

# SBUlife

Magazine of Southwest Baptist University Winter 2014

## *A Shared Passion*

*Professor involves students in unique research opportunities*

President's Report 2013

# Guess Who?

*The annual Mr. and Ms. Southwest pageant is coming up on Friday, March 7. Candidates are nominated by faculty and staff and then voted on by the student body. Can you name any of these past SBU royalty pictured below? Send in your answers to be entered into a prize drawing.*

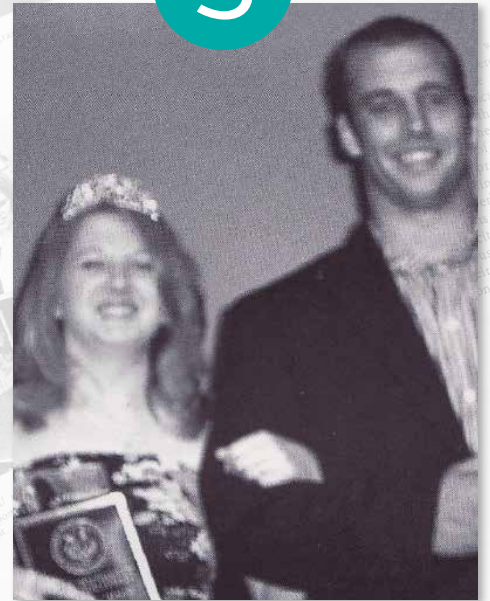
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Thanks to all who responded to the Guess Who contest in the previous issue. The pictured Homecoming queens were Jenny Cherry, Lori Crum and Kathy Bozarth.

**The following all submitted correct responses:** Gary Adolph, Barb Bickford, Michael Brenneis, Jerry Carlisle, Earl and Janice Cooper, Katherine Dasal, Charlotte West Earp, Jane Flora, Martha Green, Doug Hamilton, Cliff Hutchins, Dolly Koon, Anita Martin, Kelly Miller, Susan O'Bryan, Patricia Oglesby, Carol Pendergrass, Rosemary Postlewait, Peggy Prather, Joseph Scott, Stan Sullinger, Judy Warren, Brad Weeks, Charles Wright, Jackie Wright

Congratulations to Doug Hamilton, who won the prize package.

Submit your guesses by email to [SBUcommunications@gmail.com](mailto:SBUcommunications@gmail.com) or by mail to: Office of Marketing and Communications, 1600 University Ave., Bolivar MO 65613. Entries must be received by March 21.



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SBUlife highlights the University's mission: to be a Christ-centered, caring academic community preparing students to be servant leaders in a global society. SBU does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, gender, age, marital status or disability. Any person having inquiries regarding this may contact Ron Maupin (417) 328-1511.



Discovering answers

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President's Report 2013

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# A shared passion

## *Professor involves students in unique research opportunities*

BY REBEKAH WRIGHT '10

One of SBU's newest biology faculty members has a passion for practical research and is sharing that passion with his students, allowing them the opportunity to join him in unique undergraduate research opportunities. This research experience makes SBU biology students some of the most qualified candidates for graduate schools and is also helping them discover their own God-given callings.

Dr. Tao Wei's extensive ongoing research in microbiology currently focuses primarily on studying biofilms, which are colonies of bacteria that form on biotic or abiotic surfaces, can resist traditional antibiotic treatments and cause chronic infections in the immunocompromised.

Wei says this research is important because the public needs to know about possible side effects of antibiotics involving biofilms. So far, Wei's research has discovered that some antibiotics can actually increase biofilm formation. Thus, when biofilms form to cause an infection, some antibiotics may actually contribute to making the problem chronic.

Dr. Wei's extensive research and enthusiasm about biology is impressive, but what matters more is his desire to see his students learn and succeed. At the start of the 2013-14 academic year, Dr. Wei was selected as the Faculty Newcomer of the Year. In his nomination, one student said of Dr. Wei, "I like that he has us think critically



“I love the lab work and the opportunity to apply what I’m learning and think creatively.”

