

HARDIN-SIMMONS UNIVERSITY

# *Range* RIDER

SPRING-SUMMER 2020



*for*  
**CHRIST  
&  
ETERNITY**

*Online  
Education*

*HSU Heroes  
of COVID-19*

*The WAY  
FORWARD*

**N**ever in my lifetime have we faced a crazy year like this one.

Impeachment proceedings, COVID-19, oil and gas prices, stock market plunge, protests, and social upheaval. Our homes have turned into our offices, schools, and sanctuaries. "Social distancing" has become common language.

So far, 2020 could be just another line of the Billy Joel number, *We Didn't Start the Fire*, which covers 40 years of tumultuous US history in a five-minute song.

When you turn on the news, there seems to be no peace, no hope, and no future.

We have been stretched to imagine a new way of life, a "new normal"—stretched but not broken.

Through it all, Hardin-Simmons has remained focused on one thing: the safety and education of our students. It's what we do, it's who we are. In times of uncertainty, a lot may change, but this will not.

When faced with a challenge, we see the path forward by going back to our roots: "To bring students to Christ, to teach them of Christ, and to train them for Christ."

Joining with our faculty and staff, we are taking actions to ensure now more than ever, that everyone who walks through our doors finds a place to receive a safe, high-quality education enlightened by Christian faith and values.

In this *Range Rider*, you'll read about alumni who are COVID-19 heroes, our

innovative faculty, and staff who turned on a dime to finish the semester for our students, milestones in Coach Coleman's 500th win and the impact that Behrens Chapel has had on so many lives.

I know that as you hear about the awesome things happening with our HSU family, you will gain a sense of hope, peace and excitement for the future at HSU!

When Dr. J. D. Sandefer made the case for building a chapel at HSU, he included in his remarks that it should be built "for Christ and eternity."

This is our commitment at HSU because we know we are on the path forward—to make a difference now and for a brighter tomorrow.



Eric I. Bruntmyer  
President

# RangeRIDER

HARDIN-SIMMONS UNIVERSITY

SPRING - SUMMER 2020

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*Range Rider* is the official publication of Hardin-Simmons University for its alumni, staff, and friends, and is published biannually as a joint effort between HSU's Office of University Marketing and Office of Alumni Relations. Postage paid at Abilene, TX and additional mailing offices. Opinions expressed in *Range Rider* are those of the individual authors and subjects and do not necessarily reflect the views of the university administration, faculty, staff or students. No portion of this magazine may be reprinted without express written consent from the editor at [rangerider@hsutx.edu](mailto:rangerider@hsutx.edu). If you have any questions or concerns, please call: (325) 670-1317 or (800) 460-3908





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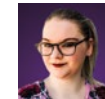
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## TELL HSU YOUR BEHRENS STORY

### BEHRENS CHAPEL: UNITING US ALL

Every building on this campus has its stories. But none touches the life of every student that walks through its doors quite like Behrens Chapel.

For decades Behrens Chapel has stood at the center of our campus and has shaped students' lives which are part of the collective Hardin-Simmons story.

**We want to know your story.**

**Will you share it with us?**

Whether you met a life-long friend at Stampede, heard a message at chapel that forever changed you, or sat mesmerized at a concert, you have a story to tell.



**HARDIN-SIMMONS**  
UNIVERSITY

Email your story to: [RangeRider@hsutx.edu](mailto:RangeRider@hsutx.edu)





# FOR CHRIST & ETERNITY

by Cindy Parks, contributing writer



Excitement is in the air as enthusiastic freshmen crowd their way into the auditorium. The stage lights go up, and Hardin-Simmons University (HSU) President Eric Bruntmyer kicks off Freshman Stampede to welcome this year's incoming class in Cowboy style.

The house lights go down, the curtains are drawn, and the audience is pulled into another world as actors take the stage and the performance begins.

In reverence, students, faculty, staff, and others gather to be inspired, motivated, and spiritually lifted at weekly chapel.

Three very different experiences in one unmistakable spot: Behrens Chapel at Hardin-Simmons.

The practice of chapel—worshiping, gathering and nurturing the faith journeys of so many young people—forms the very heart of HSU. Chapel has taken place in various campus spots over the years, from early days in a wooden temporary structure to today's Behrens Chapel, a multi-purpose home of concerts, convocation, commencement, meetings, theater productions, and most importantly a spiritual sanctuary. Behrens Chapel has become one of the University's most beloved structures. Today considered the "front porch" of the University, it is warm, welcoming, and a visible reminder of our spiritual heritage.







## THE EARLIEST DAYS

In the early 1900s, a long line of young students stood patiently during daily chapel services at what was then Simmons College because there were no seats in the science hall of Old Main that served as the meeting place at the time.

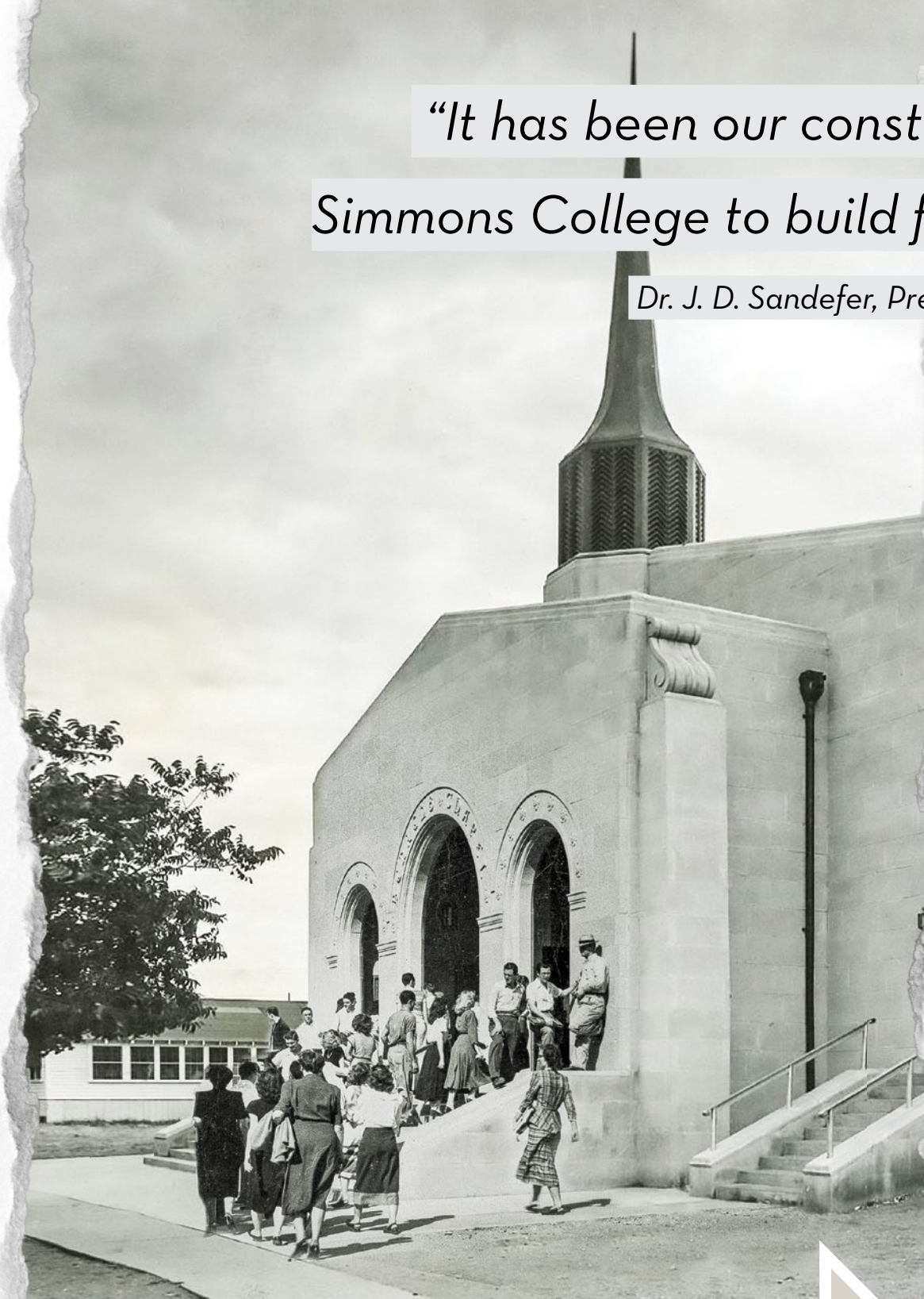
In 1911, some relief came as a small wooden temporary structure was erected to serve as an official hall for gatherings. Located between the sites of Abilene Hall and Sandefer Memorial, while this original building provided some additional room using recycled church pews for seats, it was a far cry from the requirements of the time. It was fittingly referred to by some as the Prexy Tabernacle, alluding to long-time Simmons College President Dr. J. D. "Prexy" Sandefer and his ardent views on chapel attendance.

The university began to expand with more students and more events, and soon outgrew the small structure.

In 1919, Mrs. C. J. McDonald, a resident of Mineral Wells, donated a generous plot of land as an oil royalty on behalf of herself and her late husband, the Rev. C. J. McDonald. Her hope was that the oil royalties would be enough for the College to fund a chapel as a memorial to her mother and father.

In that same year, a Board of Trustees resolution was introduced by President Sandefer to build a dedicated chapel at Simmons College. He did so with the following notations from a board memo "...that it has been our constant aim and purpose at Simmons College to build for Christ and eternity..."

Insufficient resources stalled the project, but in 1928, the shell of a brick building was erected as a starting place with grooves set in place for a future stone facade. The building would stand without its stone coat for nearly 20 more years.



*"It has been our constant aim and purpose at Simmons College to build for Christ and eternity"*

*Dr. J. D. Sandefer, President, Simmons College, 1909-1940*

From its earliest days, the building played host to a diverse line up of many notable speakers and performers including Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, distinguished naval officer and explorer Admiral Richard Byrd, George W. Truett of the First Baptist Church of Dallas, Austrian violinist Fritz Kreisler, and opera singer Ernestine Schumann-Heink.

Although the desire remained to turn the rough structure into a finished building, renovations were further delayed by World War II, building material shortages, differing opinions on the type of structure that would be best, and fundraising struggles.

Then in early 1946, Mrs. W. J. Behrens, widow to the former President of the Board of Trustees, made a large donation for revitalization of the chapel. Additional funding was provided by C. M. Caldwell and George S. Anderson. The project overcame weather and construction cost delays and was completed later that year. With an eye to aesthetics, a limestone exterior and chime tower provided a distinctive and beautiful look to the updated chapel, fittingly located at the center of the campus.



Mr. and Mrs. W.J. Behrens

## BEHRENS CHAPEL TIMELINE

1911

Temporary structure was erected to serve as an official hall for gatherings

1928

Formal building structure now known as "The Original Chapel" was constructed

1946

Chapel was renovated and renamed as Behrens Chapel after W.J. Behrens, former president of the Board of Trustees





The chapel was later appropriately renamed by the Board of Trustees as Behrens Chapel, after Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Behrens, prominent Abilenians and the largest benefactors of the ongoing project.

From the beginning, the chapel was a place of significance and meaning. Perhaps more than any other structure, it exemplified the spirit of HSU as a place of worship, faith and spiritual growth. Nonetheless, several student pranksters have made their mark in its hallowed halls. Alarm clocks were set to go off during long-winded chapel speakers and coins were rolled down the sloped aisles making a loud “clinking” sound at the base of the stage with muffled snickers heard from the anonymous culprits at the back of the room. Other pranks included the release of a team of parachuting mice into the midst of chapel attendees.

One early November morning in 1957 brought disaster to the chapel, just 11 years after its initial renovation. Well-known baritone and pianist Earle Spicer of New York City was performing and several times throughout his performance had to mop perspiration from his brow as he remarked how warm it was on stage. Several chorus students, backing up the musician, noticed resin oozing out of the boards above their heads as they sat backstage. Many suspected the building’s heaters to be the culprit, when actually the building was on fire. Despite firefighters’ best efforts throughout the night to save the building, it succumbed to the blaze and was completely engulfed. Among the rubble was the Baldwin concert grand piano, the organ, scenery, props, lights and several musical instruments.

Four years later, a new chapel was constructed, with a fresh innovative design to be one of the most multi-functional and most attractive facilities in the state at the time. New space on the main floor allowed for more seating capacity in the main chapel and an additional multi-functional auditorium, later known as the Van Ellis Theatre was added. This 3-story building now provided additional balcony space, classrooms, offices and storage on the second floor, and the basement would house mechanical equipment, scenery elevators, and a prop shop for the theatre department.



1957

Original Behrens Chapel burns in a fire

1961

Behrens Chapel was rebuilt with a more modern style and Van Ellis Theatre added



The theatre served as an additional venue for future university and community programs.

At the dedication, then-President Rupert Richardson commented that the newly renovated Chapel would serve as a realization of what President Sandefer had dreamed of and talked about for so many years. He envisioned an outstanding chapel on the campus that would serve as the “spiritual center and soul” of the University.

Congressman and HSU alumnus George Mahon addressed the crowd and pointed out that the “right kind of an education is more important - Christian colleges help motivate the right kind of education that young people today will need to keep America strong and free tomorrow.”

Recalling his most lasting impression at HSU he proclaimed, “It is not a question of how much you can grow at HSU, but rather how much you are willing to grow.”

Over the years, through its many designs, expansions, and uses, Behrens Chapel has always served as a visible reminder of the core Christian culture and faith that permeates HSU. It provides a sanctuary, and a place for community and communion. At the same time, the Chapel reflects the school spirit of HSU, giving graduates and students lasting memories of All-School SING, graduation, Stampede, concerts, meetings, operas, and musical performances that happen within these walls, and the life-long friendships forged there.





## OUR VISION

In early accounts of HSU's history, education centered on religious instruction for its students. Primary programs in music, education and business, among others were offered over the years, all within the context and framework of teaching Christian values and preparation for ministry.

Dr. James B. Simmons expressed this foundational sentiment during his years of influence, holding that "the foundations were well laid, not on the sands of popular enthusiasm or partisan prejudices, but on the firm rock of Christian duty, in loyalty to Jesus Christ."

As Hardin-Simmons University continues to move forward, facing challenges of many kinds, Christian faith becomes ever more important—particularly for students learning to live away from home for the first time, and for those preparing to start their careers. Hardin-Simmons serves as a place of growth and spiritual development to help them meet whatever comes their way. Behrens Chapel serves as an anchor for them, and a reminder of the value, necessity and comfort of community. While the structure may change, the spirit and legacy of the Chapel will not.

## OUR FUTURE OF FAITH AND PROGRESS

We are preparing to embark on a new capital campaign at Hardin-Simmons University with an eye on ensuring the future for the students who come to our campus. Behrens Chapel is central to our mission as a community dedicated to excellence in education, enlightened by Christian faith and values.

We consider Behrens Chapel our "front porch," welcoming students, families, alumni, and visitors to the university and visibly conveying the warmth and spirituality that distinguishes our campus. Behrens is frequently the first and sometimes only building that visitors see inside. In its role as the primary venue for many activities on campus for students and the community, this facility is in need of significant renovation which will be part of our upcoming capital campaign. Plans include improving accessibility to individuals with disabilities, and making the building safer and more attractive. Ultimately, an updated Behrens will help us better serve students and the entire community.

*To find out more information about how you can contribute or make a donation, visit us at: [connect.hsutx.edu/donate](https://connect.hsutx.edu/donate)*











International Chapel worship during International Week 2020. (Left to Right) Evan McGrew '20, Jesper Jiang '20, Josh Seca '23, Mattia Kamazi '21, Felix Duc Nguyen '21, Steven Barnas '16/'19M, Zainab Abdalla '23, Mijia Li '23



# Q&A

w/ **Dr. Victoria Spangler**  
Associate Professor of Theatre

Q: Dr. Spangler, what is your favorite part about the arts?

A: I suppose the universality of the arts is what pulls us. Art transcends the physical—whether it is listening to a piece of music, seeing an image in visual art, hearing words come together in poetry, experiencing the grace of the body in dance, or watching a moment in time play out on stage—the arts are immediate and transitory and take us out of our own heads and into another space. In that space, we experience something unique and fleeting and powerful and often metaphysical. Then, just as quickly, we are back, in our own minds, our own circumstances, but a little more enlightened. A little more connected to the other humans with whom we share the world.

