

THE MAGAZINE OF TRINE UNIVERSITY

TRINE

FALL 2021

**INVEST IN EXCELLENCE
TRANSFORMED TRINE.** SEE PAGE 22



Trine University's Sound of Thunder marching band performs in downtown Angola on April 14. The band presented multiple selections to celebrate the warmer weather and thank the people of Angola and Steuben County for their support of Trine University and its music programs.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Numbers don't tell the whole story.

While we are excited that the Invest in Excellence campaign has greatly surpassed its \$125 million goal, its true impact is not in the money raised, but the transformation it has brought to our campus. Through the support of many generous donors and the creativity and stewardship of faculty and staff, Trine University students now have additional academic and athletic opportunities in state-of-the-art facilities, we are housing more students in comfortable residence halls, and our campus culture has gained a vibrancy that comes from students knowing their hopes and dreams are within reach thanks to alumni and friends who believe in the mission and vision of this institution.

You'll read more about the campaign and a few of those it has impacted in this issue.

The year 1921 saw two historic events in the life of Tri-State College: the college's first Greek organization formed and its first female engineering graduate received her degree. You'll read features marking a century of women in engineering and a century of Greek life in this issue.

Speaking of history, Trine alumnus Joe Schroeder, 2016 BSCE, made history this year by becoming the first athlete in university history to represent our nation at the Olympic games. I hope you enjoy the article about Joe's journey as a rugby sevens player to Tokyo.

We were happy to welcome the Classes of 2020 and 2021 for this year's Commencement, and proud to welcome Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb to address our graduates. You'll read more about this event inside, as well as the latest on engineering and athletic teams, and other accomplishments by students, faculty and alumni.

As always, I encourage you to visit trine.edu frequently to keep up with the latest happenings at the university. We continue to grow, and I think you for your support of our mission to equip students to succeed, lead and serve.

Sincerely,

Earl D. Brooks II

Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D.
Trine University President



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ON THE COVER:

Photographer Dean Orewiler shoots the cover photo of Dr. Rick L. James, chair of the Trine University Board of Trustees, and university President Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D.



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For live updates on construction, visit
alumni.trine.edu/engineering-expansion

SDI PLEDGES \$1.5 MILLION TO TRINE ENGINEERING EXPANSION

The Steel Dynamics Foundation Inc. has pledged \$1.5 million toward Trine University's engineering facility expansion.

In honor of Steel Dynamics' generous support, the new 40,000-square-foot expansion will be named the Steel Dynamics Inc. Center for Engineering and Computing.

"The continual growth of our business requires a ready supply of well-trained engineers, and many who have contributed to the success of Steel Dynamics have come from Trine University," said Mark Millett, president and CEO of Steel Dynamics Inc. "We are pleased to support this expansion in Trine's facilities and programs, and look forward to the benefit this will provide, not only to SDI, but to industry throughout the region."

"We are grateful for the SDI Foundation's history of support, and are eager to see the

dividends this new investment in Trine University will pay for the greater Fort Wayne area, the state of Indiana and the Midwest as a whole," said Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D., Trine University president. "The partnership of SDI and many other generous supporters is vital as we continue to provide a quality higher education during these challenging times."

A longtime supporter of Trine University, the Steel Dynamics Foundation Inc. has provided major gifts toward the Steel Dynamics Inc./Keith E. Busse Athletic and Recreation Center and the Thunder Ice Arena. The foundation also has funded a scholarship program at Trine and supports the annual Scholarship Gala.

In addition, Steel Dynamics Inc. provides internships, co-op and employment opportunities to Trine students.

Enrollment in the Allen School of Engineering and Computing has risen 72 percent over the past decade to nearly 1,000 students, with engineering students accounting for more than 40 percent of Trine's main campus student population. The new expansion to Trine's facilities will help prepare skilled professionals in critical high-tech areas such as hardware and software development, computer networking, cybersecurity and health informatics.

Designs for the \$12.5 million project feature state-of-the-art technology, flexible labs and classrooms, an active learning lab with a maker space to foster creativity, and bright, open spaces for collaboration and conversation, including a new gathering point and cafe available to the entire campus. The new area is intended to become a focal point at the center of campus and a showcase for student work. ■

TRINE ENGINEERS EARN HONORS IN COMPETITIONS

Some Trine University engineering teams and organizations were able to return to competitive action this spring, as pandemic restrictions eased and events made modifications to allow for remote options. Here are several groups that finished well.



Trine University's 2021 NASA Rover team, from left, Graham Hemingway, Nick Kane, Hailey Dunham, Tim Jenkins, Ph.D., Emily Rumph, Alec Pruett and Jacob Stout.

NASA Rover team takes top award
 HUNTSVILLE, Ala. — For the second year in a row, a team of Trine University design engineering majors won a major award at the NASA Human Exploration Rover Challenge (HERC).

Trine won the Task Challenge Award, presented to the team producing the best 3D printed tool design that could be used by lunar and Martian rovers to retrieve samples while on those respective surfaces.

Winners for the 2021 competition were announced during a virtual awards competition on Friday, April 16. Trine University's team was made up of juniors Hailey Dunham and Emily Rumph, and seniors Graham Hemingway, Nicolas Kane, Alec Pruett and Jacob Stout.

ASCE chapter again recognized
 Trine University's student chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) has once again received a Certificate of Commendation from the national organization for its work and achievements.

The distinction, which recognizes the chapter's efforts for 2020, is earned by only the top 5% of all student organizations. This is the second year in a row Trine has received the honor.

Britt and his teammates — mechanical engineering majors Landis Clark, Matthew Dunn and Samuel Brandt — opted for Commencement.

A team of juniors, made up of mechanical engineering majors Ismar Chew, Tim Mayer and Trevor Ransbury, operated the robot and finished third in the NRC's collegiate division for combat robots.

ASCE chapter 2nd in regional competition

Students from Trine University's chapter of the American Society for Civil Engineers (ASCE) took second place at the organization's 2021 Great Lakes Regional Conference, held virtually and hosted by Purdue University April 10-11.

Trine was second overall based on combined scores of all competitions, and finished first in "Concrete Cornhole," where members created a concrete cornhole board, then competed against other schools using that board. Team members included Grant Winterkorn, Matt Baker, Hallie Fenimore, Arizona Lenski and Jackson Huckleby. Winterkorn and Baker competed in the event.

Trine also won the surveying competition. Trine's team consisted of Bill Kennelly, Luciano Bonaveri and Erin Haase. ■



From left, John Liu, Ph.D., assistant professor in Trine University's Wade Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, Tim Mayer, Ismar Chew, Trevor Ransbury and Joe Thompson, laboratory manager and instructor, with the third-place award the university's combat robot received at the National Robotics Challenge (NRC) on May 8.

HELPING HANDS: TRINE STUDENTS DESIGN LOW-COST PROSTHETIC LIMBS FOR TEENS



A Trine University senior design team completed a project this year that provided low-cost prosthetics for two teenage girls born without left hands. From left, David Cervera, a biomedical engineering major from South Bend, Indiana, Karina Bruce, a biomedical engineering major from Findlay, Ohio, Ben Avey, a mechanical engineering major from Pendleton, Indiana, and Marissa Shaver, a biomedical engineering major from Fostoria, Ohio.

Prosthetics can be a blessing for people who are missing a limb, but they're also very expensive.

That expense can make them impractical for children and adolescents who are constantly growing and changing. However, a senior design group of Trine University engineering majors completed a project this year that provided solutions for two teenage girls born without left hands.

The team of Marissa Shaver, a biomedical engineering major from Fostoria, Ohio, Ben Avey, a mechanical engineering major from Pendleton, Indiana, David Cervera, a biomedical engineering major from South Bend, Indiana, and Karina Bruce, a biomedical engineering major from Findlay, Ohio, designed low-cost prosthetics that will allow the girls to perform routine tasks such as curling their hair.

Shaver began working on the project with three biomedical engineering seniors in the spring of 2020 as part of a special topics course. However, before the group could complete the project, Trine University's main campus closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and students were sent home.

"It was kind of a stab to the gut," she said.

When the new group began in the fall, they decided to start with a different initial design than the prior group. The group began by looking at multiple devices online and narrowing it down to one design.



One of the recipients of prosthetic hands designed and 3D printed by a group of Trine University seniors performs validation testing with the device. The girls open and close fingers on the prosthetic by flexing their wrist.

Trine's Design Engineering Technology department assisted the group with 3D printing, and printed all the parts for the prosthetics. The group gave the girls prototypes in mid-February and made modifications based on the feedback they received.

The girls received the final iterations in April. Shaver said the group performed validation testing with the girls by having them pick up objects such as a golf ball, softball and frying pan.

"When we presented their final devices, it was a huge improvement from their prototype devices. They were super excited," Shaver said. "They did really well with that final device." ■

INNOVATION CHALLENGE RECOGNIZES TOP BUSINESS, TECHNOLOGY IDEAS

A business raising show goats and a device that prevents pants tears for those with lower limb prosthetics took the top prizes at Trine University's annual Innovation Challenge, held April 15 in the T. Furth Center for Performing Arts.

Presented by the university's Trine innovation 1 and Fifth Third Bank, the annual contest provides cash prizes to top business and technology ideas. Awards are funded by a gift from Fifth Third Bank, Greater Indiana.

The \$3,000 first prize in the business division went to Acacia Ranch Show Goats, presented remotely by DeKalb High School students Sydney and Matthias Hefty. The business provides high-quality, cost-effective goats for the growing number of 4-H members throughout the region seeking to show the animals.

Second place in the business category, with a \$1,000 prize, went to Milkweed Online, presented by Brett Tierney, a Trine University sophomore majoring in design engineering technology and concurrently completing his MBA. Milkweed Online is a line of products developed for use in raising and releasing monarch butterflies.

Top prize in the technology division went to RipStop, developed by Trine University biomedical engineering seniors Colleen Bell of Unity, Ohio; Lauren Beebe of South Bend, Indiana; Olivia Coyne of Allison Park, Pennsylvania; and Devon Kelly of Dearborn Heights, Michigan. The RipStop is designed to prevent tears in pants worn by lower limb amputees, a frequent problem due to sharp edges on prostheses and material getting tangled in prosthetic knees.

Second prize for technology was awarded to the Cooler Koozie by Trine design engineering technology students Konrad Dorsey, a junior from Manilla, Indiana; and Adrienne Rosey, a freshman from Schoolcraft, Michigan. The product is designed for boaters who want access to their cooler while anchored at a sand bar or elsewhere, without having to climb back into their boat.

Video of the Innovation Challenge is available at vimeo.com/513451184 ■

AMATEUR RADIO CLUB BACK ON THE AIR

Though the COVID-19 pandemic limited student travel at Trine University during the last academic year, members of the university's Amateur Radio Club were able to make contacts around the world with their radios.

Since its rebirth thanks to the generosity of **Bill Becher, Ph.D.**, a 1950 Tri-State College radio engineering graduate, and his wife, Helen, members of the club have communicated with amateur radio enthusiasts, known as hams, as far away as Europe and South America, as well as people across the United States.

Kevin Woolverton, Ph.D., faculty advisor, said there are about 15 students in the club from majors including electrical engineering, computer engineering, mechanical engineering, computer science and information technology and mathematics. He and club members hope it continues to expand as it obtains more equipment, especially in members from non-engineering programs who can benefit from an interest in ham radio.

In Fall 2020, the club finished setting up its long-distance shortwave radio communication station inside Fawick Hall and built an antenna on the roof of the building. This last spring, the club continued building antennas, including handheld versions members used to participate in a fox hunt, an event where hams try to locate a transmitter placed in a location for people to find, in Fort Wayne.