-Kara Phipps

about experiments so that we come to conclusions with our own thoughts, rather than spoon feeding us the answers; this helps us develop thinking skills while learning and understanding the information.”

Wei has recruited several students to help with his ongoing research, giving them the unique opportunity to participate in scientific research at the undergraduate level. Kara Phipps, senior biology major, has long dreamed of pursuing a career in scientific research. By working as a lab assistant for Dr. Wei, she has had the opportunity to play a critical role in this research.

Last summer she participated in SBU’s Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE) program, which enables SBU students to experience significant research projects with SBU faculty. This led to Kara’s senior capstone project for the Dutile Honors Program. With Wei, she has co-authored a recent journal article and received invaluable experience

with lab work and presenting research findings. After graduation in May, Kara plans to go on to graduate school and says that this lab experience she is receiving at SBU is making her dreams possible.

The opportunity to participate in undergraduate research with Dr. Wei has been so profound for Kara that she recruited several more students to help, including Annie Wolfe, ’13, and Ellie Fjellman, junior.

“I love getting to think for myself, design experiments and discover answers,” Annie said.

Ellie just recently switched to a biology major and wanted to have hands-on experience.

“I figured this would be the best way to transition to a new major and they need younger students to ensure the research keeps moving forward,” she said.

The students explained that in a typical week they read journal articles and then meet with Dr. Wei to discuss what they read. Based on that discussion,

they develop research questions, design experiments and spend their weekends in the lab conducting experiments and compiling results.

“I’m learning how to manage and organize an entire research process,” Kara said. “I love the lab work and the opportunity to apply what I’m learning and to think creatively.”

According to Wei, undergraduate research opportunities are a great asset for SBU and ensure our students are well-prepared and top candidates for graduate schools.

“I’ve met the most intelligent students at SBU since I came,” he said. “I really enjoy working with them, and I can’t do this without them.”

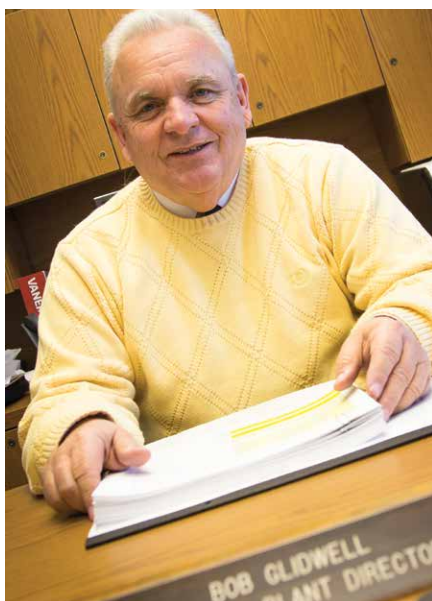
For Kara and other students, this is a dream come true.

“Some days, I wake up and realize how blessed I am to be working on things I love to do in a place I love,” she said. “I am so glad God opened doors for me to pursue undergraduate research at SBU!”

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# Questions

## with **Bob Glidwell**



*In each issue of SBULife magazine, we interview one of our staff members so you can meet the people who help make SBU a Christ-centered, caring academic community.*

*Staff and Faculty Life Beautiful awards are given annually to employees who exemplify a “life beautiful.” Bob Glidwell, director of physical plant, received the staff award, while Dana Steward, instructor of university studies and director of the University Success Center received the faculty award. Glidwell is featured in this issue.*

### **How many years have you worked at SBU?**

32

### **What positions have you held at SBU?**

I started working here as the game room manager and bowling coach and then became the physical plant director, a position I have held for 28 years.

### **What does a typical day look like for you at SBU?**

There are so many different facets to my job — which makes my job so much more enjoyable. Usually, I start the day by talking to the maintenance staff about what is happening around campus. From there, I handle items such as budgeting and overseeing building projects.