Q: Who do you consider as your role model?

A: Well, I have different role models for the different hats that I wear! While I was the Executive Director of Young Audiences of Abilene, I learned a great deal about working with boards and volunteers and non-profits from Kaye Price-Hawkins. She is a master educator and an extraordinary leader, delegator, and visionary. Her elegance, poise and diplomacy--while always keeping her eye and mind on the purpose and goal of any project--continue to inspire me. When I was a student working on my bachelor's degree, my theatre professor, Marion Castleberry, became my mentor. He inspired me to pursue my master's degree, taught me to view theatre as a craft as well as a passion, and encouraged me to consider teaching. He teaches at Baylor now, in the graduate program, and I still regard him as a powerful model for a theatre professional.

Q: Which production at HSU has been one of your favorites and why?

A: I suppose that the musical *Quilters* falls into that category. I directed it here at HSU five years ago. It is a beautifully written show about women, pioneer women, who settled and survived and built homes and families in the harshest of circumstances and times. The lessons and stories are told through the blocks of a quilt. The music is lovely and often haunting, and the stories are tender, funny, and poignant. But I think that the production was memorable and one of my favorites because of the seven incredibly gifted actresses who gave their all during every rehearsal and performance. Every now and then, a group comes together creating a perfect storm, and those seven young women were it.

Dr. Victoria Spangler is beginning her 6th year as the Associate Professor of Theatre and is also acting as Creative Director for the new Cynthia Ann Parker College of Liberal Arts. She has been teaching students at HSU in various capacities for over 28 years.

Q: What is sometimes challenging about bringing a script to life?

A: Finding a way to tell the playwright's story while also creating your own concept. Striking that balance between being true to the intent of the playwright and adding a part of yourself—why is this story important NOW...in this place...to these people who are performing it and watching it? What is the purpose of the story, the meaning of the story? What is the universal truth of the story? The answers are in the script AND in your personal attraction to the script. Uncovering that is exciting—like mining for the truth.

Q: What is the best advice you have ever been given?

A: One time my brother said, "Just remember...no matter where you go, there you are." I had no idea what he meant. He was 15 years older than me, and we were not particularly close as brother and sister. We were very different, had completely different interests. He was a hunter, fisherman, outdoorsman, and builder. I was a teacher, an artist, an actor, and an academic. But we were proud of each other and supported each other. I guess I was in my twenties when he told me that, and I didn't get it until much later: no matter where you go, you take yourself with you. So it is critical to be happy and content with yourself, inside your own skin, because the outward circumstances do not change who you are on the inside. That's the real deal. Eddie passed away from a sudden heart attack in 1995—he was 51—and I surely do miss him!



# HSU HEROES OF COVID-19

by Nikki Slater

The coronavirus pandemic has left few stones unturned as it ripples across the world, but it has also brought out the best in people as we unite together to fight the spread and do good where it is needed most. Hardin-Simmons students, faculty, and staff alike have offered their services on the frontlines and contributed to local community efforts as well as national level involvement.

HSU's Physician Assistant Program donated personal protective equipment (PPE) to both Hendrick Medical Center's emergency room and Big Country's County Medical Society Alliance. In addition, over 100 bottles of hand sanitizer were donated to Abilene Regional Medical Center. HSU Administrators purchased and provided 600 masks for faculty, staff, and students who needed them and our university was prepared to provide extra beds and patient care for overflow from local hospitals, should they exceed capacity.

HSU President Eric Bruntmyer and Vice President for Advancement, Mike Hammack were instrumental in mobilizing a city wide COVID-19 task force that met regularly to discuss updates, needs, and potential community impact. This helped streamline communication and create efficiencies in coordinating efforts to meet the needs of those affected in our area. In addition, HSU leadership coordinated efforts with city, county, hospital, church, and other leaders to ensure community needs were met. That included examining potential opportunities for food delivery, stocking food pantries, childcare, spiritual care, and more.

Faculty, staff and students from across the University have volunteered in a variety of capacities to help meet the needs of the greater Abilene area and beyond during COVID-19 including TX/Abilene Medical Response Corp., donating blood through our blood drive here on campus, delivering meals, covering shifts at the Abilene Civic Center and assisting the United Way. Here are just some of those stories from the frontlines.



"Nothing could have prepared me for my first shift ... it was gut-wrenching."

(Left to Right) Angela Thomas '12 and Lindsey Ackerman '11 volunteer nurses on the frontlines in New York City.

## HOSPITAL FRONTLINES

### ANGELA (NEWCOMBE) THOMAS & LINDSEY (NEWCOMBE) ACKERMAN

When New York City was drowning in the middle of the COVID-19 fight, two sisters and former Cowgirl basketball players, Angela (Newcombe) Thomas '12 and Lindsey (Newcombe) Ackerman '11 immediately answered the call to help.

"I am an ICU nurse and serving the sickest of patients has always been a calling for me," Ackerman said. "Knowing that there were fellow nurses and patients suffering because the hospitals were overwhelmed, going was a no-brainer for me."

They heard through some of their peers about a company that would be deploying nurses from around the country to New York to work and help alleviate the strain on the city's healthcare system. They signed up on March 25 and were on a flight to New York City just two days later, serving for the next 27 days.

Ackerman was stationed at Elmhurst Hospital in Queens, the most heavily affected hospital, where she helped COVID-19 patients, and her sister ended up working nearby with labor and delivery patients — some who had the coronavirus.

Ackerman said being in America's hottest spot for COVID-19 was surreal.

"I had expectations because of what you see on social media and on TV, but nothing could have prepared me for my first shift at Elmhurst," she said. "Every patient that I saw was fighting for their lives, and they were being cared for by doctors, nurses and support staff who had been sick themselves, or had loved ones who were sick. It was gut-wrenching."

Their shifts began around 7:30 a.m. and ended around 7 p.m. They'd get back to the hotel for a quick dinner, shower, and rest — getting ready to do it all over again the next day.

Both said if needed, they would be willing to go back or to wherever the need is greatest.

[Excerpts from an interview provided to the Fort-Worth Star Telegram]

Lauren Pilcher, current Physical Therapy student during Fall 2019 clinical rotations.

### LAUREN PILCHER

Lauren Pilcher '21 has had to step into some big shoes as she completed her clinical rotations amidst a pandemic. She shared how her experience in the hospital, interacting with patients in the midst of COVID-19 shaped her perspective as a future medical professional.

*"This pandemic has changed my life in more ways than I could have imagined!"*

*"It is the center of every conversation and the center of everyone's attention in the hospital. I come home every day and can still feel the pressure of my face masks and shield on my nose and forehead until I put them back on the next day. Our practice as medical professionals will never be the same and our life as regular humans will never be back to what we used to know as normal. This pandemic truly has been the biggest learning experiences in my academic career, and I know this will be a time that I will tell my kids and future students about."*

—Lauren Pilcher, PT Student





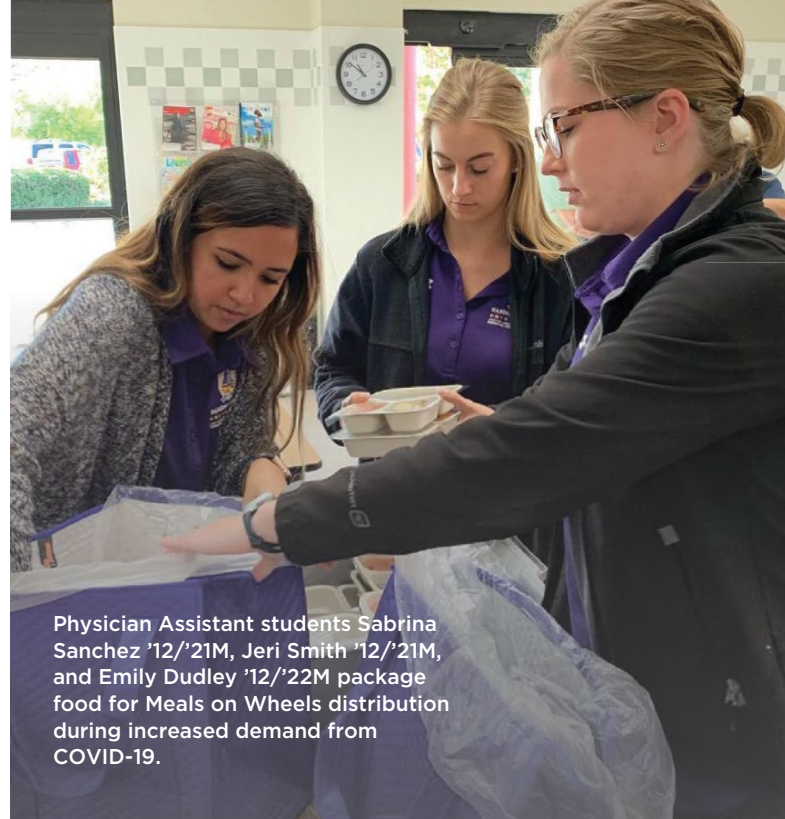
## MENTAL HEALTH FRONTLINES

When COVID-19 hit, mental health came to the forefront as an area that was in demand but under-served. Several of our Physician Assistant students stepped up and started volunteering with 7 Cups, a nationwide organization offering a free online emotional support chat platform. Each volunteer is trained in active listening. As an active listener, students provide emotional support for clients using these techniques to support without judgement, interjecting advice or problem-solving. Participants on the 7Cups.com website may choose to talk to an active listener, join a group chat, or talk to a therapist regarding topics including work stress, student life, social anxiety, sleeping well, self-esteem, loneliness, grief, depression, bullying, and family stress among others.

*"Volunteering for 7 Cups has really opened my eyes into how COVID-19 has truly impacted people. We see stories in the news about the effects of COVID-19, but mental health is rarely talked about."*

*"Sometimes, some people just need someone to talk to, and the 7 Cups website has helped people interact digitally. Lots of people I have talked to are struggling with mental health during this difficult time. Isolation and social distancing can be very challenging, so the website has really opened an avenue for people to connect. This experience has taught me a lot as I embark on my future in healthcare. To me, the most important lesson in the medical field is to listen to your patient."*

—Sabrina Sanchez '12/'21M, PA Student



Physician Assistant students Sabrina Sanchez '12/'21M, Jeri Smith '12/'21M, and Emily Dudley '12/'22M package food for Meals on Wheels distribution during increased demand from COVID-19.

## COMMUNITY FRONTLINES MEALS ON WHEELS

Several of our students have been involved with Meals on Wheels throughout the year but they have also continued with deliveries throughout COVID-19. One of our alums, has also had involvement with Meals on Wheels for years, but the pandemic brought new challenges to the program and more demand. Greg Jaklewicz '80 rose to that occasion by expanding his routes, especially during certain time periods when he himself was furloughed. He was able to use that time as an opportunity to create availability for him to invest in his local community. His route expanded from eight to fifty homes by the end of June.

Greg shared, "I think being a regular visitor and engaging folks has helped during the racial tensions. One of the best gifts we can give, as busy people, is our time. In

a small way, I have tried to help during the coronavirus to keep life normal as can be while wearing a face mask and keeping my distance."

Dr. Robert Tucker '83, our new Dean of the Kelley College of Business and Professional Studies, also has a personal connection to Meals on Wheels. His son, Joel, may have autism, but that doesn't stop him from being involved in his local community and showing love to those around him. Joel has a regular route with Meals on Wheels that he faithfully carries out each week. Joel loves to spend extra time interacting with and showing love and care to the people he serves on his route. This volunteer effort has been especially important during the pandemic since this may be the only contact with others that many in the community have during this time.

## "Essential workers are all affected by COVID-19 in a personal way."

### UNITED WAY

The United Way has long been involved in our communities by coordinating with local organizations for access to health, education, and financial resources. During COVID-19 they were an essential part of the task force that worked to solve the potential and existing problems that the pandemic created.

None work harder than Dr. Cathy (Fisher) Ashby '82, President of the United Way Abilene and HSU Alumnus. When COVID-19 hit and affected school closures and caused hardships for essential workers to find childcare, the United Way worked with the Boys and Girls club to form free, extended hour day camps to service those parents by providing a safe place for their children to go.

They also initiated a Neighborhood Watch Community, which was already planned for 2021 but with the pandemic outbreak, accelerated their timeline. "Safe In Home" recruited volunteers, many from HSU, to be neighborhood "captains" throughout the various communities, that would help respond to needs in their own neighborhoods such as coordinating rides to doctor's appointments, grocery delivery, tending to someone's lawn, or other assistance for those unable to get out due to health risks or disabilities.



Dr. Cathy (Fisher) Ashby '82

### ESSENTIAL STORES

Dirk '80, Melinda '83 and Ben '14 Stricklin, all HSU Alumni, know very well what it has been like to be on the frontlines of COVID-19. They own Savers Cost-Plus Foods in Irving, TX and were one of the first hit hard by the stay at home orders in March. They heard about the order in the media and had to quickly mobilize for the hundreds of customers that would pour into their store over the next few weeks.

They worked tirelessly to keep up with demand by restocking as quickly as possible, but even their local suppliers had real trouble keeping up.

Concerned about their 400+ employees' safety they were one of the first businesses in the area to implement enhanced safety precautions, installing plexiglass shields, providing PPE and implementing extra breaks and cleaning protocols. Dirk credits that early intervention with being fortunate enough to not see any of his employees become seriously ill.

"Essential workers are all affected by COVID-19 in a personal way. We all go home each night, carefully remove what we have worn that day and clean up, attempting to remove anything we might have carried home that day. Many of us had had to separate ourselves from loved ones by practicing social distancing in our own homes to protect those we care about", shared Dirk.

But that doesn't stop the Stricklin family from getting involved and serving those

around them. Seeing the desperate needs of the people in their community inspired them to organize a massive food drive. Partnering with local vendors, churches, and employee volunteers, they were able to provide over 700 crates of food filled with essentials such as pasta, sauce, soup, canned goods, soap, and detergent. The line to receive a food crate started forming at 4:00 a.m. and stretched almost to the county line but volunteers worked until every box had been distributed.

## THANK YOU!

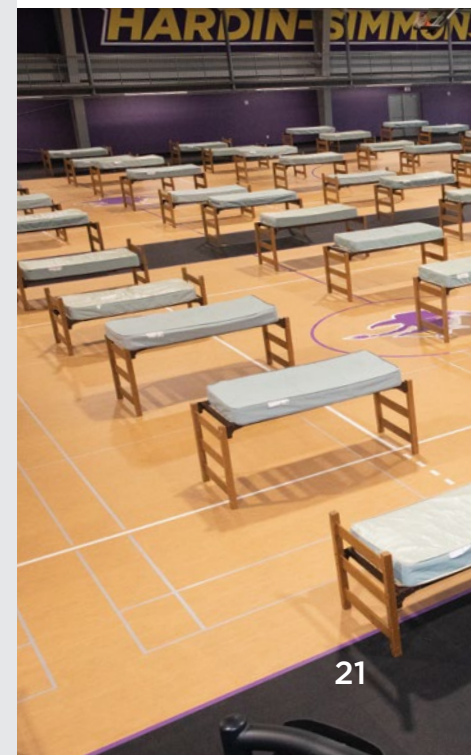
Thank you, HSU family for stepping up when our community needed us most! Each one of you that participated in volunteering during this COVID-19 crisis, helped demonstrate that we are a campus standing on Christian faith and values by being the hands and feet of Christ.

Although supplies have been more accessible, there is still a huge need for our students to have proper PPE available as it is required when they go out on clinical rotations.

*If you would like to donate PPE supplies or contribute towards this particular need, please contact Dr. Janelle O'Connell at [joconnell@hsutx.edu](mailto:joconnell@hsutx.edu)*



(Above) Savers Cost-Plus Foods in Irving, TX distributed over 700 crates of food to the community during COVID-19. (Below) Fletcher Fitness Center and Patty Hanks Shelton School of Nursing were turned into makeshift medical units as HSU prepared to receive overflow patients from Hendrick Medical Center in case of maximum capacity at the hospital. Our healthcare faculty and students were ready as helping hands.







