

THE MAGAZINE OF TRINE UNIVERSITY

TRINE

WINTER 2021



ALUMNI PLAY KEY ROLES IN PRODUCING VITAL PFIZER MEDICATIONS. SEE PAGE 22



Grace Sullivan, a Trine University chemical engineering major, left, talks with Justin Hoepfner, a 2003 Trine alumnus representing Shambaugh and Son, at the Tailgating for Talent event on Sept. 24. Held in the MTI Center parking lot, the event provided an opportunity for students to connect with employers in a safe, socially distanced environment. The mask Sullivan is wearing is a McKetta Department of Chemical Engineering mask purchased for all department faculty and majors this fall using funds previously donated by Dr. John J. McKetta Jr. 1937 BSChE.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Though the pandemic has eased and we look forward to returning to normal operations in the fall, COVID-19 continues to impact many aspect of our lives at present. You'll see it in this magazine, from Zoom screenshots of events that would normally have been held in crowded auditoriums, to photos that include the masks we wear to protect ourselves and others.

You'll also see the resolve of the Trine University community to not only continue to contain this disease, but bring the pandemic to an end.

Our cover story highlights several chemical engineering alumni who work for Pfizer, which has been at the forefront of developing a COVID-19 vaccine as well as many other lifesaving medications. We thank them for their work, as well as other alumni and Trine community members who are designing and producing devices, medications and procedures to keep us safe and healthy.



While the pandemic may have changed some of our procedures, it has not limited our accomplishments. You'll read about several, including:

- A record number of main campus students this fall. We also are experiencing strong enrollment for the spring.
- Continued strong employment numbers for our graduates.
- A new residence facility expected to be open by the fall semester.
- Students honored at a national competition.
- Alumni who have developed Naval guidance systems, designed equipment to produce HVAC manufacturing systems, and played professional basketball.
- Conference championships for men's indoor track and field and men's basketball, which finished undefeated through the regular season and MIAA tournament.

We also are excited for plans to hold an in-person Commencement ceremony on May 8, and look forward to coverage of that celebration in the next magazine.

We thank all of you who have supported the 2021 Scholarship Gala Fund, and hope you enjoy the look at the Gala's history in this issue. We are grateful for your continued support of Trine students.

Sincerely,

Earl D. Brooks II

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



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ON THE COVER:

Chemical engineering majors Laurel Smithson of South Lebanon, Ohio, foreground, and Sherrie Riser of Anderson, Indiana, work in a lab on campus. Smithson, a senior, has accepted a full-time job with Pfizer, Inc., following graduation and will join other Trine University alumni who are part of the company.



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NEW RESIDENCE HALL TO HONOR FABIANI FAMILY LEGACY AT TRINE UNIVERSITY

To meet the needs of continued and anticipated record enrollment on its main campus, Trine University will construct a new 96-bed residence hall, expected to be open by the beginning of the fall 2021 semester.

The university’s Board of Trustees approved the new building, with a cost of \$5.5 million, at its Oct. 9 meeting.

“With our main campus continuing to attract and retain record numbers of students, our residential facilities are once again nearing capacity, and all indicators point to these trends continuing,” said Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D., Trine University president. “We appreciate the leadership of the Board of Trustees and their willingness to take action to preserve and even improve the quality of the Trine University residential experience.”

The facility will be named Fabiani Hall to honor the many contributions made by members of the Fabiani family to the university.

Dante Fabiani, a 1938 Tri-State College graduate who went on to become president of the Crane Company, a plumbing fixtures maker/manufacturer, was a member of the Board of Trustees from 1967 to 1985, serving as chair for several years. His wife Virginia

continued supporting the university after his death; the Fabiani Theatre in the Rick L. and Vicki L. James University Center is named in her honor.

Dante’s son Jim Fabiani and granddaughter Elizabeth Rooney are current members of the Trine University Board of Trustees.



Elizabeth Rooney, left, and her father Jim Fabiani.

Jim, the founder and CEO of Fabiani & Co., a Washington DC-based government affairs and strategy consulting firm, joined the board in 2001 and served as vice chair from 2008-2012, during which the university experienced tremendous enrollment and

fundraising growth, and completed and launched several major building projects. He currently serves as vice chair of the Committee on Trustees and a member of the Academic Affairs/Student Services Committee.

Elizabeth, a vertical marketing lead for Google, joined in 2014. She currently serves as vice chair of the board’s Enrollment and Marketing Committee and as a member of the Alumni Engagement Committee.

The new building will feature apartment-style residences similar to the university’s Reiners and Stadium residence halls. Carpeted rooms, comfortably accommodating two students, will include a private bath and air conditioning.

Students will share an open space and kitchen located on the main level of the building. The new building also will include a parking lot.

The existing Fabiani Hall, an older dormitory, eventually will be demolished in accordance with the university’s comprehensive strategic plan.

In addition to the new residence hall, Trine continues to finalize plans for the previously announced expansion to its engineering facilities. ■

TRINE WELCOMES INCREASED NUMBERS TO MAIN CAMPUS

A record group of new students and a larger percentage of returning students resulted in increased main campus enrollment for Trine University during the fall semester.

The gains demonstrate the value of a Trine education, university President Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D., said, especially given the current challenges faced by higher education institutions.

“With more than 99 percent of our graduates employed or in graduate school over the past seven years, almost all in their field of study, students and their families know that a Trine degree is the springboard to a successful life and career,” Brooks said. “That’s a powerful draw in these uncertain economic times.”

The university had 2,239 on main campus, up from 2,122 in fall 2019. Retention of existing students jumped this fall to 84%.

Thanks to extensive measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 on campus, Trine University’s classrooms, laboratories, common spaces and residential facilities were ready to accommodate the increased numbers.

“It’s exciting to have students and the energy they bring back on campus,” said Brooks. “We worked very hard over the summer to prepare for their return, and we’re glad to be able to provide a quality on-campus experience this fall while maintaining a healthy environment.”

Trine’s success comes despite overall trends and predictions showing a decline in higher education enrollment. Final numbers showed a 4 percent decline throughout all institutions, public and private, for the fall semester. ■



TRINE TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS CONTINUE RECORD GROWTH IN CHALLENGING ENVIRONMENT

Despite the challenges facing educators, from budget limitations and government mandates to teaching both in-person and online due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Trine University continues to see significant growth in its teacher education program.

Trine had 183 students enrolled this past fall in its Franks School of Education. That’s more than double the 82 enrolled just four years ago.

Anthony Kline, Ph.D., dean of the Franks School of Education, attributed the

enrollment rise to the school’s “visionary, student-centered faculty and staff, and close collaboration with excellent K-12 educators in the region.”

“We work hard to equip our passionate teacher candidates with additional certifications such as Google Classroom and Project Lead the Way before graduation, which they and their families appreciate as one of the many value-added components within our unique teacher training programs,” said Kline. ■



Rendering of the new Fabiani Hall.

TURNSTONE, TRINE PARTNERING TO ENHANCE REGION'S SPEECH THERAPY SERVICES

Trine University and Turnstone Center for Children and Adults with Disabilities will partner to serve and empower people with communication impairments through a collaboration on Turnstone's campus that will feature a speech-language therapy clinic serving clients and providing Trine students in a planned new graduate degree program with a site for clinical experiences.

The clinic will be located on Turnstone's Fort Wayne campus at 3320 N. Clinton St and will support the Trine Master of Science in speech-language pathology degree that is expected to launch in the Fall of 2022, pending institutional approval from the Higher Learning Commission. Plans for the collaboration include a clinical experience for students, in addition to classrooms, offices, training and lab space. Plans are expected to be completed by the end of July 2022.

Chanda Lichtsinn, director of rehabilitation therapy and speech language pathologist for Turnstone, will serve as program director for Trine's speech-language pathology program. Turnstone speech language pathologists also will serve as practicum instructors, with future plans of clinical faculty practicing at the speech therapy clinic and treating participating Turnstone clients.

In addition to the robust clinical experience offered at Turnstone, Trine students will complete practicums at Fort Wayne-area hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, school-based programs and other sites.

Trine University also plans to launch a bachelor of science in communication disorders on its Angola main campus, which will provide a direct entry pathway to the Master of Science in speech language pathology degree. ■



In this photo provided by Turnstone, Chanda Lichtsinn, Director of Rehabilitation Therapy at Turnstone, works with a pediatric client during a speech therapy session. Lichtsinn will serve as program director for Trine University's speech-language pathology program.

TRINE TEAM WINS 2020 NASA HUMAN EXPLORATION ROVER CHALLENGE AWARD

A team of Trine University design engineering technology majors won a top award presented as part of the 2020 NASA Human Exploration Rover Challenge.

In a video released by NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center on Aug. 21, Ragini Acharya, STEM director of American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) in the Greater Huntsville Section, announced the Trine team as the winner of the AIAA Best Report Award in the College and University Division.

The award recognizes the high school and college reports that best describe their technical design process for the Rover Challenge.

The Trine team was made up of **Carma Cherry** of Angola, Indiana; **Emily Atwell** of Fishers, Indiana; **Tyler Blanton** of Gaston, Indiana; **Ian Price** of Fortville, Indiana;

Alex Munger of Pioneer, Ohio; and **Sandeep Kurian** of Elkhart, Indiana, all members of the Trine University Class of 2020. Timothy Jenkins, Ph.D., associate professor of design engineering technology, served as faculty advisor for the project.

"This is huge for us," said Jenkins. "Earning a top award in a competition involving student engineers representing universities from around the world says a lot about the skill of Trine University graduates. It's also exciting to play a part in projects that may one day help humanity set foot on other planets."

"It speaks volumes about the quality and ability of the Design Engineering Technology program to prepare our students to succeed, lead and serve in industry when a senior design team can win an award in an

international competition such as this," said Tom Trusty, chair of Trine's Department of Design Engineering Technology. "It was great to see the team strive for success and achieve their goal. I am thankful to have a great DET faculty team. The faculty advisor on the project, Timothy Jenkins, was instrumental in providing the guidance needed for the team's success."

The Rover Challenge tasks U.S. and international student teams to design, engineer and test a human-powered rover on a course that simulates the terrain found on rocky bodies in the solar system. The teams also must perform mission tasks while negotiating the course, including sample retrievals and spectrographic analysis.

An in-person competition usually takes place at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center near NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama. However, due to the global COVID-19 pandemic, it was moved online. ■



Trine University's NASA Human Exploration Rover Challenge team in a group photo taken prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. Front, from left: Carma Cherry of Angola, Indiana; Ian Price of Fortville, Indiana; Emily Atwell of Fishers, Indiana. Back: Alex Munger of Pioneer, Ohio; Timothy Jenkins, Ph.D., faculty advisor; Tyler Blanton of Gaston, Indiana; and Sandeep Kurian of Elkhart, Indiana.

FURTH CARRIES ON SIGNATURE TRADITION IN ITS OWN UNIQUE, ELECTRIC WAY

Whether playing legendary venues such as the Chicago Theatre and New York’s Apollo Theater, or other stages in small towns across the country, many performers have carried on a common tradition: adding their John Hancock to a backstage “signature wall.”

That tradition has continued in a unique way in Trine University’s T. Furth Center for the Performing Arts, although it might not have if inaugural performer Lee Greenwood hadn’t made the effort.

“As he walked around admiring our new facility, he asked me where our signature wall was,” recalled Judi Abney, a member of the university’s Campus Safety staff. “I had no idea what he was talking about.”

Greenwood explained the tradition to Abney, but the backstage had not been completed, meaning there was no wall to sign. John Wilson from Clear Lake Electric, Inc., who was in the new building to help make sure all the electrical devices worked correctly, suggested that Greenwood instead sign one of the building’s electrical panels.



Lee Greenwood signs the signature panel prior to performing the inaugural concert in the venue in 2014.

“They weren’t going anywhere,” Abney said. “So Lee Greenwood was the first one to sign our ‘signature panel.’ ”

“After doing a lot of research online, I wasn’t able to find that special signature wall for Trine University’s concert hall,” she said.

“Finally, our former associate director, Victor Morrow, turned to me and asked why I was spending so much time looking for the perfect idea when I had already started our own tradition, and I realized he was right.”

