A CLOSER LOOK AT

CAREER-ORIENTED LIBERAL ARTS

ALSO INSIDE: ALUMNI: MASTER FARMERS | TRIMMELL RETIRES | SPORTS RECAP | INTERTERM TRAVELS

SPRING 2008
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Phonathon Wall of Fame inspires current student callers

“McPherson College calling!” For years many MC students, faculty, staff and alumni have uttered these words in an effort to raise many MC students, faculty, staff and alumni

Many aspects of the annual Phonathon have changed over the years, mainly the name. In the fall of 2005, it became known as Project Connect and was extended from the traditional two-week calling period to a seven-month endeavor.

According to Nancy Lee Trustle Wilson ’58, she called as a class agent, and the calls were made from a room at the Church of the Brethren in LaVerne. Calf Says Irene Shull Reynolds ’57, “I remember making calls for McPherson College’s Phonathon when I was a member of the Alumna Board and also making contacts with alumna when the college launched a building campaign during President Stnell’s tenure.”

In an effort to further connect with alumni, Anna Rudow, director of development, thought it would be a great idea for the 2007-2008 Project Connect students to learn how the Phonathon was worked in previous years and where those callers are today. So she began the

CONNECTION 

Our apologies to Robert Talley, coach of the women’s soccer program, for not being included in the new staff section of the fall issue of the Review.

Alumni Night brings RED OUT to McPherson College sport center

McPherson College welcomed alumni and their families back to campus to participate in “RED OUT” on Saturday, February 9, as part of the annual winter Alumni Night. Admissions staff met with 30 prospective students during a campus visit day earlier in the day.

Alumni had the opportunity to tour the campus and shop in the bookstore prior to attending the women’s and men’s basketball games against the University of Saint Mary. A chili and soup supper was held in the small gym during the evening for all attendees.

Over 50 area children who participated in the morning’s Cheerleading and Dance Clinic, sponsored by McPherson College’s cheerleading and dance line teams, performed alongside the cheer and dance teams during halftime of the women’s game.

Introduction of the Alumni Board of Directors, recognition of alumni by decades, prize drawings, and group recognition of former McPherson College basketball players and coaches occurred throughout the evening.

Men’s basketball player Zach Kibble, a senior accounting major from Mt. Dora, Kan., was recognized as the second recipient of the

A McPherson College Project Connect student calling is ringing your phone

When your phone is ringing and your caller ID displays 620-245-9279, it is a McPherson College Project Connect student eager to visit with you. Every year from October to April, Project Connect students are calling alumni for pledges to help with the Annual Scholarship Fund. As of this writing, Project Connect 2008 has raised almost $56,000, our goal being $85,000. All funds raised are applied toward the Annual Scholarship Fund. If the donor requests a different designation.

Not only are the students requesting gifts, but they are also helping keep personal information up-to-date—including mailing addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses—providing campus updates and obtaining student referrals.

During 2006-07 Project Connect callers were able to reach over 12,000 alumni households by phone. Many others received e-mails or personal notes from the callers who were unable to reach them by phone. This has been a great experience for Project Connect students who have visited with alumni and learned about the connections they had with McPherson College.

Says Amanda LeClair (jr., Clyde, Kan.), “I thoroughly enjoy talking to alumni. Whether it is about their time at Mac, their current career or anything else that comes up, I think it’s a great opportunity to learn from others! Most important, it offers the current students an opportunity to connect with past students.”

“I like it when I can relate to the alumni in some way, whether it’s through basketball, my major or somebody that we both happen to know,” adds Tricia Turner (fr., Scott City, Kan.). To learn more about what is going on at McPherson College, make a donation or update your personal information, log on to www.mcpherson.edu/alumni.

For more information about monthly direct payment options or any other questions you may have, please contact Kathy Nicholson, associate director of development, at 620-242-0433 or e-mail nicholsk@mcpherson.edu.
Dr. Kim Stanley has been named to chair the Strategic Planning Committee for the Kansas Humanities Council. She will chair this committee as they prepare for their regular assessment by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Assistant professor of art, Ann Zerger recently had a sculpture juried into the 75th National Sculpture Exhibition. Her piece, entitled "Arrival," is on display at the NSS Park Avenue Atrium in New York from Feb. 18 to May 30. Zerger's piece is constructed of wood and salt glazed stoneware clay. In addition, one of her pieces was selected for the National Figurative Exhibit at Santa Cruz, Calif. This fall, Zerger competed with hundreds of artists from across the nation for a spot in this show. Her sculpture, representing four human figures constructed from clay, was used as the cover image for the catalog of the exhibition as well as receiving an Honorable Mention award.

Meet & Greet Luncheon
Sunday, July 13
12:00 – 1:30 p.m.
Marriott Hotel • Salons 4-5
MC Alumni and their immediate families are invited to come and enjoy lunch with President Ron Hovis and other McPherson College staff members. Visit with fellow alums, relax and catch up on what’s new at MC! No tickets, no reservations, no charge! (Luncheon seating limited to 225)

Complimentary luncheon hosted by the McPherson College Alumni Relations Office.

McPherson College hosts math competition for area high school students

It all adds up. On Wednesday, February 13, McPherson College hosted 333 high school math students representing 15 different schools in the second annual McPherson College Math Competition. Participating 9th- through 12th-graders met on the McPherson campus to compete in both team competition and for individual honors in grade-level math testing. Each school was also invited to create a unique mathematical team name. Winners in this category were “Pi Rates of the Caribbean.”