The club also hosts a weekly Net, an opportunity for members and area hams to chat via radio.

"We're all very excited about these events and plan to keep getting involved in more, like satellite communication or bouncing signals off the moon," said club president Tim Mayer, a mechanical engineering major.

Love for radio since childhood

Trine University had not offered an amateur radio organization for some time when Bill and Helen Becher donated all their

equipment and gave financial support to re-establish the club.

Bill's love for radio goes back to his childhood in the late 1930s, when he and a friend used flashlights to send Morse Code messages between their homes. His Tri-State education prepared him for a career that included successful industrial and academic research, professorships at schools including the University of Michigan, and academic administration at several universities.

After he retired in the early 1990s, he and Helen studied for and obtained their ham licenses and pursued the hobby until two years ago, when the retirement community they moved did not permit antennas needed to continue. The couple then gave their equipment to Trine.

Trine's club currently has enough handheld radios, operating at five watts and covering the VHF and UHF frequency bands, for each member to check one out for the semester. It also has high-frequency radios, one of which is a software-defined radio connected to the antenna on the roof that allows the club to send and receive signals from long distances.

Becher noted that hams constantly buy new equipment as technology updates, and that Trine's club is a good destination for older equipment.

"You buy these things all the time as a ham, and then the other thing becomes something you no longer need," he said, noting that college clubs can either re-use the equipment or sell it at an amateur radio event.

Anyone who would like to support Trine's Amateur Radio Club through monetary or equipment donations can contact Woolverton at woolvertonk@trine.edu. ■



From left, standing, Trine University Amateur Radio Club members Dakotah Alumbaugh, an electrical engineering major from Anderson, Indiana; Daniel Siebeneck, a mathematics major from Continental, Ohio; Mark Tuholski, an electrical engineering major from LaPorte, Indiana; David Deniston, a chemical engineering major from Bowling Green, Ohio; Bryan Sears, a computer science and information technology major from Angola, Indiana; and Ismar Chew, a mechanical engineering major from Indianapolis, watch as club president Tim Mayer, a mechanical engineering major from Endicott, New York, works with equipment inside Fawick Hall. The club, which had been dormant for some time, was reborn last year thanks to donations of money and equipment by Bill Becher, Ph.D., a 1950 radio engineering alumnus, and his wife Helen.

JOE SCHROEDER TAKES DIFFERENT ROAD TO TOKYO OLYMPICS

Joe Schroeder says his life has taken “a different route,” one he couldn’t even imagine as a high school rugby player.

That route took the 2016 Trine University civil engineering graduate to the top level of his sport in July, as he started for USA Men’s Rugby 7s at the Tokyo Olympics.

The first Olympian in Trine’s 137-year history, Joe didn’t even dream about the Olympics when playing rugby in high school, since the sport didn’t return to the Games until 2016.

Aspirations on hold

Joe’s different route also included putting his rugby aspirations mostly on hold while at Trine, which doesn’t have a team. He opted to be part of the cheer squad instead, playing some rugby during the summer.

After graduating, he joined a rugby club in Columbus, Ohio, where he was working. While training at a camp, he caught the attention of an assistant coach for the national team. He’s been part of the USA Rugby 7s team, based in California, since 2017, playing in tournaments around the world.

The team trains four to five days each week.

“The sport of sevens is quick and fast,” he explained. “It’s a 14-minute game, two seven-minute halves, on the same size field as a 15s game, so it’s a lot more space. We have to be so much more fit and so much quicker.”

In addition to rugby training and competition, Joe continues to work part-time for Black and Veatch in Ohio.

“I do rugby during the day and then, at night, check emails,” he said. “Because I work on West Coast time, I actually will have my work meetings in the morning before I leave for rugby.”

An event like no other

The team spent a week at training camp in Mimasaka, Japan, prior to the Olympics

to get acclimated to the climate and time change. Oppressive heat and humidity took a toll on many athletes throughout the Games.



“If you were outside, you were sweating,” he said.

Walking into the Olympic Stadium for the opening ceremony, even though there were no spectators, was an awesome experience.

“Once you walk out into the lights, you just feel the presence there because you know how many people are watching from around the world,” he said. “There are cameras everywhere.”

That feeling continued when he stepped out on the field for the team’s first match, a 19-14 victory over Kenya on July 26.

“To be in that 12 that’s running out on the field and to represent your country at the biggest stage possible, there’s quite a bit more emotion there,” he said.

Pandemic restrictions severely limited what the team was able to do during off hours. Members were allowed nowhere except their competition venue and the Olympic Village.

“It was strict,” Joe said. “We didn’t do anything touristy, no exploring.”

At the Village, however, Joe was able to meet athletes from around the world, though he said everyone was respectful and keeping distance due to COVID-19 concerns. He was

able to take part in the Olympic tradition of trading pins with other athletes at the village, but wasn’t allowed to see any of the other competitions in person.

Honoring his brother

Joe was able to get on the board against South Africa, putting the USA up 5-0 in its final pool play match. The moment was especially poignant, as he pointed skyward in memory of his brother Will, who passed away a year and a half ago and was one of his biggest fans.

Joe styled his hair in a mullet to honor his brother during the Olympics, which attracted the attention of news outlets and fans.

“He rocked the mullet,” Joe said. “It helps me remember him. I can look in the mirror right before a game and remember him, and it helps me get motivated.”

In quarterfinal action, the team suffered a particularly hard loss to Great Britain, blowing a 21-0 lead to lose 26-21 and fall out of medal contention.

“We felt like we were winning that game pretty well and we just gave it to them,” he said. “We were getting a little loose in the second half and giving possession errors to the competition, and they were taking advantage.”

The USA finished sixth, three places better than the Rio Olympics five years prior. He said the team took a step in the right direction, but they were still disappointed.

“People are bummed and are dealing with it in their own separate ways as we go home and get reunited with our families, but we’re glad we’re moving in the right direction,” he said.

After Tokyo

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, Olympians had to leave Tokyo within 48 hours after their competitions were finished, which for rugby was July 28. USA Rugby gave the team a break until September, allowing them to train remotely, so Joe spent time with family in Indiana before returning to California.

“I haven’t really been home this past year, so I’m looking forward to it,” he said.

Joe said the team will take the lessons it learned in Tokyo to start preparing for upcoming tournaments and for the Paris Olympics in 2024.

“It’s not going to help us if we don’t play well the next couple of years and then try to change the year of the Olympics,” he said. “It’s going to be here before we know it.”

Joe hopes to be part of that 2024 team. He also hopes by then that crowds will be able to watch the matches, and that he will be able to go sightseeing and watch other Olympic events in person.

In the meantime, he enjoys the memories of being able to represent the United States at the world’s biggest athletic event.

“It was an incredible experience,” he said. ■



University recognizes top students for Class of 2021



Alexander Pessell

Trine University named **Alexander Pessell**, a biomedical engineering major from Arcadia, Ohio, the winner of its Robert B. Stewart Award for its Class of 2021.

The university also named Distinguished Students from each of its academic schools.

The Robert B. Stewart Award is presented to the graduate who most clearly exemplifies the traditions and values of Trine University through achievement in scholarship, leadership and citizenship. Each academic school at Trine nominates a graduating senior for this award; Pessell represented the Allen School of Engineering and Computing.

Other Trine University Distinguished Students included Kennedy Brough, an English education and special education major from Fort Wayne, Indiana, representing the Franks School of Education; Roopa Singh, a psychology major from

Constantine, Michigan, representing the College of Graduate and Professional Studies; Ross Kirkton, a business administration and marketing major from Middlebury, Indiana, representing the Ketner School of Business; Jessica Griffioen, an English major from Sturgis, Michigan, representing the Jannen School of Arts and Sciences; and Sybil Kurian, an exercise science-pre Doctor of Physical Therapy major from Elkhart, Indiana, representing the Rinker-Ross School of Health Sciences. ■



Trine's first BSN graduates receive nursing pins

Trine University honored the first graduates of its RN-to-BSN program with a pinning ceremony held in Fabiani Theatre on Aug. 6. Pictured are, from left, Nadeena Frye, Ph.D., dean of Trine University's College of Health Professions; Angel Jennings, Ph.D., assistant professor, RN-to-BSN program; BSN graduates Shannon Tew and Kristin Hake; and Sharon Willey, DNP, director of nursing. The pinning ceremony for nurses is a tradition dating back to the 1860s. ■

Trine names Warren VP of Finance

Trine University has named **Kayla Warren** as its new vice president of finance.

Warren, a 2006 alumna of the university, had served as assistant vice president for finance at Trine since 2020. She joined Trine as controller in 2016.

She replaces Jody Greer, who retired as vice president of finance at the end of June after 19 years with the university. ■



Kayla Warren

Trine names Barry dean of Allen School of Engineering and Computing

Trine University has named distinguished faculty member and chair **William Barry, Ph.D., PE**, dean of the Allen School of Engineering and Computing.

Barry had served as a professor and chair of the Reiners Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Trine since 2019. A member of Trine's civil engineering faculty since 2008, he has chaired the department eight of the past 10 years.

He has received two McKetta teaching awards and was awarded the Stemples endowed professorship in engineering. ■



William Barry, Ph.D., PE

SACS' Downs to lead new graduate programs at Trine

A prominent area educator and administrator is bringing more than three decades of experience to establish and lead new graduate programs in Trine University's Franks School of Education beginning this fall.

Phil Downs, Ph.D., who retired as superintendent of Southwest Allen County Schools earlier this year, has joined Trine as director of education graduate programs and accreditation.

At Trine, Downs will oversee development of new graduate programs within the Franks School of Education, and ensure the school meets requirements for accreditation by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) and the Specialized Professional Association (SPA) programs.

Downs was named the state of Indiana's Superintendent of the Year in 2020. ■



Phil Downs, Ph.D.



'Miracle on Ice' team member speaks at Thunder Ice Arena

Dave Christian, a member of the 1980 US Olympic hockey team, skates on the Thunder Ice Arena rink with Trine University hockey players and coaches after speaking on March 17. Part of a group from Cardinal Glass that visited Trine, Christian shared his memories and insights from his experiences on that team as well as in the National Hockey League, and his work today as co-director of leadership development at Cardinal. ■



New residence hall opens for fall

Paying tribute to the many contributions of the Fabiani family, the new Fabiani Hall opened at the beginning of the fall 2021 semester. The new 101-bed building, located on Thunder Drive between the MTI Center and Ryan Tennis Center, features apartment-style residences similar to Reiners and Stadium halls. ■

Trine Day raises more than \$150K

The annual Trine Day fundraising effort far exceeded previous efforts, with 585 donors giving more than \$150,000 to support scholarships, academics, organizations and athletic teams at Trine University.

This year's event spanned 1,884 minutes between April 19 and 20, a nod to the university's founding in 1884. Trine Day also included a friendly competition between supporters of the university's 36 athletic teams, with the baseball team raising the most funds, followed by wrestling. ■

Trine continues career fair growth over 2020-21 school year

Trine University set records over this past school year for the numbers of employers and students attending career events, even while implementing precautions to maintain campus health and safety during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Trine welcomed 238 employers to virtual and on-campus career fairs during 2020-21, an increase of 25 percent from the previous year's total of 190 and more than four times the number who attended fairs (59) in 2014-15. That total includes 43 new employers who chose to recruit at Trine's events this past year.

In addition, 766 Trine students attended career fairs, a 16.5 percent increase over the 2019-20 total of 657. ■



Read more campus news at trine.edu/news.