### **What is your community involvement?**

I am involved mostly through my church, First Baptist Church of Bolivar. I am a trustee, have previously taught Sunday school and am a charter member of the church orchestra and play the clarinet.

### **What is SBU’s greatest asset?**

The people. I have a really good rapport with all the staff. We truly have people who are dedicated.



# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

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## Dear Alumni, Friends and Donors,

Is Christian higher education worth the price? Is the work I do for SBU worth it? After more than 17 years as president of SBU, and as I am getting older, I often ponder these kinds of questions.

A large percentage of my time is spent fundraising for projects, scholarships and to grow the endowment. A year ago January, I had spent a day in meetings in Jefferson City and that night I had driven to Kansas City for dinner with a young couple who had graduated during my early years at SBU. This young couple has become very successful in their careers and is giving back to their alma mater. My purpose that evening was to ask them to make a gift to the track and turf project. After dinner we talked for about two hours. By the time I left Kansas City to return to Jefferson City, it was very late and I had meetings the next day beginning at 7:30 a.m. at the Capitol. During the drive back, I was very tired and I began to think, "Why am I doing this? Is it worth it? How can I justify asking donors to give their hard-earned money to SBU for projects and to assist students with financial challenges?" By the time I arrived in Jefferson City during the early hours of the morning, I had reassured myself that it is indeed worth the effort and SBU and our students are a good investment for our donors.

I have often thought about that night and the deep reflections I had during the drive from Kansas City to Jefferson City. There have been two particular moments that have reassured me that my work and the investment by our donors is important.

During late summer, the turf and track project was completed. When I saw the enthusiasm of football players and the coaches when they first ran onto the new turf, and when the track coaches and some of the track athletes (who have been very successful without a track) saw the new track, I knew it was worth the effort and time I had invested. I knew our donors who had invested in this project would be pleased.

During this past December, I was made aware that one of our excellent students had not returned for her junior year. This student had been involved in numerous activities and was considered a leader in her dorm. I know how much she loves SBU and I was shocked to find that she was attending a state university. When I contacted her family, I found that they had had a serious family illness and she did not have the funds to return to SBU. Each fall I appeal to a group of donors to help fund deserving students who need financial assistance. I immediately knew she would be a student who deserved assistance from this fund. After I looked at her financial aid package and determined how much aid she would need to return to SBU, I called her to tell her that all of her costs to attend SBU would be taken care of. When I read the thank you letter she wrote, saw her in the cafeteria the first week of the spring semester, and heard her say how great it is to be back home at SBU, I realized once again that the energy and time I spend raising money for students is worth it. I can enthusiastically ask donors for contributions to assist students in receiving a quality Christian education at SBU.

What we do at SBU is important. It is important for current students and it is important for the future of our society because of what our SBU graduates will do in the years to come. I will continue to make these long, middle of the night trips as long as I can, and I will continue to seek contributions for students because they are worth it. Christian higher education is worth the price!

C. Pat Taylor  
President

2012-13

## REVENUE BUDGET

### Educational and General

Tuition & Fees	\$41,045,858	79.29%
Missouri Baptist Convention	\$1,250,000	2.41%
Other Undesignated Gifting	\$600,000	1.16%
Investment Earnings	\$172,600	0.33%
Financial Aid Revenue	\$1,154,811	2.23%
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$433,259	0.84%
Auxiliary Enterprise Revenue	\$7,113,472	13.74%
<b>Total Revenue Budget</b>	<b>\$51,770,000</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

## EXPENSE SUMMARY

### Educational and General

Instructional and Departmental	\$13,825,679	26.7%
Organized Activities	\$2,933,925	5.67%
Library	\$1,311,164	2.53%
Student Services	\$2,811,693	5.43%
Operation/Maintenance of Plant	\$3,497,688	6.76%
Administration	\$1,740,969	3.36%
Staff Benefits	\$1,340,333	2.59%
General Institutional	\$3,758,647	7.26%
Student Aid	\$15,567,622	30.07%
Debt Retirement	\$1,108,821	2.14%
<b>Total Education and General</b>	<b>\$47,896,541</b>	<b>92.52%</b>

