Range Rider
HARDIN-SIMMONS UNIVERSITY
FALL-WINTER 2016

Celebrating 125 YEARS of HSU FAMILY

The BOLD LIFE of DR. JAMES B. SIMMONS

TIMELINE of HSU MILESTONES

A NEW PRESIDENT for HARDIN-SIMMONS
The Gift of a Cowboy Family

After our fantastic Homecoming celebration this fall, I’m excited to celebrate my first Christmas at HSU. Like everything else I’ve discovered here, tradition runs deep. Christmas on the Forty Acres is a special season which impacts almost every aspect of our HSU family. The season evokes warm feelings of students, faculty, and staff joining together in a spirit of wonder and unity to celebrate a gift more valuable than can be found under any tree.

As family, we enjoy our time together. Through departmental gatherings and campus-wide parties, the practice of sharing stories and memories creates a strong family bond and reinforces the fact that we are all Cowboys for Life.

As family, we struggle together to complete the semester. Faculty give tests and grade projects. Students study and write papers. Staff labor to ensure continuity between beginning and end. Every member of the family contributes…everyone gives and receives.

As family, we serve others through acts of love. Many in our family volunteer their time and resources to serve across our community. In doing so, we seek ways to live out Christ’s love – Christlieb – by becoming hope to those in need.

As family, we celebrate more than a holiday by remembering the mission which drives our journey. We exercise our freedom to focus on the joy, hope, and peace found in Jesus Christ, in whom all things are being made new.

Just as Christmas lights have the power to transform our campus from a simple grove of West Texas mesquites into a magnificent winter wonderland, so too our HSU family is reminded of their calling to transform the world for Christ.

There is beauty all around, and our gifts are abundant.

I pray that as you gather with family and friends this Christmas season, your heart will be stirred by the memories you have as a member of the HSU family.

And, as God directs, to give just as you’ve received.
Tess Varlack studied Vocal Performance under Dr. Melody Rich at Hardin-Simmons University. A student from Mission, Texas, with great strength who walks with God by her side, Tess relentlessly pursues her dreams and accomplishments, according to Dr. Rich. Her study of voice began 10 years ago after attending her first choral rehearsal at Lee University in Cleveland, Tennessee. Since then, she has continued her music education. Her artistic pursuits include: choral performances ("Carmina Burana," "Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony," "Christ Lag in Todesbanden"), roles in operas ("Cosi fan tutte," "The Magic Flute," "Die Fledermaus," "The Impressario"), musicals ("The King and I," "Hello Dolly"), theater productions, popular music with a band, song writing and classical composition. Tess graduated in December 2016 with a degree in Performance and served as the Commencement Performer at the ceremony, an honor bestowed upon her by the music faculty. Tess intends to pursue graduate study in music performance.
Hardin-Simmons Garners Awards

Hardin-Simmons University received national recognition in 2016 from several leading organizations.

HSU earned a top tier ranking among the regional universities in the West by U.S. News and World Report’s 2017 Best Colleges and Universities guide.

The nationally recognized rankings placed HSU as #33 among the more than 120 best regional universities in the West. HSU ranked #34 last year in the same category.

According to the guide, the rankings evaluate colleges and universities based on up to 16 indicators of academic excellence including peer assessment scores, freshmen retention, graduation rates, class size, student-to-faculty ratio, SAT and ACT entrance scores, acceptance rates, and percentage of freshman from the top 25 percent of their high school class.

In addition to the designation as a Best Regional University, HSU was also ranked as #18 among the Best Colleges for Veterans among the West’s regional universities.

As part of its rankings, U.S. News and World Report considered more than 1,600 accredited four-year schools nationwide. HSU’s ranking was considered alongside many other larger schools in the Regional Universities category, which includes institutions that offer a full range of undergraduate and master’s programs with a few doctoral programs.

Among its other accolades, HSU was included in an annual ranking of the best colleges in Texas by College Choice. Hardin-Simmons ranked #20 out of the top 50 colleges in Texas. The report highlighted HSU’s degree programs as well as its robust student life.

“HSU is also one of the premier universities in Texas for its student life. Students will find that the campus functions as its own little town, complete with annual festivals, concerts, movies, dances, sporting tournaments and more.”

Please remember to send us your best students! We are so proud of our HSU community, and of each student, staff member, administrator, and faculty member who helps to make our campus an award-winning university.
De Leon High School student awarded top prize in HSU video contest

William Dickey was named the 2016 winner of the “Lights. Camera. Free Ride!” contest on February 13 during Winter Preview.

“It’s pretty amazing,” Dickey said, upon accepting the award. “I love to act, so receiving an award like this for doing something I love is amazing.”

The annual contest showcases incoming freshman who submit 30- to 60-second videos celebrating their “#Going2HSU” decision. Videos highlight students’ dreams, expectations, and how HSU helps make those dreams and goals a reality.

As the first place winner, Dickey received free tuition, room, and meals for the 2016-2017 academic year, which had an estimated value of $34,100. Second place received a free on-campus room for the 2016-2017 school year, which had an estimated value of $3,900. The top 25 valid participants received a $1,000 one-time scholarship.

“I’m unbelievably excited,” said Dickey’s mom, Kelly Dickey, upon hearing of his win. “I am so proud of him.”

Dickey, who was a senior from De Leon High School when he was awarded the prize, began at HSU this fall. A Theatre minor with an undeclared major, he was part of the crew that put on the fall’s highly successful “The Addams Family” musical.


Vicki House, HSU’s Vice President for Enrollment Management, said the contest speaks to students’ daily use and love of social media. “Social media can be an outlet for their creativity,” she said. “So, our team decided to capitalize on the changing student technology landscape and meet them where they tweet, pin, tumble, and post!”

Learn more about the 2017 contest at: www.hsutx.edu/lcfr
The Hall of Leaders honors those whose service and distinguished accomplishments exemplify the values and character of Hardin-Simmons University. For full biographies on each of the Hall of Leaders recipients and for a full list of past inductees, visit www.hsutx.edu/about/pres/hall-leaders/. The Altom Christian Service Award is given to individuals who exemplify outstanding and exemplary Christian service.

### 2016 HALL OF LEADERS

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<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>MR. HARRY T. BRADLEY</td>
<td>Public Servant, Hall of Leaders</td>
<td>Harry T. Bradley is a longtime public servant, serving in several key roles in Texas government. His time in Austin included working for the Texas Water Development Board as well as serving as a special assistant to Governor Mark White and working on several political campaigns. In 1994, Lieutenant Governor Bullock appointed Bradley as Superintendent of the premier burial ground for honored Texans, the Texas State Cemetery, where he continues to serve today.</td>
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<td>MR. JAMES E. PORTER</td>
<td>Educator, Public Servant, Hall of Leaders</td>
<td>James E. Porter has been an instrumental figure in education in the Midwest. After 47 years in public education, including 34 as Superintendent of Schools, he retired from public education and was elected to the District 9 seat on the Kansas State Board of Education.</td>
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<tr>
<td>MRS. LUCILE GILBERT SANDEFER</td>
<td>University First Lady, Hall of Leaders</td>
<td>Lucile Gilbert Sandefer, wife of longtime president Jefferson Davis Sandefer, served a record 31 years as First Lady of HSU. She was known for beautifying the campus through several major projects, leading an effort to bring electricity from downtown Abilene to the Forty Acres, and founding the HSU Round Table Organization to help build friendships between the wives of University professors.</td>
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### ALTOM CHRISTIAN SERVICE

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<td>MR. CHARLES RICHARDSON</td>
<td>Journalist and Communications Leader, Community Service, Altom Christian Service</td>
<td>Charles Richardson served as Director of Media Relations at Hardin-Simmons for 30 years, retiring in 2005. Prior to joining the HSU staff, he served as an information specialist in the military and in several roles at the Abilene Reporter-News as well as at several Baptist organizations. Richardson prays for others through the First Baptist Church prayer ministry, taking the time to send postcards to those for whom he prays. He has served as chaplain for the HSU police department, the Abilene Police Department, and the Abilene Regional Medical Center.</td>
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<tr>
<td>MRS. CARLENE SPICER</td>
<td>Educator, Community Service, Altom Christian Service</td>
<td>Carlene Spicer is a lifelong educator, community leader, and outreach role model. She served as a teacher and an adjunct college instructor before joining the Hardin-Simmons faculty full-time in 1992. Spicer serves on the academic foundation and the Alumni Association Board of Directors. She heads the bereavement food ministry at First Baptist Church and leads a significant prayer network known as “Carlene's Prayer List,” which reaches some 400 people around the globe.</td>
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“I’m really thankful that my time here at HSU is something that I get to share with Aric and Amber.”

SALEENA RAMZANALI

Cowboy spirit runs deep in the Ramzanali family. Biology major Saleena Ramzanali (pictured left) was joined on campus first by her brother (Aric ’18) and then her sister (Amber ’19). The family is from Hawley, Texas. Saleena is an active member of the HSU community, serving in student government, student groups, and social clubs. She received numerous awards and scholarships on campus and was named a member of the Homecoming Court in 2016. Following her anticipated May 2017 graduation, she plans to pursue her dream of becoming a medical doctor. Aric and Amber both root for purple and gold as members of the HSU Cheer team. Aric is majoring in biology and Amber is a business and marketing major.

KIA SHEPHERD

Kia graduated in December 2016 with her bachelor’s degree in Behavioral Science in the Social Work program. From Center, Texas, Kia was a leader in the social work program. She was awarded the HSU Social Work Department’s Lucius Walker Social Justice Award in 2015 for her advocacy efforts. She also received the department’s Everett E. & Orabeth K. Woods Social Work Foundation Endowment Scholarship in 2016 for her leadership, advocacy, volunteerism, and overall social work achievements. Kia is applying for her social work license and seeking a full-time professional social work role in Fort Worth. Melissa Milliorn (’93), Social Work Department Chair, said Kia is called to serve those who are vulnerable, marginalized, and oppressed with compassion, respect, and love. She said she has witnessed Kia build herself into a remarkable woman of faith through her educational experiences. “Kia is the one who will always inspire others and provide them hope. She sees the good in others and helps them to see it in themselves. You can’t help but be happy around her,” Milliorn said.
Student Spotlights

HSU loves to hear about our students’ journeys. We wanted to share some of them with you.

“My relationship with God now is somewhere I never thought it would be.

I know that I always have someone that’s going to be there for me, someone I can lean on. It’s changed my life completely. I don’t ever feel alone any more. I always know if I’m ever feeling a certain way, I can dive into the Word and I’ll find the answers there and find the answers within Him.”

