

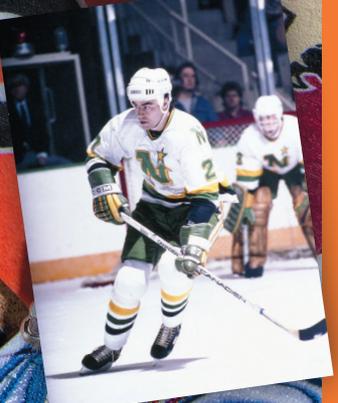
BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY | FALL 2018

BGSU

M A G A Z I N E



THE GREAT **BOWLING GREEN** HOCKEY NHL TAKEOVER



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Falcon Family,

We've just wrapped up another exciting Homecoming. It was so great to see our alumni and friends return to campus to reconnect and celebrate their time at BGSU.

As part of the festivities, we broke ground on the Robert W. and Patricia A. Maurer Center, the new home of the College of Business. This project is another example of how we're building and renovating our facilities to meet the needs of our students and faculty and provide them with the tools to create and innovate.

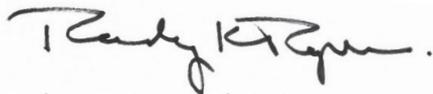
This month, we officially welcomed Pam Conlin to BGSU. She is our new vice president for University Advancement and president and CEO of the BGSU Foundation. Pam will be engaging our alumni and donors and leading the final stages of Changing Lives for the World, our \$200 million comprehensive campaign to support BGSU.

As a public university, an essential part of our mission is creating public good. One way we do that is by working to address the challenges facing our state, our country and the world. A great example of that commitment is the recent announcement that Mercy College of Ohio will be joining BGSU (page 14). Together, we'll be able to prepare more nurses and other health professionals to better meet a growing, critical need.

We're also leading the way in critical research on harmful algal blooms that threaten Lake Erie and freshwater lakes all over the world. Later this month, we'll be sharing some exciting news about a new BGSU center to tackle this global challenge. In this issue, Dr. Timothy Davis, a key member of that research team, talks about his work (page 4).

We are pleased to share BGSU's story and our latest news and updates. Thank you for your support of Bowling Green State University.

Regards,



Rodney K. Rogers, Ph.D. '81
President



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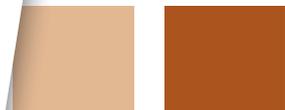
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WILLIAM AND JOAN DOWNING MILITARY AND VETERAN CENTER



★ A DUTY TO HELP ★

BGSU ALUMNUS, VET ESTABLISHES SCHOLARSHIP
FUND TO HELP MILITARY STUDENTS *By Anne-Margaret Swary*



William Downing Sr. meets with BGSU student Keylin Freeman, who is the first recipient of the new scholarship from the Downing family.

When student-veterans and military students arrive on campus, they often face unique challenges. The transition to civilian life can be difficult, especially for those who bear the mental and physical wounds of combat. And for those still on active duty, they must

balance the responsibilities of being a college student with the duties and obligations that their military service requires.

When their educational benefits run out, they also have the added burden of figuring out how to continue their studies. But thanks to the generosity of a fellow veteran and Falcon, this special class of Bowling Green State University students will have much-needed scholarship support to help them earn their degrees.

The Office of Nontraditional and Military Student Services recently received a \$1 million gift from William Downing Sr. '57 and his late wife, Joan '57, to provide scholarships for student-veterans at BGSU,

enabling them to continue their education when their GI Bill funding runs out.

To honor their substantial gift, the existing veterans center in the College Park Office Building was recently renamed the William and Joan Downing Military and Veteran Center.

A veteran of the Korean War who attended BGSU on the GI Bill, Downing particularly understands the challenges that military students face. Even six decades later, he remembers how hard it was to hold down numerous jobs while attending school to make ends meet.

"I wanted to support the students who have served or will serve our country so that they could have the help they need because they are so deserving," Downing said. "I was very fortunate to attend BGSU and end up with a good career, and this is a way to give something back."

The Downings both placed a high value on the importance of higher education. The Falcon Flames both graduated with education degrees and pursued initial careers as teachers.

"The military and BGSU were both pivotal institutions in shaping our lives," Downing said. "We want part of our legacy to be about helping young men and women who are present-day products of these same admirable institutions."

Their transformational gift has the potential to touch many lives. Today, the University has more than 600 military-affiliated students

from all branches of the service, said Dr. Barbara Henry, assistant vice president of Nontraditional and Military Student Services at BGSU. About 43 percent are veterans, and 57 percent are serving in the Ohio National Guard, Reserves and/or are on active duty.

While many of them can be found on campus, some employ distance learning, attending BGSU while serving in locations around the world. The Office of Nontraditional and Military Student Services provides support to them all.

“For many military and veteran students, it takes time to find the right major, or maybe they deployed once or more while pursuing their education and have exhausted their military education benefits,” Henry said. “The Downing family’s generosity provides the opportunity for BGSU to now offer scholarships for military students who find themselves in this situation, and provide a life-changing bridge to help fund the completion of their degrees.”

Although the GI Bill provides substantial educational benefits for service members, it does have its limitations, said David Rice, assistant director of Nontraditional and Military Student Services. For many service members, GI Bill funding is capped at 36 months of enrollment, and depending on the date of discharge, benefits can expire 10 to 15 years from the last date of service. This impacts many vets who decide to attend college later in life due to family obligations, career change or other personal circumstances.

“In addition, more and more students are taking more than four years to graduate,” Rice said. “It’s not uncommon for students who have recently returned from service to take a more gradual transition into life as a full-time student. But this means they aren’t able to complete their degrees within 36 academic months.”

Students who take classes in the summer or who have to withdraw mid-semester if they are called up for active duty also are impacted by reduced benefits as they hit the 36-month cap before their degree is finished.

“That’s where this funding really comes in handy for our military students,” Rice said.

One of the first BGSU students to benefit from the Downing scholarship fund is Keylin Freeman, an electronics and computer engineering technology major and specialist in the U.S. Army.



The Downing family celebrates the unveiling of the center at BGSU.



BGSU President Rodney Rogers, middle, and Daniel Keller, chair of the board of trustees, recognize William Downing Sr. for his generous gift.

In addition to currently serving in the National Guard, Freeman has been very active on campus as a tour guide, a member of the marching band and through his fraternity.

“I never thought that I would need help, but with military training weeks falling mid-semester and then back-to-back call-ups for hurricane relief happening, I was delayed in my path to earning my degree and exhausted my education benefits,” Freeman said. “I wasn’t sure how I was going to finish, but I was determined. And now, thanks to Mr. Downing’s generosity, I have the opportunity to complete my degree this year and excel in life. It means so much.”

In addition to their shared experiences as BGSU students and veterans, Freeman and Downing also bonded over the fact that Freeman’s grandfather was a Korean War vet.

“Both are exemplary examples of men that I strive to live like every day,” Freeman said.

“I am certain he will go far, and I wish him the best of luck,” Downing said of Freeman after having the chance to spend time with him during a visit to campus in August. “I hope that all the students helped by these scholarships take full advantage of the opportunities to complete their degrees, to help their families and to help prepare for future careers so that they might be able to one day give back themselves if an opportunity arises for them.”

Downing also is pleased that his gift will help BGSU build on its already strong reputation as a university that is military-friendly.

Through the William and Joan Downing Military and Veteran Center, the University plans to offer transition seminars, peer tutoring and career counseling, as well as a first semester book program for new military students and a new laptop loan program for continuing students to support their academic success and degree completion.

“BGSU has been consistently ranked as ‘Best for Vets’ in the nation and No. 1 in Ohio by Military Times,” Henry said. “With the financial support provided by the Downing family, we will be able to expand our support of military and veteran students throughout their academic careers at BGSU for years to come.”



DR. TIMOTHY DAVIS

Q & A

By Bonnie Blankinship

Dr. Timothy Davis, an associate professor of biological sciences, joined Bowling Green State University in August 2017. In addition to his teaching and research at the University, he is a co-chair of the National HAB Committee, which was established more than 15 years ago for the purpose of providing a collective voice of the academic, management and stakeholder communities interested in national harmful algal bloom (HAB) issues. Earlier this year, he was appointed to the Environmental Protection Agency's Board of Scientific Counselors, a federal advisory committee that provides advice, information and recommendations to the EPA's Office of Research and Development. As part of this three-year term, Davis serves as a member of the Safe and Sustainable Water Resources subcommittee. He also recently served as a national expert at harmful algal bloom summits in New York, part of Gov. Andrew Cuomo's \$65 million initiative to combat cyanobacterial HABs in upstate New York lakes. He recently received two prestigious awards, the 2018 Department of Commerce Gold Medal Award and the 2018 Department of Commerce Ron Brown Excellence in Innovation Award.

Q. Where do you think your passion for biology, especially aquatic biology, sprang from? Did you grow up around water?

A. I was born on Long Island and lived most of my childhood on the south shore within a short bike ride to Bellport Bay. I spent a lot of my time in the woods and wetlands that surrounded my house tracking Eastern

box turtles, rabbits or anything else I found. However, I always loved the ocean. My mother, sister and I would spend many weekend days at the beach and I would use my mom's surfcasting rod to try, often unsuccessfully, to catch bluefish and striped bass. Since my mother was an elementary school teacher, during the summers we would visit my grandmother in Pentwater, Michigan. I spent almost every day on the shores of Lake Michigan, swimming, fishing and boating. I think my love for water stemmed from this upbringing.

Q. Were you always a curious person?

A. Like any kid, I had my passions. I was always curious about nature, especially the ocean, but couldn't care less about things like business, stock markets, etc.

Q. You brought your 8-year-old son along on your trip to Kenya with other BGSU faculty this spring. Did you have any experiences like that growing up?

A. Yes, that was a very memorable experience for my son. I never had an experience quite like that growing up, but my mother and I used to walk the south shore beaches of Long Island in the middle of winter to look for cold-shocked turtles that would ride the warm waters of the Gulf Stream north, then, for various reasons, end up outside the Gulf Stream where they would become lethargic and enter into shock from the cold water. Also, during college I participated in Seamester,

which was operated by the Ocean Classroom Foundation where students would spend nine weeks at sea studying, learning to sail a gaff-rigged schooner and visiting various ports of call along the East Coast of the U.S. and the Caribbean. After I graduated, I went back to work for Ocean Classroom for six months as a deckhand/engineer before starting my dissertation research.

Q. Describe how you look at the genomics of an ecosystem to see how HABs are impacting them.

A. Well, all organisms respond to changes in their environments, so with the improvements in molecular tools, we can now look at how an organism is responding to these changes at the genetic level. We are most interested in nutrient uptake, how they are responding to high or low concentration of nutrients.

Q. What was your role at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration?

A. During my time at NOAA Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory, I led the harmful algal bloom monitoring and research program which supported several critical NOAA HAB forecasting products.

Q. When did you first begin collaborating with BGSU biologists Drs. George Bullerjahn and Michael McKay? How did you decide to join BGSU?



Aboard the Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute research vessel on Lake Victoria in April, Davis holds an invasive Nile perch.



Davis accepts a gift from Kisii University Vice Chancellor John Akama.

A. I first met George on a Lake Erie research cruise aboard the Canadian Coast Guard vessel *Limnos* in 2007. At that point, I was a graduate student at Stony Brook University. After my dissertation research, my first postdoctoral fellowship was with the Australian Rivers Institute, from 2009-2012. In the spring, my family and I moved to Michigan briefly before I applied for a research fellowship position with Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) in Burlington, Ontario. That position is when I reconnected with Mike and George, as the project was a collaboration between ECCC and BGSU. That project was a great success and I enjoyed my time there, conducting experiments, etc., as well as with George and Mike. During my time at ECCC, a permanent position at NOAA Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory was advertised. I applied and was selected to fill the position. I worked at NOAA for three and a half years, and during that time, I continued to work with George and Mike on various HAB-related issues, including the Toledo water crisis of 2014. We held a joint workshop at BGSU in 2015 that gathered HAB researchers from across the country and the globe to discuss the worsening problem. When the position was advertised at BGSU, I was encouraged to apply. My family and I loved our visits to BG over the years and I enjoyed working with George and Mike, so I decided to shift career paths when offered the position.

