

THE MAGAZINE OF TRINE UNIVERSITY

TRINE

WINTER 2025





Hayden Smith, left, and Kyle Stoller, both seniors majoring in mechanical engineering at Trine University, pour molten iron into carved pumpkins and other gourds left over from Halloween in the university's Foundry Lab on Nov. 5. Darryl Webber, Ph.D., professor and chair in the Wade Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, said the moisture inside the gourds prevents them from instantly burning.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



Trine University is always looking toward the future, dedicated to shaping innovative, vibrant educational spaces that enrich our students' lives and education and strengthen our community.

During Homecoming, we dedicated two new facilities that attest to our commitment to future growth at Trine:

- The new Earl D. and Melanie N. Brooks College of Health Professions not only accommodates the growth we have seen in health sciences and health professions over the past decade but also offers a launching pad to expand existing programs and create new ones. I am honored and truly humbled by the university Board of Trustees' decision to name this beautiful new beacon of learning after Melanie and me in 2023.
- The Mark and Sarah Music/Ruoff Mortgage Esports Arena serves our rapidly growing esports programs and community partners such as Easterseals, providing a collaborative space to engage and innovate together.

In this magazine, you'll find more details about these projects, other Homecoming highlights, and an update on the new 200-bed residence hall that recently broke ground.

Speaking of growth, I'm pleased to report that Trine University continues to experience record enrollment, serving nearly 15,000 students across all locations and platforms this fall. You can read more about this and other milestones in the pages ahead.

We were all deeply saddened by the passing of Dr. Ralph Trine in August, the namesake of this university along with his wife Sheri. In this issue, we honor his memory and the indelible mark he made on the broader community. We know the ongoing growth of Trine University and our positive impact on students will honor his legacy for generations.

Thank you to everyone who partners with us as we grow and provide new opportunities for Trine students and our community.

Sincerely,

Earl D. Brooks II

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



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Correction: The Summer issue of Trine magazine incorrectly spelled Softball Coach Donnie Danklefsen's name in a headline. Trine magazine regrets the error.

Please visit trine.edu/magazine to download a digital version of Trine Magazine.



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TRINE

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Lilly Endowment awards Trine University \$17.2 million grant

Trine University has received a grant of \$17.2 million from Lilly Endowment Inc. through its College and Community Collaboration (CCC) initiative.

The grant will support efforts to help prepare students and adult learners for current and emerging in-demand job opportunities throughout the region.

It will partially fund the development of a design and technical training center, the esports facility that serves both the campus and surrounding area, and a new community park, in addition to many other collaborative efforts to enhance the community.

Workforce development and collaboration

Key components focus on workforce and skills development and training, collaboration and innovation, community engagement and outreach, infrastructure development and improvement of aesthetics and connectivity, and collaborative university and community spaces and programming. Projects include:

- The state-of-the-art John and Mary Pellegrino Student Design Center will include cutting-edge resources to prepare students and community members for careers in engineering, manufacturing and technology.

- The Mark and Sarah Music/Ruoff Mortgage Esports Arena has transformed an auditorium classroom into a 5,600-square-foot state-of-the-art esports arena. This community-centric space offers inclusivity and engagement.
- The Sheets Community Park will provide for inclusive recreational spaces that encourage physical activity and social engagement for individuals of all ages and abilities.

The grant also will support collaborative programming as well as the development of new green spaces, trails and recreation spaces that will better connect the university and the greater Angola community.

In preparing a proposal for the grant, Trine collaborated with several organizations to bring together expertise, resources and diverse perspectives. These partners include the City of Angola and Angola Main Street, Steuben County Government, the Steuben County Community Foundation, Steuben

County Economic Development Corporation, Steuben County Tourism Bureau, Cameron Memorial Community Hospital, Easterseals ARC of Northeast Indiana and RISE, Steuben County Trails, YMCA of Steuben County, Steuben Art Scene, MSD of Steuben County and Fremont Community Schools.

Trine University is one of 13 Indiana higher education institutions receiving grants through the latest round of implementation grants through CCC, a competitive Lilly Endowment initiative.



The Mark and Sarah Music/Ruoff Mortgage Esports Arena.

Trine University Parents Board

Parents of current Trine students are invited to be part of the Parents Board!

The Parents Board exists to:

- Work together with Trine University to support student success.
- Partner with parents and families to create a supportive environment that is invested in the success of their students and the university community.
- Provide information, resources and tools to equip parents and families with the knowledge and skills to support their students throughout their academic journey.

- Organize purposeful events that aim to bring parents and families together with the Trine community to share experiences, learn from one another and celebrate student successes.

If you are interested in being part of the Parents Board, please contact Denise Geary, Office of University Advancement, at (260) 665.4114 or gearyd@trine.edu.



Trine University’s new Mark and Sarah Music/Ruoff Mortgage Esports Arena is about much more than competition, according to university President Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D.

“It’s a dynamic environment where technology, creativity and community all come together,” he said at the arena’s dedication. “This place will be used for everything from competitive gaming to academic research and from community engagement to an experiential learning experience. This facility will serve as a living laboratory for students in areas like video production, event management, computer programming and cybersecurity.”

The ceremony on Sept. 28, during Homecoming, included Mark and Sarah Music, who were honored for their \$250,000 gift toward the project, as well as other members of the Board of Trustees, representatives from Easterseals, community members and Trine alumni, faculty, staff and students.

Cutting-edge technology

The new 5,600-square-foot arena, located in Best Hall, is designed to accommodate growth in Trine’s esports program and in its community partnerships.

The \$2.1 million project transformed an auditorium classroom into a facility featuring 60

state-of-the-art gaming computers. The cutting-edge technology will cater to a diverse range of gaming preferences and skill levels.

The arena includes a spacious spectator area, dynamic competitive battle stage and fully equipped broadcast booth for live streaming and commentary.

“This marks a really exciting new chapter for us and esports as we formally dedicate this space and really raise the standard for us, and I think for a lot of institutions around us, in terms of what an esports arena looks like,” Dr. Brooks said.

The new facility will allow the university to expand its esports partnership with Easterseals as well as local schools with esports programs.

Trine has partnered with Easterseals Northern Indiana as that organization has become a national leader with its esports program.

The national Easterseals organization shared its vision for an accessible, inclusive gaming community, dubbed ES Gaming, at a 2022 conference with affiliate leaders. Easterseals Arc CEO Donna Elbrecht recognized the tremendous potential of the initiative and knew Easterseals RISE in Angola was an ideal location to pilot an esports program before expanding it throughout northern Indiana.

Trine University, which has offered esports since 2017 and included an esports arena when it built the MTI Center, was a natural partner as Easterseals developed its program.



From left, Trine University President Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D., Mark Music, Sarah Music, and Jeremy Goessens, director of esports at Trine.



Many Return for Homecoming

More than 1,500 alumni, a record number, joined thousands of students, parents and community members to enjoy Homecoming 2024 festivities over the weekend of Sept. 27-29.

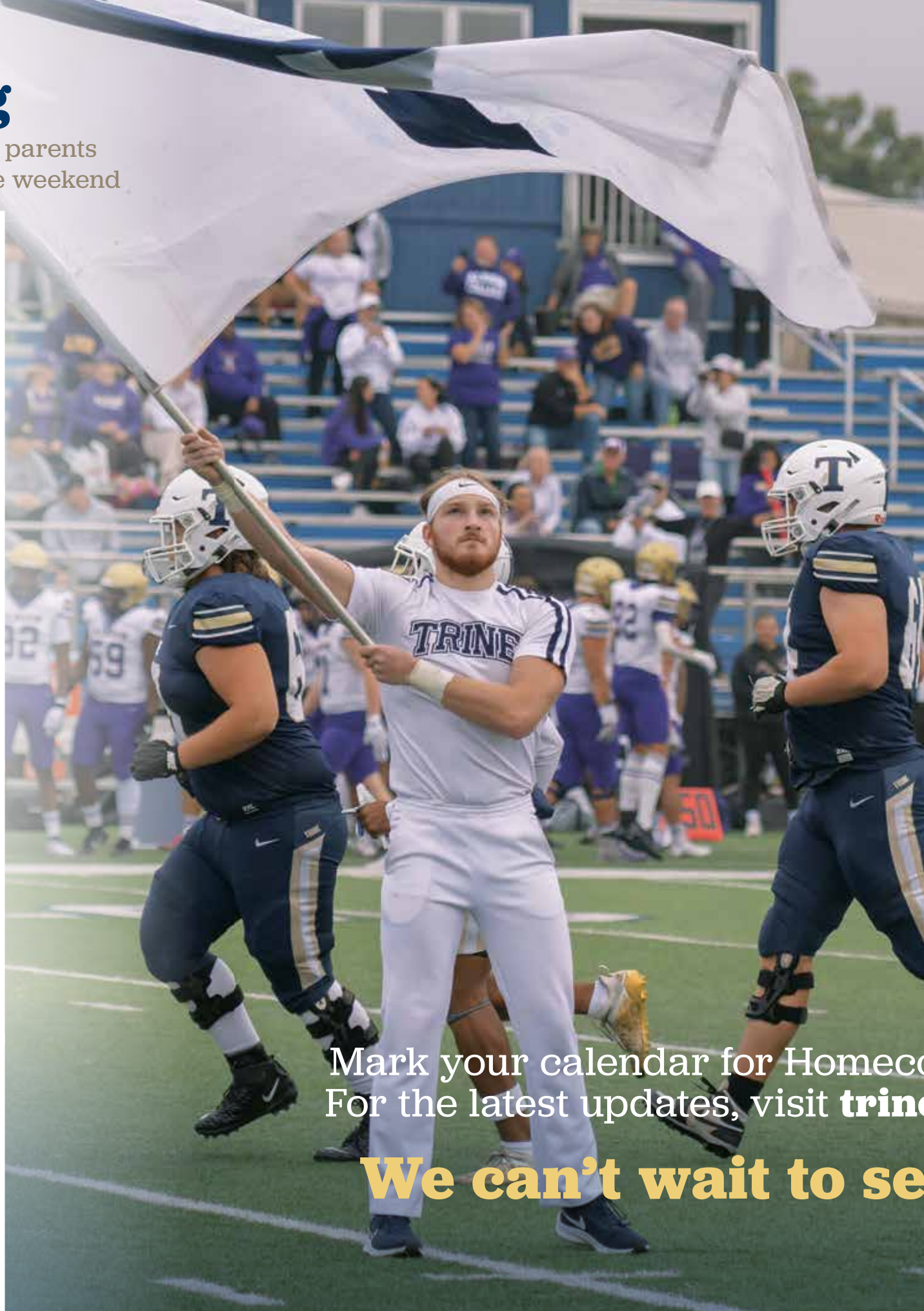
This year’s Homecoming featured several new activities, including:

- The 1884 Historical Tour, which offered participants the opportunity to explore Trine University’s rich history through a guided walk featuring 10 campus buildings. Participants enjoyed images displaying what each building originally looked like, alongside current photographs.
- The Esports Discovery Experience in the new Mark and Sarah Music/ Ruoff Mortgage Esports Arena, which introduced families to esports through matches between Trine students, matches between Easterseals teams, and children from the audience selected to play on stage.
- Brews, Bottles, & Beats: A Night of Craft Beer, Wine, & Live Music, featuring the Hubie Ashcraft Band, beer by the glass from Chapman’s Brewing Company, owned by **Scott Fergusson, BSEA 1998**, and free wine samples from Satek Winery.

Chloe Goodrich, an elementary education, special education and English education major, was Homecoming queen, and **Michael Pacer**, a marketing major also pursuing his MBA, was Homecoming king.