Students enjoy We Care Days

Trine students work on pottery during one of the We Care Days held during the spring semester. During the two We Care Days this spring, classes were canceled and the university offered fun activities around campus. ■



Trine community celebrates International Night

Members of the Indiana National Guard, Christian Campus House, the Multicultural Student Organization and the Office of International Services stand in front of the MTI Center during Trine University's 52nd annual International Night on April 17. Themed Thunder Olympics, the event was hosted at multiple locations across campus to ensure safety for all Trine community members. International Night featured competitions, food, activities, and informational displays on countries around the world. ■

Jannen Renaissance Award honors Tierney's contributions to Trine

The annual faculty awards ceremony, held May 10, featured a special tribute to Tom Tierney, Ph.D., professor emeritus, who received the Jannen Renaissance Scholar Award.

Presentation of the award, which honors a faculty member who exhibits a breadth of interest and accomplishment consistent with Renaissance ideals and who encourages students and faculty to aspire to such breadth, included remarks by Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D., university president, and Jeanette Goddard, Ph.D., director of the Humanities Institute, as well as a response from Tierney.

"As the person who initially secured the award in partnership with Bob Jannen and given all that he has contributed to the humanities at Trine – Taylor Hall, the many students he taught, statues and dome in Furth – it is only fitting that he be this year's recipient," said Goddard.

This is the 30th year Trine University has presented the Jannen Renaissance Scholar Award.

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

Andrea Mitofsky, Ph.D., professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, was honored with the top award, the Prof. Gerald H. Moore Overall Excellence in Teaching Award, as well as the Charles & Sue Ragan Gelet Excellence in Teaching Award.

Other McKetta award winners were:

- Martin Dygert, lecturer in the Department of Mathematics and Physics, Helen Smith McKetta Excellence in Teaching Award
- Michael Staude, Ph.D., assistant professor in the Department of Science, Robert Ewing & Gail Stewart Smith Excellence in Teaching Award
- Kimberly Wright, assistant professor in the Department of Psychology and Social Sciences, Robert Andrew & Anne Ewing Smith Excellence in Teaching Award



Tom Tierney, Ph.D., professor emeritus, second from right, receives the Jannen Renaissance Scholar Award during Trine University's faculty awards ceremony on May 10. Pictured are, from left, John Shannon, Ph.D., vice president for academic affairs, Jeanette Goddard, Ph.D., director of the Humanities Institute, Tierney, and Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D., university president.

- Anthony Layson, Ph.D., professor in the Department of Science, Merle J. & Anna Mae McKetta Thomas Excellence in Teaching Award
- Gregory Brooks, assistant professor in the Ketner School of Business, Charles William, Nelle Paris, & Mary Ann McKetta Excellence in Teaching Award
- Gary Greene, Ph.D., associate professor in the Reiners Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Steve & Mary Yacynch McKetta Excellence in Teaching Award
- Kendall Teichert, Ph.D., associate professor in the Wade Department of Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering, Frank & Julia Gelet McKetta Excellence in Teaching Award
- Franklin Luchini, assistant professor in the Department of Design Engineering & Technology, John J. & Mary Gelet McKetta Excellence in Teaching Award
- Julie Pfafman, senior executive assistant for the Office of Academic Affairs, Academic Service Award
- Melissa Mayus, Ph.D., associate professor in the Department of Humanities and Communication, Outstanding Faculty Scholarship
- Maria Gerschutz, Ph.D., associate professor in the Bock Department of Biomedical Engineering, Barrenbrugge Award for Faculty Excellence
- Debra Strong, administrative assistant in the Allen School of Engineering and Computing, VPAA Years of Service Award
- Ryan Dombkowski, Ph.D., Excellence in Teaching Award for the College of Health Professions
- Lori Healey, Outstanding Adjunct for Main Campus
- Thomas Pucci, Ph.D., Outstanding Adjunct for Graduate Programs
- Worth Weller, Outstanding Adjunct for TrineOnline

The university recognized five staff with the Presidential Award for Excellence in Performance earlier in the spring. This year's recipients were Mary Ditmars, executive assistant for the Office of the President; Evan Gustin, assistant dean of student services; Jennifer LaRose, director of housing and event services; Deborah McHenry, executive director of student success and retention; and O'Shea Owens, assistant athletic director for game operations and fan engagement. ■



COMMENCEMENT CELEBRATES RESILIENCE OF 2020, 2021 GRADUATES

“

Never lose sight of the values you have learned here. This combination you have learned here and experienced over these past four or however many years not only will help you navigate your journey ahead in this complex world of ours, they are the foundations of our nation's potential and greatness.”

— Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb

Capping off an unprecedented year in Trine University history, Commencement honored the resilience of graduates whose flexibility and tenacity helped the university complete the entire school year in person.

“You all learned what you needed to prepare for success in your chosen field of study, but through this pandemic, you also learned something that you probably didn't expect to discover when you arrived on this campus four or five years ago: You learned just how tough you are,” university President Earl D. Brooks II said in welcoming the Classes of 2020 and 2021.

“I believe what we learned about this class, what we all learned, is that this class has the character of a champion.”

More than 630 graduates participated. To maintain health and safety, about 3,000 total attended in person in the Keith E. Busse/Steel Dynamics Inc. Athletic and Recreation Center, with more than 4,700 unique online viewers joining through the Trine Broadcasting Network.

In his Commencement address, Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb praised the university's innovation.

“You've thought big and beyond, you've expanded, and you've responded to the changing needs of an ever-changing market,” he said.

Citing Trine's mission statement, he also lauded the values the university imparts to graduates.

“The degree, the proof that you receive today, is testimony not just to your years of hard work what you have earned, but to your appreciation that success means both to lead and serve,” he told the graduating seniors.

Adding his own praise for their resilience, Holcomb offered two pieces of advice. First, he said, “Always take Trine with you.”

“Never lose sight of the values you have learned here,” he said. “This combination you have learned here and experienced over these past four or however many years not only will help you navigate your journey ahead in this complex world of ours, they are the foundations of our nation's potential and greatness.”

His second piece of advice, he said, was also an ask: “Give Indiana a strong consideration. You are the secret ingredient to Indiana's future. We want to be partnered with you.”

Following the address, the university presented an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree to Mike Packnett, chief executive officer of Parkview Health. In presenting the honor, Brooks said Trine has benefited greatly from Packnett's leadership, as well as the leadership of Rick Henvey, president of healthcare operations for Parkview Health and a member of the Trine University Board of Trustees.

“We are so thankful and appreciative of Mr. Packnett's friendship and the leadership and generosity of our collaborative partner, Parkview Health,” Brooks said.

Following the presentation of degrees and the induction of graduates into the Trine University Alumni Association, Alex Pessell, Robert B. Stewart Award winner for 2021, presented a response from the graduating classes. Pessell focused his remarks on what he called three “simple but powerful” words:

- Time: “Each day we should strive to find new passions in life, work diligently toward our goals and leave a positive impact on others.”
- Happiness. “We should challenge ourselves to explore new opportunities and continue to learn and prosper as individuals.”
- Opportunity: “By stretching ourselves and believing in our ideas, we will have no basis for regrets in our lives.”

In closing, Brooks told graduates that since they have achieved one set of goals, it's time to reach for another.

“Your family and friends have joined you today because they've given much of themselves to see you reach this pinnacle in your life,” he said. “Remember them, and then strive to do the same for others.” ■

“

TIME.

Each day we should strive to find new passions in life, work diligently toward our goals and leave a positive impact on others.

HAPPINESS.

We should challenge ourselves to explore new opportunities and continue to learn and prosper as individuals.

OPPORTUNITY.

By stretching ourselves and believing in our ideas, we will have no basis for regrets in our lives.”

— Alex Pessell, Robert B. Stewart Award winner, Class of 2021





A CENTURY OF GREEKS: FRATERNITIES, SORORITIES VITAL TO CAMPUS LIFE FOR 100 YEARS

Though Greek life has been an integral part of campus life at Trine University for a century, it wasn't always that way.

Early Tri-State College students were threatened with expulsion should they form or participate in a "secret society." That ended March 25, 1921, when a group of students founded Sigma Mu Sigma.

Soon others formed. The first sorority began in 1926 but withered as the female student population dwindled; other efforts came and went until today's sorority houses began to be established in the 1990s.

The eight fraternities and five sororities that are part of Trine University today continue the tradition of fellowship, service and scholarship begun in 1921. Here, fraternity and sorority alumni reflect on their experiences and the role of Greek life at Trine.



ΘΦΑ Clare Danner 2019 BACOM • Theta Phi Alpha

Clare Danner has a unique perspective on Greek life at Trine: Part of a sorority while a student, today she works regularly with the university's Greek organizations as director of student leadership at Trine.

Danner joined Theta Phi Alpha her sophomore year, and said being in the sorority was by far her most formative experience at Trine. Favorite memories include the annual Big Man on Campus event hosted by Theta Phi Alpha, which she still attends.

She said Greek organizations allow students to be part of something greater than themselves.

"Joining Greek life is one of the many ways Trine students can find 'their people,' she said. "It offers them the opportunity to build their resumes, take on leadership roles, participate in philanthropy events, gain an entire network of alumni from their Greek organization and much more."

AKAK Vince Arizzi 1969 BSBA • Sigma Mu Sigma/Acacia

Vince Arizzi has many fond memories of his fraternity days.

"We didn't have football in those days and it was a quarter system, so we had Fall Festival and Winter Carnival and Spring Fling," he said. "Fraternities were really a strong part of the fabric of student life."

He still loves coming back to campus, taking part in events like the Alumni and Friends Scholarship Golf Outing since 2003. He served as chapter advisor for Acacia from 2014-19 and still participates in various functions.

"Our fraternity chapter has kept friendships going for half a century," he said. "That speaks for itself."

ΑΣΦ John Goudy 1970 BSBA • Alpha Sigma Phi

John Goudy said he might not have graduated if he hadn't had Alpha Sig brothers "getting on my case when I was slacking and helping me with my studies."

"There is something unique about belonging to a brotherhood," he said. "I have brothers I haven't seen in 20 or 30 years who return to campus for an event like Sig Cup or the Gala, and after 10 or 15 minutes with them it seems like we have been in touch all along."

Goudy said fraternities offered the chance for social life and to play intermural sports. One of the highlights of his involvement was receiving the fraternity's highest national honor, the Delta Beta Xi award, for loyal and distinguished service.

"A fraternity is like any organization," he said. "You get out of it what you are willing to give. My brothers that were active and dedicated when they were undergrads are still the ones that step up to the plate when needed now."

ΦΣ Rebekah Parsons 2019 BSCJ/ABA • Phi Sigma

The movies she had seen depicting Greek life had convinced Rebekah Parsons that she didn't want to join a sorority when she arrived at Trine, but as she met sorority members through campus activities, she realized the movies were wrong.

"Phi Sigma accepted me for who I am; I didn't have to pretend to be someone I'm not," she said. "Ultimately, Phi Sigma felt like home."

She said in addition to encouraging volunteerism and providing campus events, Greek life allows students who aren't in a sport or other extracurricular to find something well worth their time to do.

"Greek Life helps students learn leadership skills, social skills and how to work as a team," she said. "Those skills spill over from Greek Life and into students' academic lives and personal lives."



ΚΣΑ Breonna Washington 2017 BPSY/CJ, 2018 MSCJ Kappa Sigma Alpha

Breonna Washington decided to join a sorority to form special bonds with other women at Trine University. She was able to do so through favorite events such as random movie nights, yearly retreats and recruiting events.

Now an attorney working in areas such as business law, probate litigation and estate planning, Washington said her time in Kappa Sigma Alpha had benefits even after she graduated.