Q. How do the team's individual specialties function together?

A. George, Mike and I have many similar interests but diverse backgrounds, which help form a strong team of water quality researchers who use their complementary strengths to answer difficult questions about the ecology of these events by attacking the problem from multiple angles.

Q. How did you become an expert adviser nationally on HABs?

A. There are many excellent HAB researchers throughout the country. During my time at NOAA, I was fortunate enough to be involved with composing several reports to Congress about HABs on a national level and specifically in the Great Lakes. I think my prior experience working on these issues in the U.S. and Canada helped me gain a broader perspective that I can use when discussing HAB-related issues with lawmakers, water managers and the public.

Q. Harmful algae seem to be more in the news every day. Is the problem actually getting worse? Why?

A. Yes, they do seem to be gaining more attention than in the past. There is no doubt that this problem is getting worse. Our activities in critical watersheds have led to the development and, in some cases, resurgence and intensity of these events. Global climate change may lead to larger blooms that last longer and may be more

toxic. However, we need to recognize that there are many more researchers studying this topic than in the past, so some of the observed increase is related to the fact that we are looking harder. We need to remember that from the 1950s to the '70s, Lake Erie was experiencing many of the same water quality problems as today. Federal laws such as the Federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1948 was amended in 1972 and became commonly known as the Clean Water Act. It helped significantly by reducing phosphorus pollution from industry. Also, the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement of 1972 was a binational agreement to protect the health of the Great Lakes and established phosphorus reduction targets to improve water quality in western Lake Erie. Through joint efforts, these targets were met, but unfortunately, due to shifts in the majority of phosphorus pollution from industry to agriculture, these problems have again appeared and are becoming worse.

Q. What can BGSU and its researchers do to address the harmful algae problem that ails Lake Erie and the Great Lakes?

A. Conducting science that will serve the public good of the region and the nation is important to BGSU researchers. The work we are doing on harmful algal blooms accomplishes both and is helping BGSU establish itself as a leader in this field of study. I am looking forward to continuing to work with my colleagues at BGSU and around the world to develop long-term solutions to this global problem.

THE GREAT
BOWLING GREEN
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NHL TAKEOVER

NHL GOES BROWN AND ORANGE

By Matt Markey '76

ICE CRED. Credibility in a sport played on a frozen floor while in the endless pursuit of a vulcanized rubber disk — that's how you would best describe the reputation of a college hockey program that has produced the current general managers for three NHL franchises, the new head coach of the defending Stanley Cup champions, the former head coach of a previous Stanley Cup champion and current assistant coach of the Detroit Red Wings, the director of player personnel for the Los Angeles Kings and more.

The Bowling Green State University Falcons, with a rich history in the college ranks and a national championship banner hanging in the rafters at Slater Family Ice Arena, also have a significant presence at the highest levels in the professional game.

"With all of those Bowling Green guys working at the top of the NHL, what that tells me is that you can come here and then go anywhere," said longtime Falcon booster Scott Slater, whose family name adorns BGSU's arena. "This can be a stepping-stone to wherever you want to go in your career, in hockey or elsewhere."

The Falcons are heavily gifted with that ice cred. Very likely there isn't another college program out there with BGSU's level of representation in the NHL board rooms and coaching offices.

Former Falcon All-American Brian MacLellan is the general manager of the 2018 Stanley Cup champion Washington Capitals. The new head coach of the Caps is former Falcon Todd Reirden, who had been a top assistant with the franchise since 2014.

The Vegas Golden Knights, Washington's opposition in the Stanley Cup Finals, have BGSU Hobey Baker Award winner George McPhee as their general manager and president of hockey operations. The Los Angeles Kings place their fortunes in the hands of former Falcon Rob Blake, who serves as general manager and vice president of the franchise, while the Kings' director of player personnel is BGSU product Nelson Emerson.



1. Brian MacLellan was acquired by the Calgary Flames in 1989 en route to winning the Stanley Cup.

2. MacLellan and George McPhee pose with the MacNaughton Cup, awarded to the Falcons for having the best record in the CCHA for the 1981-82 regular season.

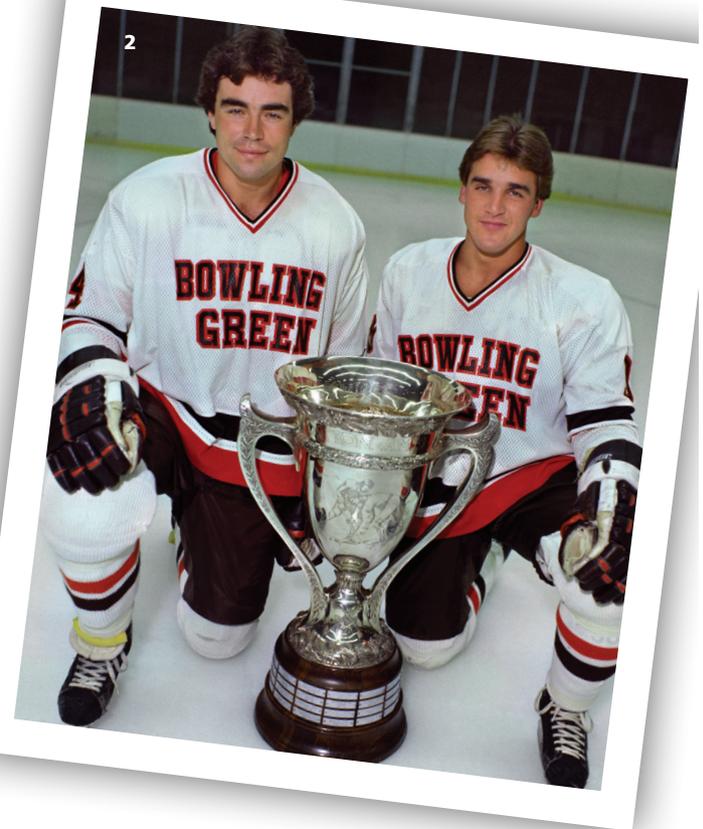


Photo credit: Jeff Bottari/Vegas Golden Knights



"It's exciting to see them all doing so well, but it's not really surprising because they understand competition, they understand working hard and they understand teamwork," Slater said. "Bowling Green was a great place for them to grow and to succeed. It was fun to see them come here as kids, and leave as men."

The Falcon program has produced at least 35 NHL players over the years, including six who were part of a Stanley Cup championship, and current Vegas center Ryan Carpenter, whose BGSU career ran from 2011-14. Dan Bylsma, now an assistant coach with the Red

Wings, is the former head coach of the Buffalo Sabres and the Pittsburgh Penguins, leading that franchise to the Stanley Cup championship as head coach in 2009.

BGSU can even claim the lead announcer of the NHL broadcasts on NBC with Emmy Award winner Mike Emrick, who earned his nickname "Doc" while getting his Ph.D. at the University. Emrick, who has been in the booth for hockey since calling Falcon games in 1971, was the voice of the NBC broadcasts for the Stanley Cup Finals.

When Reirden was promoted as head coach of the Capitals, the growing Falcon imprint on the NHL caught the attention of many. The Baltimore Sun referred to the move as part of the "Great Bowling Green NHL Takeover." That was a particularly proud moment for the school, and all of those former Falcons, Reirden said.

"It all culminated in the Stanley Cup Finals, with George McPhee there leading Vegas and Brian MacLellan leading the Caps and myself involved as associate coach with the Caps, so it was a Bowling Green reunion and a lot of people took notice," Reirden said. "But I don't think this is anything shocking — hockey players and hockey

3. Ryan Carpenter '14 is a center for the Vegas Golden Knights.

4. Dan Bylsma '92 coached the Pittsburgh Penguins to a Stanley Cup championship in 2009.

5. MacLellan starred at BGSU from 1978 to 1982.

6. Rob Blake played in the NHL from 1989 to 2010 and entered the Hockey Hall of Fame in 2014.

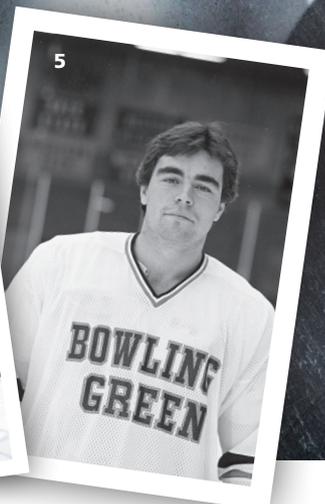
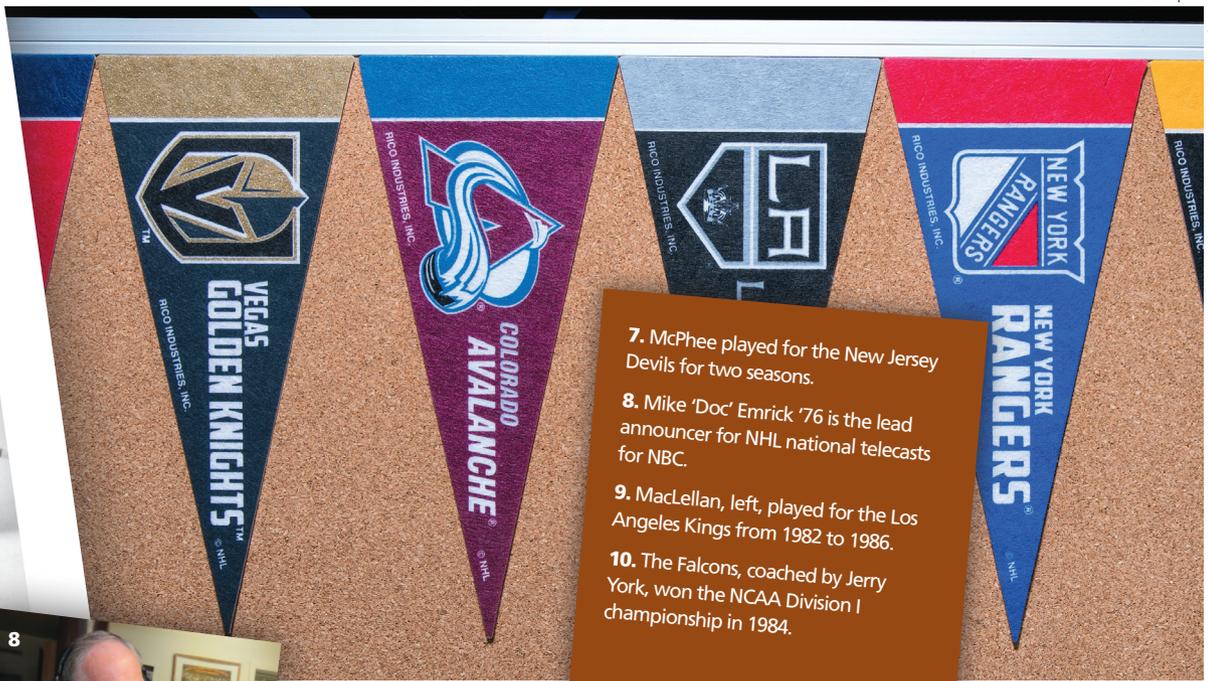
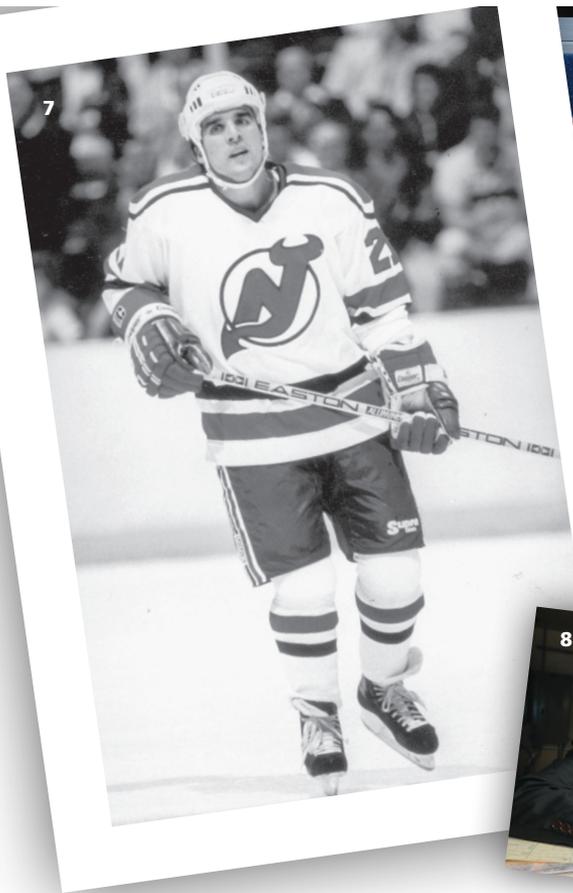


Photo credit: Gregory Shamus/NHL



- 7. McPhee played for the New Jersey Devils for two seasons.
- 8. Mike 'Doc' Emrick '76 is the lead announcer for NHL national telecasts for NBC.
- 9. MacLellan, left, played for the Los Angeles Kings from 1982 to 1986.
- 10. The Falcons, coached by Jerry York, won the NCAA Division I championship in 1984.



people built that place, so it makes sense that Bowling Green would produce hockey professionals."