DEVONTÉ WALKER shares his journey of finding restored faith following the death of his mother.

“I couldn’t believe that God had placed me in a place where I felt so loved and so taken care of after all of the doubt that I had experienced. God gave me this home, and he gave me these people, and I am so grateful.”

MOLLY WARREN shares how her faith helped her overcome indecision over her future.

“I’ve seen Him just do drastic things, not only in my life, but in the lives of so many other people.

That’s one of the reasons I love Hardin-Simmons so much, the Lord is doing awesome things here. In my time, I’ve not only grown as a student but as a person. This year, my friends and I are doing a Bible study because we have that same desire to pick up our scripture.”

DANIKA BUTTS shares her story of community on campus at Hardin-Simmons.

See their full stories at: www.youtube.com/hardinsimmons
SPIRITUAL FORMATION

You are Director of Chapel and Spiritual Formation at HSU. What does that mean to you?

Spiritual formation is character formation. Everyone gets a spiritual formation. It’s like education. Everyone gets an education; it’s just a matter of which one you get. Spiritual formation in a Christian tradition answers a specific human question: What kind of person am I going to be? It is the process of establishing the character of Christ in the person. That’s all it is. You are taking on the character of Christ in a process of discipleship to Him under the direction of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God.

As spiritual formation director, I try to help people by partnering along with them as they are connecting with God. I partner with them as they are exploring solitude, time alone with God. I partner with them as they are connecting in new spiritual communities, gathering together with others who will remind you that you are a beloved child of God.

I also partner with them as they are connecting in personal spiritual practices, both as an individual and a community, that strengthen our Christ-centered commitment, such as meditation, prayer, fasting, study, simplicity, submission, service, confession, worship, spiritual direction, and hospitality.

What do you think are the biggest challenges facing today’s students?

Cost of education, stress and student loans.

How do you relax?

Read and anything exercise-oriented.

What book has changed your life?

“Cost of Discipleship” by Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

What is something that amazes you?

I look to the quote by A.W. Tozer that says, “Christ dazzles me and stirs within me such feelings of amazement that I can never get over Him.”
The Halls Honored at Retirement Reception

It all started with a stamp. Dr. Lanny Hall recalled at his retirement reception last May that he initially wavered on the decision in 1991 to apply for the Hardin-Simmons president’s position but was prodded to do so by HSU’s search committee chair Gene Adams (’54/’62).

“It’ll only cost you a stamp,” Hall said Adams told him. “I’m sure glad I bought that stamp and have been so blessed.”

It was an afternoon of recognition for the Halls, who served 17 years in two separate terms as HSU’s President and First Lady as well as an additional two years as chancellor. Dr. Hall returned to the role of chancellor in May when he stepped down as president.

Friends and colleagues old and new came out to honor the couple, who spent three decades in Baptist higher education in Texas. The receiving line lengthened throughout the afternoon as the couple greeted the many who came out to offer thanks.

Dr. Hall’s 45-year career in education and government included four years as a public school teacher, three years as a Congressional aide (including one year as special assistant to House Majority Leader Jim Wright), five years as an elected member of the Texas House of Representatives, and two years as state agency executive with the Teacher Retirement System.

The last 30 years of his career were spent in Baptist higher education. He is the only person to have served as president of three Texas Baptist Universities. In addition to serving as president at Hardin-Simmons, Dr. Hall also led Wayland Baptist University and Howard Payne University.

Under his skillful leadership, HSU experienced significant endowment, academic, and financial successes, as well as the construction and renovation of numerous campus facilities.

First Lady Carol Hall served as a vital part of the HSU and Abilene communities through her leadership roles. Highlights of her many campus projects include the revival of the HSU Round Table organization, which provides the annual Lucile Sandefur Memorial Scholarship and Virtue Award, and her direction of the effort to furnish the Olsen House for use as a campus hospitality center. In the community, she played key roles in the Noah Project and other worthy organizations.

Hardin-Simmons Hosts Global Leadership Summit

Hardin-Simmons University served as a premier host site for the Global Leadership Summit for the sixth time on August 11-12, 2016. HSU was one of 19 locations in Texas providing a convenient way to connect with the world-class, Christ-centered leadership event, which was simulcast from South Barrington, Illinois.

“As the premier host site for West Central Texas, the Global Leadership Summit offers HSU and the Abilene community an opportunity to learn from diverse, world-class leaders while also engaging the application of leadership principles with area change-makers,” said James Stone, Special Assistant to the HSU President and local coordinator of the event.

Participants gathered in Behrens Auditorium to hear featured speakers including Bill Hybels, founder and Senior Pastor of Willow Creek Community Church; Melinda Gates, Co-Chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; Bishop T.D. Jakes, Founder and Senior Pastor of The Potter’s House; and Patrick Lencioni, best-selling author and founder of The Table Group.

HSU has committed to host the GLS again on August 10-11, 2017. Significant discounts are available for HSU alumni who desire to attend. Participants in the event experience improvements in teamwork, effectiveness, and leadership. More information on registration will be available soon on the HSU website.
“Miracles From Heaven” Author Christy Beam Featured at Round Table Scholarship Luncheon

Christy Wilson Beam (’95) visited campus to share the story of her daughter’s miraculous recovery after battling devastating digestive illnesses.

“I believed in miracles, but I didn’t believe they’d happen to an ordinary person like me,” she said.

An Abilene native, Beam was the featured speaker for the Annual Round Table Scholarship Luncheon held in the Van Ellis Theater March 3. She was joined by DeVon Franklin, the producer of a film based on Beam’s book “Miracles From Heaven” starring Jennifer Garner. The book follows the story of Beam’s daughter Annabel, who was healed of her stomach disorders following a 30-foot fall into an old hollowed-out tree.

Even though it was challenging to relive their family’s struggles, Beam said she felt called to write the book to give hope to others going through difficult circumstances.

She encouraged the audience to recognize the good things happening in life.

“I challenge you to look up, look around, and don’t miss those miracles that are happening daily,” she said.

Franklin, who also championed faith-based movies “The Pursuit of Happyness” and “Heaven is For Real,” said he was compelled to share the family’s courageous story with the world because of its faith-affirming message and its message of God’s miracles in today’s world.

“When I read Christy’s story for the first time, I literally could not put it down,” he said. “It was so powerful and so riveting. It reminded me that God is with us.”

Beam graduated from Hardin-Simmons in 1995 with a Bachelor of Behavioral Science in Education and a specialization in Reading. She lives near Burleson, Texas, with her husband Dr. Kevin Beam (’94 and HSU Athletics Hall of Fame inductee), and their three daughters. Beam’s memoir was published in 2015 by Hachette Books.

The Round Table annual luncheon event serves as a fundraiser for the Lucile Sandefer Scholarship that is awarded to a female student during the event. In addition to the scholarship, The Virtue Award is presented to a woman who has demonstrated support of Hardin-Simmons and reflects the service principles and virtues of the founders of the Round Table organization. HSU student Katherine Park was awarded the scholarship and longtime HSU faculty and coach Billie Martin was honored with the Virtue Award.

Pictured, Lucile Sandefer Scholarship recipient Katherine Park.
MEET our new DEANS

DR. STEPHEN COOK
New Dean of Cynthia Ann Parker College of Liberal Arts, June 2016
- Served as the Director of the Texas Tech Counseling Psychology doctoral program for two years.
- Served on the faculty of Texas Tech University for 24 years.

DR. SHEILA GARLAND
Interim Dean, Patty Hanks Shelton School of Nursing, August 2016
- Served as the Dean of Health Sciences at Georgia Perimeter College.
- Dr. Garland has extensive administrative experience in nursing education.
- Registered nurse and nursing administrator from 1971 to 1995.

DR. PERRY KAY HALEY BROWN
New Dean of the Irvin School of Education, February 2016
- Served as interim dean at HSU for 8 months.
- Previously served as Dean of Education at McMurry University for two decades.
RETIRING FACULTY

DR. JOE ALCORTA ’64
Professor of Spanish
45 years of service

DR. JAYNNE MIDDLETON
Professor of Voice
41 years of service

DR. ALAN STAFFORD
Dean, Cynthia Ann Parker
College of Liberal Arts
30 years of service

DR. PAM WILLIFORD
Professor of Education
23 years of service

DR. CHARLES COLTMAN
Professor of Woodwinds
19 years of service

DR. ROBERT SELLERS
Professor of Theology and Connally
Chair of Missions
18 years of service

MRS. RUTH ELLEN SIMMONS
Professor, Periodicals, & Documents Librarian
10 years of service

MRS. AWILDA HAYES
Instructor of Nursing
8 years of service

DR. SUE ROBINSON (’02)
Associate Professor of Counseling & Human Development
8 years of service as a full-time faculty member

NEWLY TENURED FACULTY

MRS. CARRIE ISAACSON
DR. JODIE MCGAUGHEY
DR. MARLA POTESS
DR. JEREMY RHODES

NEWLY TENURED FACULTY

MRS. ILIANA CARPENTER
Assistant Professor of Physician Assistant Studies and Academic Director for the PA Program

MR. RYAN HUNTER (’09)
Instructor of Criminal Justice

DR. WES HAMILTON
Medical Director for the PA Program

MRS. MARISSA JURKIS (’03)
Electronic Resources Librarian (Assistant Professor)

MS. LISA LETZ (’07/’16)
Instructor of Nursing

DR. JAMES MARTIN (’00)
Visiting Instructor of Mathematics

MR. AARON NUNN (’08)
Visiting Instructor of Social Work

DR. PRISCILLA ROSE SELVARAJ
Assistant Professor of Psychology and Counseling

MS. PEARL WAGLEY
Instructor of Nursing
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The Doctorate in Leadership merges rigorous scholarship with practical learning to develop enlightened, ethical leaders. Through study in a faith-based environment utilizing a cross-disciplinary program, graduates will become the visionary leaders needed in the organizations and communities of tomorrow.

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(325) 670-1510
Hispanic Honor Society Reactivated

After 39 years of inactivity, HSU breathed new life back into the school’s local chapter of the National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society.

Dr. Rosario Hall, Head of the Department of Foreign Languages and Assistant Professor of Spanish, activated the Sigma Delta Pi chapter in January 2016 and serves as its advisor.

“As a professor of Spanish, one of my proudest moments is to see my students become members of Sigma Delta Pi. By joining the Hispanic Honor Society, they are agreeing to become lifelong learners; and through the study of language and culture, they are accepting the responsibility of creating bridges of communication and understanding between cultures,” Hall said. “As Christians, this is a part of their contribution towards building the Kingdom.”