Eighty-four teams of three to four members participated in team competition which involved timed testing on mathematical problems. The individual testing involved a 40-question test, including general math, algebra, geometry, precalculus, statistics, geometry and trigonometry.

The event was planned by a steering committee comprising persons from the mathematics, information technology, education and admissions/financial aid departments. The event embodied McPherson College’s dedication to participation. Student Ambassadors served as proctors and hosts. The Information Technology Club designed a web site used for registration and event scoring. Volunteer students, faculty and staff members graded, served on the panels and assisted throughout the day.

“This event was a huge success,” said Reynolds. “Our hope is that this event made these students more familiar with the campus and its offerings so that McPherson College may be an option when it comes time for them to fill out their college applications.”

Besides the actual math competition, participating students were treated to lunch as well as a short presentation of excerpts from the recent theatre department’s production of ‘HONK!’ The day was concluded with an assembly in Brown Auditorium, where winning students and teams were presented with their awards by President Ron Hovis.

Nofsinger presents Harter Lecture on The Psychology of Investing

McPherson College welcomed speaker Dr. John Nofsinger on Friday, October 26, to its annual Jack and Eleanor Harter Lecture in Business. Eighty-seven community members, faculty, staff and students attended the luncheon and lecture.

Nofsinger’s lecture, “The Psychology of Investing,” touched on points that showed how emotions interfere with decision making, including how “we are all overconfident in our abilities, and even when we’re shown that we’re overconfident, we continue to overrate our abilities,” said Rod Gieselman, assistant professor of business.

Nofsinger is currently an associate professor of finance at Washington State University. He has an extensive bibliography, most notably, "The Psychology of Investing." "Through simple examples and through analysis, Dr. Nofsinger was able to demonstrate how fallible our thought processes really are," Gieselman said. "It's important for us to recognize our limitations. Hopefully everyone left with a somewhat more realistic view of their abilities and pitfalls when it comes to investing."

The Harter Lecture is in recognition of Jack ’54 and Eleanor Hamm ’56 Harter, who have made generous financial contributions to McPherson College. A retired chairman, CEO and president of Pacific Greystone Corporation, Jack served on the college’s board of trustees for 31 years, during which time he donated his professional expertise. He was recognized in 2004 with a Citation of Merit Award.
Theatre season incorporated shows for all ages and interests

NOISES OFF
Michael Frayn’s Broadway smash hit kicked off the first production of the season with a student cast on opening weekend and an alumni cast for Homecoming weekend. This hilarious three-act play about a traveling acting troupe with Broadway stars in their eyes was called “the funniest comedy ever written” by the New York Times.

TWELFTH NIGHT OR WHAT YOU WILL
This Shakespearean play was originally written as a comedy focused on the identity confusion of a woman masquerading as a man in search of her twin brother, all while involving herself in a crazy love triangle. The MC theatre department added some flavor to the plot and treated the audience to a hilarious gender-bending perspective full of cross-dressing and impulse marriage.

HONK!
Based on Hans Christian Anderson’s “The Ugly Duckling,” this musical incorporates a comic twist on the classic tale of the little duckling with a ‘fowl’ appearance. Enjoyable for adults and children alike, this production reminded the audience how important it is to believe in yourself…because “you may find, in your own way, you’re alike.”

This production brought the audience into the personal cold war caused by the polar opposites of this married couple, who throw their visiting son into the abyss of their demise.

FUNNY MEERS
This darkly comic play, senior project of Mary Hughes, concerns Claire, an amnesiac who wakes up each morning with no memory. She is kidnapped by a disfigured, limping man and a henchman who walk through a foul-mouthed puppet, who force Claire to visit her mother, a stroke victim. But that’s when the comic hysteria begins!

The Barrett-Jackson auction is an event that resonates loudly among car enthusiasts. So it was with great anticipation that McPherson College had a 1956 Ford Thunderbird convertible spotlighted during primetime coverage on the SPEED channel at the annual auction in Scottsdale, Ariz., on Friday, January 18. Five McPherson College students were able to have, in their own words, “the experience of a lifetime,” an “eye-opener,” and “something incredible.”

McPherson College has participated in Barrett-Jackson for many years, taking both a promotional booth and a car to sell. For the past few years, students have gone along to interact with the crowd at the booth and to enjoy the experience.

“At first it was a little intimidating talking to people, because you just never knew who they were,” said Scott Ratcliff, sr., of Key Biscayne, Fla. “I think all of us eventually relaxed and hopefully gained a little attention for the school.”

Jack Roberts, sr., of Overland Park, Kan., relates one experience: “I was talking with a gentleman from France who runs a LeMans team and a vintage LeMans race car restoration shop. Talking to him and one of his drivers was the most interesting conversation that I had. It felt as though he might be judging the type of student McPherson College produces based on our conversation,” he said.
I will miss [the preschool]. I have mixed feelings about it, but now instead of working with ages three, four and five, I will be working with infants through fifth grade, a wider range,” says O’Dell.

Her interview was aired on the show “Hatteberg’s People” on Sunday, January 27, 2008.

Some excerpts for this article were used with permission from the McPherson Sentinel.

Masterson is featured guest performer
McPherson College alumna Dr. Dan Masterson ’83 was recently a featured performer in a music colloquium at Rock Valley College, Rockford, Ill.