Reirden, who posted 76 points from 1990-94 in his 140 games as a Falcon, started his career at BGSU as a walk-on. He would go on to play professionally for 13 seasons, including eight in the NHL. After proving himself at every rung on the hockey coaching ladder, he was the only person the Capitals felt they needed to interview to fill their head coaching vacancy.

"I think Bowling Green prepared me well for a career in this sport," Reirden said. "It's a unique environment there to be a part of as a hockey player. It's the perfect mix of a good education at a smaller school with very competitive hockey, and tremendous community support."

Blake, likely the finest defenseman in BGSU hockey history, credits that same background with preparing him to both compete and work at the highest echelon of the sport. As a Falcon, he had 104 points (39 goals, 65 assists) with 18 power-play goals and three game-winners in his 131 games in a Bowling Green uniform. He logged 368 penalty minutes in his career, and was honored as an All-American and a Hobey Baker Award finalist. He helped Team Canada win a gold medal in the Olympics, and won a Stanley Cup with Colorado during his 20-year NHL playing career, and a second Cup as a member of the Kings' front office.

"I've pretty much been focused on this every day since I got to Bowling Green," Blake said about making hockey a career. "I wasn't sure where the path would take me, but this is kind of what I hoped to do, and the foundation I had in place when I left Bowling Green was tremendous."

He was drafted by the Kings and spent 11 seasons playing for the franchise, winning the Norris Trophy as the top defenseman in the NHL in 1998. Blake, who was a teammate of former Falcon Greg deVries for Colorado's Stanley Cup championship season in 2001 and now works with Emerson, a three-time Hobey Baker Award finalist as a Falcon, enjoyed seeing a pair of other former Falcons square off as GMs in this year's finals.

"To see two Bowling Green guys in the Stanley Cup Final was really good for the school and the hockey program," Blake said. "I don't know that there is that one thing that makes Bowling Green special, but I think the coaches and the community played a big role. When I was at Bowling Green, I matured as a person and developed the discipline that has served me well in my professional career."

Blake credited former BGSU Head Coach Jerry York with sculpting players who would be successful in whatever career path they chose.



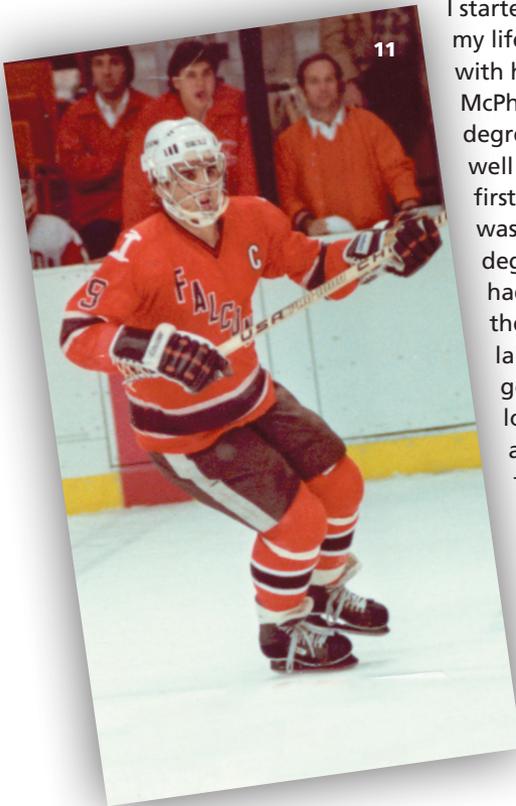
“Coach York was very detail-oriented, and he brought in 17- or 18-year-old kids knowing he had four years to prepare them for their lives ahead. He wasn’t just making you into an NHL-caliber player, he was going to make you a good person for the rest of your life. He deserves a lot of credit.”

McPhee also played for York, leading the Falcons in scoring as a freshman when he racked up 88 points and won Central Collegiate Hockey Association Rookie of the Year honors. He scored 114 goals and had 153 assists in his career for 267 points, and was honored as an All-American along with winning the 1982 Hobey Baker Award as college hockey’s top player.

McPhee, who played seven seasons in the NHL, was called up for the 1983 Stanley Cup playoffs by the New York Rangers. He scored three goals in a playoff game before ever playing in a regular-season NHL game. McPhee said most of the Falcons in the top tier of the NHL today are products of a time when the Bowling Green program was regarded as one of the best in the nation.

“BGSU was an elite hockey school in that era, and the program produced some people who got to the NHL and deserved to be in the NHL,” he said. “Fortunately, Coach Bergeron has the program headed back in that direction.”

McPhee, who spent 17 years as the general manager of the Capitals and drafted NHL superstar Alex Ovechkin, attended law school after his NHL playing days ended, and then set out on a career in upper management. His role in building the expansion Vegas franchise into a Stanley Cup finalist in its first season made him the runaway choice for the NHL’s General Manager of the Year award.



“Near the end of my playing career, I started thinking about the rest of my life and hoping that I could stay with hockey in some fashion,” said McPhee, whose communication degree from BGSU has served him well in his many years as a GM. “My first stepping-stone in that process was going to college and earning a degree. The personal experiences I had at Bowling Green, along with the requisite hockey experience, laid the foundation. When I first got hired in the NHL, they were looking for someone who was a self-starter. I’ve always been that guy. There’s not many days when I don’t wake up anxious to go to work.”

That drive is shared by MacLellan, who was a

teammate of McPhee going back to their junior hockey days in Guelph, Ontario. They stayed connected when they both came to Bowling Green, and they both were inducted to the Bowling Green Athletic Hall of Fame in 1987.

MacLellan, who won a Stanley Cup with the Calgary Flames during his 10-year NHL playing career, was hired as a scout by his former roommate McPhee while McPhee was the GM of the Capitals. MacLellan had gone to graduate school and prepared for a career in finance before he got the call from his Falcon teammate.

“We’re really good friends and we’ve grown up together,” said MacLellan, who was a two-time captain for the Falcons and an All-American at BGSU. He called the fact that he and McPhee served as general managers for the opposing teams in the Stanley Cup Finals “a little awkward,” but apparently it was nothing that would threaten the bond with each other, and with Bowling Green.

“These guys all love Bowling Green and are extremely loyal to the program, and to each other,” said current BGSU Head Coach Chris Bergeron. “It’s the people here that create that connection, because they are just so genuine. These guys think back on the winning and the championships, but when you talk to them, their stories are about the people they met here, the life experiences they had and the growing-up process.”

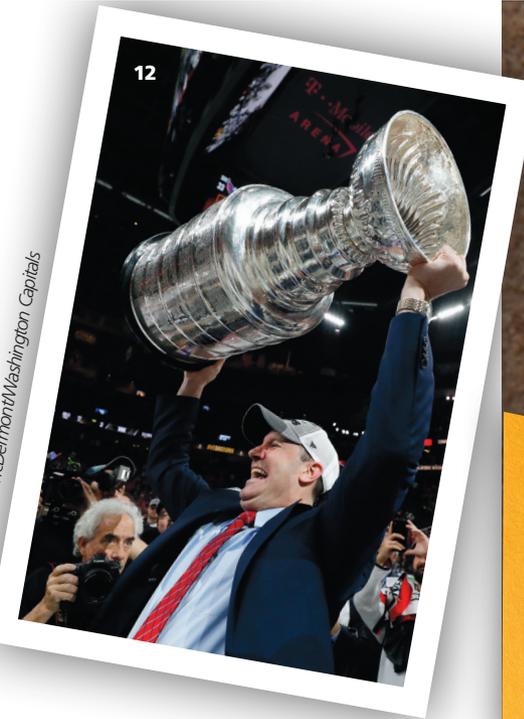
Bergeron said that when he speaks with the former Falcons who now sit in the board rooms of the NHL, they don’t mention their individual awards or accomplishments as college players.

“They talk about the relationships and the people they knew at Bowling Green,” he said. “The people that took them in for Thanksgiving dinner and made them feel like part of the family. For me, coming in from the outside, that’s been the best part of the job here — seeing the people involved with this program and knowing that’s why these guys feel the way they do about Bowling Green. There’s no secret formula — it’s the people. And that’s something you can’t fake or pretend.”

At the next meeting of the top brass from the teams in the NHL, it might be a good idea to splash a little orange and brown décor around the room. It will be quite familiar to a number of the participants, since Bowling Green played a significant role in shaping the coaches, management and staff of some of the franchises.

“I’d never be able to accomplish anything now without the foundation that was built while I was at Bowling Green,” Reirden said.

Photo credit: Patrick McDermon/Washington Capitals





MCPHEE

MACLELLAN

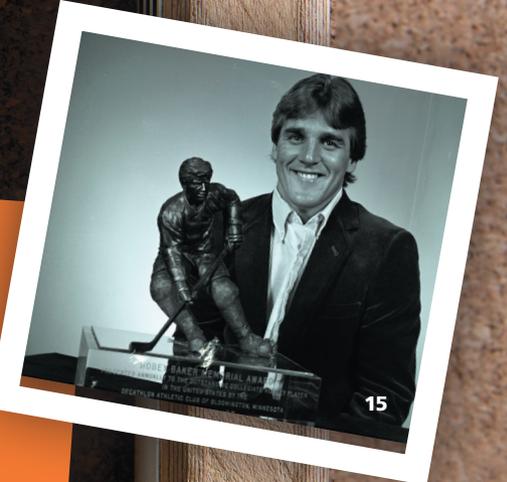
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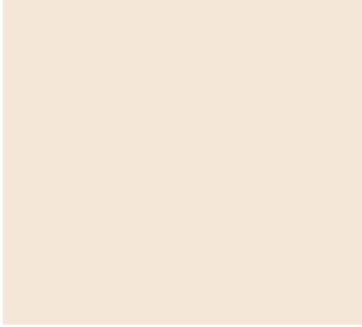
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15

- 11. McPhee scored 114 goals and had 153 assists while playing at BGSU.
- 12. Todd Reirden '94 won the Stanley Cup as an assistant coach with the Washington Capitals last season. He is the Caps' head coach this season.
- 13. Game-used sticks of BGSU alumni provided by longtime hockey booster Scott Slater '73.
- 14. Jerseys worn in the NHL by BGSU alumni, provided by Slater.
- 15. In 1982, McPhee won the Hobey Baker Award, given to college hockey's top player.

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CLASS OF 2018 PROFILE: JAUNTEZ BATES

FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF HIS GENEROUS BENEFACTORS

By Julie Carle '78

Jauntez Bates is ready to return to his hometown of Detroit and give back to the community that means so much to him.

Bates graduated from Bowling Green State University and the College of Arts and Sciences in August, and will take his political science major and sociology minor to work in youth development in the city that defines him in so many ways.

He is deeply dedicated to cultivating a culture and community that supports young people, especially young black males. Bates knows all too well how easy it is to slip through the cracks and head down a path that is not productive.

He was in that negative space for a while, but with the help of some positive and supportive influencers, he persevered and came away from his BGSU experience as a young man with focus, determination and vision.

At the core of his support is family. His mother, who was a single mom, sacrificed a lot by working several jobs to support her family. Because of her work schedule, his great-grandparents raised him during his early years and taught him about love, compassion, faith and the value of a strong work ethic.

"My great-grandparents came to Detroit from Arkansas with 13 children. My great-grandfather had a bricklaying company and showed me the value of hard work and my great-grandmother was a nurse, a chef and was always full of love and compassion," Bates said.

"All along I've had people who prayed for me and did everything they could to provide a lifestyle for me before they passed away," he said. "How could I not do everything possible to reciprocate the love they showed me by working hard and striving to succeed?"