Since then, Abney, who is the hospitality host for all of Trine’s concerts, has made sure each performer has added his or her autograph to the panel – now panels, as they have become filled with signatures.

“Several entertainers have commented that they had never signed an electrical panel before. They loved the idea,” she said.

She said the biggest challenge was the late country superstar Kenny Rogers, who wanted his signature at the top of the panel.



Judi Abney stands next to the T. Furth Center for Performing Arts signature panels. She has made sure every artist who has performed at Furth has signed the panels.

“He was too short, so we held his arm up so he could sign the panel,” she recalled.

Other signatures include Montgomery and Gentry, Paralee, the Charlie Daniels Band, Three Dog Night, America, Wynonna, Michael Bolton, Amy Grant, Travis Tritt and Dionne Warwick.

Abney hopes that eventually the panels are able to be displayed backstage to help tell the story of Trine and the entertainers who have performed.

“This is part of the history of Furth,” she said. ■

STARTING AT THE TOP: TRINE STUDENT GAINS EXPERIENCE AT NFL’S PREMIER EVENT



Nicole Maroney stands inside Raymond James Stadium in Tampa, Florida. The Trine University student worked at Super Bowl LV as part of a program sponsored by Living Sport, an organization that provides work and study experiences for students interested in a sports career.

Nicole Maroney’s first NFL game happened to be the biggest one of all.

The Trine University sport and recreation major from New Buffalo, Michigan, spent 10 days in Tampa, Florida, as part of a program sponsored by Living Sport, an organization that provides work and study experiences for students interested in a sports career. The experience included working at Super Bowl LV.

Nicole heard about the program when faculty advisor Brandon Podgorski shared information with Trine’s Sports Management Club. She said guest speakers at club meetings had encouraged students to build networks and take opportunities to make a leap into the industry.

“I knew it was a unique opportunity to network with people around the same age as myself as well as other sports professionals,” she said. “I really wanted to dive into the sports industry and experience firsthand what sports was all about.”

She arrived in Tampa on Jan. 31. The first few days were spent in programming with

Living Sport mentors. Students also had the chance to network with representatives from the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, the Tampa Bay Rays, the Tampa Bay Lightning and the New York Yankees, who have a spring training facility in Tampa.

During the second half of the trip, Nicole and the other students managed event-week attractions and fan experiences at the Super Bowl Experience, and assisted in hospitality efforts and at events during the Super Bowl itself.

“During the Super Bowl Fan Experience, we were all stationed around the different parks,” she said. “I was stationed at the ‘NFL Draft’ where fans could get ‘drafted’ to their favorite team and walk across a stage with their name being announced. I was also stationed at the NFL Museum that housed all the Super Bowl rings, the AFC and NFC championship trophies, and some cool memorabilia.”

During the big game, she worked from noon to 11 p.m. inside Raymond James Stadium for Populous, the firm that has directed event design for the Super Bowl since 1985.

“We worked the concourses at the stadium, assisting ticket holders with their mobile app and directing them on where to go for food and NFL stores, and how to get to their seats,” she said.

She had never been to an NFL game, and though she worked most of it, she said she was able to catch glimpses of the action from a food vendor’s television. Her supervisor also allowed her group to watch part of the halftime show.

“It was really spectacular in person,” she said.

She said she is interested in an eventual career in sports ticket sales.

“One of my goals for this year is to get out of my comfort zone and to push the limits of what I can do,” she said. “I think this experience really helped me get closer to that goal and experience sports in a different way.” ■

Lilly grant to fund extended reality technology at Trine

Trine University has received a \$1 million grant from Lilly Endowment Inc. to provide programming and resources to implement and expand extended reality technologies across campus.

The grant is part of the second phase of Charting the Future for Indiana's Colleges and Universities, an initiative by Lilly Endowment to help Indiana's 38 higher education institutions further develop strategies to strengthen their effectiveness and sustainability.

The funds will be used to purchase software and equipment to implement extended reality laboratories and educational experiences university-wide. Extended reality includes cutting-edge technologies such as augmented reality, virtual reality and mixed reality.

Lilly Endowment is making \$108.2 million in grants available to Indiana colleges and universities throughout three phases of the Charting the Future initiative. In the second and third phases, Lilly Endowment is providing grants to support strategies and programs likely to prepare students for rewarding employment, especially in Indiana; enhance the viability of higher educational institutions; and enable institutions to further their educational missions more effectively in new or innovative ways.

Trine University received a \$100,000 grant in 2019 to assist with strategic planning as part of the initiative's first phase. ■

Sorority raises \$11K for local girl as 'Boo Cancer' shifts online

Trine University's Gamma Phi Epsilon sorority raised \$11,278 to benefit a local 21-month-old-girl, Nomalee "Molly" Gregory. Though unable to host their annual Boo Cancer philanthropy event, the sorority instead held an online silent auction on Nov. 1, along with online bingo and sales of shirts, scrunchies and stickers. Kaitlyn Scott, philanthropy chair for Trine University's Gamma Phi Epsilon sorority, presented the money to Molly and her mother, Jessica Knickerbocker, on Dec. 5.



Golf outing raises nearly \$82,000

Sixty-three teams enjoyed sunny skies and perfect weather for golf at Trine University's 30th annual Alumni and Friends Golf Outing on July 31.

With the high temperature around 80 degrees at Zollner Golf Course, the event raised nearly \$82,000 for scholarships supporting Trine University students.

The annual golf outing benefits the Trine Fund for student scholarships, which enables students to earn a degree at Trine. The 2021 outing is scheduled for Friday, Aug. 6. ■



Fraboni joins university as vice president for university advancement

Following a national search, Trine University has named David J. Fraboni II, a development professional with more than 35 years of experience in academic fundraising, as its new vice president for university advancement.



David J. Fraboni II

Fraboni most recently served as interim vice president for university advancement at Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston, where he was responsible for leading all university fundraising and alumni relations programs. He completed the 2020 fiscal year at WIT with a 47% increase over the previous year in funds raised, amid the COVID-19 pandemic. He also developed WIT's first comprehensive campaign plan. ■

Watson named assistant VP for TrineOnline enrollment

Trine University has named Jason Watson assistant vice president and dean of enrollment for TrineOnline.

In this new position, Watson will provide direct oversight of enrollment management operations for TrineOnline. He will develop recruitment strategies and admission policies to enroll new students in TrineOnline programs.

Watson brings nearly two decades of experience in management, human resources and sales in multiple industries to the role. He has been at Trine since 2016, most recently serving as a career coach and industry liaison within the university's Career Center. ■



Jason Watson



Trine display case part of new welcome center

The beautiful new Pigeon Creek Welcome Center on southbound Interstate 69 now greets travelers to Indiana and Steuben County, and the new facility includes a dedicated display case highlighting the history and current accomplishments of Trine University. The Trine display includes artifacts and photos representing the history of Tri-State and Trine as well as areas such as engineering and business, alumni and athletics.

Trine University jumps in Money's best colleges ranking

Trine University made a huge jump in this year's "Best Colleges in America for Your Money" list by Money, climbing more than 200 places to rank 194th in the nation and seventh among Indiana colleges and universities.

Money said the rankings, released Aug. 25, put more weight on affordability factors this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the economic downturn. The Money team also examined factors such as graduation rates, tuition fees, student debt and career earnings.

To find the schools that successfully combine quality and affordability, the organization said it weighed more than 20,000 data points, including tuition fees, family borrowing and career earnings. The resulting list consists of 739 colleges where students are likely to graduate with affordable debt levels and go on to earn a livable wage. ■

Trine's Giving Tuesday tops \$500K

Generous supporters of Trine University nearly tripled last year's total raised during Giving Tuesday, Dec. 1.

The university received \$523,418.93 toward student scholarships, enhanced classroom experiences and state-of-the-art facilities from 286 donors throughout the day. Trine raised slightly more than \$175,000 on Giving Tuesday 2019.

The funds raised include a generous 2:1 match by the James Foundation for anything given toward student scholarships as well as matches from the university's Alumni Association Board and several individual alumni. ■

Frye named dean of Trine's College of Health Professions

Trine University has promoted Nadeena Frye, Ph.D., to dean of its College of Health Professions, the university's suite of healthcare-related programs based in Fort Wayne. Frye joined Trine in early 2019 as director of its RN-to-BSN program, which launched successfully in fall 2020.



Nadeena Frye, Ph.D.

"We are very fortunate to have an experienced educator and clinician of Dr. Frye's caliber to serve as the college's first dean," said Earl D. Brooks, Ph.D., president of Trine University. "We also look forward to developing on our longstanding partnerships with Parkview Health and others to fully realize our long-term goal of building a fully operational College of Health Professions campus in Fort Wayne."

Trine's College of Health Professions offers graduate and undergraduate degrees to prepare students for successful health-related careers. It is the home of Trine's first doctoral program, the Doctor of Physical Therapy, and its Master of Physician Assistant Studies program. It also offers an Associate of Applied Science in Surgical Technology, along with the online RN-to-BSN program.



Sharon Willey, RN, DNP

Sharon Willey, RN, DNP, has been named Trine's new director of nursing. Willey previously served as an associate professor in Trine's online RN-to-BSN program. ■

Read more campus news at trine.edu/news.



7-year employment rate for Trine graduates remains above 99%

Trine University's average for employment or graduate school admission within six months of completing a degree remains above 99% for the past seven years, according to figures for its Class of 2020.

Trine's Class of 2020 reported a 97.1% rate, with 95% employed in their field of study.

The 2020 figures reflect 100% employment in two of the university's five main campus academic schools: the Ketner School of Business and the Franks School of Education. The Class of 2020 marked the eighth straight year all graduates of the Franks School of Education have been employed.



MLK event challenges students to 'save the soul of America'

Rev. Donovan Coley, president and CEO of The Rescue Mission in Fort Wayne, Indiana, presents his keynote address for the 30th annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Black History Month Celebration in the recording studios at Trine University. To protect the health and safety of the campus and community, the event was pre-recorded and streamed on the Trine Broadcasting Network on Feb. 26. In his remarks, Coley said he believes Dr. King would say the generation that includes current Trine students "has the capacity to save the soul of America" and challenged students to build relationships that last a lifetime. ■

Ambassador Enterprises grant supports Trine's Montessori teacher education program

Trine University's Montessori teacher education program has a director and has received a \$25,000 grant from Ambassador Enterprises, LLC, to equip a classroom.

Laurie Stockton-Moreno was named Montessori teacher education director in July. She brings 18 years of experience in Montessori teaching, as well as experience as executive director, education director and curriculum supervisor at Montessori schools in Michigan, California and Texas.

Stockton-Moreno holds Early Childhood and Elementary I credentials from the American Montessori Society, and has completed coursework through the Montessori Leadership Institute. For the past six years, she has served as Montessori teacher educator.

She also has been a frequent presenter at national Montessori conferences since 2006.

The new classroom, which will be located in Shambaugh Hall on Trine's main campus, will include maple open shelving for materials display, a projector and screen with speakers, a large markerboard, and tables and chairs for adult learners. It also will contain a complete set of early childhood Montessori materials, including hands-on activities for subject areas, cultural curriculum, the arts, sensorial exploration and practical life activities. ■



Laurie Stockton-Moreno



Trine's surgical technology program receives accreditation

The Associate of Applied Science in surgical technology program at Trine University has been granted accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP).

The CAAHEP voted to award the status to Trine's program at its Nov. 20 meeting. ■



Trine graduates first PA class

Trine University's first class of Master of Physician Assistant Studies students, shown here following their welcoming ceremony in 2018, completed classes on Dec. 11. Though a formal graduation ceremony was not held due to COVID-19 restrictions, members of the MPAS Class of 2020 are invited to participate in Trine's Commencement ceremony, planned for May. ■

FIRST 'TRINE TOGETHER' FEATURES FWPD OFFICER

On Sept. 22, Trine University held the first of a series of "Trine Together" events, which aim to show the university's commitment to growing an inclusive community in which all races and creeds are represented.

The keynote and conversation, titled "Trine Together: Uniting through Differences," was held in the MTI Center and featured guest speaker Officer James Payne. Payne is an 18-year veteran of the Fort Wayne Police Department.

