

WINTER 2020

SBUlife

ALUMNI MAGAZINE



Expanding our **GLOBAL FOOTPRINT**

SBU Global focuses on “bringing the world to Bolivar and sending our students around the world.”

ALSO INSIDE

Four outstanding athletes inducted as part of the SBU Athletics Hall of Fame

PAGE 20

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GUESS WHO?

Read what people are sharing about SBU.



@arobidou22



@ciarrajae_



[@TheCursiveJ](#) It's so very comforting watching the president of my University worship. Now that's something you don't see at every university! #ilovesbu #sbuniv

[@kpatters](#) I have loved this campus since the first time I stepped on it 37 years ago and felt God is @ work here. It is a little more beautiful this morning!! #sbuniv

[@bebravebren](#)

today I:
-slept in
-had lunch with my best friends
-got Kaldi's on a Saturday !!
-did a Bible study with my best gals & now I get to sit in the dorm I love and greet prospective students on tours.

Just a few of the reasons why I love #SBUUniv



@shellsbrood

[@jayohnson1](#) I got to start my semester praising God with some of my favorite people!!! Luv u @SBUUniv

Izzie enjoying the Festival of Christmas at @SBUUniv. #SBUUniv



@rollin_amadeus_



This year has been a huge blessing! I love my hall and my girls! Junior year is the best year! #woodyfirst#sbu



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going Global

DR. KELLY MALONE LEADING NEW GLOBAL INITIATIVE AT SBU

BY CHARLOTTE HIGHSMITH MARSCH '97

Dr. Kelly Malone is leading a new SBU Global initiative as director of global education at Southwest Baptist University.

“We want to make our university setting an accepting environment for students of different cultures, ethnicities and languages,” Malone said. “We are strengthening SBU’s mission impact by bringing the world to Bolivar and sending our students around the world.”



Malone also is continuing his role as a professor and study abroad coordinator in SBU's Intercultural Studies program. Malone and his family served 15 years as missionaries in Japan with the International Mission Board before he started teaching at SBU in 2007.

"Dr. Malone's experience living and serving abroad gives him a great perspective of the needs of

create a long-term plan for sustainability," Langford said. "This also means it may be a couple of years before we start seeing an increase in international students at SBU. It is important that we have a broad support system in place before we start bringing more international students to SBU."

SBU already has a global presence with students representing 32 states, 16 countries and 5 continents during the 2018-19 academic year. Additionally, the CGC sends out about 30 teams



Dr. Kelly Malone while serving in Japan with the International Mission Board

international students," said Dr. Allison Langford, vice president of strategic planning and initiatives. "He also has been conducting extensive research into best practices for global engagement in higher education."

One significant piece of his research is plans for Malone and Diana Gallamore '91, director of SBU's Center for Global Connections [CGC] and Travel Stewardship, to attend culture intelligence training this spring. They will receive training to become cultural intelligence facilitators for the SBU community.

Malone and Langford are developing a multi-year plan with a strategic approach for increasing cultural diversity at SBU. The plan has three major components:

- Preparing the campus and community for globalization – Creating a welcoming environment for international students and fostering a culture where we learn from one another.
- Preparing to recruit international students – Providing the support structure needed by international students and identifying strategic locations and relationships for recruitment.
- Preparing to send domestic students abroad – Expanding efforts through short-term study abroad and semester abroad. This is in addition to already established short-term mission trips and service projects through the CGC.

"If we want to do this well – and we certainly do – we have to

totaling 300 students each year and the Intercultural Studies program sends students abroad for six months of cultural immersion. Other recent global initiatives include:

- Undergraduate recruiting in Kenya by SBU faculty
- A seminary collaboration in Cuba, involving administrators, faculty and students
- Faculty and administration recruiting in Singapore, primarily for the Graduate Education program

"While we celebrate the outstanding international efforts we already have in place, we have potential to do so much more," Langford said. "Dr. Malone and I have been meeting with key campus leaders who are already involved in global efforts to evaluate the effectiveness of current initiatives and to plan to act more collaboratively and effectively in the future."

According to SBU President Dr. Eric A. Turner, this initiative aligns well with the University's mission.

"We have many people across campus who are excited about this initiative, and we now have a director to coordinate all of these efforts," he said. "Once fully developed, the initiative will result in increased cultural diversity for all students, an integral part of our mission to prepare students to be servant leaders in a global society." ■



Watch a video highlighting the new initiative at bit.ly/31BT001



SBU student-led Catalyst Team mobilizes **UNIVERSITY FOR MISSION**

BY BEN HAWKINS

Thirty mission teams from Southwest Baptist University's Center for Global Connections [CGC] will share Christ's love locally, domestically and around the world during the 2019-2020 school year. But one mission team working with the CGC is learning the importance of holding the ropes for SBU's student missionaries.

"Missions isn't possible without the supporting roles, whether that be through prayer or financial partnership," said Sarah Spurgeon, a senior pursuing a bachelor's degree in social work and intercultural studies. Spurgeon, a member at Berean Baptist Church, Bolivar, leads the CGC's Catalysts, an eight-person team of students committed to promoting missions on campus.

The Catalyst Team encourages and prays for SBU's other student mission teams, helping them also to set up fundraisers for their trips. Likewise, they serve behind the scenes to organize missions mobilization events on campus, like the annual Global Fest and a special chapel for commissioning student missionaries. This year, Spurgeon said, the team started two new initiatives: first, a meet-and-greet to help SBU's faculty and staff learn about and join in with the CGC's mission efforts; and second, a special fundraising effort to provide scholarships for student missionaries who are otherwise unable to serve.

According to CGC Director Diana Gallamore '91, the five-year-old Catalyst Team "is vital" to SBU's mission efforts. In fact, she attributes the recent increase in missions interest on campus

largely to the work of the team.

"We've seen the numbers go up within the last several years, and I think it's because of their assistance in [the CGC's work] and their promotion of missions," Gallamore told *The Pathway*.

This is Spurgeon's third year on the Catalyst Team and her first as team leader. She said the team has already seen God at work among students, and the team itself has become a family as they've labored to mobilize missions.