“That’s a strong conviction and I’m going to keep it, even though it has been hard.”

He was shuffled around to other relatives after his great-grandparents died and found himself in a rough patch, afraid that people in his life were temporary, and believing that he wasn’t smart. He was given the opportunity to attend the University Preparatory High School in Detroit, where he had an adviser who “channeled a place of understanding and challenged me to control my thinking and feel more confident.”

BELONG.

Serendipitously, the donors who gave him the opportunity to attend the University Preparatory High School were the same donors who would help him four years later to be able to attend Bowling Green State University. BGSU alumni Robert ’55 and Ellen ’54 Thompson’s decision to support Detroit area schools put him on a good path in high school. Little did he know when he met the Thompsons at his high school that they would be a force in his life again.

Their support of the BGSU President’s Leadership Academy (PLA) provided the key to Bates attending BGSU, a university he wasn’t familiar with until a PLA pamphlet landed in his hands, offering full tuition and room and board to promising young leaders.

The 2014 PLA cohort, which is the first cohort to boast 100 percent retention of its members, gave him a strong foundation. He admitted he got off to a rocky start during the summer bridge program — not quite prepared for its rigors. However, he decided he was not going to be a statistic — a black male who doesn’t finish his degree.

He spent long hours at the study tables at BGSU, asked for help when he needed it and became even more determined to find a way to make a difference on campus.

One of the first organizations he joined was the Black Student Union (BSU). With a mission to create cultural and political awareness among the black and overall campus community, the Black Student Union seemed to be a good fit for the politically astute student. He took an active role in BSU, where he served as public relations chair and then as president. His goal was to generate as much change as possible. He stood up for the black perspective and proved his leadership by participating in a number of organizations and activities across campus and the community.

STAND OUT.

His involvement in many campus issues and causes gave him a voice among his peers. In 2017, Bates was elected vice president of the Undergraduate Student Government (USG), which increased his visibility and participation in University-wide initiatives. He was asked to participate in numerous high-profile committees, such as the USG Drug and Alcohol Task Force and the University Task Force on Sexual Assault. Both committees worked quickly and effectively to provide significant and meaningful recommendations for the betterment of the campus community.



Bates also was a student leadership assistant in the Center for Leadership, where he learned to facilitate workshops and conversations rooted in inclusion, purpose, global citizenship and integrity.

Expanding into entrepreneurship, he and two of his colleagues — Brendan Foulks and Dion Brooks — started the clothing line #BossUpClothing as a way to make some money, but also to help them make connections and build relationships.

He and his business partners were all leaders in various organizations across campus, which gave them a voice among their colleagues as well as with University administrators. Together they were involved with a volunteer effort in Detroit handing out food to homeless individuals at Thanksgiving and later in Flint, Michigan.

“We never would have made it this far without somebody giving back to us, so we want to be that helping hand for other people as well, and look nice while we do it,” Bates said, referring to the clothing line.

They also conducted a letter-writing campaign to more than 200 women on campus thanking them for their support, and letting them know they saw how hard they were working toward their degrees.

During the summer of 2017, Bates interned in the office of the Detroit mayor, and in 2018, he was accepted into the Detroit Technology Exchange, designed for students and recent graduates to explore entrepreneurial potential.

His active participation in and exemplary contributions to the black and campus communities earned him the Black Excellence Award, presented at the BGSU Black Issues Conference. He also was a valued member of the National Pan-Hellenic Council and his fraternity, Omega Psi Phi.

GO FAR.

Walking across the stage at commencement was a significant validation of the effort he has put in during the past four years.

“This is a special award that I dedicate to my mother and my family members who assisted me along the way,” Bates said.

He also won’t forget that extra debt of gratitude to the people who made BGSU a reality for him.

“I am fully aware that if not for the Thompsons, I wouldn’t be here,” he said.

Bates wants his legacy to be servant leadership, much like the Detroit area couple who are known as generous benefactors to many important programs.

“That motivates me to want to go back and be a force in my community like the Thompsons were in Detroit.”



BGSU, MERCY HEALTH ANNOUNCE PARTNERSHIP TO GROW HEALTH CARE EDUCATION

In an effort to address a statewide shortage of nurses and the high demand for other health professionals, Mercy Health and Bowling Green State University announced in September that they have signed a letter of intent to transfer operations of Mercy College of Ohio to BGSU.

Mercy Health will serve as a key partner with BGSU and will provide clinical experiences for students and employment opportunities for graduates. Together the

organizations will also explore ways to enhance the health and well-being of their communities through research, grants and other training opportunities.

According to leaders of the organizations, linking Mercy College's strong, established programs and the clinical expertise of Mercy Health with BGSU's academic breadth and scope as a tier-one, comprehensive public university will benefit students and the state. BGSU students come from throughout Ohio

and the Midwest, aligning with the service areas of Mercy Health, Ohio's largest health care provider.

"This partnership is a great fit," BGSU President Rodney Rogers said. "As a public university, we have an obligation to create public good. That meshes seamlessly with Mercy's mission to provide health care and wellness services to all in need. Together, we can strengthen health care education in Ohio and better serve our students."



“HEALTH CARE IS SUCH AN IMPORTANT INDUSTRY IN OHIO, AND OUR COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES MUST CONTINUE TO INNOVATE IN ORDER TO MEET THE WORKFORCE NEEDS OF THIS GROWING SECTOR OF THE ECONOMY.”

— CHANCELLOR JOHN CAREY

“Nurses and allied health professionals are absolutely essential for providing high-quality health care in this region,” said Bob Baxter, president and CEO of Mercy Health - Toledo Region. “We’re already experiencing a nationwide shortage of nurses and the need is growing as our population ages. By working with BGSU, we can better meet that demand and enhance our ability to serve our patients and families in northwest Ohio and across the state. We look forward to aligning our mission with BGSU’s and to continue reaching both traditional and nontraditional students for the betterment of our communities.”

“Health care is such an important industry in Ohio, and our colleges and universities must continue to innovate in order to meet the workforce needs of this growing sector of the economy,” said John Carey, chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education. “Pending final review and approval of the proposal, I look forward to working with the faculty, staff and administrators at BGSU and Mercy College on next steps in order to meet the need for health care professionals in Ohio.”

BGSU and Mercy Health have begun the due diligence process necessary to execute an agreement. The transfer, which would include Mercy College’s nine degree programs and six certificate programs, is expected to take two to three years to complete. In the meantime, Mercy College will continue to serve its approximately 1,500 students.

“Mercy College and BGSU are deeply committed to ensuring the continued success of our Mercy students,” said Dr. Susan Wajert, Mercy College president. “All current students, a record 1,300 in multiple degree programs in Toledo and 200 in an associate degree program in Youngstown, will be able to complete their programs of study. Given the breadth of BGSU’s academic programs and its robust student-life offerings, we’ll be able to offer more students a deeper, richer college experience.”

BGSU is committed to honoring Mercy College and the Sisters of Mercy’s 100-year legacy of providing quality education in nursing and other health care program disciplines, aligned with the mission of Mercy Health.

According to BGSU, Mercy College faculty and staff will continue to be an essential part of program operations following the transition.

“We look forward to welcoming Mercy College faculty and staff to the BGSU family,” said Dr. Sue Houston, BGSU vice president for academic partnerships. “Their expertise and dedication will be absolutely critical to the success of our students and these academic programs.”

According to Baxter, changing market dynamics and declining reimbursement for provider-based nursing programs are also factors in Mercy Health’s decision to pursue a relationship with BGSU.

“This will allow us to focus on our core business – providing nationally recognized health care programs and services locally and across Ohio and Kentucky,” Baxter said. “At the same time, we’ll benefit from an expanded pipeline of qualified, highly trained nurses and allied health professionals by allowing BGSU to do what they do best – preparing students for careers and life.”

For more than 40 years, BGSU had partnered with the former Medical College of Ohio and then the University of Toledo (UT) in a unique consortium for nursing education. Earlier this year, UT notified BGSU that it wanted to phase out its partnership. As a result, BGSU has been working to develop a full nursing program.

“When UT approached us about discontinuing the consortium, we both recognized that it limited our ability to meet the growing demand for nurses and health care providers,” Rogers said. “Adding Mercy College to BGSU gives us high-quality, extremely competitive nursing and allied health programs that we can build upon and grow. We look forward to building upon this initiative with Mercy Health and upon our partnerships with other health care providers to continue developing new programs to meet the workforce needs of the state of Ohio in health care.”

Any final agreement will require the approval of the BGSU Board of Trustees and the boards of trustees for Mercy College and Mercy Health. In addition, the Ohio Department of Higher Education, the Higher Learning Commission, the Ohio Board of Nursing, the U.S. Department of Education and professional accrediting bodies for each of the accredited programs will also need to approve the plan.



President Rodney Rogers addresses the media during a news conference announcing the agreement to transfer the operations of Mercy College of Ohio to BGSU.

THE SIX-FIGURE DIGITAL MARKETING CONSULTANT AND FULL-TIME STUDENT

By Bob Cunningham '18

Ask Donovan J. Greening to describe search-engine optimization, better known as SEO, and his eyes will light up and his explanation speeds faster than his Porsche Cayenne. When he sees your eyes glaze over in confusion, he'll hit the brakes, slow it down and give you enough examples until you both are sharing the same road.

"Did that answer your question?" He doesn't demean; he's sincere in wanting to share his mastery of digital marketing and what it's done for him, what it can do for companies behind the scenes and what he hopes it can do for Bowling Green State University.

Then he laughs and says, "I'm the nerdiest person ever. I'm a super geek!"

Greening, 20, is an entrepreneur, consultant and full-time college student. He is the founder of Greening Corporation United, a full-service digital marketing agency he started at the age of 15 that focuses on law firm digital marketing. In 2017, he helped generate several million dollars in new cases and revenue for his clients and law firms while also helping multiple victims of mesothelioma and lung cancer find justice.

A junior, he is majoring in management of information systems in the College of Business. He grew up in West Bloomfield, Michigan, and attended Brother Rice High School. While in high school, he founded two online companies.

"I taught myself how to make a website based on my YouTube channel, XVSound, when I was 15," Greening said. "I would take music artists that weren't that cool and find cool movie clips and chop them up and make footage to kind of go along with the song, almost like mood music. That channel started to blow up and to date that channel has 3.9 million views in total and has more than 10,000 subscribers."

That positive experience got him thinking: How could he make this into a brand? The result was XVTech, which focused on web design and social media marketing. Greening quickly turned around three local clients, a juice shop, Chris Huff from P80Fitness Studio, and DJ BJ 3525 from Hot 107.5.

His next client was a hydro light factory in Warren, Michigan, which sells hydroponic lighting for large indoor agricultural facilities.

"I developed for them a brand new website and an e-commerce system," Greening said. "I also helped them map out a shipping logistics system to make their business more efficient. That business

had made over \$600,000 of revenue two months after launching that website. Then, I was like, OK, now I can actually make people some money."

It was about this time that Greening enrolled at BGSU, which he said was perfect because, "I wanted to get away from home, but not too far from home. And it's a university my mother is really happy with, and only 90 minutes from home. Plus, there are few distractions."

Once he arrived at the University, he decided to delve deeper into online marketing. Now, Greening Corporation United specializes in online marketing and rankings as well as public relations and content creation for law firms and large corporations.

One of Greening's clients is Goldberg, Persky, and White P.C., a national mesothelioma law firm specializing in mesothelioma and asbestos litigation. He began to work with one of their managing partners while he was only 19.

"This firm had never run large advertising campaigns other than some TV spots," Greening said. "Lane Clack is a nationally recognized mesothelioma lawyer and managing partner of Goldberg, Persky, and White. Having done hundreds of millions of dollars in legal case work, Lane was not an easy man to impress. It took months of hard work and dedication to bring their firm to top spots in Google and help victims of asbestos exposure get the compensation they deserve."

He started working with Clack during his freshman year and signed a contract for \$55,000 out of his Centennial Hall residency to develop and rank in Google a 5,000-page website and asbestos exposure jobsite database.

"There were a lot of multimillion dollar law firms outranking my client online, and, honestly, I didn't know if I would be able to do it," Greening said. "But two months later, I was able to beat every one of them with the new website I built for the firm. I did their commercial, their press release content, I write their blog posts — I'm pretty much a full-suite marketing solution for them, and I automate the online presence of the firm. Since then, they've expanded their website into other states and my company signed a new contract with them worth several hundred thousand dollars to begin to market the firm nationally."