Payne shared stories about his childhood growing up in Murray, Kentucky, his college years playing football at the University of Louisville, and his experiences as a police officer in today's social climate. A common theme throughout his life has been togetherness and community.

"School was very close-knit. A lot of our janitorial staff, teachers, etc. were people in the community that helped raise you," he recalled.

In college, his coach recruited him to be the liaison for the many African-American athletes at the University of Louisville.

"He said, 'James, you come from a good family; you don't believe in all this division of races. You just treat everybody like you want to be treated,'" he said. "My job as an outside linebacker as well as a liaison was to make sure they understood they could come to me and talk to me one-on-one about anything that they had an issue with."

Payne also shared his experience about surviving a brush with death in 1993, when he was still in college.

"We were out, and one of the guys that I was with kicked a bottle that bounced off the island of a gas pump and hit a car," he recalled. A man in the car got out. "He pulled out a gun, put it in my face, and pulled the trigger. And it did not fire."

His football coach later told him, "God spared you for a reason." He has since used that experience as a motivating force in his life to make a positive impact in the lives of others.

In a question-and-answer session with the Trine community, Payne shared some of his guiding values. Aware of the hurt and anger people are feeling as a result of tragedies and protests, he stressed the importance of avoiding division, instead pursuing facts and genuine communication like the opportunities represented by Trine Together.

"Division is not the way. Together is the way," he said.

He said that one of the most challenging things about being a police officer in recent months has been the "us vs. them" mentality. The next step for positive social change and healing, he believes, is about attitude and positive treatment of one another.

"If there's any slogan, I would say '#Love Each Other,'" he said. "We need to get back to the love we have for each other. Understand and live by the Golden Rule: Treat others like you want to be treated." ■

STUDENTS STAY CONNECTED OVER EXTENDED BREAK

With the modified academic calendar including a longer-than-usual gap between semesters, Trine University offered multiple opportunities for students to stay connected during the seven weeks between Thanksgiving and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Activities offered during the extended break included:

- Weekly recipes sent by Bon Appetit for students to try out on their own, as well as other health-related tips.
- Two virtual yoga sessions conducted by a trained yoga professional.
- Motivational social media posts throughout the break.
- A contest for students to show their holiday spirit.
- An opportunity for students to share where they were born and their favorite memories.
- Virtual trivia contests, including Christmas, sports and general trivia.
- Virtual tours of famous cities, sites and museums, allowing students to talk about everything they saw.
- Student-compiled music playlists shared for other students on social media.

Trine University's Counseling Services staff was available for any student who wanted to talk virtually over the break, and also offered mental health activities.



"Students responded well and were excited to participate, with more interacting as the break went on," said **Christian Jones 2018 BSSM**, director of student activities. **"We were excited with the response and see it as the beginning of a great spring semester!"**

CONFERENCE USA ADMINISTRATOR SHARES CAREER TIPS WITH TRINE STUDENTS

Trine University students considering a career in collegiate athletics had the opportunity to hear from someone who is at one of the top echelons in the field.

During a special virtual event sponsored by the Trine Center for Sports Studies (CSS) on Nov. 4, Dr. Robert Philippi, senior associate commissioner of Conference USA, spoke and answered questions posed by Brandon Podgorski, CSS director, for about an hour.

He said the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted every aspect of collegiate athletics this year, from recruiting to eligibility.

"We've had weekly calls with medical professionals, the NCAA sport science institute and local officials covering CDC recommendations to provide the safest environment that student-athletes can participate in," he said. **"That's kind of ongoing as things evolve."**

He encouraged students to volunteer for athletic organizations to gain experience, and told them they must remain passionate about athletics as a career to be successful.

"If you follow your passion, you're not going to leave work and just turn it off," he said. **"You're probably going to be going home and thinking about it on the weekends. If you're not following your passion, there are people who are, so how are you going to compete with that and reach the upper echelon?"**



BURR OAK, TRINE CONNECTION CONTINUES TO DEVELOP



For more than 75 years, Burr Oak Tool Inc. in Sturgis, Michigan, has produced machines and tools for heat exchange manufacturers (used in heating and cooling systems) and the tube processing industry, beginning with local companies and now boasting a worldwide reach.

And for many of those years, Tri-State and Trine University alumni have been part of the company's growth and success.

Dr. Lawrence Franks 1959 BSME, former chair of Trine's Board of Trustees, was CEO of the company for many years, and **Ned Haylett 1972 BSME**, former president of the alumni association, worked for 40

years at the company, retiring as vice president of sales and marketing. Today, Burr Oak employs 14 Tri-State and Trine alumni out of about 285 total employees. Two other employees are completing degrees through TrineOnline, with tuition reimbursement offered by the company.

Tim Doot, vice president for talent acquisition at Burr Oak, said Trine graduates usually are a good fit for the company's culture, since many come from the local area and are used to a small-town environment.

Brian McConnell 1985 BSME, president and COO, added that the practical experience Trine engineering graduates gain is a benefit to Burr Oak.

"I've got to have engineers who are hands-on, go on the floor, troubleshoot and solve problems," he said.

The company continues to support and recruit Trine students and alumni through internship opportunities in engineering and human resources, capstone projects, career fairs and sending alumni employed at the company to speak to current students.

Often, Trine students complete an internship and get hired with the company full-time after graduation.

"Many work here their entire career," Doot said.

Here are a few Trine faces at Burr Oak Tool.

Brian McConnell 1985 BSME President and COO



Brian McConnell's interest in engineering began at Burr Oak, where he worked in the summer while attending Sturgis High School. After graduating from Tri-State, he became a project engineer at a sister facility, Oak

Press Solutions, later coming back to Burr Oak Tool as a sales engineer.

"As a project engineer, I did some service work, and I liked that customer interaction," he said. "The president of company said I'm always talking, so I might as well come on over and help him with sales."

He represented the company on accounts across the globe, including India, Thailand, China, Malaysia and Brazil, for 14 years before becoming president and COO in 2007. During that time, he also completed an executive MBA from the University of Notre Dame, where about 60 to 70 percent of students had earned undergraduate degrees as engineers.

"I had a lot of competition, but my education at Tri-State prepared me for the program," he said.

Aaron Ceckowski 2016 BSSE Controls engineer



While a Trine student, Aaron Ceckowski reached out to a contact at Burr Oak about an internship. He eventually completed two internships at the company, then applied for a full-time job after graduation.

As a controls engineer, he creates and designs prints and schematics for machines the company builds for the HVAC industry.

"I work with specifying electronic components and doing load calculations, and then designing overall how it's going to wire up," he said.

He's not sure what his long-term career plans are, but looks forward to continuing to develop expertise in his field.

"I want to be the person that people will be able to come to with questions, and I want to be able to help them either figure it out, or learn how to figure it out and help themselves later," he said.

Doug Schwartz 1986 BSME Tube and coil processing engineering manager



Commuting to Tri-State from Centreville, Michigan, Doug Schwartz often drove through Sturgis and was familiar with Burr Oak Tool. He reached out to the company once he graduated.

"I came in and interviewed with Mr. Franks," he recalled. "He said, 'Yep, go ahead, let's go to the doctor and get your test.'"

He has remained at the company since graduating 34 years ago. He began as a junior engineer, then worked with the company's hairpin bender product line for 21 years, helping the company transition from hand drawing to computer-aided design.

Today he oversees a team of engineers that manages production of machines making up half the product line at Burr Oak.

"I like to bring organization, and we have been able to make a lot of improvements that customers were asking for, some small improvements that help them out quite a bit in the long run," he said.

Ricardo Lopez 2019 BSSE Software developer



Ricardo Lopez was introduced to Burr Oak Tool during a career fair at Trine.

"I talked to a lot of companies and they were one of the first to get back to me," he said.

He completed an internship at Burr Oak before graduation and was offered a full-time position when he finished his degree. Responsible for the software used internally, he said his role includes "application development, web development, database administration, you name it. A little bit of everything."

He said enjoys the diversity of experience his job offers, and regularly applies skills he learned in the classroom at Trine.

"A lot of my classes had to do with database administration, code and debugging," he said. "The classes at Trine also helped me with logical thinking. I think about the little things before I get to the big things."

Melissa Noel, BSOL student Supply chain manager



Melissa Noel began at Burr Oak Tool in the accounting department after eight years in the banking industry. She soon advanced to sales project coordinator and then to project manager.

As supply chain manager at the company, her responsibilities include managing the shipping and receiving, inventory, purchasing and project management departments.

She started the Bachelor of Science in organizational leadership through TrineOnline in 2018 and plans to complete her degree in 2022. She said the leadership classes she has completed as part of the BSOL have already helped as she has assumed roles that are new to the company.

"There's not a lot of history, so I've had to step up and take the initiative on my own," she said. "A lot of the topics covered in the leadership classes have helped me pave the way." ■

FROM HUMBLE BEGINNINGS, GALA HAS RAISED MILLIONS FOR TRINE STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Trine University's Scholarship Gala has raised millions of dollars in its mission to support deserving students. In the process, it has become one of Angola's premier social events, featuring gourmet dining, lavish décor and elegant items for auction.

However, the idea originally came up in a more modest setting.

Melanie Brooks, Trine University's first lady, recalled the event was first discussed at Bob Evans with trustee Dr. Sheri G. Trine.

"We came up with the idea of a winter gala to support students with scholarships and chose February for Valentine's Day," she said.

"It seemed like a good time to engage our alumni and supporters and have an elegant event. There were no conflicts with other community events at that time of year, and everyone could dress up to kind of get out of the winter blues, celebrate Valentine's Day and support Trine University students."

A committee of 14 local women put together the first Valentine's Day Gala, held Feb. 14, 2004, at the World War II Victory Museum in Auburn.

"We all had ideas, and everyone pitched in to make it a success," said Mrs. Brooks. "The committee members even cleaned up and broke down tables and chairs after the event."

The inaugural event featured music and dancing as well as wine tasting and an auction, raising \$45,000 toward student scholarships.

"We were thrilled with the inaugural event and the results," Mrs. Brooks said.

Eventually the Gala moved away from the Valentine's theme to a more formal event, though it still continues to be held in February. Recently it has featured keynote speakers such as Lou Holtz and Isiah Thomas.

"I believe it has become the premier event of the year for us, and, along with the annual Touchstone Dinner, it's personally my favorite event," Mrs. Brooks said. "It just gets better each year."