Thunder Games winners were:

- Sidewalk Painting: SPEAK
- Lip Sync: Men’s Hockey
- Tour de Trine: Swim Club



Mark your calendar for Homecoming 2025, Oct. 3-5!
For the latest updates, visit trine.edu/homecoming.

We can’t wait to see you there!

University presents awards at Touchstone

Trine University honored alumni, trustees and supporters during the annual Touchstone and Homecoming Celebration Dinner on Sept. 27. The event was held in the Keith E. Busse/Steel Dynamics Inc. Athletic and Recreation Center. In addition to recognizing those who increased their giving level, the university presented several special awards.

Pillar of Success

James Fabiani, part of three generations of the Fabiani family that have served on the Trine University Board of Trustees, was named Trine University's Pillar of Success.

He joined the Trine University Board of Trustees in 2001 after being asked by Trine President Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D.

His tenure on the board has included serving as vice chair from 2008-2012, during which the university experienced tremendous enrollment and fundraising growth, and completed and launched several major building projects.



Woman of Distinction

Trine University honored **Jennifer Danic**, president and CEO of the Steuben County Community Foundation, with its annual Woman of Distinction Award.

Danic has led the Steuben County Community Foundation as president and CEO since 2011, but has been part of the community for much longer.

Her parents met at Tri-State (now Trine) University in the mid-1970s and have lived in Angola since graduating. Their love of Tri-State and Trine rubbed off on Danic, who learned to swim at Hershey Hall and golf at Zollner Golf Course, and took part in tennis camps, gymnastics performances at basketball games and other campus activities.

Distinguished Service Award



Travis Wilhelm, a 1999 engineering administration graduate, received the Distinguished Service Award.

Wilhelm has been on staff with Christian Campus House since 2000 and has served as Lead Campus Minister since 2001. Over his tenure, thousands of students have been part of CCH, more than 200 have been baptized, and CCH has conducted 30 mission trips. He also has performed 29 weddings for Trine alumni and given the invocation at more than 70 university events.

Outstanding Achievement Award



John Carmichael, a 2003 business administration graduate, was the recipient of the Outstanding Achievement Award.

At Root and Branch Real Estate LLC, Carmichael focuses on developing projects that drive investment and integrate pressing community needs. He also is president and co-founder of GT Independence, where he previously served as CEO.

In 2008, at age 30, he became the youngest mayor in the history of Sturgis, Michigan.

Outstanding Young Alumnus Award



Benjamin Syroka, a 2016 bachelor of arts in general studies graduate, was the recipient of this year's Outstanding Young Alumnus Award.

Syroka lives in Toledo, Ohio, and works as an attorney for the United States Federal Courts. He was honored with the 2023 Distinguished Pro Bono Service Award at the annual U.S. District Court, Northern District of Ohio ("NDOH") State of the Court Luncheon and received the 2023 "20 Under 40" Toledo Leadership Recognition Award.

Spirit of Trine Alumni Award



Donnie Danklefsen, a 2003 sport management graduate, was the recipient of the Spirit of Trine Alumni Award.

His accomplishments include a record of 638-201 and leading Trine softball to 13 MIAA championships, 13 MIAA tournament titles, eight regional titles, five super-regional championships, a national third-place finish in 2019, national runner-up in 2022 and the first NCAA team championship in Trine University history in 2023.

Athletic Hall of Fame

Four alumni were named to the university's Athletic Hall of Fame.



Brandi Dawson is a 2019 exercise science graduate. A four-year member of the women's basketball team, Dawson was a four-time All-American, named three times by D3Hoops.com and once by the Women's Basketball Coaches Association, as well as a three-time Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association Most Valuable Player and a four-time All-MIAA member, three times on first team.



Kara Morehead née **Eck** is a 2018 graduate of Trine University with a degree in elementary education and a minor in special education. She was a four-year member of the women's track and field indoor and outdoor teams. Morehead was the first Thunder student-athlete to earn All-American status five times and is still one of just three to reach the mark.



Will Dixon is a 2017 graduate of Trine University with a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering. He was four-year member of the men's basketball team. Dixon was named an All-Region player twice and made three first team All-MIAA appearances.



Isaac Sturgis is a 2002 graduate of Tri-State University with a degree in social studies education. He was a four-year member of the football team under head coach Dale Carlson. Sturgis was a three-time All-American, including first-team honors from NAIA Coaches in 2001.



TRINE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI NATIONAL TOUR

Are you interested in attending a regional Trine alumni and friends event in YOUR area? Or would you like to host one yourself? Reach out to us at alumni@trine.edu and let's make it happen!

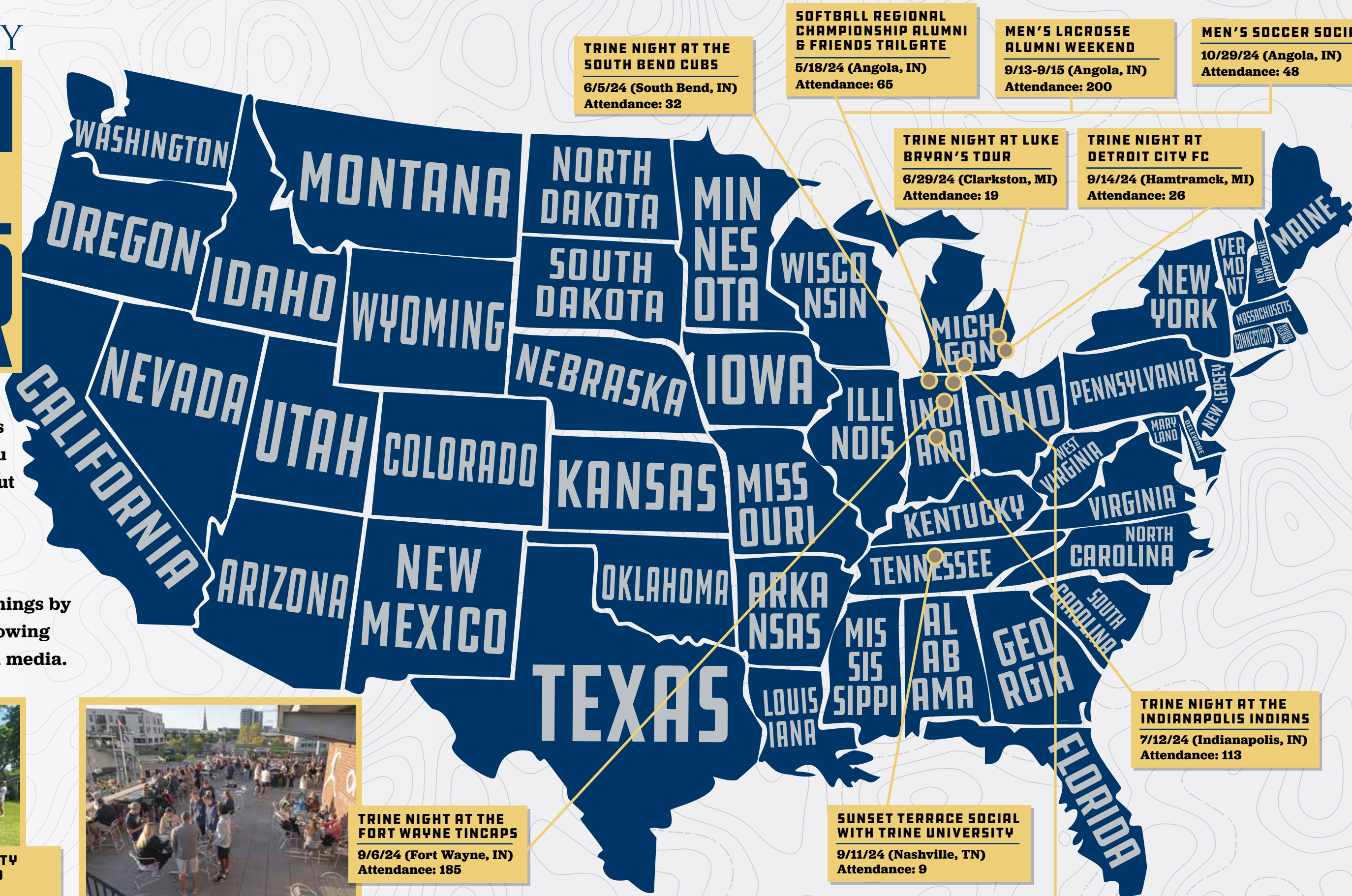
Never miss a regional event! Stay up-to-date with Trine happenings by visiting trine.edu/alumni and following Trine University Alumni on social media.



**TRINE UNIVERSITY
PARENTS BOARD
BACKYARD BBQ**
7/29/24 (Coldwater, MI)
Attendance: 39



**TRINE NIGHT AT THE
FORT WAYNE TINCAPS**
9/6/24 (Fort Wayne, IN)
Attendance: 185



Trine students get summer research experience

Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REUs) offer Trine University students the opportunity to participate in intensive research opportunities across the United States.

Typically lasting 10 weeks, REUs allow students to conduct authentic research, be mentored by graduate students and faculty, and learn about educational and career pathways.

Here are a few Trine students who completed REUs this past summer.

Metal 3D printing at MIT

Garrett Adams, a mechanical engineering and electrical engineering major, worked in Massachusetts Institute of Technology's (MIT's) Mechanosynthesis Group, which aims to advance manufacturing and its interaction with sustainable growth.



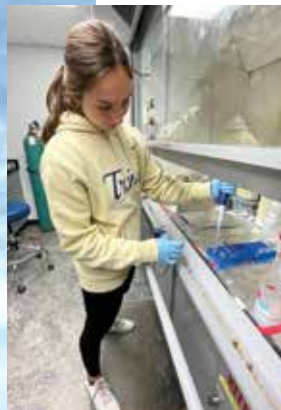
The research Garrett assisted with focused on new spreading techniques for metal additive manufacturing, more commonly known as 3D printing.

The end goal, Garrett said, was to develop methods that require less time and power to produce metal 3D prints, while resulting in a smoother surface.

Garrett's responsibilities included redesigning the spreading machine for a new spreading direction, experimentation,

and troubleshooting the laser printer and spreading rig.

"I enjoyed seeing the thought process behind tackling each problem," he said.



Fish testing alternatives

Ellie Warhafftig, a biology and environmental science double major from Plano, Texas, participated in an REU at Clarkson University in Potsdam, New York, researching and creating more cost-effective methods to measure contaminants in fish from the Great Lakes.

During her REU, she worked on developing a cheaper alternative to the expensive EPA test by using chitosan, a material that comes from the shells of shrimp and other crustaceans. She spent a week on a US EPA research vessel on Lake Erie, learning how larger tests are performed and collecting samples for future research.

The program concluded with Clarkson's Research and Project Showcase event, where more than 70 undergraduate students presented their research.

"I ended up placing third overall, which was a great end to the program!" she exclaimed.



Oak Ridge National Laboratory: Developing new materials

Marshall Beebe took his passion for chemical engineering to the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), where he worked as an ORISE SULI Intern (Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education, Science Undergraduate

Laboratory Internship). Marshall's research focused on developing high-performance biocomposites for additive manufacturing, specifically by modifying pine fibers with bio-based epoxy to improve mechanical properties and reduce the environmental footprint, compared to petroleum-based epoxies.

During his internship, Marshall was responsible for determining the optimal amounts of bio-based epoxy, polymer and biomass needed to create the composite, as well as preparing samples for testing.

His work culminated in the creation of biocomposites with wide-ranging applications, including as construction materials due to their low weight, affordability, printability and strength.

At the project's completion, Marshall presented his work at the ORNL research symposium. He also had the opportunity to co-author a research publication.