Masterson, a pianist, performed as a soloist and collaborative artist with violinist Rachel Handlin, who is originally from Lindborg, and cellist Michael Beert, chair of the fine arts division at Rock Valley College. The January 27 concert included works by Mozart, Foss and Chopin and featured Mendelssohn’s Piano Trio in D minor. Masterson also served as a clinician for a master class with college and area students on January 26.

An associate professor of music at Bethany College in Lindsborg, Kan., Masterson currently chairs the college’s department of music. He joined the music faculty in 2000 and teaches piano, piano pedagogy and music theory.

Masterson holds a doctorate in music from the University of Illinois, a master of music degree from Wichita State University and a bachelor of arts degree from McPherson College.

Wilson Publishes Book
A fictional town in central Kansas provides the backdrop for “Sing, Ronnie Blue,” the first published novel of native Kansas McPherson College graduate Gary Wilson ’66. Wilson’s book was ranked third on the Small Press Distribution Fiction Bestseller List for September/October 2007 and is gaining momentum from radio interviews and reviews published in various print media, among them The Chicago Sun-Times and The Wichita Eagle.

Set in the “all-American city” of Bartlett’s Junction, Kan., the novel describes the chance reunion of high school friends Ronnie Blue, son of the local junkyard owner and John Klein, son of the president of the town’s only bank. According to the book’s Web site, the novel “takes a long and honest look at the economic and class divisions in our society that produce people such as Ronnie Blue.”

Explained Wilson, “I was born and raised in Kansas, and although I currently live in Chicago and have only been back intermittently since, I recognized how small-town living is actually a microcosm of society. You can find every character type, societal pressure and human drama in a small town. Ronnie Blue and John Klein simply serve as the flesh and blood of those ideas.”
Pat Noyes Scholarship Recipient

Pat Noyes was a member of the McPherson College basketball program from 1991-93 before becoming involved with the Oklahoma State University men's basketball program. Pat, along with nine other persons affiliated with the OSU basketball program, was killed in a plane crash near Byers, Colo., in January 2001. At the time of the crash, he was serving as the program's director of basketball operations.

Since 2002 family, friends, classmates, teammates, coaches and many others have made contributions to create the Pat Noyes Men's Basketball Scholarship Fund at McPherson College. Through direct mailings, phone solicitations and annual benefit golf tournament and auction, over $30,000 has been raised to endow this scholarship.

McPherson College awarded the 2007-2008 Pat Noyes Scholarship to Zach Kimble of Mulvane, Kan.

“As friends of Pat Noyes, for whom this scholarship is named, we know how much he treasured the game of basketball and the friendships that he formed from being around the game. This scholarship fund was created to benefit a player that most resembles Pat Noyes. We believe Zach is the kind of person and player Pat would be proud to see receive this award named in his honor,” says a statement released by the Pat Noyes Scholarship Organizational Committee.

Coach of the Bulldogs, Roger Trimmell `73, had this to say about his starting point guard Kimble: a business major with an accounting emphasis and a 3.0 GPA: “Zach is a solid, all-around basketball player, very team-oriented and a positive role model on campus, all of which Pat embodied while a student at McPherson College.”

A special recognition took place to recognize Kimble on Bulldog Alumni Night, which was Saturday, February 9, between the Bulldog women’s and men’s basketball games versus the University of St. Mary.

For more information about the Pat Noyes Scholarship Fund, contact David Barrett, director of admissions and financial aid, McPherson College, at 620-242-0412.

Senior Drive-thru

It’s a rite of passage from student to McPherson College alumnus. On Friday, May 12, following the annual Campus Blowout, graduating seniors will be invited to participate in the new tradition of the Heaton Gazebo Drive-thru. Lined up in a procession led by President Ron Hirv, seniors will circulate through town and be welcomed at the gazebo by cheering faculty, staff and returning students. To document this event, all participating seniors will receive a framed photograph of themselves preparing to drive through the gazebo as a gift from the alumni office. Welcome to the Alumni Association!

Sophomore Seminar program emphasizes service, team skills and career planning

In response to national research and also to the call here for a continuous seminar program addressing the needs of students from the freshman through the senior years, McPherson College began a Sophomore Seminar program in the fall of 2003. Colleges traditionally have focused a great deal of attention on students in the first year via first-year seminars and other retention initiatives. Research on the welfare of sophomores, on the other hand, indicates that sophomores typically have been, and have felt, neglected.

McPherson College has responded with the Sophomore Seminar program, which attempts to meet some of the needs that students face in their second year.

Sophomore Seminar at McPherson College involves three emphases: leadership and team skills, career planning and exploration, and service learning. The central focus throughout the year is service learning, with the hope that students will consider community service as a lifelong goal, whether in addition to their careers or as a part of their career pursuits.

The first semester of Sophomore Seminar involves training in the philosophy of community service and the development of service learning project proposals, done in coordination with local service agencies. Through the fall course, students read essays and stories by such well-known authors as Deepak Chopra, Martin Luther King Jr., John W. Gardner and Thich Nhat Hanh. Through such readings students gain an understanding of the what, why and how of community service. As they complete their service learning project proposals, they gain invaluable experience in exploring their own leadership abilities, working within a small team and developing a project plan which recognizes the challenges and complexities of community service beyond simple voluntarism.

The second semester involves completion of service learning projects, which often take most of the semester to complete successfully. Students are busy with further planning sessions, communication with service agency representatives, fund-raising, event planning, project management and working directly with clients. Essential to the service learning experience is the emphasis on learning, requiring students to keep work logs and reflective journals throughout the second semester. Each project group then presents a formal report near the end of the semester on their service learning experience.