The Foreign Languages Department inducted three students of Spanish in March: Sarah Philips, Grace Hebert, and Madison Copeland. Students inducted in November include Marina Rosas, Meredith Foster, Myles Hammack, and Kimberly Beam.

Two HSU faculty members were inducted as honorary members: History Professor Dr. Tiffany Fink and Dr. Alan Stafford, former Dean of the Cynthia Ann Parker College of Liberal Arts. Fink supports the foreign language program by incorporating Spanish history into her classes and Stafford had supported the expansion of Spanish classes at the University.

The society offers a variety of benefits including access to undergraduate study abroad awards, graduate research grants, bolstered credentials for any professional field, special recognition and leadership opportunities, closer association with students of similar interests and out-of-class interaction with members of faculty, and opportunities to participate and/or present in Sigma Delta Pi’s annual sessions.

HSU’s chapter of the organization has deep roots. It was founded in 1949, although it had not been an active chapter since 1977, according to Dr. Mark P. Del Mastro, executive director of the Sigma Delta Pi organization based in Charleston, South Carolina.

“Chapter Beta Sigma at HSU is one of our oldest chapters—number 66 of our 610 chapters currently in our organization,” Mastro said.

The largest foreign language honor society in existence, Sigma Delta Pi is the only honor society devoted exclusively to students of Spanish in four-year colleges and universities. Sigma Delta Pi was established on November 14, 1919 at the University of California in Berkeley, California.
“In addition to our trip to Big Bend, our Parks and Rocks group visited 13 National Parks in 2016: Volcanoes, Saguaro, Joshua Tree, Grand Canyon, Bryce, Zion, Petrified Forest, Lassen, Redwood, Crater Lake, Mt. Rainier, Olympic, and Cascades. We also visited a half dozen national monuments such as Chiricahua and Muir Woods. Next year, we have 16 more national park visits already planned!”

— Mr. Brian Dawson, Head of Parks & Rocks, Dean of Students

“HSU Theatre travelled to Scotland this past August attending ‘The Fringe’ as part of the International Collegiate Theatre Festival. Seventeen students spent two weeks in Edinburgh participating in the largest theatre festival in the world. While there, the HSU theatre group presented four performances of ‘The Shadow Box.’ In addition to sightseeing, students attended a military tattoo, and mostly, watched plays from around the world. What a fantastic experience!”

— Dr. Victoria Spangler, Associate Professor of Theatre

“Students spent the entire month of July in Vienna, Austria. Students used Vienna as their classroom and visited many museums, historical sites, and places around Vienna. There was also time for them to travel in the region and get a better taste of life in Europe. We’re going back in 2018.”

— Dr. Coleman Patterson
Director Leadership Studies
Professor of Management & Leadership
They did it! HSU Students Pedaled from Mexico to Canada for Leadership Studies

Everything’s bigger in Texas, even the bike rides. HSU’s Leadership Studies students completed their long distance “Bike Ride Across The States” journey - also called BRATS - on June 10, 2016. Led by Dr. Coleman Patterson, the group left Del Rio, Texas, on May 26 and cycled 1,800 miles to the US-Canadian border in Minnesota.

The border-to-border, 16-day cycling trip gave students an opportunity to lead and organize. The trek was the longest and most complex ride taken by Leadership Studies students and included a stop in Abilene, Kansas.

The team of nine riders started the ride from Del Rio and ended the trek just north of Grand Portage, Minnesota, near the Canadian border.

During the journey, two teams of five cyclists were flanked by two support cars in a leapfrog method. The riders changed out approximately every 15 to 20 miles or 1 to 1.5 hours, riding 100 to 150 miles per day.

The group trained and conditioned throughout the academic year including a training ride to Possum Kingdom Lake. The students also had an opportunity to learn from long-distance cyclist and author Steve Garufi who visited HSU and Abilene.

The BRATS trip provides students a real and complex project to plan, organize, and execute, according to Patterson. Patterson leads the Leadership Studies Program at HSU, a multi-disciplinary academic minor with students and faculty from all areas of campus.

“Students are responsible for all aspects of the project, which provides them opportunities to practice and develop leadership and organization skills,” he said.

Students raised the majority of the project’s $4,000 cost, which covered food, gasoline, and any unexpected costs along the route. The team already had bicycles, bike racks, cycling gear, and spare parts from previous rides.

One special stop on their trip was Abilene, Kansas, where the team delivered messages and mementos of greeting from Abilene, Texas, to city officials.

As advocates for the President’s Challenge, the team spread their message of health and fitness along the 1,800 mile route. The President’s Challenge is part of the President’s Council on Physical Fitness that advocates and encourages fitness, healthy living, and wellness in communities around the nation.

Previous long-distance rides taken by the group were primarily in Texas. Leadership students rode 825 miles in 2015 from Surfside Beach to Texline, 925 miles in 2014 from Brownsville to Liberal, Kansas; and 864 miles in 2013 from El Paso to Texarkana.

Planning for the 2017 BRATS journey is underway, according to Patterson.

Leadership students participating in the 2016 ride were Zach Hammond (an athletic training major from Waco), Chris Carl (a chemistry major from Garland), Destiny Eaton (a psychology major from Weatherford), Deborah Poh (a biology/pre-med major from Malaysia), and Kim Fritz (an Art Education major and McMurry student from Abilene). Patterson and Bob Sanderson were faculty members on the ride. Medical support was provided by David Richards. Two friends of the program, former students in Sanderson’s cycling class at McMurry, also participated: Tom Burnett and Isaac Chantos.

HSU alumni are invited to join leadership students on the next BRATS ride in 2017. Visit the @HSULeadership Facebook page for more details to come.
My sweet Grandparents, “Mim and Did” left an awesome legacy for us. He once told me that “the best thing you and I ever did was go to Hardin-Simmons and find our redheads!” @hsutxalumni

@timothyruse

“Can I ask a weird favor and take a picture of my signature on your beanie?”—me to a freshman today #hsustampede

@sarahlizpat

Took this on my way home today. Over the past four years #hsutx has become my home. It’s sad to say that I won’t be here after May. I’ll miss the beautiful souls that I have encountered while being a student here. #hsulife #nofilter #cofa

@braidentfisher

I love so much about @HardinSimmons but I really love having professors who actually care (& prove it by letting me cry in their office)

@crystalMcKinnie

My professor just prayed for us at the end of class. This is the reason I chose HSU. #hsutx

@McKennaHammack

At The Six White Horse Barn, we celebrate Halloween every day with our unicorn, Powder! #choosehsu

@SixWhiteHorses

“Can I ask a weird favor and take a picture of my signature on your beanie?”—me to a freshman today #hsustampede

@kelliovogler

Today I am officially a college graduate! This has been the best four years of my life and I am going to remember these moments forever. Also, I love being able to have followed in my dad’s footsteps and met my wonderful fiance here. Hopefully one day our kids can follow in ours! #hsutx #hsulegacy

@kelliovogler

I loved my time at @HardinSimmons. I met incredible people and received quality education. Here’s to another 125, Fair Daughter of the West.

@SteveBezner

20 years ago this fall I visited @HardinSimmons for the first time and it felt like home. Happy 125th anniversary, purple & gold!

@SandraPeoples

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“Can I ask a weird favor and take a picture of my signature on your beanie?”—me to a freshman today #hsustampede

@kelliovogler

Today I am officially a college graduate! This has been the best four years of my life and I am going to remember these moments forever. Also, I love being able to have followed in my dad’s footsteps and met my wonderful fiance here. Hopefully one day our kids can follow in ours! #hsutx #hsulegacy

@kelliovogler

I loved my time at @HardinSimmons. I met incredible people and received quality education. Here’s to another 125, Fair Daughter of the West.

@SteveBezner
I loved the beanie capping tonight. Talking to so many lovely people just fills me with such happiness #HSU #Stampede16

Meagan Fleming
August 20, 2016

Thanks to P. Parks for sending this 1930 Hardin-Simmons Cowgirls photo. In 1954 I was a Cowgirl at HSU! We loved marching with the World Famous Cowboy Band.

Sue Cherry Cox
February 2, 2016

Great day @HardinSimmons congrats to new president Brнутmyer. Great things to come.

Drue Pounds
September 1, 2016

I can't express enough how much I love “The World Famous Cowboy Band!”

t_mark_s
February 13, 2016

When you walk past a classroom at your university and faculty are praying over students... #grateful #HSULife

Laura Pogue
April 28, 2016

I love my little university. #HSU #hsulife #hsul25 #blessed #cupcake

randywithab

Happy 125th @HardinSimmons! So many incredible memories on that beautiful campus! Hail to thee on this special day! #hshsu

Katie Earles
October 15, 2016

#tbt to the BSM trip to Ireland in my senior year at HSU. The BSM has all kinds of awesome opportunities for students to get involved on campus and around the world! #hsulife

Jourdan Foran
February 18, 2016

Just gotta say, I really love my school and all the friends I've made there. #HSUFamily

Kelsey H. St. Marie

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Kelsey H. St. Marie
HSU125
HOMECOMING
2016
HARDIN-SIMMONS UNIVERSITY
OCTOBER 14-16

www.hsutx.edu/Alumni
Dr. Truette Latimer
Visionary Leader & Volunteer
L.L.D. Honoris Causa 1996 / B.A. 1951

Truette Latimer has been continually involved with HSU since his days as Student Association Councilman and Senior Class Treasurer. Today, he is the long-serving Chair of the Board of Development, a lifetime member of the Presidents Club, and holds both a Distinguished Alumni Award (1991), and a place in HSU’s Hall of Leaders (2006). For 15 years, beginning in 1986, Truette was President of the Houston Museum of Natural Science, and is credited with transforming a sleepy museum into one of the finest natural science museums in the nation. Further, some of the industry’s most beloved IMAX films were produced by the HMNS in cooperation with investors. Truette is Chairman Emeritus of the museum, and chaired the building committee for the 198,000sf addition which in 2012 doubled the museum’s size. Among his many altruistic and professional affiliations, he serves on the board of the Boy Scouts of America, Sam Houston Area Council, and has been President of the Giant Screen Theatre Association. For 16 years, Truette served as Executive Director for the Texas Historical Commission and spearheaded one of the most active and successful historic preservation programs in the nation. He currently holds membership in and is the former chair of the Texas State History Museum Foundation. In 2016, Truette and his wife Harriet received the significant Texas Governor’s Award for Historic Preservation.