Designing solutions for water contamination

Senior chemical engineering major Natalie Crowner spent her summer at the University of Notre Dame, focusing on creating microparticles for an improved

method of removing contaminants, such as heavy metals and PFAS, from water. Her research aimed to use the particles to attract and bind to water contaminants, creating a continuous system that addresses the limitations of current technologies.

Her responsibilities included creating microparticles, improving their size and shape, and testing their properties.

"I enjoyed how much independence I was given. I made several discoveries, developed methods and adapted procedures on my own," she said.

Natalie presented her research at a symposium at the University of Notre Dame, plans to present at future conferences, and hopes to turn her results into a journal publication.



Unlocking the potential of nanocages for hydrogen production

Jake Doyle's REU at the University of Louisville focused on enhancing the efficiency of hydrogen production through the use of a carbon nanocage to encapsulate nickel

sulfide—a novel material for catalyzing the Hydrogen Evolution Reaction (HER).

Jake's responsibilities included synthesizing the nanocages, embedding them with nickel sulfide and verifying their structures using X-ray diffraction. His work culminated in a poster presentation at a nano summit, and the chemical engineering major is now assisting in writing a research paper for future publication.

The long-term goal of this research is to improve the ability to store energy produced by solar panels and wind in the form of electricity, and turn it into hydrogen, which can then be transported to places where renewable energy production is less feasible.

Engineering yeast for a greener future

Chemical engineering major Allison Korpi spent her summer at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, working on genetically engineering yeast to produce isobutanol, a hydrocarbon that can be used as a biofuel for airplanes.

Throughout her experience, Allison was responsible for constructing a gene variant library of yeast, modifying three different enzyme levels and looking at which



combination maximizes yeast's natural ability to produce isobutanol. Her research is part of a broader effort to find economically viable routes for producing biofuels, contributing to the development of carbon-neutral aviation fuel.

"The final part of my project has never been published. It's neat to think that I could be the first person to investigate a certain topic," noted Allison.



Team Goby

Biology major Peyton Schuring spent 10 weeks at Central Michigan University (CMU) participating in a Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) program working on the CMU Biological Station (CMUBS).

Peyton spent her summer on Team Goby, an invasive species research team focused specifically on the invasive round goby, a nonnative fish introduced to the Great Lakes in the 1990s via ballast water of cargo ships.

"My specific research was looking into round goby population sizes and body sizes concerning different baiting amounts and capturing techniques," Peyton explained.

Peyton was responsible for creating her own research questions, hypotheses and methodology, as well as conducting her own fieldwork, analyzing her own data and presenting her findings.

Kayla Warren promoted to senior vice president, CFO



Trine University has promoted **Kayla Warren, 2006 BSBA**, to the new role of senior vice president and chief financial officer.

She previously served the university as vice president of finance, a position she had held since 2021.

In addition to responsibilities for the university’s financial planning, budgeting and reports, accounting and business operations, and audits, Warren will now oversee and direct housing and residence life.

She will continue to work with university leadership to develop strategic plans and policies, direct the university’s budget development process, monitor annual revenue and expenditures as well as future financial commitments, oversee university investment activities and monitor contractual relationships. In addition to the Business Office, she will continue to oversee information technology, campus operations, the Thunder Ice Arena and Zollner Golf Course.

Warren joined Trine as controller in 2016. She became assistant vice president for finance at Trine in 2020.

The university honored her with its Outstanding Young Alumnus/ae Award in 2023.



New Residence Hall – Trine University has broken ground on a new 200-bed student housing facility, which will be located in the space formerly occupied by Cameron and Alwood Hall. The new facility will open in the fall of 2025.



CAROL Red Carpet – Dancers from TC Dance Academy for the Performing Arts pose with choreographer Maude-Jo Yerrick (right) at the red carpet premiere of CAROL on Dec. 5. The movie, produced by **James Tew, 2019 MSL**, and **Shannon Tew, 2019 BSBA/2021 BSN**, had its world premiere at the T. Furth Center for Performing Arts.

Trine enrolls nearly 15,000 students

Trine University welcomed nearly 15,000 students across its campuses, education centers and online this fall.

The fall headcount total of 14,516 is about a 14% increase over 12,711 enrolled in the 2023 and is almost triple the total enrollment from fall 2021.

The university continues to expand facilities to support its ongoing growth and ensure students have access to modern, state-of-the-art amenities.

The university opened a 36,000-square-foot expansion to Best Hall of Science in fall 2023 to accommodate increased growth in its Rinker-Ross School of Health Sciences and dedicated the 110,000-square-foot Dr. Earl D. and Melanie N. Brooks College of Health Professions facility in Fort Wayne this fall.

Trine is Fort Wayne’s Best College for 4th straight year; Tolin named Best Professor

Readers of Fort Wayne Newspapers have voted Trine University the Best College in the Greater Fort Wayne region for the fourth straight year.



In addition, **Megan Tolin, 2010 BSSciEd**, dean of Trine University’s Franks School of Education, was recognized as the region’s Best Professor.

The honors were announced in the Sept. 28 Journal Gazette as part of the newspaper’s annual Readers’ Choice awards.

It continued a string of recognitions for the university this fall. The university was included among US News & World Report’s 2025 Best Colleges and Princeton Review’s Best in the Midwest.



Trine students assisting FYPD with cold cases

Area unsolved cases are getting new sets of eyes.

Trine University, in partnership with the Fort Wayne Police Department (FYPD), launched a Cold Case Unit in the fall semester.

“We are proud to pioneer this initiative and endorse the police practitioner relationship with our students,” said **Erica Hutton, Ph.D.**, director of the Cold Case Unit and

assistant professor of criminal justice at Trine.

“There are so many benefits to this program, and we are grateful to the Fort Wayne Police Department for partnering with us. It gives our students the opportunity to work alongside seasoned law enforcement officials and not only learn but implement criminal investigative techniques. And it gives victims’ families,

some of whom have been waiting for decades, the opportunity to find closure and justice.”

Chief Scott Caudill is excited about the partnership, stating, “This is a mutually beneficial partnership: the students get to work alongside some of the best, experienced, homicide detectives and we get a Cold Case Unit of highly motivated, intelligent students to comb through cases from an entirely different perspective.”

Trine students making up the Cold Case Unit for the 2024-25 school year are: **Taylor Colvin**, a psychology major from Macon, Georgia; **Akilah Guthrie**, a forensic science, biology and chemistry major from Anderson, Indiana; **Gracie Schoof**, a criminal justice major from Corunna, Indiana; **Blake Roose**, a criminal justice major from Milford, Indiana; and **Nathaniel Bradshaw**, a computer science and information technology major from New Paris, Indiana.

The unit will be an ongoing effort with the opportunity for students from any major to apply each year.

Golfers tough out the rain to support Trine students

For the first time in recent memory, it rained at Trine University’s Alumni & Friends Scholarship Golf Outing, but more than 200 dedicated golfers stayed on the course to raise money for student scholarships.

Held Aug. 2, at Zollner Golf Course, the 34th annual event drew 218 golfers and raised nearly \$100,000.

The morning flight’s top team, sponsored by the First Federal Savings Bank of Angola, included Maxwell Diccico, a 2021 finance alumnus, Scott Gruner, a 1998 accounting alumnus, Mason Gruner and Lance Krebs.

A team sponsored by A & Z Engineering LLC took second in the morning flight. Team members were Jeremy Howard, a 2011 elementary education and 2018 master of science in organizational leadership alumnus, Richard Truex, Dustin Minard, a 2012 civil engineering alumnus, and Matthew Curry, a 2020 general studies alumnus.

In third place was a team sponsored by the Brooks Construction Company, Inc.: Schuyler Aghabekian, Brandon Bushee, Drew Keil and Darik Sands.

The Kappa Sigma team of Shawn Floyd, a 2009 management alumnus, Alex Lorencz, a 2010 golf management alumnus, Jason Paff, a 2011 mechanical engineering alumnus, and Noah Warren, a 2007 golf management alumnus, won the afternoon flight, which was delayed an hour due to lightning.

In second was a team from Commonwealth Engineers, Inc. made up of members of the Class of 2007: Richard Blasey, civil engineering, Trevor Ferrel, elementary education, Josh Harner, civil engineering, and Jeremy Hardy, civil engineering.

The team of Tyler Aguirre, Michael Earls, Hannah Field and Kayla Warren, a 2006 accounting alumna, sponsored by Forvis Mazars LLP, finished third.



Beacon of learning: Trine dedicates Brooks College of Health Professions

Trine University dedicated its largest building project ever, praised by its namesake as “a beacon of learning, innovation and service, and a testament to the power of partnership and philanthropy,” on Sept. 27.

The new Dr. Earl D. and Melanie N. Brooks College of Health Professions (BCHP) facility welcomed university trustees, officials from Parkview Health and City of Fort Wayne and local media as well as Trine employees and students to christen the \$42.5 million crown jewel, built to transform the landscape of healthcare education in northeast Indiana.

“Through innovative academic offerings and hands-on training, the Brooks College of Health Professions is positioned to meet the growing need for healthcare professionals locally, regionally and beyond,” said Trine University President Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D.

Developed in close partnership with Parkview Health and located at 12817 Parkview Plaza Drive, Fort Wayne, the BCHP opened for classes in August.

The new facility both accommodates explosive growth in Trine University’s health professions programs and provides ample space for future expansion.

The university’s Board of Trustees voted in May 2023 to name the facility and the academic department it houses in honor of Dr. Brooks and his wife Melanie, in recognition of their transformational leadership, commitment to excellence and impact.

Dr. Rick L. James, president of the Trine University Board of Trustees, closed by recognizing Dr. and Mrs. Brooks.

“Together, they have transformed Trine University into a hub of academic excellence and community engagement,” Dr. James said. “It is fitting that their legacy is intertwined with the future of healthcare education in our region.”

“The Brooks College of Health Professions will not only prepare graduates for rewarding careers but will also drive economic growth, create community vitality and ensure that northeast Indiana remains a leader in healthcare and education for decades to come.”

“Through innovative academic offerings and hands-on training, the Brooks College of Health Professions is positioned to meet the growing need for healthcare professionals locally, regionally and beyond.”

— Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D.



Dr. Rick James, Melanie Brooks and Dr. Earl Brooks II.