HSU Greek Life sponsored "Pie the President", an event to raise funds for organizations across campus. The presidents of Greek life participated along with (not pictured) President Bruntmyer and students had the opportunity to make a donation to "pie" the president of their choice. (Left to Right) Lauren Moser '21, Alpha Lota Omega; Lauren Monteleone '20, Delta; Macee Hall '20/'23M, Epsilon Pi Alpha; Johnathan Dingle '21, Kappa Phi Omega; Jackson Rogers '20, Theta Alpha Zeta; Julianne House '21, Sigma Alpha; Randy Seng '21, Lambda Alpha Tau





# Prom Party



by Felicity Neptune '20

Every spring, the Hardin-Simmons Social Work Club hosts its annual “Prom Party” by welcoming Abilene foster youth to campus for a day to pick out a prom dress and learn about life at HSU.

Mrs. Melissa Milliorn, professor and head of the Social Work Program at HSU, has volunteered with the Preparation for Adult Living (PAL) program since before 2004 with camps, conferences, college days and other events. Milliorn was contacted by a PAL coordinator in 2005 in hopes of hosting a Prom Party at HSU.

What began as a small party of ten foster youth has now doubled in size and new experiences have been included in the party. In recent years, the party has included activities such as limo rides, fashion shows, and visiting the Six White Horses.

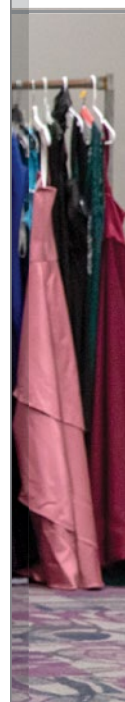
Amanda Ramsey, president of the Social Work Club, said the goal for the party is to give the ladies in foster care the opportunity to pick out their own dress, have fun, and feel beautiful for their spring formal or prom.

“It is an opportunity for our club to celebrate these ladies for who they are and to let them shine for a day,” said Ramsey. “At the end of the day, our goal is to make sure that they feel seen, beautiful, and celebrated simply for who they are.”

Milliorn looks forward to working with the young girls each year.

“We have lots of fun with the girls, hoping to give them a day where they feel seen, heard, and loved unconditionally, where they feel valued and important, and where they can see their potential and dream big,” she said. “It is a special day just for them in which, hopefully for a moment, the worries and stressors of their young lives can dissipate, and they can just be happy young girls.”

Milliorn is licensed by the Texas State Board of Social Worker Examiners as a Licensed Master Social Worker with independent non-clinical practice recognition. She has had direct practice in medical social work as a social worker and case manager at Abilene Regional Medical Center and Girling Health Care as well as child welfare through Child Protective Services, Family Outreach, and the Texas Network for Youth Services.



## HSU ALUM DARRIN RAY FEATURED WITH *I AM SECOND*

**D**arrin Ray '15 is an HSU alumnus who has had a difficult journey.

Born with a bilateral cleft palate, Darrin experienced bullying growing up, which left him bitter and lonely. Most of his life, he felt out of place and without hope. But now, in the newest White Chair film from storytelling organization I Am Second, he's opening up about how he became whole, following a near-death accident that would forever change him.

After experiencing a difficult childhood, Ray was at a point where he finally felt secure in life. He was happily married, living and working in California with his wife and child, with a future that looked very bright. That all changed when a drunk driver collided head-on into his car. This crash caused injuries that took 20 years off Ray's life, resulted in his leg being amputated, and completely broke his spirit.

“I knew I needed to forgive him [the driver], but I didn't want to,” said Ray. “I wanted him to suffer like he made me suffer.”

Although he grew up going to church, he felt like God had forsaken him. The assurance from his friends that God had a good plan on his life felt trite.

But through the regular encouragement from a chaplain dedicated to helping him hope again, Ray realized that he could still serve a purpose despite his injuries.

“Limb loss is not equivalent to life loss,” said Ray. “Out of my despair, God brought me hope. At first, I wanted to die. But now, I want to live.”

Ray re-dedicated his life to Christ and was deeply changed in his commitment to serving Him.

During rehabilitation, Ray found out that the driver was sent to jail, and he was awarded financial restitution. During the restitution hearing, Ray surprised the judge with a request that would ultimately impact both his and the driver's life.

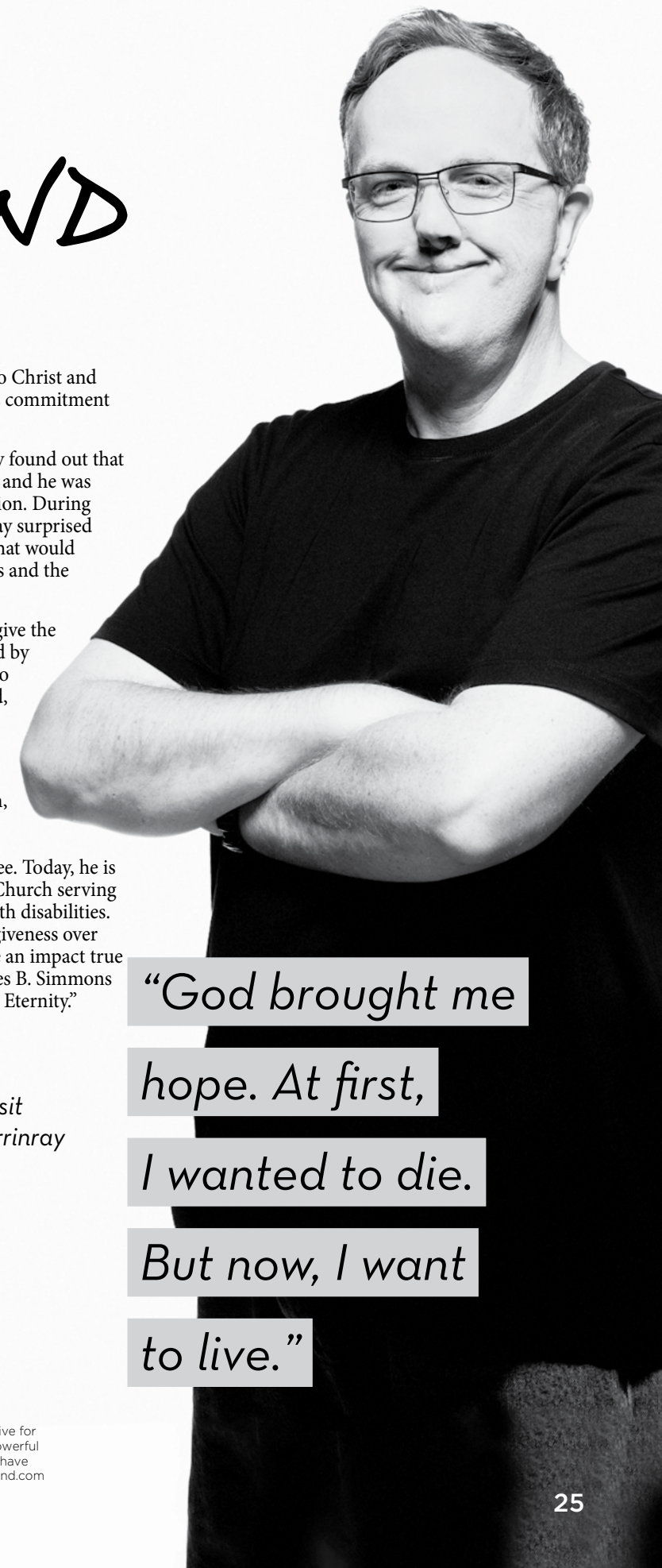
He asked the judge to forgive the man his debt. When asked by the judge why he would do such a thing Darin replied, “Because I have a Savior that forgave me my debts that I could never repay.”

Three years after the crash, Darrin attended Hardin-Simmons University and earned his seminary degree. Today, he is a pastor at Wylie Baptist Church serving older adults and adults with disabilities. His story of choosing forgiveness over anger is one that will have an impact true to the heritage of Dr. James B. Simmons and HSU- “for Christ and Eternity.”

To watch Ray's full I Am Second film, scan this code or visit [iamsecond.com/darrinray](http://iamsecond.com/darrinray)



Courtesy of I Am Second: I Am Second is a non-profit that ignites hope and inspires people to live for something greater than themselves. Launched in 2008, the [iamsecond.com](http://iamsecond.com) website features powerful short films of athletes, actors, models, musicians, cultural influencers and everyday people who have found hope through a relationship with Jesus. Watch their stories and find out more at [iamsecond.com](http://iamsecond.com)



“God brought me hope. At first, I wanted to die. But now, I want to live.”



# BRINGING ONLINE EDUCATION TO THE FOREFRONT

intro by Nikki Slater, article by Dr. Scott Hamm

Whether it is to ride out a pandemic or offer students options for educational content delivery that is outside of conventional classroom settings, online and remote learning opportunities are becoming more and more prominent as an alternative choice.

One thing is certain, remote learning is here to stay, and we must make it an integral part of our educational culture.

HSU has worked hard to do just that over the last several years. Our leaders in education understood that we needed to be able to adapt to an online learning environment to create something that is sustained and productive.

No one has understood that better than Dr. Scott Hamm, HSU's Director of Online Education. Long before the pandemic, Dr. Hamm was dedicated to developing online programs at Hardin-Simmons and under his leadership in 2016, HSU received the Association of Christian Distance Educators Course of the Year award for the top online course in Christian Higher Education. Through a blind peer-review process, the Digital Media and Curriculum Integration course was honored for creativity, innovation, design and ability to instill Christian values.

## INNOVATION IS KEY

Hardin-Simmons, recognized for its innovation, has also received a recent award for Effective Practice from the Online Learning Consortium. The research, conducted by Dr. Chuck Ruot, Wade Ashby, and Dr. Hamm used text messaging to increase engagement and

learning outcomes with online education by reaching out to students with a series of messages—one for the head, one for the heart, one for the hands, and one for help.

The text for the “head” focused on a related article or blog or story that connected with the course content for the week. The message for the “heart” revolved around something inspirational and uplifting. The one for the “hands” related to something tangible that the student could apply practically using the course content for the week. And the message for “help” centered around offering to pray or asking how the professor could assist the student.

During the recent pandemic outbreak, we embraced innovation together as professors, instructors, and students alike quickly pivoted to full-time remote learning throughout the Spring and Summer. In the process, we learned lessons that will help us adapt and change as we move into the future of learning.

## WHAT IS DIFFERENT IN TODAY'S CULTURE OF E-LEARNING?

One of the key questions that people have struggled with has been how do we support each other through the challenge of adjustment and adaptation?

One way to begin is to start an open dialogue with students about how today's culture affects learning. What do their lives look like now, and how can learning complement rather than complicate their new reality?

Second, engage with the crisis: this pandemic is unlikely to last forever, so while it is with us, how can we involve our students in using our academic resources to solve challenges that the pandemic is causing to help us prepare for the future?

For educators, the challenge is how to ensure that student learning outcomes are met in an effective and innovative way.

## CRITICAL CONNECTIONS

At Hardin-Simmons, we value a culture of support by connection. We develop and teach our courses around these four critical connections:

- Teacher to the Student
- Student to the Content
- Student to their Peers
- Student to their Creator

By doing this we ensure that remote learning incorporates our mission and core values of creating an education enlightened by Christian faith and values.

Instructors are encouraged to engage students with the four critical connections in ways that make sense for them and their course, so it may not look the same across courses. However, each module uses a best practice for the four connections. For example, a professor may have a student watch or listen to a lecture that has stopping points built into it to pause where there are key questions the student needs to

answer before they proceed (or they may comment in the video itself). There may be interactive technology such as social media or Zoom with forum discussions where they can engage in conversations about issues or challenges with learning the material or concepts. Additionally, there are vital spiritual activities that incorporate Spiritual development such as devotionals, creating a prayer list, journaling, or reflection. The four critical connections are foundational in every course, but the instructor can make them unique and personal to engage the students.

## EXPANSION OF ONLINE LEARNING

It makes sense in this digital age that we would enable students to incorporate their digital lives into their education.

Many universities are offering innovative, interactive online programs that are just as challenging as face to face programs. In fact, over 28 percent of students across the U.S. are taking some or all of their classes online.

HSU is rising to meet that challenge by expanding our online course offerings and more recently, offering fully online programs such as our Doctorate of Leadership in Higher Education which is moving fully online for the Fall, 2020

semester. This will allow greater reach and accessibility to more students. With this change, this program has already begun to experience program growth.

This year, we will also offer a new fully online undergraduate Business Administration Degree as we aim to serve those non-traditional students who have already started a career but want to start or finish their degree at Hardin-Simmons.

In addition to these new courses and program offerings, HSU currently offers over 10 fully online programs including:

- Bachelor of Science in Business Administration
- Master of Arts in Management
- Master of Business Administration
- Master of Business Administration in Sport Business
- Doctor of Leadership in Higher Education (EdD)
- Master of Science in Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation
- Master of Education in Higher Education and Student Affairs
- Master of Education in Special Education, ABA
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing

As we continue to look to the future of learning, Hardin-Simmons will continue to find ways to increase our digital footprint to match the needs of our current and future students. Online learning allows us to adapt to changing market demand, adapt to remote learning needs, and to continue to take Hardin-Simmons and our message “into all of the world.”

To learn more about online courses or programs scan this code or visit [hsutx.edu/online](https://hsutx.edu/online)





## DR. ROBERT TUCKER *appointed as Dean of Kelley College of Business and Professional Studies*

Dr. Robert Tucker has served in a variety of roles as an educational leader and innovator since joining Hardin-Simmons in 2013.

He has demonstrated excellence in leadership throughout his career in developing programs, innovation in implementation, and adapting to a dynamic educational landscape.

Dr. Tucker has a wide background in the area of finance, administration, and leadership and is currently working on his Doctorate in Business Administration through Grand Canyon University.

He prides himself in being somewhat of a jack-of-all-trades and says, "I wouldn't be happy in a job where I just did one thing." This will prove helpful as Dean of the Kelley College of Business and Professional Studies. One of his immediate contributions is leading the addition of the new fully online undergraduate Business Administration program launching this Fall.

His passion for teaching is evident through his long-standing career in education that includes experience with programs in music education, five years' teaching experience in

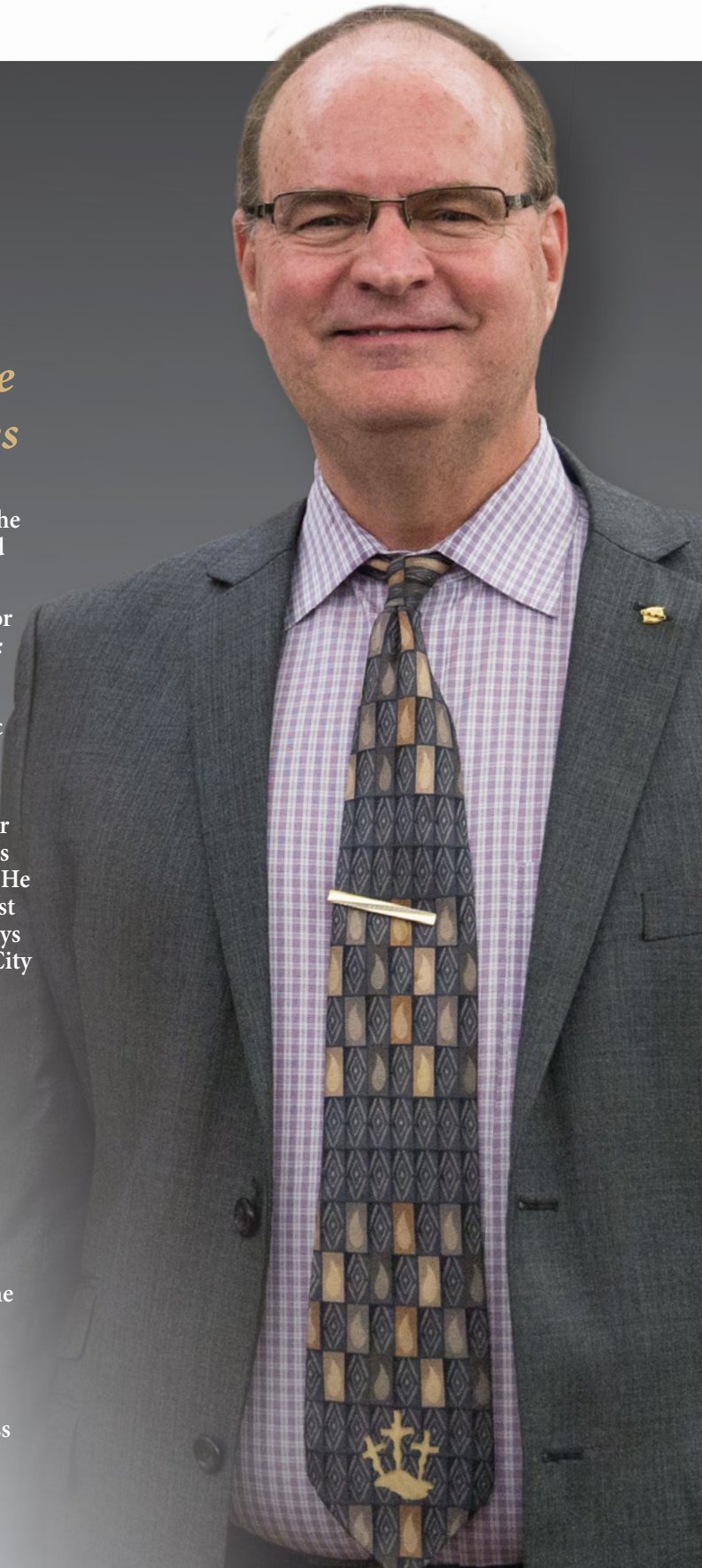
the public schools, service on the school board of Bangs ISD, and teaching abroad.