"People underestimate how vital the sending role is – [that student missionaries] know they have people praying for them," Spurgeon said. After mission trips, she added, students turn in their journals, describing what God did through their work. "It is cool to be on the sending end, to know that the Lord answers your prayers."

But, according to Spurgeon, many members of the Catalyst Team not only send missionaries: They also go themselves. In January, Spurgeon joined a team working in Cuba. During the trip, she served not only with fellow students, but also with some of her own professors. And, during every phase of this mission effort, another member of the Catalyst Team supported and prayed for her and her fellow missionaries. ■

Ben Hawkins is associate editor of The Pathway, printed by the Missouri Baptist Convention. This article originally was printed in the Nov. 5, 2019, issue of The Pathway and is reprinted with permission.



Student mission project examples:

Polk County
South Dakota
Guatemala
Greece
Ireland



30+
mission projects each year




1,329
mission project
participants during
the past five years



House of Hope
Baja
South Asia
Cuba
Pyrenees
Ukraine



Thailand
Houston
Colombia
Senegal
Disaster Relief
Honduras
Philippines



48
different countries visited
in the past 5 years



LETTER FROM THE **PRESIDENT**

Dear alumni and friends,

A new year. A new decade. New beginnings. During my time at SBU, we have focused energies on looking toward this decade we now occupy. The future is now.

To prepare to write the next chapter, we have made sure our foundations are strong theologically, fiscally, and programmatically. While it would be nice to think of these elements in a linear fashion, we must think about them systemically. Otherwise, chaos prevails while wasting precious resources of time, talent, and treasure.

When I was an undergraduate student, I was advised to spend more time thinking and less time staring in front of a blank piece of paper, trying to complete a written assignment. While it made sense to do this, I seldom followed this sage advice. As I have become more seasoned, however, this advice has really informed my approach to life and to leading the Lord's University known as Southwest Baptist University.

With this, I am excited about what the promise of a new decade has for SBU: a robust statement of faith; a renewed relationship with the Missouri Baptist Convention; clarification of what it means to be a Christian University; new initiatives intended to help us accomplish our mission in new and meaningful ways—broadening the SBU footprint globally. All of these items are foundational.

As we look to the future, we also take time to look back over the past year. As part of this annual report, you will find the names of many individuals, churches, organizations, and companies recognized for making an investment in Christian higher education through SBU. As a donor, you can help in multiple ways. Here are some examples:

- **Student support:** Our students have stories that will inspire you. Dakota Kay's story is one of grit and determination. Dakota came to SBU in 2016 with a dream to become a physical therapist and return to his Indian

reservation in Arizona, even though he didn't have the funds to pay for housing nor decent meals. Thanks to donors like you, we were able to help fulfill Dakota's basic needs while at SBU. He graduated in May 2019 as a Doctor of Physical Therapy and now serves as a physical therapist for the Navajo Nation, an underserved people. Read his full story in this issue. Whether giving to an endowed scholarship fund or the Annual Scholarship Fund, your donation helps transform students' lives.

- **Faculty support:** Drs. Charlie '59 and Barbara Clemmons established the endowed Lenore Miller Accounting Chair with Sharla Bailey '81, assistant professor of accounting, installed in that position. SBU now has nine endowed academic chairs with investment proceeds from each used to offset a faculty member's salary and support the faculty member's budget for professional development.

- **Campus improvements:** Another \$500,000 of concrete repairs and a parking lot expansion are nearing completion on the Bolivar campus. These campus improvements are made possible by donations from the Sunderland Foundation totaling \$1 million during the past two years.

For 142 years, SBU has been preparing students to be salt and light. As we approach our 150th birthday, may we stay focused on who we are as a University – a Christ-centered, caring academic community preparing students to be servant leaders in a global society.

Shaping our story together,

Eric A. Turner
President | ROMANS 10:15

2019 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Featuring:

SBU FACTS AND FIGURES
HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

A GIFT THAT WILL KEEP ON GIVING

SBU's Annual Scholarship Fund makes it possible for Dakota Kay, DPT '19, to serve Native Americans back home.



23.1
Average ACT for
Incoming Freshmen


\$23,600
Tuition
[Undergraduate]


3,281
total students



2,066
female students



1,215
male students

3.56
Average GPA for
Incoming Freshmen




12:1
Student-to-Faculty Ratio

75%
Percentage of Full-Time
Bolivar Campus Teaching
Faculty with a Doctorate or
other Terminal Degree



693
graduate
students

168
total faculty
[Full Time]

183
total staff
[Full Time]

2019 - 20 BUDGET FIGURES

Revenue Summary

Tuition & Fees	\$49,284,916	80.81%
Missouri Baptist Convention	1,180,000	1.93%
Other Undesignated Giving	324,195	0.53%
Investment Earnings	625,800	1.03%
Financial Aid	1,154,811	1.89%
Miscellaneous	454,448	0.75%
Auxiliary Enterprise	7,960,830	13.05%
TOTAL REVENUE BUDGET	\$60,985,000	100.00%

Expense Summary

Educational & General		
Instructional and Departmental	\$17,354,975	28.10%
Organized Activities	3,601,685	5.83%
Library	1,231,597	1.99%
Student Services	3,064,451	4.96%
Operation/Maintenance of Plant	3,605,255	5.84%
Administration	1,979,971	3.21%
Staff Benefits	1,691,866	2.74%
General Institutional	3,261,969	5.28%
Student Aid	19,647,189	31.81%
Debt Retirement	1,368,550	2.22%
Total Educational and General	56,807,508	91.97%
Total Auxiliary Enterprises	4,962,492	8.03%
TOTAL EXPENSE BUDGET	\$61,770,000	100.00%

Annual Gift Clubs

Heritage Society

\$50,000 and Above

Drs. Charles and Barbara Clemmons

Legacy Society

\$20,000 - \$49,999

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5 Questions *with* Susan Cooper



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.

Last December, Susan Cooper received the SBU Life Beautiful Award, an honor given annually to employees – one faculty member and one staff member – who exemplify a “life beautiful.” She worked in SBU’s Department of Graduation Education since 2011, and now works in the Office of the Registrar.

What were your responsibilities in Graduate Education, and what are your responsibilities now in the Office of the Registrar?