### Auxiliary Expenses

<b>Total Auxiliary Enterprises</b>	<b>\$3,873,459</b>	<b>7.48%</b>
<b>Total Expense Budget</b>	<b>\$51,770,000</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

**3,812**  
TOTAL STUDENTS

**1,348**  
MEN

**2,464**  
WOMEN

**2,962**  
UNDERGRADUATE

**850**  
GRADUATE

**3.5**  
AVERAGE GPA FOR INCOMING  
FRESHMEN

**23.2**  
MEAN ACT FOR INCOMING  
FRESHMEN

**\$19,200**  
TUITION (UNDERGRADUATE)

**129**  
TOTAL FACULTY (FULL TIME)

**159**  
TOTAL STAFF (FULL TIME)

**16:1**  
STUDENT-TO-FACULTY RATIO

**68%**  
PERCENTAGE OF FULL-TIME  
FACULTY WITH A DOCTORATE  
OR OTHER TERMINAL DEGREE



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“My parents aren’t able to help me pay for college. Getting a scholarship has really taken a huge burden off of me financially and allowed me to focus on school and being involved and not have to worry about where this extra money is going to come from.”

**Michael Gooley,**  
*junior, computer information science  
and business management*



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Missouri Baptist Convention, Jefferson City, Mo.  
First Baptist Church, Bolivar, Mo.  
J.E. & L.E. Mabee Foundation, Tulsa, Okla.  
Robert W. Plaster Foundation, Lebanon, Mo.

### LEGACY SOCIETY \$20,000 - \$49,999

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Fresh Ideas Food Service Management, Columbia, Mo.  
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Judson Young Memorial Educational Foundation Inc., Salem, Mo.  
Mercy Accounts Payable Shared Services, Springfield, Mo.  
Missouri Baptist Foundation, Jefferson City, Mo.  
Missouri Colleges Fund, Jefferson, Mo.  
Musgrave Foundation, Springfield, Mo.  
Scholarship America Foundation, Saint Peter, Minn.  
Sunderland Foundation, Overland Park, Kan.  
TUA Glenn Nursing Scholarship, Providence, R.I.

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Cooper Foundation, Springfield, Mo.  
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First Baptist Church, Lebanon, Mo.  
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Cabool Saddle Club, Cabool, Mo.  
Calvary Baptist Church, Alton, Ill.  
Calvary Baptist Church, Republic, Mo.  
Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, Bolivar, Mo.