IN A POSITIVE LIGHT,
THIS HAS ALSO
ALLOWED ME TO
STAY FOCUSED ON
MY CAREER AND HAS
CONTRIBUTED TO MY
SUCCESS SO FAR.”

“Donovan Greening has helped us dominate our Michigan and West Virginia markets,” Clack said. “From his digital marketing efforts, we have seen several million dollars in new claims being filed with our firm.”

Greening says he often feels like Bruce Wayne with two identities, being a full-time student while working to achieve his personal and professional goals with his company.

“Focusing on business and balancing business with school is very difficult,” said Greening, who recently picked up a local Stanley Steamer franchise as a client. “Within 15 minutes, I could be jumping on the phone with an attorney or another executive and I need to be a high-level consultant very quickly. But when I am back in my dorm, I get to be a kid again. It’s very interesting, this double life I’m living right now.”

Greening says it’s hard to connect with his peer group, and not just because he is working full time and earning a large income while also being a full-time student. He remains very career focused and doesn’t have time for some college activities, which is hard for some of his peers to understand.

In using SEO to get his clients to be highly ranked, Greening combines his computer skills with his business acumen. He says a lot of companies don’t realize how important SEO is to their bottom line.

“If you get a Michigan personal injury law firm ranked high in Google for a keyword like Michigan auto accident lawyer, it’s very valuable to him and his clients,” he said. “Something like that is universally applicable to just about anything: auto insurance, buying a house, schools, online degree programs, appliances, whatever.”

Greening currently is seeking more law firms that would like to be ranked in the top spots for their state in a practice area of their choice.

“Companies have to design their websites with SEO in mind, and if they don’t understand this critical feature, they’re going to miss out on a lot of business,” he said. “Most people are on their phones all day long and they’re going to do a quick search and go with whatever is the most convenient. Being on Page 1 is where they are going to turn to because they don’t really second-guess those rankings. A lot of companies that deserve to be at the top are on the back pages because they don’t really understand how people are searching for their products.”

Eventually, Greening wants to have a small, agile firm in which “I work with some of the top brands in the world while at the same time doing something beneficial — something that adds to the value of people’s lives and makes them No. 1.”

The networking he’s done and the business connections he’s made at the University have been priceless, Greening said.

“The upper-level connections I’m making with people like President Rogers and others, I believe will really help me out, not only with growing my business but also in helping me develop as a young man,” he said.

“I’m still trying to find myself, but I’ve solidified what I want to do and I’m running as fast as possible to accomplish my goals. I’ve not slowed down at all. It’s cool making connections with faculty because just talking to them you learn a lot more. One of the best connections I’ve made is with Dr. Gene Poor. I love that guy and really look up to him.”

Poor, the Hamilton Endowed Professor of Entrepreneurship emeritus, began the visual communication technology program at the University, teaches in the entrepreneurship program and is the founder of LifeFormations, which makes animatronic figures for museums, theme parks and other venues.

“It’s taken me 50 years to have a student like him,” Poor said. “He’s aggressive, passionate, persistent and full of energy. He’s an amazing young man; one in a million. He’s so interesting in terms of how he thinks. I have him speak to my classes and it’s like having a 50-year-old business man speak to a bunch of 19-year-olds telling them about the world of business.”

“Donovan understands things that most young people don’t understand. He has a unique perspective about work and what he can learn from the University. He takes this whole experience very seriously.”

Greening would like to demonstrate to his peers that if he can start his own business and be successful then they can, too.

“My goal is to help Bowling Green State University become the school for young entrepreneurs,” he said. “If we could become the go-to university for entrepreneurs in the Midwest and beyond, that would be awesome.”



A SOLID VISION

BGSU GRAD BUILDING A NAME
IN ARCHITECTURAL SPECIALTY

By Matt Markey '76



“My background is architecture, but I’ve always been experimenting with all things visual,” Hogrefe said. He has taken that visual segment of the field and made it his specialty, rapidly earning a reputation as a design visionary.



FOR A YOUNG ALEX HOGREFE, a sketch pad and a pencil were his accomplices because he saw the world as a place where imagination just had not yet made its way to images on paper. Even before he reached high school, people were hiring him to compose drawings of their children and pets.

“In school, every few years we took these aptitude tests to see which career would fit best, and mine always came up as architecture,” he said.

While he was in high school and college, many aspiring artists and architects his age were utilizing increasingly sophisticated computer programs to give shape and form to their ideas, but Hogrefe showed a preference for the technique used by Leonardo da Vinci and Frank Lloyd Wright.

“I grew up hand drawing, so I kind of just kept doing that,” the 2007 Bowling Green State University alumnus said. “And at Bowling Green, they allowed me to work in my comfort zone before I transitioned to the computer. The focus early on was on hand methods and the traditional, manual way of drafting, and that made me feel comfortable.”

“I could draw when I got to Bowling Green, but the program on campus is where my love of architecture got started. They got me technically ready and set a very good foundation for my career.”

Hogrefe, who grew up in tiny Deshler, Ohio, and today is a partner in the Boston architectural firm Design Distill, said that despite his apparent aptitude, he wasn’t sold on architecture as a major when he enrolled at BGSU.

“But the professors were so enthusiastic that I was completely pulled in by it,” he said. Hogrefe’s older brother Nick had gone through the Bowling Green architecture program as well, and now works as an architect for a contracting company in Perrysburg.

BGSU’s newly founded School of the Built Environment unites the fields of architecture and construction management, two units with established histories, collaborations and synergies.





While Hogrefe worked with the Paul Lukez Architecture firm in Boston, his website focused on the visualization aspect of architecture continued to grow in popularity, and in some years reached more than 2 million visitors.

“Students in the school are immersed in a cutting-edge interdisciplinary learning environment — one that seamlessly infuses design, technical and management education with an overarching focus on innovation, entrepreneurship, integrated design-build practice/ collaboration, community outreach, environmental stewardship and global engagement,” said Dr. Arsenio Rodrigues, director of the school. “Graduates from the School of the Built Environment will be uniquely poised to enter the workforce as ‘systems thinking’ professionals who excel in holistic problem solving related with design, construction and the overall built environment. And, within this context, the pedagogical framework of the new school is strategically aligned to nurture and cultivate future entrepreneurs and leaders of the design-construction industry.”

“Alex Hogrefe possesses an unusual set of qualities: sensitivity to human dynamics, independence of creative inquiry and an original spirit which has brought excitement to the Department of Architecture and Environmental Design,” said Dr. Andreas Luescher, a professor in architecture and environmental design.

Since BGSU had no graduate program in architecture at the time, Hogrefe got his master’s degree at Miami University. While there, he developed a website and blog centered on visualizing architecture, where illustrations and images are created from a basic architectural design. These provide the architect with a much more creative visual element to use to sell the plan to a client, or present in a public forum.

“My background is architecture, but I’ve always been experimenting with all things visual,” Hogrefe said. He has taken that visual segment of the field and made it his specialty, rapidly earning a reputation as a design visionary.

When Hogrefe presented his master’s thesis, the judge flew in from Boston to critique the project. His thesis critic must have liked Hogrefe’s work, because he offered him a job at the architectural firm he owned.

“I had planned on staying in Ohio and finding work in the Toledo area after finishing my master’s, and then out of nowhere this thesis critic offered me a job,” Hogrefe said.

He sat down with his future wife, Kim Spalding, from Mason, Ohio, whom he had met in sociology class at BGSU, and talked over the job offer and the potential move. They took what Hogrefe calls “a big leap” and moved to Boston. The couple now has two children and the family makes the Boston area its home.

“It was a huge step because that’s not the person I am, moving far away like that,” Hogrefe said. “I’m very much an introverted person, and figured I’d always be close to home.”



In 2014, he partnered with Andrew Hartness, who was running a small architecture visualization studio, and a year later the duo created Design Distill.



While Hogrefe worked with the Paul Lukez Architecture firm in Boston, his website focused on the visualization aspect of architecture continued to grow in popularity, and in some years reached more than 2 million visitors. In 2014, he partnered with Andrew Hartness, who was running a small architecture visualization studio, and a year later the duo created Design Distill.

“It’s been pretty crazy since then, running hard and building a client list,” Hogrefe said.

The “building” has gone quite well — the young firm collaborates with architecture companies around the world, including some of the biggest names in the industry. Design Distill has worked on skyscrapers, and been part of the projects that put together the new arena for the NBA’s Milwaukee Bucks and the stadium the NFL’s Jacksonville Jaguars call home.

“A lot of what we are working on is private, at the direction of the client, but essentially they come to us when they have a basic plan but it needs something much, much more,” Hogrefe said. “They want really strong illustrations to accompany their designs, and that’s what we provide. We’ve taken one segment of the profession and made it our specialty.”

Hogrefe, who also designed a large mural for a building in downtown Deshler, is frequently invited to lecture on his specialty at architectural conferences across the globe. He has given presentations in Vienna and Mexico City, as well as at workshops at Tulane University, Oklahoma State University, Boston Architecture College and Cal Poly Pomona. He was back on the BGSU campus last year to present a lecture to the architecture department.

“It’s exciting to see how the Bowling Green architecture program has grown, and see what it has become,” said Hogrefe, whose parents now live in Bowling Green. “That program is where my love for architecture really got started.”

“AND AT BOWLING GREEN, THEY ALLOWED ME TO WORK IN MY COMFORT ZONE.”



“They want really strong illustrations to accompany their designs, and that’s what we provide. We’ve taken one segment of the profession and made it our specialty.”

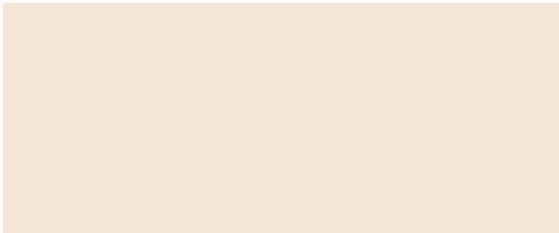


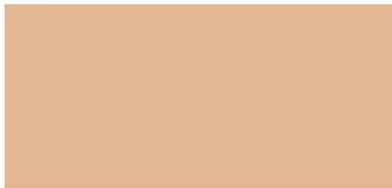
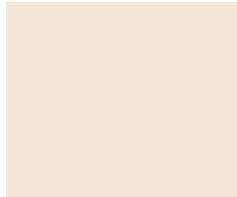
ZOOM.



BELONG.

THE BGSU EXPERIENCE IN PICTURES.







FROM SEA TO SHINING SEA

BGSU FIRELANDS ALUMNA, AN IRAQ WAR VET, CYCLES ACROSS COUNTRY FOR FELLOW VETERANS By Marie Dunn-Harris '95

FINISH WHAT YOU STARTED. That's the sentiment former U.S. Army Sgt. Sarah Lee '09 lives by, and what she set out to do over the summer.

In May 2017, Lee embarked on a 4,300-mile journey, cycling from coast to coast to raise awareness for her fellow veterans who were victims of post-traumatic stress disorder, or PTSD. She started in Virginia and made it 2,400 miles to the front range of the Rocky Mountains. Unfortunately, at this point her trip was cut short because she was run off the road by a large truck. Lee tore the ACL ligament in her knee, and had to postpone the rest of her journey.

Ten months later, Lee got back on the road to finish her trip across the country. On June 2, 2018, Lee picked up where she left off, in Pueblo, Colorado, and planned to cycle another 2,000 miles to finish in San Francisco.

Her trip was cut short again briefly in early August when she had to return home to say good-bye to her cat, Kittums, who she had to put down due to cancer. Lee got back on the road after a two-week break and had to dodge the smoke from nearby wildfires in California.

Lee finally finished her journey on September 3, by crossing the Golden Gate Bridge with American Legion riders and fellow veterans escorting her to the end. She admits she was terrified to finish, wondering what would be the next step in her life.

"Something happened to me on that bridge where I felt things weren't going to be as bad as I thought," she said. "It was surreal."

Lee actually rode into the ocean while onlookers applauded and congratulated her for what she accomplished. Some of the people she met on her journey even showed up to see her finish.

"When I walked into the water and felt it rushing around my ankles, I had this incredible rush of feeling everyone we've lost, and everyone who supported me. I really felt I did them proud."