"My experience in KSA has helped me in my career by learning how to network and speak with people I have never met before," she said. "It provided me with a sense of understanding different perspectives, how to effectively communicate the different perspectives, and how to represent different perspectives in a favorable light."

ΣΦΕ Christopher Schuttler 2020 BSCE • Sigma Phi Epsilon

Christopher Schuttler joined Sigma Phi Epsilon after learning about all the benefits of Greek life, including networking, developing leadership skills and gaining lifelong friendships. Service opportunities like helping freshman move in and events with free food throughout the week contribute to the overall campus atmosphere, he said.

A favorite memory was when Sigma Phi Epsilon celebrated its 50th anniversary.

“It was awesome to see so many brothers and hear so many stories from guys that went to the same university and were in the same brotherhood over 50 years ago,” he said.



TKE Mark Steffen 1971 BSBA • Tau Kappa Epsilon

While pledging for TKE, Mark Steffen had to sit down with each of the more than 50 active members and learn where they came from, their major, how long they had been at Tri-State and anything else they wanted to talk about. He said even fraternity brothers who started out quiet and shy blossomed into self-assured, outgoing individuals within months.

“Back then we had live bands for our parties,” he recalled. “We also had an annual orphans’ Christmas party where we brought the children in and presented them with gifts to unwrap, along with just having a fun day.”

TKE membership came from a variety of states, majors and ethnic and social backgrounds.

“We prided ourselves on being a fraternity that welcomed all, with the expectation that each new member would contribute in making TKE at Tri-State even better than before,” he said.

ΔΧ Scott Bykowski 1992 BSEA • Delta Chi

Scott Bykowski came to Tri-State University from western New York. Not knowing anyone on campus or in the area, he quickly found a family when he and some of his fellow freshmen pledged Delta Chi. He said the “brotherhood of a lifetime” at Delta Chi supported each other through good and bad times.

“It was a family. If you couldn’t pay the dues, we all chipped in and helped,” he recalled. “We lent our cars if someone needed a ride. We held study halls when people were getting ready for a test or struggling with grades. Everyone pitched in and helped each other out.”

He served on Delta Chi’s Alumni Board of Trustees for a while and still stays in contact with the fraternity, meets with friends and stays in contact on social media.

“Greek life fills the need for family close by. Without it many students, including me, would probably have returned home,” said Bykowski.

ΑΣΤ Katie Smallegan 2016 BSCJ • Alpha Sigma Tau

Wanting to experience all she could during her freshman year, Katie Smallegan joined many activities and organizations, including Alpha Sigma Tau. She said Greek organizations brought the campus community together in friendship and in service.

“Most members of Greek Life were the ones you saw participating in philanthropic events and sponsorships without being asked,” she said.

She said she didn’t realize many of the benefits she received from being part of Greek life until after she graduated.

“Going to a meeting every week seemed taxing sometimes, but now that I have meetings every day from my job, I know how to make them run smoothly, to speak up on questions I may have, and how to take effective notes and follow up with people,” she said. “I work well under deadline pressures. I know how to work with and get along with people who have differing opinions than me.”

ΚΣ Steve LaHood 1970 BSBA • Kappa Sigma

Steve LaHood had never left his hometown of Peoria, Illinois, until he arrived on Tri-State’s campus in 1966. He decided to join Kappa Sigma to meet people and gain leadership development skills.

He found both, as his three best friends came from Kappa Sig, and serving as an officer developed his leadership skills.

“I wouldn’t have done nearly as well in my business career without that fraternity experience and the education at Trine University,” he said.

ΦΚΘ Brandon Preston 2015 BSEXS • Phi Kappa Theta

Brandon Preston remembers coming back from his first NCAA national wrestling tournament his sophomore year and being greeted by Phi Theta Kappa brothers with swords on different sides of the entrance to the fraternity house, all cheering for him as he walked in.

“My best friend, Shane Hendrickson, had organized the whole event, blasting our friend group’s favorite song (Thuggish Ruggish Bone), had a banner hanging, and a cake waiting for me, as the tournament always lands on my birthday,” he recalled.

Preston said Greek life built his confidence and helped him meet students outside of sports.

“I knew nearly the entire school when I was at Trine because of the events we held over at Phi Kap,” he said.

He said the fraternity also gave him access to a larger network of Phi Kappa Theta brothers across the country.

“Since graduating, I’ve run into multiple Phi Kappa Theta brothers from different schools, and have even worked with a couple of them in some of the jobs I have had,” he said.



He also made friends with neighbors and friendly rivals Alpha Sigma Phi. He and Goudy launched the Sig Cup event, which has raised \$80,000 for student scholarships.

He also was a key part of raising \$1.2 million for the Kappa Sigma house.

“I wanted to give back some of the things that that I got out of it that were life-lasting for me, whether it was a friendship or the leadership experience I got,” he said. “I hope it’s around for another 100 years.”



ΓΦΕ Serena Zhang 2019 BSEE • Gamma Phi Epsilon

As an electrical engineering major, Serena Zhang had only one or two girls in her classes. She joined Gamma Phi Epsilon to meet more.

“I only knew my dance teammates,” she said. “When it was formal recruitment season, my dance teammates signed me up to go through formal together.”

Favorite memories include partnering with Sig Ep to raise money for children with cancer through Boo! Cancer and the fraternity’s haunted house.

“I think Greek life brings students closer together and offers an environment for students to form a deeper relationship with one another,” she said. “It provides opportunities for teamwork and gives back to the community.”

ΣΦΔ Craig Cotterman 2004 BSME • Sigma Phi Delta

Craig Cotterman didn’t know anyone at Tri-State or much about the area during his first year at Tri-State. He decided to join Sigma Phi Delta because its members were engineering majors.

“I knew we would be in a lot of the same classes and have similar interests,” he said. “It was nice to have your fraternity members to help out in any way needed.”

Life in the fraternity house included people-watching on the balcony and playing horseshoe in the backyard. His favorite memory was living in the house during the summer and heading out to the lake to go boating a couple nights a week after work.

He enjoys keeping in touch with his fraternity brothers, but with one in particular, the sense of family is more acute.

“He married my sister, so I see him fairly often,” he said. ■



Trine University President Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D., and Dr. Rick L. James, chair of the Board of Trustees, stand in the MTI Center, one of many projects funded by the Invest in Excellence campaign.

INVEST IN EXCELLENCE TRANSFORMS TRINE UNIVERSITY

Though Trine University's Invest in Excellence campaign is by far the largest in university history, the massive effort has had an impact far beyond what can be measured in dollars and cents.

The \$137 million raised for Trine University facilities, scholarships and the endowment has transformed the university's campus, academics, athletics and even its culture.

"We launched Invest in Excellence to provide the material and financial resources to allow students to receive a current, quality, affordable education at Trine University," said Dr. Rick L. James, chair of Trine University's Board of Trustees. "The campaign has far exceeded our goals. It has not only met current needs, but it has positioned the university well for the future and supported countless students as they seek to make their dreams and ambitions a reality."



The campaign has far exceeded our goals. It has not only met current needs, but it has positioned the university well for the future and supported countless students as they seek to make their dreams and ambitions a reality."

Dr. Rick L. James
Chair of Trine University's Board of Trustees

TRANSFORMING ACADEMICS

According to John Shannon, vice president for academic affairs, Trine's continual enrollment growth created a need for additional facilities.

"In particular, we needed to add classrooms, labs and offices," he said. "In addition, we needed to upgrade our academic technology across the board as well as ensure our lab equipment and setup stayed current."

Campaign elements such as the Jim and Joan Bock Center for Innovation and Biomedical Engineering, the Best Hall expansion and the Ford Hall renovation have provided new classroom, lab and office space as well as state-of-the-art classroom and lab equipment. The Health Sciences Education Center in Fort Wayne, Shannon said, provided outstanding space for health professions programs such as the Doctor of Physical Therapy, Master of Physician Assistant Studies, and surgical technology.



The Invest in Excellence campaign provided funding to renovate surgical suites for students in Trine University's surgical technology program.

The new Steel Dynamics Inc. Center for Engineering and Computing, which will open in fall 2022, will help accommodate nearly 130 percent growth in the Allen School of Engineering and Computing over the last 15 years, said William Barry, Ph.D., dean of the school.

In addition to providing additional labs, classroom and study space for engineering students, the new facility will feature new Tissue Engineering and Bioprocess Engineering labs, providing state-of-the-art educational spaces for Trine’s biomedical and chemical engineering students to learn, practice and master laboratory techniques to meet the ever-evolving industry demand.



The new facility will benefit more than just engineering students. Though its Virtual Reality lab, with 26 HTC and Microsoft VR headsets, will give computer science and information technology, software engineering and computer engineering students access to the newest VR hardware

to develop software and games to test their designs, the lab also will be used by students across the entire campus to complete virtual training modules for infrastructure design and tours, engineering and industrial equipment training, business scenario simulations and health sciences.

Similarly, the 80/20 Foundation Maker Space and Active Learning Lab will allow any student to work through concept development to design and ultimately build a functional model.

“We consider the application of the theory to a working design as one of the most important steps in the learning process,” said Barry. “To be ready for the real world, we want our students to move well past theoretical designs and into practical real-world applications.”

“These facilities provide our students and faculty with opportunities to thrive in modern, well-equipped classrooms and labs,” said Shannon. “They’ve also provided us with a standard of quality that is our new norm; it is our expectation as new academic programs are developed and implemented. They’ve given us the confidence to continue to think big and the momentum to move forward on academic projects involving the acquisition and use of additional space and facilities.”

Updated facilities support Trine students like Alexander Pessell, who graduated in May with a degree in biomedical engineering. Selected for the prestigious National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program, Pessell has been accepted into the biomedical engineering Ph.D. program at Johns Hopkins University.

Pessell said he learned about biomedical engineering research in the Lab Techniques course taught by John Patton, Ph.D.

“After speaking with him and really enjoying the process of developing a hypothesis, carrying out experiments, and illustrating my conclusions through written and oral dialogue, I saw how a Ph.D. program would be very beneficial for me,” Pessell said.

A summer Research Experience for Undergraduates confirmed his passion for research. In addition to that experience, his classes and faculty interaction, a research project at Trine, funded by an Indiana Space Grant Consortium Undergraduate Research Grant, equipped Pessell with the foundational skills to conduct Ph.D. research.

“I used instruments such as the scanning electron microscope and the infrared spectrometer that were housed in different departments,” he said. “The whole process taught me how to think critically and individually to entertain different ideas and methodologies. It taught me how to solve problems and think outside-of-the-box, along with working with others and entertaining various ideas among a group.”



Alexander Pessell, second from right, was part of a team at Trine that conducted a research project involving a potential treatment for blood disorders. The experience helped equip Pessell with the foundational skills to conduct Ph.D. research. Other research group members pictured are, from left, Melanie G. Watson, Ph.D., associate professor of biomedical engineering, advisor, and biomedical engineering majors Anthony Geraci, Kayle Rile and Kennedy Baugh.

TRANSFORMING ATHLETICS

Besides major structures like Thunder Ice Arena and the MTI Center, Invest in Excellence provided extensive renovations and additional amenities for athletic facilities throughout campus. As it has enhanced its resources for athletes, the

As a former standout athlete, Trine alumna Brandi Dawson said she is “super thankful” for the investment the university has made in athletic facilities.



assistant vice president for athletics.

Land said potential athletes pay attention to facilities for all sports, not just their own. Seeing the MTI Center impacts a football recruit and seeing a crowded football game with a digital scoreboard impacts a basketball player.

Facilities also enhance the fan experience. Land notes that football games draw 5,000 or more fans, equivalent to half the population of Angola.