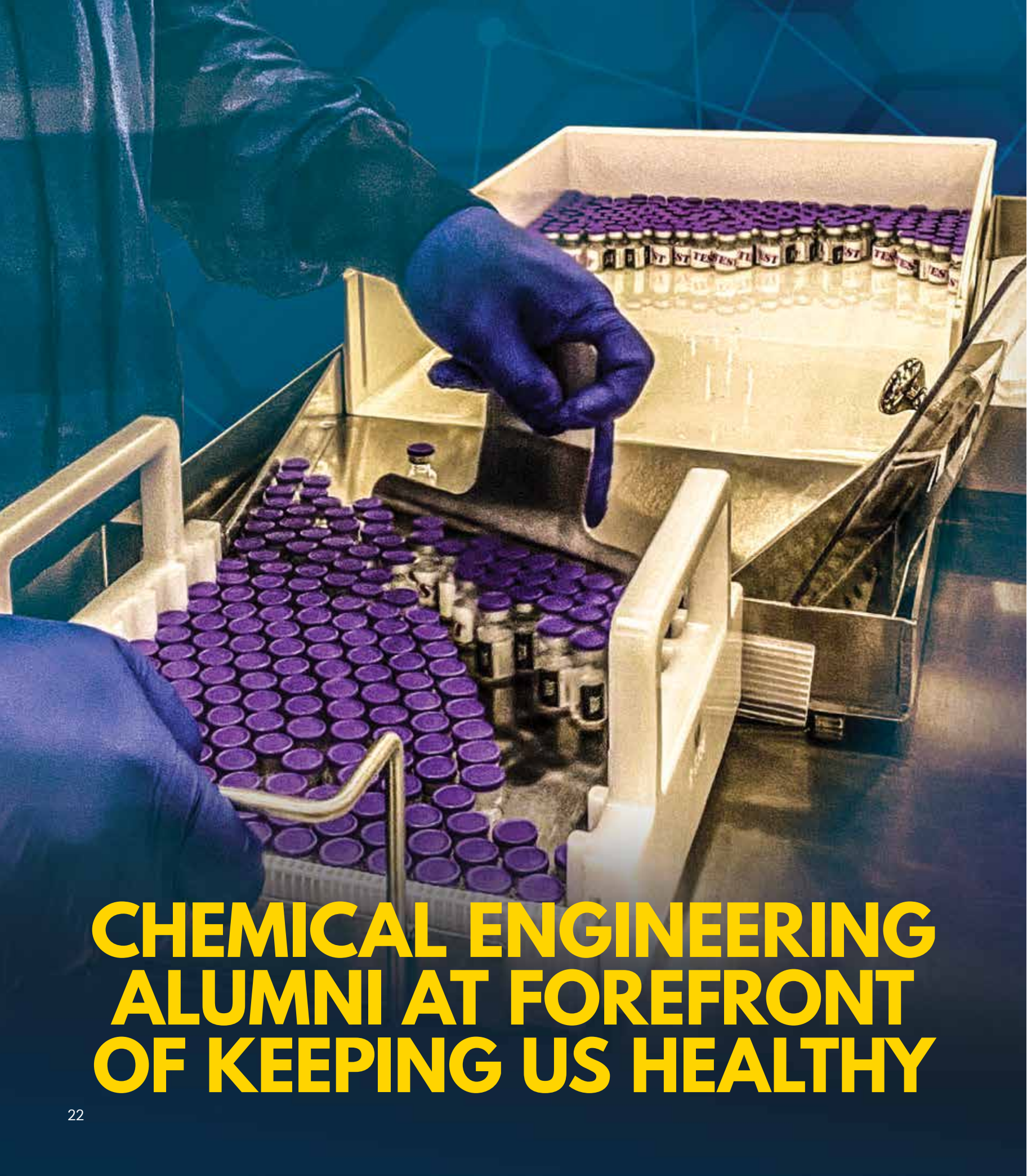
The Gala has raised more than \$5 million for student scholarships throughout its history,

including more than \$1.2 million at the 2020 event. Though the pandemic prevented an in-person event from being held this year, generous donors contributed more than \$1.3 million to the Trine University 2021 Gala fund established in its absence.

"We have had tremendous growth in terms of attendance and financial support," Mrs. Brooks said. "It has been rewarding to raise millions of dollars to support our students."

"We tremendously appreciate our many alumni and friends who have so generously supported the Gala over the years, and hope they have enjoyed it as much as we have enjoyed hosting the event. We all take great pride in the support provided and the Gala support efforts in 2021, and we all look forward to getting back together again in 2022!" ■





CHEMICAL ENGINEERING ALUMNI AT FOREFRONT OF KEEPING US HEALTHY

For **Chris Osborne**, manager for Pfizer's biologic operations facility, several people come to mind as reasons for the work he does, including:

- Claudia, a Western Michigan University student who told him during a recruiting visit that "Pfizer's been saving my life since 1996";
- Lydia, a 9-year-old whose aplastic anemia went into remission thanks to Atgam, produced at Osborne's facility in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

"Even though we mass produce millions of vials every day, to see it on a small scale and have it be impactful for someone you know is amazing," he said.

Pfizer's Kalamazoo facilities manufacture medications that help keep people safe and healthy around the world. Today, the company and its Kalamazoo location have become even more prominent because of the central role they are playing in the battle against COVID-19.

Trine University-trained chemical engineers like Osborne play a key part in maintaining world health thanks to their work in the company's production processes.

"The chemist will come up with a unique way to make a glass of orange juice, and the chemical engineer will take that same glass and turn it into 100,000 gallons of orange juice," he said.

Chris Osborne, 2010



Osborne interned with Pfizer while a student at Trine. After graduation he accepted a position with Fostek, a small private company in Virginia that

manufactured rubber foam, learning there that he enjoyed working with people.

He moved back to Michigan to work for Pfizer in 2011, thanks to a contact with the supervisor from his internship. He started as a manufacturing process engineer in the drug product manufacturing group, and later worked in the aseptic processing north

facility before becoming a supervisor in biologic operations. He provided engineering support for Pfizer's McPherson, Kansas, facility for two years before returning to Kalamazoo for his current role.

He recalls two Trine faculty in particular who provided skills he has used throughout his career. Tom Tierney, Ph.D., taught him the power of persuasion through an activity where a class had to convince Tierney not to give a quiz right before break.

"It taught me to determine how to get others to see the benefits and essentially make the decision for themselves rather than me making it for them," he said.

Admonitions from Allen Hersel, Ph.D., about chemical engineers making quick decisions in critical situations have "beyond resonated," he said.

"We wind up in situations where I've got to make a call in the next 10 minutes or we're going to lose a product," Osborne said. "Every time a situation like that comes up, I hear Dr. Hersel yelling in my head."

Amy Newell, 2015



Amy Newell serves as a customer project manager (CPM); her role is to support the material dispensing, product formulation and

preparation (cleaning) aspects of aseptic manufacturing.

While at Trine, she interned with Eli Lilly, gaining industry experience that led to a process engineer position after graduation at a small contracting firm. About two years later, she joined Pfizer in a manufacturing engineering role at the company's Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient (API) plant. Later, she applied for her current role in Pfizer's new MAP (Modular Aseptic Processing) plant.

"MAP was and still is one of Pfizer's largest investment opportunities, and a seemingly once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," she said.

She decided early in high school to be a chemical engineer, drawn to the field's many possibilities after her father took her to multiple engineering schools and manufacturing facilities. She started at a Division I school on a softball scholarship, but realized she wanted to prioritize her education and transferred to Trine.

"Educationally, Trine is top-notch; but what's even more impressive are the soft skills and life lessons that Trine students acquire," she said.

Newell said the impact of her work became apparent while she was working in the API division.

"I was the single manufacturing engineer in the fermentation/isolation area who supported the active ingredient for Lipitor," she said. "During that time, my dad had to be put on Lipitor for his cholesterol. It doesn't get any more rewarding than making life-saving medicines that have a direct impact on those you love."

Madison (Fain) Steffel, 2019



When she first arrived at Trine University, Madison (Fain) Steffel didn't fully understand what a chemical engineer does; she chose the major because

she enjoyed chemistry and math in school.

"I stayed in the program because I was motivated by the opportunity to learn to use my creativity and technical skills for good, whether applying those skills to a homework problem or designing a process that could produce helpful items for others," she said.

After graduating, she began working for Pfizer as a manufacturing engineer in a rotational engineering program, which gives her the opportunity to rotate through different roles and production facilities. She is currently in a drug product facility, where the company formulates, fills, inspects and packages sterile injectables.

“Educationally, Trine is top-notch; but what’s even more impressive are the soft skills and life lessons that Trine students acquire.”

- Amy Newell 2015 BSChE

She said the co-op and two internships she completed at Trine gave her both the engineering skills and soft skills needed to launch her career.

“Most of all, my education helped me to learn to think critically and how to decide what questions I needed to ask to make a decision,” she said.

Nick Cassidy, 2016



After working in the automotive industry, Nick Cassidy became a chemical engineer for specialty chemicals. At Pfizer, he works as a contracted

process engineer, working on equipment troubleshooting, standard operating procedure development and process design.

He said Trine’s bioprocessing minor, which pairs with the chemical engineering major, rounded out the education he needed to work in the chemical and pharmaceutical industries.

“I have always had an interest and passion for the biological side of chemical engineering, so when the opportunity presented itself to try out the pharmaceutical industry, I was extremely excited,” he said. “It’s rewarding to working with a company that has such a widespread impact on the health of the world.”

Crystal Sattler, 2002



Crystal Sattler’s 18-year career at Pfizer has included working as a production support engineer, front line supervisor, Quality Operations

manager, and Senior Manager of Compliance for active pharmaceutical ingredients (API).

Today she is the API Operations, Integrated Manufacturing Excellence (IMEx), and Capital Planning Leader at Pfizer’s manufacturing facility in Kalamazoo, overseeing units that produce active pharmaceutical ingredient (API)

intermediates and solvent recovery and distribution. Though her current work is more management than engineering, she still realizes that what she does can have an impact close to home.

“I could be making something that could be given to one of my kids, my husband, or me,” she said. “That pushes me to make sure we provide the highest quality material.”

Like other Trine chemical engineering graduates, she said she enjoyed the flexibility the major offers.

“I wasn’t sure if I wanted to go to medical school, pursue pharmacy, you name it, but chemical engineering would at least provide me with a base education that would allow me to make those decisions later,” she said.

Though she said chemical engineering coursework is standard for most institutions, Trine gives its students a strong understanding of the content.

“I see many engineers who are brilliant, but can’t work through the challenges of reality not matching up to theory,” she said. “A Trine graduate knows their stuff and can apply it or figure out why that application isn’t providing what they thought it should.” ■

“I could be making something that could be given to one of my kids, my husband, or me.”

- Crystal Sattler 2002 BSChE

Part of the Pfizer Kalamazoo freezer farm facility for the COVID-19 vaccine.

TRINE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Jordan Backer 2016 BSME



Tyler Benner 2008 BSSM



Scott Brown 1980 BSCE



Jim Bullard 1972 BSCE



Ross Cordaro 1995 BSCE



Alan Dausman 1977 BSCE



Brad Ewart 2007 BSCE



John Goudy 1970 BSBA



Ned Haylett 1972 BSME



Andy Hein 1998 BSChE



Richard Hoover 1971 BSAE



Stan Lowe 1967 BSBA



Tim Raftery 2010 BACOM



Sallie Raftery 2009 BSME



Ryan Ratkowski 2008 BSDDT



Laura Rosekrans
2017 BSBio



Rupa Shanmugam
1995 BSEE



John Stock 1971 BSBA



Rachel Troutman
2009 BACOM



Travis Wilhelm 1999 BSEA

BOARD WORKS TO SUPPORT STUDENTS, KEEP ALUMNI CONNECTED

From signature events such as Homecoming and the Scholarship Gala to smaller regional gatherings and events for current students, Trine University's Alumni Association Board of Directors works largely behind the scenes to support the university.

There is plenty of opportunity for Tri-State and Trine alumni to become involved, either through events, giving financially or becoming part of the board itself.

Rachel Troutman 2009 BACOM, board president, said the group seeks to establish and encourage connections between alumni and the university, faculty and student body.

"Our vision is to promote and support our university and its alumni by encouraging alumni to be active, enthusiastic partners in the Trine University community," she said.

Past president **Ned Haylett 1972 BSME** said the board also works to enhance communication between Trine and its alumni.

"We work with the Office of Alumni and Development to provide additional communication avenues, ideas and support for special events to augment the university's efforts," he said.

The board also assists current students through financial gifts to scholarship fundraising efforts, participating in mock interviews and providing networking opportunities such as the Senior Sendoff and Senior Celebration, held the night before Commencement. In addition, members support student recruitment and

serve as a liaison between the alumni and the alumni office.

"We stay very connected with what is happening with Trine so that we can adapt and change how we offer support and involvement," said Troutman.

Committees within the board help with event planning, awards and keeping alumni abreast of what's happening at Trine.

Scott Brown 1980 BSCE said the Alumni Development Committee he leads supports both the Office of Alumni and Development and the university Board of Trustees on fundraising projects.

"We discuss potential future alumni gatherings and events and, additionally, help promote upcoming events to encourage alumni participation, including alumni who have not participated in previous events," he said.

The nominating committee, led by **Jim Bullard 1972 BSCE**, recommends alumni for recognition at the annual Touchstone and Homecoming Dinner. It also recommends new members for the alumni board to its executive committee.

Haylett said the Alumni Relations Committee he chairs helps keep communication open between the university and alumni through efforts such as on- and off-campus events, social media, thank-yous or congratulations, or developing new regional alumni groups.

Al Dausman 1977 BSCE, treasurer and secretary, said the board's biggest challenge is its lack of resources, both in people and money.

"The board is limited to 30 members, but currently we only have 20," he said.

Haylett said the board welcomes alumni of all ages, backgrounds and experience. Recent additions have included **Laura Rosekrans 2017 BSBio** and **Jordan Backer 2016 BSME**, who both joined the board shortly after graduation.