In Graduate Education, I handled all of the business expenses, budgeting and ordering, as well as admissions, enrolling, filing and graduate commencement. I’m still learning things in the Registrar’s office, but I primarily work on degree checks, course transfers and transcripts, as well as answering the phone and helping students.

What is your favorite aspect as you learn the job of assistant registrar? I look forward to the interaction I get to have with the students. I didn’t get that as much with graduate students because they weren’t on campus during office hours.

What motivates you during your workday? I enjoy the continuous work flow, plus the excellent people I get to work with.

What are your hobbies – or something people might not know about you? I have a music degree and I love playing the piano. I also enjoy crafts, like card-making, as well as traveling. Recently, I found out who my biological mother was and have connected with my cousins and that family.

What do you think makes SBU unique? The loving and caring people who work here, as well as the Christian attitude and mission of the university.

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 Stony Point Landmark Missionary Scholarship,
 Irondale, Mo.
 Tabernacle Baptist Church, Piedmont, Mo.
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 Victor Baptist Church, Victor, Iowa
 Waynesville R-VI School District, Waynesville, Mo.
 Waynesville/St. Robert Area Chamber,
 Saint Robert, Mo.
 Waypoint Church, Saint Charles, Mo.
 Westside Baptist Church, Waynesville, Mo.
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 CBF Heartland, Liberty, Mo.
 Cedar Bluff Baptist Church, Fair Grove, Mo.
 Cedar County Federated Republican Women's Club,
 Stockton, Mo.
 Chapter CQ PEO Sisterhood, Bethany, Mo.
 Church of the Nazarene, Harrisonville, Mo.
 Citizens for Education, Bucyrus, Mo.
 Coon Creek Baptist Church, Collins, Mo.
 Crane R-3 School District, Crane, Mo.
 Crete Berean Church, Crete, Neb
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 First Baptist Church, Bates City, Mo.
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A GIFT THAT WILL KEEP ON GIVING

BY DENISE ELSON TUCKER '89

Dakota Kay '19 is able to serve his Native American people as a physical therapist thanks to gifts to the Annual Scholarship Fund.

Grit \ 'grit \ *noun*

firmness of mind or spirit : unyielding courage in the face of hardship or danger.

Merriam-Webster Dictionary

When searching for the definition of "grit," one could almost find Dakota Kay's picture alongside in the dictionary.

The path the 2019 Southwest Baptist University doctor of physical therapy graduate traveled to earn his degrees took just that – grit. But the path also is one that Kay says is not for everyone, and his story is one that has been picked up and shared by national media.

In what was supposed to be a simple show of appreciation post-SBU graduation, Kay posted on Facebook his gratitude to those who helped him along his college journey. His post received more than 19,000 Likes, 2,800 Comments and 7,600 Shares.

"I was so surprised," Kay said. "After two days, I was getting thousands of messages. I've been asked to give speeches, write a book and do a film. I hate attention. I just want people to not give up. In whatever you do, give it everything you've got. The world is tough. The world is not going to feel sorry for you."

ALWAYS A CALLING

Kay knew since high school that he wanted to be a physical therapist. His mom worked as a speech language pathology

assistant, and Kay would visit her at school. He was introduced to therapy through observing speech pathology.

"My mom also introduced me to an occupational therapist at school," Kay said. "I saw what they did and got the idea. I had injuries in sports, and unfortunately, we had no PT – just a clinic. We had to drive an hour to the closest town. When I went to college, I had shoulder surgery and thumb surgery (from football). There was not a PT in town. I had to live with it and figure out what I wanted to do, succeed at and love."

BEGINNING THE JOURNEY

Kay, a Native American who grew up on a reservation in Arizona, began his college journey at Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colo., where he earned his bachelor's degree in exercise science with a physiology emphasis. To pay for school, Kay received tribal scholarships and a football scholarship at Fort Lewis.

And, while school was paid for during the fall and spring semesters, the classes Kay needed to take during the summer were not.

"I had a plan set out since high school to take these classes and stuck to that plan no matter what," Kay said.

That “no matter what” meant living out of his car during the summer semesters.

“Durango is a tourist town and I couldn’t afford an apartment,” Kay said. “Scholarships were not available in the summer, and I couldn’t ask my parents for money. My parents have a lot on their hands. The last thing I wanted to do was put more pressure on them.”

LEAP OF FAITH

While an undergraduate student at Fort Lewis, Kay began applying to physical therapy schools in February his senior year, which is past the deadline for most schools, but he knew he couldn’t wait another year to apply – for the sake of his family on the reservation. Kay looked at the remaining PT schools, which mostly were on the East Coast.

“I wanted to be around home – the Four Corners area [southwestern corner of Colorado, southeastern corner of Utah, northeastern corner of Arizona, northwestern corner of New Mexico] – around family,” Kay said. “I researched each school, their mission, etc. SBU seemed to be the one that stood out. The Doctor of Physical Therapy’s mission of service to the community lined up with my goal. I, too, want to be in service to my community.

“I looked at the cost; all of the PT school options were expensive and required a deposit, but I had no money at the time. I told the schools my situation and my plan of being a leader in the PT field. Only two schools were willing to waive the deposit fee – SBU and South College in Knoxville, Tenn.

“From there, I simply prayed about it. I didn’t know what to do. I’d never been this far out of Arizona. I prayed and prayed and prayed. I took a leap of faith and that is how I chose SBU.”