Congratulations: truettlatimer@comcast.net

Mr. William L. LaFuze
Attorney
1966X

William “Bill” LaFuze is a principal in McKool Smith’s Houston and Washington, D.C. offices. Bill’s practice has been directed to a broad range of intellectual property law issues, with a particular focus on patent and other intellectual property litigation in the smartphone, computer, electronics, oilfield equipment, telecommunications, and internet-related fields. Bill was selected as one of only two IP lawyers in the country to advise the Bush/Cheney administration through its Presidential Transition Team. He helped counsel the then new administration on patent policy, the operation of the USPTO, and patent reform issues. Bill has been ranked every year since inception as a “Band 1” intellectual property lawyer in Texas by Chambers USA: America’s Leading Lawyers for Business. His current firm is one of the premiere trial law firms in the country, having won about $2.4 billion in cumulative jury verdicts over the last 10 years in favor of its clients. At HSU, Bill was a member of Tau Alpha Phi, Phi Mu Alpha, and Cowboy Band.

Congratulations: wlafuze@McKoolSmith.com

Mr. Michael James Murphy
Musician/Pastor
1977-1980X

Michael James Murphy signed his first publishing and recording contracts while still a senior at HSU, going on to win four coveted Dove Awards for Country Album of the Year, Country Song of the Year, Praise and Worship Album of the Year, and Children’s Album of the Year. Throughout the ’80s and ’90s, he recorded multiple albums and was guest artist on projects and concerts with Amy Grant, Michael W. Smith, and others. Numerous artists have recorded his songs, including Lee Greenwood, Highway 101, and Gary Chapman. In 2010, he produced the creative programming content for Lifeway Resources’ 30-Day Journey, ”Live Like You Were Dying.” Michael is a licensed StratOp and LifePlan facilitator and currently serves as the Executive Pastor of Worship & Arts Ministry at Venture Christian Church in Los Gatos, CA. The HSU cheerleader was a member of concert choir, jazz band, BSU, & Tau Alpha Phi. Michael and Laura (Staggs ’84X) have three children.

Congratulations: michaeljamesmurphy@me.com

Dr. Terry Treadwell
Surgeon
B.A. 1969

Terry Treadwell is founder and medical director of the Institute for Advanced Wound Care, at Baptist Medical Center, Montgomery, AL, where he treats wound patients on a full-time basis. He also teaches wound care principles to surgical residents in the Pan-African Academy of Christian Surgeons training programs in mission hospitals across Africa. Terry works with the World Health Organization, and has received many notable awards and recognitions. He is Associate Professor of Wound Care at the University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Port-au-Prince, Haiti. Terry earned his M.D. degree from The UT Southwestern Medical School and continued his training in general and vascular surgery at Scott and White Medical Center. At HSU, he played tennis, was active in student government, and earned membership in Alpha Chi. He was inducted into HSU’s Athletics Hall of Fame in 1987. Terry, an ordained Baptist deacon, is married to Sheryl (Frazier ’68). They have three married children and nine grandchildren.

Congratulations: tatread@aol.com
The Alumni Service Award is given in honor of John J. Keeter Jr. This award of merit is the highest alumni award possible and is given to the alumnus who has contributed the most in his/her particular field of endeavor toward the betterment of the university or who has rendered the greatest services directly or indirectly to HSU. The Distinguished Alumni Award goes to those whose personal and professional accomplishments are exemplary of the ideals and aims of the university, and thus bring honor to HSU. The Outstanding Young Alumni Award is presented to graduates who have attained outstanding achievements in their fields of endeavor, have graduated in the last 20 years, and are not older than 45. The Athletics Hall of Fame honors former athletes or coaches who, while at HSU, made a significant contribution to HSU and the athletic program. To be eligible, the nominee must have been away from HSU a minimum of 10 years.

Please submit nominations to: Alumni Awards Committee, HSU Box 16102, Abilene, TX 79698; alumni@hsutx.edu; FAX 325.670.1574.

In order to provide the selection committee with sufficient information to make award decisions, it is the responsibility of the nominator to provide complete biographical information as well as a thorough description of the nominee’s award qualifications. Nominations are considered in early spring.

Questions? Please call (800)460-3908 or (325)670-1317, or submit online at: connect.hsutx.edu/alumni-award-nominations
“Today we all enjoy the beauty from some very long-ago decisions”
125th Anniversary Launched with Special Convocation

Hardin-Simmons University honored its past and looked toward its next 125 years at a special anniversary event. The convocation was held on February 18, the same date in 1891 when the University’s charter was adopted under its original name of Abilene Baptist College.

Members of the HSU family joined together in Behrens Auditorium to celebrate the significant milestone and recognize many who played a role in assisting the University throughout its history.

President Dr. Lanny Hall, who now serves as HSU’s chancellor after stepping down as president in May, officiated at the ceremony. Dr. Jesse Fletcher, the school’s 12th president, offered a thoughtful invocation giving thanks for those who kept the dream of Hardin-Simmons alive throughout the years. Dr. W. Craig Turner, HSU’s 14th president, delivered the benediction.

Dr. Travis Frampton, Professor of Biblical Studies at Logsdon School of Theology and Associate Provost at HSU, delivered a talk titled, “Remembering Dr. James B. Simmons.”

Frampton discussed Simmons’ book written during the Civil War, “The Cause and the Cure of the Rebellion,” which outlined a vision of Christianity that did not turn a blind eye to oppression and human suffering.

Simmons invested in the University because of his belief in the spirit of Christianity and the goal of higher education to serve common ends and that “the two together could do so in the most excellent way, right here in Abilene, Texas,” Frampton said.

Frampton then spoke about the University’s future. “Hardin-Simmons University, may God grant us a strong heart, a clear mind, and a voice of conviction for the next 125 years as we fulfill our mission.”

Local historian Jay Moore (’82/’96) delivered the Convocation Address, looking back at the people and events that helped form the school.

“Today we all enjoy the beauty from some very long-ago decisions,” he said.

Moore referenced Mrs. Lucile Sandefur, wife of HSU President Jefferson Davis Sandefur, who was devoted to beautifying the campus. It was her idea to plant the pecan trees by the founders’ graves.

He spoke of the “life-breathing, school-saving” monetary gift from Dr. Simmons and his family that prompted the trustees to rename the school.

Moore related how the Simmons family, who lived in New York City, must have discussed the “tiny dream” of a school in Abilene, Texas, that was not even opened yet.

“They decided to … grow an institution that has echoed to the point that we still recall them even today,” he said. Simmons also arranged to have himself and his wife laid to rest here at the heart of the school.

Their decision, and those of all of the families who invested in the school, profoundly affected all of those at HSU, Moore said.

The Hardin-Simmons University Concert Band provided the event’s music, which included “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross,” “God of Our Fathers,” and the University Anthem. A reception followed in the Moody Student Center.

View the 125th Anniversary Convocation Ceremony at: www.hsutx.edu/rangerider
our

FAMILY HISTORY

125 years in the making
1888 Judge Henry Sayles leads a petition to develop a Baptist college in Abilene, Texas.

1890 At a meeting of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Judge K.K. Legett, a leader from Abilene Baptist Church, discusses need for a Baptist college. Groundwork for Abilene Baptist College.

1891 Mr. Vogel and Mr. Ambler donate 16 acres for school site.

   - Charter for Abilene Baptist College adopted in February. Foundation agreement signed.
   - The college name was changed to The Simmons College in November, after the Rev. James B. Simmons of New York City made a $5,000 donation.
   - Old Main is built at a cost of $10,000. All of the classrooms, along with housing for female students, female faculty, and the president's family, along with the library, the president's office, auditorium, and chapel were housed in the three-story, red brick building.
   - President William O. Friley takes office.
1892  First Collegiate Year begins. In addition to college courses, the school also offered primary classes (grades 1-5), junior and senior departments (6-8) and an Academy (high school).
1894  Name shortened to Simmons College.
   – President George O. Thatcher takes office.
1896  Purple and Gold were decided upon as the school colors. A committee of three students was appointed to determine the school colors with two choices available to them: purple and gold, or pink and white.
   – First era of Football begins.
1898  President O.C. Pope takes office.
1901  President Charles R. Hairfield takes office.
1902  First issue of the Corral published.
   – President O.H. Cooper takes office.
1904  Baseball begins.
1907  Women’s Basketball begins.
1908  First issue of the Bronco published.
   – Men’s Basketball begins.
   – Track begins.
1909  First mention of the Beanie. Originally the beanies were green and yellow.
   – President J.D. Sandefer takes office.
1910  First era of Football ends.
1912  Athletic teams begin using the nickname “Cowboys.”
   – President J.D. Sandefer takes office.
1913  Original Abilene Hall finished.
1916  Fritz the dog, owned by President Sandefer’s youngest son, Gib, was introduced to the college. He soon became known as Dam-it, after allegedly causing a cafeteria staff member to trip while carrying a tray full of food to students. Dam-it quickly became the class of 1920’s mascot as he grew up with the class, and integrated into the culture of the university.
   – First issue of The Brand published.
   – Men’s Tennis begins.
1917  Hardin-Simmons University Anthem written by Stiles R. Anderson and Jesse W. Hodges.
   – Marston Gym completed. It is the oldest remaining building on campus.
   – Second era of Football begins.
1919   A petrified tree stump was placed in front of Abilene Hall, as a gift from the class of 1919.

1920   Fritz the dog died from pneumonia. The funeral included a procession led by the Cowboy Band, four seniors as pallbearers, and grave dug by freshmen. Almost the entire student body and faculty were present for the funeral in the center of campus. The Associated Press picked up the story, and condolences arrived from around the world.

        - Student Government is voted into existence.

1921   Cannon dedicated to alumni who died in WWI. More than 400 men from Simmons served in WWI and 13 gave their lives. Their names are inscribed on a plaque in front of the cannon.

1922   Cheerleading begins.

1923   Cowboy Band founded.

        - First Homecoming Weekend celebrated.

1924   Caldwell Hall built.

1925   Graduate Classes first offered.

        - Name changed to Simmons University.

        - The Cowgirls were started as a spirit group to provide support for the illustrious Cowboy football team. The group served the University as official campus hostesses in their capacity as a campus service organization until 1974. The group remains an active alumni organization.

1926   Ferguson Hall built.

1928   Original Chapel built.

1930   Six White Horses program begins. The team has performed in 40 of the 50 states and appeared in many parades and inaugurations.

1931   To stay afloat during the Great Depression, faculty and staff salaries were reduced for 1931-32, and 30 percent more the following year. Even with the reduction, the school was only able to pay salaries for five of the nine months that year.

1933   43 faculty and staff members donated all back salaries owed to them to help the university, which was in desperate financial straits.
1936  HSU student Alton Terry finishes sixth in javelin throw event at Berlin Olympics.