"We are not made up of just the established and retired," Haylett said.

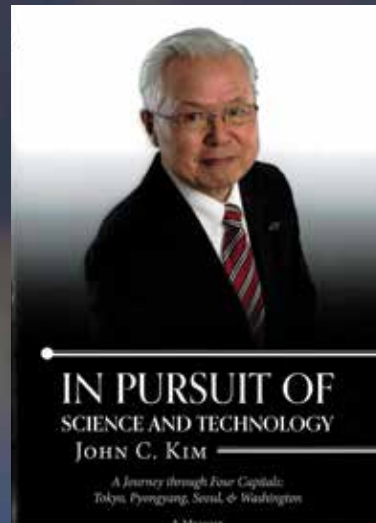
Members encourage alumni to become involved with the university any way they can, including through athletics, Greek organizations and staying in touch with classmates, and to stay connected through social media and updates at trine.edu and alumni.trine.edu.

"Participation can mean attendance at events, referring a student, hiring an alum, updating your contact information, returning to campus, giving financially and so much more," said Troutman. "We want every alum to feel connected in some way and know his or her support and involvement is valued."

Anyone interested in being part of the Alumni Association Board of Directors can contact the board at alumniboard@trine.edu or Kate Muehlfeld, director of alumni relations, at muehlfeldk@trine.edu. Alumni also can nominate other alumni for the board. ■

NEW MEMOIR DETAILS ALUM'S LIFE JOURNEY HALFWAY AROUND THE GLOBE

The journey of **John Kim, Ph.D.**, began in Tokyo and continued through Korea and to the United States, with several years spent attending and teaching at what was then Tri-State College.



He recently published an extensive look at his life in a memoir, *In Pursuit of Science and Technology*, available from Mascot Books.

"I wanted to chronicle my life with two groups of people in mind," he said. "One is my children and grandchildren. The other is students pursuing STEM areas, to share my formal educational experience and, more importantly, on-the-job training."

Born in Tokyo to a Korean family, Kim's early life was impacted by World War II and the Korean War. Among other areas, the conflicts had an impact on his education.

"My family took refuge in Pusan when the North Korean Army attack came for the second time. We had makeshift tents for the school building, and school studies were minimal," he recalled.

After the end of the Korean War, many of Kim's high school classmates began to leave for other nations.

"My two close friends Sung-cheol Kim and William John Rhee, Jr., were already enrolled at Tri-State College in 1957 and told me to

come to Tri-State," he recalled. "They said Tri-State was small but had an excellent electrical engineering curriculum."

After graduating from Tri-State in 1959, he earned a master's degree and Ph.D. in electrical engineering from Michigan State University. Ralph Gilchrist, Electrical

communications and surveillance systems. Some of his work in that position forms the backbone of modern GPS technology.

In 2001, he joined the Office of Naval Research as a program officer, where applied the systems engineering he used at TRW to the task of managing the naval fleet.



John Kim, Ph.D., left, receives the Navy's Meritorious Civilian Service Medal from Admiral Matthew Klunder.

Engineering department chair at Tri-State, recruited him to return to teach Electromagnetics and Servomechanisms.

His favorite memories as a faculty member were when students would grasp a complicated concept and he could see their eyes light up.

"I explained Maxwell's equations with a minimal amount of vectors and differential equations, but instead a practical approach based on practical examples," he said.

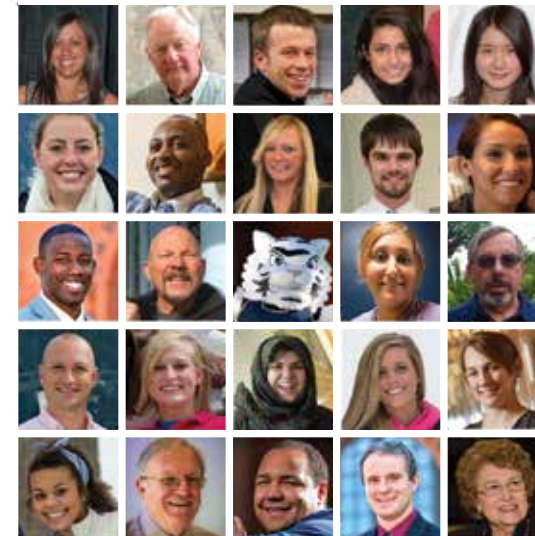
He left teaching to work at Melpar, now Raytheon. He then served at TRW for 32 years as a technical fellow, working in

His work earned him the Navy's Meritorious Civilian Service Medal.

"To quote the citation, my 'pioneering research directly transformed GPS technologies from a commercial system into a robust military system,'" he said.

In retirement, he builds fine furniture and is an active member of the Military Auxiliary Radio Station, a group of civilian amateur radio operators who assist in emergency operations when needed. His call sign is KM4HAQ.

More information about Kim and his memoir are available at johnckimstem.com ■



class notes

keep connected with alumni and friends

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

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

1970s

After being involved in health care for more than 50 years, **Luanne (Betz) Gerig, 1978 BSBA**, has stepped aside as senior



administrator at Betz Nursing Home in Auburn, Indiana. The facility was originally started by her mother. Luanne plans to go back and forth to Florida, spend time with her kids and grandchildren, and do whatever comes up.

1990s

Paul Voigt, 1993 BSPE, is the new superintendent of Caston School Corporation in Fulton, Indiana. Paul was



previously principal at Northfield Junior/Senior High in Wabash, Indiana.

Jennifer McClanahan-Hyre, 1998 BSACC, and Jesse Hyre, a non-degree alum, were



married on Trine's campus, in front of the fountain, on Oct. 21, 2020.



of the Nucor Building Group Division in Brigham City, Utah.

The Metal Building Manufacturers Association (MBMA) has added **Thomas Batterbee, 1999 BSAM**, to its board of directors. Tom currently serves as vice president and general manager

Deanna (Emole) Soper, Ph.D., 1999 BSSciEd, was recently highlighted by the University

of Dallas as a first-generation student. Dr. Soper is an associate professor of biology at UD and, because of her own experiences and difficulties as a first-generation undergraduate student, has interest in helping others make their path a bit smoother.



2000s

Emily (Knauss) Morrison, 2002 BSPSY, is a licensed professional counselor and works as chief clinical officer at Integro, a behavioral health agency serving Hillsdale and Jackson counties in Michigan. Emily won a seat on the Camden-Frontier School Board in November 2020. Emily and her husband, Bryan, who is also on the board, are lifelong residents of the district, both graduating in 1998.

Shaelie (Foote) Lambarth, 2002 BSMKT, was recently promoted to vice president of global talent management at CONMED Corporation. Shaelie previously held the position of HR leader and director of global talent acquisition at the company for just over two years. Shaelie and her family also recently moved back to the United States after spending the last two years in France.

—continued

class notes

2000s

Amanda Cope, 2006 BSCE, was selected as the 2020 Northeast Indiana Influential Woman in STEM. Amanda is city engineer for the City of Angola, Indiana.

Brandi (Jordan) Stackhouse, 2009 BSBA, was named member center manager of Beacon Credit Union's Wabash - Wedcor Avenue location. Brandi has been with Beacon for 11 years and lives in Wabash with her husband and two children.



Samuel Hartman, 2009 BSBA, and his wife,



Jessica, welcomed baby boy Miller James into the world just after the first of the year. Sam was also recently named Fort Wayne Newspaper Readers Choice – Best Real Estate Agent of the Year 2020.

2010s

Zachary Bradley, 2011 BSCE, is the new permanent director of public works for the City of Falls Church, Virginia. Zak had been serving in the position on an interim basis since June.

Samuel Johnson, 2012 BSCE, and **Ashley (Cloud) Johnson, 2010 BSPSY**, purchased their first home together in July 2020. The couple has been married for almost five years and started dating in November 2008.

Shannan (Tunny) Hinton, 2014 BSEM, has spent much of the last 10 months helping coordinate a unified effort to mitigate the pandemic in her area. As director of Bartholomew County, Indiana's Emergency Management Agency since 2016, she saves lives through coordinating emergency efforts. She was recently featured in the local paper.

Veronica Livingstone, 2014 BSCEM/FS, just completed her PhD in chemistry from The University of Toledo and immediately got a job working as head research scientist and research and QC leader at her site for The RJ Marshall Company in Erie, Michigan. She is a polymer/inorganic chemist.

Haley (Agard) Ruby, 2015 BSCJ/PSY, and



Nicholas Ruby, 2016 BSCJ/PSY, were married Sept. 26, 2020 in Delphi, Indiana.

Michaela (Scheidler) Mathews, 2016 BSXS,



and husband Joel welcomed baby Beau Allen Mathews on Aug. 11, 2020. The couple recently moved from Florida to Virginia.

Justin Holley, 2017 BSME, and **Jaclyn (Lewis) Holley, 2017 BSPSY**, have been



married since September 2017, shortly after graduating. Justin is the product development and manufacturing engineer and production manager at B. Walter and Company in Wabash, Indiana. Jaclyn recently earned her Master of Science in education: school counseling from the University of the Southwest. She is currently a teacher at her former high school, Wabash High School, teaching Preparing for College and Careers and Digital Applications and Responsibility to all freshmen. The pair reside in Wabash with their two cats and a puppy, and newly launched side business, Holley's Helpers, LLC, a handyman service.

Matthew Stezowski, 2018, BSBA/MBA, recently joined R E / M A X Results as a real estate agent in Angola, Indiana.



2010s

Devin Anderson, 2018, BSME, and **Anndi (Wood) Anderson, 2018, BSCE**, had a crazy



but great 2020. The couple found out in February they were expecting. In March, the pair started their search for a new home. In April, Anndi was furloughed from her chemical engineering position due to COVID-19. After returning back to work in June, the couple closed on their first home in

Angola, Indiana. On Nov. 10, they welcomed a sweet baby boy, Dixon Anderson. The Trine sweethearts are very thankful for the things 2020 brought to their family.

2020s

Brooke Redstone, 2020 BSCJ, and father Russell are the proud new parents of identical



twin boys. Adonis Lee and Atticus Gray were born in September.

Jordan Birdsall, 2020 BSEIEd, married Alisha



Wheeler on Aug. 8. Jordan accepted a position as the health teacher at Montpelier Schools, and he and Alisha live in the northwest Ohio town.

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THUNDER'S FINAL ROLL

(current as of Dec. 31, 2020)

1930s

Charles Clifford Kayhart, 1934 BSAE, Bloomingdale, New Jersey, Oct. 26, 2020
Marsella Shank-Ueck, 1939 SEC, Beloit, Wisconsin, Aug. 24, 2020

1940s

Arvill B. Brown, 1946 BSCE, Kendallville, Indiana, Nov. 19, 2020
Raymond M. Harris, 1947 BSAE, Chicago, Illinois, Nov. 16, 2020
Roy D. Briggs, 1948 BSME, Gallipolis, Ohio, Oct. 28, 2020
Clyde R. Carlson, 1948 BSRE, Dallas, Texas, Sept. 24, 2020
Raymond H. Collier, 1948 BSME, Sarasota, Florida, Sept. 22, 2020
John W. Watson Sr., 1948 BSME, Zephyrchills, Florida, July 18, 2020
Mathew R. Lobas, 1949 BSEE, Cleveland, Ohio, May 30, 2020

1950s

Ernest Bader Jr., 1950 BSME, Grand Rapids, Michigan, Oct. 7, 2020
James V. Dunn, 1950 BSRE, Hollister, California, Aug. 18, 2020
Richard E. Berger, 1951 BSAE, Columbus, Ohio, Sept. 8, 2020
George A. Ells, 1951 BSME, Columbus, Ohio, Aug. 24, 2020
Morris G. Eggleston, 1951 BSACC, Angola, Indiana, Dec. 9, 2020
Rev. Donald J. Johnson, 1953 BSBA, Parma, Michigan, July 26, 2020
Harold L. Parker, 1953 BSME, Greenwood, Indiana, June 30, 2020
Julian W. Dees, 1954 BSRE, Cumming, Georgia, Nov. 28, 2020
Everett Dean Lawrence, 1954 BSBA, Fairfax, Virginia, Sept. 19, 2020
Henry B. Rowland, 1954 BSRE, Farmington, Maine, July 30, 2020
Albert J. Schiro, 1954 BSRE, Cheshire, Connecticut, Oct. 18, 2020
Richard L. Stoughton, 1954 BSME, Ponte Vedra, Florida, March 20, 2020
Robert L. Morse, 1955 BSME, Adrian, Michigan, June 30, 2020