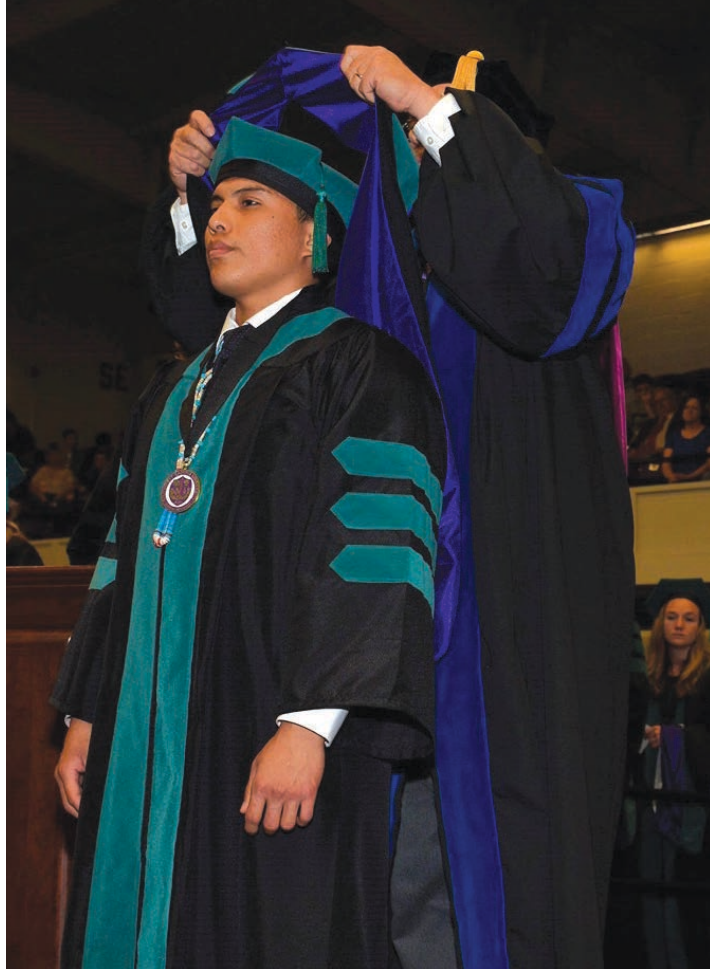
DIFFICULT DECISIONS

As he prepared during the summer of 2016 for SBU, Kay applied for, and received, tribal scholarships – but they weren’t enough to cover his schooling. The Indian Health Service (IHS) is a resource that pays for school, in addition to providing a stipend for the student, but Kay did not receive the IHS scholarship that first year.

“I was lost,” Kay said. “I couldn’t afford school and had no money. I asked the advice of the IHS representative, who said, ‘Sometimes, you have to just go for it.’ He said if I toughed it out for one full year, I could get the [scholarship].”

So, for that first year and with hesitation, Kay took out a loan to cover the tuition and required fees at SBU.

“It’s the last thing I wanted to do,” Kay said of taking out a loan. “I was scared of it. I decided to take the loan for that first year and it covered that year of school expenses, but it didn’t cover housing



and food.

“I still couldn’t ask my parents for money. I came to the difficult decision to be homeless – I was homeless before [at Fort Lewis]. I decided I could do it again in Missouri. My mind-set was that my homelessness was temporary. I went to Missouri for a purpose.”

With that mind-set, Kay set out for Missouri and SBU – prepared for the unpredictable Missouri weather.

“I borrowed my parents’ truck,” Kay said. “I was totally lost and emotional when I was turned down for the IHS. I prayed and prayed, and something told me to just go.”

BEING RESOURCEFUL

Kay arrived at SBU a few days before school started in order to chart a plan for where he could sleep, clean up and find sources for food such as an outreach ministry.

“I learned to be resourceful, and I learned to look for places that help you,” Kay said. “I would sleep in the Walmart parking lot. The YMCA knew my situation and was willing to help. The SBU Meyer Wellness Center fee was worth it to be able to shower.

“I would wake up at 6 a.m., eat raw Ramen noodles, take vitamin pills, go to the restroom to get cleaned up and went to class. My day was different every day. I would spend the rest of the day at the SBU library. When the library closed, I went back to the Walmart parking lot to sleep.”



“That was my plan the whole time, to serve the Native American people and people in need.”



HELP FROM ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Kay had not shared his housing situation with anyone, but he did eventually confide in Aaron Weaver '08, former SBU DPT admissions/alumni coordinator.

“I went to talk to

Aaron about school and to get advice,” Kay said. “He was my unofficial advisor before I came to SBU, so I felt comfortable with him early on. I told him about sleeping in the Walmart parking lot, and asked him, ‘Please don’t tell anyone. I’m fine. I’m happy. I’m doing what I’ve got to do.’

“Aaron couldn’t live with himself knowing that I was homeless. He told Dr. C. Pat Taylor [SBU’s president at the time]. C. Pat wanted to see me and set up a meeting. He loved my story.”

Through SBU’s Annual Scholarship Fund, Kay was able to secure room and board, negating the need to sleep in his truck and live on Ramen noodles and multivitamins.

“I remember the feeling of a bed and wanting to cry – to this day I remember that feeling,” Kay said. “The fund meant the world to me. I’m so happy they have that fund. In my time of need, that’s what saved me.”

SBU COMMITTED TO KAY

Going into his second year in SBU’s DPT program, Kay applied for

and received the IHS scholarship, which requires the recipient to serve in the IHS system for two years. His school was covered and he was relieved of that financial stress, so he didn’t feel the need to take advantage of the Annual Scholarship Fund any longer.

“That was my plan the whole time, to serve the Native American people and people in need,” Kay said. “That obligation was a bonus for me. Receiving the IHS meant that I didn’t have to worry about taking out loans again. I could finally focus on school.

“That second year, I really started to excel. I truly became a student and stay focused. I told C. Pat I didn’t need the Annual Scholarship Fund anymore, but he said, ‘Dakota, we want to help you. We made a commitment to help you. So, even though you got the IHS scholarship, we’re still going to help you.’ I felt so thankful for C. Pat and SBU.”

INSPIRED BY SBU FACULTY, STAFF

Not only did Kay receive financial support through the Annual Scholarship Fund, he also received academic support from SBU’s DPT department through letters of recommendation to the IHS and advice.

“There is something about the SBU atmosphere; people don’t judge,” Kay said of the SBU culture. “They provide a helping hand. The staff and faculty inspired me; they supported me and were that voice of advice and wisdom when I needed it. They helped solidify that this is where I needed to be and that I truly could help other people.

“The SBU atmosphere is something I’ve never really experienced before.”

Kay’s academic advisor Dr. Sarah Jones, associate professor of

physical therapy, provided letters of recommendation and admired his determination.

"He's got integrity. Even though people are willing to do things for him, he's not going to take advantage of that," Dr. Jones said. "He's a very diligent worker, very conscientious. There are students who are here who are worried about every little grade, and there are students here because they desperately want to know and learn, and he was one of the latter. If he didn't understand something on a test, he was back in – not to argue for a point – but to say, 'I need to make sure I understand this.' That's always impressive."