“When you make an investment not only in playing facilities but in amenities like the jumbotron, it becomes a destination to watch a game,” he said. “We attract people from Fort Wayne and the surrounding area who don’t even have a kid on the team, but just want to come here and watch a game.”

Brandi Dawson, who recently returned to Trine as an assistant athletic director after a historic career as a Thunder women’s basketball player, said she was “super thankful” as a student-athlete for the investment made in facilities, particularly the MTI Center.

“We played at Hope and Calvin and they had these huge facilities, so just seeing that we could be one of those top schools in the MIAA was pretty amazing,” she said. “Having the university make that investment in us gave us more confidence on the court. We realized we were the real deal and we went out and showed it.”

In her current role, she sees the larger-than-life image of herself on MTI’s south wall each day and hopes to have the same impact on Trine athletics that she did as a student-athlete.

university has seen increased success on the field and court, with more teams and individuals competing for conference and even national titles.

“The support we have received through the campus says to a recruit that athletics are important to Trine University, that we are invested in our student athletes and that we take this seriously and want to win at a national level,” said Matt Land,

“Being here for these past few weeks, I’ve seen what Trine does compared to the other MIAA schools, and I feel like we’re really on top of our game,” she said. “Our leadership is amazing and I thank all of them.”

TRANSFORMING LIVES

Scholarship funds raised through Invest in Excellence have supported students like Jessica McFarland, an elementary education major. Attracted to Trine by its small class sizes and welcoming atmosphere, McFarland said she would not have been able to consider Trine without the scholarship support she received.

“I have grown up in a low-income family, so with these scholarships, I was able to attend the school of my dreams where I knew that I would receive the best education possible,” she said.

She said the scholarship help has allowed her to focus on her education without having to stress over financial pressures, and participate in campus events and Greek life.



I know I wouldn’t be where I am today without the help of these scholarships.”

Jessica McFarland
Elementary Education

“Scholarships have allowed me to be a part of the Trine community and I have loved every minute of it,” she said. “I know I wouldn’t be where I am today without the help of these scholarships.”

“Even as we marvel at beautiful buildings and expanded academic programs, at the end of the day, the most important outcome of the campaign is its impact on students,” said Dr. Brooks. “Invest in Excellence has transformed countless lives, and we are proud of what has been accomplished and look ahead to prepare new generations of students to meet the future challenges of our region, nation and world.”

The university celebrated the campaign and its accomplishments at the Touchstone and Homecoming Celebration Dinner in October. ■

Invest in Excellence \$75 million campaign launched

Trine University launches its biomedical engineering degree program as the nearly 25,000-square-foot **Jim and Joan Bock Center for Innovation and Biomedical Engineering** opens, the home for the Jim and Joan Bock Biomedical Engineering Department, Foundry Lab, Plastics Lab, Hall of Innovation and Trine innovation 1.



TRINE innovation 1

2009

2013

The **Larry and Judy Reiners Residence Hall** opens, featuring units with private baths, air conditioning and a common living space and kitchen. The adjacent **Stadium Hall**, featuring similar apartment-style living, opens in 2018.



The university dedicates the **Judy A. Morrill Garden Wall**, with plantings that enhance the campus year-round.

Ford Hall, renovated with modern classrooms as the home of the **Ketner School of Business**, opens.



2015



Judy A. Morrill and Trine University President Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D., at the dedication of the Judy A. Morrill Garden Wall in 2015.



Providing a top-of-the-line arena for basketball as well as a bowling alley and esports arena, Trine University opens the **MTI Center**.



A \$1 million gift establishes the **Larry & Judy Reiners Endowed Scholarship Fund**.

Larry and Judy Reiners, shown with Trine President Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D., gave \$1 million to establish the Larry & Judy Reiners Endowed Scholarship Fund, which will provide renewable scholarships for six Trine undergraduate students each year.

2018

The Invest in Excellence campaign closes on April 30, having **raised more than \$137 million** for Trine University facilities, scholarship and the endowment.

START \$75 MILLION \$125 MILLION OVER \$137 MILLION RAISED!

2010

Trine University launches the **Master of Science in leadership program**, which becomes the **Lou Holtz Master of Science in Organizational Leadership**. The exercise science program also launches.



2014

Lee Greenwood performs the inaugural concert at the **T. Furth Center for Performing Arts**, the former Angola Christian Church building renovated as a cultural center for Trine University and Steuben County.



Trine University's **Health Sciences Education Center** opens on the Parkview Randallia campus in Fort Wayne. Trine's College of Health Professions now offers programs in physical therapy, physician assistant studies, surgical technology and RN-to-BSN, with Master of Science in Nursing and speech language pathology beginning in 2022.



Trine introduces **Master of Business Administration** and **Master of Science in Engineering Management** programs.

2016

GOAL EXPANDED TO \$125 MILLION

Invest in Excellence surpasses \$80 million.

2017

The 26,000-square-foot addition to **Best Hall** opens, bringing seven laboratories, 12 offices, group study spaces and 140 new parking spaces.



Trine University's first doctoral program, the **Doctor of Physical Therapy**, receives accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE).

The **Thunder Ice Arena** opens, providing a home for Trine University hockey as well as community skating and hockey programs.



Gifts from **Ken and Kathy Ehinger** fund the **Ehinger Fellows** program in the Ketner School of Business.



Ken and Kathy Ehinger, center, stand with the inaugural class of the Ehinger Fellows in the Ketner School of Business.

2020



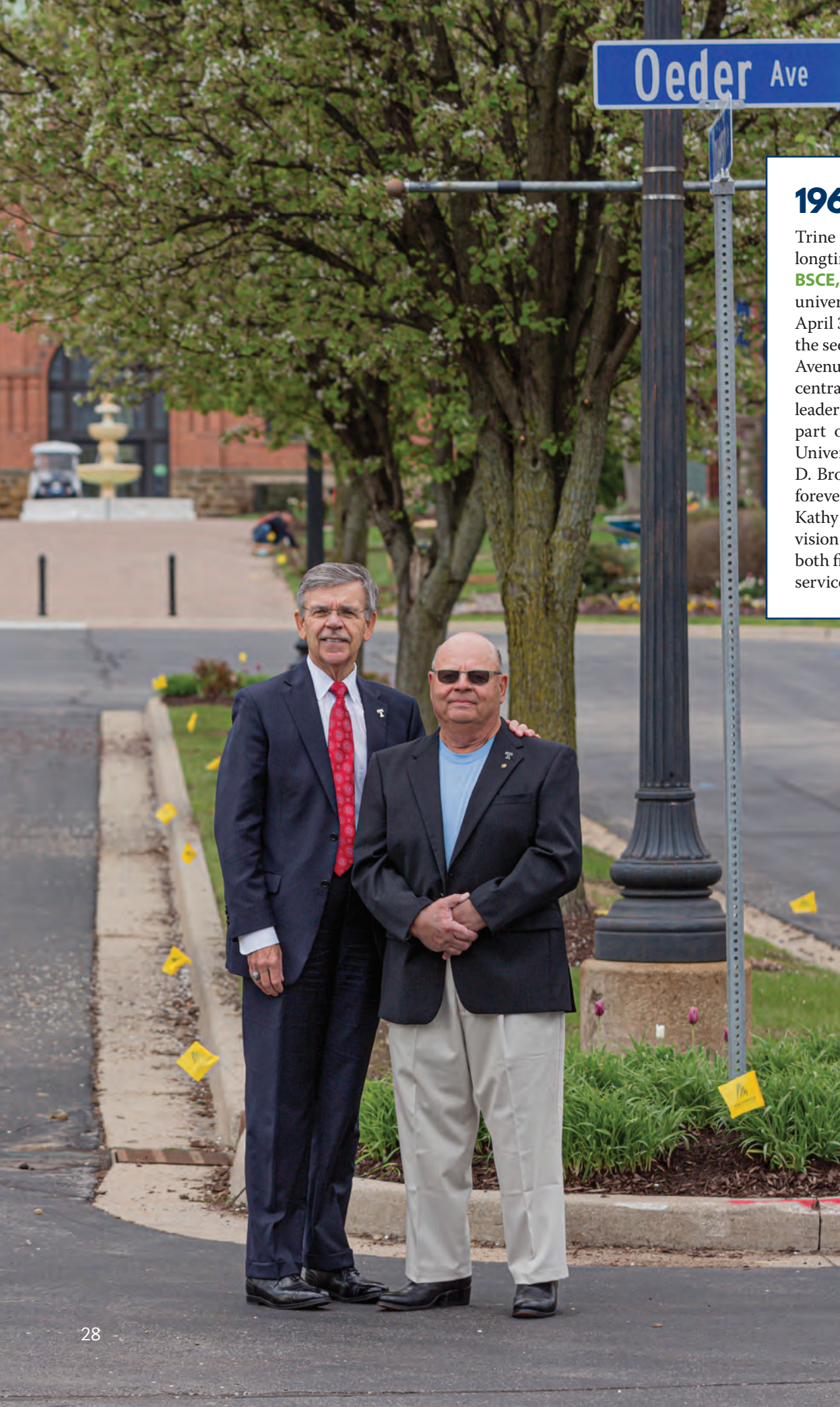
The **Fred Zollner Athletic Stadium** is enhanced with the addition of a full-color, 4K video scoreboard.

Building on continued growth, Trine University's **Franks School of Education** announces its new **Center for Montessori Education** to help meet the demand for educators with Montessori training.

2021

Trine University breaks ground for the new **Steel Dynamics Inc. Center for Engineering and Computing**, scheduled to open in 2022.





Oeder Ave

1960s

Trine University honored trustee and longtime supporter **Richard Oeder, 1965 BSCE**, by renaming a roadway near the university's main entrance in his honor on April 30. Formerly part of West Gale Street, the section of road is now designated Oeder Avenue. "Just as this avenue runs into the central part of our campus, Richard's leadership as a trustee has been a central part of the growth and success of Trine University over the past 25 years," said Earl D. Brooks II, university president. "We are forever grateful to Richard and his wife Kathy for their generous support for the vision and mission of Trine University, both financially and through many hours of service they have given."

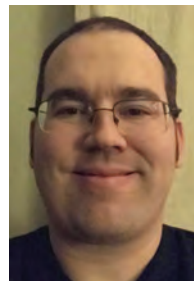
1990s

Susan Balaguer, 1997 BAM, was named Parsons Corporation's chief human resources officer in July.



2000s

Charles "Chip" Porter, 2003 BSCE, accepted a job as the new highway engineer for Steuben County.



class notes

keep connected with alumni and friends

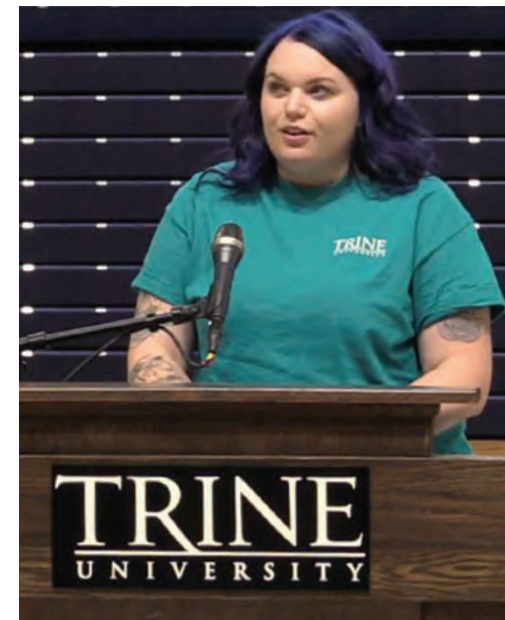
Share what is happening in your life with your fellow alumni. Class notes, including births, marriages, promotions, additional education, relocations, etc., may be submitted to alumni@trine.edu.