Ralph E. Prescott, 1955 BSEE, Maplewood, Ohio, Nov. 19, 2020
Gilbert C. Dean, 1956 BSBA, Stanwood, Michigan, June 13, 2020
Ronald E. Shafer, 1956 BSEE, Milan, Ohio, Dec. 21, 2020
Roger J. Wertenberger, 1956 BSBA, Fort Wayne, Indiana, Nov. 22, 2020
Edward E. Wetherhold, 1956 BSRT, Annapolis, Maryland, July 9, 2020
Richard F. Geide, Jr., 1957 BSAE, Wichita, Kansas, Nov. 24, 2020
Hal E. Moore, 1957 BSChE, Arlington, Texas, Sept. 9, 2020
Stanley H. Smith, 1957 BSCE, Colorado Springs, Colorado, May 26, 2020
Robert A. Stuttler, 1957 BSME, Rockford, Illinois, Nov. 14, 2020
Alfred E. Denio, Jr., 1958 BSEE, Asheville, North Carolina, Sept. 8, 2020
Robert L. Anderson, 1958 DDT, Kokomo, Indiana, Dec. 3, 2020

Ronald H. Frambes, 1958 BSBA, Coldwater, Michigan, Dec. 9, 2020
Maurice W. Hugus, 1958 BSCE, Circleville, Ohio, Aug. 1, 2020
Richard L. Miller, 1958 BSAE, Sebring, Ohio, Aug. 15, 2020
Russell P. Reckell, 1958 BSCE, Muskegon, Michigan, June 27, 2020

Albert H. Staub, 1958 BSEE, Ashton, Idaho, Sept. 18, 2020
Gene W. Creighton, 1959 BSEE, Fairborn, Ohio, Aug. 24, 2020
Paul R. Henry, 1959 BSME, Grosse Pointe, Michigan, Dec. 5, 2020
William D. Kreider, 1959 BSME, Fremont, Ohio, Dec. 19, 2020
William L. Lynch, 1959 BSEE, Saint Charles, Missouri, Nov. 4, 2020
Ronald G. Mattice, 1959 BSChE, Christiansburg, Virginia, July 9, 2020

John E. Odren, 1959 BSBA, Quincy, Michigan, Sept. 30, 2020
Kenneth L. Romig, 1959 BSME, Three Rivers, Michigan, Sept. 1, 2020
Donald C. Siegla, 1959 BSME, Weaverville, NC, Nov. 1, 2020

Charles F. Warner, 1959 BSME, Sturgis, Michigan, Aug. 9, 2020

1960s

Raymond A. Catlin, 1960 BSEE, Longmeadow, Massachusetts, July 2, 2020
Dennis E. Dershem, 1960 BSME, Brighton, Michigan, Aug. 5, 2020
Roberts F. Evans, 1960 BSCE, Oneonta, New York, Oct. 19, 2020
Harold D. Hart, 1960 DET, Charlestown, Indiana, Sept. 8, 2020
John N. Krouth, 1960 BSME, Norge, Virginia, July 15, 2020

Norman Miller, 1960 BSME, Lafayette, Indiana, Nov. 5, 2020
Walter D. Plaskonka, 1960 BSCE, Ravenna, Ohio, Oct. 21, 2020
Clarence E. Wentzel, 1960 BSAE, Kalamazoo, Michigan, Oct. 15, 2020
Nelson M. Cook, 1961 BSME, Durham, New Hampshire, Oct. 8, 2020

Jerome P. Degroote, 1961 BSBA, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Aug. 3, 2020
Thomas E. Everett, 1961 BSBA, Winona Lake, Indiana, Dec. 3, 2020
William J. Glahn, 1961 BSEE, Forest, Virginia, May 17, 2020

Daniel I. Matrazzo, 1961 BSBA, York, Pennsylvania, July 15, 2020
Richard G. Dodge, 1962 BSME, Sun City, Arizona, Sept. 27, 2020

Leon R. Kuhlman, 1962 BSEE, Bloomington, Indiana, Sept. 17, 2020
Andrew B. Maitland, 1962 BSEE, Cranberry, Pennsylvania, Nov. 17, 2020
William A. Whitehouse, 1962 BSEE, Poulsbo, Washington, Aug. 22, 2020
John C. Byerly, 1963 BSBA, Midland, Michigan, Oct. 21, 2020

Lee H. Giesecke, 1963 BSME, Cortland, Ohio, Nov. 12, 2020
Jack R. Hexter, 1963 BSAE, Tolland, Connecticut, Nov. 21, 2020
Wiley E. Knott, 1963 BSEE, Warner Robbins, Georgia, Sept. 28, 2020
Wendall W. Ritchey, 1963 BSEE, Maricopa, Arizona, Aug. 30, 2020

Gary A. Batt, 1964 BSEE, Titusville, Florida, July 9, 2020
John T. Hill, 1964 BSME, Richmond, Indiana, Oct. 31, 2020
William D. McCullough, 1964 BSCE, Canton, Ohio, Dec. 1, 2020
David E. Shreiner, 1964 BSChE, Elkhart, Indiana, Dec. 10, 2020

Theodore L. Strand, 1964 BSME, Palm Harbor, Florida, Aug. 25, 2020
Chester J. Urbaniak, 1964 BSCE, Bay City, Michigan, Nov. 24, 2020
Donald L. Christ, 1965 BSBA, Franktown, Colorado, Aug. 14, 2020
Ronald E. Cook, 1965 BSBA, Indianapolis, Indiana, Dec. 6, 2020

Neil X. McHale, 1965 BSChE, Stow, Ohio, Oct. 10, 2020
Gary L. Adams, 1966 BSME, West Penn Township, Pennsylvania, July 15, 2020
Richard J. Brewer, 1967 BSBA, Elkhart, Indiana, Aug. 8, 2020
Stephen H. Elwood, 1966 BSME, Knoxville, Tennessee, Aug. 1, 2020

Richard G. Kasaba, 1966 BSME, Dearborn, Michigan, Aug. 24, 2020
Walter W. Schilling, 1966 BSEE, Knoxville, Tennessee, July 2, 2020
Jerome J. Troha, 1967 BSME, Saint Marys, Pennsylvania, Dec. 12, 2020
John P. Arthur, 1968 BSBA, Englewood, Ohio, Sept. 29, 2020

Gary L. Commins, 1968 BSBA, Mount Vernon, Ohio, July 12, 2020
Paul E. Hagen Jr., 1968 BSEE, Spokane, Washington, July 23, 2020
Richard C. Northrup, 1968 BSAE, Toledo, Ohio, Sept. 7, 2020
Dale G. Rude, 1968 BSEE, Plano, Texas, July 30, 2020
Frank B. Rupe III, 1968 BSBA, Cape Canaveral, Florida, Nov. 21, 2020
Leslie C. Updegrove, 1968 BSEE, Wernersville, Pennsylvania, Aug. 21, 2020

1970s

James E. Hauer, 1970 BSChE, Fort Worth, Texas, Sept. 5, 2020

Norman G. Smith, 1970 BSME, Marion, Indiana, July 29, 2020
Leonard E. Speers, 1971 BSME, Fayetteville, Pennsylvania, Nov. 28, 2020
Robert M. Dobbins Jr., 1972 BSCE, Hilliard, Ohio, July 17, 2020
James E. Feller, 1972 BSBA, Massillon, Ohio, Nov. 2, 2020

Phillip A. Ellet, 1973 BSCE, Markle, Indiana, Oct. 16, 2020
Jerry D. Hughes, 1973 BASS, Pleasant Lake, Indiana, Oct. 5, 2020
Robert V. Rhea, 1973 ASMDT, Osceola, Indiana, Dec. 5, 2020
Robert J. Wright, 1973 ASCT, Richmond, Indiana, Dec. 14, 2020

Thomas J. Steinen, 1974 BSCE, Little Rock, Arkansas, Sept. 23, 2020
Thaddeus R. Stephens, 1974 BSME, Buchanan, Michigan, Dec. 4, 2020
Rex T. Holmes, 1976 BSPE, Colorado Springs, Colorado, Sept. 19, 2020
Robert F. Reichert, 1979 BSEE, Wooster, Ohio, July 13, 2020

Roger W. Pollock, 1982 BSCE, Saint Petersburg, Florida, Oct. 21, 2020

1980s

Marilyn E. Lewis, 1986 BSEIEd, Lagrange, Indiana, Dec. 1, 2020
Kirk M. Braun, 1987 BSCE, Leo, Indiana, Aug. 25, 2020

1990s

Alan J. Druckemiller, 1991 BSBA, Muncie, Indiana, Sept. 15, 2020
Cynthia L. Johnson, 1995 BAPSY, Kendallville, Indiana, April 20, 2020
Michael Conti, 1996 BSME, Bryan, Ohio, Oct. 14, 2020

2010s

Donald L. Dalrymple, 2014 BSCJ, Fort Wayne, Indiana, Dec. 15, 2020
Debra S. (Heckert) McConnehey, 2018 BSCJ, Bluffton, Indiana, Nov. 12, 2020

THUNDER'S FINAL ROLL

TRINE MOURNS LOSS OF LONGTIME CGPS FACULTY MEMBER



Gerald Holland, center, with his 2015 Outstanding Adjunct Award. He is flanked by Trine University president Earl D. Brooks, II, Ph.D., left, and John Shannon, Ph.D., vice president for academic affairs, right.

Trine University is mourning the loss of longtime adjunct faculty member Gerald Holland, 80, who passed away July 22. Holland had served as a member of Trine's faculty since 2009, teaching in the College of Graduate and Professional Studies and TrineOnline. He also taught engineering students at the university's Warsaw Education Center during Trine's partnership with Grace College.

He developed the Bachelor of Science in manufacturing technology degree program currently offered through TrineOnline.

He was born March 14, 1940, in Flint, Michigan, the son of the late Willard and Aleitha (Parker) Holland. On Sept. 22, 2000, he married Mary Moretto, also a faculty member in TrineOnline. He is survived by her as well as one sister and multiple children, stepchildren and grandchildren. He was a devoted member of Horizon Church, where he played piano in the church band. ■

THUNDER'S FINAL ROLL

UNIVERSITY LOSES ITS OLDEST ALUMNUS



Trine University's oldest alumnus passed away Oct. 26, less than two weeks after celebrating his 109th birthday.

Charles (Cliff) Kayhart was born Oct. 14, 1911, in Bloomingdale, New Jersey. At 17, he became a runner on Wall Street, then worked for New York Telephone Company, where he parlayed his love of engineering into several

positions until he got as far as he could without a college education.

Mr. Kayhart chose to attend Tri-State College, where he graduated with a degree in aeronautical engineering in 1934.

After graduation, he got a job with RCA in New Jersey and became a quality control

manager. From there, he became service supervisor of Philco Radios, then joined Bendix Aviation in the aircraft instrument division in New Jersey.

During World War II, Mr. Kayhart went into the Army Signal Corps and went to Harvard MIT to study radar. He then was assigned to the Air Corps' 31 16th Signal Service Battalion with headquarters at Fort Shafter, Hawaii. From there, he went to Iwo Jima, where he was commanding officer of installing the administrative radio station.

In 1946, Mr. Kayhart left the military as a captain and returned to civilian life. In 1947, he joined Magnavox as its first field engineer, and stayed with the company until he retired in 1976.

He moved to Columbia, South Carolina, at the age of 103.