Dr. Tucker is a published author of his book titled *Like a Crown: Adventures in Autism*, which contemplates the joys and challenges of raising an autistic child.

Previously the Dean of the College of Fine Arts, Dr. Tucker was quick to point out that he is certainly not done with music. He continues to serve as an organist at First Baptist Abilene and plays the French horn with the Key City Brass Quintet that performs in many venues around Abilene.

One of the things Dr. Tucker is passionate about is knowledge. He believes that "the more you know about something the less you fear."

Dr. Tucker is excited about the future of business and finance students at Hardin-Simmons. Recent changes to the Kelly College of Business and Professional Studies will allow HSU to continue providing relevant programs to prepare students as tomorrow's business leaders.



## DR. JANELLE O'CONNELL *appointed as Dean of the new College of Health Professions*

Dr. Janelle O'Connell has been a long-time leader and educator at Hardin-Simmons University. She joined us over 25 years ago after colleague Dr. Bill Gould persuaded her and her husband to move to Abilene to help him start the Physical Therapy program here at Hardin-Simmons.

After Bill's passing just 4 short years later, Dr. O'Connell took over his role as Program Director and has been instrumental in the recruitment and development of the program, always keeping it at the forefront of innovation in Physical Therapy education across Texas.

Dr. O'Connell's passions are woven throughout the programs she leads. As a huge advocate of developing missionally-minded leaders, a graduation requirement was developed for students to complete certain hours demonstrating servant leadership throughout the community. For example, for the last 20+ years, the HSU Physical Therapy program has offered weekly pro bono clinics, and more recently has worked alongside Joni and Friends, a non-profit organization serving patients with disabilities.

Dr. O'Connell's training, along with her previous educational and leadership roles, have all prepared her for this new appointment as Dean of the

newly formed College of Health Professions which includes Physical Therapy, Physician Assistant, Athletic Training, Communication Sciences & Disorders, Kinesiology & Exercise Science and Health Professions Post-Baccalaureate programs.

She has many aspirations for the College but most importantly, "continuing to serve the public with a common goal and interprofessional collaboration." Dr. O'Connell desires to continue to foster the ability for health profession students to interact with each other to better meet their future patients' individual needs, resulting in better patient outcomes.

Some exciting things are already happening in the College of Health Professions. This fall a new Certificate in Anatomy program designed to prepare individuals to teach Anatomy across the country is starting, and next year the College of Health Professionals plans to start a new master's degree program in Communication Sciences & Disorders. These programs, among others, will allow HSU to continue to expand our offerings and prepare our students to meet the increasing demands of the healthcare industry.





## CELEBRATING ACADEMIC SUCCESS

HSU is excited to celebrate the academic success of our students who graduated in December.

- 275 students participated
- 118 bachelor's degrees
- 121 master's degrees
- 36 doctoral degrees awarded

The Honorary Doctorate degree was awarded to Dr. Jay Moore. Jay Taylor Moore is an award-winning historian, author, speaker, and teacher from Abilene, Texas. Mr. Moore received a degree in History and Political Science at Hardin-Simmons University, graduating in 1982.

In 1992, he embarked on what became a 28-year stint teaching Social Studies at Abilene High School with classes in World Geography, Pre-AP World Geography, U.S. History, and 20th Century Americans. In 2001, he taught Global Awareness as an adjunct professor at Hardin-Simmons and are proud to bestow him this honor.

The Master of Physician Assistant Studies Program graduated their first class with their first cohort of 29 students. This inaugural class achieved a 100% board pass rate on their national examinations and won the statewide Medical Challenge Bowl against all other teams in Texas PA programs. The 27-month program began in August, 2017.

These are great examples of HSU's commitment to invest in providing our students excellence in education to meet the demands of the job market now and in the future.

In addition, HSU's faculty and staff are always looking for ways that we can bring valuable, hands-on education opportunities that can be applied through our professions to benefit our community such as the "Stop the Bleed" event held this winter and sponsored by the College of Health Professions. This national program provides hands-on training to prepare faculty and students in Physical Assistant Studies, Physical Therapy, Athletic Training and Communication Sciences and Disorders programs to apply life-saving measures in case of an emergency.



### Dr. Jacob Brewer

*Program Director of the Physical Therapy Program and Professor of Physical Therapy*

Dr. Brewer has been named the Director of the Physical Therapy Program. He also recently received the Texas Physical Therapy Association's (TPTA) William Gould Memorial Outstanding Physical Therapy Faculty Award presented at the 2019 TPTA Annual Conference.



### Dr. Scott Brown

*Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Counseling and Human Development*

Dr. Brown became co-chair of Highland Church Care Team for those experiencing death/loss, began communication to offer departmental counseling services to those involved with Disability In Action, and provided student counseling support for the local Fields of Faith event.



### Dr. Jeffrey Cottrell

*Associate Dean for the School of Music and Associate Professor of Low Brass and Theory*

Dr. Cottrell assembled and rehearsed tuba and euphonium players from the Abilene community and Abilene Christian, Hardin-Simmons and McMurry Universities to present the Oktubafest Concert, which was held October 29th at HSU. He also published a new arrangement of "Walk Like an Egyptian" for tuba ensemble. Dr. Cottrell held the first ever jazz vocal competition and featured the winners with the HSU Jazz Ensemble on December 5. He arranged music for the ACU jazz band to present at Sing-Song this February and arranged "Going Under" by the band Evanescence for performance by the HSU trombone ensemble this spring. In addition, he was selected as the clinician/conductor for the TMEA Region 6 All-Region Jazz Band, which took place February 28-29, 2020.



### Dr. Emily Dean

*Professor of Educational Studies and Director of the Houston-Lantrip Center for Literacy and Learning*

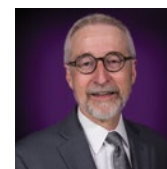
Dr. Dean trained local school districts' Educational Diagnosticians in the identification of dyslexia in the special education population. She provided tours of the Houston-Lantrip Center for Literacy & Learning for local school districts, donors, and other special guests. Additionally, with the COVID-19 pandemic, Dr. Dean transferred all dyslexia therapy services for the Houston-Lantrip Center into virtual therapy and currently provides over 45 therapy sessions a week via Zoom. Dr. Dean has also submitted a letter of intent for the HLC to begin a self-study toward accreditation by the International Dyslexia Association.



### Dr. Jennifer Eames

*Program Director and Associate Professor in Physician Assistant Studies Program*

Dr. Eames was appointed as President for 2020-2021 Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) Big Country. She was also elected President of the Texas Academy of Physician Assistants for a 3-year term (President-Elect, President, and Past-President) on the Board of Directors to begin July, 2020.



### Dr. Robert Ellis

*Dean of the Logsdon School of Theology, Logsdon Seminary, and Professor of Old Testament and Hebrew*

Dr. Ellis presented a lecture on "The Merit of Righteous Women" for the George Knight Lecture Series "Women of the Old Testament", October 28-29, 2019. Dr. Ellis was the speaker for the annual meeting of the Rolling Plains Network of Baptist Churches, FBC Colorado City, for the Pastor-to-Pastor session of the Abilene-Callahan Baptist Association, for the Logsdon Luncheon at the Annual meeting of the BGCT and hosted the Annual Baptist Deans Retreat in San Antonio.



### Dr. Scott Hamm

*Director of Doctorate in Leadership, Director of Online Education and Assistant Professor of Education*

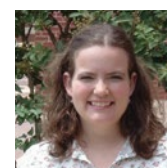
Dr. Hamm's research was published in conference proceedings of The World Conference on Online Learning, Dublin, Ireland. Title of Presentation: Comparing Diverse Student Perceptions of Cultural Competence in Online Learning



### Dr. Leslie Holley

*Assistant Professor of Nursing at the Patty Hanks Shelton School of Nursing*

Dr. Holley served on the Child Advocacy Center Advisory Board and on the Student Health Advisory Committee for AISD.



### Dr. Jemima Ingle

*Assistant Professor of Chemistry at the Holland School of Sciences and Mathematics*

Dr. Ingle was awarded the Advancing the World of Petroleum Geosciences Award of Excellence.





**Dr. Nancy Kucinski**  
*Professor of Management at the Kelley College of Business and Professional Studies*

Dr. Kucinski became certified in Cultural Intelligence from the Cultural Intelligence Center. This certification and training will enable the use of the Cultural Intelligence Center resources for teaching workshops, consulting, administering and interpreting the Cultural Intelligence Assessment instrument.



**Dr. Patrick Miller**  
*Professor of Mathematics and founder of the International Astronomical Search Collaboration (IASC)*

Dr. Miller opened a new web site located at [iasc.cosmossearch.org](http://iasc.cosmossearch.org) featuring a cloud-based pipeline for the distribution of astronomical data. He continues to build a worldwide network of participants with the International Astronomical Search Collaboration, with new celestial discoveries occurring regularly.



**Ms. Dianna Murphy**  
*Certified Nurse Aid Program Instructor at the Patty Hanks Shelton School of Nursing*

Ms. Murphy is the newest faculty member at the Patty Hanks Shelton School of Nursing. She received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Texas Tech in 2013. Her previous experience includes employment in the Department of Education and Professional Development, Mother/Baby Unit, and Labor/Delivery Unit at Hendrick Medical Center. Prior to her appointment as a full-time faculty member, she served as an adjunct instructor for the CNA course since February, 2019.



**Dr. Coleman Patterson**  
*Director of Leadership Studies and Professor of Management and Leadership at the Cynthia Ann Parker College of Liberal Arts*

In January, Dr. Patterson along with several HSU students, completed an all-volunteer, 560-mile, charity bicycle ride across Texas to raise money for those affected by cancer. In February, he traveled with HSU Model United Nations students to participate in the Florida Crisis Simulation at the University of Florida. Students in Dr. Patterson's Great Leaders of History class traveled with him to Texas history sites over a four-day trip at the end of February.



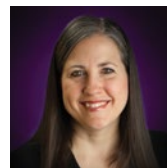
**Dr. Jennifer Plantier**  
*Professor of Business and Marketing at the Kelley College of Business and Professional Studies*

Dr. Plantier is currently working on a Certificate in Graphic Design from New York Institute of Art & Design. Dr. Plantier is involved in fundraising and recruiting for the HSU Lacrosse Club Sports League Organization.



**Dr. Kathy Robinson**  
*Assistant Professor of Physician Assistant Studies at the College of Health Professions*

Dr. Robinson received a Doctor of Health Science degree from Nova Southeastern University in March. She was also awarded Faculty Member of the Year for the Texas Academy of Physician Assistants, and has been named the Academic Director for the PA program.



**Dr. Sherry Rosenblad**  
*Assistant Professor of Psychology and Counseling at the Cynthia Ann Parker College of Liberal Arts*

Dr. Rosenblad was promoted to Associate Professor in HSU's Department of Psychology and Counseling. Last fall she obtained training in Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR), an evidence-based treatment for trauma and PTSD. She will be able to apply this training in her teaching and supervision of HSU undergraduate and graduate students. Additionally, Dr. Rosenblad, along with Dr. Rachael McCormick, adjunct instructor in the Department of Psychology and Counseling, co-authored a manuscript that was recently accepted for publication. This manuscript is titled, "Untapped therapeutic potential: Using sandtray in substance abuse treatment groups," and will be published in the Journal of Creativity in Mental Health.

# your journey is calling

## HARDIN-SIMMONS UNIVERSITY

You'll never find another place quite like Hardin-Simmons University. We are a Baptist university in Abilene, Texas, with rich history and traditions that give HSU a personality as big as the West Texas horizon. Our mission is to be a community dedicated to providing excellence in education enlightened by Christian faith and values, and our students are known for breaking down barriers as they go out and change the world. We are committed to your personal, intellectual, and spiritual development. At HSU, you'll embark on a challenging academic journey, with a nurturing community here to support you all the way.

Get your undergraduate and graduate degrees faster than ever with one of our Fast Track programs - or complete your degree from anywhere in the world through one of our online, Christian degree programs!

### FAST TRACK PROGRAMS:

- BS Biology/Doctor of Physical Therapy  
5.5 years (3 UG, 2.5 GR)
- Exercise Science or Pre-Athletic Training/  
Master of Athletic Training  
5 years (3 UG, 2 GR)
- Online BBS in Business Administration/  
Online Master of Arts in Management  
5 years (4 UG, 1 GR)
- BBA in Business Administration/  
Master of Business Administration  
5 years (4 UG, 1 GR)

### ONLINE PROGRAMS:

- Bachelor of Business Studies in Business Administration
- Master of Arts in Management
- Master of Business Administration
- Master of Business Administration in Sport Business
- Doctor of Leadership in Higher Education (EdD)
- Master of Science in Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation
- Master of Education in Higher Education and Student Affairs
- Master of Education in Special Education, ABA
- Registered Nurse to Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- Master of Science in Nursing (hybrid)





This cannon, also known as Arizona Bill, is a tribute to the HSU students who left the safety of their classrooms in the early 1900s to fight in World War I. It was christened Arizona Bill in honor of Kenneth Burns, an HSU student who was killed during WWI as he carried a message through heavy weapons fire. This cannon was used during the Spanish American War as well as WWI and was refurbished and rededicated in 1958. The paved area around the cannon is the Fort Babe Shaw Memorial and is inscribed with the names of 13 former HSU students who died during WWI.