Dr. Steven Lesh, chair of SBU's DPT program, said he never heard Kay complain about his situation.

"If he had complaints that could have been brought to my attention, he kept them to himself," Dr. Lesh said. "Certainly, DPT school is stressful and I do hear a lot of gripes and complaints. While I never talked to him directly about this, I believe he had a much greater perspective on life compared to some of his classmates. He had found his purpose in life and pushed through any obstacle that was put in his way. That is a lesson that some fail to learn."

DRIVEN TO HELP, SERVE

Kay always felt a responsibility to help his family on the reservation and to return to help the Native American people. His parents' support has been the foundation for his determination to complete his education.

"There was always encouragement and motivation from them," Kay said. "They told me, 'Don't give up.' That's all I needed."

And, as part of his education, Kay participated in service projects, including the SBU faculty clinic.

"I did community service projects at an outreach service in Bolivar and in Springfield," Kay said. "That's what I like about SBU. It keeps you humble and is a constant reminder that what we're doing is to help people and those in need. When I'm home helping my

people, physical therapy is just a tool I get to use."

Kay's work ethic was not lost on Dr. Jones.

"What I've seen is a student who was driven," Dr. Jones said. "He knew what he wanted to do and he wasn't afraid to do the work that was required, and he wasn't going to complain about the work that was required."

"I think of his determination and grit; those are character traits that will follow him through his career as a professional. He is poised to have an impact on the reservation and on his people in ways that those outside of Native American heritage simply don't have. He has an automatic level of credibility that he can leverage for the benefit of Native American people, which I have no doubt he will."

SHAPING HIS STORY

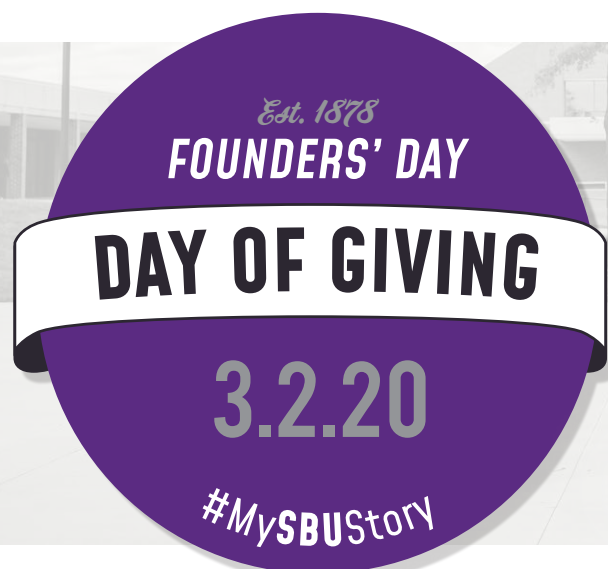
In his Facebook post, Kay encouraged others to write their own story and to be an inspiration. Kay said that SBU has definitely been a big part of his story, in many ways.

"Without their help, I don't know what my story would be," Kay said of the SBU faculty and staff. "They helped me succeed. I don't know if my story would be possible without them. They helped financially and spiritually and uplifted me."

"That was a big part of it spiritually; becoming a well-rounded person helped me relieve the stress and rest better. SBU helped me shape my story. I will bring that back to my reservation and help other people shape their story. Being of service to other people in the bigger picture may seem insignificant, but to that person it's the world."

The gifts to the Annual Scholarship Fund make it possible for students like Kay to become servant leaders in a global society.

"I want the donors to realize the fund is making a difference," Kay said. "It made a difference in my life and in turn helps me make a difference in others' lives." ■



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ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME



Jody Mayfield-Pool '89 BASKETBALL ←

Jody Mayfield-Pool put up big numbers during her basketball career at Southwest Baptist University.

Once her playing days were over, Mayfield-Pool ranked second in field goals made, fifth in total points, tied for fifth in scoring average, tied for eighth in field goal percentage and ninth in total rebounds.

"My freshman year, coach Herb Hamann made me guard a senior post player – Joann Rickman. Joann had been a very dominant player but suffered with knee injuries. This didn't keep her from schooling me on how to play the post position. I was a skinny freshman, and Joann was far more physical. Let's just say, she taught me well and several bumps and bruises and trips to the floor later, I think I became a pretty good college

post player, thanks to Joann."

Those early lessons also spurred Mayfield-Pool on to earn multiple Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association (MIAA) Player of the Week awards, as well as an All-MIAA Honorable Mention selection in 1986-87, and multiple All-District 16 (NAIA) honors.

"So many people were helpful to me at SBU," Mayfield-Pool said. "Herb Hamann '94 recruited me and coached me my first two seasons at SBU. Herb had the difficult job of teaching me how to play collegiate basketball. As my advisor, I felt Dr. Rex Brown was always looking out for me. I always appreciated these two men with their easy-going natures and Christian values."

Landon Young '14 BASEBALL →

During his four-year playing career, Landon Young '14 was an integral part in helping turn around the Southwest Baptist University baseball program.

The Bearcats finished 7-40 during Young's freshman season, and went on to win 21 and 20 games his sophomore and junior years, respectively.

In Young's senior season, the Bearcats went 29-24, as he left as SBU's all-time single-season hits leader. Young ranks in the top 10 in 10 SBU career categories; is in the top five in six SBU single-season categories; is a two-time All-Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics

Association (MIAA) honoree and the MIAA's single-game doubles record-holder.

Young, SBU's 2014 Rex Brown Award winner and the baseball program's first Academic All-American (2014), recalls the team's journey.

"I remember my teammates, the goofy moments, the early morning workouts and the late-night workouts, the memorable wins, the time spent off the field together, and the satisfaction of accomplishing great goals as a team," Young said. "I will never forget the journey of growth I experienced personally, and also the journey of growth our team took in the four years I was a part of the program."



Bill Shell '14, '17 TRACK & FIELD →

Bill Shell was a highly decorated track and field athlete at Southwest Baptist University – he was an SBU record-holder, a conference title winner and an NCAA All-American.