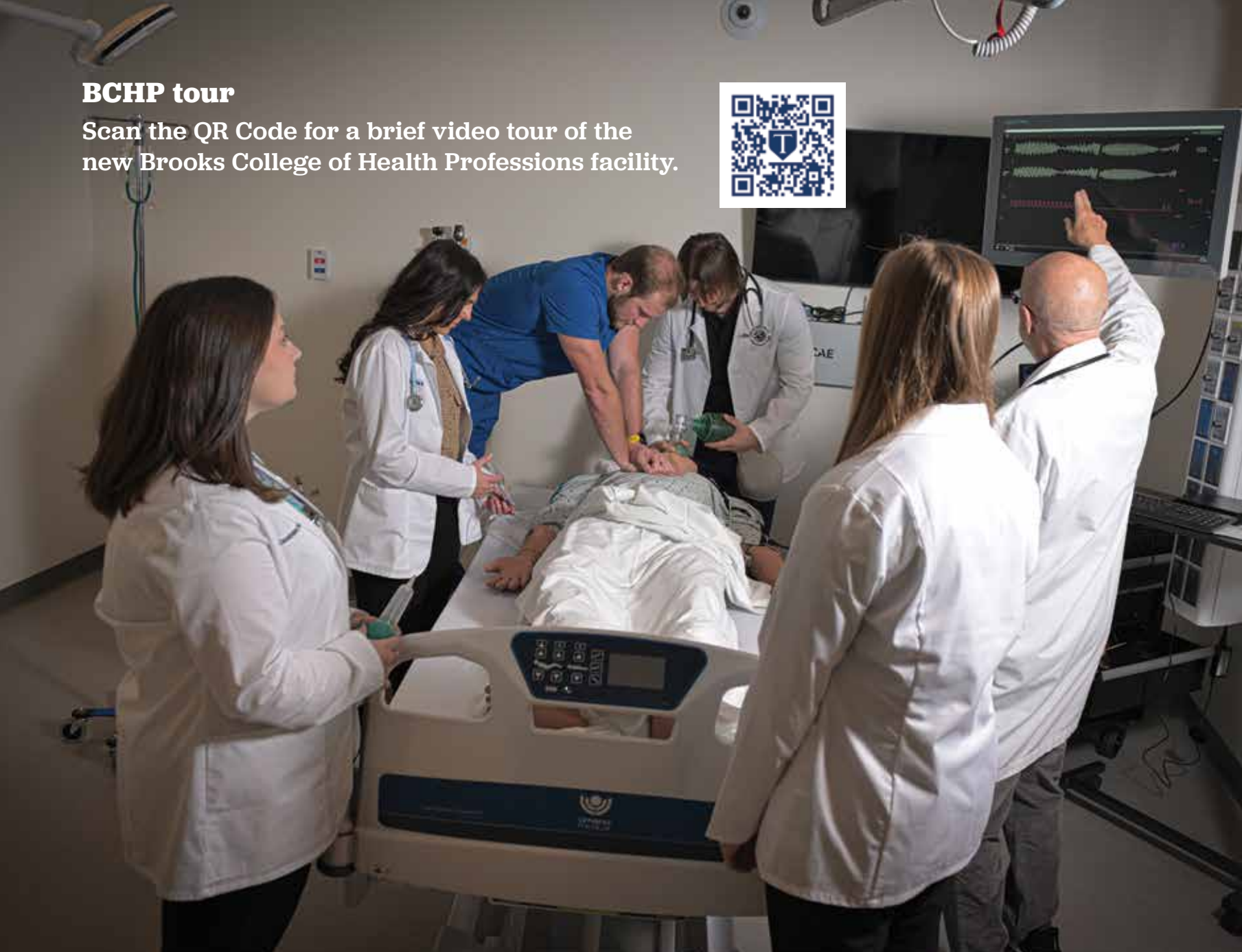
Many supporters

Dr. Brooks recognized multiple supporters of the BCHP project during the ceremony:

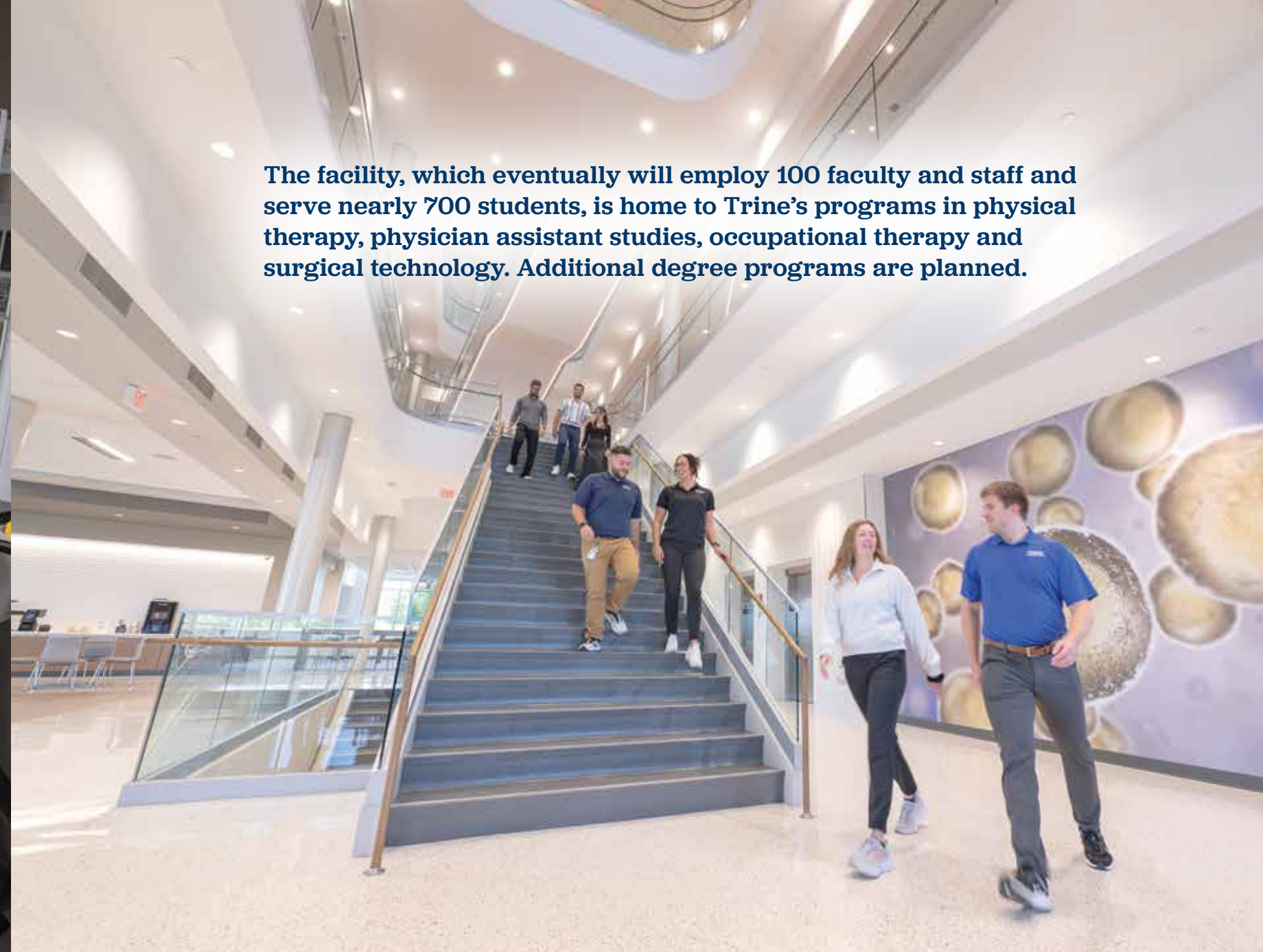
- Parkview Health, represented by Chief Administrative Officer Dena Jacquay and Chief Academic Research Officer Dr. Michael Mirro.
- Drs. Rick L. and Vicki L. James and The James Foundation, for whom the Drs. Rick L. and Vicki L. James and The James Foundation Lobby is named.
- The Indiana Economic Development Corporation, the Northeast Indiana Regional Development Authority and the Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership for their support through the READI funding initiative.
- Steel Dynamics, Inc. and the SDI Foundation, honored with the Steel Dynamics Foundation, Inc. Student Gathering Spaces.
- Chuck and Lisa Surack, recognized with the Chuck and Lisa Surack Lecture Hall.
- Dr. Larry and Judy Reiners, for whom the Dr. Larry and Judy Reiners Library is named.
- The English Bonter Mitchell Foundation, the Edward M. and Mary McCrea Wilson Foundation and the Dr. Louis A. and Anne B. Schneider Foundation, which supported the Gross Anatomy and Cadaver Lab, the Physical Therapy Research Lab and the SIM Center Virtual Reality/Immersive Training Room.
- Stevens-Moon, Skytron, AJ Manufacturing, and MedCore Construction, which provided in-kind donations of equipment.
- The Dekko Foundation, honored with the Dekko Foundation Clinical Skills Lab.
- Drs. Ralph and Sheri Trine, who donated landscaping and outdoor artwork.
- Mike and Natalie Axel, recognized with the Mike and Natalie Axel Classroom.
- Dr. Keith E. Busse, for whom the Dr. Keith E. Busse Classroom is named.
- William and Barbara Dubois, honored with the William and Barbara Dubois Pre/Post ER Lab.
- Design Collaborative, recognized with the Design Collaborative Student Lobby.
- The Franklin H. and Ruth L. Wells Foundation, which supported the Franklin H. and Ruth L. Wells Foundation.
- Lynn and Patti Brooks, for whom the Lynn and Patti Brooks Physician Assistant Classroom is named.
- Jeff and Susan Turner, who requested the naming of the Michael and Patti Graham Physician Assistant Classroom in honor of Jeff’s sister and brother-in-law, Michael and Patti Graham.
- The Hayner Foundation, honored with The Hayner Foundation Pediatric Lab.
- Derek and Lynn Reiners, recognized with the Derek and Lynn Reiners Physician Assistant Lab.
- Jason and Megan Stechschulte, for whom the Jason and Megan Stechschulte Physician Assistant/ Surgical Technology Lab is named.

BCHP tour

Scan the QR Code for a brief video tour of the new Brooks College of Health Professions facility.



The facility, which eventually will employ 100 faculty and staff and serve nearly 700 students, is home to Trine's programs in physical therapy, physician assistant studies, occupational therapy and surgical technology. Additional degree programs are planned.



State-of-the-art facility

Offering 110,000 square feet of space, the BCHP offers state-of-the-art classrooms and laboratories and features, in partnership with the Parkview Mirro Center, the innovative Parkview Mirro Advanced Medical Simulation Lab (SimCenter), including mock surgery and Emergency Room suites and exam and patient rooms.

Parkview will use the SimCenter and other facilities in the BCHP for training its staff.

The building also contains ample resources for student support, including a library, gathering area, academic support and counseling services.

The facility, which eventually will employ 100 faculty and staff and serve nearly 700 students, is home to Trine's programs in physical therapy, physician assistant studies, occupational therapy and surgical technology. Additional degree programs are planned.

BCHP programs offer opportunities for health sciences students on Trine's Angola campus to continue on to graduate school and health professions careers. Several programs offer 3+3 options, which allow Trine students to count their first year of graduate classes toward their undergraduate degree.

The Brooks College of Health Professions began with the university's Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program, which launched in fall 2014 on the campus of Parkview Randallia Hospital. As Trine added additional academic programs, a larger space was needed.

Trine University purchased an additional 43 acres of land from Parkview Health in September 2023 to continue to grow its health professions programs.



Trine University President Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D., left, with Tom Alspaugh, 1974 BSME, at the Touchstone Dinner and Celebration on Sept. 27.



Tri-State propelled Alspaugh to award-winning career, service

Tom Alspaugh said his father planted the seed for his mechanical engineering education and career.

"My father was a tool-and-die maker worked with, and for, engineers," Tom recalled.

Tom excelled in math, science and drafting and developed an interest in mechanical engineering and production engineering.

His parents looked for a small college where he would have a better chance

of succeeding. Tri-State College, now Trine University, was the ideal fit.

"A neighbor, four years older, Bruce Campble, was an electrical engineering co-op student at Tri-State," he said. "There was no question Tri-State was the school we were looking for, and I was going to be a co-op student."

Chalk dust, water balloons

One of Tom's favorite professors at Tri-State was Dr. Neil Johnson, who taught Modern Physics.

"(He) would get so excited and involved in his lectures he would pound the chalk on the blackboard with chalk dust fling everywhere," Tom remembered. "He really opened my mind up to the realization that there is so much we do not know."

Tom also was very active in Greek life. He had learned about the fraternities at Tri-State when he visited campus but didn't participate during his first and second quarter so he could focus on his studies.

By the end of the winter quarter, four of the five people Tom hung out with on his

dorm floor had joined Alpha Sigma Phi.

"When my winter grades came in and I had pulled my second 3.65 in a row, I asked my parents if I could pledge spring quarter, and they agreed," he said. "Alpha Sigma Phi rushed me hard."