# THE WAY FORWARD

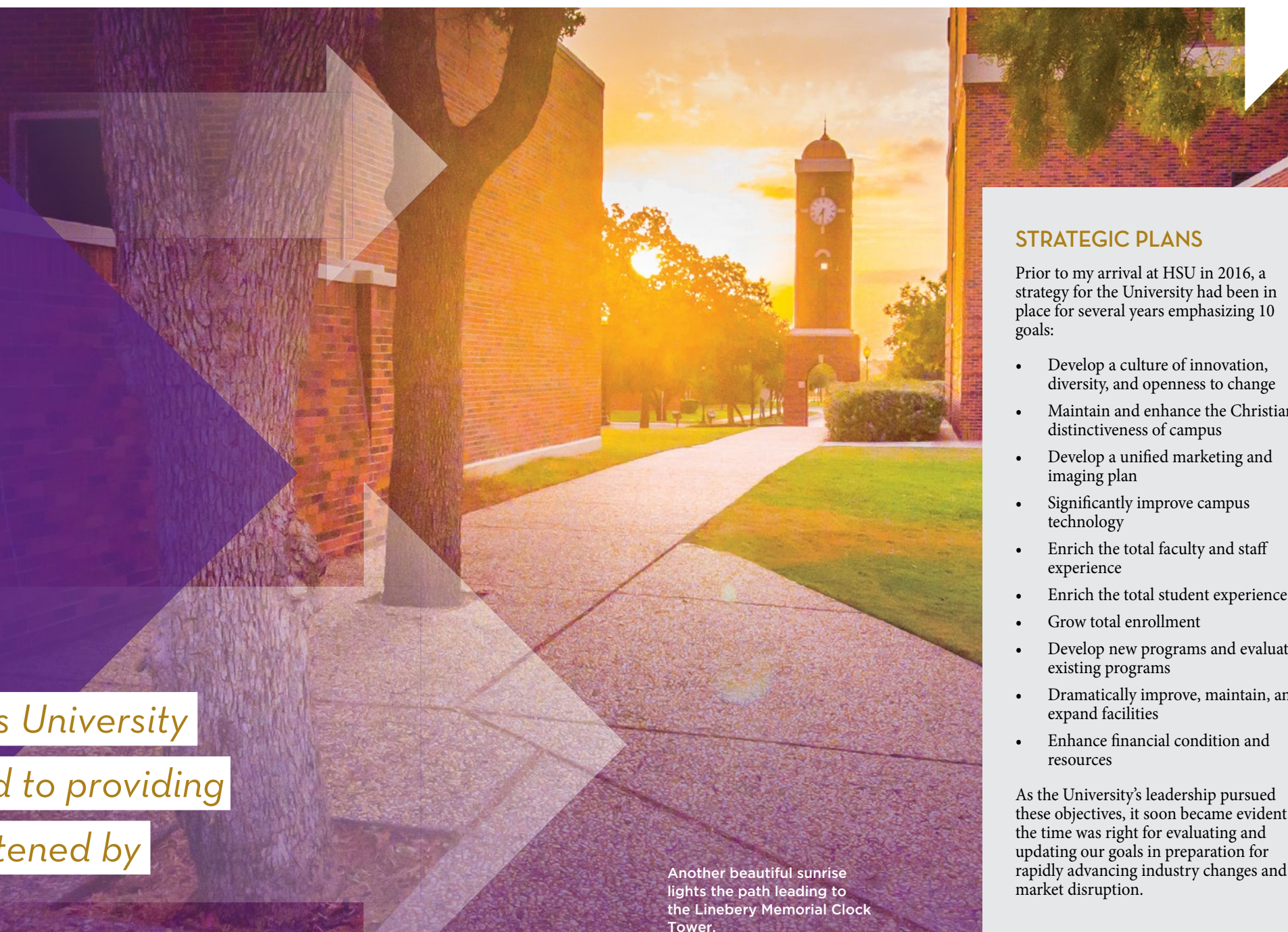
by President Eric Bruntmyer



**F**our years ago, I committed with my family to serve Hardin-Simmons University with dedication, determination and in partnership with faculty, staff and board members who had been carrying the great responsibility of providing education enlightened by Christian faith and values.

Recently, events in our nation and events touching our campus have illuminated more than ever the absolute necessity of providing our students with an education centered in Christ. Only with a strong and vibrant faith are we able to weather the storms of illness and social upheaval, and to provide wisdom for facing today's challenges.

*The mission of Hardin-Simmons University  
is to be a community dedicated to providing  
excellence in education enlightened by  
Christian faith and values.*



Another beautiful sunrise  
lights the path leading to  
the Linebery Memorial Clock  
Tower.

## PLANNING WITH INTENT

Working groups of administrators, faculty, and staff met to re-evaluate and refine each element of the original strategy and to develop new initiatives and metrics related to these refined goals.

The newly established financial goals of The Way Forward Strategic Plan allow HSU to enhance our financial condition and resources. Approved in the February 2020 Board of Trustees meeting, a portion of the financial objectives have already been implemented while other portions are in the final stages of development. Although the financial goals will take several years to accomplish, they are already positioning Hardin-Simmons for excellence and long-term success.

As The Way Forward Strategic Plan development process nears completion, clear initiatives and metrics are being finalized for each of HSU's core areas including academics, enrollment, finances, fundraising, student life, and facilities.

## GOOD STEWARDS

The Way Forward was born out of a desire to be good stewards of the resources entrusted to us by current students, donors, and alumni as well as those who came before us. Good stewardship required us to reduce our operating deficit of more than \$4 million and to preserve our resources for generations of future students.

In order to do that, we will be required to maintain fiscal discipline and ongoing evaluation of each academic program, with a consistent, fair and balanced annual review process to evaluate each program based on a variety of criteria.

This University is dear to our hearts. Our goal is to provide for long-term financial stability, making a cost-effective way of providing an education, and providing programs and facilities that current students want and future students will need.

## STRATEGIC PLANS

Prior to my arrival at HSU in 2016, a strategy for the University had been in place for several years emphasizing 10 goals:

- Develop a culture of innovation, diversity, and openness to change
- Maintain and enhance the Christian distinctiveness of campus
- Develop a unified marketing and imaging plan
- Significantly improve campus technology
- Enrich the total faculty and staff experience
- Enrich the total student experience
- Grow total enrollment
- Develop new programs and evaluate existing programs
- Dramatically improve, maintain, and expand facilities
- Enhance financial condition and resources

As the University's leadership pursued these objectives, it soon became evident the time was right for evaluating and updating our goals in preparation for rapidly advancing industry changes and market disruption.





### HARD WORK UNDERWAY

Today, as a result of hard work, determination and commitment of the HSU community, I am more confident than ever about the direction we are headed.

For the first time since 2013, we are operating on a balanced budget that will result in positive cash flow for the University.

We have focused on adding and growing in-demand programs which equip our students to succeed in the ever-changing job market.

Our intentional decisions to invest in healthcare specialties have produced Physical Therapy and Physician Assistant programs that continue to grow while obtaining top qualifying exam passage rates and highly successful placement of graduates.

Staying true to our Christian faith and values, we have recently added several programs including bachelor's degrees in Christian Studies and Worship Leadership. HSU will continue to invest funds that are dedicated for Christian education and ministry into Biblical studies programs to prepare students to live out the Gospel and share the Good News.

Graduate degrees have also been added in Speech-Language Pathology and Special Education with Emphasis in Applied Behavior while expanding our online degree programs. HSU now offers a fully online Doctorate of Leadership in Higher Education and, this Fall, an online undergraduate Business Administration degree is being launched. These programs provide flexibility and affordability for our students.

To improve the student experience, the campus infrastructure continues to be developed. The new Dr. Jesse and Dorothy Fletcher Fitness Center is already a campus favorite, while the Alline Ford Brown Apartments and Eileen Culpepper Apartments provide additional community living spaces for our on-campus students.

Several residence halls have also received upgrades, and our dining hall is in the process of undergoing renovations.

These are just a few examples that represent our desire to improve campus life for our students.

New lights for football, softball, soccer, tennis and track allow our students to practice at night and provide more daytime hours for classroom instruction. The dedication of our student athletes, faculty, staff, and coaches has resulted in achieving an average academic 3.08 GPA across all our teams. Athletics also continue to excel on the field with Cowgirl Soccer, Track and Cross Country earning American Southwest Conference Championships.

These and other campus updates and additions have improved the overall student experience, providing the foundation for a 10% enrollment increase over the past four years and a 69% retention rate of first-time freshmen returning this year.

### THE WORK IS NOT FINISHED

The Way Forward Strategic plan is a long-term initiative to help guide Hardin-Simmons University's community of students, alumni, faculty and staff in a joint initiative of stewardship with our present and future resources and to embrace the change required of us to boldly prepare for

the future, while staying true to our past of providing an education enlightened by Christian faith and values.

Progressing into the future, no matter how carefully, is always a journey into the unknown. HSU will continue to be guided by what is already well known to our community: the values and traditions which have formed and defined HSU over the decades. Methods may change but principles never do. For 130 years, Hardin-Simmons University has sought to "bring students to Christ, to teach them of Christ, and to train them for Christ."

That will never change.

As you may have heard me say, I am increasingly optimistic and incredibly proud of Hardin-Simmons University. HSU is now positioned to meet the challenges of tomorrow because of the decisions made today.

I hope you'll continue to pray for our board, faculty, staff, and students as we move boldly forward.

*To watch a video detailing our financial decisions and other information about The Way Forward, scan this code or visit [hsutx.edu/wayforward](https://hsutx.edu/wayforward)*



# EXPERIENCE HSU THEATRE

Plan an evening (or several) of captivating theatre!

**20<sup>20</sup>  
21**  
SEASON

SEPT. 11-12	SEPT. 18	OCT. 7-11	NOV. 18-22
<b>DirectFest 2020</b>	<b>Pops at the Pond</b>	<b>Little Shop of Horrors</b>	<b>An Experiment with an Air Pump</b>

	<b>HARDIN-SIMMONS UNIVERSITY</b> COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS	General Admission:	\$10 - 15	<b>VAN ELLIS BOX OFFICE</b> (325) 670-1405 <a href="http://www.hsutx.edu/theatre">www.hsutx.edu/theatre</a>
		Military, Seniors, Students:	\$ 5 - 10	
		HSU Faculty, Staff, Students:	\$ 0 - 5	

**COVID-19 IMPACT & SAFETY:** As we seek to ensure the safety of our actors and audiences this season, check our website for our current policies and safety precautions. Audience capacity may be capped, limiting ticket availability.





## SOFTBALL LIGHTS

Thanks to funds provided by generous donors, Hardin-Simmons' softball team was able to install lights at Lou Morton Ellis Field for the 2020 season.

Initial work on the lights began in December of 2019 and the lights were ready by the start of the season.

"Lights are an important step for this program," said HSU head coach Chanin Naudin. "We can keep players in their classes longer, we have more flexibility with practice times, and we can host tournaments in the future."

"What has been the most exciting part of this process is seeing the people who support HSU softball. We have great supporters, whether they are friends, family, or alumni. We look forward to progressing the program under the lights."

With the growth and success of the Cowgirl softball team, the addition of lights will improve their capabilities in a variety of ways. The lights will allow parents and the community to attend games more easily. It will also allow for night-time practices and

eliminate the need for students to miss daytime classes.

The lights will also enhance the program's recruiting efforts and allow HSU to host tournaments that it has not had access to in the past.

The Cowgirls won the first game under the lights with a 7-5 win over UT-Dallas on Feb. 21 in the American Southwest Conference opener. HSU got to take advantage of the new lights one more time before the season was cut short by COVID-19.

HSU now has lights on all game fields. The soccer complex received lights for the first time in 2018 and Shelton Stadium received new lights that same year. The old lights from Shelton Stadium have been transferred to the HSU track and field complex to allow for early morning and evening practice sessions.

Peyton Newman '22 and Karis Hessert '22 play a Spring 2020 evening game vs. Bellhaven thanks to the softball field lights.



Ed Sprinkle '43X, a former Hardin-Simmons football player, has been elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame for the class of 2020.

The induction ceremony originally slated for August will now be split between two ceremonies and Sprinkle will be part of the Sept. 18 Centennial Celebration in Canton, Ohio.

Sprinkle had always been just on the edge of getting into the Hall of Fame. This year, the Hall of Fame made a change, and he found his way in through the veterans committee.

Sprinkle has long been known for his toughness on the field. No doubt toughness he developed on the farm in Bradshaw, Texas and later as part of some of the best teams in the country in the early 1940s at Hardin-Simmons.

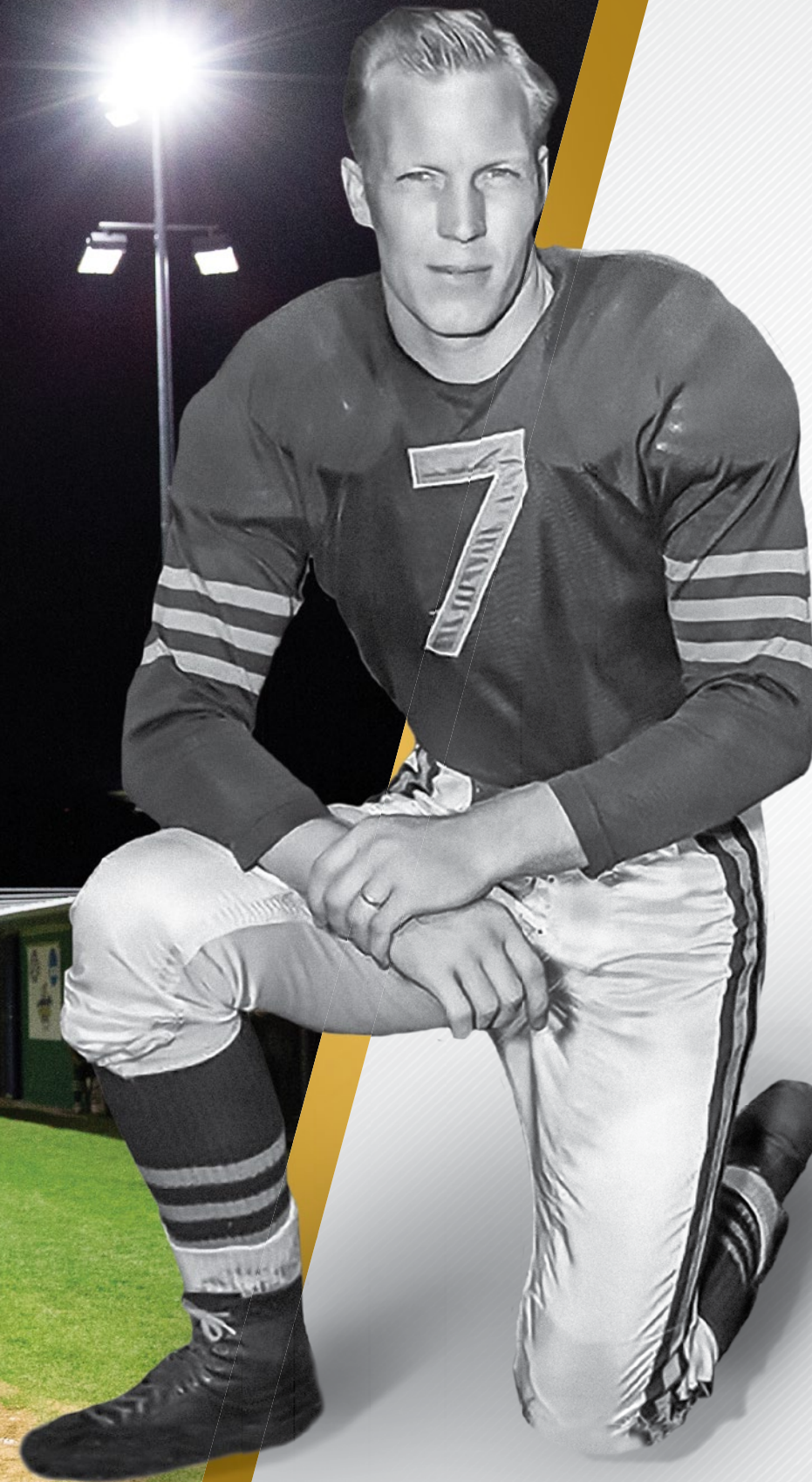
Dubbed by Time Magazine as the "Meanest Man in Football" and often referred to as "The Claw" for his forearm clothesline tackle, he played 13 seasons, his entire career, for the Chicago Bears under legendary coach George Halas, starting in 1944. In his early career he played both offense and defense, however his ability to rush opposing quarterbacks quickly turned him into one of greatest defensive specialists as a pass rusher of the 1950s.

During his career, Sprinkle was named to the all-Pro team on six different occasions and was finally added to the Chicago Sports Hall of Fame in 1994. When he retired, he remained a lifelong Bears fan.

Sprinkle played at Hardin-Simmons from 1941-42 and was part of the 1942 team that went to the Sun Bowl, ending the season with a 9 win, 1 loss and 1 draw record. Sprinkle's teammate with the Bears was also a former Cowboy, Clyde "Bulldog" Turner. Sprinkle was named an all-American, and was an all-Border Conference selection, and was elected to the HSU Athletic's Hall of Fame in 1990.

He becomes the third player with Hardin-Simmons ties to be elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame, along with former HSU Coach Sammy Baugh.

Sprinkle passed away in 2014 at the age of 90. Although he didn't live to see this honor bestowed upon himself, his family was ecstatic about the news and is happy to see his legacy celebrated.





## CELEBRATING 500 WINS

Many on the outside of athletics only see the scoreboard. Did you win or did you lose? For those in the day-to-day grind of preparing young athletes for the game of life through sports they will tell you that the scoreboard is important but what is most important are the relationships that you build along the way.

If you talk to Steve Coleman, he will probably tell you the same thing in his own country way. That is what has endeared him to hundreds of athletes over the last 23 years as the head coach of the Hardin-Simmons baseball team.