These achievements earned Shell a place in the SBU Athletics Hall of Fame Class of 2020, in his first year of eligibility.

Shell holds six SBU records – 400-meters [indoor], 4x400 relay [indoor], 200-meters [outdoor], 400-meters [outdoor], 4x100 relay and the sprint medley relay; he won five Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association (MIAA) titles; he was a nine-time All-MIAA honoree; a nine-time USTFCCA All-Region

performer; a four-time NCAA All-American; and the 2014 CoSIDA/Capital One Academic All-American of the Year – the first in SBU history.

“My two coaches – Coach Andre English and Coach Corey McElhaney '06, '12 – did so much more for me than coach me, at which they were excellent,” Shell said. “They were really my father figures away from home and taught me how to face adversity, to work hard, to deal with failure and praise God in the successes.

“They showed me how to be a team leader. I owe a lot to both of them. They really guided me through difficult times and were always there to talk to about anything.”



Mark Rains '70 TENNIS ←

As a tennis player at Southwest Baptist College, Mark Rains was key to leading the Bearcats to a great deal of success, especially his last two seasons.

Rains guided the Bearcats to the 1969 NAIA District 16 Championship and a No. 32 national ranking that season, which led to greater things in 1970.

That season, Rains again led SWBC to the NAIA District 16 Championship and a No. 23 national ranking, while also earning All-NAIA District 16 Team honors.

“At the NAIA national tournament my junior year, I lost in the first round to a player who hit the ball harder than anyone I had ever played any time in my life,” Rains said. “My senior year, I

actually won the first-round match and made it to the round of 64 and promptly lost to the eventual third-place winner. He let me win a game or two in the second set.”

A key component to Rains' success as a student-athlete was Dr. John Bryant, the Bearcats' head tennis coach from 1966-2017. Dr. Bryant also was one of Rains' mathematics professors.

“There is no way to describe the influence John and Judy Bryant [and their daughter, Jana] had on my life,” Rains said. “They were my teachers, mentors, coaches, cheerleaders, personal advisors, dating coaches, sometimes my cooks, seamstress, auto mechanic, laundromat, ironing board, mother and father.”



2020 INDUCTEES

SBU honors Cooper, Jones with Life Beautiful Awards



Susan Cooper, assistant registrar, and Dr. Duke Jones, department chair of Christian Ministry and professor of Christian Education, received the Staff and Faculty Life Beautiful Awards during the annual employee Christmas banquet Dec. 3 at Southwest Baptist University.

"The designation 'life beautiful' is the highest honor a person can receive at Southwest Baptist University," said Dr. Eric A. Turner, SBU president. "Each year during the Bolivar spring commencement, we honor two graduating seniors who are chosen by the faculty, who exemplify a 'life beautiful.' During our Christmas Banquet, we honor a faculty member and a staff member who exemplify a 'life beautiful.'"

The Faculty Life Beautiful Award was established in 1987, and the Staff Life Beautiful Award was established in 1992.

STAFF LIFE BEAUTIFUL

Susan Cooper first began working at SBU in 2011 in the Office of Graduate Education. She recently moved to the Office of the Registrar as the assistant registrar. Cooper attends First Baptist Church in Bolivar, where she volunteers her musical talents with the FBC orchestra and is actively involved in her Sunday school class. She also volunteers her time in the community as an active member of PEO, as well as a community music club.

"She came to the Office of Graduate Education and went to work," one of her co-workers said. "She established order and organization in a detailed fashion to an area that needed her expertise. She brought us to a new level. Although she transitioned to the Office of the Registrar, her footprint in Graduate Education will not be forgotten."

Known for being friendly and cheerful, she developed sweet and valued friendships to those who visited the Gott Education building.

"There is no doubt in my mind that the registrar's office is in good hands with this genuinely kind, hard-working, patient and godly addition to their team," another co-worker said.

FACULTY LIFE BEAUTIFUL

Dr. Duke Jones, a native of Waycross, Ga., has been a member of the SBU faculty since 2004 and currently is the department chair of Christian Ministry and a professor of Christian Education.

He has a bachelor of science degree in social studies education from Louisiana Tech University, a master of religious education and a doctorate of philosophy from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

"Duke Jones is able to deal with people and situations in a caring, Christ-like manner," a colleague wrote. "His people skills are amazing."

Dr. Jones was called to the ministry as a college sophomore in 1985 and has been committed to serving the Lord by educating the saved and unsaved, winning the lost and building Christian disciples.

"He's passionate and he genuinely cares," one of his students said. "Dr. Jones believes whole-heartedly in what he teaches. He wants everyone to succeed in class, but more importantly, he wants to challenge students to take something from his class to use as they pursue their walk with Christ."

Dr. Jones has published numerous Bible studies and has been a contributing author in various publications. He has served as a minister in seven churches in Louisiana, Texas and Missouri, and currently is discipling students at Humansville Christian Church. He also volunteers in the community as a member of the reserve staff for the Bolivar Fire Department. Dr. Jones has a 17-year-old daughter, Taylore, and is married to Dr. Melinda Jones '89, a professor of music at SBU. ■



The Alumni Office is taking nominations for the **Life Service Award** and the **Edwin Lightfoot Distinguished Alumni Award** until March 13, 2020.



Submit nominations at **ADVANCE.SBUNIV.EDU/alumni-awards**

National organization features SBU's major maps initiative

Southwest Baptist University's new experiential major maps were featured in the EAB Daily Briefing email on Jan. 14.

The article, titled "5 insights from an experiential major maps expert," includes information presented by Dr. Allison Langford, vice president for strategic planning and initiatives, in a web conference for EAB in December. Throughout the conversation, Langford presented five main takeaways and lessons learned.

Experiential major maps go beyond a four-year degree plan to align course requirements with co-curricular and experiential learning opportunities. They help to address some barriers students face in pursuit of a degree and to convey the unique value of a degree from SBU.

"It's important to look at the name 'major map' and realize that any

map gives you multiple avenues to a destination," Langford said. "This is not meant to be seen as prescriptive."

SBU's major maps provide direction for students to grow academically, pursue servant leadership, embrace our global society and plan for their future during each year of their SBU experience. Major maps for all undergraduate degrees offered on SBU's Bolivar campus can be viewed at <https://www.sbuniv.edu/academics/academic-resources/major-maps.php>.