1937  First Founders Day observance.

1940  President William R. White takes office.

1941  The University affiliated with the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

1943  President Rupert N. Richardson takes office.

1944  HSU First Lady Mrs. Lucile Sandefer secured the building of the bell tower as a home for the original bell from Old Main

1947  Original Abilene Hall burns.

1948  Current Abilene Hall finished.

1949  Sandefur Memorial Admin. Building finished. The campus library was on the top two floors.

1952  Army ROTC program starts. HSU is one of 52 schools in the U.S. selected to initiate the program.

1953  President Evan A. Reiff takes office.

1954  Blanche Lange Hall built.

1957  Original Chapel burns.

1959  Beanie color changes to purple.

1961  Women’s Volleyball begins.

1961  Behrens Chapel and Van Ellis Theater finished.
     - All-School SING, founded by Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia (the national male music fraternity) and Sigma Alpha Iota, Gamma Phi Chapter (the international professional fraternity for women in music) involves campus in an annual musical event.
     - Women's Tennis begins.

1962  Moody Center built.
     - Nix Hall finished.
     - Interim president George L. Graham takes office.

1963  President James H. Landes takes office.
     - Second era of HSU Football ends.

1965  The fountain near Moody Center funded by Classes of 1964 and 1965

1966  President Elwin L. Skiles takes office.

1968  Sid Richardson Science Center built.

1971  Construction begins on Mabee Hall, a military science building.

1972  Cowboy Band Hall finished.

1975  Men's Soccer begins.

1976  The Rupert N. and Pauline Richardson Library opened.

1977  President Jesse C. Fletcher takes office.

1978  Reflection pond constructed on Anderson Lawn.

1981  The first ever Western Heritage Day took place in 1981. This tradition continues today as a way to celebrate the community’s roots of pioneer days, chuck wagons, and settling a new frontier.

1982  The “Campanile Bells,” funded by the Class of 1930, reintroduced ringing bells to campus. The “Campanile Bells” instrument constitutes a perfect polyphonic peal—the tonal equivalent of 10,712 pounds of cast bells.

1983  Men's Volleyball begins.

1984  Frost Center for the Visual Arts completed.
1985  Women's Soccer begins.
      – Women's Golf begins.
1986  Men's Volleyball ends.
1988  Logsdon School of Theology building finished. The building features the University's signature stained glass window in Logsdon Chapel symbolizing the spiritual foundations of the seminary.
1990  Johnson Building completed.
      – Third Era of HSU Football begins.
      – President Lanny Hall takes office.
1993  Shelton Stadium built.
1995  Beazley White Horse Center finished.
1997  HSU’s Army ROTC Program was ended by the U.S. government.
      – HSU Spurs founded.
1998  HSU Rodeo discontinued.
1999  Connally Missions Center built.
2000  On-campus apartments open.
2001  President W. Craig Turner takes office.
2002  The Legett Memorial Bridge spanning the pond was funded and dedicated by the May 2002 senior class to the memory of Judge K. K. Legett.
2003  Skiles Social Sciences Building is completed.
      – Linebery Clock Tower finished.
2004  HSU Official Ring tradition revived, with a custom class ring featuring symbols that tell the story of HSU.
      – Women's Softball begins.
2006  Ribbon cutting for Alumni Wall on Centennial Square Plaza. A tribute to graduates, the circular brick wall features brass plaques inscribed with names from each graduating class dating back to 1891.
      – Women's Basketball makes the school’s first NCAA Final Four Appearance.
2008  Holland Health Science Buildings completed.
      – President Lanny Hall takes office for a second time.
      – New era of Track begins.
2010  HSU Cowgirls win the NCAA Division III Women's Soccer National Championship.
2012  Gilbert the Goose arrives on campus. In a new tradition, students celebrate “Gilbert's Birthday Party” each spring to mark the goose's first appearance on campus.
2015  Gilbert's Coffee Shop opens in the front of the Richardson Library. The name was selected by students.
2016  HSU celebrates its 125th anniversary.
      – President Eric I. Bruntmyer takes office.

Thank you for being a part of our 125-YEAR JOURNEY
Having taught here for almost two decades, I am more invested in Hardin-Simmons than in any other school of which I have been a part. As my own life has been inspired and changed for the better by Dr. James B. Simmons’ story, I wanted to know more about our founder, especially his early life. Who was he? From where did he come? What was his family like?

In the summer of 2014, I headed to the Northeast for my sabbatical. I traveled to Millerton, N.Y., the birthplace and hometown of our namesake. I also visited New York City; Providence, R.I.; and Philadelphia, P.A.; each significant places for Simmons. I visited the gravesites of his parents, of his brothers and sisters, and their families. I visited the places he lived, the churches he pastored, and schools he attended. Why? Because I believed that in his story, our university would find an answer to the question: Why Hardin-Simmons?

I learned that our identity rests in his story and therein is our reason for being. In addition, I learned to be a better Christian, to have greater thoughts and to carry them dutifully to completion, and in the end, to direct my own life’s work toward making the world a better place.

I also learned we must tell his story.

**A VOICE CRIES OUT**

One of the most formative periods of Simmons’ life (1827–1905) occurred while he was pastor of the First Baptist Church of Indianapolis. His own words best describe an “incident” that emboldened him to find his own prophetic voice:

"A fugitive slave by the name of West, was tried here, soon after my arrival in this city. I attended the trial. The fugitive was a Methodist;—and the deputy marshal who held him in custody and who conveyed him each morning from the jail to the court room is I understand a member in good standing of the Third Presbyterian Church in [Indianapolis]. Once, during the progress of the trial the fugitive broke away from the marshal at the jail door, and fled for the fields. The Presbyterian marshal pursued his Methodist brother with revolver in hand, shooting at him twice before he caught him. My soul was horrified. I said to myself, ‘When in the name of heaven, shall a man who fears God speak, if not now?’ I did speak. My subject was ‘The American Slave System tried by the Golden Rule.’"

In 1858, just three years before the Civil War commenced, our founder was threatened with a “coat of tar and feathers” and subsequently lost the meeting house of his church, which burned to the ground in 1861 because of what he was preaching from behind his Baptist pulpit in Indianapolis. In the postwar era, he helped establish across the Southeastern United States ten colleges, most of which were for freed slaves. He believed in educating all people. He was a close friend and associate of John D. Rockefeller and Booker James B. Simmons: His Story is Our Story

By Dr. Travis Frampton

Professor of Biblical Studies at Logsdon School of Theology and Associate Provost for HSU
T. Washington. His circle of friends included the Beecher family (especially the brother of Harriet Beecher Stowe, author of "Uncle Tom's Cabin"). Needless to say, Simmons was highly respected and well connected, corresponding frequently with several prominent American icons of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

**CHRISTLIEB COLLEGE**

Three years after the death of his wife, Mary, Dr. Simmons mailed twenty copies of a book from New York to Abilene. He stated in a letter he affixed inside the cover of each volume that “Christlieb College,” which means the College of Christ’s Love, was his chosen name for the new educational enterprise in West Texas. In addition, he also intimated that two questions should be asked of “the Faculty, the Trustees, the Patrons and the Pupils of this College.” For more than forty years, no two questions had influenced him so strongly as these:

“**What is the greatest thought that has ever occupied your mind?**

“**What is your duty toward fulfilling it?**

Although we are known as Hardin-Simmons by name, we must be Christlieb in spirit, with greatest thoughts and a duty toward fulfilling them. We must be good stewards of Simmons’ vision for our school and, as such, work to inspire others to action—as students, alumni, faculty, staff, administrators, and trustees—to realize and participate in the worthy cause he set into motion 125 years ago: the College of Christ’s Love.

The story of James B. Simmons brings gravitas to the work we do. The five thousand dollars he donated in 1891 may have aided the completion of Old Main, but the rich legacy he left continues to this day to encourage people to make a difference in the world.

**WHY HARDIN-SIMMONS UNIVERSITY?**

We are a university that loves raising questions and seeking answers. In fact, the core questions we want all students to be able to answer before they graduate are the same two questions that motivated our founder for more than forty years. It is imperative that as a community of learning, we ask these questions of every student—and perhaps more importantly—of ourselves. Without a “greatest thought” and a “duty toward realizing it,” we will not be equipped to educate others within a Christian liberal arts environment. These two specific questions chart the course for us to help students fulfill their own greatest achievements.

It would be difficult to name an individual who had more influence in the nineteenth century on higher education for the betterment of all people than Dr. James B. Simmons. It would be difficult to name another more influential, whose impact reached from the East Coast to the Western Frontier of the United States, helping establish ten colleges in all—six of which still remain.

James B. Simmons’ story is our story. It is the Hardin-Simmons University story par excellence. It is a gospel about doing—a gospel of not just knowing Christ, but being Christ to the world. The reason Simmons’ story is so compelling is because it exemplifies the Christian narrative by incarnating the gospel. What did Simmons have to gain as pastor of the First Baptist Church of Indianapolis when he spoke out with such vehemence and resolve against slavery? More importantly, consider what he could have lost? His life was a Christian witness of a gospel that proclaims that we die to ourselves so that others might gain. The gospel for him was simple, yet profound and costly. Simmons did make the world a better place, and this is a goal, a purpose in life, to which we want our graduates to aspire. We have more than a donor buried in our midst; we have a luminary. Simmons was a man who had “greatest thoughts” and carried out his “duty toward fulfilling them.”

Since the day he was buried beside his wife, just south of Old Main, in what was then a cow pasture, we have had the answer to what makes us different from more than five hundred Christian liberal arts colleges across the country. Simmons provided us with an inspiring example of the ways in which Christian education could change the direction of a nation by reconfiguring its moral compass.

Simmons died December 17, 1905, at his home in Manhattan. Just eight days later on a cloudless Christmas afternoon, he was laid to rest next to his wife in the center of Christlieb. An earlier generation of students, alumni, faculty, administration, and trustees who were assembled for his memorial service knew then what we are now just rediscovering. On the east side of the Simmons’ tombstone, they inscribed a statement that is becoming ever more meaningful: *Even Their Ashes Witness for Christian Education.*

We are the stewards of this legacy.

*To learn more about Dr. Simmons, request a copy of A Foundation Builder: Sketches in the Life of Rev. James B. Simmons by Robert Stuart MacArthur, from the President’s office at (325) 670-1226 or stop by the Johnson Building.*
“Students, I encourage you to seize the opportunity that lies before you, the opportunity to run after Christ as he fits and equips you for His service.”
It was a historic day marked by prayer, joy, and excitement for the future as Eric Bruntmyer was invested as the 16th President of Hardin-Simmons University. Some 1,800 people filled Behrens Auditorium on September 1 to witness the occasion, which formally marked the beginning of Bruntmyer’s tenure. (Bruntmyer took office on June 1, 2016, succeeding Dr. Lanny Hall.)