But of course, winning is icing on the cake. For the 500th time in the career of the Cowboy head coach, HSU is in the win column. "When I reflect back it's all about the great men I have been able to coach," said Coleman. "The most important thing to me has been the men they have become and the impact they have in whatever they chose to do with their life. When one of them stops in and says hello and we can go back and reminisce about their time here and knowing I had some impact on that—that is what's special.

It's been a long-time coming as the Cowboys lost eight of their last nine games to end last season and then dropped their first nine contests this season. In that stretch, the Cowboys lost eight games by one run. It was the least successful period of Coleman's tenure. The only other time HSU lost nine in a row under Coleman was in 1997, his very first season when HSU lost 14-of-15 games.

"We all know this should have been taken care of last year, and then to add the start we have had to this season," said Coleman. "It's been a wait, but if you are in the game long enough streaks like this happen."

### CELEBRATING HIS SUCCESS

On the flip side, the Cowboys have been the model of consistency under Coleman. HSU has advanced to the ASC Tournament 18 times in his 23 years and has played in the championship game three times. HSU has won at least one game in the postseason in 12 of the 18 appearances. His longest winning streak as head coach was a 12-game streak in 2008.

During his career, there have been plenty of successes with five All-Americans and 25 all-region selections. He has had two ASC players of the year in Shawn Bigham and Michael Simpson. Three Cowboys have been named ASC pitcher of the year: Brian Whitworth, Dalton Rucker, and Kyle Barton.

And in 2006, he became the school's all-time winningest coach with his 217th win!

All of the wins are great, but you can tell more of the impact he has had on his players by the ones that come back and support the program. The annual HSU Baseball golf tournament in the fall is almost always full. When the Cowboys go on the road there are always former players coming to support the team as they play in the metroplex, Concordia, or East Texas. He has Cowboys all over the state.

Coleman sums it up in the best way he can.

"All 500 wins means is that I am old and been doing this a long time. It's not about me, it's about all of the players that have played here. It's about Coach (Brad) Holcomb and all of the other coaches we have had, students, GAs and volunteers. They are what the program is all about. I just get to fill out the lineup card and I am blessed to get to do that."





# HSU ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME

## 2020 HALL OF FAME CLASS



### KAELA PARNELL '10 VOLLEYBALL (2006-2009)

Parnell was a three-time first-team all-ASC selection and a four-time all-ASC West Division selection for the Cowgirls. She was also the league's MVP as a senior. She was a three-time AVCA all-region selection and a two-time All-American, the first at HSU to receive that honor.

Parnell ranks third in HSU history with 1,370 kills, is third in hitting percentage at .331 and is second with 388 career blocks. She was part of the first ASC Championship team in 2006.

She also excelled in the classroom where she was a 4.0 pre-med major. She was awarded an NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship was named a finalist for the NCAA Woman of the Year, was the Distinguished Scholar-Athlete in volleyball and was given the Minnie Anderson Award that goes to the highest achieving woman in the HSU graduating class of 2010. She was a CoSIDA Academic All-American as well.

Kaela is currently a practicing general surgeon at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in New Hampshire.



### BILLY PHILLIPS '52 MEN'S GOLF (1950-1952)

The first of the "great" Cowboy golfers. In 1951, he led the Cowboys to win their first Border Conference Championship. He was the medalist with a two-round total of 149. This was the first of three consecutive Border Conference Championships for the Cowboys. Although a new player for the Cowboys, Phillips' leadership emerged near mid-season and HSU won six of their last seven tournaments.

In 1952, Phillips teamed with HSU hall of famer Tommy Hale to help win the Cowboy's second consecutive conference championship as he took the runner-up spot next to Hale. They set the Border Conference record with a team total of 597, 26 strokes ahead of second-place Texas Tech. Phillips was named to the all-conference team both years. The Cowboys won 15 consecutive matches and had an overall team record of 22 wins and only 3 losses.

After graduating from HSU, Phillips entered the U.S. Army and did his basic training at Ft. Pickett, Virginia. He was selected to be the assistant Golf

Professional at Ft. Sam Houston Golf Course. He remained at the golf course for the balance of his time in the army. While at Ft. Sam Houston, he was selected to represent the 4th Army in the All-Army Championship at Pebble Beach in 1953 and again at Ft. Pickett, Virginia in 1954. The 4th Army team won the Championship both years.

When he left the Army in 1954, he was selected to be the golf professional at Winchester Country Club, Virginia. At the time the club was only nine holes and had 88 members. At his death in 1990, the club had been expanded to 18 holes and had 444 members. Much of the success of the club is attributed to Billy Phillips.

Billy continues to be a legend in Virginia golf circles. For years he was considered one of the best players in the Middle Atlantic PGA. He was always one of the favorites in any tournament he entered. Over the years, he won seven major area tournaments and finished in the top-10 fifteen other times.

Kaela Parnell '10 spikes the ball during her athletic career at HSU.



### HAROLD PRESCOTT '46 FOOTBALL, BASEBALL AND BASKETBALL (1940-43)

Harold "Ace" Prescott was a tight end and co-captain on the 1942 football team that went 9-1-1. The Cowboys defeated Baylor, SMU and North Texas; a 0-0 tie with Texas Tech kept them from a perfect regular season. HSU finished the year ranked No. 24 in the final Associated Press Poll. Prescott was a co-captain on the team and named second-team all-Border Conference.

He also played basketball and baseball for three seasons at Hardin-Simmons.

After college, he served in the Army during World War II. He was wounded at the Battle of the Bulge and was awarded the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star. After the war, he played professional football for the Green Bay Packers (1945-47) and won a world championship with the Philadelphia Eagles (1948-49).

Prescott coached football for 37 years, 14 years in high school sports at Falfurrias, Raymondville, Ranger, and Burkburnett. He then coached 23 years at Cisco Junior College where he retired as Athletic Director in 1987. Prescott passed away May 4, 2002, after a lengthy battle with cancer.



### MICHAEL SIMPSON '07 BASEBALL (2004-07)

An Abilene Cooper product, Simpson was one of the top baseball players for the Cowboys from 2004 to 2007. He is one of just four players in the history of the American Southwest Conference to be named first-team all-division or all-conference three times. He also was a second-team selection as a sophomore.

He started more games than anyone in the non-scholarship era with 168 starts in his career. He is the school's leader in the non-scholarship era in total bases and is second in games played with 168, at-bats (623), runs scored (152), home runs (32), RBIs (156), hits (224), is third in walks with 75 and doubles with 45.

For his career, he hit .360 and was a stellar defensive centerfielder. It's been said by more than one observer that watching Simpson track down balls in center field was almost as fun as watching him hit his moonshot home runs. He hit three home runs in a game at Concordia, which is still tied for the school record for home runs in a game.

Simpson was named the ASC player of the year in 2007. Since graduating, he has been very successful in the music production business in Central Texas.





Hardin-Simmons theatre students perform *The Secret Garden* at the Christian University Theatre Festival hosted by HSU in Spring 2020. (Left to Right) Arianna Reed '21, Aaron Dominguez '20, and Shelby Walker '20





# PLANTING TREES

WE MAY NEVER SIT UNDER

by Britt Jones '84

In 1915, when Mrs. Lucile Sandefer, First Lady of Simmons College, led an initiative to plant 100 pecan trees on the barren campus, which she probably imagined future students studying under their shade and sampling their bounty.

The pecan tree is native to Texas and has been the state tree of Texas since 1919. Some of the campus pecan trees from that first planting years ago are now more than 100 years old.

Others are younger—like a sapling pecan recently planted between Moody Center and Sandefer Memorial. Planted in June 2020 in honor of Paul R. Vasquez '67 and his HSU classmate Moses F. Perales '67, this pecan tree is a testament to God's faithfulness.

While enrolled at HSU, Paul and Moses were friends, fathers, and pastors of area churches. They commuted to campus for classes and, because of a lack of financial resources, they often shared meals with one another. Sometimes when money was really scarce, those meals consisted of pecans they picked up around campus, thanks to Mrs. Sandefer's vision. As Paul says, "It was a struggle, but whether through individuals and churches who provided scholarships, or local community leaders who provided jobs and housing, or just off of His trees, God always provided."

Paul and Moses went on to earn seminary degrees, to pastor churches, and to serve in other ministry roles. They were elected as Mexican Baptist and Baptist General Convention of Texas leaders and leaders in their communities. Paul served as a

Hardin-Simmons Trustee from 1983-1985. For decades, Paul and Moses remained the best of friends and ministry colleagues. Moses went on to be with Jesus in 2014. Paul retired as the chaplain at Hendrick Hospital in 2005 and still resides just a few blocks from the HSU campus.

During Paul's 50th HSU class reunion, his son, Alex Vasquez '85, honored his dad and their dear friend Moses by committing to plant a pecan tree to provide shade, and possibly nourishment, to future students. As Alex says, "God used Hardin-Simmons to change the course of our lives. My dad was the first in his family to graduate from college. I followed in his footsteps as did my sister Cindy '96. My mother Bea and my late brother Mark both took classes at HSU. We owe so much to Hardin-Simmons, and we are grateful for our life-long friendship with Moses, Rachel, and the Perales family."

At 86, Paul still loves pecans and spends hours picking them up from the ten pecan trees on his property, and around HSU, but not for himself. He has them cracked and then sits for hours shelling them before gifting them to family and friends. He sees this as a way of passing on the blessing he and Moses learned to appreciate as students all those years ago.

Paul hopes his story encourages current and future HSU students to always trust that God will provide for them as they pursue their calling to serve others. Look for Paul this fall as he walks around campus remembering God's blessings as he enjoys a pecan or two.





## SOCIAL MEDIA SNAPSHOT



Help us give a HUGE Thank You to the HSU Social Work Club. They really did a FANTASTIC job since this was their first time to volunteer with us this holiday season. They managed to collect almost 300 lbs of food! WE GREATLY APPRECIATE your hard work in helping us collect for those in need this Thanksgiving.

**f Meals on Wheels Plus, Inc**  
Abilene, TX  
November 19, 2019



BIG LITTLE REVEAL DAY! We are so excited for these girls and the journey they're about to go on! We love each of y'all and pray for the best experience!!!

**o sigmaalphahsu**  
January 31, 2020



Here's to national student-athlete day

**o bayleeann23**  
April 6, 2020



Visiting the old stomping grounds today!

**f Aimee Austin**  
May 5, 2020



They may be able to cancel our season but the memories and friendships of this semester will never go away. Thankful we were still able to go to California. I love all of you (including the boys who are not pictured)

**f Emily Shaffer**  
March 13, 2020



Residence Life 2019-2020! Thank you for loving and caring for our students and making their hall a place they can call home. We couldn't do it without you!

**o hslife**  
May 4, 2020



5 years later... cred; @gjpableo

**o madelineee**  
June 14, 2020



HSU Parks and Rocks at Sam and Bridgett's wedding!

**o hodad1**  
June 28, 2020



So proud of this munchkin! She finally got her class ring! We had a family ceremony for her at home since they closed the campus. So proud of you!

**f Blaine Beyer**  
is with **Kyleigh Ane** and **Melissa McKinnon Beyer**  
April 13, 2020



Gilbert, as majestic as ever..  
#GilberttheGoose #HSU

**o clintbuck**  
June 15, 2020



HSU Cookies!

**o theclassycookieco**  
May 30, 2020



I never thought I would ever be interested in playing video games competitively, but here I am. And it's been the most fun I've had since starting college. I've met some of my favorite people since joining and I've had the privilege of being a part of some great projects and events because of the Esports club. Here's to more victories.

**o mrs.kayla.williams**  
February 19, 2020



So extremely proud of this guy of mine for graduating from PA school.

**o chelseaelaine91**  
December 14, 2019

**Stay connected!**  
Follow HSU on social media:

**f hardin.simmons.university**  
**in hardin-simmons-university**  
**t @hsutx**  
**o @hsutx**  
**s @choosehsutx**



## A Box of Memories

A few years ago, we received an unexpected estate gift that is a true blessing for our students. It was not until recently however, that I was able to sort through the box containing the only physical items remaining from the lives of this couple who so generously remembered HSU. There were old photos of people I'll never know, newspaper articles about the passing of a spouse and the lucky four-leaf clover that was attached to the husband's dog tags from the Korean War. It moved me.

Since our founding HSU has had countless numbers of people who have invested their lives in this place. We owe them our debt of gratitude and our commitment to be faithful stewards of their sacrifice.

Frank and Lorene Chambless were such people. Lorene faithfully cared for her husband when he was ill, her mother who lived to be 104, and her cat Blackie. She was a school teacher who also spent time in government social services. Frank served as bombardier on a B26 in WWII

and was called up for duty in the Korean War as well. He attended another purple and gold school in Louisiana and later practiced law in West Monroe, Louisiana.

Their lives represent so much more than the contents of this box. Their legacy lives on. Their influence lives on. The endowment they established through their estate will help young men and women obtain a unique education enlightened by Christian faith and values for generations to come. Those young men and women will then graduate and go out to make the world a better place. We desperately need that now.

Thank you, Frank and Lorene. Thank you to all of you who invest in the cause that is HSU.

*Mike Hammack*

Mike Hammack '85 BA/'89 MBA  
Vice President for Institutional  
Advancement



## The Value of an Education Inspired by Faith



she made with her Tri Phi sisters. A highlight was when Tri Phi won the All-School Sing with their arrangement of songs from *A Chorus Line*.

She feels strongly about giving to HSU and keeping Hardin-Simmons poised for success. "I was fortunate because I got to pursue pre-medical education in a faith-based liberal arts setting with inspiring faculty and make incredible friends for a lifetime. I will personally pray and contribute financially, because I want today's young people to also receive a superior science education at HSU."

Dr. Patterson is currently Professor of Medicine/ Infectious Diseases and Pathology as well as Associate Dean of Quality & Lifelong Learning at UT Health San Antonio Long School of Medicine. Jan's career has spanned professional training and experience that includes noted hospitals and schools such as UT McGovern Medical School in Houston, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Yale School of Medicine, Yale-New Haven Hospital, Audie Murphy VA Hospital and Harvard School of Public Health. While still in her early years of training, she was sponsored by the Southern Baptist Convention's Foreign Mission Board (now the International Mission Board) to work at Bangalore Baptist Hospital in India where her interest was kindled in infectious diseases. She has been recognized in *Best Doctors in America* for multiple years. She has continued her scholarly activity and is an author or co-author of more than 100 peer-reviewed medical publications.

In recent years, Jan has experienced the benefits of

holistic therapies, and she now practices integrative medicine along with her infectious diseases practice and is working with the nursing program at University Health System to build their Integrative Medicine Program.

Along the way, Jan came to know and love a fellow Texan, Dr. Thomas Patterson, who became her favorite collaborator and now husband of 34 years. The couple were blessed to raise their two sons, Evan and Will, amid church, music, neighborhood friends, sports teams, and Scouts. Jan was active in PTA and was a Cub Scout den mother and member of the praise team at The Springs Church.

Jan has seen her fair share of outbreaks having worked with anthrax, smallpox, SARS, influenza and many more contagious diseases. She says, "In a way, we're at war. We're at war with this pathogen." But it is because of her faith-based training at HSU and her past success that she has hope for our current battle.

*You can help HSU educate the next generation of health care providers. To learn about options to maximize your impact, contact Mike Hammack or one of our development officers at: [plannedgiving@hsutx.edu](mailto:plannedgiving@hsutx.edu), (325) 670-1260, or visit us online at [connect.hsutx.edu/donate](http://connect.hsutx.edu/donate)*

As our world battles a global pandemic, Hardin-Simmons graduates are among the frontline defenders. Longtime contagious pathogen and infectious disease and control specialist, Dr. Jan (Evans) Patterson '78 is fighting COVID-19 and working to protect literally millions of people as part of the global effort to resolve this health crisis.

Jan's family connections to HSU are generational; her parents were well-respected campus influencers in their own time. Wayne Evans and Zona (Horn) Evans both graduated from HSU in 1940. Zona served

as a journalist for the Brand and President of the Cowgirls, and Wayne was President of his class and a member of the Cowboy Band. Throughout their lives, both Zona and Wayne continued to inspire and encourage Jan, and they instilled a love for HSU that runs deep.