Lee grew up in Norwalk, Ohio, and always wanted to be in the military. With the permission of her parents, she enlisted when she was 17 years old. She was deployed to Iraq, where she served in Operation Iraqi Freedom as a combat engineer. As soon as she returned, she felt lost, like something was missing.

"Once you get out of the military, it's really hard to fill that hole that is left," she said. "The camaraderie is second to none and it's hard to find that in the civilian sector."

That's when Lee immersed herself into her studies. Her family has four generations of Falcons, so it was easy for her to decide to attend BGSU. She enrolled at the nearby Firelands campus and embraced the entire college experience. She ended up switching her major several times and had enough classes to graduate with a bachelor's degree in visual communication technology, an associate's degree in arts and a minor in business.

"Even with 18 credit hours, I couldn't stay busy enough," she said.

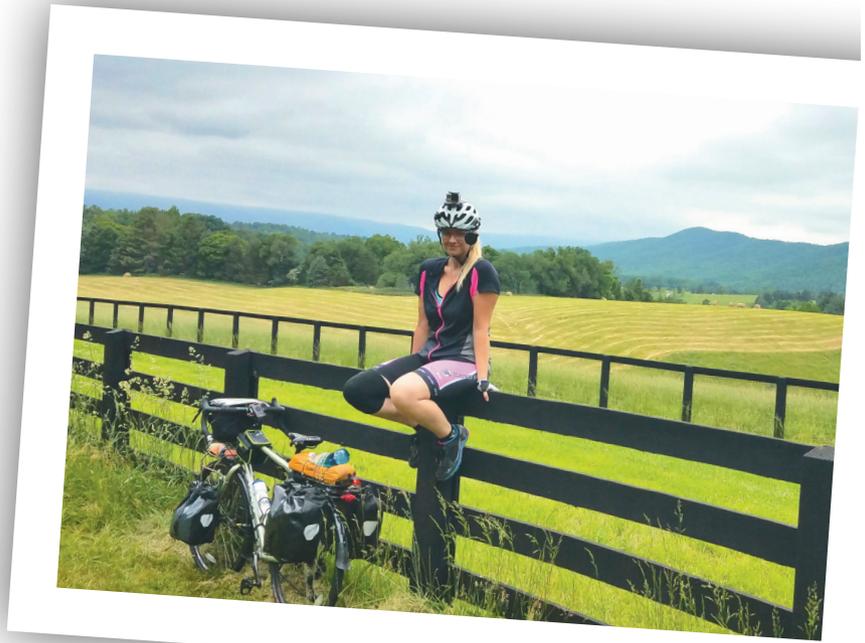
After her first semester, Lee became president of the Visual Communication Technology Organization (VCTO). She received an award for creative excellence and was the co-founder of the annual VCTO gallery, which she is very proud of. Lee also worked in the writing lab and cherished that one-on-one time with her peers.

"Even though the Firelands campus was smaller and convenient, it was also more personal and I enjoyed the smaller class setting," she said.

It was also at BGSU Firelands where Lee started her own photography business, which she still runs today from her home in Nashville.

"I discovered photography and really clung to that. It made sense to me," she said.

Lee's business kept her going, but she was still dealing with the repercussions of serving in the military.



"You can stay busy for a while at first, but as soon as you slow down, things start to catch up and it really does downward spiral quickly," she said.

Lee decided she wanted to inspire and unite other veterans who felt the same way she did, and make a real impact. That's when she came up with the idea to bike from sea to shining sea.

"I really needed this for personal, post-war healing and to honor my friends that I lost in my deployment to Iraq," she said. "They gave up everything that they had, and so will I."

Lee chose cycling because it was easier on her health, it was therapeutic and it was a way for her to meet many veterans like herself. She also discovered the kindness and generosity of people she met.

"I love this country so much," she said. "I was blown away by all the support and discovered that we're not as divided as we think we are."

Lee cycled on a pre-set route through the Adventure Cycling Association called the Western Express. It's a slightly less-traveled route with many back roads and nearly 90 miles between towns.

"I wanted to make this as challenging as possible," she said.

Now that Lee is done, she doesn't plan on stopping her commitment to helping fellow veterans.

"I'm real adamant about making a real difference for my fellow veterans going forward, being a part of the solution," she said.

She is in the process of creating a veteran outreach program in Nashville that will offer camping, fishing, hiking and cycling outings.

"Nature offers so much healing, and I know first-hand how much it can help, so I want to make that possible for other veterans," Lee said.

You can revisit Lee's journey on her blog at aviciouscycle.org.



A GOLDEN PARTNERSHIP

BGSU, UNIVERSITY OF SALZBURG CELEBRATE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF EXCHANGE PROGRAM

By Julie Carle '78

For a half-century, Bowling Green State University and the University of Salzburg have had a partnership. During those 50 years, nearly 1,500 students have benefitted from the Academic Year Abroad (AYA) exchange program between the two universities.

In June, some 70 of those Salzburg program alumni and many others affiliated with the two programs gathered in Salzburg to celebrate the milestone and to renew the commitment to prepare students to be global citizens through this innovative and immersive education abroad program.

"We are so proud to have this partnership," BGSU President Rodney Rogers said during the official ceremony in Salzburg on June 7. "Our institution is a little over 100 years old, and at 50 years old this program represents one of our longest continuous study-abroad programs."

During the celebration, Rogers and University of Salzburg Rector Heinrich Schmidinger signed a new agreement to continue the exchange program.

"It's important to remember the individuals who make this program what it is," Rogers said, thanking the current and past faculty members from BGSU who served as directors of the program, including Dr. Geoffrey Howes, professor emeritus; Dr. Margy Gerber, professor emerita; and current German faculty Drs. Kristie Foell, Christina Guenther and Edgar Landgraf, who all attended the reunion.

According to Landgraf, participants at the reunion represented classes from 1970 to 2015. They traveled from the United States and Europe and one person came from Hong Kong. Happy to be back in Salzburg, many of them took time to visit their old dormitories, and favorite beer gardens and restaurants, and some reconnected with the Austrians they met while they were there.

"That tells you how attached they are to the experience they had while studying in Salzburg," Landgraf said.

The University has a real presence in Salzburg, he said. "We are the oldest and the first university to have a joint study agreement with Salzburg.

"It strikes me to think about how many people at the University of Salzburg and within the city know our program."

The current mayor of the city, who actually was a former landlord when Landgraf and Howes were directors, spoke at the event. He praised the program and the connections created between the city, the students and faculty of the program.

Back to the beginning

According to Gerber, who presented some of the history of the partnership during the ceremony, "1968 was a really opportune moment for both universities which were each striving to develop in a new direction."

At the time, both were looking for ways to expand and grow. However, the towns were very different: Salzburg was a European center of civilization and culture with a medieval fortress and baroque palaces, and Bowling Green was a rural community, developed in the late 19th century. One was surrounded by snow-capped mountains, the other with no hills in sight, only the wide-open horizons of the corn and soybean fields.

Though the communities were very different, the University of Salzburg, which had been reestablished a few years earlier, and BGSU, which was undergoing great growth in the 1960s and '70s, were both interested in expanding.

"They used this upward drive and this energy to become more than they were; this was their common ground at that time," Gerber said.

The idea of the exchange was initiated by two Austrians: Dr. Hedwig Fleischhacker, who later taught in the German as a Second Language program at Salzburg, and Dr. Helmut Pellischeck-Wilsdorf, a professor at Pädagogische Akademie (now Salzburg University of Education). They had spent time in Bowling Green in the mid-1960s as guest professors, and wanted to develop a program similar to the summer program at the Internationale Ferienkurse, in which some BGSU students had enrolled to learn German. This cooperation continues to this day, although the institution has been renamed and is called Internationale Sommerkurse or ISK, Gerber reported.

The first year, 25 undergraduates from BGSU and Ohio University left their familiar American lives to spend a year in "this totally different culture," Gerber said. They arrived as a group from northwest Ohio, lived in dormitories and the instruction was completely in German, she said. That first year they paid a total of \$1,825 for tuition, room, board and travel.

Aside from the cost of tuition, which now is about \$9,000 for the year, nothing has significantly changed over the decades. The cost to study in Salzburg is no different than to study at BGSU, Landgraf said, which is one of the selling points of the program.



Nearly 1,500 students have benefitted from Bowling Green State University's partnership with the University of Salzburg.



During his visit this summer, BGSU President Rodney Rogers signed a new agreement to continue the exchange program with the University of Salzburg.

"I tell students they can study all four years in Bowling Green, or study for three years in Bowling Green and one in Salzburg for the same price," he said.

In 1970-71, the first Austrian student came to study at BGSU as part of the exchange program, Gerber said. The Austrian students come by themselves and study a variety of subjects that are usually complementary to their studies in Salzburg. American Cultural Studies is one of the most popular programs, but they can study any field they want.

In 1976-77, the AYA program was expanded to include graduate students earning a master's degree in German. Master's students spend the first year in Salzburg, and the second year in Bowling Green, often serving as teaching assistants for undergraduate German classes at BGSU.

Another important development happened in 1986, when the Max Kade Writer-in-Residence program started. Klaus Schmidt, another important person in the development and growth of the AYA-Austria program, founded the writer-in-residence program. With the help of German-American philanthropist Max Kade and his foundation, the literary program was started to bring a writer to the BGSU campus for a semester.

Howes arranged for three of the former Max Kade fellows to read at the 50th anniversary celebration. Josef Haslinger, Elisabeth Reichart and Peter Rosei joined Howes in the bilingual readings of their work at Literaturarchiv Salzburg.

Life-changing experiences

"Many of the alumni I talked to in Salzburg signified the importance of this program and how it changed their lives," Rogers said. "Bowling Green State University and programs like these are changing lives for the world."

Larry Hansgen, a 1979 alumnus who studied in Salzburg in 1976-77 and is now a well-known radio announcer at WHIO in Dayton, said the reunion provided the opportunity to feel connected again with Salzburg, BGSU and Gerber, who was the program director when he was there, and with some of his former classmates. "Moreover, I was reminded of what that year did to make me who I am today. It was the single most influential event of my life."

In talking with other alumni, Rogers said they told him that studying in Salzburg for the year taught them a global perspective, gave them newfound confidence and provided new connections with people and other cultures.

McKayla Raines, a current BGSU undergraduate student who studied in Salzburg during the past year, and a speaker at the ceremony, thanked the administrators for including the internship opportunities in the study abroad experience.

In addition to developing professional skills in the internship settings, Raines said, "the program provides a different, firsthand narrative of history." The students visit castles, museums and historical sites such as concentration camps and the city of Berlin.

"Learning a language is part of studying abroad, but it becomes more than applied grammar or learning vocabulary," she said. "Most people who study abroad can think back to a moment in which they connected in the language. These are the moments we fall in love with the language and make us feel connected to the culture and successfully integrated into our host community."

"Technology has made the world smaller in some regards, and has helped us," Rogers said. "But until we live together, work together, learn together, and maybe have fun together, we are not truly connected. By doing these things, we grow together, learn to understand one another, and that is about the future of who we are as a world."