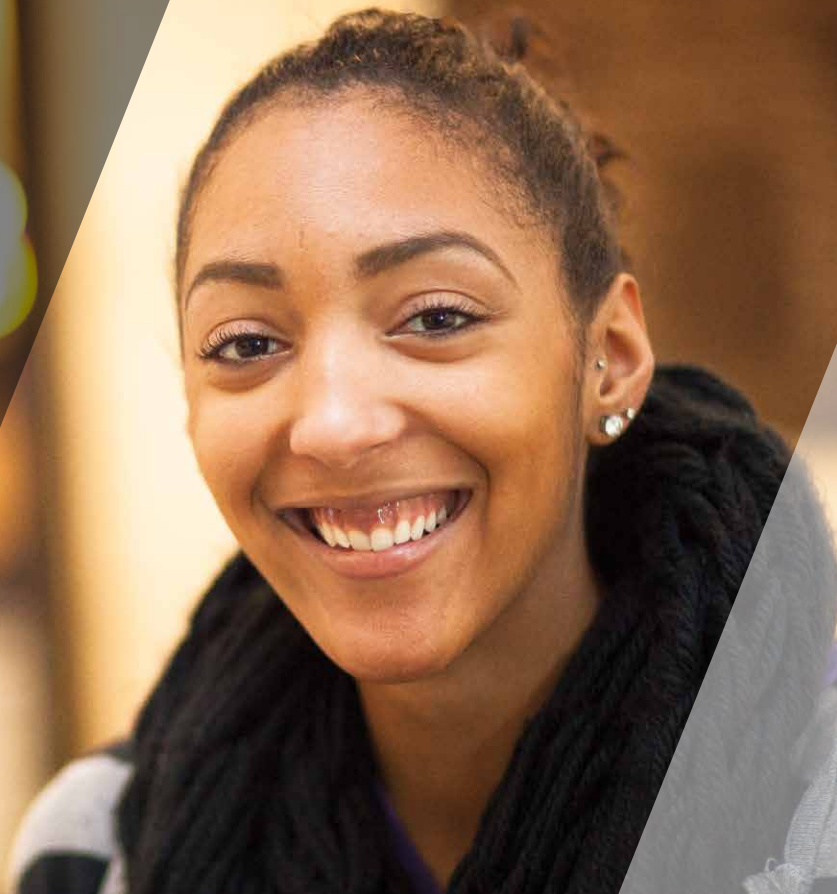


Canaan Baptist Church, Saint Louis, Mo.  
 Carl and Anna Carson Memorial Scholarship, Bolivar, Mo.  
 Carpenter Street Baptist Church, Moberly, Mo.  
 CCS Investments Inc., Bartlesville, Okla.  
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 Greater Kansas City Community Foundation, Kansas City, Mo.  
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 Heritage Baptist Temple, Lebanon, Mo.  
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 Rhodes Concrete and Construction, Bolivar, Mo.

“Thank you for these scholarships. It shows that there are people out there that really do want to give back and that they really do care about students who are trying to make better of themselves.”

***O'Leesa Booker,***  
*sophomore,*  
*secondary education*



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“I am married, so it is really great to have that extra little source of income and scholarship money to help us get through. We are so grateful for your blessings and thank you so much.”

**Becky Booth,**  
*junior,*  
*exercise science,*  
*pre-physical therapy*

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That free Chipotle tonight was stellar. #SBUniv  
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Getting ready to leave for my first day of classes for second semester! Time is flying. #SBUniv  
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It's always refreshing to hear your Dean tell you how proud he is of you and the hard work you do. #SBUniv #SBUcobacs #enactus  
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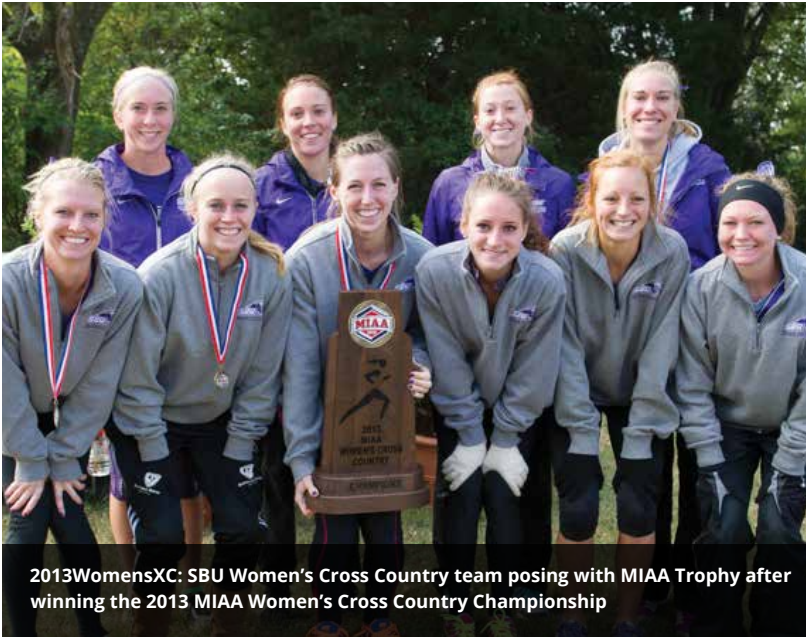
I love going to a school where we can gather as a body of believers and worship! #SBUniv #Locamente  
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#sbuniv is officially engraved on a well in the middle of nowhere in Senegal that will be used to begin advancing the Kingdom in a nearby village. #represent  
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2013WomensXC: SBU Women's Cross Country team posing with MIAA Trophy after winning the 2013 MIAA Women's Cross Country Championship