When it was time to choose a college home, Jan followed her parents' example and enrolled at Hardin-Simmons University where she majored in biology and chemistry. While a student, Jan was active in Tri Phi and Student Congress. She has fond memories of Behrens and Lange Hall, and capers involving the lifelong friends



# a look back

Hardin-Simmons was one of the few colleges to officially sponsor a boxing club on its campus. And in 1950, a team of 8 young men competed in three matches and saw many individual records achieved.

In 1950, the team went on to compete at the Abilene Regional Golden Gloves tournament and came out tied as champions, sharing the trophy with the local Knights of Columbus team.

During his time at Hardin-Simmons, team member Tom Adams became a three-time winner of the state Golden Gloves Light Heavy Weight Championship and earned a final title as the heavyweight champ his senior year in 1950 which earned his spot at the national match in Chicago.



Adams, right, lands a blow on his final opponent in the state Golden Gloves tournament. His victory landed him a spot on the Texas championship team to go to Chicago for the national show.

(Left to right, front row) Tom Adams, Bill Burkhart, Fred Morales, Cotton Fowler, and Ben Young. (Back Row) Hill Smith, Thurman Van Sickle, and Jerry Hailey





# Traveling, Exploring & Adventuring

will soon return &  
the Traveling Range Riders  
will be here for you!

## Discover your next destination!

Mediterranean Fusion, April 8-18, 2021

River Life along the Dutch Waterways, April 24-May 2, 2021

Great Journey through Europe by Train & Ship, June 11-21, 2021

Gaelic Serenade: Southampton-Edinburgh, June 22-Jul 3, 2021

The Majestic Great Lakes: Toronto-Chicago, Aug 16-26, 2021

Village Life around the Italian Lakes, October 9-17, 2021

42nd Oberammergau Passion Play+Danube Cruise, June 16-June 26, 2022

## Traveling Range Riders



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## Family NEWS



### PIONEER DRIVE NAMES DR. JOHN WHITTEN NEXT SENIOR PASTOR

Pioneer Drive is pleased and proud to announce the hiring of Dr. John Whitten '07BA/'11M, HSU alumnus, as their next Senior Pastor.

"I am grateful for the diligent work of our Pastor Search Committee. They followed the lead of God's Spirit throughout this process and He has provided a most qualified and proven leader in Dr. John Whitten. Claudia and I are elated that John is going to be our new Senior Pastor," said Stan Allcorn, current Senior Pastor, who plans to retire at the end of August. "He is a friend, colleague and outstanding servant of our Lord and Savior. The leadership of Pioneer Drive will be in capable hands with John Whitten at the helm."

Dr. Whitten is a Texas Baptist product, born in a Texas Baptist Hospital, raised by a Texas Baptist family, graduated from two Texas Baptist Universities, and served in a Texas Baptist church throughout his tenure in ministry.

"As the narrative of Pioneer Drive continues to unfold through the guidance of His Holy Spirit, it is awe-inspiring to note that He has been at work, developing His man, John Whitten, to be the next

shepherd of our church," said Jimmy Pogue, Chairman of the Pastor Search Committee.

John pursued and received his Doctor of Ministry Degree from Truett Seminary in Waco, graduating in May 2018 with a degree emphasis in Church Leadership. His dissertation was entitled Unity: Helping a Church with Multiple Venues for Corporate Worship Experience Common Connection and Purpose.

"I am beyond excited for the opportunity to serve the wonderful people of Pioneer Drive Baptist Church as the next Senior Pastor," said Dr. Whitten, who will begin his new role this September. "I count this calling as one of life's greatest and most humbling opportunities. I cannot say enough words of gratitude for the Pastor Search Committee and the prayerful way in which they have led this discernment process. The Whitten family has enjoyed our journey at Pioneer Drive thus far and cannot wait to discover all that God will do in this next chapter in our lives and the life of Pioneer Drive."

### 1970s

**Michael C. Metcalf '79**, who serves as the Charlotte VA Health Care Center Chaplain and the Hospice and Palliative Care Chaplain for the Salisbury VA Healthcare System has been selected by the National Association of VA Chaplains (NAVAC) to serve as the Chair for the Hospice and Palliative Care (HPC) Chaplain Specialization Certification Board. Chaplain Metcalf will review the extensive written and experiential requirements of each HPC Candidate, and lead the interviewing process. There are currently thirteen NAVAC Board Certified HPC Chaplains throughout the Veterans Health Administration. Chaplain Metcalf is endorsed for VA Healthcare Chaplaincy by the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

**Dr. David Nelson '86BA/'87MA**, was named the 24th President of Catawba College.

### 2000s

**1 Scott Drinkall '04MA**, recently presented collaborative research on "migration with dignity" for Pacific Islanders facing climate change at the Sasakawa Peace Foundation-Ocean Policy Research Institute in Tokyo, Japan.

**Rafael Hernandez '07ME**, married Candace in early 2019 and welcomed their first baby, Selena, this past November. The family has recently relocated to Fort Worth after living in New York City and Needham, MA. rafael.hernandez@columbia.edu

**2 Mrs. Katie (Davenport) Appleton '09**, married **Scott Appleton '13/'16**, on June 15, 2019 in Abilene, TX. Katie is a teacher at Cooper High School in Abilene, and Scott works for Texas Tech Health Science Center as a mental health clinician.



### 2010s

**Bubba Weckwerth '12BS**, celebrated 5 years with his business Vintage Marketplace in March. He also received his Realtors License and is working with Tommy Simons & Associates. Bubbaweck@gmail.com

**Grace (Mitchell) Sosa '19BA**, married **Carlo Sosa-Ortiz '18** on June 21, 2019; gmtchell130@gmail.com

Editor's Note: All cities are in Texas unless otherwise noted. Email addresses are included when possible. Information reflects submissions received November 21, 2019 to June 30, 2020.

Acronyms: AHOF Athletics Hall of Fame/DAA Distinguished Alumni Award/HOL Hall of Leaders/HD Honorary Doctorate Degree/KASA Keeter Alumni Service Award/LDA Logsdon Distinguished Alumni Award/OYA Outstanding Young Alumni Award



# Welcome to the FAMILY

**1** Myra Claire Brown, daughter of **Hillary (McIntyre) '10** and Joshua Brown, 5/17/19.

Lucas Alan Hannagan, son of **Matt '13 and Bailey (Irwin) Hannagan '14**, 8/2019.

Lucy Jane Thomas, daughter of Jennifer and **Blake Thomas '06**, 11/6/19.

Emrey LouEllen Shaw, daughter of **Brittany (Humber) '09** and Mark Shaw, 11/12/19.

Kannon Krew Finleon, son of Mariah and **Kyle Finleon '06**, 11/19/19.

Editor's Note: All cities are in Texas unless otherwise noted. Email addresses are included when possible. Information reflects submissions received April 15, 2019 to November 20, 2019

Acronyms: AHOF Athletics Hall of Fame/DAA Distinguished Alumni Award/HOL Hall of Leaders/HD Honorary Doctorate Degree/KASA Keeter Alumni Service Award/LDA Logsdon Distinguished Alumni Award/OYA Outstanding Young Alumni Award



You can also submit your news online at: [connect.hsutx.edu/alumniupdate](https://connect.hsutx.edu/alumniupdate) or email [RangeRider@hsutx.edu](mailto:RangeRider@hsutx.edu)

Please note, HSU administration reserves the right to review and include, or reject, any submission made for publication in the Range Rider. Also, because of printing limitations and deadlines, inclusion of news and use of submitted photos cannot be assured for any date or particular issue.

Future Alumni: Please indicate whether the addition to your family is a boy or girl & the full birthdate.

Marriages: Remember to indicate the date & place of your wedding.

Friends We'll Miss: Memorial announcements must be submitted by a family member or be accompanied by a link to or photocopy of a published obituary. Please include class year for all HSU exes in the family.

## Make a Note of your news and accomplishments!

Full Name (include maiden) \_\_\_\_\_ HSU Class(es) \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Title/Company \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse name (include maiden) \_\_\_\_\_

Here's my news (include weddings, births/adoptions, moves, job changes, awards/honors, etc.):

\_\_\_\_\_

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Complete and mail this form to Range Rider News, HSU Box 16102, Abilene, TX 79698.

This information is intended for the Alumni section of Range Rider. We reserve the right to edit your news for length and content.

# Family WE'LL MISS

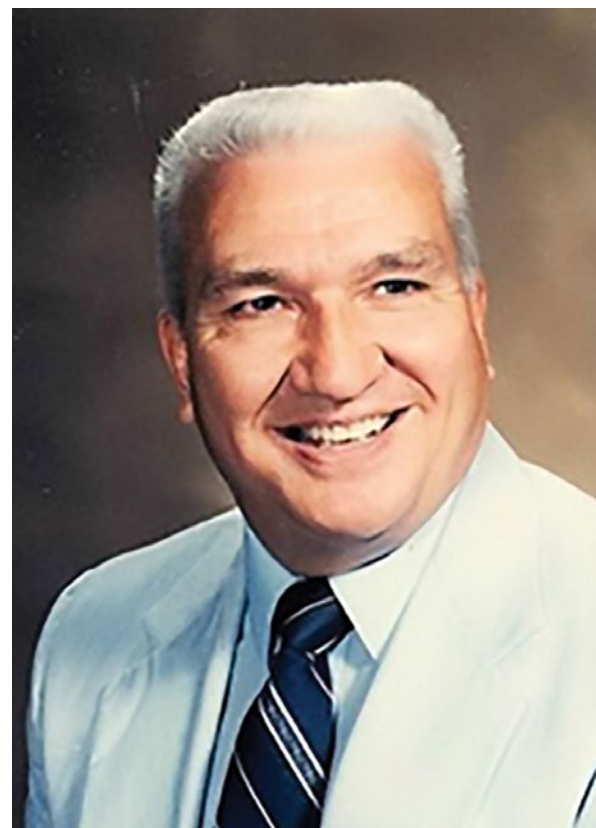


## DONNA SEATON, FORMER STAFF December 25, 2019

Donna Seaton wholeheartedly devoted 25 years of her life to HSU. Dr. Lanny Hall hired Donna as his administrative assistant during his first term as HSU president in 1991. Donna worked for Dr. Hall the 10 years he was president as well as the two years he was chancellor. From 2003-2016, she was administrative assistant to the vice president for finance and management.

Donna gave of herself to campus life and a wide variety of activities. Together, she and her husband Gayland taught a Sunday school class at Pioneer Drive Baptist Church for more than 20 years. They were very active in church, serving in a variety of roles in addition to teaching.

Donna is survived by her loving husband Gayland, their son Eric and his wife Laura (current staff), and their children Abby (current student) and Clark (incoming freshman).



## DR. JAMES SHIELDS, FORMER FACULTY June 3, 2020

James Shields and Corrine Cook met when they were students at Wayland College (now University). They married in the summer of 1953 and both graduated in May of 1955. She taught in the public schools while he attended seminary and served as a pastor. In 1963, he went to work for the Student Department of the Baptist General Convention of Texas and was assigned to Howard Payne College (now University) to be Director of Religious Activities. In 1966 he was invited to join the religion faculty; he accepted the position and continued to serve until 1984. After resigning from Howard Payne, he accepted a faculty position with Hardin-Simmons and taught here until he retired in 1999.

Dr. Shields received the Medal of Service from HPU in 1990 was named Cullen Professor of the Year at HSU in 1993 and was voted Faculty Member of the Year at HSU in 1999 by fellow faculty and staff members. In 1995, he was recognized as

Senior Professor of Theology. His real joy was to interact with students and celebrate their ministry as they followed God's direction in their lives.

Throughout his teaching career and for 14 years after retiring, Dr. Shields served churches 63 times as interim pastor, including serving in that role multiple times for some congregations. He also served churches as a supply preacher and Bible study leader, and he led revivals, retreats, conferences and other special services.

Dr. James Shields is survived by his beloved wife, Corrine; their daughter, Cindy DeJulio '91BE and husband Michael '91BA; son, Jerry Shields '92 BA/'97MA/'00MDiv and wife Kay '97BBS; granddaughter, MichaelAnn DeJulio Black and husband Eric; grandsons, Johnse DeJulio, Caleb Shields and Clayton Shields.



Family WE’LL MISS

**Mrs. Jon Ann (Grisham) Patton ’30x**, 4/2/20. Survived by daughter Pam (Patton) Loper ’82 BEd/’00 MEd.

**Mrs. Jimmie Kate (Tartt) Richards Taylor ’40BA**, 11/22/2019.

**Mr. Arthur Hill ’43x**, 1/20/20.

**Mrs. Lou (McAllister) Lovvorn ’43x**, 2/3/20.

**Dr. Darold Morgan ’44BA/’79HD**, DAA, 12/11/19.

**Mr. Chester O'Brien ’45BA**, 10/20/19.

**Dr. Richard Collier ’45x**, 10/11/19.

**Mrs. Betty Jo (McDermett) Sherwood ’46x**, 9/26/19. Survived by husband John Sherwood ’49BA.

**Mrs. B. Marie (Davis) Otto ’47x**, 12/6/19.

**Mrs. Patsy (Fletcher) Newland ’47x**, 1/12/20.

**Mrs. Alma (Thomas) Kupp ’47x**, 1/15/20.

**Mrs. Norma (Collins) Birdwell ’47BA**, 1/21/20.

**Mrs. Bobbie (Lawson) Lewis ’47BA**, 2/28/20.

**Mrs. Mary (Higgins) Hinkle ’47x**, 3/31/20.

**Mrs. Grace (Tarpley) Hughes ’47x**, 2/1/20.

**Mrs. Dorothy (Hassey) Henry ’47BS**, 5/16/20.

**Mrs. Coza (Nix) Bostick ’48x**, 11/12/19.

**Mr. William "Bill" Morgan ’48BA**, DAA, 12/30/19.

**Dr. William "Dub" Jackson ’48BA/’61HD**, 1/19/20.

Survived by daughter Shirley (Jackson) Roberts ’73x and sister-in-law Billie (Shirley) Martin ’48BA.

**Ms. Bonnie (Bowen) Ward ’48x**, 6/3/20.

**Dr. William "Bill" Thorn ’48BA**, HOL, DAA, 6/22/20. Survived by daughters Jenny (Thorn) Boyko ’68x, Karen (Thorn) Morris ’74x, and Becky (Thorn) Baker ’75x.

**Mrs. Martha (Daniel) Boggs ’48BM/’61MM**, Former Faculty, 11/25/19. Survived by son Jeffrey Boggs ’73x.

**Mrs. Hazel (Faughn) Antilley ’48BS/’84 MEd**, 11/11/19. Survived by daughter Kasaundra (Antilley) Epperson ’71BBA.

**Mrs. Alice (Osborne) Shaw ’49BA**, 12/20/19.

**Mrs. Mary (Keen) Kelley ’49x**, 1/9/20.

**Mr. Garland Erwin ’49BS**, 2/27/20.

**Mrs. Maewyn (Bailey) Herring ’49BA**, 6/29/20.

**Mrs. Donna (Kitchens) Yarbrow ’50x**, 12/3/19.

**Mrs. Helen (Engle) Humphrey ’50BA**, 11/20/19.

**Mrs. Ramona (Benson) Cooke ’50BS**, 12/5/19. Survived by son Randal Cooke ’74x, granddaughter Jennifer Cooke ’06BBA, and grandsons Jacob Reynolds ’07BA/’09MA, Jared Reynolds ’08BBA/’09MBA/ Current Faculty, and Brandon Cooke ’10BBA.

**Mrs. Virginia (Horn) Norwood ’50BA**, 3/14/20.

**Mrs. Lois (Eiland) Welch ’51BS**, 10/31/19. Survived by sister Mrs. Troyce (Eiland) Wood ’56BA.

**Mrs. Bennie Jeanette (Cook) Ramey ’51BA**, 10/20/19.

**Mrs. Laura (McBeth) Thaxton ’51BS**, 12/5/19. Survived by granddaughter Hayley (Thaxton) Hughes ’12BBS.

**Mr. Charles H. Downey, Sr. ’51BM**, 10/20/19. Survived by daughter Catherine (Downey) Lawrence ’79x, and sons Dave Downey ’82BBS and Charles Downey, Jr. ’82BM.