His favorite Alpha Sig memories include a water balloon war between the brothers and non-fraternity students across what was now Thunder Drive and the lawn near Best Hall.

He also spent his last summer quarter with one of his fraternity brothers in a rental house owned by the brother's father on Lake James.

"It had a big flat lawn for volleyball and a dock for our fraternity's extra-large pontoon boat," he said. "I took the lightest, easiest class load ever and was out of class at or before 11:00. It was the best summer of my life."

On to California

Tom graduated from Tri-State in 1974 with his mechanical engineering degree.

In March 1974, he verbally accepted a job offer from Westinghouse. However, over spring break, he received a telegram from General Atomic in San Diego, California, offering him an all-expenses-paid trip to interview for an engineering job.

Tom was torn because he had committed to Westinghouse, but Alpha Sig brother John Anderson replied, "TOM, ARE YOU NUTS? You have to go to San Diego. I have been there. It is beautiful with great beaches and great weather."

Tom stayed with General Atomic for almost four years but grew tired of the company's lazy pace and research culture.

In 1978, he joined Great Western Solar, California's largest solar company at the time, as vice president of engineering. However, the company went bankrupt in 1980.

He worked as a solar hot water and energy conservation consultant for 11 years but "did not do all that well." His wife, Colleen, had started working with the county

probation department and encouraged Tom to apply for government jobs.

In 1991, he went to work for the City of San Diego's Clean Water Program as a senior mechanical engineer. He said the job fit "to a T" and he stayed there until he retired in 2014.

Among his accomplishments were designing a \$250 million sludge processing plant, completing an EPA-mandated central control and monitoring system for the city's 86 sewer pump stations, leading the construction of a 5-megawatt digester power plant and a 1.2-megawatt hydroelectric plant.

A landfill gas collection system he oversaw saved the city \$6 million per year in electricity costs and won the San Diego Tax Payers' Association's 1998 Golden Watch Dog Award. Tom also won San Diego County's Engineer of the Year Award in 1998.

In 2012 his department was named the California Center for Sustainable Energy's Organization of the Year.

Ecuador and Water for People

His work for the city also introduced him to two ongoing interests: Ecuador and the Water for People organization.

The introduction to Ecuador came through a Clean Water Program picnic that featured Duchicela, an Andes Mountain musical group.

"(They were) playing music Colleen and I had never heard before and we fell in love with its upbeat, light, airy style played with pan flutes, guitars and a mandolin," Tom said.

He and Colleen found out where the group was playing and continued to catch their performances each month. The group invited the couple to come see them in Ecuador and in 1994, the couple traveled there for their 10th wedding anniversary.

"The hospitality was off the charts," Tom said.

By 2006, Tom and Colleen had visited Ecuador six times. They made many

friends there, and operated a small hobby textile business which brought Ecuadorian woven goods back to the United States to sell at a local festival.

Tom heard about Water For People, which promotes the development of high-quality drinking water and sanitation services, from other engineers at water and wastewater industry conferences. Eventually a San Diego committee for the organization was formed and Tom was asked to join.

The couple remains active with the Water For People San Diego Committee. Tom expects the committee will raise more than \$70,000 for Water for People this year.



Tom and Colleen Alspaugh

He received the organization's Raymond Miller Award for outstanding service from the California/Nevada Section in 2010 and remains the San Diego Committee Chair of their annual Jazz Festival.

In addition, Tom continues to stay involved with Alpha Sigma Phi. He chairs the fraternity's Homecoming Committee and the committee attempting to pay off the mortgage for their new fraternity house.

In 2021, he received the Delta Beta Xi, Alpha Sigma Phi Award, given for sustained alumni service to the fraternity.



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), **X** (x.com/trinealumni) or **Instagram** (instagram.com/trineuniversityalumni)

1980s

Recently, **Pam Niccum, 1982 BSBA**, was commissioned to create a custom glass sculpture for Hotel Carmichael to celebrate the solar eclipse, inspired by the song “Moonlight Serenade” and her father’s service in World War II.



Proceeds from its sale will benefit the Great American Songbook Foundation.

After 34 years with Johnson & Johnson Innovative Medicine, **Pamela Schmidt, 1983 BSBA**, has retired. Prior to her tenure at J&J, she spent seven years in sales at Colgate-Palmolive. Pamela resides in Greenwood, Indiana, and has two grown children, Andrew and Adriana.

1990s



Robroy Industries Enclosures Division (Belding, Michigan) has appointed **Geoff Twietmeyer, 1993 BSASE**, as General Manager. Geoff has been married for 28 years, has three children, and enjoys outdoor activities and traveling with his family.

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Laura (Brown) Pentecost, 1994 BSSciEd, and **Darrin Taylor, 2007 BSCJ**, were inducted to East Noble High School’s



(Kendallville, Indiana) Hall of Fame on Feb. 23, 2024. Laura lit up the volleyball and basketball courts, along with the track and the softball

diamond, at East Noble. Darrin was a four-year participant in football, wrestling and baseball at East Noble. Darrin was a member of the 1999 Knight football squad that won the first sectional championship in school history. He is now Angola’s assistant police chief. He resides in Pleasant Lake with his wife Brittany and their children Lucas, 12, and Kinsley, 9.

Tim Van Cleave, 1998 BSHIS, was promoted to Supervisor of Interpretation and Visitor Services at Tonto National Monument in Roosevelt, Arizona. His 22-year career with the National Park Service (NPS) has allowed him to work at 12 different NPS sites throughout the country.



Jennifer Rubenstein, 1999 ABA/2000 BSMK, assumed the role of director of marketing and communications at Boone County Economic Development Corp. on Sept. 5, 2024. Jennifer is also the

co-founder and president of the Edible Indy Foundation, a nonprofit that raises funds for Indiana families with pediatric epilepsy.

2000s

The University of Arkansas at Little Rock welcomed **Dr. Matt Matusiak, 2005 BSCJ** as the new associate dean for faculty, technology, and accreditation in the College of Business, Health, and Human Services (CBHHS) in October 2024.

In his new position, Matt will play a vital role in the leadership of and strategic planning for CBHHS. Matt lives in Little Rock with his wife Randa and their two dogs.

Bishop Dwenger High School (Fort Wayne, Indiana) named **Brandon O’Leary, 2005 BSSM** head boys basketball coach of the Saints in May 2024. Brandon has been on staff at Dwenger since 2009.



The Bronson Board of Education (Bronson, Michigan) formally approved the hiring of **Mike Miller, 2006 BSEIEd**, as the new Bronson Junior/Senior High School Principal on May 20, 2024. He previously served as principal of Eastwood Elementary School in Sturgis. Mike was named the 2021 MEMSPA Region 4 Principal of the Year by his regional colleagues.

Nate Whitacre, 2008 BSCE, began a new role as a County Highway Engineer with the Wells County Government on May 28, 2024. Nate has worked with the Indiana Department of Transportation since 2008.

Sallie (Richardson) Raftery, 2009 BSEIEd, was inducted into Napoleon (Michigan) High School’s first athletic hall of fame class on Sept. 13, 2024. Sallie was named all-region in softball and all-state in volleyball at Napoleon, and still holds the school’s softball record for stolen bases with 119.



2010s

Wesley (Wes) Weir, 2010 BSSM, and his wife Kelsey welcomed their daughter, Wylie Vivien Weir, on Feb. 7, 2024, at 6:15 a.m. Wylie weighed 6 pounds, 5 ounces, and was 19¾ inches long. The Weirs reside in Novi, Michigan.



In September 2024, **Kody Kumfer, 2012 BSACC**, was awarded the Lance Hunter Humanitarian Award by Ossian Days, Inc. for the profound impact he’s made on Wells County and the city of Ossian, Indiana, as a whole. He serves as the Associate Executive Director of Forgotten Children Worldwide, a nonprofit organization dedicated to safeguarding vulnerable children from the dangers of extreme poverty and human trafficking in developing countries. Kody and his wife, Ashley, live in Ossian with their children.

Ryan Pieper, 2012 BSCE/2013 MENG, joined Skender, one of the nation’s top building contractors, as Senior Project Manager in October 2024. Ryan has more than a decade of experience in high-profile, high-rise construction projects in Chicago.



Lindsey Wise, 2012 BSBIO, was engaged to Eric Seeley during a hike in Oscoda, Michigan, on June 23, 2024. Lindsey and Eric will be married Oct. 24, 2025, in Clarkston, Michigan. They currently reside in Rochester Hills, Michigan. Lindsey works as a Senior Area Sales Manager within the Roofing Division for Owens Corning, and Eric works as a Regional Director for Onco360 Oncology Pharmacy.



Zachary Smith, 2016 BSEIEd, and **Alexandria (Claudy) Smith, 2017 BSChE**, welcomed their first child, a daughter, Iris Ilene Rose Smith, on June 1, 2024, at 4:38 a.m. Iris weighed 5 pounds and measured 19 inches long. Zachary works for the Office of International Services at Trine University and Alexandria works for Continental. The Smiths reside in Angola, Indiana.



Sean “Rourke” Carroll, 2018 BSME, and Allyson Carol were married on Jan. 20, 2024. Rourke and Allyson live in Castle Rock, Colorado. Rourke serves as a General Manager in Denver while finishing up his MBA and Allyson serves as a Senior Consultant at Hitachi Digital Services.



Jacob Forsyth, 2018 BSME/2020 MBA, and **Taylor (Irwin) Forsyth, 2018 BSINF**, were married Oct. 20, 2023, surrounded by many members of their Trine University family (all pictured)! They live happily on Rainbow Lake in Michigan with their two Australian Shepherds, Buckeye and Ryker.



Rashel (Dial) Klima, 2018 BSCJ, married Chad Klima Aug. 10, 2024, in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Klima call Woodburn, Indiana, home.



The Village of Pioneer Council (Pioneer, Ohio) approved Mayor Kidston’s appointment of **Nikki Mittelstaedt, 2018 BAM**, as the new fiscal officer. Nikki took over the position on Sept. 2, 2024.



2010s



Courtney (McPheters) Niehoff, 2019 BSEXS/2021 DPT, and **Tyler Niehoff, 2018 BSMK,** were married Oct. 7, 2023, in Auburn, Indiana.



Judson Quinn, 2018 BSME, was engaged to Morgan Dolezal Dec. 28, 2023, in Orange Beach.



Lucas Richardson, 2018 BSCE, was married to Tesamae Richardson on May 5, 2024, in Frankfort, Michigan. Lucas serves as a Project Manager in the Municipal

Engineering Department of Spicer Group, Inc., while Tesamae serves as a paraprofessional for the Manistee Intermediate School District. The Richardsons reside in Manistee, Michigan.



Andrea (Oster) Riley, 2020 BSEIEd, and **Robert Riley, 2018 BSSM,** were married June 8, 2024, in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Mr. and Mrs. Riley reside in Indiana.

On July 1, **Jensyn Garrow, 2019 BSBME,** began work as an Advanced Lung Disease and Lung Transplant Physician Assistant at Mayo Clinic Hospital in Phoenix, Arizona. She resides in Scottsdale, Arizona. Jensyn previously served a Pulmonary and Critical Care Physician Assistant at Parkview Health in Fort Wayne, Indiana.



Cassidy (Williams) Hall, 2019 BSSM/ MBA, and **Chase Hall, 2020 BSMGT/ MBA,** welcomed their second daughter, Romee



Love, on Aug. 6, 2024. Romee joins proud big sister, Jovi Joelle! The family resides in Orleans, Indiana.

Trisha (Fischer) Lill, 2019 BSMGT, married Riley Lill on Sept. 16, 2023, at Goeglein's Homestead in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Trisha works as a marketing coordinator for a law firm and Riley works as a safety specialist.



