitness center and the clubhouse for Zollner Golf Course. ■



# Support grows for Thunder Ice Arena, MTI Center

Public entities and private donors have provided major funding for Trine University's Thunder Ice Arena and MTI Center.

The Indiana Economic Development Corporation approved \$2.8 million in funding for the project in August, following a recommendation by the Northeast Indiana Regional Development Authority. The Northeast Indiana RDA is responsible for distributing \$42 million in funds granted to the 11-county region through Indiana's Regional Cities Initiative, established last year.

"Trine University's new Thunder Ice Arena and MTI Center will serve our Hoosier students, create more activities and opportunities for the Northeast Indiana community and draw more residents to the area, helping to create a vibrant downtown community," Indiana Gov. Mike Pence said in a statement.

Steel Dynamics Foundation, Inc. is making a \$1.25 million gift toward the construction of the Thunder Ice Arena.

In recognition of Steel Dynamics' generosity, the arena's NCAA-compliant ice surface officially will be named the Thunder Steel Dynamics Ice Rink, with the company's logo prominently displayed on center ice.

"As both our birthplace and headquarters, northeast Indiana is an integral part of Steel Dynamics and we are proud to support projects like the Thunder Ice Arena that improve the

quality of place and quality of life for the region," said Mark Millett, President and Chief Executive Officer of Steel Dynamics.

Chuck and Lisa Surack and Sweetwater, based in Fort Wayne, have pledged \$300,000 toward the construction of the Thunder Ice Arena. In recognition of the gift, the Sweetwater logo will be displayed below the Trine T on center ice.

"We are honored to support Trine University, a key part of the northeastern Indiana region that Sweetwater calls home," said Chuck Surack. "I'm particularly proud because my father Jim graduated with a degree in Chemical Engineering in 1956 from Tri-State College, now known as Trine University."

Larry 1965 BCSE and Judy Reiners of Tulsa, Oklahoma, have pledged \$1 million toward the construction of the MTI Center.

"As the beneficiary of a Trine University education, it gives me great pleasure to support Trine as it expands its offerings to its students and to the community," said Larry Reiners.

Larry Reiners joined the Board of Trustees in 2009 and currently chairs the Academic Affairs and Student Services Board Committee and serves on the Executive Committee. The Reiners Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and the Reiners Residence Hall at Trine University are named in honor of the couple's commitment and financial support. ■



Rendering of the MTI Center basketball court



Rendering of the Thunder Ice Arena

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