The Investiture ceremony took place during the University’s Quasquicentennial Anniversary year, marking 125 years since HSU’s foundation agreement was adopted in 1891.

Bruntmyer was invested with the symbols of the University: the University Mace, which represents the enduring dream of the founders of HSU; and the University Medallion, which represents the authority the Board of Trustees entrusts to the president.

Investiture guests enjoyed a spirited scene outside the auditorium with visits from the Cowboy Band, the Six White Horses, and the HSU Spurs team.

Dr. Michael Waters, Chair of the HSU Board of Trustees and the Presidential Search Committee, opened the event. Referencing a favorite Psalm of former HSU President Edwin Skiles, Waters said, “This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it.”

The Investiture Prayer was led by Dr. David Hardage, Executive Director of Texas Baptists. Dr. Phil Christopher, Senior Pastor of First Baptist Church of Abilene, led a scripture reading from 1 Corinthians, Chapter 13.
Provost Dr. Thomas Brisco introduced Dr. Dennis Wiles, Senior Pastor of First Baptist Church of Arlington.

Wiles, the pastor of the Bruntmyers’ home church, spoke about his many positive experiences with the family in Arlington and called for the HSU community to embrace its new First Family.

“Receive them well. They’re a dynamic young family. They’re going to bless you and be a blessing to this community,” he said.

Dr. Waters and Dr. Brisco presented Bruntmyer with the Presidential Medallion. Bruntmyer accepted the University symbols, surrounded by his family and by three former presidents of the University: Drs. Lanny Hall, W. Craig Turner, and Jesse Fletcher.

Bruntmyer began his address by sharing the vision of one of the school’s earlier benefactors, Dr. James Simmons, who wanted the University to reflect Christ’s love and preferred to call the school “Christlieb,” or The College of Christ’s Love.

Bruntmyer also mentioned the support of Abilene’s earliest leaders, such as Judge K.K. Legett, Theo Vogel, George Phillips, and E.T. Ambler, who provided funds, land, and support to the school.

He appealed to students, staff, faculty, donors, and alumni to make a personal offering toward the school’s vision.

“Each person gathered in this place has an important and unique offering to give toward continuing our work for those who will come long after we are gone” he said. “Our actions today join the enduring 125-year legacy of Hardin-Simmons and the connection of Christ’s love that binds us, and will propel us deep into the future.”

Dr. Don Williford, Dean of the Logsdon School of Theology and Seminary, offered the closing prayer.

Some 20 delegates representing other educational institutions attended the event. Also in attendance was Dr. Virginia Boyd Connally, 103, HSU’s oldest known graduate from the class of 1933.

The Dyess Air Force Base Color Guard performed the Presentation of Colors to begin the event.

Dustin Tatro (‘11/’13), served as the organist, and Dr. Melody Rich, an Associate Professor of Voice, served as the soloist during the Investiture. Dr. Robert Tucker, Dean of the College of Fine Arts, led the audience in several songs during the event.

At a reception, Bruntmyer received proclamations from the City of Abilene presented by Mayor Norm Archibald and from Texas Governor Greg Abbott’s office.
It’s been a tremendous blessing to join the HSU family during this, the university’s 125th year. I feel undeserving, but am humbled and grateful for the opportunity to walk together with the HSU family into the future.

Every family has stories, and the HSU family is no different. Some of those stories are told and retold over and over. Being new to the family, I don’t know those stories yet.

Whether you met your spouse, made lifelong friends, played on a sports team, or performed in a musical group or theatrical production, you have a Hardin-Simmons story.

I want to know your story. Will you share it with me? Simply email me at MyStory@hsutx.edu.

Collectively, the stories of the past 125 years have shaped Hardin-Simmons into the great university that it is today. I’m inspired by our past, and excited about our future.

I invite you to be a part of that future by investing in our students today.
At our fall Board of Development meeting, HSU student Caleb Spoon (pictured right) shared his story with us about why he chose Hardin-Simmons and how the University is dramatically transforming his life. If you were to visit with other students or recent graduates of HSU, you would hear time and time again how their lives have been influenced by their experiences on the Forty Acres. It’s possible that your life has also been shaped by Hardin-Simmons.

Ultimately, Transformation 2020 is not about new buildings or a larger endowment, it is about making a difference in the lives of students like Caleb. In Phase 1 of the campaign, approximately $40 million was donated by alumni and friends. Of that, $20 million was designated for scholarships or other endowments.

With a new president comes a new direction. President Bruntmyer has set forth a bold plan that will guide our fundraising efforts for the next four years. Enhancements to Abilene Hall, student living areas, and new fitness and health science facilities remain high priorities and are strategically tied to HSU’s future. Other new initiatives will be laid out in the coming months.

We appreciate you and need you. Students like Caleb are depending on us.

Mike Hammack
Vice President for Advancement
Caleb Spoon: A Life Touched by Your Generosity

In 1995, Caleb was born to missionary parents in Suriname on the northeast coast of South America. When Caleb was five, his family moved to South Africa where he had a happy childhood and was active in rugby, tennis, and soccer. During a mission trip to Malawi while a boy, Caleb gave a soccer ball to a group of impoverished children who had been playing soccer barefoot with a hard plastic ball that often caused foot injuries. The joy that the small gift brought the children, he said, helped him put his life in perspective.

When he first moved to the U.S. in seventh grade, Caleb missed his friends and his life back in South Africa. He also experienced some struggles adjusting to academic English, though he loved math. Easing the transition was his love of basketball, which he began playing for his high school team in Breckenridge.

Caleb first learned about Hardin-Simmons from a coach in South Africa who had played football here.

A junior majoring in Math Education, Caleb said he would like to change the world by teaching math and coaching sports. His love of basketball continues as he is a vital player on HSU’s basketball team, playing guard.

Caleb received the Board of Development Scholarship in Fall 2016.
1940s  Billie (Shirley) Martin ’48/54/KASA, of Abilene, received the 2016 Virtue Award at HSU’s annual Round Table luncheon; billiemartin@suddenlink.net.

- Edd L. Brown ’49 of Greenville, SC, has published a book celebrating the 69th Anniversary of his marriage to Florence. “Only God Knows: A Journey of Love, Faith, and Joy” is available through Amazon and Barnes & Noble; elb64fhb@gmail.com.

1950s  Lila (Dye) Hopkins ’52 is the author of a memoir, “A Touch of Splendor,” about the years her father, Dr. Harold Dye, was pastor of First Baptist Church, Las Cruces, NM (1934-1944). Lila and husband Richard ’51 live in Fuquay Varina, NC; rhopkins27@ncrr.com.

- Dr. Peter James “Jim” Flamming ’55/’72HD has authored a new book: “Never Stop Starting: A Dozen Lessons for Later Life,” available via www.FBCRichmond.org/Flamming. This book will challenge, inspire, and offer encouragement for your life’s journey, sharing modern aging wisdom through the lens and experiences of 12 biblical characters. Jim is Pastor Emeritus of the First Baptist Church of Richmond, VA, where he served as Senior Pastor over 20 years. Ordained as a minister in 1955, he celebrated his 60th anniversary of active ministry as this book went to press. While keeping a busy schedule of speaking, preaching, and writing in his retirement, he has also served as a visiting professor at the Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond. He is currently engaged in another book project exploring personal approaches to prayer, faith, and community. He lives in the Richmond area with his wife of 60 years, Shirley (Northcutt ’57); pfflamming@aol.com.

Doris (Young) Haby ’55 of Uvalde, a former HSU White Horse rider, was presented a special award by former U.S. Congressman Charles W. Stenholm at the 100th Annual Convention of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers’ Association Convention for exceptional service to the organization. Doris had been the auxiliary’s state and national president for two years, as well as the Make it With Wool chairman for many years. Doris had many national winners and also created a Congressional letter writing contest; hghhaby1@sbcglobal.net.

1960s  John Jefferies ’60 is now retired from both teaching school and farming. He now enjoys life in Olton, TX.

John Baker ’64x received the American Dental Assn’s Certificate for International Volunteer Service. Dr. Baker volunteered in Mexico for 19 years, helping to improve the oral and overall health of individuals. Dr. Baker and his wife, Barbara (Mayes ’64), reside in Dallas; johnbakerdds@yahoo.com.

Dick Spalding ’64x was named as the 2015 Outstanding Citizen by the Abilene Chamber of Commerce. Dick served Serenity House as president/CEO (1989-2010) and is now president-emeritus for Serenity house, a drug and alcohol prevention and treatment facility with locations in Abilene, Fredericksburg, and Wichita Falls. For more than 30 years, and still today, he has actively served in a variety of volunteer leadership roles for non-profit organizations, both in Abilene and at the state level.

Sydna (Alvis) Hall ’65 of Round Rock recently retired as the Elementary School principal for Round Rock ISD; sydnahall@gmail.com.

Carlene (Wilson) Payne ’66 substitute teaches at Lake Dallas Middle School, from whence she retired in 2011. She also has a booth at Antique Experience in Denton, working there most weekends. Charlene & husband, Rev. Leonard Payne ’64, have lived in Denton many years; carleneleonard@gmail.com.

Phyllis (Lankford) Chapman ’69 has retired and will be moving, with her husband Stanton, from Houston to College Station; phyllis_africa@yahoo.com.

Delnor Poss ’56/AHOF of Midland, received the Dave Williams 2016 National Coach of the Year award from the Golf Coaches Association of America. The Midland College men’s golf coach is a member of HSU’s Athletics Hall of Fame; dposs@midland.edu.

Editor’s Note: All cities are in Texas unless otherwise noted. Email addresses are included when possible. Information reflects submissions received January 15-October 25, 2016. Acronyms posted on initial page of section.

1970s  Bill & Janis (Jensen) Altom, ’71 & ’69, met Larry & Mary (Callicoot) Baker, ’70 & ’71, while on a recent trip to Southern California. The Altoms are residents of Abilene, and the Bakers live in the Denver, CO, area; bill@altom.us; larrybaker@gmail.com.

Carroll Rhodes ’71 of Tahoka, has been honored for his long tenure as the high school band director. The Tahoka High band hall will bear his name whenever he retires; crhodes@tahokaisd.us.

Elizabeth Ann (Allen) King ’74 of Albany recently retired from Albany ISD after 41 years of service (kindergarten for 3 years and 2nd grade for 38 years); skadkingalbany@gmail.com.

Barry Dowell ’76 is now choir director at Borger High School in the Texas panhandle; barrydowell@sbcglobal.net.