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

2010s

Danielle Crosby, 2012 BSCJ/BSPSY, an author, domestic violence survivor and advocate, spoke during the Take Back the Night program in Trine University's MTI Center on April 14. Crosby, whose abusive relationship began while she was a student at Trine, shared her personal story during the event's keynote address. She told students to leave anyone who is controlling, makes them fearful or suicidal, or touches them without consent, and encouraged anyone who exhibits toxic behaviors to get help.

Video from Take Back the Night is available at vimeo.com/513451184



Andrea (Junk) Badger, 2012 BSBIO, and Kelly Badger welcomed a baby girl Jan. 23, 2021. Quinn Isabelle was 8 pounds, 15 ounces.



Nicholas (Nick) Gulde, 2015 BSCJ, married Sara Greer in January.



Rob Hoffman, 2016 BSHPE, has been promoted to associate head coach for the Trine University women's basketball team.



Whitney Shafer, 2016 BSEXS, has recently taken a position at The University of Southern Mississippi as the coordinator of Prism for the school. She will handle L G B T Q + initiatives across the campus.



—continued

2010s *continued*

O'Shea Owens, 2017 BSCJ, has moved to a new role in Trine University's Office of University Advancement as director of alumni and parent relations. O'Shea, who was very active during his time as a Trine student, has worked in different roles at the university since graduating, serving as director of student activities and later as assistant athletic director of game operations and fan experience.



Christian Jones, 2018 BSSM, recently accepted the position of associate athletic Director for fan engagement and business operations in the Trine University Athletic Department. Christian previously served as director of student activities as well as an admission counselor.



Brandi Dawson, 2019 BSEXs, has accepted the role as assistant athletic director for game operations in the Trine University Athletic Department. Brandi helped lead the Trine women's basketball team to three straight MIAA conference championships.



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2020s

Tri-State graduate's descendants receive Trine degrees

Andrew Baughman, left, 2021 BSSE, and Naomi Gollmer, 2020 BSMK, hold their great-grandmother **Mildred Gee's diploma** on the steps of Sponsel Administration Building following Trine University's Commencement on May 8. Andrew and Naomi received their Trine degrees a century after Mildred received hers from Tri-State College in 1921.

All three attended during a time of pandemic. Mildred contracted the Spanish flu while at Tri-State and had to leave school to recover, while Andrew had to quarantine for two weeks after getting COVID-19 and Naomi's original Commencement ceremony was postponed due to the pandemic.

After graduating from Tri-State, Mildred had a long career teaching high school in Hicksville, Ohio. Naomi said several of her family members went through Mildred's classroom. Mildred died in 1982.

Shay Herbert, 2021 BACOM, accepted a position as the sports information specialist in Trine University's Sports Information Department. Her job will focus on multimedia content and specialize in social media for the athletic department. ■



THUNDER'S FINAL ROLL

(current as of July 12, 2021)

1940s

Harry W. Broady, 1942 BSCE, Snohomish, Washington, Feb. 18, 2021

Glen E. Main, 1943 BSAE, Louisville, Tennessee, April 11, 2021

Ruth J. (Orwig) Richter, 1943 SEC, West Lafayette, Indiana, April 23, 2021

Raymond P. Woods, 1943 BSAC, Ottawa, Ohio, June 26, 2021

Liston E. Baldwin, 1947 BSME, Pensacola, Florida, March 28, 2021

Allan F. Kauble, 1947 BSME, Columbus, Ohio, April 8, 2021

Marshall L. Hlatko, 1948 BSRE/BSAE, Battle Creek, Michigan, Jan. 23, 2021

Robert J. Licurse, 1948 BSCE, Hopewell Junction, New York, Feb. 20, 2021

Edwin S. Oxner, 1948 BSRE, Georgetown, Texas, Dec. 26, 2020

Charles M. Brower, 1949 BSCE, North Webster, Indiana, April 21, 2021

Thomas V. McNamara, 1949 BSME, Kalamazoo, Michigan, April 8, 2021

1950s

Jesse D. Boak, 1950 BSME, New Castle, Pennsylvania, June 15, 2021

Henry A. Dyson, 1950 BSME, Kensington, Connecticut, May 5, 2021

Lloyd E. Hobbs, 1950 BSCE, Tulsa, Oklahoma, Dec. 14, 2020

Joseph H. McCorkel Jr., 1950 BSCE, Goshen, Indiana, June 13, 2021

Stanley T. Hioki, 1951 BSCE, Honolulu, Hawaii, May 11, 2021

Aden R. Sirles, 1951 BSChE, Birmingham, Alabama, Dec. 1, 2020

Dayne L. Davis Jr., 1952 BSBA, Carleton, Michigan, March 2, 2021

Ian W. Isdale, 1952 BSEE, North Branford, Connecticut, Feb. 5, 2021

Richard M. Williams III, 1952 BSChE, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, Dec. 30, 2020

Richard B. Wyman, 1953 BSME, Steubenville, Ohio, Jan. 5, 2021

Franklin R. Cheng, 1954 BSME, Rock Island, Illinois, May 4, 2021

Jack E. Donaldson, 1954 BSCE, Hudson, Michigan, June 25, 2021

Kenneth J. Kunst, 1954 BSME, Mishawaka, Indiana, May 26, 2021

Ivan T. Cady, 1955 BSAE, San Jose, California, Dec. 28, 2021

Gregory J. Ehalt, 1955 BSME, Minneapolis, Minnesota, April 4, 2021

Joseph T. Oxencis, 1955 BSCE, Chatham, Illinois, March 23, 2021

Lyle G. Brewer Sr., 1956 BSRE, Church Hill, Tennessee, May 12, 2021

Leo J. Hasbrouck, 1956 BSRE, Santa Rosa, California, May 6, 2021

Ernest L. Heimlich, 1956 BSAC, Houston, Texas, May 25, 2021

John A. Marcinek Jr., 1956 BSChE, Springfield, Massachusetts, Dec. 15, 2020

John P. Nemcovich, 1956 BSME, Los Angeles, California, March 14, 2021

Philip B. Siegfried, 1956 BSBA, Kalamazoo, Michigan, Jan. 13, 2021

Bernard Daniel Boothe Jr., 1957 BSCE, Watertown, New York, Feb. 10, 2021

Dewey M. Cain Jr., 1957 BSBA, Indianapolis, Indiana, June 7, 2021

James V. Marighugh, 1957 BSEE, Delphos, Ohio, June 22, 2021

Nicholas L. Trunzo, 1957 BSME, Chalfont, Pennsylvania, Jan. 9, 2021

Dana L. Boatman, Ph.D., 1958 BSME, Knoxville, Tennessee, April 13, 2021

Harold J. (Jim) Buttery, Jr., 1958 BSEE, Orange City, Florida, May 27, 2021

William L. Colby, 1958 DDT/CAD/DT, Perry, Michigan, May 25, 2021

Robert G. Graham, 1958 BSCE, New Philadelphia, Ohio, May 22, 2021

Robert H. Mielke Jr., 1958 BSAE, Wichita, Kansas, Feb. 2, 2021

Robert G. Moore Sr., 1958 BSBA, Elkhart, Indiana, Feb. 21, 2021

Bernard G. Poddick, 1958 BSME, Sarasota, Florida, Dec. 9, 2020

Richard Broyles, Ph.D., 1959 BSAE/DDT, St. Petersburg, Florida, Sept. 2, 2020

Harold C. Folts, 1959 BSEE, Fredericksburg, Virginia, May 26, 2021

Milton B. Lotz, 1959 BSEE, Monticello, Indiana, May 13, 2021

Charles E. Ralph, 1959 BSChE, Moline, Illinois, Feb. 18, 2021

Leroy G. VanStone Jr., 1959 BSME, Coldwater, Michigan, Jan. 29, 2021

1960s

William O. Boyer, 1960 BSEE, Anna, Ohio, Nov. 9, 2020

Wayne R. Clausius, 1960 BSCE, Effingham, Illinois, Feb. 6, 2021

Joseph W. Duehmig, 1960 BSEE, Avilla, Indiana, Jan. 26, 2021

Jerome E. Erickson, 1960 BSEE, Jamestown, New York, Feb. 3, 2021

Donald D. Ferm, 1960 BSME, Bentonville, Arkansas, May 24, 2021

Rex E. Fitzpatrick, 1960 BSME, Mobile, Alabama, May 28, 2021

Larry D. Griffith, 1960 DDT, Pleasant Lake, Indiana, Jan. 25, 2021

George D. Logothetis, 1960 BSCE, Hobart, Indiana, May 1, 2021

Clement O. Stiving, 1960 BSCE, Kunkle, Ohio, Jan. 10, 2021

Lee W. Stonestreet, 1960 BSME, Kokomo, Indiana, Jan. 7, 2021

Harold J. Waterman Jr., 1960 BSME, Wallingford, Connecticut, May 18, 2021

James B. Clouse, 1961 DDT, Houston, Texas, Feb. 2, 2021

James C. Fye, 1961 BSEE, Annapolis, Maryland, Feb. 27, 2021

Michael C. Klovanych, 1961 BSCE, Hastings, Michigan, Feb. 21, 2021

Donald L. Power, 1961 BSEA, Kalamazoo, Michigan, Feb. 14, 2021

Alan E. Ringenberg, 1961 BSCE, Hillsdale, Michigan, April 17, 2021

Robert A. Myers, 1963 BSBA, Coortland, Ohio, Jan. 4, 2021

James C. Russell, 1963 BSME, Wasilla, Alaska, Jan. 17, 2021

Kenneth H. Will, 1963 BSCE, Teutopolis, Illinois, March 26, 2021

Byron D. Bunch, 1964 BSCE, Shell Knob, Missouri, Feb. 2, 2021

Donald K. Harr, 1964 BSBA, Sedona, Arizona, Jan. 30, 2021

David F. King, 1965 BSME, Decatur, Alabama, April 17, 2021

William A. Brock, 1966 BSAE, Grand Junction, Colorado, May 31, 2021

Michael H. Doll, 1967 DDT/CAD/DT, Syracuse, Indiana, May 16, 2021

John Francis Michael Klosowski, 1967 BSCE, Stanford, Kentucky, Jan. 6, 2021

Ernest F. McKenzie, 1967 BSEE, Fort Collins, Colorado, May 20, 2021

Donald E. Moore, 1967 BSBA, Montpelier, Ohio, June 8, 2021

John B. Scheibelhut, 1968 BSME, South Bend, Indiana, Feb. 17, 2021

Ernest J. (Skip) Walter Jr., 1968 BSBA, Anderson, South Carolina, Feb. 4, 2021

Clement C. Liu, 1969 BSEE, Lexington, Massachusetts, Jan. 9, 2021

Terry L. Roberts, 1969 BSBA, Angola, Indiana, Jan. 5, 2021

1970s

John F. Burroughs, 1970 BSME/BSAE, Angola, Indiana, Feb. 9, 2021

Fred C. Brown, 1971 BSBA, Levittown, New York, Jan. 13, 2021

James D. Hammond, 1972 BSBA, Ballston Lake, New York, Jan. 13 2021

Donald L. Thiel, 1972 ASCT, Panama City, Florida, Jan. 20, 2021

Steven W. Arnold, 1973 BSEE, Zionsville, Indiana, June 10, 2021

Larry R. Barness, 1974 BSBA, Phoenix, Arizona, Jan. 30, 2021

Richard S. Karwatka, 1975 ASMDT/BSTM, Merrillville, Indiana, Feb. 23, 2021

Kaye L. (Wentworth) Barrett, 1977 BSEIEd, Camden, Michigan, Feb. 14, 2021

Frank D. Barr, II, 1979 BSMA, Pierceton, Indiana, Feb. 16, 2021

THUNDER'S FINAL ROLL

TRINE'S 14TH PRESIDENT, RICHARD KENYON, PH.D., DIES AT 88

Trine University mourns the loss of Richard Kenyon, Ph.D., who served as its 14th president from 1989 to 1992. Dr. Kenyon died April 16 at his home in Port Charlotte, Florida, at age 88.