## SBU Women's Sports Find National Success During Fall Season

BY JEFF WESELOH '09, M.B.A. '13

The Southwest Baptist University women's sports had record setting seasons in the fall portion of competition during the 2013-14 school year. The women's soccer team made the NCAA National Tournament, women's cross country competed in the NCAA National Meet and two women's tennis players represented Southwest Baptist at the USTA/ITA Small College Nationals.

For the first time in school history the women's cross country team advanced to the NCAA National Championships, recording the most successful season in the program's history with a 12<sup>th</sup>-place finish. This marks the second-highest national finish of any women's team in the history of Southwest Baptist.

Prior to competing in the National Meet, SBU claimed its first-ever MIAA Championship for women's cross country. Numerous athletes were given both conference and regional awards with Ashley Wolkomir and Karissa Fisher earning both All-MIAA and All-Region honors. Briana Watson was also named All-Region to go along with All-MIAA Honorable Mention honors, while Elizabeth Luckel and Krenda McClure

earned All-MIAA honors and Katherine Sitzes and Christina Owensby earned All-MIAA Honorable Mention honors.

The women's soccer team recorded the second most wins in school history while also making its second appearance in the NCAA National Tournament. SBU's season came to a close in the opening round of the NCAA Tournament with a hard fought 1-1 tie against No. 22-ranked Winona State, but the Bearcats fell in penalty kicks 5-4. The Bearcats received the automatic berth into the NCAA National Tournament by claiming their first ever MIAA Women's Soccer Tournament Championship Title.

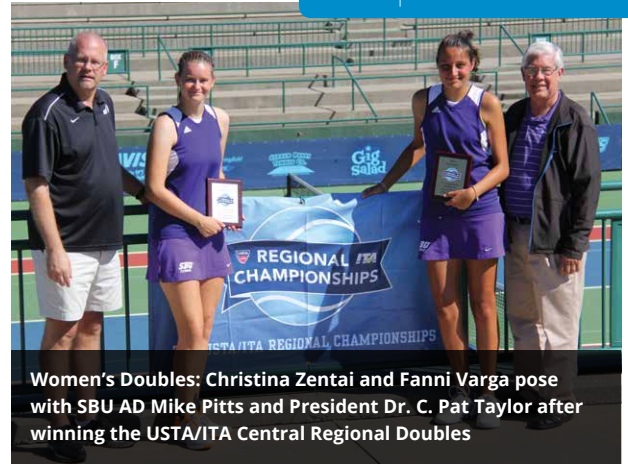
The Bearcats once again received national recognition for their performance on the field. Ashley Creason led the way by earning All-American Honorable Mention honors to go along with First Team All-Region and Second Team All-MIAA honors. Karla Jamison and Kate Jamison both earned Second Team All-Region after earning Second Team All-MIAA honors. Camala James and Elin Hammar were both named Third Team All-MIAA, while Paige Hemphill and Ali Skogrand were both named All-MIAA Honorable Mention.

After advancing to the Elite 8 in last

year's NCAA National Tournament, the women's tennis team continued its national success during the fall portion of the season. At the USTA/ITA Fall Central Regional Championships, the Bearcats swept both singles and doubles championships. Fanni Varga claimed her second straight USTA/ITA Central Regional Singles Title, with teammate Mehak Singh finishing as runner-up, while the doubles team of Varga and Christina Zentai claimed the USTA/ITA Central Regional Doubles Title. With the victories, Varga and Zentai advanced to the USTA/ITA Small College Nationals.

At Nationals, the doubles team of Varga and Zentai won the first round match, and eventually took home a fourth-place finish in the tournament. In singles action, Varga advanced to the championship match, but would finish as the runner-up, taking second in the nation.