Montana (Martin) Richardson-Beachum, 2019 BSMGT, and **Tralin Richardson-Beachum, 2019 BSSM,** were married Oct. 5, 2024. Montana and Tralin reside in Fort Wayne, Indiana, with their 1-year-old son, Tralin Charles,



Blythe (Nelis) Quigley, 2019 BSEIEd, and Trenton Quigley welcomed their daughter, Quinn Evelyn Quigley, at 8:17 p.m. on Dec. 29, 2023. Quinn weighed 7 pounds, 4 ounces, and measured 20 inches long. She is excited to become a big sister in April 2025! The family resides in Eaton Rapids, Michigan.



Madison (McNaughton) Soliday, 2019 BSPSY, and **Nathan Soliday, 2019 BSCJ,** welcomed their son, Nathan Michaels Soliday, Jr., on June 24, 2024. He weighed 6 pounds, 8 ounces. Nathan joins big sister, Lillianna Nicole. The Solidays call Muncie, Indiana, home.



2020s

Taylor Medina, 2020 BSCJ, was elected Director of Operations, a Board of Directors position, for the Ohio Bailiffs and Court Officers Association in November 2024. Taylor serves as a Bailiff and Probation Officer for Bryan Municipal Court, as well as an Assistant/Goalkeeper Coach for Trine University Men's Soccer.



Abby (Kuhlman) Bever, 2021 BSEXS/2023 DPT, and **Jamie Bever, 2020 BSET/MBA,** were married Sept. 16, 2023, in Yorktown, Indiana. The Bevers reside in McCordsville, Indiana, with their sweet boy, Carl, who joined them on their wedding day as the Dog of Honor. Abby is a physical therapist and Jamie is Sales Engineer. Indiana.



Jamie Carter, 2022 DPT, began as a physical therapist at Mt. Ascension Physical Therapy in Helena, Montana, in July. Jamie works with patients who have sustained orthopedic and sports injuries, and she is also certified in oncology rehabilitation.



Sebastian Allen LeSueur was born to **Jenna (Gales) LeSueur, 2020 BSEXS/2022 DPT,** and **Joseph LeSueur, 2020 BSBME,** on April 24, 2024, weighing 7 pounds, 13 ounces, and measuring 21 inches long. They reside in Greenfield, Wisconsin.



Aaron Denzer, 2021 BSME, and **Ingrid Rosales, 2023 BSACC/MBA,** were engaged Aug. 31, 2024, at sunset in St. Joseph, Michigan. They will be married on Ingrid's home island of Roatán, Honduras. Ingrid and Aaron currently reside in Fremont, Indiana, with their cats, Winslow and Bella. Ingrid serves as Assistant Director of Development and Alumni Relations at Trine University and Aaron serves as an Aerospace Application Engineer at Trelleborg.



Reese McGinsie, 2022 BSSM, joined the Indiana University Indianapolis basketball staff in April 2024. Reese, an Indianapolis native, was a graduate assistant at University of Indianapolis the prior two seasons.



Carly (Miller) Stephenson, 2022 BSEXS/2024 DPT, married Joshua Stephenson on Aug. 24, 2024, in Eaton, Indiana. Carly and Joshua reside in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Carly serves as a physical therapist at Select Medical Rehabilitation Hospital at Lutheran Hospital and Joshua serves as Head Men's Wrestling Coach at Trine University.



Md Nagib Mahfuz Sunny, 2024 MSIS, and **Jennet Atayeva, 2022 MSBA,** were married Jan. 24, 2024, on Belle Isle in Detroit, Michigan. Sunny and Jennet reside in Detroit. Sunny and Jennet both work at Children's Clinic of Michigan, Sunny as a Healthcare Data Analyst and Researcher and Jennet as an Account Manager.



Lily Williamson, 2022 BSGM, was elected as a Member of the PGA of America in summer 2024. Lily serves as an Assistant Golf Professional at Quail Creek Country Club in Naples, Florida.



Mitchell Lowney, 2023 BSGM, was inducted to Everest Collegiate High School & Academy's Athletic Hall of Fame for golf on June 10, 2024. At Everest, he played on four regional champion squads, three Catholic League champion squads, and two state champion squads. Mitchell currently serves as head coach for Trine University Men's Golf.



T-E Incorporated, a Fort Wayne-based contracting/engineering firm, added **Preston Ankney, 2024 BSCE,** to its civil engineering team in summer 2024.

Kyle Baumgartner, 2024 BSCE, joined Engineering Resources, Inc.'s Municipal Group (Fort Wayne, Indiana) in July 2024 following his two-year internship.

Lawson-Fisher Associates, P.C., based in South Bend, Indiana, welcomed Construction Inspector and Engineering Intern (EI) **Jaron Cape, 2024 BSCE,** in July 2024. After passing the Fundamentals of Engineering exam and becoming an EI, he quickly began supervising contractors at Mishawaka's largest project for the year. Outside of work, Jaron enjoys cooking, golfing and engaging in local sports culture.



Chore-Time has appointed **Matthew Shoemaker, 2024 BSET,** as Associate Product Engineer. He will focus on designing and developing innovative poultry components and equipment. He is from Leesburg, Indiana, where he continues to reside.

Three named to alumni board

The Trine University Alumni Association Board of Directors voted to add **Zakareya Yousef, 2023 BSAR, Kenzie (Brouk) Elkins, 2022 BSEXS, and Zach Lear, 2007 BSHP**, to its membership at the board’s May meeting.



Zak Yousef lives in Oxford, Ohio, where he serves as Intern for Programming for Miami University and also coaches youth synchronized skating teams. While at Trine, Zak was part of the synchronized skating team, Learn to Skate, the Student Athlete Advisory Committee, Trine Athletes Connected, the Sport Management Club and Trine Student Government.

He was an orientation and SOAR Leader and a member of Trine’s 2021 Homecoming court.



Kenzie is a Doctor of Physical Therapy student in Trine’s Brooks College of Health Professions in Fort Wayne, Indiana. She will complete her DPT in 2026. As an undergraduate, she was part of figure skating, synchronized skating and Learn to Skate. She was founder and president of Athletes Connected and served as a SOAR leader. She is married to **Kole Elkins, 2022 BSME**.



Zach Lear also lives in Fort Wayne. He is a business development executive for JH Specialty, a marketing and web development firm, and co-owner, marketing manager and personal trainer for LONGevity Fitness. He was part of men’s basketball and Phi Kappa Theta at Trine as well as president of the SHAPE club. He is married to **Erin Long, 2007 BSHP**. The couple has three children.

Trine alumni research article featured in scientific journal



Md Nagib Mahfuz Sunny



Mohammad Balayet Islam Sakil

By Faith Fegley English ’25
Recently, a research article by five Trine University alumni and students was accepted for publication in the Journal of Intelligent Learning Systems and Applications. **Md Nagib Mahfuz Sunny** and **Mohammad Balayet Islam Sakil**, 2024 Master of Science in information studies graduates, co-authored a research article, “Optimizing Healthcare Outcomes through Data-Driven Predictive



Md Newaz Shorif



Abdullah Al Nahian

Modeling,” with **Md Newaz Shorif** and **Abdullah Al Nahian**, Master of Science in information studies students, and **Jennet Atayeva**, a Master of Science in business analytics student. The article considers the role big data analytics plays in healthcare, while focusing on developing predictive models of data for patient outcomes. “As a healthcare data analyst, I witness firsthand how predictive modeling can drive better clinical decisions and outcomes,” stated Sunny. “Our team [of



Jennet Atayeva

Trine students] wanted to work on something that wasn’t just theoretically interesting, but could also be practically applied to optimize healthcare delivery, improve patient outcomes, and make the most of limited resources in the medical field.” The article was published in October. Sunny said the key conclusion from the research is that predictive modeling can significantly improve patient outcomes by anticipating healthcare needs and addressing them proactively.

THUNDER’S FINAL ROLL

(current through June 30, 2024)

1930s

- Kaname H. Kitsuda, 1932 BSME**
- Thomas E. O’Connor, 1938 BSCE**
- Ruth W. (Imhof) Littleton, 1939 SecSci**, Birmingham, Michigan, Dec. 19, 2023
- Walter J. Wojciechowski, 1939 BSEE/BSME**, Aston, Pennsylvania

1940s

- William C. Hoag, 1943 BSCE**, Issaquah, Washington, April 25, 2024
- Pansy J. (Hamaty) Allem, 1945 SecSci**, Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, Feb. 23, 2015
- Joseph J. Petranto, 1947 BSME**, Los Alamos, New Mexico, May 2, 2024
- Charles Y. Kuntzman, 1948 BSChE**, Eureka, California
- Melvin J. Trentman, 1948 BSEE**, Lebanon, Ohio, Dec. 22, 2023
- Richard W. Erich, 1949 BSEE**, Marietta, New York, Jan. 1, 2024
- Russell C. Raynor, 1949 BSCE**, Round Pond, Maine, March 7, 2024

- Albert J. Romeo, 1949 BSME**, Westampton, New Jersey, June 3, 2022
- William G. Smith, 1949 BSCE**, North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, May 1, 2024
- Stanley F. Pasavage, 1949 BSEE**, Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, Jan. 5, 2024
- Roger C. Robbins, 1949 BSCE**, Simsbury, Connecticut, Jan. 7, 2022

1950s

- William D. Becher, 1950 BSRT**, Chelsea, Michigan, April 7, 2024
- Robert J. Van Kampen, 1950 BSCE**, West Bloomfield, Michigan, April 6, 2024
- Andrew Hill, 1951 BSCE**, Alabaster, Alabama, June 1, 2019
- Vaughn D. Hillard, 1951 BSME**, Montpelier, Ohio, Jan. 3, 2024

1950s

- Marvin D. Kepler, 1951 BSChE**, Slidell, Louisiana, Feb. 6, 2024
- Wayne E. Weber, 1951 BSACC**, Fishers, Indiana, Nov. 26, 2023
- Arthur C. Karowski, 1952 BSACC**, Hoover, Alabama, March 1, 2024
- James L. Trout, 1952 BSRT**, Jackson, Michigan, May 10, 2021
- Edward F. Worden, 1952 BSBA**, Buffalo, New York, Feb. 5, 2024
- Edwin H. Yoshida, 1953 BSBA**, Indian Harbour Beach, Florida, May 5, 2024
- James D. Bock, 1954 BSME**, Scottsdale, Arizona, April 22, 2024
- Gordon B. Bryant, 1954 BSME**, Hudson, Ohio, April 26, 2024
- Walter R. Snyder, 1954 BSACC**, Sandusky, Ohio, Dec. 28, 1970
- Charles B. Weller, 1954 BSEE**, May 11, 2017

- Domenic J. Romanello, 1955 BSCE**, Glen Allen, Virginia, Feb. 8, 2024
- Alvin R. Albro, 1956 BSBA**, Bullhead City, Arizona, July 17, 2019
- Robert H. Rogers, 1956 BSRT**, Hollywood, Florida, Jan. 20, 2022
- James F. Shuler, 1956 BSME**, Holland, Michigan, April 3, 2024
- Donald L. St. Clair, 1956 BSCE**, Uniontown, Ohio, Jan. 4, 2024
- Charles M. Trierweiler, 1956 BSME**, Lansing, Michigan, April 8, 2024
- Peter K. Welge, 1956 BSChE**, Jamesville, New York, May 5, 2024
- Morris E. McMurray, 1957 BSACC**, Saint Joseph, Michigan, July 1, 2024
- Richard J. Yanko, 1957 BSRT**, Ocean City, Maryland, Nov. 14, 2022
- John M. Bohunsky, 1958 BSCE**, Punta Gorda, Florida
- Dale E. Bush, 1958 BSEE**, Pensacola, Florida, Feb. 29, 2024
- Donald C. Davis, 1958 BSME**, Concord, New Hampshire, Feb. 2, 2024