**Mrs. M. Genevieve (Rhodes) Field ’51BS**, 11/21/19.

MR. DONALD CONE ’57BS

June 8, 2020

From 1983 to 1999, Don and Betty Cone had at least one child attending HSU. As students, they were all active on campus, and as alumni they continue to be committed to HSU. All four of them give monthly to HSU.

Surviving Don are his beloved wife Betty, his brother Dale Cone ’59x, daughter Cindy (Cone) Jones ’87BBS, sons Steven Cone ’90BA and his wife Joanna (Horn) ’92BBS, Michael Cone ’97BBS, and David Cone ’99BBS.

More than 15 years ago, Don Cone started a cross cap ministry as a way to encourage people to boldly share their faith. He started giving away baseball caps with a cross on them. He distributed more than 20,000 caps across the U.S. and around the world. At Don's funeral, his family shared the remaining inventory of Don's caps.



(Left to Right, Front Row) Don Cone, Betty Cone, Cindy (Cone) Jones (Back Row) Steven Cone, Michael Cone, David Cone



MARILYN (SEARCEY) GOODIN ’63X

June 14, 2020

Marilyn Searcey and Jeff Goodin met while they were students at HSU and were married in June 1961. They celebrated their 59th anniversary just days before her death on June 14.

Their relationship was admired by many as an example of true love and devotion.

As a student, Marilyn was a Six White Horses Rider and Rodeo Queen. After graduating, she had a very successful career as a realtor, working for Senter Realtors for more than 30 years. A long-time member of HSU's Academic Foundation Board, Marilyn was involved in many community organizations. Together, she and Jeff attended a wide variety of HSU events and were very active members at Abilene's First Baptist Church. Following his retirement from the U.S. Army as a Lieutenant Colonel, Jeff became head coach of the men's and women's golf teams at HSU for 11 years. He has continued to play in HSU's Joe Black Golf Classic.

In addition to her beloved husband Jeff ’60BBA/’73MEd, Marilyn is survived by their daughters: Darla (Goodin) Davis and husband Kenny, Lyn (Goodin) Jones ’86BBA and husband Scott, Leanne (Goodin) Bevins ’94BBA and husband Ken; and grandchildren Jeff Wilkerson ’10BBA, Cameron Jones and wife Hannah, Jordan Jones and wife Morgan, Kaylee Bevins, Addison Bevins, Kennedy Bevins; and one great-granddaughter, Ruth Jones.

Jeff and Marilyn generously established the Jeff and Marilyn Goodin Golf Endowment at HSU in 1995, which they have continued to support.

**Mrs. Wynona (Blakemore) Tapscott ’51BBA**, 4/2/20.

**Mrs. Gloria (Gass) Taylor ’52BS**, 11/9/19.

**Mrs. Emma Jo (Goodson) Vernon ’52BS**, 11/21/19.

**Dr. Paula Windham ’52BA**, 2/21/20.

**Dr. Weldon Viertel ’52BA**, Jesse C. Fletcher Award for Distinguished Service, 2/18/20. Survived by daughter Connie (Viertel) Williams ’77BS.

**Mrs. Patsy (Adams) Liclan ’52BA**, 2/20/20.

**Mr. Carl Chambers ’52BBA**, 4/6/20.

**Dr. William "Bill" Morris, Jr. ’52BBA**, 5/24/20. Survived by wife Mary (Post) Morris ’51BA.

**Ms. Helen (Crow) Smith ’52BBA**, 6/16/20.

**Mrs. Ethel Gene (Tackett) Crow ’53BA**, 12/21/19.

**Mr. Theodore "Ted" Wilson ’53x**, 1/14/20.

**Dr. George Truett Rogers ’53BA**, 03/31/20.

**Dr. William "Bill" Wallace ’53BS**, 5/3/20.

**Mrs. Angeline (Jobe) Entz ’54BA**, 11/14/19.

**Rev. Fred A. Garvin ’54BA**, 11/16/19.

**Rev. Floyd E. Haddock ’54BA**, 12/24/19. Survived by wife Juanita (Stalcup) Haddock ’53x.

**Mr. Chester Lyssy ’54BS**, AHOF, 5/9/20.

**Mrs. Diema (Lewis) Carpenter ’54x**, 2/14/20.

Survived by sisters Voyce LaDell (Lewis) Lemmons ’51x and Mertie (Lewis) Wood ’65BA.

**Mrs. Margie (Poe) Lee ’54BS**, 2/28/20.

**Mr. Glenn Jones ’54BS**, 4/26/20. Survived by wife Moselle (Hutton) Jones ’54BS.

**Mr. Chester Lyssy ’54BS**, AHOF, 5/9/20.

**Dr. Bill Austin ’54 BS/’75HD**, 4/17/20.

Survived by wife Margaret (Heath) Austin ’50x.

**Mrs. Oida L. "Pal" (Schwartz) Quisenberry ’55BS**, 11/8/19. Survived by husband Charles "Quiz" Quisenberry ’55BBA.

**Dr. William "Bill" O'Brien ’55BS**, DAA, Jesse C. Fletcher Award for Distinguished Service, 2/1/20.



Mr. James Hallmark '55BA, 2/27/20.

Mrs. Barbara (Smith) Clark, '55x, 3/11/20.

Rev. Weldon Stevens '55BS, 1/15/20.

Mrs. Myra June (Matthews) Carlson '55BA, 5/3/20.

Mr. Harvey Hanning '55BS, 5/29/20.

Mr. William "Bill" Herring '56BBA, AHOF, 7/9/19.

Mr. Maylon Humphries '56x, 11/3/19.

Mrs. Martha (Dean) Palmer '56BA, 11/20/19.

Mr. Billy Wright '56x, 01/09/20.

Mrs. Katie "Ann" (Hohertz) Bates '56BS, 1/17/20. Survived by husband Hilton "Ron" Bates '54BS, daughters Melissa "Missy" (Bates) Goodall '92BBA and Ronda "Kathryn" (Bates) Grigsby '94BBS.

Miss Dorothy Bernson '56BS, 1/3/20. Survived by sister Norma (Bernson) Raymick '56BS.

Mrs. Roxie (Adams) Watson '56BA, 3/6/20.

Mrs. Charlotte (Eddings) Ware '56BA, 6/5/20.

Mr. Doyle Cole '56BBA, 6/3/20.

Mr. Robert Leon Daniell '56BS, 6/13/20.

Mr. William "Bill" Meads '57x, 10/30/19. Survived by wife Nita (Watson) Meads '57x, daughter Brenda (Meads) Connell '78BBA, and son David "Dave" Meads '94BBS.

Mr. John Fox '57x, 9/18/19.

Mr. Jervis White '57BBA, 12/20/19.

Mrs. Joyce (Putman) Lackey '57BBA, 6/2/19.

Mr. David Hampton '57x, 2/2/20.

Mrs. Clara Mae (Richardson) Smithers '57x, 1/30/20.

Mr. Reynol Vancil '57x, 12/5/19.

Mr. Gene Oliver "Buddy" Cockrell '57BBA, 5/16/20.

Mr. Donald Lewis '57BBA, 5/3/20.

Mrs. Rebecca "Becky" (Helmer) Gray '58BM, 10/27/19.

Mr. James Henson '58BBA, 11/24/19.

Dr. A. Bryant Manning '58x, 11/25/19. Survived by wife Vivian "Gay" (Holmes) Manning '58BBA.

Mr. W. Norris Onstead '58BS, 12/26/19. Survived by wife Maxine (Johnson) Onstead '55x and daughter Janith (Onstead) Miller '73BS.

Rev. Arlie A. Watson '58BA, 2/27/20.

Mrs. Berniece (Anderson) Thompson '58BBA, 3/26/20. Survived by husband James Thompson '57BS.

Mrs. May Marie (Knapp) Irwin '59x, 10/17/19. Survived by daughters Cheryl (Irwin) Morrow '75x and Monica R. Irwin '83BED, and son-in-law Michael Morrow '80x.

Rev. Jimmy Turner '59BS, 12/9/19.

Mrs. Diane (Knightstep) Young '59BS, 1/25/20.

Mr. Jimmy Strickland '59BA, 6/18/20. Survived by wife Peggy (Thigpen) Strickland '60BS.

Mr. Edward "Woody" Wicker '60BBA, 10/6/19.

Mrs. Marline (Gililland) Watson '60BS, 10/24/19.

Mr. Donald Shaw '60BBA, 12/18/19. Survived by wife Dorothea (Willoughby) Shaw '58x.

Mr. Donald Armstrong '60x, 1/15/20. Survived by wife Tammy (Wozencraft) Armstrong '70x and brother Gary Armstrong '59BBA.

Mrs. Anne (Chevalier) Archer '60x, 1/11/20.

Mrs. Annita (Welch) Montgomery '60BA, 1/13/20. Survived by husband Alton Montgomery '60BS.

Mr. Carlton Evans '60BS, 2/28/20.

Mrs. Kathryn Ann (Campbell-Stover) Stewart '61MA, 12/20/19.

Mrs. Patricia (Loden) George '61x, 12/5/19.

Mr. Jerry Stump '61BS, 11/26/19.

Dr. Daniel Yeary '61BA, HOL, DAA, 1/4/20.

Mr. Malrey "Jon" Carothers '61BBA, 2/28/20.

Mr. Don Townsend '62BA, 3/24/19.

Mr. Robert Holladay '62BA, DAA, 12/2/19.

Mr. Raymond Q. Brown '62x, 11/19/19.

Mrs. Brenda (Morris) Hollis '63x, 1/4/20.

Mr. Thomas "Tom" Kendrick '63x, 1/26/20. Survived by wife Julia (Mossman) Kendrick '61BS.

Ms. Wilma (Allred) Clark-Decker '63BS, 4/26/20.

Mrs. Barbara (Allman) Beasley '64BS, 11/26/19.

Dr. Robert Osborne '64BS, 12/9/19. Survived by wife Joyce (Martin) Osborne '70x.

Mr. Mack Scott '64x, 04/06/20.

James Lee "Jimmy" Cozby, '65BA, 8/11/2018.

Mrs. Linda (Wood) Barnes '66BS, 10/14/19.

Mr. Richard "Dick" Pospiech '66BBA, 12/24/19.

Mrs. Vicki (Redwine) Wade '66x, 4/17/20.

Mrs. Bettie (Lindsey) Sansom '67BS, 12/1/19.

Ms. Connie (Parker) Gilbreth '67MED, 6/1/20.

Mrs. Nancy (Ebersole) Green '68BA, 2/6/20.

Mr. Harrel "Stanley" Whisenhunt '68MED, 2/27/20.

Mr. William "Bill" Jonas '69BBA, 11/9/19. Survived by wife Elizabeth (Arp) Jonas '54BS, and brothers Donald Jonas '66BA and Freddy Jonas '58BS.

Mrs. Dixie (Lytle) Boyd '69BS, 3/29/20

Mr. Billie "Bill" Skinner '70BBA, 10/24/19.

Mr. Jimmy Collins '70BS, 3/7/20.

Mr. Stanley Key '70BS, 3/3/20.

Mrs. Annie Clairene (Whitten) Helgeson '70x, Former Staff, 3/30/20.

Mr. Robert McLean '70BBA, 4/13/20.

Mr. Olin Odom '70MA, 6/8/20.

Mr. Glenn Hunsucker '71BS, 04/25/20.

Mr. Kenneth McIlroy '72BBA, 3/2/20.

Mrs. Carolyn (Gibson) Pattillo '73BS, 1/13/20. Survived by husband Allen Patillo '77BS, daughters Stacia (Pattillo) Hines '94x and Jessica (Pattillo) Colvin '00BBS.

Mr. Marshall Walker '74MED, Former Staff, 12/11/19.

Mrs. Anna (Threlkeld) Kimbrough '74BS, 1/19/20.

Mr. Conny Mills '76BBA, 2/1/19. Survived by wife Roxanna (Shepard) Mills '76BBA and daughter Patsy (Mills) Heffernan '01x.

Mr. Marvin Curtis McCain '76BS, 1/26/20.

Mrs. Kathy (Kisinger) Martinez '77BS, 11/20/19.

Dr. Edith (Roberts) Morris '77x. 5/8/20.

Mrs. Brenda (King) Payne '80BS, 10/12/19. Survived by daughter Ann Payne '04BSN.

Mrs. Beth (Bassett) Walker '80MA, 2/8/20.

Mrs. Twila (McCoy-Pruitt) Plant '80BS, 5/19/20.

Mr. Sam C. Hanley '82BA, 11/16/19.

Mr. Randall "Randy" Wood '82BA, 2/15/20.

Mr. Peter Foley '82BA, 3/28/20. Survived by wife Janay (Hadin) Foley '83BBA and brother Mark Foley '72 BBA.

Dr. Wayne Smith '83BBA/'86MBA Former Faculty, 12/21/19.

Mr. Michael Ross '83BS, 12/19/19.

Lt. Col. Thomas "Tom" Meyer '88BBS, 1/20/20. Survived by wife Susan (Duckworth) Meyer '88BBA, daughter Julia Meyer '12BBS, and son Thomas Myer, Jr. '14x.

Mr. Rodney Reeves '88BS, 3/7/20.

Mrs. Grace Leonhart '89BBS, 2/5/20.

Mr. Jeff Armstrong '90BBA, 1/30/20.

Mrs. Jennifer (Fiscus) Crosby '97BSN/BBS, 2/26/19.

Mr. Douglas Wilson '97BBS, 2/1/20.

Mr. Paul Ellison '99BBS, 2/22/20.

Ms. Angela Waggoner '00BS, 5/11/20.

Mr. Phillip Cochran, II '03BED, 10/9/19. Survived by wife Courtney (Morrison) Cochran '03BED.

Sgt. Major Lonnie Rolls '10MED, 1/25/20.

Ms. Ashley Pagano '11BA, 10/22/19.

Mr. James Hensley '13x 2/25/20.

Mr. Juan Banda, Former Staff, 10/13/19.

Mr. Christopher Westbrook, Former Staff, 10/20/19.

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# HSU

# QUICK FACTS



## 1761

UNDERGRADUATE  
STUDENTS

## 582

GRADUATE  
STUDENTS



## 50+

UNDERGRADUATE  
MAJORS OFFERED

## TOP 3

UNDERGRAD  
PROGRAMS

BIOLOGY  
EXERCISE SCIENCE  
BUSINESS  
ADMINISTRATION

LOCATED IN  
**ABILENE, TX**



## HSU'S MISSION

TO BE A **COMMUNITY**  
DEDICATED TO PROVIDING  
**EXCELLENCE IN  
EDUCATION**  
ENLIGHTENED BY  
**CHRISTIAN FAITH  
& VALUES**

HSU OFFERS  
**20+**

GRADUATE  
PROGRAMS



## DISTINCTIVE PROGRAMS

HONORS  
FAST TRACK THROUGH  
GRAD SCHOOL  
STUDY ABROAD



## HEALTH SCIENCES

NURSING  
PHYSICAL THERAPY  
PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT  
BEHAVIOR ANALYST

## TOP

GRADUATE  
PROGRAMS

DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL  
THERAPY  
PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT  
BUSINESS  
ADMINISTRATION

## WHAT IS UNITY?

DR. TRAVIS CRAVER  
DIRECTOR OF CHAPEL  
AND SPIRITUAL FORMATION

*“For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility.”*

*Ephesians 2:14-16*

DEVOTIONAL

**W**e have all heard the phrase divide and conquer. In war, this strategy forces the enemy to divide their defenses and leaves them vulnerable. Satan uses these same tactics against the body of Christ. He seeks to divide and conquer because he knows that a disunified church is weak.

But what is unity? Unfortunately, many think that unity means “sameness.” This is not true. Unity is not uniformity. Instead, unity can be defined as any group of people who are characterized by a shared purpose, vision or direction. It’s not about being the exact same, but about advancing toward the same goal. Think about a football team. There are different positions on the field. Each position has different skill sets, roles and responsibilities. But all players on the team march toward the same end zone because their goal is the same.

What we must realize is that race has always been a part of God’s plan, but God’s plan also included a way to create unity among the different races. That plan’s epicenter is Jesus Christ. Through Christ, racially divided groups get reconciled into one body, the church. The church is the place where all distinctions should no longer cause any divisions because of our unity in Christ. Our common goal is advancing God’s kingdom through sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ. When believers, from every race, come together and operate in Biblical unity, we will no longer be divided or conquered. We will be victorious.

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can pray for you  
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