With the national success Southwest Baptist is having this season, the Bearcats are poised to have the highest finish in the Learfield Sports Directors' Cup Standings in the history of the University.



Women's Doubles: Christina Zentai and Fanni Varga pose with SBU AD Mike Pitts and President Dr. C. Pat Taylor after winning the USTA/ITA Central Regional Doubles



SBU Women's Cross Country Regionals Team posing after the race. From left to right: BACK ROW Krenda McClure, Elizabeth Luckel, Corey McElhaney, Katherine Sitzes, Christina Owensby FRONT ROW Karissa Fisher, Ashley Wolkomir, Briana Watson

## 1968

**Faye (Crum Werries) Waters** was remarried on May 12, 2013. She and her husband live in Gladstone, Mo., and she would love to hear from classmates. 5909 N Michigan Ave, Gladstone, MO 64118. [flwerries@aol.com](mailto:flwerries@aol.com)

## 1970

**David Lechliter** has moved his area of ministry from pastoring at a church to the public school system. He teaches high school English at Dibble High School in Dibble, Okla. The Rev. Lechliter has now taught for 18 years in both private and public education and will probably never really retire. He and his wife, Nancy, have three grown children and are active members of the Council Road Baptist Church in Bethany, Okla. The Rev. Lechliter loved his years at SWBC and is proud to be a graduate of such a wonderful school. 136 Lochwood Lane, Yukon, OK 73099.

**Janet (Cottrell) and David Wells** have three grown, married children and seven beautiful grandchildren, all living within a 20-mile radius of where they live. Janet received her master's degree in education from SBU in 2001. She retired in 2011 from the Marshfield R-I School District in Marshfield, Mo., as a special education teacher. She recently published her first children's book, "For Petey's Sake," through Balboa Press. The book is available through Amazon.com.

## 1978

**Larry Scantlan** celebrated his first wedding anniversary with his wife, Donna, on December 12, 2013. In August, he accepted a position with Bank of America in St. Charles, Mo., as a Home Services Specialist II. Larry is serving on the worship team with Calvary Church, a multi-site ERCA church. He and his wife also serve as ushers.

## 1979

**Cindy (Gibbs) Blasa** would love to reconnect with classmates. 4437 McCoy Rd, Bethalto, IL 62010. [cindyblasa@gmail.com](mailto:cindyblasa@gmail.com)

## 1984

**Joe Coppedge** is married to **Judy (Bennett) '98** and is the Director of Missions for the Mid-Lakes Baptist Association of the Missouri Baptist Convention. 722 E. South St, Bolivar, MO 65313.

## 1985

**Sandra (Dubro) and Brian Ballingall** celebrated 20 years of marriage on October 30, 2013. They were married on a snowy day in Atlanta, Ga. 203 Kiowa Ct., Acworth, GA 30102. [smdbubro@bellsouth.net](mailto:smdbubro@bellsouth.net)

## 2001

**Robert Catts** recently graduated from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and is now pursuing full-time employment in ministry and/or IT.

**Danny Pierce** and his family are currently living in southeast Asia but mostly want to remind everyone to celebrate the Red Sox winning the 2013 World Series! He would also love to hear from anyone as well. [dannysletters@hotmail.com](mailto:dannysletters@hotmail.com)

## 2003

**Addie (Eaton) and her husband Matt Walters '03** celebrated their tenth wedding anniversary in November! Their "kids" consist of rescued dogs. Matt is the head varsity baseball coach at Lincoln Park Academy, a top-ranked magnet school in southern Florida, and Addie is an RN case manager for Treasure Coast Hospice.

## 2007

**Heather Renee Gooch** is in her second year as Hall Director at Cottey College. She credits campus life at SBU for inspiring her to pursue a career in student life and higher education. 1000 W. Austin Blvd., Nevada, MO 64772. [hrgooch@gmail.com](mailto:hrgooch@gmail.com)

## 2013

**Minda Cox** recently published an autobiography called, "Ordinary." Minda was one of the two recipient's of SBU's Life Beautiful award in 2013. The book is available for purchase in the SBU bookstore.