ALUMNI

Dorothy (Baxter) Brink '40
 Florence (Ruehle) Wyatt '41
 Arlene (Fisher) Carter '43
 Jack Spelman '43
 Genny (Fett) Graham '44
 Barbara Zahrend '44, '48
 Florence (Wilhelm) Baker '46
 Lois (Luckey) Hovis '46
 Mary (Beeler) Brogden '47
 Nancy (Rice) Graumlisch '47
 Marian (Organ) Hall '47
 Donna (Krouse) Slesnick '47
 Thomas Temple '47, '49
 Virginia (Hillard) Yarger '47
 Douglas Avery '48, '50
 Kathryn (Cook) Crider '48, '51
 Dora (Terbizan) Donovan '48
 Allen Foster '48
 Roy Max '48
 Grayce Scholt '48, '50
 Roger Storey '48
 Betty (Wannemacher) Weber '48
 Ed Kuhn '49
 Robert McClary '49
 Richard Sager '49
 Tom Stubbs '49
 Mary Anne (Richardson) Tigges '49
 William Barnett '50
 Amy (Hall) Elsea '50
 Murray Fleischer '50
 Mercene (Wood) Hanneman '50
 James Michelich '50
 Don Streibig '50
 Augie Brown '51
 Sidney Davis '51
 Richard Grimm '51
 Patricia (Moon) McElwain '51
 Dorothy (Demeter) Sefert '51
 Marcia (Eaton) Tesar '51
 Barbara (Schneider) Van Orden '51
 Don Zeisler '51
 Herbert Bruick '52
 Derry Fishel '52
 Bill Guckert '52
 Edward Miller '52
 William Mitchell '52
 Mary (Gross) Waggoner '52
 Darrell Clay '53
 Maroe (Fletcher) Decker '53
 Barbara (Anderson) Gillespie '53
 Robert Phillips '53
 Nancy (Hirschy) Guckert '54
 Carolyn (O'Connor) Kowalski '54
 Richard Krowicki '54
 Marilyn (Morris) McDougle '54
 Donna (Rossbach) Gatsos '55
 Gordon Pickett '55
 Sally (Kilmer) Rucker '55
 Mary (Lewis) Smith '55
 Florence (Herman) Wheelden '55
 William Menter '56
 James Slinger '56
 William Starkey '56
 Mary (Weis) Van Cleve '56
 Anita (Brownfield) Armentrout '57
 William Hess '57
 Paul Hiser '57
 Sheldon Kadish '57
 George Kalligeros '57, '58, '71
 Roy Lein '57
 Blaine Moody '57, '59
 Richard Mumma '57
 Jim Parker '57
 Dale Roth '57
 Charles Shepherd '57
 Martin Stahl '57, '59
 Robert A. Walk '57
 Paul Cecil '58
 Linda (Nugent) Jacobs '58
 Bill Mallory '58
 Rex McGraw '58, '60
 Ronald Patterson '58
 Denis Baum '59
 Ed Ferkany '59, '60
 Judith (Clark) May '59

Martha (Harmeyer) Schnetzler '59, '61
 Tom Turk '59
 Tom Buis '60
 Dorothy (Miller) Crites '60
 Harold Daup '60
 John Hocevar '60
 William Sijan '60
 Joan (Starinsky) Koehmstedt '61
 Clarence Metzger '61
 Mary (Jump) Popovich '61, '67
 Marilyn (Flevry) Purdham '61
 Bob Spelder '61
 Carolyn (Tille) Viebrooks '61, '63
 Joyce (Miller) Votaw '61
 Jalan Aufderheide '62, '64
 Walter Felgar '62
 Elizabeth (Gardner) Hendricks '62
 Carol (Bay) Hensley '62
 Norman Mohr '62
 Dennis Rohrs '62
 Raylene Rollins '62
 Sandra Sperry '62
 Larry Clark '63
 Richard Cobb '63
 Jon Fenton '63
 Hazel (Klein) Major '63
 Marilyn (Kinney) Sabin '63
 Eric Sager '63
 Sandra (Shanks) Smith '63
 Mary (Siebert) Elliott '64
 Jerald Fenstermaker '64
 Frederick Koester '64
 Jerry Powell '64
 Thomas Rasbach '64
 Waneta (Hussey) Rodeheffer '64, '70
 Thomas Webb '64, '66
 Carol (Samson) Beeker '65
 James Cain '65
 Lynette (Loeffler) Reagan '65
 Gloria (Umnitz) Dewolf '66
 Michael Diemer '66
 Carole (Bundy) Greenhalgh '66
 Barbara (Haneberg) Koehler '66
 Brenda (Roth) Kunkel '66
 Carole (Weaver) Moore '66
 David Rickert '66
 David Conn '67
 Mary (Hoelscher) Huber '67
 Paul Knuth '67
 Cheryl (Lucas) Noll '67
 Linda (Bishop) Fearnow '68
 Thomas Gantz '68
 Richard Gill '68
 Robert Lempert '68
 Christine (Campbell) Low '68
 Janet (Renn) Priest '68, '77
 Patricia (Sandak) Thayer '68
 Robert Witter '68
 Harald Wyndham '68, '69, '71
 Donald Yost '68
 Donna Barcus '69
 Thomas Crabiel '69
 Marcia Dreger '69, '71
 Gary Ignat '69
 Sylvia (Walton) Jackson '69
 Ken Kelly '69
 Gary Kovacs '69
 Daniel Marsh '69
 Rita (Yocom) Stoll '69, '71
 Geraldine (Beam) Adams '70
 Jim Baker '70
 Terry Dillon '70
 Ruth Fangmeier '70
 Christine (Demore) Germaine '70
 Ginny (Van Dyke) Havens '70
 Lee Hierholzer '70
 Ed Karasek '70
 Reza Pazand '70
 Ross Schueller '70, '72
 Ronald Smith '70
 Harold Bower '71
 Dale Dickey '71, '80
 Susan (Foster) Lightcap '71
 Floyd Norman '71
 Gregory Plant '71
 Gary Rothman '71
 Michael Sheffer '71

Harold Zienta '71
 Carol (Bakle) Boger '72
 Mark Bramson '72
 David Craft '72
 Mary Hawkins '72
 Bernard Hohman '72
 Anne Koller '72
 Marjorie (Smith) Seigneur '72
 Mark Stout '72
 Cindy Beck '73, '81, '90
 Deborah (Rhodes) Blake '73
 James Csomos '73
 John Foster '73, '75
 Pamela Rice '73
 Shirley (Eighmy) Timonere '73
 Sandy (Waddell) Young '73
 Mark Chambers '74
 Michael Cline '74
 Katrina Hartman '74
 Judith (Downey) Reinke '74
 Helen (Spitler) Ruhlen '74
 Betty Turk '74
 Marcella Maas '75
 Charles Osborne '75
 Christy Shoup '75
 Darlene Thomas '75, '79
 Charles White '75
 Deborah (Hutton) Whyntott '75
 Raymond Hamilton '76
 Rousseau O'Neal '76
 Ellen Trumbull '76
 Darlene Baugher '77
 Douglas Cox '77
 Helen Steffan '77
 Mary (Talbot) Eberwine '78
 William Frey '78
 Mike Manahan '78, '88
 Milan Marshall '80
 Barry Vrbancic '80
 Daniel Light '79
 Patrick Martin '79
 Paula (Stein) MacDonald '80
 Milan Marshall '80
 Jim Ebert '81
 Wendell Graves '81
 Brenda (Carroll) Hoot '81, '83
 Robert Byler '82
 David Earl '82
 Tim Kinch '82
 Anne Mason '82
 Scott Randall '82
 Beverly Shankwiler '82
 Cheryl (Oberfield) Veronie '82
 Maryellen Longnecker '83, '86
 Kelly (Bird) Bechstein '84
 Rita (Ferenec) Price '84
 Steve Dreyer '85
 Jeffrey Judd '85
 Louise (Kukucka) Jackson '86, '87
 Steven Maas '86
 Jennifer Sutter '86, '99
 Karen Busko '87
 Shelly (Prowant) Coble '87
 Julie Peterson '87
 Julie (Schmeltz) Tate '88
 Kent Clark '89
 Richard Kay '90, '00
 Sharon (Box) Van Den Berghe '90
 Cheryl (Skolosh) Lovell '91
 Charles Aldrich '93
 Virginia Tesar '94
 Darren Tracy '94
 Penny (Donahue) Celestino '98
 Ralph Keller '98
 Gary Rowe '01
 Linda (Barger) Taylor '01
 Eric Ulm '02
 Clarene Veroneau '02
 Robert Fleming '05
 Brandon Gerwin '05
 Paul Kasden '05
 Jessica Aleksander '07
 Dawn Herrington '08
 Thomas Orr '11
 Jordan Kellie '12
 Renata Griswold '13
 Nicholas Kurowski '16

Shawn Brennan '18
 Liz (Augustine) Gaertner *
 Marilyn (McClintock) Riddel *
 John Schwaller *
 Barbara (Duffield) Sheehan *
 Marissa Tudor *
 Robert Vazsonyi *

FACULTY/STAFF

Sylvia Anderson, Faculty
 Robert Byler Jr., Associate Professor of Journalism
 David Elsass, Trustee Professor Emeritus and Dean Emeritus of Educational Administration/Supervision
 Richard Hoare, Professor Emeritus of Geology
 Lawrence Hoffmann, Physical Plant/Classified Staff
 Allen Kepke, Professor Emeritus of Theatre
 Thomas Kinney, Professor Emeritus of English
 Imogene Krift, Office Services Manager
 Genevieve Kurfess, Food Service Supervisor
 Samuel Leimgruber, Classified Staff
 John C. Moore, Vice President for University Relations
 Elfreda Rusher, Professor Emeritus of Business Education
 Correna Schivelbein, Classified Staff
 Kenneth Shemberg, Professor Emeritus of Psychology
 Ronald Smith, Chemical Storekeeper
 Thomas Stubbs, Assistant Professor Emeritus of Health, Physical Education and Recreation/Head Swimming Coach
 Kerry Taylor, Facilities/Groundskeeper
 Darlene Thomas, Director of Advising/College of Arts and Sciences
 Gloria Trumbull, Secretary, Environmental Program
 Jeanne Wojtkowiak, Administrative Assistant, Romance Languages Department

* Denotes an alumna/alumna who attended but did not earn a degree from BGSU.



The Class of 1968 50th Reunion was celebrated Sept. 12-16. Fifty years ago, the class of 1968 flipped their tassels, graduated from Bowling Green State University and changed lives for the world.

CREATIVE CORNER



Joe Szabo '66 was spotlighted in *The New Yorker* in June for the photos he took at Jones Beach in Nassau County, New York, spanning three decades and featured in the book "Joseph Szabo: Lifeguard" (2018). Here, we share some of Szabo's illuminating photos that appeared in the magazine spread.



Creative Corner is a new feature, showcasing creative work of BGSU students, faculty, staff and alumni. To be considered for a future feature, or if you'd like to recommend alumni, email bgmagazine@bgsu.edu.

By Joe Szabo
Graduation year: 1966
Hometown: Toledo
Major: Sculpture

Where do you live now/how long?
Amityville, New York, since 1968

How and why did you get into photography?

My early experience with photography was with my dad, who took Sunday family photos with a Kodak 620 folding camera. In high school, I learned more and was a yearbook photographer. My education continued at BGSU working for the school newspaper and yearbook. After earning my Bachelor of Fine Arts at BGSU, I married my high school sweetheart, Nancy, and went to the Pratt Institute in New York with a graduate assistantship in art. I got hooked on photography at Pratt, where I earned a Master of Fine Art in 1968, and saw how it became a great avenue to capture the feelings and emotions of those around me. I got a teaching position in the New York public school system on Long Island in 1968 teaching art, but continued to study with noted New York photographers and take lecture courses at New York University with world-famous photographer artists and photo documentarians. Early on, I got involved with the International Center of Photography (ICP) where I continued my education, published my first book on photography, "Almost Grown" (1978) and joined the faculty. I taught part time for 20 years, continuing my photography.

Insights for current photography students:

1. Be disciplined, work hard and learn as much as you can, not only about photography, but about life, love and kindness.
2. Get a steady job to pay the bills and support your photography so you can photograph the things you love or are curious about.
3. Always acknowledge the help of anyone who has helped you along your path. No one can make it on his or her own.

Personal/family: I've been married to Nancy for 52 years, have two sons and five grandsons.

CLAS S NOTES

50s

Bill Bittner '54 was inducted into the Medina (Ohio) County Hall of Fame on June 8. Bittner owned two companies in northeast Ohio, Multiple Plans Agency Inc. and W.R. Bittner and Associates. An Army veteran, Bittner served as president of the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors-Ohio, Medina County United Way Board and Medina Area Chamber of Commerce. He also was president of Westfield Center Village Council for 42 years. He earned a Bachelor of Science in business from BGSU.

60s

Linda A. Marshall '64 recently published her memoir, "A Long Awakening to Grace." Marshall received a Bachelor of Science in business education from BGSU.

Mark Raisman '64 is a first-time poet from Canton, Massachusetts. He recently published a book of poetry, "Thoughts on a Given Day." He majored in English and minored in business at BGSU.

William Thauvette '65 was honored by the Truckee Donner Land Trust in Truckee, California, with the naming of a hiking trail in his honor, "Thauvette's Frolic," for his many years of service on the board of directors. During that time, he was treasurer of the board and chair of the finance committee, vice president and board president. Thauvette received a bachelor's degree in business administration from BGSU.