Through these service learning projects, the college has further developed a strong working relationship with many service agencies. Students have completed projects for Lincoln Elementary School, Head Start, Multi-Community Diversified Services, the McPherson Museum, The Cedars, McPherson Recreation Commission and YMCA, Big Brothers Big Sisters, McPherson Family Life Center, Wesley Medical Center in Wichita, Mt. Hope Sanctuary, Disability Support Services, the Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Center and others.

The second semester also involves a career services unit, presenting students with a variety of assignments that help them explore their strengths, skills and career interests. Students learn to compose a resume and cover letter specifically aimed at securing an internship, whether real or hypothetical. Once these assignments are done, each sophomore meets with a career advisor to discuss the student’s professional goals. Students have typically responded very positively to the career services unit, finding it especially helpful as they look toward the future more clearly and deliberately than they ever have before.

The highlight of the Sophomore Seminar program is the service learning project. Students have responded very positively to these projects over the years. Some students express a skepticism at first, wondering if the service experience will be worthwhile, but the great majority of students express enthusiasm for their service work once they begin putting their plans and skills to work on behalf of others.

One student said, “The biggest skill tested was my patience,” but then “it was all a blast.” Another student said this: “I think there was a huge benefit in the fact that we had the privilege of going beyond our everyday lives to reach out to kids that needed someone to look up to.” Another student shared this assessment: “I believe that the service project helped me tremendously. I learned responsibility, leadership and also how much little things mean to people.”

Student recently completed painting his Bulldog-themed Ping-Pong table.
One Special Valentine’s Day

by Mark Flora-Swicke ‘83

The day came and we were prepared. We had flowers! We had decorations! We had a large, white sheet cake! We had shipped in a German layer cake with a large heart on top from my grandmother! We had classical music playing in the background! We had taken a shower and dressed up! We made our bed and cleaned the bathroom! What sacrifice!

In any marketing endeavor it is important to get follow-up information. So we co-opted the sheet still required for other-gender visitors. Every female would have to sign in.

The party was a huge success! Over 50 young women knocked on our door. The highlight was some of the older women: Dr. Stephanie Graber, Mrs. Peggy van Asselt and—surprise—student services director Joanne Hamlin came and dutifully signed in.

By distinguishing ourselves in all of the romantic arts, we soon all had lovely ladies on our arms: Debbie Garvey ‘85 (Mark), Sarah Baile ’85 (Bruce) and Deanna Koehler ’85 (Tim). All of the other men on campus only wished they could have been so smart!

The relationships formed here could very possibly last and benefit me throughout the rest of my career. The experience should help make me a well-rounded individual as I enter the professional world. It has already been an eye-opening experience that has allowed me to grow. The more knowledge I can consume the more informed I will be.

By Tiffany Nichepor
Senior, New City, Kansas

INTERNSHIP PROFILE

Experiencing Washington

Accepting this internship was a huge step in my life. I had never had anyone and I didn’t belong here. After I started working, I was very far away from my hometown or my family, and I didn’t have any idea what living in a city would be like. Having grown up on my family’s farm and having attended a school where I knew everyone’s name, where they lived and who their grandparents were made this internship a huge step in my life. I had never been so excited and scared I was to be 1,700 miles away from everything I knew so well. It was my chance to find out who I am and where I stand.

Accepting this internship was a huge step in my life. I had never been so excited and scared I was to be 1,700 miles away from everything I knew so well. It was my chance to find out who I am and where I stand.

The first couple of days were extremely difficult. I felt like I didn’t know anyone and I didn’t belong here. After I started working, I found a true connection in the office: we were all Kansans! It’s true what they say, that Kansans really are the friendliest people. The office staff welcomed me with open arms and made me feel at home.

As time has passed, I realize how this experience has helped me see the true me. Taking a step like this really proves to a person that they are strong and determined to make a difference in their own life as well as others’ lives.

I have several expectations that will help determine the value of this internship. My main objective has always been to learn and understand the functions of the government as well as familiarize myself with the daily activities of a congressman, meet a cross section of society, see my role in the lawmaking system, be able to partake in different areas of the office and assist with several legislative tasks. As a business major, I want to see how small and large businesses fit into the legislative process. I feel as if I have been very helpful and useful to the congressman and his office staff. By stepping out of my comfort zone, I have been able to participate in different areas of the office and assist with several daily office functions. For example, I feel as if I truly have a say in which laws are important to my fellow Kansans. This allows me to help keep agriculture a high-priority issue.

The relationships formed here could very possibly last and benefit me throughout the rest of my career. The experience should help make me a well-rounded individual as I enter the professional world. It has already been an eye-opening experience that has allowed me to grow. The more knowledge I can consume the more informed I will be.
McPherson College students, faculty and staff reached out to the community recently, picking up fallen limbs from December’s ice storm. Ninety two students and 14 faculty and staff members participated in the event, demonstrating a guiding principle of McPherson College’s mission: service.

The ice storm left many city residents without power for days and left branches and many large limbs covering yards.

Tom Hurst, director of campus ministry and service coordinator, explained that many community members did not have the financial or physical resources to take care of the downed limbs in their yards. Having a service project that involved so many students was a way to demonstrate to the students that one of the major ways to bring joy to life is to serve others.

Participants used 14 pick-up trucks, one dump truck, one feed grain truck and two trailers to take 66 loads to the dump during the three-hour project Saturday, January 12.