SBU is one of more than 1,500 schools, colleges and universities throughout the country partnering with EAB for research and insights to address challenges with the education industry. ■

SBU confers degrees upon 151 graduates in winter commencement ceremonies

Southwest Baptist University graduated 151 students at two winter 2019 commencement ceremonies in the Jane and Ken Meyer Wellness and Sports Center on the Bolivar campus.

The bachelor degree commencement ceremony was held on Friday, Dec. 13, and the ceremony for associate degree graduates was held on Saturday, Dec. 14. The University holds graduation twice a year, in December and May. The Friday commencement also celebrated the first graduate of the Master of Arts in Christian Ministry – Elijah Van Hoecke.

SBU President Dr. Eric A. Turner said, "Commencement is the most important academic event for any university. For SBU, we are a Christ-centered, caring academic community preparing students to become servant leaders in a global society.

"Our graduates are extraordinary people, working diligently to achieve this milestone. Our faculty members are outstanding Christian scholars, devoted to providing excellent academic and spiritual examples for our students."

Stephanie Penticuff, a marketing graduate from Springfield, Mo., surprised her parents by delivering the

Bob R. Derryberry Senior Address at Friday's commencement. She is the daughter of Mark '93 and Jill '94 Penticuff.

Penticuff quoted actress and dancer Eleanor Powell: "What we are is God's gift to us. What we become is our gift to God."

Entering SBU, Penticuff shared that she knew who she was through God's gift to her – saved, loved and forgiven. It was her time at SBU that helped her figure out who she would become.

"To this day, I have never doubted my decision to come to SBU," Penticuff said. "This University has taught me so much, not only in the realm of education, but in my spiritual walk. The passion of our Savior is knitted into every aspect of this school, and floods through the doors of this University. Let's run the race He has set before us and shine bright in this world of darkness."

In her commencement address, Dr. Brittney Hendrickson '08, '11, '12, dean of SBU's Mercy College of Nursing and Health Sciences, encouraged the graduates to find balance, to not underestimate success and to be themselves.

"Success to me is seeing a student I worked with, who was unsure if they



were on the right path, who now is serving as a nursing leader in our local community," Hendrickson said. "Success is providing the best possible care to a patient; hearing laughter in the workplace after times of tension and turmoil; and watching a team grow and work together.

"Comparisons usually result in unrealistic expectations and discontent," Hendrickson said. "Eliminate who you are not and you will find yourself where you need to be. You are unique and God made you for a purpose. I pray you will find your passion and do it well; that you find the balance, you celebrate the success and most importantly, be you."

Brandon LaRocque, an associate of science in nursing graduate from Kingsville, Mo., delivered the commencement address during Saturday's ceremony. He is the son of Greg and Nancy LaRocque, and recently accepted a position at Mercy Hospital Springfield in the Neuro Trauma Intensive Care Unit. ■

KEEPING IN TOUCH



1950s

John Livingston '50 lives in Forest, Va., and can be reached at lsidave@gmail.com.

Charles Pratt '54 and his wife, Leota, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in April 2019. The couple lives in Branson and can be reached at c.richard76@hotmail.com.

Shirley (Heavin) Hobson '57 and her husband, Frank, live in Edgar Springs, Mo. Shirley can be reached at shirleyhobson76@gmail.com.

1970s

Roger Glidewell '71, and his wife, Kathryn, live in Chatsworth, Ga., and will celebrate their 25th year of Global Youth Camps in 2020. Roger can be reached at roger@globalyouthministry.org.

Dan Brothers '72, and his wife, Sherry, live in Quincy, Ill., where Dan recently retired after 30 years as Senior Chaplain at Blessing Health System. Dan can be reached at brodaniel@sbcglobal.net.

Ross Burton '78, and his wife, Jane (Straight) '82, live in Jonesboro, Ark. Ross can be reached at rossnjane82@icloud.com.

Robert Hodson '78, and his wife, Denise (Goss) '77-'78, live in Lamar, Mo. Robert can be reached at robb@fbclamar.org.

Larry Scantlan '78, and his wife, Donna, live in Wentzville, Mo. Larry has performed at more than 450 singing engagements and can be reached at scanco@charter.net.

1980s

Ken Beckner '82 and his wife, Brenda (Jenkins) '82, live in Topeka, Kan. Ken can be reached at kdbeckner@gmail.com.

Karen (Wood) Bassimer '83 and her husband, Dennis, moved to South Carolina, where Karen teaches in the Greenville County School District. The couple attends

Mt. Airy Baptist Church. Karen can be reached at dkbassimer@gmail.com.

Thomas Renfro '83 and his wife, Cindy, live in Warsaw, Mo., where Thomas was called as Revitalization Pastor at First Baptist Church. Thomas can be reached at trenfro@hotmail.com.

Odel Sterling III '86 lives in Chicago and can be reached at drosterling@gmail.com.

Todd Barnett '87 lives in Redlands, Calif., and can be reached at toddcbarnett@yahoo.com.

Brian Coday '88 and his wife, Jill (Yantis) '88, live in Houston, Texas, where Brian serves as Sr. Staffing Consultant at The Shepherd's Staff. Brian can be reached at bcoday@mac.com.

1990s

Robin Cole '90 lives in Affton, Mo. She can be reached at cole.robin4@gmail.com.

Becky (Bettenga) Watkins '91 and her husband, Dave, live in Pella, Iowa. Becky can be reached at beckyw Watkins20@gmail.com.

Teena (Johnson) Skiles '92 and her husband, Joe, live in Brentwood, Calif., and serve as lead pastors of New Hope Church in Concord, Calif. Teena and Joe can be reached at jtskiles6@gmail.com.

Steven Anderson '98 and his wife, Colleen, are "living the dream" in Fruitland, Idaho. Steven can be reached at stevenb.pt1@gmail.com.

2000s

Jodie Radford '00 lives in Lee's Summit, Mo., and can be reached at jodielynn78@gmail.com.

2010s

Courtnei Lovell '15 lives in Springfield, Mo., and can be reached at courtnei.lovell@yahoo.com.