During Dr. Kenyon's tenure, Tri-State University established its Faculty Senate and the Commerce Building, the last original building from Tri-State's founding in 1884, was renovated into the Taylor Hall of Humanities. The university also changed its athletic mascot from Trojans to the Thunder.

In addition to his presidency at Tri-State, Dr. Kenyon served as dean of the Colleges of Engineering at Rochester Institute of Technology and Union College; as a professor, department head and associate dean at Clarkson College (now University); and as an instructor at Cornell University. He held a Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering from Clarkson College of Technology, a Master of Science in thermal engineering from Cornell University and a Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from Syracuse University. He was author or co-author of three textbooks and more than 40 technical and journal articles. ■






Gladieux takes home NCAA championship in 400-meter hurdles

Sophomore Jake Gladieux became just the second national champion in the history of the Trine University men's track and field program, winning the 400-meter hurdles. He also earned All-American status on the back of the win.

Gladieux qualified for the event when he finished the preliminary race with a time of 52.64, good enough for fourth seed in the final race. He would shave further time off for the final coming in with the win at 52.57.

"To win a national championship after facing the adversity of the past few weeks speaks volumes for his work ethic and mental toughness," said Seth Ware, assistant coach in charge of sprints, hurdles and javelin. "I am extremely proud to be his coach and look forward to what the future holds for him and the entirety of the Thunder track and field program."

Gladieux is the second men's track and field athlete to become a national champion since Trine University joined the NCAA in 2004. He is the first since 2008 when Russell Dill also brought home a championship in the 400-meter hurdles. 




Jake Gladieux, left, poses with his championship trophy next to Seth Ware, assistant coach in charge of sprints, hurdles and javelin.

Men's track and field runs away with MIAA Outdoor Championship



The Thunder returned home as Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA) Outdoor Champions following a strong second day at the championship event. The team won the title in dominating fashion, posting a score of 244 with the nearest competitor coming in at 119.50. It is the first time Trine University has won an outdoor championship since joining the MIAA.

Eight student-athletes earned All-MIAA honors for their performance at the event. Sophomore Jake Gladieux led the team with a pair of victories in the 110-meter hurdles (15.15) and 400-meter hurdles (53.97). Sophomore Ben Williams came up with a victory in the 200-meter dash with a time of 22.58, and senior Neil O'Brien came up with one in the steeplechase (9:24.72) to receive All-MIAA honors as individuals.

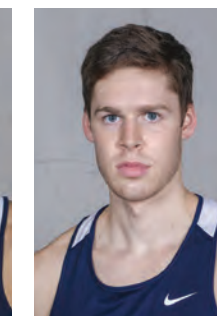
The final All-MIAA honors came from the 4x100-meter relay team, which won with a time of 41.68. The team included Williams, senior Jacob Root, junior Josh Davis and sophomore William Thonn. 



Jake Gladieux



Ben Williams



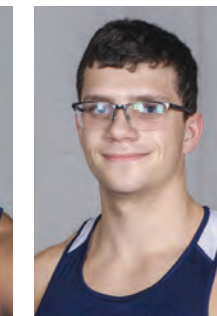
Neil O'Brien



Jacob Root



Josh Davis




William Thonn

Two All-Americans and an MVP for women's track and field

The Thunder finished the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA) season by coming in second at the MIAA Outdoor Championship. They posted a team score of 178.5 while the champions from Hope College came in with 234 points.

Four members of the team earned All-MIAA honors at the event, with freshman Haley Livingston becoming a two-event honoree while also being named the MIAA Most Valuable Field Athlete. Junior Valerie Obear also finished with a pair of All-MIAA honors, while Megan Theismann and Autumn Presley rounded out the group.

The season culminated with a pair of student-athletes finishing as All-Americans following strong performances at the 2021 NCAA Division III Outdoor Track and Field Championships. Obear earned the honor with a third-place finish, the highest in the program's history, in the hammer throw.

Senior Evie Bultemeyer earned her All-American honor by finishing sixth in the 1500-meter race. She became the most decorated athlete in Trine's NCAA history, earning her sixth overall All-American award, five on the track and one in cross country. 



Haley Livingston



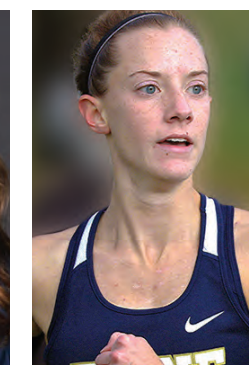
Valerie Obear



Megan Theismann



Autumn Presley



Evie Bultemeyer



Miller named Coach of the Year, Bowman tabbed All-American

The Trine University men’s basketball season was capped off with national awards. The first came for head coach **Brooks Miller, who was named the HoopDirt.com NCAA DIII Coach of the Year** presented by Just Play Solutions, and Coach of the Year by *Basketball Times* magazine for the 2020-21 college basketball season. Miller, in his 10th year at the helm of the program, picked up his 150th career win this season. He currently holds a career record of 157-99, and has led Trine to a top-four finish in the MIAA in each of his 10 seasons. He is responsible for leading Trine to its first MIAA regular season (2018-19) and tournament (2020-21) titles.



The second came for junior Nick Bowman, who was named first-team All-American by D3hoops.com. Bowman earned first-team All-Great Lakes Region and All-MIAA, and was tabbed the conference Most Valuable Player. Additionally, Bowman was named All-American by *Basketball Times Magazine*. He led the MIAA in scoring (21.8 points per game), field goals (146-of-273) and steals (63), and was second in assists (54), but led the conference in helpers in MIAA games (23).



Nick Bowman

Cheer 2nd at UCA College Championships

Trine University cheerleading traveled to Florida to compete in this year’s Universal Cheerleaders Association (UCA) College Cheerleading Nationals in the Open Small Coed division, return homing with an impressive runner-up finish. The event was a two-day process, with a preliminary round held April 27 and finals held April 28. The overall winner was determined by averaging the two performance scores for a final event score.

In the preliminary round, the Thunder would join just two other teams from any division with a hit-zero performance. The other two teams both came out of the All Girl division and represented University of Mississippi and Western Kentucky University. Trine would also finish the finals round hit-zero, which means no stunts fell, all tumbling landed cleanly and no one violated the safety rules of the competition.

The Thunder would turn in a score of 81.45 over the two days, just 1.5 points behind the first-place team. Trine was the only institution from the state of Indiana that was able to compete in person rather than virtually.



High Voltage Dance Team 3rd at nationals

Trine University’s High Voltage Dance Team finished third during its first trip to the National Dance Alliance Collegiate national championship. Trine finished with 86.88 points in the Team Performance Division III Finals, less than one point behind second-place University of Texas at Dallas. Six teams total competed in the division; three in person and three virtually. “This year was an amazing experience,” said Coach Shea Sims. “This is the third year that the team has tried to

compete at NDA College Nationals. There were so many hurdles set in front of them and together they overcame each one. I am so thankful for the girls’ hard work and the support of the university to allow the ladies to do so. We were thankful to compete in person.” The team performance division combines three styles: pom, jazz and hip hop. Teams are required to perform at least 30 consecutive seconds in each style.



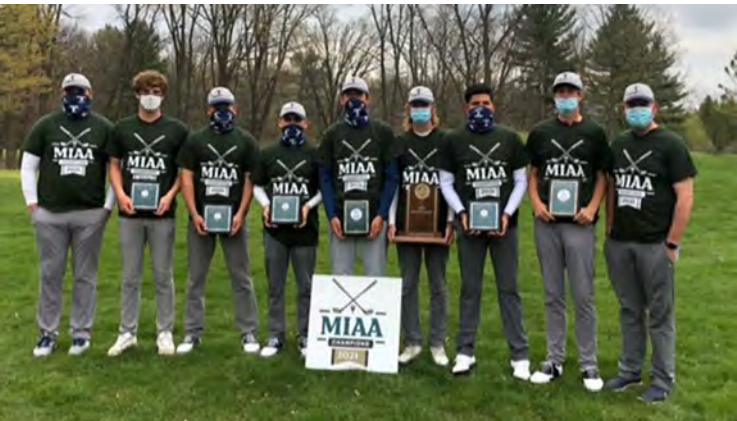
Men’s golf ends season at national championship

This year marked the first time the Thunder qualified for the NCAA Division III Men’s Golf Championship; they entered it ranked fourth in the Great Lakes Region. The team earned their place by claiming their second straight Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA) team championship. Trine finished the regular season with a team score of 1,779 strokes, a 46-stroke lead over second place. Representing the Thunder were seniors Carlos Coeto, Cameron Ruge and Todd Mieske, along with sophomore Mitch Lowney and freshman Mark Civanich. All five represented Trine on All-MIAA teams, with Ruge and Civanich taking first-team honors and the rest coming in on the second team.

At the NCAA championship, the team posted a two-day score of 612 strokes, just seven strokes out of 18th position and a spot in the final two days of the championship.

Coeto, however, made the cut as an individual following an exciting final hole of the second round. Needing a par to secure his spot for the final two days, Coeto started the 18th hole with a wayward shot off the tee. After laying up and chipping to the green, he proceeded to sink a 25-foot putt for par, becoming the first Thunder golfer to make the cut at an NCAA Championship.

He would go on to finish the event in 47th place with a 20-over-par score of 303.



Women’s tennis has best NCAA D-III season

The Thunder finished the season 15-5 overall and 6-2 in the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA). The 15 wins represents the highest win total for the program since moving to NCAA Division III. Their six wins in conference play and third-place regular season finish represent the best in the program’s MIAA history. The season ended in the first round of the MIAA Women’s Tennis Tournament with a loss to second-seeded Kalamazoo College. Junior Ashley Spirrison received the team’s lone season award, as she was named to the All-MIAA first team. By repeating as a first team selection, she becomes just the second student-athlete in program history to make multiple appearances on any All-MIAA team. Spirrison completed another spectacular season for Trine, finishing with just four total losses while competing in the No. 1 matches for both singles and doubles. She finished with a 17-1 record in singles matches and joined partner and classmate Ellie Cole to finish with a 15-3 record in doubles matches, both team-high win totals.



Softball captures 10th MIAA title

The Thunder finished the season 30-8 overall while going 14-2 in the MIAA, capturing their 10th MIAA Championship by securing a share of the title with Hope College. The team finished their season during the MIAA Softball Tournament after missing out on an at-large selection to the NCAA Division III Softball Championship. The team boasted a host of individual award winners. Senior Mercede Daugherty headlined the group by being named MIAA 2021 Most Valuable Player as well as earning second team NFCA All-Region honors and first team All-MIAA honors. Daugherty was a menace in the batter’s box throughout the season. She finished first during MIAA games with a .462 batting average, a .525 on-base percentage and 24 hits. She also finished second with seven doubles, 23 RBIs and a .769 slugging percentage. She led the Thunder in doubles, batting average and slugging percentage while finishing second in on-base percentage and hits. Six other members picked up All-MIAA honors. Sophomores Amanda Prather and pitcher Anna Koeppl as well as junior Ashley Swartout all came in as first team selections. Freshmen Scarlett Elliott and pitcher Adrienne Rosey, along with sophomore Ellie Trine, were named to the second team. Coach Don Danklefsen picked up his 500th career win on April 6.