Brian Schippert, sr., Great Bend, Kan., left that it was a good experience and an excellent opportunity for students to get involved.

“It felt good to help others, and it was neat to see the community and the college come together,” Schippert said.

Kacy Smith, jr., Milford, Kan., also hauled several loads of limbs in her truck. “Service is one of the best things that people can do for each other. It not only helps out the community but also promotes it as well,” Smith said. “I think this service project was our way of saying thank you as a campus to the McPherson community for all of their support.”

Several coaches encouraged their players to participate in the project. Nearly 80 athletes showed up to help.

“There’s days people tend to forget that they can do something for others without expecting anything in return, especially our younger generations,” said Doug Quint, head men’s and women’s soccer coach. “People really appreciate things like this. Our community gives so much to us at the college, and it’s nice to give something back when we have a chance to do it.”

STUDENTS AID HABITAT CLEAN-UP

Continuing with the town cleanup, the campus community once again pitched in to help an organization in need.

Property owned by the McPherson chapter of Habitat for Humanity had downed seven old elm and maple trees that were nearly destroyed by the December ice storm. In late February 18 students and three staff members took 25 loads of downed limbs and branches, large pieces of tree trunks and a few old appliances to the local dump, using a dump truck, six pickup trucks and a flatbed trailer.

The town of McPherson will replace these softwood trees with trees appropriate and hardy to this climate once the new Habitat for Humanity house has been built by local builders in early June.

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Around the world for interterm

By Shandi Tobias ’05 and Cindy Kinnamon ’83

Interterm took several students away from the McPherson College campus to study history, culture and religion in Ecuador and Thailand.

Dr. Gary Entz, professor of history, and Dr. Ocie Kilgus, professor of modern languages, immersed their students in the Ecuadorian culture through the month of January. Students had the option of studying either Latin American history or the Spanish language while exploring Latin America.

Eight students traveled to Quito, Ecuador, where they stayed in a posada (bed and breakfast), going to class in the morning and studying in the afternoon. Students took several afternoon and weekend excursions, including visits to the Museo National del Banco Central del Ecuador, which has a large collection of pre-Colombian artifacts. The group also visited local restaurants and parks and natural wonders, such as the extinct volcano Cayambe, which at over 18,000 feet is the world’s highest point that rests on the equator.

Mira Coulter, soph., Wakita, Okla., wrote in her journal that she thoroughly enjoyed her visit and was sad to leave Ecuador. She learned much about both the Central American culture and our own during her stay.

Dr. Herb Smith, professor of philosophy and religion, traveled with a group of students, alumni and other interested persons to Thailand during the second half of his World Religions class in January.

Their trip to “The Land of Smiles” included visiting the cities of Bangkok and Chiang Mai, with a side trip to the archeological ruins of the former capital, Ayutthaya. The itinerary included a visit to the Grand Palace of the King of Thailand, the Wat Po Monastery golden statue of the reclining Buddha, and a longboat ride to the floating market, where the group was assaulted by all sorts of sights, sounds and goods. Clothes, musical instruments, exotic fruits, paintings and all sorts of other souvenirs could be found there.

Another interesting place was the Jungle Raft Hotel, a series of huts built on pontoons that float on the Kwai River. At nighttime kerosene lamps were used as there was no electricity. Upon leaving the hotel and crossing the “bridge” to visit a hill tribe called the Mon, the group walked past an elephant standing in the river and eating pineapples off the walkway.

More highlights included the Bang-Pa-In summer palace of King Rama V Dis — whom the Thai people adore — Inthanon National Park and the Karen hill tribal visit.

Smith said that by visiting Thailand, his students “potentially become more aware of the Occident by going to the Orient. We become more self-conscious of our culture by experiencing one that is quite different.”

Student Brett Whitenack, sr., McPherson, noted the general congestion of traffic, yet the people of Thailand were always smiling and very friendly. Among the congestion one could find taxis easily, as they were neon blue, green, yellow and pink. In addition, food vendors were actually serving people in their cars! Talk about curbside service. Whitenack concludes, “Herb and Jeanne Smith led a wonderful trip. Herb is so enthusiastic that you can’t help but enjoy yourself.”
EXPERIENCES FOR A LIFETIME

Internships provide a wealth of opportunity for students

By Carol Dreiling

Internships offer college students many opportunities to experience the professional world with a hands-on approach. Such an experience supports those students in their academic life as well.

A desire to secure current work knowledge and to see what was available in the work world was the driving force that moved Brian Schippert (sr., Great Bend, Kan.) to pursue internships as part of his college experience.

The 26-year-old spent the summer of 2006 working at the Mercedes-Benz Classic Center in Irvine, Calif., and the summer of 2007 working at the Peterson Automotive Museum in Los Angeles. The position at the Mercedes-Benz Center provided him the opportunity to work in a shop environment in a large corporation, while the museum afforded a smaller, yet well-known setting.

While the businesses were different in size and scope, each afforded Schippert with first-hand experiences that enhanced what he learned in the classroom. He went into each of them with an open mind, something he recommends for any student intern, and found that in a single day he might be asked to complete any task from sweeping the floor to polishing a multi-million dollar automobile.

Schippert entered the auto restoration program after earning an associate of applied science in diesel technology with Caterpillar. That education also included a short internship program.

At McPherson College's Auto Restoration Career Fair in October 2007, Schippert was offered a job with the Collings Foundation in Stow, Mass. He will be in charge of a 70-car collection, ranging from a 1901 Oldsmobile to several autos from the 1940s. The foundation also features an extensive number of race cars, including midget racers and Indy cars.