1980s  Mark Best ’81 of Abilene has a new song, “For My Love and I,” with supporting vocals by daughter Hannah Best-Denton ’10 (markbestmusic.com). He also filmed a music video on the 3rd floor of HSU’s Caldwell Hall-a Civil Wars cover called “Barton Hollow”-with Bear his name whenever he retires; bill@altom.us; larrybaker@gmail.com.

Rene’ Maciel ’81/DAA/LDA is now Community Life pastor at First Baptist Church of Woodway, in Waco, after serving since 2007 as president of Baptist University of the Americas; rsmac1984@gmail.com.

Tim Tremaine ’81/’87 has published a book, “Officer Up! Creating a Climate for Appropriate Police Behavior” available at Amazon.com or www.officerup.us. Tim and wife Susan live in Arlington; tremainet@sbcglobal.net.

Paul Burkhalter ’82 became pastor of First Baptist Church Avery on 10/1/2016. He and Tracie (Churchill ’82) Burkhalter live in Avery.

Lance Johnson ’82 & Eileen Conner ’84 married on 6/4/16. They live in Arlington; betania510@gmail.com; eileenconnermd@gmail.com.
Stephanie (Thomas) Keck ’88 has been promoted by the U.S. Navy to Rear Admiral (lower half). With the promotion, she is now the deputy director for operations for the Joint Improvised-Threat Defeat Agency (JIDA), and is responsible for supporting combatant commanders with rapidly fused operational information, intelligence, and technology to enable the defeat of threat networks that employ improvised explosive devices as their weapons of choice. Her personal decorations include the Legion of Merit (three awards), Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service Medal (two awards), Meritorious Service Medal (three awards), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, and Joint Service Achievement. Rear Admiral Keck lives in Arlington, VA.

Rick Strange ’82/BOT of Midland has been named to the 2016 list of Super Lawyers for Energy & Natural Resources; rstrange@cbtd.com.

Rebecca Coffman ’85 of Huntington, NY, is Professor of Art and Chair of the Dept. of Visual Arts with Huntington University. She was recently awarded the Luke J. Peters Chair of Arts and Sciences, a three-year award carrying a reduced teaching load and annual professional development funds of $5000. She has over 30 years of experience in the area of ceramics and actively exhibits her work in galleries regionally and nationally; rcoffman@huntington.edu.

Jimmy Pogue ’85 was featured in a recent edition of “The Abilenian Magazine” for his far-reaching impact as an English teacher, UIL academic coordinator, and Student Council sponsor at Abilene’s Cooper High. For the past 14 years, as part of the school’s goal to implement service learning opportunities, the Student Council has been visiting Chinle, AZ, a rural Navajo agricultural town, with supplies and much-needed help. The students and chaperones load up an 18-wheeler with animal feed, clothing, and toys, and travel to the remote location for a chance to make an impact in the community; james.pogue@abileneisd.org.

Mrs. Patricia (Seldon) Logan ’88, won Ector County ISD’s World Class Leader in Education award. Patricia is in her 17th year of teaching with Ector.

1990s

J.J. Villarreal ’91/’93 was named Superintendent of Rockwall ISD on April 25, 2016. Previously he served as Assistant Superintendent for Student Services providing leadership for curriculum and instruction, board policy, athletics, fine arts, and principal supervision for Carroll ISD, one of the highest performing school districts in the state. Dr. Villarreal & wife Kim (Yarbough ’93) have three children, Josh, Matt, and Anna; john.villarreal@rockwallisd.org.

Karen (Allen) Cluck ’93, a teacher in the Abilene ISD’s Holland Medical Early College High School, contributed to learning materials the students are now using. Karen, who has spent the last 9 years at Holland Medical, contributed such quality material, the publishers asked her to provide both lab activities and assessment questions for four chapters.

Leighton Flowers ’93/OYA is the Director of Apologetics and Youth Evangelism for Texas Baptists, while also serving as an Associate Pastor at the First Baptist Church of Richardson. He & wife Laura (Flowers ’95) live in Garland with their children; leighton.flowers@texasbaptists.org.

Mrs. Patricia (Seldon) Logan ’88, won Ector County ISD’s World Class Leader in Education award. Patricia is in her 17th year of teaching with Ector.
Martha (Langford) Isom ‘00 passed her doctorate in math. Dr. Isom is now a professor at Hardin-Simmons; martha.isom@hsutx.edu.

Bill Poe ‘00 will be inducted into the McKinney ISD Athletic Hall of Honor Class of 2017. Bill & his family live in Ft. Worth.

Stacy (Cogdill) Dyck ‘02 has published an e-book on Amazon: “Stepping Stone: Finding Life and Love in a Foreign Land.” This true story follows Stacy as she travels to live abroad and, in so doing, finds herself and her future. Stacy, husband Johann, and young sons Jack and Lucas have recently relocated from Hungary to Weatherford; stacydyck@gmail.com.

Holly Rampa ‘02 of Dallas has been recognized on the Texas Super Lawyers list of Rising Stars for the third consecutive year. An attorney with Orsinger, Nelson, Downing & Anderson, LLP, Holly focuses her family law practice on providing effective and efficient counsel for clients in cases involving divorce, complex property division, modification actions, enforcement actions, and child custody issues; hramp@yahoo.com.

KraTaura (Buckner) Woodall ‘04 is the new Head Coach of Girls’ Basketball at Hirschi High, Wichita Falls; buck8602@aol.com.

Robbie & Cathy (Castagnos) Patty, both ‘06, and family live in Magnolia where he is the District Multimedia Coordinator for Magnolia ISD; mccathy23@hotmail.com.

Lauren (Brewer) Bass ‘07/10 & husband David live and work in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, as field personnel (missionaries) with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. Lauren has published a book: "Five Hundred Miles: Reflections on Calling and Pilgrimage" with Smyth & Helwys. www.helwys.com/sh-books/five-hundred-miles; davidandlaurenbass@gmail.com.

Mckade Marshall ‘08/09 has authored his second book, “Breathe,” available via www.McKadeMarshall.com. Miles McFarland ‘10 created all the design work for the book; mcmcfarland@gmail.com; mckademarshall@gmail.com.

Kalli (Donaway) Clement ‘09 of Rochester, PA, earned the Doctor of Clinical Sciences in Medical Speech-Language Pathology from University of Pittsburgh in October 2016. She is a speech pathologist at Rehabilitation Innovations, Inc. in Murrysville, PA. Kalli wed Chris Clement on 8/8/15; kdonaway@gmail.com.

Rode Owen ‘09 of Merkel is now the Student Accounts Manager/Cashier at Hardin-Simmons; rode.owen@hsutx.edu.

Caleb Steed ‘09/13 is the Regional Director of Student Recruitment over four Texas State Technical College campuses and is based at the East Williamson County Higher Education Center. He joined TSTC in 1/2015 as the director of institutional support services at the Abilene campus. His wife Julie (Pride ‘11/13) works for Health & Human Services where she is the Program Specialist for Women’s Substance Use Disorder Treatment Services for the State of Texas. They live in Hutto; steed52@hotmail.com.

Aaron & Addy (Gonzales) Edgar, ’10 & ’15, married on 9/19/2015 and live in Abilene; acedgar0@yahoo.com.

Todd & Nicole (Bondick) Henington, ’11 & ’12, of Abilene married on 7/9/2016; toddhenington12@hotmail.com.

Sterling Riddle ‘11, an Abilene Police Officer, recently received the Life Saving Award, one of the highest possible honors bestowed by the Police Dept. He and his partner were credited with saving the life of a 16-year-old girl severely injured from a car accident in May; sterling.riddle@gmail.com.

Sean Carlton ‘12 became head orchestra director at Newman Smith High in Fall 2016 and is only the third person in 37 years to hold that position. He and wife Heather (O’Brien ‘09/12) live in Dallas with their young daughter; heathobi@yahoo.com.

Erik Stewart ‘12 of Beeville has been named a partner in the Blake Fulenwider Ram Chrysler Dodge Jeep dealership in Beeville. A hardworking man of integrity, Erik has guided the Beeville dealership to a place of respect within the Blake Fulenwider family of dealerships; erik@blakedcj.com.

Tori (Whitmore) Nilsen of the Portuguese Azores & Brianna (Isacis) Melius ‘12 of Germany recently had a mini international HSU Alumni gathering.

Kayla (Dickerson) Conley ‘13/15 & Jonathan, of San Angelo, were married 6/4/2016; kayla_2109@msn.com.

Rachel Allen ’14 reports that she’s valued and enjoyed her two years with Camp BlueSky in Nairobi, Kenya, and looks forward to whatever the Lord has in store next; rachel.larue.allen@gmail.com.

Lyndsey Blagrave ’15 spent eight months working in the field, in communications, and traveling the country for the Ted Cruz for President campaign. When the campaign ended, Lyndsey officially moved to and settled in Washington DC. She now works as an associate data analyst for a politically-minded data firm Red Oak Strategic; lyndseyblagrave@gmail.com.

Pam Foster ’15, the first female to earn HSU’s Doctor of Ministry degree, is director of pastoral care at Cook Children’s Medical Center in Ft. Worth.

Marguerite Gray ’15 has released her second book, “Surround Me: Revolutionary Faith, Book Two,” set in 1773 Charles Town as a follow-up novel to “Hold Me Close,” her first novel which grew out of a study of her own family history. The two books are part of a four-part planned series of historical, faith-based novels in the “Revolutionary Faith” series. Marguerite & husband Wayne, an HSU Development Officer, live in Abilene; margueriteg@att.net.

Dylan & Shelby (Knox) Price, ’16 & ’15, wed in HSU’s Logsdon Chapel 6/18/2016; shelbob92@gmail.com; price.dylan12@gmail.com. Waco

Ryan Nettik ’16 is new the Community Supervision officer at the Johnson County Adult Probation office in Cleburne.
Anderson Neal and Elliott Joseph, twin boys of Monte & Tricia (Filippini) Garrett ’91/’00 & ’10, Weatherford, 3/4/2016; Montegarrett@gmail.com; musicaltrishgarrett@gmail.com.

Ivy Joy, daughter of Keisha & Brian Gage ’97, 10/20/2016, Abilene; brian.gage.cpa@gmail.com. Big sisters are Noelle Faith and Holly Grace.

Isaac Murphy, son of Stephanie & Dave Cone ’99, The Colony, 7/9/2016; pinecone127@hotmail.com.

Edna “Edie” Grace, daughter of Candis & Dennis Grover ’99/’03, Bartlesville, OK, 4/8/2016; dennisgrover@shcglobal.net.