1950s

- Richard A. Daume, 1958 BSME**, Bay Village, Ohio, Nov. 29, 1988
- Lawrence E. Geren, 1958 BSME**, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, July 11, 2017
- Arvin L. Gossman, 1958 BSEE**, St. John, Indiana
- Donald E. Stecovich, 1958 BSEE**, Mebane, North Carolina
- Russell A. Ulmer, 1958 BSCE**, Delaware, Ohio, Feb. 17, 2024
- J. F. White, 1958 BSEE**, San Jose, California, June 2, 2024
- William H. Stouder, 1959 DDT**, Aurora, Colorado, June 5, 2024

1960s

- Daniel C. Kajzer, 1960 BSAE**, Fairfield, Ohio, May 26, 2024
- William J. Kemmerer, 1960 BSEE/BSEA**, Brookville, Pennsylvania, Feb. 28, 2024
- Billy J. Romine, 1960 BSEE**, Saint Peters, Missouri, Dec. 29, 2023
- Raymond D. Schneider, 1960 BSBA**, La Grange, Illinois, Feb. 8, 2024
- David H. Williams, 1960 BSME**, Statesboro, Georgia, Feb. 13, 2024
- Jack E. Brooks, 1961 BSEE**, Buffalo, Iowa, Jan. 16, 2024
- Edward A. Campbell, 1961 BSChE**, Evans, Georgia, Aug. 8, 2019
- Joseph V. Hoobler, 1961 BSME**, Erie, Pennsylvania, June 20, 2024
- Robert N. Kopp, 1961 BSME**, The Villages, Florida, June 2, 2024
- Robert J. Skapura, 1961 BSEE**, Glenville, Pennsylvania, April 30, 2021
- Charles D. White, 1961 BSEE**, New Market, Alabama, June 9, 2024
- Robert Vincent Bolks, 1962 BSEE**, Lake City, Florida, Dec. 7, 2017
- Alfred E. Fillmon, 1962 BSCE**, Crown Point, Indiana
- William F. Mariutto, 1962 BSME**, West Palm Beach, Florida, June 25, 2023

THUNDER'S FINAL ROLL

(current through June 30, 2024)

1960s

Bill G. Meyers, 1962 BSAE, Angola, Indiana, April 26, 2024

Ronald G. Salsbury, 1962 DDT, Johnson City, Tennessee, June 6, 2018

David A. Strilich, 1962 BSME, North Liberty, Indiana, Nov. 14, 2021

Gerald J. DeStefano, 1963 BSEE, Chesterfield, Missouri, July 4, 2018

Oscar C. Haertsch, 1963 BSEE, Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, March 31, 2024

David E. Oltean, 1963 ADDT, Hastings, Nebraska, March 19, 2024

Randolph F. West, 1964 BSME, Concord Township, Ohio, May 4, 2024

Juan R. Garcia-Almira, 1964 BSEE, Marietta, Georgia, Jan. 12, 2024

Frederick L. Armstrong, 1964 BSEE, Grove City, Ohio, May 3, 2024

Daniel P. Latessa, 1964 BSME, Wiloughby Hills, Ohio, April 22, 2023

James L. Spoor, 1964 BSME, Athens, Michigan, April 13, 2024

Phillip E. Boyd, 1965 BSCE, Florence, Mississippi, June 12, 2024

Osgood K. Peck, 1965 BSCE, Oneonta, New York, April 10, 2024

Larry D. Stickel, 1965 BSME, Middlebury, Indiana, April 29, 2024

Wayne L. Wolfe, 1965 BSEE, Baltimore, Maryland, June 25, 2024

Bruce A. Hansen, 1966 BSBA, Huntersville, North Carolina, April 2, 2024

Robert S. Lewis, 1966 BSBA, Sedona, Arizona, April 4, 2019

Joseph S. Maranchie, 1966 BSCE, Falmouth, Massachusetts, Nov. 16, 2023

Daniel J. Stull, 1966 ADDT, Marion, Ohio, Dec. 31, 2023

John H. Jester, 1967 BSCE, Yuma, Arizona, Oct. 16, 2023

Richard L. Johnson, 1967 BSBA, Williamsburg, Virginia, Feb.15, 2024

1970s

Robert W. Conklin, 1970 BSCE, Knoxville, Tennessee, Feb. 7, 2023

Harold V. Hatch, 1970 BSBA, Noblesville, Indiana, Feb. 18, 2024

Dennis P. Berg, 1971 BSCE, Elkhart, Indiana, Jan. 24, 2024

Robert R. Humeston, 1971 ADDT, Mansfield, Ohio, March 3, 2024

Ronald E. Kolbe, 1971 BSBA, Bonita Springs, Florida, Sept. 1, 2020

K. Carl Milbrodt, 1971 BSAE, Indianapolis, Indiana, May 2, 2024

Daniel E. Young, 1972 AGS, Crestline, Ohio, June 9, 2024

Barry W. Buechley, 1973 BASS, Angola, Indiana, June 30, 2024

Gary L. Davis, 1973 BSDDT, Fremont, Indiana, June 14, 2024

Peter D. Leadstrom, 1973 BSCE, Superior, Wisconsin, Dec. 21, 2023

William H. Rennick, 1973 BSME, Loudon, Tennessee, June 8, 2018

David W. Stewart, 1973 BSEE, Fremont, Indiana, June 16, 2024

John M. Sullivan, 1973 BSChE, Youngstown, Ohio, Feb.26, 2024

David E. Lundgren, 1974 BSTRP, Smethport, Pennsylvania, Nov. 25, 2005

Frederick J. Major, 1974 BASS, Carthage, Indiana, Feb. 9, 2024

Robert L. Settle, 1974 BSME, Goldsboro, North Carolina, Nov. 8, 2018

Terry L. Baker, 1975 BSME, Springport, Michigan, Jan. 17, 2024

1980s

Richard K. Greenwood, 1980 BSCE, Howard, Ohio, June 23, 2024

Irving M. Schaff, 1982 BSCE, Dayton, Ohio, Feb.16, 2024

Mark T. Craven, 1984 BSME, Versailles, Indiana, May 21, 2024

1980s

Robert M. Schacht, 1988 BSMKT, Huntington, Indiana, March 19, 2024

1990s

Michael P. Blodgett, 1992 BSMGT, Indianapolis, Indiana, June 21, 2024

Sarah J. Kulpinski, 1999 BSSSEd, Saginaw, Michigan, Dec. 25, 2023

2000s

Rhoda K. (Kithara) Diwis, 2000 BSMIS, Fort Wayne, Indiana, Sept. 10, 2023

Steven P. Ickes, 2002 ACT, Fremont, Indiana, May 25, 2024

2010s

Austin James Hall, 2015 BACOM, Fremont, Indiana, Feb. 21, 2023



Student Ben Kurtzweg passes away

Trine University student **Ben Kurtzweg**, a junior from Fort Wayne, Indiana, majoring in actuarial science, died on Sept. 18, 2024, from injuries sustained in an accident.

The university community is mourning his tragic loss.

Ben was a Kappa Sigma brother and an active member of St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church in Angola.

He was working as an Intern for Medpro Group.

Remembered for his strong faith, Ben was an Altar Server for more than 10 years. He was honored to lead part of the National Eucharistic Procession through Michigan City.

Trine University mourns loss of student-athlete Fred Garland

The Trine University community is mourning the tragic loss of **Fred Garland**, a Trine University student and a member of the national championship men's basketball team.

Fred passed away Dec. 11, 2024, in a car accident.

Fred was a senior from Detroit, Michigan, majoring in sport management.

He played a key role in Trine University's NCAA championship run last season and was averaging 14 points per game as a starter this season.

Fred earned First Team all-conference honors in the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association last season, the second season he had been named to an All-MIAA team. He was the Thunder's second leading scorer at 13.4 points per game, sixth in the MIAA.

Percentagewise, he was the team's leading three-point shooter at 44.4% and was fifth in the conference in total field goal percentage at 52.9%. Fred was the team's leading assist man with 3.2 per game.



Ralph Trine, who impacted every aspect of Trine University, dies at 82

The Trine University community is grieving the loss of its namesake, alumnus, trustee and generous benefactor, Dr. Ralph Trine, who passed away Aug. 14 following a long illness.

What was then Tri-State University was renamed Trine University in 2008 to honor the many contributions of Ralph, a 1961 mechanical engineering alumnus, and his wife Sheri, and to better define the university's mission and direction.

"Ralph Trine is a man whose name literally defines this institution. He and Sheri have supported every aspect of this university through the years, and graciously lent their name to help distinguish this university and launch the incredible growth we have seen since 2008," said Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D., Trine University president. "I will miss him greatly both as an unselfish, unassuming, quiet leader of Trine University and many other organizations, and as a close personal friend. His passing leaves a great hole, but his great legacy will live on in the lives of generations of students he has impacted and will continue to impact through Trine University."

"Ralph cared very deeply about Trine University, Steuben County and the northeast Indiana region, and that care was reflected through his and Sheri's generous support of many community organizations in addition to the university," said Dr. Rick L. James, chair of Trine University's Board of Trustees. "His passion and skill as a business and community leader greatly benefited the economy and quality of life of northeast Indiana and beyond. His advancement of Trine and the economic development of northeast Indiana and his charitable contributions have helped to propel the institution and region to new levels of prosperity and economic vitality. He will be greatly missed."

Ralph and Sheri Trine both served on the Trine University Board of Trustees, with Ralph joining the board in 1990 and Sheri in 2010. They were named trustees emeritus in 2020.

Giving back by reinvesting in education

Ralph once said that "reinvesting in the education of students by giving to the university is an outstanding way to give back to the community," and his generous giving reflected that ideal.

The Trines assisted with property acquisition and funded extensive campus beautification and capital construction projects for the university in Angola and Fort Wayne.

They supported remodeling of Forman Hall to include the Trine Welcome Center, the decoration of the renovated C.W. Sponsel Administration Center, the Rick L. and Vicki L. James University Center and the Trine Guest Cottage.

Their donation of the former Angola Christian Church property gave life to the T. Furth Center for Performing Arts, which was renovated as a premier regional performance hall and education center for Trine students, the community and northeast Indiana.

They co-founded the Trine Scholarship Gala with Dr. Earl and Melanie Brooks, which has raised millions of dollars for student scholarships. They also have generously supported Books and Beyond Scholarships and the annual scholarship golf outings.

They purchased and donated the Thunder Gear Store (now the site of Thunder Ice Arena) and Capri, Mattox and Quest Halls. They also built and gifted the president's residence to the university.

In addition, they provided financial support for the construction of the Dr. Earl D. and Melanie N. Brooks College of Health Professions, the Steel Dynamics Inc. Center

for Engineering and Computing, the MTI Center, Thunder Ice Arena, Trine Villas and the Ford Hall renovation, among other projects.

The also supported the marble bench project and Trine Thunder athletics.

Business and community leader

Ralph owned Vestil Manufacturing, a fourth-generation family-owned and -operated manufacturer of industrial material handling equipment. His relocation of the business from Albion, Michigan, to Angola in 1982 led to its expansion to the international arena and has allowed it to employ many Trine graduates over the years.

He holds numerous patents for products developed at Vestil.

In addition to their loyal support to Trine University, the Trines donated funds and facilities for many community projects.

Their donation of the 190-acre, \$2.3 million Oakhill Conference and Retreat Center to the state of Indiana brought the Trine State Recreation Area to Steuben County, preserving a natural treasure for the enjoyment of future generations.