"It’s a new position," Schippert said. "It will be my job to help expand the collection. I will be creating a working shop and maintaining all of the cars."

Schippert said he believes internships are vital to the success of the graduates in the auto restoration program.
McPherson College students do not have to travel far for internships, because businesses in McPherson have also provided internship opportunities for them. Luke Logan ’05, who currently works as a staff accountant at Swindoll, Janzen, Hawk & Loyd, actually used the experiences of three internships to shape his career.

His first internship was a summer spent in the cost accounting department at Hosipra in McPherson, his second experience sent him to Swindoll, Janzen, Hawk & Loyd, where he spent the tax season “mostly with filing” and some QuickBook work. Wichita was the site of his third internship, where he worked in the accounting department at Equity Bank.

After graduating Logan took a full time position with Equity Bank for approximately a year before returning to the McPherson accounting firm.

The three paid internships were scheduled during the school year and were helpful in exposing Logan to corporate accounting, bank accounting and public accounting. He found many benefits in the internships.

“I absolutely recommend internships,” Logan said. “They provide real-life experience in time management, dealing with different demands in the workplace, and everyday experiences.”

A CAREER LAUNCH

The world of accounting has also provided internship possibilities for Courtney Bersuch (sr., McPherson, Kan.). She spent two semesters with the National Cooperative Refinery Association in McPherson in the accounting department. In that position she learned to set up goals and worked for their year-end audit. Currently, Bersuch has an internship at Adams, Brown, Beran & Ball in McPherson, where she is experiencing the demands of the tax season.

The first internship followed her summer work at NCRA as a college student. She had been moved up to the front office to work and was asked to stay. The Adams, Brown, Beran & Ball internship has provided her with public accounting experiences. This internship was encouraged by Chris Wiens, director of career services. Both internships have offered Bersuch many benefits.

“Getting into the job and working with other employees is different than the school atmosphere,” she said. “It is a real job experience and teaches how to work with people.”

Following graduation in May, Bersuch will take a position as a staff accountant at Flint Hills Resources, Wichita, Kan., which is owned by Koch Industries. Both of her internships were valuable, and Bersuch said that the oil refinery background she experienced at NCRA certainly helped her to land the job.

Although not all students choose to take their internships for credit, those who do are required to keep a journal and write two papers based on their journal entries. A performance evaluation is also part of the process.

While McPherson College has long offered majors with a career emphasis, it was just six years ago that the college officially began marketing itself as a provider of a career-oriented liberal arts education, Wiens explained. Along with that new marketing plan came the need for an intentional internship program. Officially, internships allow students “to participate in an organized educational work experience,” during which students are “placed with an employer to perform tasks and achieve objectives that are outlined in a job description or contract.” Wiens estimates that 85 percent of her time is spent on matchmaking, that is, matching student skills with employer skill requirements for internships or permanent employment.

Wiens, a former director of McPherson Main Street said, “it’s all about networking. I rely very heavily on contacts I developed over the years through my work with Main Street and private industry, and I go to as many alumni events as possible.”

For McPherson College students seeking internships, the internship network starts locally but stretches across the United States. Multiple auto restoration students, for example, have found their way to the Mercedes-Benz Classic Center USA in Irvine, Calif. The center specializes not only in restoration and sales, but also in events involving classic Mercedes-Benz vehicles.

“Internships are beneficial to us in building the workforce of the future,” said Mike Kunz, manager of the center. “This is very critical in the auto restoration industry. A lot of talent is approaching retirement.”

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Interno represent fresh faces and bring fresh ideas into an organization, Kunz said, adding that internship experience is key to employment after graduation.

“It’s valuable, and to tell the truth, we wouldn’t hire someone who didn’t have that experience,” he said. “It’s on-the-job training. It means they’ve taken a test drive with another employer. It gives informa-
She submitted, and we went on to hire her. We hire students from all over the country if we can find us.

During her stint at Axio, Miller helped design announcement banners, bank advertisements, book layouts, CD labels and a contemporary furniture Web site, all projects that meshed with the graphic design emphasis of her art major.

Axio requires a full summer internship of at least 2½ months, Choi said. "Anything shorter would not allow for training and seeing a project through to final execution. They [interns] get projects in from 'live' clients and have to interact with those clients. It's all pretty imaginative. They have a budget and have to make it work. Students learn a lot from hands-on experience, but in return, we have to pay close attention.

Internships offer a good transition from classroom to workplace and are an excellent way to bolster a resume, according to Choi. "If two students submit [resumes] and both are A students and well equipped, I would prefer to hire the one with the internship experience."

Large companies also see the value in and rely heavily on internships. Fortune 500 company Koch Industries, based in Wichita, Kan., has a good working relationship with McPherson College. Randy Walker, a lead accountant with Flint Hills Resources, a subsidiary of Koch Industries, serves as a contact person. "We recruit and hire a lot of accountants and IT information people from finance and marketing majors, and we like to hire through our internship program," Walker said. "It lets students get inside and see the company. This provides a good foundation for both parties."

Business administration major Amy Parnell '08 recently accepted a summer internship with the Koch-owned company Invista. Another business administration major, Courtney Versuch '08, plans to go to work full-time at Flint Hills following her graduation. Although Versuch did not participate in Flint Hills' internship program, her recent accounting internships at Adams, Brown, Beran & Ball and the NCRA refinery in McPherson helped set the stage for her upcoming employment.