He was a member of Dutch Fork Amateur Radio Group and was the oldest actual ham radio operator in the world, the oldest surviving Iwo Jima veteran and eighth-oldest living US male. ■

PROUD TRI-STATE GRADUATE PASSES AWAY

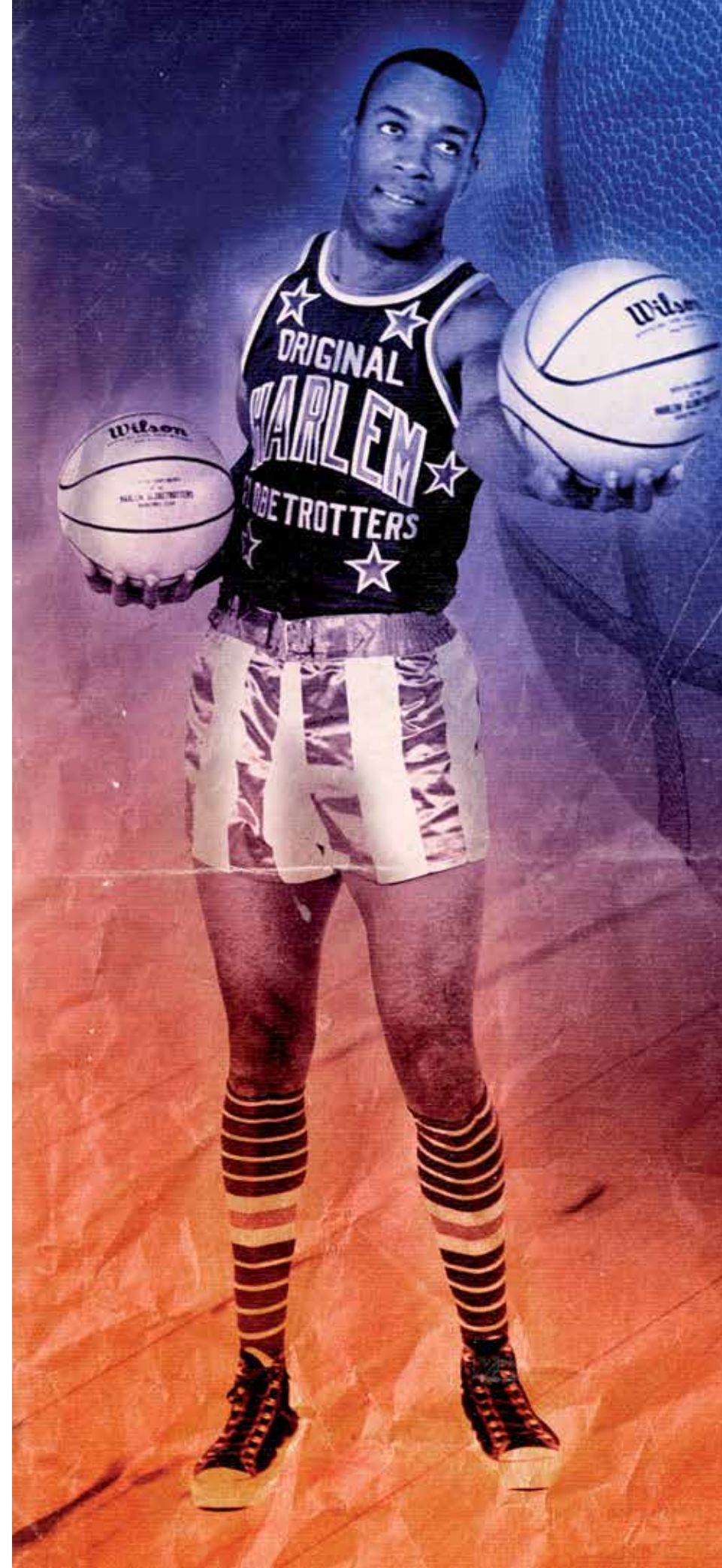
Albert J. Schiro, 92, of Cheshire, Connecticut, passed away peacefully Oct. 18, 2020, in Elim Park Health Care Center.

Albert was a graduate of Central High School in Bridgeport, Connecticut, and joined the US Navy in 1946. He graduated from Tri-State College in 1954 with a bachelor's degree in radio technology and went on to achieve his master's degree from Central Connecticut State College (now University). Prior to his retirement, he was an electrical engineer at RCA, Dictaphone and Singer Manufacturing. Albert then worked as an assistant professor of physics at Norwalk State Technical College.

He was proud to have received his education from Tri-State and attended every class reunion until 2018. He would drive himself from Connecticut to Indiana each year. He looked forward to that annual weekend trip, when he would meet "the guys" and play golf.

He also loved spending time at the lake, swimming and ice skating with his family. Albert enjoyed golf, computers and traveling throughout the US, Europe and Asia. He was a lifelong member of the Knights of Columbus.

He is survived by his wife of 70 years, Lillian, three children, three grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and numerous other family members. ■



TRI-STATE BASKETBALL STANDOUT LOTHERY GOT WORLDWIDE ATTENTION WITH THE GLOBETROTTERS

Though Ray Lothery should have been hard to overlook at 6-foot-6, he didn't seem to get a lot of notice – until he joined the most attention-getting basketball team of all.

After his basketball days were done at Tri-State College (now Trine University) in 1965, Lothery traveled for five years with the Harlem Globetrotters, participating in the team's antics in shows around the world.

However, Tri-State coach Mark Peterman didn't initially intend to recruit him.

"Ray played behind a very good center at Macomber-Whitney High School," Peterman explained.

Instead, Lothery visited Tri-State with another Toledo, Ohio, player whom Peterman had invited to campus. Peterman asked Lothery if he would like to attend and get an education, and Lothery accepted the invitation.

"When he came, he was pretty raw and undeveloped," Peterman recalled. "He started his freshman year and he got better and better, and I thought, 'Holy crimony, what do I have here?'"

Lothery played three years at Tri-State, leading the Trojans in scoring and rebounding, and receiving all-conference honors each year. His efforts earned him induction into the college's Athletic Hall of Fame in 1968, but the small college wasn't on the radar for pro scouts.

Instead, he was signed to a team that accompanied the Globetrotters on their 1966 European tour. There he caught the eye of Globetrotters' officials, and he joined the team as soon as the European tour ended.

"They pick you on personality, ability to play ball, and a lot is the fact that they don't want to have to train players once they bring them to Globetrotter camp," he later said in an interview.

Lothery's time with the Globetrotters saw him play throughout Europe, Australia, New Zealand and the Philippines, among others.

"I would get postcards from him when he was in places like Sweden," Peterman said.

Returning to Toledo, Lothery became a substitute teacher for the Toledo Public School System before finding his passion as director of the Indiana YMCA of Toledo and executive director of the Wayman Palmer YMCA. He was also active on many community boards.

Lothery served with the YMCA for 25 years before retiring. He passed away Oct. 7, 2019, in his Toledo home at age 77, with his wife of 43 years, Billie, at his side.

"He was a really wonderful young man. I enjoyed him so much," Peterman said. "His travel experiences were some that every young man would dream of." ■



Men's basketball undefeated through regular season, MIAA

Trine University's men's basketball team claimed its first Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA) Tournament Championship on March 6 to cap off an undefeated run through the regular season and tournament.

The Thunder defeated Albion College 64-62 in the title game, hosted in the MTL Center.

Though Trine entered the tournament as the number one seed, the championship game proved to be a challenge as the team trailed by as many as 12 points in the first half, and 10 at halftime.

Coming out of the locker rooms, Trine gained new life by outscoring Albion 14-3 in the first 4:12. Junior Nick Bowman sank a pair of free throws to put the Thunder up 35-34, the team's first lead since early in the first half.

Trine eventually outscored Albion 43-31 in the second half. Momentum swung back-and-forth throughout the period, with the Thunder taking the lead for good with 16 seconds left, when sophomore Brent Cox completed a three-point play.

Cox finished with a game-high 21 and grabbed eight rebounds.

The Thunder had already completed their first undefeated regular season (14-0) in the Trine NCAA Division III era on Feb. 27 with an 82-53 win against Albion.

Bowman and Cox earned first-team All-MIAA honors for the season, and Bowman was named MIAA Most Valuable Player. Bowman led the conference in scoring (22.2 points per game), field goals (44-of-77) and steals (59).

Junior Bryce Williams received second-team recognition, and freshman Emmanuel Mengnanglo was named conference Defensive Player of the Year. Mengnanglo led the MIAA in blocks for the season with 29, averaging 1.7 per game.

The NCAA had previously canceled NCAA Division III winter sports tournaments due to low participation numbers among member schools. Trine, which finished the regular season ranked second nationally by d3hoops.com, closed its season by travelling to top-ranked Randolph-Macon in Ashland, Virginia, for a number 1 vs. 2 matchup.

The Thunder fell in that contest 69-55 to finish 17-1 for the season.



Men's indoor track and field captures second straight MIAA championship

The Trine University men's indoor track and field team captured its third Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association Indoor Championship in program history on March 6.

It was the second title in a row for the Thunder, who hosted the championship March 6 at the Keith E. Busse/Steel Dynamics Athletic and Recreation Center (ARC). The team also won three home meets throughout the season.

Trine finished the championship with a team total of 182 points, 81 points ahead of both Hope College and Olivet College, who tied for second.

On the track, the Thunder had a trio of event winners in the 60-meter dash, the 60-meter hurdles and the Distance Medley Relay.

Freshman Danny Vinson was one of three Trine runners to qualify for the finals in the 60-meter dash and posted a winning time of 6.99 seconds. The Thunder had four runners advance to the finals in the 60-meter hurdles, led by sophomore Jake Gladieux, who posted the top overall time of 8.30 seconds.

In the DMR, the team of senior Noah Acker, freshman Ryan Smith, junior Holden Martin and senior Jack Beakas recorded a combined time of 10:40.69.

All event winners earned All-MIAA Conference honors.

Beakas also had a strong day individually with a pair of runner-up finishes in the 5000-meter run and the 3000-meter run.

Also in the distance events, seniors Neil O'Brien and Levi Neuzerling finished back-to-back in the mile with times of 4:15.55 and 4:24.00. O'Brien's time ended up being the second quickest on the day overall and was also a Trine indoor record.

O'Brien went on to compete in the 800-meter run and had a time of 1:59.02 to finish in third place.

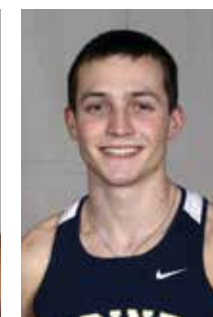
In the 200-meter dash, sophomore William Thonn placed second in a time of 23.02 seconds, followed by Gladieux, who ran a time of 23.07 seconds.

Leading the field events for Trine was the duo of freshman Anthony Latin and Gladieux in the long jump, with Latin finishing as the runner-up after a best leap of 21' 7.50" and Gladieux third with a distance of 21' 6.75".

The team ended its season at the Division III Elite Indoor Championships, hosted by Wartburg College. Trine finished third, with sophomore Ben Williams placing third with a long jump of 22' 5.75".



Danny Vinson



Jake Gladieux



Noah Acker



Ryan Smith



Holden Martin



Jack Beakas



Neil O'Brien



Levi Neuzerling



William Thonn



Anthony Latin



Ben Williams



Women's basketball 2nd in MIAA



Tara Bieniewicz



Kayla Wildman



Kelsy Taylor

The Trine University women's basketball team fell to Hope College, 64-54, in the MIAA Tournament Championship game and season finale in Holland, Michigan. It was Trine's fourth consecutive appearance in the MIAA title game, and fifth in the past six seasons.

The Thunder finished the season 14-3, the only blemishes coming in their three games against the top-ranked Flying Dutch. Trine came closest to toppling Hope when the teams met for the second time on Feb. 24, falling short 63-59.

Juniors Tara Bieniewicz and Kayla Wildman were both selected first-team All-MIAA Conference for the season, and junior Kelsy Taylor earned second-team honors. Both Bieniewicz and Wildman are repeat selections to the All-Conference Teams after earning first- and second-team honors last season.

The Thunder finished the regular season ranked third in the D3hoops.com poll.

Trine runner-up in women's indoor track and field



Haley Livingston



Autumn Presley



Valerie Obear

The Trine University women's indoor track and field team finished as runners-up at the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association Indoor Championships, hosted March 5 by Calvin University in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

The Thunder finished just nine points shy of Hope College, which ended the day's events with 183 points.

Trine had several individual champions led by freshman Haley Livingston, who won both the 60-meter hurdles and the triple jump. In the 60-meter hurdles, Livingston posted a time of 9.48 seconds in the preliminaries, breaking the Trine indoor record in the event, then broke her own record in the finals with a mark of 9.35 seconds.