Nixon Jac, son of Daniel & Tiffany (Ellison) Gutierrez ’99, and grandson of Terry & Zelda (Donaldson) Ellison, ’68 & ’71, Abilene, 8/6/2016; tgutzzl@gmail.com.

Mallory Kate, daughter of B.J. & Mandy (Hazzard) Johnson, ’00/’05 & ’04, Texas City, 12/31/15; mandyhazzard@hotmail.com. Big sister is Claire.

Richard Smith, son of Matt & Alida (Smith) Barnes, ’01 & ’02, Altadena, CA, 8/3/2016; alidaceleste@hotmail.com.

Mya Lois, daughter of Paul & Melanie (Orsak) Chonko ’01/’07, Abilene, 2/16/2016; mchonko@hsutx.edu.

Sylvie Drew, daughter of Craig & Rachel (Wilks) DeBell ’01, Plano, 3/31/2016; racheldebellphoto@gmail.com.

Ellie Mackenzie, daughter of Lisa (Luce) Prins ’01, Houston, 10/7/2015; lisaprin59@gmail.com.


Mayes Matthew, son of Ben & Ashlee (Gault) Johnson, ’04/’10 & ’03, Abilene, 7/30/2016; ben.e.johnson33@gmail.com.

All cities are in Texas unless otherwise noted. Information reflects submissions received 1/15/16-10/25/16.
Elenor Wren, daughter of Jasen & Brooke (Burelsmith) Brown ’04, Apopka, FL, 3/15/2016. Siblings are Masen (7) & Emery (5). Proud grands include Terry & Polly (Creech) Burlesmith, both ’76; brookebrown619@yahoo.com.

Evelyn Paige, daughter of Joshua & Jennifer (Dale) Essary, both ’05, Temple, 1/30/2016; joshuaessary@gmail.com; jennifer.essary@hotmail.com.

Micah Byron, son of Tim & Ashley (Smith) Harry, ’05/BYA & ’06/BYA, Odessa, 2/29/2016; Ashley.harry@me.com.


Reston John, son of Shanda & Pete Modica ’05, Abilene, 3/20/2016; Pete@ICAdvisors.net.

Eliana Rose Renee, daughter of Joy Renee (Garrett) Blackstock ’11, Brownwood, 8/30/2016; joyreneeb@gmail.com.

Rowen Jo, daughter of Justin & Kaitlin (Brockman) Belcher ’10/14, Stanton, 9/19/2016; kaitlinabelcher@gmail.com.

Polly Jane, daughter of Grant & Sierra (Glaspie) Greenwood, both ’10/12, Abilene, 3/8/2016; grant.t.greenwood@hsutx.edu; sierra.j.greenwood@hsutx.edu.

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Alumni Association, Box 16102, Abilene, TX 79698
alumni@hsutx.edu
Mrs. Alline (Ford) Brown ’31x, 2/18/2016. 
Mr. Marion Brunette ’38x, 3/20/2016. 
Dr. Charles “Wayne” Evans ’40BS/’61HD/BOT/KASA, 3/1/2016. Founder of David Wayne Evans Cowboy Band scholarship & Wayne and Zona Evans scholarship. Survivors include daughter Dr. Jan E. Patterson ’78/BOT. 
Mrs. Rachael (Hay) McAdoo ’40, 6/14/2016. 
Ms. Frances Osborne ’40, 4/17/16. Lifetime member HSU Presidents Club & John G. Hardin Society. 
Mrs. Maurice (King) Snyder ’40, 9/17/2016. 
Mr. T om Swayzee ’42, 8/18/2016. Survived by wife Frances. 
Mrs. Emogene (Campbell) Davis ’43x, 3/22/2016. 
Mrs. Dora (Smith) Pendley ’41x, 2/21/2016. Survived by husband Mrs. Ada (Deacon) Rexrode ’57x, 8/14/2016. 
Mr. Carroll Goldsmith ’46x, 9/15/2016. Among survivors: brother Warren ’52, son Randy ’70. 
Mr. John “Red” Cleveland ’48/AHOF/AAB, 5/16/2016. 
Ms. Jimmie (Mayfield) Everts ’48x, 6/18/2016. Survivors include nephews Philip ’78/AHOF & Jay Tippen ’05. 
Mr. Dorvan “DP” James ’48x, 10/6/2016. DP had such good memories of HSU plus a few unusual ones such as carrying furniture out from the burning Abilene Hall, and standing in line during a sandstorm to register for classes. 
Mr. Bert Mann ’49, 8/13/2016. Survived by wife Dorothy (Crabtree) Mann ’50. 
Mr. Richard Merchant ’49, 12/15/2015. Survived by wife Patt. 
Dr. Nelson Dyess ’51/BOD/DAA, 7/7/2016. Survivors include wife Mary Alice & sister Dianne (D.) Powell ’71. 
Mr. Raymond Cowan ’52, 1/14/2016. Survived by wife Nina (Brown ’63). 
Mrs. Marion (Kelley) Bullock ’53x, 3/22/2016. Survived by husband Johnny Bullock ’53. 
Mr. Marvin Thompson ’53x, 4/20/2016. 
Mr. Marshall Barnes ’54x, 6/12/2016. Survived by wife Glenna. 
Ms. Frances Knight ’54/DAA, 10/9/2016. 
Mr. Jack Copeland ’57, 1/26/2016. 
Mr. Joe Fielder ’57x, 7/11/2016. Survived by wife Gayla (Lewis ’62). 
Dr. Marilyn (Holder) Mcham ’57x, 1/16/2016. 
Mr. James Orth ’58, 8/2/2016. Survived by wife Valetta (Spencer ’56x). 
Mr. Don Cunningham ’58, 7/31/2016. Survived by wife Maryetta. 
Mr. Ronnie Westfall ’59x, 2/28/16. Survived by daughter Ronda ’07 & sister Helen (W. ’60x) Langham.
Mr. Arthur “Mel” Cunningham ’61, 9/15/2016.

Mrs. Sarah (Holloway) Horn ’61, 12/25/2015.


Mr. Wally Sherertz (stage name Michael Shelle) ’63/DAA, 2/14/2016. Survived by wife Peggy (Graham) Sherertz ’62.

Mr. Steve Marshall ’64, 2/5/2016.

Mr. Don Hibbitts ’67, 7/20/16.

Rev. Donald “Buster” Reeves ’68, 8/15/2016. Survived by wife Sandy.

Mr. Bob Graham ’70, 3/7/2016. Survived by wife Sue (McCaslin ’62x).

Mrs. Pat (May) Kelley ’70/AAB, 5/18/2016.

Mr. Charles Cason III ’71/’74, 8/26/2016.

Mr. Roger Wright ’71, 4/12/2016. Survivors include wife Kathy (Ensminger ’75/AAB).


Mrs. Dian (Tyler) Willis ’76, 2/23/2016. Among survivors is son Teddy ’11.

Dr. Arturo “Art” Reyes ’77, 1/23/2016. Survived by wife Brenda, brother Hiren ’81x.

Mr. Tommy Cook ’78, 9/18/2016. Survivors include brother Terry & Cindy (Rotan) Cook both ’79.

Mr. George Koehl, III ’78/’80, 8/19/2016. Among survivors: wife DiAnn (Schmidt ’79).

Dr. Rebecca (Bartlett) Reynolds ’78, 3/25/2016. Survived by husband Dr. Jerry ’55.

Mrs. Starla (Stewart) Jordan ’79, 8/15/2016. Survived by husband Earl ’74, sister Angela (S.) Lewis ’73.

Mr. Glenn Kueck ’79, 10/23/2016. Survived by wife Becky (Bowman ’79), mother Betty (Jarrard-Kueck) Mann ’69.

Mr. Billy Kilpatrick ’80, 5/29/2016.

Ms. Shelley Mcleroy ’80, 4/8/2016.

Mr. Steve Boney ’81, 8/19/2016.

Mrs. Margaret (Tyer) Meadows ’85, 2/27/2016. Survived by husband Joe.

Mr. John Stewart ’85, 7/25/2016. Survived by wife Karel (Mercer ’88).

Mr. Douglas Dehnel ’86, 4/17/2016. Survived by wife Sharon (Rosenbrock ’87) & father Raymond ’47.


Dr. Lynn Craft ’04HD/BOT, 5/31/2016. Survived by wife Becky.

SGT James Barrett ’06, 8/1/2016. Survived by sister Reyna (B.) McMillon ’02.


Mr. Chad Hall, 10/17/2016. Survivors include parents Dr. Lanny & Carol Hall, sister Lana (Hall) & Johnathan McCutchen, ’01 & ’05x.


Mr. Merlin Morrow, former Faculty, 9/21/2016. Survivors include wife Charlene & daughter Cindy (H.) Wier ’73/’03.

Ms. Margaret Ann Thomas, former Staff, 2/25/2016.

Mrs. Wanda Whitis, former Staff, 6/18/2016. Survived by son Robert ’78.

Mr. Larry Young, former Faculty, 8/1/2016. Survivors include wife Mariela (Losada) ’68 & daughters Belinda & Ane "Nina" (Young) ’88/’96.

Mr. Tommie Sells, former Faculty, 7/14/2016. Among survivors: SIL Susan (Sells) Mecca ’73, son Tommie ’81.

Dr. Kenneth Lett, former Faculty, 8/4/2016. Survivors include wife Carol (Hr.) ’74.

Mr. Jerry R. Jones, former Faculty, 7/30/2016. Among survivors: SIL Nancy (McLowery) ’88, daughter Julie ’85.

Dr. Charles W. Garraway, former HSU Faculty, 5/23/2016. Survived by wife Dr. Martha (Stennett) ’88, daughter Grace (G.) Butler ’88.

Mr. Paul Graham, friend, 9/18/2016.

Mrs. Vera (Smith) Haire, 7/11/2016. Survivors include by daughters Dr. Carol Haire, former HSU Dir. of Speech Pathology; Babs Haire ’88 & Sue (H.) Lombardi. Vera and John G. Hardin were cousins.
experience
HSU THEATRE

Sylvia
By A.R. Gurney

Directed by Mariela Gomez
Dom Luiz State Van Ellis Theatre

January 26, 27, 28 at 7:30pm & January 29 at 2:00pm

All The World’s A Grave

Ceremonies for the 1915
April 23, 24 at 7:30pm & April 25 at 2:00pm

Godspell
By Stephen Schwartz

March 30, 31, April 1, 6, 7, 8 at 7:30pm & April 9 at 2:00pm

DirectFest

April 26, 27, 28, 29 at 7:30pm

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*The Economic Value of College Majors, Georgetown University, 2015
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☐ Name misspelled  ☐ Contact person changed  ☐ Received more than one copy