An internship experience listed on a resume "shows work ethic and wherewithal," Walker stressed. "They [former interns] can talk about their experiences and what they have to offer."

When it comes to recruiting and placement of interns, Walker and his colleagues appreciate the helpful attitude of the McPherson College career staff. "At the end of the day, they want their students placed," he said. "It's good for the college, and it's good for the students."

Combining a Career-Oriented Approach with the Liberal Arts Experience

We college professors tend to be an idealistic lot. We love ideas and knowledge in the abstract. We champion the intrinsic value of thought and learning, regardless of material benefit or practical application.

At McPherson College, in particular, we believe that students achieve true success by becoming whole persons who nurture and balance their spiritual, physical, social and intellectual spheres of being. And we are convinced that a strong liberal arts education is central to our mission of developing such whole persons.

But for several years now, my colleagues and I have worried about whether the college is relinquishing its liberal arts tradition as it accommodates a new emphasis on career preparation, an emphasis that the institution has been marketing as career-oriented liberal arts. Indeed, a good many of my faculty colleagues fear the college is sacrificing the liberal arts upon the altar of career-oriented education.

This concern surfaced repeatedly in the spring of 2007 as faculty discussed the fate of the so-called 70-hour rule. That rule, which had been in effect for decades, required candidates for graduation to complete no fewer than 70 credit hours outside their major area of study. But growth in the number of required courses in a few career-preparation majors, such as business and graphic design, meant that students in those programs faced the prospect of a fifth year to meet their 70-hour requirement and complete the bachelor’s degree.

At a faculty meeting where we debated a proposal to reduce the 70-hour requirement to 62 hours, one of my colleagues made a particularly eloquent defense of the status quo and the liberal arts in general. I agreed with both the spirit and the substance of his argument: that the more academic experiences our students have outside their major, the more they benefit from their McPherson College experience.

I did part, however, with my respected colleague at the end of his presentation when he concluded that the most pressing questions we faced were "What type of college do we want to be?" and "What type of graduates do we want to produce?"
I'm a bit more of a realist about the question of whether McPherson College should or should not be a career-oriented liberal arts college. Before we can answer those ultimate questions with something other than noble ideals, I believe we must first answer the questions “What kind of college can we be and still be a viable institution?” and “What kind of a college can we be and still be an institution with integrity about what we are and what we do?”

When the college conceived and began using the career-oriented liberal arts tagline, it was first and foremost a marketing strategy. McPherson College was in crisis at the time. President Gary Dill had resigned early in 2002. Enrollment had bottomed out dangerously close to 300. And to offset large operating deficits, the college was spending its unrestricted endowment at an unsustainable rate.

Into this critical situation stepped Dr. Neil Thorburn, who served approximately one year as interim president between the resignation of Dill and the appointment in March 2003 of President Ron Hovis. It is Dr. Thorburn who gets the credit (or the blame) for seeing the potential in promoting McPherson College as a career-oriented liberal arts college.

Why did Thorburn push us in the career-oriented direction? First, he recognized that McPherson College, with its small student body and limited resources, could not possibly compete with the dozen or so other small, private, church-related liberal arts colleges in Kansas; a career-oriented liberal arts identity would set us apart from our competitors.

He also saw that much of what McPherson College had historically been and done was career-oriented: Teacher education, business, premed, agriculture, accounting, auto restoration—since 1888, programs such as these had accounted for the overwhelming majority of McPherson College graduates.

Most important, Dr. Thorburn was well acquainted with the significant ways the market for private higher education had changed in the last generation. Many of my colleagues and I attended college at a time when 85 percent of students chose to study because they valued improving their minds and developing a philosophy of life; only 15 percent reported pursuing higher education to get a better job or make more money. But Thorburn understood that rising costs had led students and parents alike to select majors and colleges that would take frequent opportunity to keep this self-assessment before us.

What began as a marketing strategy—mere words on paper—now permeates many aspects of the institution. This is as it should be, for certainly our programs ought to align with our promotional materials. But as the career-oriented emphasis strengthens its grip on academic programs and the marketplace, misgivings are understandable and not without basis.

I do see signs, however, that the college is beginning to maintain a valid liberal arts component. We have, for example, acted to check growth in the number of hours required for some career-oriented majors and reinstalled a Spanish requirement for the bachelor of arts degree.

In many ways the future of liberal arts at McPherson College lies in the degree to which all stakeholders accept and assume responsibility for one of the key conclusions drawn from our 2005 Institutional Self-Study: “Given the current focus on career preparation as a market niche …, diligence will be essential in maintaining the college’s liberal arts approach to educating whole persons.” Vigilance is required. Not only faculty but also concerned alumni should take frequent opportunity to keep this self-assessment before trustees and college administrators.

A career-oriented liberal arts approach has clearly helped the college reach critical enrollment and financial goals. It probably will continue to do so, and we should celebrate that. On the other hand, McPherson College must not compromise its mission: “Diligence will be essential in maintaining the college’s liberal arts approach to educating whole persons.”

McPherson College Review 2007

Panelists discuss Brethren history

By Jeane Smith & Shandi Tobias

In February the Western Plains District of the Church of the Brethren and McPherson College hosted a panel discussion entitled “The Church of the Brethren – 300 Years of History and Heritage.” Panel members included Lowell Flory, executive director of institutional advancement at Bethany Theological Seminary; Dr. Paul Hoffert, president emeritus of McPherson College; Rev. Rhonda Pittman-Gingrich, pastor at the Detroit, Mich., Church of the Brethren and member of the denomination’s 30th Anniversary Committee; Dr. Ruthann Jenshof, president of Bethany Theological Seminary; and Dr. Jonathan Shively, director of the Brethren Academy. Chairing the panel was Dr. Herb Smith, chair of the philosophy and religion department at McPherson College.