They purchased the land and helped in the construction, furnishings and completion of the Community Humane Shelter of Steuben County, where both Ralph and Sheri were honorary board members. They also donated the building, renovation and furnishings for the Steuben County Community Foundation and the construction of the building for the Heritage Club of Steuben County.

They helped in the construction and furnishings for the Steuben County Regional Airport and founded the Cameron Memorial Community

Hospital Benefit Ball. They also avidly supported the YMCA of Steuben County, the United Way, Junior Achievement and the Steuben County Literacy Coalition.

In addition to his service to the university and the Community Humane Shelter, Ralph served on the board of the Boy Scouts of America.

Many honors

Ralph Trine earned many honors throughout his lifetime for his community service and philanthropy.

Trine University presented him its Distinguished Service Award in 1997 for his contributions as an alumnus, and an honorary doctorate of engineering in 2002. The university bestowed its highest award, the Pillar of Success, upon him and Sheri in 2006.

Ralph received the Congressional Johnny Appleseed Award, established in 1998 to recognize individuals who have made investments for the benefit of future generations.

He was inducted into the Indiana Academy in 2009 for his lifetime of achievement and contribution to the state of Indiana. He received the Sagamore of the Wabash, the highest civil honor given in Indiana, twice, once from Gov. Mitch Daniels and later along with Sheri from Gov. Mike Pence.

Ralph Trine was born Nov. 21, 1941, and married Sheri on July 3, 1965. In addition to Sheri, he is survived by son Barry and daughter Carri, and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.





Three alumni move to new athletic roles

Trine University announced changes to its athletics administration in July 2024, with three alumni taking on new roles.

Brandi Dawson, 2019 BSEXS, a former basketball player and assistant athletic director, will add the role of compliance officer to her duties. **Noah Warren, 2007 BSGM**, who coached golf, will transition to assistant athletic director for operations. **Connor Arthur, 2024 BSSM**, a recent graduate and former standout football player, has been named assistant athletic director for fan experience after already contributing as an intern.



Brandi Dawson



Connor Arthur



Noah Warren



Women's cross country makes history

Women's cross country posted a historic season this fall.

Opening with a second-place showing at the Franklin Grizzly Invitational, they followed with a strong fifth-place showing against Division I and II competition at the Michigan State Auto Owners Spartan Invitational. The Thunder rolled through the Augustana Interregional Invitational, taking down perennial national contenders Wartburg and Wisconsin-Eau Claire.

Trine then posted its best finish ever at the MIAA Championships, finishing second, and followed up with another program-best third-place finish at the Great Lakes Regional Championships. The third-place finish earned them a bid to the NCAA Championships, where they placed 28th.

Eleanor Young, Bailey Puckett, Chloe Goodrich and Sidney Swick each earned all-region honors from the USTFCCA.



Eleanor Young



Bailey Puckett



Chloe Goodrich



Sidney Swick

Triathlon once again 2nd in nation



The Trine University women's triathlon team had another season that lived up to what has become a tradition of excellence. They finished the season in Clermont, Florida, with another runner-up finish at the Women's Collegiate Triathlon National Championships, the fourth consecutive season that the Thunder have finished in the top-two of Division III competitors.

The national championship saw four members of the team earn Collegiate Triathlon Coaches Association All-American status. **Grace Huisman** led the way with a first team selection. Huisman finished fifth as an individual, just three minutes back from the champion.

Mia Griesmeyer and **Summer South** both earned second-team honors, finishing ninth and 12th respectively. **Alyssa Seiter** rounded out the quartet with an honorable mention-worthy 20th finish.



Grace Huisman



Mia Griesmeyer



Summer South



Alyssa Seiter

Men's soccer tops MIAA regular season

After facing one of the toughest non-conference schedules in the country, the Trine University men's soccer team made a historic run through the MIAA on the way to the program's first MIAA Regular Season Championship.

The Thunder finished with a 7-7-3 overall record but finished 5-0-2 in conference play to share the title with Hope College. The conference race came down to the final match of the season with the Thunder hosting the nationally ranked Flying Dutch and finishing in a 0-0 draw that gave the teams the title. It also set Trine up to host throughout the conference tournament with a bye for the opening round.

The team's semifinal contest against Albion College ended in an electric eight-round shootout with the home side ultimately advancing to the championship game.

The championship featured a rematch with Calvin University. Trine beat the Knights early in the season, and for the first time in a decade they did so in regulation, signaling the start of their conference run. Calvin won the rematch 2-1, despite a late comeback attempt by the Thunder.

The team had a record six student-athletes selected as All-MIAA. Senior captain **Luke Kearns** and junior **Jarick Aguilar** made first team while **Aidan McGonagle, Braden Estep, Ryan Cote** and **Gavin Hardy** were second-team members.



Luke Kearns



Jarick Aguilar



Aidan McGonagle



Braden Estep



Ryan Cote



Gavin Hardy



Van Huis competes at NCAA Championships

Men's Cross Country had a strong season, opening the year with a win at the Franklin Grizzly Invitational.

The Thunder earned a second-place finish at the MIAA Championships before tying their best-ever finish at the Great Lakes Regional Championships, placing fifth.

Max Van Huis placed fourth, the highest finish by a Thunder runner ever. He qualified for the NCAA Championships and placed 114th of 294 runners.



8-0 start propels women’s volleyball to best record since 2014

Women’s volleyball posted their best record in a decade, finishing 22-6, with only the 2014 campaign of 24-6 surpassing it.

Madison Dominick led the Thunder offense, earning first-team all-MIAA honors as an outside hitter. **Anna Zellers** was named second-team setter.

Trine opened the season with an eight-game unbeaten streak. A strong start to the conference season helped the Thunder earn the #3 seed in the MIAA Tournament, where they defeated Adrian before falling to Hope in the semifinals.



Madison Dominick



Anna Zellers

Women’s soccer makes MIAA semis

Women’s soccer closed the season 11-5-3, advancing to the MIAA Tournament Semifinals.

Sophie Aschemeier, **Bella Mabry**, and **Abby Robison** all earned first-team MIAA recognition while **Teresa Ashbrook** earned second-team status.

Trine opened the season with impressive wins over Ohio Northern, Otterbein, Illinois Wesleyan and Capital. The highlight of the conference season was the five-game winning streak to close the conference schedule and open the MIAA Tournament.

Aschemeier set the all-time program record for shutouts in a career.



Sophie Aschemeier



Bella Mabry



Abby Robison



Teresa Ashbrook

Women’s tennis perfect in fall competition; Kolar sets mark for wins

The Trine University women’s tennis team finished the fall with a perfect 4-0 record in dual matches.

They made quick work of their first three opponents from Manchester University, Franklin College and Webster University, winning all three while dropping just one team point. Anderson University forced a much tighter match, but Trine prevailed 4-3 to earn the 82nd win in Head Coach **Erin Kolar**’s career, making her the winningest coach in program history.

Elina Locane and **Emma Beehler** finished the matches perfect in singles while all three doubles teams didn’t drop a match during the fall.



Erin Kolar



Elina Locane



Emma Beehler



Football finishes 6-4 as Abbs breaks wins record



Troy Abbs

Men’s golf starts fall with 4 straight wins

The men’s golf team had a fantastic fall season.

They opened the season with four consecutive tournament wins, including a win at MIAA Jamboree #1 and the Region V preview. The squad placed third at Jamboree #2 and closed the season with consecutive second-place finishes at Jamboree #3, the Ken Venturi Invite and Jamboree #4.

Carter Schnipke earned Preferred Auto Athlete of the Month in October for his performances at the Region V Preview and Jamborees 1, 2, and 3. **Garrett James** and **Jack Besner** each earned MIAA Athlete of the Week awards. Besner and Schnipke each claimed medalist honors twice this fall.



Carter Schnipke



Garrett James



Jack Besner

The Trine University football team finished the 2024 season with a 6-4 overall record while going 4-3 in Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA) play with the conference record, earning the fourth spot in the final standings.

After dropping their season opener to a tough squad from Christopher Newport University, the Thunder went on the road to face the Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology for the fourth edition of a battle of engineers. Trine trailed by 21 points late in the third quarter, but completed the comeback for a 39-33 victory, continuing the tradition of the two teams finishing their games in one-possession style. They finished off the non-conference portion of the schedule with a lopsided victory against Bluffton University, 52-20.

After a pair of losses, the second to the nationally ranked and eventual MIAA champions from Hope College, Head Coach **Troy Abbs** led the team to a historic victory against The University of Olivet. The 35-28 final score gave Coach Abbs the 64th win of his career, making him the winningest coach in program history. The Thunder also won games against Calvin University, Adrian College and Kalamazoo College.

Six members of the team were named All-MIAA selections, with **Daniel Budwah** and **Tristan Burrus** highlighting the group as first-team selections. **Evan Kaeher**, **Dan Le-Hernandez**, **Cam McCarver** and **Charles Thompson** all made second team.



Daniel Budwah



Tristan Burrus



Evan Kaeher



Dan Le-Hernandez



Cam McCarver



Charles Thompson



Women’s golf claims 3 tournament wins

Women’s Golf had a great fall campaign, winning three tournaments and claiming two MIAA Athlete of the Week awards.

Trine had four different athletes earn five separate medalist honors. Trine opened the season with a win at the Trine Kick-Off, followed by a second-place finish at the IU-East Fall Invite and victories at the Cascades Clash at Albion and Olivet’s Kyle Campbell Invitational.

The Thunder placed third at MIAA Jamborees one, three and four, and second at Jamboree #2 at the Zollner Golf Course.



Men’s tennis .500 for the fall

The Trine University men’s tennis team finished the fall portion of their season with a 3-3 record in dual matches.

The team opened the season on a three-match winning streak, defeating Manchester University, Franklin College and Webster University. **Sammy Yin** and **Drew Hackney** led the way in singles, each finishing the duals with a 5-1 record. Yin and doubles partner **Andrew Spirrison** were a perfect 6-0.

Yin led the delegation from the team that traveled to St. Louis, Missouri, for the ITA Central Regional, winning his opening match before falling to the third seed.



Sammy Yin



Drew Hackney



Andrew Spirrison

Ryan Concert Hall exudes beauty, wit

Dedicated in 2014 as part of the T. Furth Center for Performing Arts, the Ryan Concert Hall combines beautiful acoustics with rich furnishings of classical architecture, including gold detailing, marble statuary, crystal chandeliers and paintings.

Named for **Cliff Ryan**, a 1966 Trine alumnus and trustee, and his wife Sig, the flexible space accommodates everything from theatrical productions, films and professional concerts to small ensembles and soloists.

The Ryan Concert Hall’s dome features a playful mural featuring mythical and historical patrons of the arts, music, and theater represented as gold statues. A Trine University student appears to be praying but is really texting, while Minerva, goddess of wisdom, looks on in silent judgement.

Saved by Mercury’s wings that appear on his sneakers, the student also appears as a graduating senior with a panel featuring Mnemosyne, mother of Muses and patron of memory. The message is for graduating students to remember what they have learned and the friendships they have made.

Support entertainment and cultural programming at Trine Friends of Furth

To continue bringing high-quality entertainment and cultural experiences to the region and to Trine University, the university invites you to support the T. Furth Center for Performing Arts and Ryan Concert Hall through the “Friends of Furth” sponsorship program.

Businesses and individuals can provide funding for enriching programs and gain significant exposure to thousands of patrons through prominent branding opportunities, both on-site and in marketing campaigns. Sponsorship levels range from \$1,000 to \$30,000, each offering unique benefits that can elevate your brand and provide VIP access to our shows.

For more information on being part of Friends of Furth, contact Gretchen Miller, senior vice president and chief operating officer, at millerg@trine.edu.



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