On the field, Livingston posted the best overall distance in the triple jump of 34' 8.25", another school indoor record.

Also claiming individual titles in the field events were juniors Autumn Presley in the pole vault and Valerie Obear in the weight throw. Presley posted a top clearance of 10' 0.00" in the pole vault, about a foot-and-a-half higher than her nearest opponent. Obear also recorded an impressive victory in the weight throw with a distance of 57' 3.50", about 5-1/2 feet farther than second place.

All event champions earned All-MIAA Conference honors, and Livingston was also named the conference's Most Valuable Field Athlete. Livingston also placed third in the long jump at the season-ending Division III Elite Indoor Championships hosted by Wartburg College.

The Thunder also won three meets during the season: their first home meet on Feb. 5, the MIAA Jamboree on Feb. 20 and a home meet on Feb. 27.

Women's wrestler earns national tournament win

Trine University women's wrestler Riley Morrison, a freshman, had a strong first showing at the NCWWC National Tournament on March 6 at Adrian College. Morrison finished with a 1-2 record and just missed All-American status.

Morrison started the day with a loss but bounced back quickly, picking up a victory by pin in her second match of the day. She then bowed out of the tournament after her third match loss.



Riley Morrison



Men's wrestler earns Player of the Week honors

Trine University men's wrestler sophomore Matthew Abraham earned MIAA Player of the Week honors in mid-February for his efforts in an unscored multiple-round style event at Hershey Hall against Manchester University on Feb. 6 that saw the Thunder win 13 out of 23 total matches.



Matthew Abraham

Abraham won his two matchups in the 197-pound weight class, both by pinfall, including one pin in under a minute.

The team also competed at the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association Individual Championships hosted by Olivet College on Jan. 30. Highlighting the day was a second-place finish by junior Owen Conklin in the 165-pound weight bracket.

Conklin posted a 3-1 record, capturing all three of his matches in pool play to advance to the championship match.

Trine finished its season with an 0-3 dual record against Adrian College, Olivet College and host Alma College at the MIAA Team Dual Tournament on Feb. 13.

Men's hockey wins 3

Trine University's men's hockey team finished its season 3-10-1, ending with a 4-1 loss at Adrian on March 10 in the first round of the NCHA Harris Cup Playoffs.

The Thunder wins were 5-2 on Jan. 23 over Concordia University Wisconsin, 3-2 on Jan. 30 against Milwaukee School of Engineering and 4-3 against Marian University of Wisconsin. The latter two wins were in overtime, with sophomore Brendan Prappas scoring with 1.5 seconds left in overtime against MSOE and senior Corey Robertson getting the winning goal against Marian.



Brendan Prappas



Corey Robertson

season recaps

Women's hockey finishes with 2 wins

The Trine University women's hockey team finished 2-11, ending with a 2-0 loss to Aurora in the opening round of the NCHA Slaats Cup Playoffs on March 10.

Trine's wins both came in overtime. The Thunder defeated Concordia University Wisconsin 2-1 on Nov. 21, with senior Eryn Isaacson scoring the winning goal.

They topped Aurora University 3-2 on Feb. 5, with freshman Grace Hicks scoring the clincher in that contest.



Eryn Isaacson



Grace Hicks

WATCH THUNDER ATHLETICS HERE



livestream.com/trinebroadcastingnetwork

season recaps



Women’s tennis undefeated for fall



Ashley Spurrison



Trista Savage



Camille Lozier



Ellie Cole



Jadyn Davis

The women’s tennis team had a 7-0 record for the fall. The Thunder started the season with a solid 7-2 victory over Indiana University Kokomo before picking up a close 5-4 win over Calvin University. From there the team reeled off three lopsided wins, defeating Olivet College, Adrian College and Manchester University twice while only dropping one match. The team’s final win came 5-2 over Bethel University. Three members of the team finished the first part of the season undefeated in singles competition. Junior Ashley Spurrison went 6-0 in the No. 1 singles position. Senior Trista Savage matched that mark in the No. 5 singles position. Finally, junior Camille Lozier finished 6-0 in the No. 6 position. Two doubles pairs also finished with a 6-0 record: In the No. 1 position, Spurrison and Ellie Cole; in the No. 3 position, Lozier and freshman Jadyn Davis.

Football romps in fall wins



Alex Price

Kicker Ike Sheehan had a big game against Manchester with three made field goals and four extra points. For the year, Sheehan is perfect in both field goals (three-of-three) and extra points (10-of-10) for a team-high 19 points.

After all fall games were played, four Trine players were named to a special edition of “Players of the Week” by D3football.com: Kirby, Kendall Himes, Marcques Tagliaferri and Aaron Dean.

Women’s soccer sets win record

The women’s soccer team guaranteed this season as the winningest in the program’s NCAA Division III history by finishing the fall with a 7-1 record. The previous high for the program was a six-win season in 2017.

The Thunder started their season with the lone red mark, dropping the opening contest to the University of St. Francis (Ind.) in double overtime 1-0. From there the team went on a seven-game winning streak to finish the fall, securing the new season record with a 4-0 win over visiting Bluffton University.

Freshman Taylor Noll finished the fall with a team-high 16 points and five assists. Junior Mia Schlueter led the team with seven goals, while Noll finished second with six. Overall, the team scored 32 goals in eight games, spread out among 11 players.

In goal, sophomore Carmen Sweigard led the way with 17 saves, a 0.39 goals-against average and a .895 save percentage. Junior Jessalyn Friederick turned in solid work as well, finishing with a 1.67 goals against average and nine saves.



Taylor Noll



Mia Schlueter



Carmen Sweigard



Jessalyn Friederick



Men's tennis finishes 4-3

The men’s tennis team finished the fall portion of its season with a 4-3 record, with two losses coming in 5-4 defeats. The team dropped its opening match against Olivet College before picking up its first victory of the season with a 5-4 win over Calvin University, the first Thunder win against Calvin since 2014.



Aaron Streit



Alex Mullet



Isaac Everitt

After dropping a match to Grace College, the team finished the fall 3-1, including wins over Manchester University, Adrian College and Bethel University.

Individually, two Thunder led the way for the team. Sophomore Aaron Streit finished the fall 5-1 in the No. 2 singles position. Fellow sophomore Alex Mullet reached the same mark in the No. 6 singles matches.

Mullet was joined by senior Isaac Everitt on No. 3 doubles, where they led the team with a 4-1 record.

Men’s soccer 4-1 for fall

Men’s soccer started out the fall schedule with a 4-0 record before finishing with a loss. The Thunder allowed 1.40 goals per game and scored 3.40 goals per game offensively.



Kaliel Alisaid

Kaliel Alisaid made an immediate impact in his first season with the program by scoring six goals and an assist for a team-best 13 points. He recorded a four-goal game in a 5-2 win against Saint Mary of the Woods College in early October. Freshman goalkeeper Troy Saylor had an equally impressive start to the season by going 4-1 with a pair of shutout victories. He had a 1.40 goals against average and tallied 15 saves in five games.

season recaps

Women's volleyball undefeated in 4 matches

The women’s volleyball team finished the fall with a 4-0 record. The team began with a 3-2 victory over visiting Huntington University, then hit the road to defeat Concordia University Ann Arbor 3-1 and Adrian College 3-0. They finished the fall with a 3-0 home win over Adrian.

Offensively, senior Madison Munger finished the four games with 62 kills to lead the team. Classmate Sarah Toles finished second on the team with 44 kills while also leading the team with 11 blocks.

Sophomore Breanna Small came in third with 30 kills while finishing third with seven total blocks. Freshman Hannah Sands came in fourth with 29 kills and second with eight total blocks.

Sophomore Joslynn Battle turned in a team-high 140 assists. Senior Lindsey DeCamp led the way with 66 digs.



Madison Munger



Sarah Toles



Lindsey DeCamp



Breanna Small (#11)



Hannah Sands



Joslynn Battle (#4)

season recaps



Four top finishes for women's golf



Marie Sullivan



Jenna Doumont

The women's golf team made the most of its start of the 2020-21 season with four first-place finishes and a pair of runner-up finishes. Maire Sullivan led the team in scoring average at an even 85.0 strokes per round and finished in the top five individually in four events. Junior Jenna Doumont finished just behind Sullivan in stroke average at 85.17 and posted two medalist victories, finishing as the low scorer for the event.

Men's cross country wins one



Jack Beakas

Men's cross country ran in three races and finished as team champion in one race. Senior Jack Beakas led the Thunder individually by posting the top overall time in each of the three events. At the Midwest Intercollegiate, Beakas recorded the top time of the event with 15:29.90, out of 131 competitors.



Evie Bultemeyer

Women's cross country takes 2 of 3

The women's cross country team competed in the same three events as the men and won two of them and finished as runner-up in the remaining competition. Senior Evie Bultemeyer was the team's top runner, finishing as the individual champion in two of the three races. Bultemeyer had a best time of 18:07.9 in the 5k races and a mark of 21:43.46 in the lone 6k race.

Men's golf takes one team title

Men's golf competed in six events during the fall season and placed third or better in each tournament. The Thunder captured one team title at the season-opening Lou Collins Memorial Tournament. Sophomore Mitch Lowney led all players in scoring average at 74.2 strokes per round and placed in the top 10 in all six tournaments, including five top-five finishes and one first-place finish.



Mitch Lowney

Malone named new esports director

Tarvis Malone has been named Trine University's new director of esports.

Malone is a 2016 Trine University graduate, with a degree in criminal justice and psychology. While a student he was a starter for the men's varsity basketball team. Off the court, he was already an avid gamer.

Following graduation, Malone's interest in esports expanded. Over the past year, he has been heavily involved with organizing esports events hosted at the University of Toledo. The events grew from small community-based events into larger tournaments that drew participants statewide.

In addition to organizing the events, Malone reached the professional ranks by earning sponsorship and joining the ranks of FYC Esports.



Tarvis Malone



TRINE OFFERS MANY BENEFITS TO CORPORATE PARTNERS

Trine University is now offering corporate partnerships to assist companies with:

- Leadership development
- Succession planning
- Employee retention
- Talent recruitment
- Community involvement

Corporate partners receive higher education cost savings that include:

- Employee eligibility to transfer up to 90 credits, including company training, professional certification and life experience, into bachelor's degree programs.
- More than 45 courses with no cost for textbooks and materials.
- Employees can earn graduate credits while working on their bachelor's degree, resulting in lower expenses for the worker and employer.
- Assistance from the university in discovering grant and scholarship opportunities, eliminating some reimbursement expenses altogether.

Partners also have access to full-service, on-campus recruiting, including:

- Free job and internship postings and inclusion in weekly emails sent to students and graduates.
- Free promotional and recruitment video placement on our web page.
- Introductions to faculty, coaches and student organizations.

Trine also provides online or on-site professional development courses for partners. Partners receive promotion through Trine's website, social media and various publications.

"We cater our programs to each organization, depending on their needs," said Julie Goodwin, director of corporate partnerships.

Find out more about Trine University corporate partnerships by contacting Goodwin at goodwinj@trine.edu or (260) 702-8005. ■

Some of our partners include:



MENTOR A TRINE STUDENT THROUGH THE ALUMNI & FRIENDS RESOURCE NETWORK

If you are looking for a way to positively impact the life and career of a current Trine University student, consider joining the Alumni & Friends Resource Network.

The Alumni & Friends Resource Network links Trine students to alumni and career professionals interested in facilitating a relationship to share knowledge and industry connections. Students can connect to alumni and close university friends by specific interest, major, industry, occupation, specific employers and even geographical location.

Alumni from all careers, backgrounds and experiences are encouraged to provide students a real-life look into their future. Signing up as a resource volunteer gives you the opportunity to help and mentor students through difficult academic and career choices.

Find out more and become a network volunteer today by visiting alumni.trine.edu and selecting Stay Connected > Be A Mentor ■





One University Avenue
Angola, Indiana 46703

Change Service Requested

2021

Trine University Commencement

Saturday, May 8, 10 a.m.

Keith E. Busse/Steel Dynamics Inc.
Athletic and Recreation Center (ARC)



Commencement Address:
Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb

Livestream available at trine.edu/classof2021