70s

Judge Kevin H. Taylor '73 of Van Wert, Ohio, was appointed to serve as chair of the Ohio State Bar Association Ethics Committee. Taylor serves on the bench of the Van Wert County Probate Court. He is a member of the governing board of the Juvenile Residential Center of Northwest Ohio and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. He also is a former assistant prosecuting attorney, and has served as vice chair of the Ethics Committee.

Deirdre G. Henry '74, a senior labor and employment law attorney of Rocky River, Ohio, has joined the law firm Roetzel & Andress, located in Cleveland and Columbus. Formerly chair of the workers' compensation practice at Weston Hurd, Henry represents employers in workers' compensation cases. She also represents clients in matters involving employment, medical and legal malpractice and employer intentional tort claims. She previously served as an Ohio assistant attorney general, defending the Industrial Commission and the Bureau of Workers' Compensation. She received a Bachelor of Science from BGSU.

The Rev. Mark M. Clinger '75 of Madison, Wisconsin, will retire from his ministry in November. Clinger is the senior pastor of the First Baptist Church of Madison, a position he has held for 28 years. He also was a pastor for 12 years in Massachusetts, serving churches in Newton and Plymouth. Clinger was the first recipient of BGSU's Trustee Scholarship, graduating summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in philosophy.

John Chalmers '76 of Auburn, Indiana, published a book, "Answers from the Gut: Improving Health and Longevity," in July. The book provides a roadmap for minimizing health issues, with the result being improved health and a longer lifespan. It is available in print and e-book formats at Amazon and Barnes and Noble. Chalmers earned a Master of Business Administration from BGSU.

Jan Koenig '76 of Cincinnati recently released her first science fiction novel, "The Fate of the Andromeda III." The novel is about the first manned mission to Mars, and what mystery took place 20 years prior to the mission.

Toni Leon Kovarik '77 of Albuquerque, New Mexico, recently retired after two rewarding careers made possible by the education she received at BGSU. From the fashion merchandising program, Kovarik was a buyer, merchandise manager and strategic planner for LaSalle's in Toledo and the Broadway and Montgomery Ward stores in Albuquerque. Changing direction, she entered the government contracting world, where, based on the College of Business program at BGSU, Kovarik became a licensing executive and small business advocate at Sandia National Laboratories, a Department of Energy national security laboratory, where she designed and implemented programs that assisted small businesses in developing, growing and winning contracts with the federal government. She is married to David Kovarik '76.

Dave Sabo '77, after a 40-year career in banking, was named the economic development director for the City of Bellevue, Ohio.

Warren Hunt '78 recently published a book on the Vietnam War. "Reflections on the Vietnam War" is available in paperback form on Amazon and in e-book form on Kindle. "Reflections" is a historical reflection and autobiographical account of how Hunt experienced the war as a high school student watching it on TV, then as a soldier with a combat unit in Vietnam, and finally, as a readjusting veteran. It also includes his remembrance of the 1982 dedication of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., which he attended.

Paul Shrode '78 and **Anthony Snyder '92** were both recently honored with the Kiwanis International - Boy Scouts of America Community Organization Award. Shrode, secretary of the Appleton-Fox Cities Kiwanis in Wisconsin, has been involved with the Boy Scouts for many years. He earned a Master of Arts in college student counseling and personnel services from BGSU. Snyder was honored as Cubmaster of the Year. He received a Bachelor of Arts in communication from the University.

Maurice C. Taylor '78, vice president for academic outreach and engagement at Morgan State University, received an honorary doctor of humane letters degree and delivered the commencement address at Juniata College's 140th commencement ceremony. Taylor has spent the majority of his professional career as an academic leader at Morgan State, a doctoral research institution that provides instruction to a multiethnic, multiracial and multinational student body. He has a bachelor's degree in sociology from BGSU.

Dr. Kathleen M. Maurer '79, who earned a Master of Music in voice from BGSU, recently was recognized for 15 years of service as a professor of voice at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana. Prior to that she taught for five years at Wright State University in Dayton. After graduating from BGSU, she performed with opera companies in Germany, totaling about 2,800 performances of over 100 operas, operettas and musicals during her 15-year residency.

80s

Patricia Wise '82 of Holland, Ohio, recently testified before the Bipartisan Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues at the hearing, "Beyond the Headlines: Combating Service Sector Sexual Harassment in the Age of #MeToo" and before the California Legislature's Joint Subcommittee on Sexual Harassment Prevention and Response. Wise, who earned a Bachelor of Arts in communication at BGSU, served as a representative of the Ohio State Bar Association to develop an Ohio Judicial College training program requested by Ohio Supreme Court Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor to address the issue of harassment. She was elected as a Fellow of the College of Labor and Employment Lawyers in the Class of 2018.

Karyn M. (Wolven) Bruce '83, a creative writing alumna, recently published her first book of poetry, "I Will Write Loudly So You Can Hear Me." It's a book full of sorrow and joy as well as heartache and glory. The book is about how Bruce survived alcoholic parents and child abuse. The book is available on Amazon.

Kristy Folkwein '85, senior vice president and chief information officer of Archer Daniels Midland in Cincinnati, was recognized by Constellation Research on its Business Transformation 150, an elite list of executives leading business transformation efforts around the globe. The 2019 Business Transformation 150 identifies the world's most influential executives across a variety of industries. Folkwein received a Bachelor of Science in business administration from BGSU.

Dr. Craig A. Mertler '85, former professor of research methods in BGSU's College of Education and Human Development, recently published his first novel, "Tequesta University." It is the story of a professor who becomes entangled in a storyline of missing professors and mysterious murders, set at a fictitious university in South Florida. Mertler is an associate professor in the Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College at Arizona State University, and is the director of the Ed.D

Program in Leadership and Innovation. He has written numerous academic textbooks on the topics of action research, research methods in education, statistics and assessment methods. Mertler has a Bachelor of Science in science education from BGSU.

90s

Dr. Lee Johnson '90, senior vice president of business and finance at Siena Heights University in Adrian, Michigan, recently was elected to the Board of Trustees of the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). Johnson's term began Sept. 1 and will end Aug. 31, 2022. He also was honored by the HLC, receiving the Outstanding Service Award for 2018 for extraordinary work on behalf of the commission and for excellence in assisting HLC in the development and analyses of financial metrics and assessment techniques, as well serving as a mentor for new team chairs and peer reviewers. Johnson earned an MBA from BGSU.

Gail Shanley Corso '91, who earned a Ph.D. in English with a specialty in rhetoric and writing from BGSU, served as editor and one of seven authors of the book "Alice McDermott's Fiction: Voice, Memory, Trauma, and Lies." Corso, professor of English and humanities, also celebrated her 25th anniversary of teaching at Neumann University in Aston, Pennsylvania.

Dr. Solomon Iyobosa Omo-Osagie II '94 of Baltimore recently released a new book, "While in the Wilderness: Essays on Empowerment, Perseverance, and Hope." The book addresses times of spiritual darkness and confusion in which even the most mature of Christians can find themselves. Omo-Osagie earned a Master of Arts in political science from BGSU.

Dr. H. Michael Tarver '95 of Clarksville, Arkansas, was appointed by Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson to the Arkansas History Commission until Jan. 14, 2025. Tarver is a professor of history at Arkansas Tech University and executive secretary of the Southeast World History Association.

Dr. Jennifer McNabb '96, professor and chair of the Department of History at Western Illinois University in Macomb, Illinois, was selected as the Advanced Placement European History Chief Reader, responsible for overseeing the scoring of over 100,000 AP European History exams at the annual AP Reading. McNabb earned a Master of Arts in history from BGSU.

Nathan Boyle '97 was named director of project management at Thread Marketing Group in Toledo. Previously, Boyle had project management success for more than a decade with small firms and major Fortune 500 corporations. His expertise includes advancing projects across methodologies and providing seamless communication. In his new role, Boyle oversees Thread's project management experts and digital projects. He earned a bachelor's degree with a focus on history and political science at BGSU.

Katie Keane '97 of Cleveland recently was named vice president for development for Junior Achievement USA. Keane received a bachelor's degree in recreation administration from BGSU.

Dr. Jeffrey Thoenes '98 is the new superintendent of Comstock Public Schools in Kalamazoo, Michigan. After graduating from BGSU, Thoenes served as a building administrator for 20 years in four school districts, including Bowling Green City Schools. Thoenes earned a Master of Education in educational administration and supervision from BGSU.

00s

Rebecca Schwan '00 was named director of communications of Tecumseh (Michigan) Public Schools. She has led the district's communications department since May 15. Schwan has more than 20 years of experience in the field of communications and marketing, including broadcast news, education and agency environments. She previously served in a similar capacity with the Madison (Michigan) School District and the University of Toledo. Most recently, Schwan worked in public relations for Hart

Associates in Toledo. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in communication from the University and is a member of the Public Relations Society of America.

Dr. Suzanne Chod '02, an associate professor of political science and coordinator of the gender and women's studies program at North Central College in Naperville, Illinois, has been recognized as the recipient of the Clarence F. Dissinger Award for Senior Faculty. Chod earned a Bachelor of Science in political science from BGSU.

Dr. Patrick J. Crerand '02, an associate professor of English at Saint Leo (Florida) University, recently published his first book, "The Paper Life They Lead: Stories." Crerand earned his Master of Fine Arts in creative writing from BGSU.

Dustin Jennings '03 of Westerville, Ohio, has joined the Columbus-based investment management and financial advisory firm Hamilton Capital as investment operations associate. In his new role, Jennings will be responsible for calculating, executing and facilitating daily trades, as well as managing the firm's portfolio management database. He most recently served in global stock plan services for Morgan Stanley and has more than 12 years' experience in financial services. Jennings earned a Bachelor of Liberal Studies from BGSU.

Michelle (Sharpe) Visser '03 of Brookline, Massachusetts, was given the Heroes Among Us award by the Boston Celtics for her work with the nonprofit she founded, Diaper Circle. Diaper Circle collects and distributes diapers in the Greater Boston area to low income families who cannot afford them. Visser earned a Bachelor of Music from BGSU.

Eric Meiring '04 joined the Washington, D.C., law firm Winston & Strawn as a partner in the firm's antitrust/competition practice. Meiring previously was assistant chief of the Criminal II Section at the U.S. Department of Justice's Antitrust Division in Washington. He earned a Bachelor of Science in business administration with a specialization in finance from BGSU.

Dr. Sarah Conrad Gothie '06, '08

published her first book, a culinary history of the damson plum that includes a collection of historic and new recipes. "Damsons: An Ancient Fruit in the Modern Kitchen" was published in August. Gothie, who earned Master of Arts degrees in popular culture and literary and textual studies, respectively, from BGSU, teaches in the School of Humanities at Penn State Harrisburg.

10s

Dr. Callista Buchen '10 of Franklin (Indiana) College was the 2018 recipient of the Faculty Excellence in Scholarship Award. The award recognizes a faculty member's scholarly achievement at the college, as well as their work outside the college. Buchen, who is an assistant professor of English and creative writing, received a Master of Fine Arts from BGSU.

Dr. Andrew Wilczak '11 was awarded tenure and promoted to associate professor of criminology and sociology at Wilkes University in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Wilczak earned a doctorate in sociology from BGSU.

To share your news with Class Notes, send an email to bgsu@bgsu.edu.



New York Times bestselling author Beth Macy '86 published her latest book, 'Dopesick: Dealers, Doctors, and the Drug Company that Addicted America,' which deals with the opioid crisis, in August.



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SCENES FROM BGSU OPENING WEEKEND 2018





A

HARSHMAN MEMORIES



B



C



D



E



F

BG CHAT.

A. Brooke Tokes, Harshman Anderson third floor, 2015. We nicknamed it "Harshhood" or "the hood." It was no Centennial, but it holds so many memories we are all so grateful for. Long live "the hood."

B. Chris Dawson, second floor Bromfield scholars, obviously having a study session, 1988. Me, Buck, Dupe, Stan and some guys I'm having a hard time remembering.

C. Jenny Hartman, HCD Hall Council 2009-2010.

D. Barbara Eckenrode Barr, 1982, third floor Dunbar.

E. Angela, Marie and I didn't live in Harshman, but my friends did!

F. Kylie England, Harshman Anderson 2015. So many amazing memories and amazing girls were met in this hallway. Harshman has a place in our hearts forever!