1. Megan (Bryant) Preston '15, married

Aaron Preston on March 9, 2019, and the couple lives in Phoenix. Megan can be reached at mbryant82891@gmail.com.

Future Bearcats

2. Ivan Peterson '03 and Keri (Cochran) '04 welcomed daughter, Railyn, to their family on April 23, 2019. She joins big brothers, Izaiah and Kegan. Keri can be reached at kpeterston71908@gmail.com.

3. Kristin (Thorson) Cooke '11 and her husband, Caleb, welcomed Nolan Terry on Sept. 29, 2019.

4. Brittany (Harrell) Earl '11 and her husband, Todd '13, welcomed Peyton James in December 2019. The Earls can be contacted at bearl@SBUniv.edu.

In Memory

5. Dixie Zink '46 passed away peacefully on Jan. 22 at the Butterfield Residential Care Center in Bolivar, Mo. Dixie earned her associate of arts degree from Southwest Baptist College in 1946 and later beauty school in Kansas City. Dixie was a dedicated mother and wife, who loved spending time with her family and friends, and was a dedicated member of the PEO for more than 50 years. Dixie is survived by her children, Susan Cooper of Bolivar, Mo., and David Zink of Raymore, Mo.; and three granddaughters.

6. David Bennett '70, former SBU Trustee passed away June 21, 2018 in Joplin. His wife, Kathy (Kissinger) Bennett '70 can be reached at dkbennett@cablone.net.

7. Darrell Martin, '72, passed away Dec. 11, 2019. Darrell was a business major and taught for several years before he joined the Missouri National Guard full time. He was most recently President of the Missouri

Gideons. Darrell is survived by his loving wife, **Linda '71**, of Columbia, Mo., and their two children, Annette Martin of Independence and Chris Martin of Blue Springs; and two grandsons.

8. Durwin Kicker '85 passed away on Jan. 14, at the age of 56. For the past 25 years, he served as pastor of First Baptist Church of Marshfield, Mo. Kicker, who also served on SBU's Board of Trustees, is survived by his wife, **Kimberlee Ann '85**; daughter, Anna Neale; son, Kyle Kicker; four grandchildren; a sister, and two brothers.

9. Stephen Carr '15 passed away on Dec. 7, 2019, in the line of duty as a police officer in Fayetteville, Ark. Carr worked for the Fayetteville Police Department since April 2017. The department described him as a hero, serving the community with dedication and professionalism. He graduated in May 2015 with a degree in Economics/Finance. After graduation, he initially went to work for Sam's Club as a buyer, according to his academic advisor. Carr was part of SBU's football program from 2011 to 2014. He was an offensive lineman for two seasons and student-coach for two seasons. He is survived by his father, Paul Carr; and a sister, Kristin Carr.

10. Darrol Cribbs passed away Dec. 6, 2019, at Cox Medical Center in Springfield, Mo., at the age of 79. Described as Bolivar's First Citizen, Cribbs was a former partner in Bolivar Insulation, as well as a founding member of Silo Ridge Golf & Country Club and was the men's golf coach at Southwest Baptist University. He also refereed high school basketball games in Missouri for many years. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army and a member of First Assembly of God Church of Bolivar. Darrol is survived by his wife, Judy; son, **Kevin '94**; daughter, **Kim '01, '06**; three grandchildren; and one brother, David. Memorial contributions can be made in Darrol Cribbs' honor to the Carrie J. Babb Cancer Center or the Citizens Memorial Hospital Cardiac Catheterization Lab.

11. Dr. Ted Arlen Harris passed away Nov. 24 at the age of 89 in his home in Nixa, Mo., after a long battle with Alzheimer's Disease. Harris served as a full-time music professor and voice teacher at Oklahoma Baptist University, Southwest Baptist University, and Missouri State University, as well as in interim music ministry in numerous Baptist and local churches. He is survived by his wife, **Carol '77**; sister, Nancy; two sons, two daughters, one grandson and four great-grandchildren. Memorial donations can be made to the Southwest Baptist University Music Department or the Alzheimer's Association.

Guess Who?

The Orien B. Hendrex Distinguished Teacher Award is presented annually to a faculty member who has been judged by the previous three years' graduating classes to be outstanding in both teaching ability and personal guidance. The SBU Board of Trustees designated this award in memory of Hendrex, a former academic dean. Can you identify any of these previous Distinguished Teacher faculty pictured below?

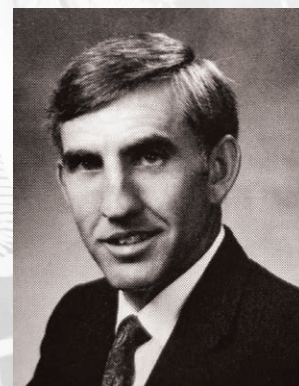
1



2



3



Everyone who correctly identifies at least one of these employees will be entered into a prize drawing. Submit your guesses by email to **SBUcommunications@gmail.com** or by mail to: Office of Marketing and Communications, 1600 University Ave., Bolivar MO 65613. **Entries must be received by March 27.**

Thank you to all who participated in the previous Guess Who contest.

The pictured staff members were

Stella Cunningham, David Bolton, and Coleen Rose.

The following all submitted correct responses: Angela Carr, Linda Davis, Rachel Dickensheet, Rita [Laffoon] Eaton, Amy J [Brooks] Green, Herb Hamann, Myra Hargrave, Pam [Wootton] Hickey, Paul Hickey, Roxy Hudson, Andrew Jenkins, Todd Kitting, Dorothy Mantonya, Anita Oesch Martin, Linda [Laffoon] Minear, Shirley Mitchell, Lori Myers, Janell Nelson, Janet Noot, Deanna Robertson, Rose Roweton, Colleen Shuler, John Stillwagon, Mark Tappmeyer, Walt Tredway, Bill Walkup, Daniel and Kristi Walkup, and Darla Walkup.

Congratulations to **Rita Eaton**, winner of the prize package!

SBUlife

Southwest Baptist University
1600 University Avenue
Bolivar, MO 65613



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#MySBUStory

“I am called to be a history teacher so I can be a servant leader to a hurting society, and you can make it possible.”

JORDAN ASHFORD
Social science education student



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