## Future Bearcats

**Michael Summers '96 and Holly (Thompson) '06** would like to announce the birth of their first child, Stephen Michael Summers. He was born on October 15, 2013. Michael is serving as bi-vocational pastor at Bass Chapel Baptist Church near Fair Grove, Mo. and working at the corporate offices of O'Reilly Auto Parts in Springfield. Holly is a full-time wife and mother. 233 N. Kellen St., Fair Grove, MO 65648. [mjspreacher@gmail.com](mailto:mjspreacher@gmail.com)

**Brian Walker '02** and his wife, Amanda, finalized the adoption of their children, Keith, 6 and Nikki, 5 on October 15, 2013. Keith and Nikki have been with the Walkers as foster children since April 2012 and are now officially future Bearcats. 8724 S. Evanston Ave, Tulsa, OK 74137. [bw229882@yahoo.com](mailto:bw229882@yahoo.com)

**David Latall '03** and his wife, **Elizabeth (Lueker) '04**, would like to announce the birth of their daughter, Ruby Grace Latall, on August 19, 2013. Ruby joins proud big siblings Josiah, 5 and Jayna, 1.5. She is named after her beloved great-grandmother, Ruby Edwards.

**Jonathan Bishop '07** and his wife, Teresa, adopted Morgan Dean Bishop in April 2012. Jonathan is a former student supervisor at the Meyer Wellness Center and is in his seventh year teaching K-12 physical education and coaching boys' basketball

and track. Jonathan and Teresa live in Fayette, Mo. with Morgan, their dog, Esther, and cat, Sam. 404 Herndon St., Fayette, MO 65248. [jonchas1@yahoo.com](mailto:jonchas1@yahoo.com)



## In memory

**Camilla Rees Anderson '59** of Colorado Springs, Colo., passed away in March, 2013. She was employed by SWBC in 1962-63.

**Mary Helen (Hewitt) Timbrook**, who attended SWBC in 68-69 and later married Sam Timbrook '71, passed away September 5, 2013, after a long battle with muscular dystrophy. She graduated from William Woods University and taught for many years in Missouri schools. Sam can be reached at 241 N Stardust Ln., Columbia, MO 65201. [samltimbrook@msn.com](mailto:samltimbrook@msn.com).

**Michelle (Langston) McGregor '89** passed away September 15, 2013, after a battle with breast cancer. Michelle was originally from Springfield, Mo. She and her husband, Ken, lived in Hawaii with their two daughters where Michelle taught school for 20 years.

**Jacquelyn (Williams) Reierson '63**, passed away October 19, 2013. She graduated from Southwest Baptist College and from Mississippi College with honors. She was also the female Life Beautiful recipient at SWBC in 1963. She worked at the Missouri Baptist Children's Home in St. Louis, Mo. for several years. She and her husband, Jerry, had many foster children live with them and also sponsored refugees to give them a place to live until they found a job and had the confidence to live on their own.

**Mae Parsons**, who was a dorm supervisor at SBU and Ouachita Baptist University, passed away December 23, 2013.

**Dr. Frank Claiborne** passed away January 13, 2014. He attended Southwest Baptist College beginning in 1947 and later was awarded an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from SBU in 2006. He helped start more than 48 churches in Missouri and Kansas.

# Thank you!

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To learn more about how you can help grow the scholarship program, contact the Office of University Relations at [417-328-1801](tel:417-328-1801).

# SBUlife

Southwest Baptist University  
1600 University Avenue  
Bolivar, MO 65613



# HOMECOMING 2014

**OCTOBER 3-4**

Mark your calendars and make plans to join us  
for Homecoming 2014 on the SBU Campus!

[www.sbuniv.edu/alumni/homecoming](http://www.sbuniv.edu/alumni/homecoming)