Ellie Cole



Ashley Spirrison



Football finishes season 2nd in MIAA

The Thunder finished with a 4-1 overall record and went 2-1 in the MIAA in an abbreviated season that spanned the fall and spring. The 2-1 finish was good enough for second during conference play, with their lone loss coming to champion Albion College.

Eleven members of the Trine University football team capped off the season by earning All-Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association honors for their individual efforts during the year.

Sophomores Xaine Kirby and Kyle Naif, junior Keysean Amison and seniors Noah Meeker, Nicholas LaFountain and Ryan Hibbets were first-team selections. Freshmen Connor Arthur and Jamon Gibson, sophomore Alex Price and juniors Aaron Dean and Angel Sanchez were second-team picks.

Four members of the Trine University football team were named to the National Football Foundation (NFF) Hampshire Honor Society for their efforts in the classroom. This year’s honorees included Colt Arthur, Eric Peters, Ike Sheehan and Isaac Zager.



Keysean Amison



Colt Arthur



Connor Arthur



Aaron Dean



Jamon Gibson



Ryan Hibbets



Xaine Kirby



Nicholas LaFountain



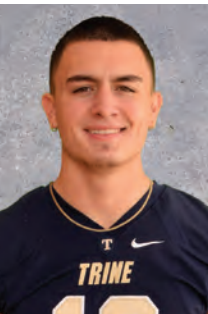
Noah Meeker



Kyle Naif



Alex Price



Angel Sanchez



Ike Sheehan



Isaac Zager

Baughman, Munger earn postseason honors for women’s volleyball

The Thunder finished the season 8-5 overall and 3-4 in Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA) play. They earned the fourth seed in the MIAA Tournament and became the eventual winner of the consolation bracket of the tournament after an opening round loss.

They ended the season with a 3-0 victory over visiting Kalamazoo College, with three seniors leading the way to victory.

Two of those would go on to be awarded postseason awards in recognition of their impressive play. Madison Munger was named to the All-MIAA first team for the second straight season. After another strong year, she finishes her career at Trine third in the program’s NCAA history with 1,219 kills.

Jacqueline Baughman was named All-MIAA second team after receiving first team honors a season ago. She averaged 9.31 assists per set during the MIAA season, coming in third among her competition. She also was named CoSIDA Academic All-District and first team CoSIDA Academic All-American, becoming the first Trine women’s volleyball player to win the latter honor.



Jacqueline Baughman



Madison Munger

Men’s tennis sets win mark

The Thunder finished the season 12-7 overall, the winningest season in the program’s NCAA Division III history. They finished the regular season 4-3 in Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA), good enough to enter the postseason tournament as the fourth seed. Their season ended with a loss against top-seeded Kalamazoo College.

Senior Isaac Everitt took home two end-of-season honors. He was named second-team All-MIAA, becoming the fifth student-athlete in program history to earn All-MIAA honors.

He was also named the 2021 Lawrence Green Scholar-Athlete by the MIAA, becoming the third student-athlete from Trine to win the award. The Lawrence Green Scholar-Athlete Award is based on academic performance in memory of the late Lawrence “Doc” Green, physical educator, athletic trainer and coach at Hope College.



Isaac Everitt



Men’s soccer falls in OT of MIAA Tournament title match, places 5 on All-MIAA

The Trine University men’s soccer team fell just short of Hope College in overtime of the championship game of the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association Tournament by a margin of 2-1.

The appearance marked the first time since joining the NCAA that the team has made a conference championship match. Overall the team finished with an 11-5 record, its best since 2018.

Five members of the Trine University men’s soccer team were recognized for their individual efforts as All-MIAA selections.

Sophomore Jared Cromwell earned first-team honors, while freshmen Tyler Murphy and Alhasan Yahya, junior Brian Morris and senior Beau Hill were second-team selections.



Jared Cromwell



Beau Hill



Brian Morris



Tyler Murphy



Alhasan Yahya

Women’s soccer earns most wins in program’s NCAA history

The Thunder finished the regular season 8-5 overall and 1-4 in the MIAA before bowing out of the conference women’s soccer tournament in the opening round to finish the season 8-6. The eight victories are the most for the program since it joined the MIAA and began competing at the NCAA Division III level.

Ghent named All-MIAA; women’s lacrosse finishes 5-9

Junior Liv Ghent became the third player in program history to be named All-MIAA second team, and the third straight student-athlete to represent the Thunder.

Ghent finished the season as team leader in all three scoring categories with 34 goals and 22 assists for 56 points. Among MIAA competition, she finished fifth in assists and points. She also finished third on the team with 38 draw controls.

The Thunder finished the regular season 5-8 overall and 1-5 in MIAA play. The season ended with a loss to Hope College in the opening round of the MIAA women’s lacrosse tournament.



Madison Munger



Two represent 4th-place men's lacrosse on All-MIAA teams

Men's lacrosse finished the season 5-7 overall and 3-3 in Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA) play, entering the postseason tournament as the four-seed and advancing to the semi-final round, where they were eliminated by top-seed Albion College.

The team placed a pair of athletes on All-MIAA teams. Senior Tyler Corless appeared on the first team, while classmate Dave Keptner appeared on the second team. This was the first time Corless has received All-MIAA honors, while Keptner was selected first team All-MIAA in 2019 and Rookie of the Year in 2018.



Tyler Corless



Dave Keptner

Men's volleyball makes 1st postseason appearance since return

The Thunder recorded 11 victories in this 2021 season, the most for the program since it was brought back as a varsity sport in 2019. Their regular season record of 11-5 earned them a spot in the Midwest Collegiate Volleyball League, their first appearance since joining the conference. Their season would end in a final loss against top-seeded Fontbonne University.

Freshman Hunter Haas was named Defensive Player of the Year by the MCVL while also appearing on the All-MCVL first team. Sophomore Parker Beale was also recognized on the second team.

Senior represents baseball on All-MIAA

Senior pitcher Adam Wheaton was named All-MIAA second team for the second time in his career this season as the Thunder finished the regular season seventh in the MIAA with a 6-17 record.

Wheaton once again turned in a strong season of work, finishing top-five in multiple categories among MIAA competition. His highest statistical finish was in strikeouts per nine innings, where he led the conference with an average of 10.01. Wheaton led the team in four categories, including wins.

Trine finished the season with a 9-6 loss to Albion College in the MIAA Tournament.



Adam Wheaton



Acrobatics and tumbling completes inaugural season

The Thunder finished their inaugural season 1-6, but improved throughout the season, recording team high scores throughout and culminating in a season high in their second-to-last competition of the season. The team picked up the first victory in program history on March 21 when they hosted Georgetown (Ky.) College, defeating them 171.265 to 147.925.



Women's golf finishes 4th in MIAA

The Thunder finished their season in MIAA conference play in fourth, with a cumulative score of 1,733 strokes. They picked up three event victories during the season, all coming in the fall portion.

Continuing the Legacy

This year, Trine University marks 100 years since its first female engineering graduate received her degree.

Though the university had been co-ed since its founding in 1884, women didn't make their way into engineering classes until Florence (Cramer) Bratton arrived at Tri-State.

After completing her civil engineering degree in 1921, Florence took a job as an engineer with the Fairbanks-Morse Company in Three Rivers, Michigan, where she drew parts for railroad motor cars.

More than 60 years after Florence graduated, Nada O'Brien arrived on Tri-State's campus. Having found comfort in the midst of war through studying math and physics, and encouraged by her father to pursue engineering, Nada completed her chemical engineering degree in 1987.



Nada O'Brien
— Class of 1987 —
Chemical Engineering

"Tri-State allowed me to step up and give back to new students who were coming in and to give back to the community that opened up its arms and helped me," she said. "I built great friendships, and I am still friends with people who were there."

Today Nada is an engineering manager in the AR/VR organization at Facebook, managing a team working on design, fabrication, testing and integration of display components and systems used in the company's augmented reality (AR), virtual reality (VR) and Portal family of products. She is working to help create technology where you can communicate with someone halfway around the world in a virtual environment that's as realistic as sitting in your own living room.

Nada still enjoys giving back. In addition to providing equipment for Trine University's AR and VR labs, she recently established a scholarship that will support female and minority students in STEM, particularly engineering majors, at the university.

As Trine University looks ahead to educating women engineers for another century, you can support women like Florence and Nada by establishing and supporting scholarships. To learn more, contact Trine's Office of University Advancement at **(260) 665-4114** or **advancement@trine.edu**



Florence (Cramer) Bratton
— Class of 1921 —
First Female
Civil Engineering Graduate



100 YEARS

TRINE MEMORIES

We asked members of the Class of 2021 for their favorite memories at Trine University. Here are a few of their responses.

My favorite memory was seeing Theta Phi and fellow Greeks at Homecomings.
— **Kammie McGreal, biology (2)**

The memory that sticks out to me the most is the mission trip I went on with the Christian Campus House. A group of around 20 students traveled from Trine to Daytona Beach, Florida, for Spring Break. Our goal for this trip was to keep the other students on Spring Break safe while also trying to spread the word of Jesus. We offered free hotdogs on the beach during the day and free van rides in the evening. It was a cool experience to talk to other college students and hear their life story while we were in the vans with them. I grew so close to the people around me while also serving alongside one another.
— **Lydia MacGilvray, marketing (3)**

My favorite memory from Trine University was being a part of "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee." This musical was two years in the making due to it being postponed due to COVID. I enjoyed the opportunity to play Leaf Conebear and I thank Trine for allowing me this amazing experience. — **Matthew Ketner, civil engineering (4)**

My favorite memory from Trine was during my Crime Scene Investigation class, having to re-enact crime scenes and figure out how we'd go about them. It was the best time I had while learning very important parts about my career. — **Yara Alkadhim, criminal justice (5)**

My favorite Trine memory is stepping out onto the ice for our first home opener for the women's hockey program. The crowd was going wild and it was an exhilarating experience. — **Hannah Nelson, health and physical education (6)**

My favorite memory is going to the National Championship in Texas for softball my sophomore year. — **Brooke Cunningham, criminal justice (1)**

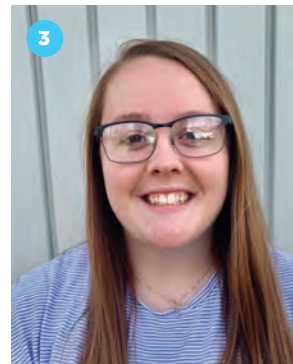
Trine has brought me my best friends. I literally cannot imagine my life without them by my side. — **Paige Reid, biology (11)**

My favorite memory was when the esports team did a 24-hour stream to raise money for the local animal shelter. Lots of coffee, pizza and fun times! — **Sydney Augsburger, finance (10)**

Some of my best memories I had in Trine University were as a participant in International Night. In 2018, I was honored to represent the Saudi Students Association in a stage performance that demonstrated the unspoken rules of Saudi hospitality. In 2019, once again, I was honored to present a stage performance that displayed traditional attire from the five different geographic regions of Saudi Arabia. Standing on stage and speaking in front of an audience of around 200 people was so wonderful and I was full of excitement. — **Ebrihem Al Namie, electrical engineering (9)**

My favorite memory here at Trine would be the moment I joined the cheer team. I've made unbreakable bonds that will last a lifetime. We've made school history twice in the four years I've been here and especially this year I'm proud of myself and everyone on my team. — **Tiger Jackson, civil engineering (8)**

My favorite memory on campus was my freshman year when the university made a pool and beach by the baseball field and there was a luau. — **Jade Willett, biology (7)**





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