The panel concentrated on the Brethren movement as a part of the Reformation to the present day, with discussion ending on the church’s future. Dr. Johansen summarized the 300-year history in three words: memory, imagination and will. Brethren founders empowered their members into simple living as an alternative to materialism and corruption and into programs instituted by Brethren, such as Herder International, CROP and Brethren Volunteer Service. Moreover, families, faith groups and young people benefit from the Brethren emphasis on reconciliation and peacemaking that affect both families and society. Johansen ended with encouraging words: “The number of Brethren is many times larger now than when our founders, Alexander Mack, and his Schwarzenau (Germany) group began. We must take ourselves more seriously and be more deeply attentive to the needs of the world.”

Dr. Shively emphasized the crosscurrents of Anabaptism and Pietism. Anabaptism, he said, requires recommitment to the radical discipleship of Jesus and willingness to stand against societal norms. On the other hand, pietism calls for personal spirituality. “When we combine these two,” he added, “we have hyper-Brethren.” The early Brethren wanted to be disciples, to transform relationships with God and the world.

Pittman-Gingrich focused on the positive qualities of “the emerging generation of youth in the church today.” She sees young people reflecting the “seeds of Anabaptism and pietism,” similar to the first-century church that claimed the teachings of Jesus. Pittman-Gingrich challenged Brethren in the audience to seek out post-boomer generations not in our congregations today but “emerging generations like and respect Jesus Christ, as do the Brethren historically. By the same token, emerging generations want to follow Christ, not a charismatic pastor.” Pittman-Gingrich also said, “Youth have a deeper hunger for rich and crying relationships; The Brethren desire small, close-knit groups and hold each other accountable. Nor do youth want bickering and dissention; rather, they desire peace, both internally and in the world. They prefer low-church worship, models that encourage congregations to think the way, like the Brethren Love Feast and anointing service.”

Flory, the final panelist, called attention to the church itself. “If the purpose of the church is bureaucracy, we must be shaken up. But institutions are good if focused on their outward goals.” Brethren, he continued, must not try to mastermind the church, but ask what our roles are in it. Referring to Johansen’s earlier comment, he concluded, “This takes us back to memory, imagination and will. How much will we do have to work for the church in the next 100 years?”

Questions and answers followed the panel, focusing on issues as to whether today’s culture was positive or negative and to whether or not Brethren need a reformation again. One respondent asked, “We have done a good job with the Brethren colleges, but we lack numbers of students in theological education. How can the churches and our colleges help us?”

Johansen recalled the historical tensions between groups of Brethren who rejected education and others who went so far as to establish colleges of higher education. “We must educate our students in theology,” she said, “and not just for personal gain.”

Shively emphasized the need for multiple ways to train and sustain pastoral leadership. He challenged Brethren to “think about lifelong learning, not just achievement and degrees.”

Pittman-Gingrich suggested that perhaps every congregation needs a school of theology to train all of our people to be missionaries to the world.
When Mark Baus ’82 was willing to drive six hours from his rural Rush County home to take Ann (Dirksen) Baus ’83 on their first date, she thought this fellow might just kind of like her—a lot.

Twenty-four years and three children later, the couple has built a successful farming operation that has earned them a new designation—Kansas Master Farmer and Master Farm Homemaker for 2008. The Bauses, along with five other couples, were honored March 21 at a banquet in Junction City. The award program, dating to 1927, is sponsored by Kansas State University Research and Extension and Kansas Farmer Magazine.

After graduating as valedictorian of his McPherson High School class and earning an associate’s degree at Barton County Community College, Mark attended McPherson College, where during his senior year, he met Ann Dirksen of Wichita.

Both Mark and Ann graduated cum laude, Mark with a degree in industrial arts and Ann with a dual major in Spanish and biology. They continued their relationship while Ann went to Oklahoma State University to earn a master’s degree in development- mental botany (genetics).

The couple married in 1984 and moved soon after into a stone house in Alexander, where Mark was already farming with his parents, Bill and Barbara Baus. Ann acknowledged that the rural way of life was initially difficult for her: “I was a city girl,” she said. “I had just finished my bachelor’s and master’s degrees. Everything I’d been working toward for years had prepared me for a career in a research lab. It was hard, giving up everything I was familiar with.”

“One I had my children, I knew that this was where we needed to be, where they wouldn’t be so influenced by trends and peer pressure,” Ann said, noting that some of those pressures exist even in rural communities. “Now this is home.”

With no opportunities for employment in her field, Ann showed the flexibility that has carried her through ever since: she became a teacher. Ann felt this role helped give her a place in the community and allowed her to share her passions for science and language. She taught Spanish for 15 years and life sciences for four years.

Now a veteran combine driver, Ann is Mark’s 50-50 partner in the main farm operation also growing at the time, the couple decided to exit the craft business.

Mark said he faced his biggest challenge in 2001-2003, when Kansas was enduring drought and his wife became ill.

“Right smack in the middle of that drought, Ann was diagnosed with cancer,” he said. “It was a lot harder on our family than any of the difficulties we’ve had farming.”

Ann, who is back to her healthy, resilient self, is now the site director of the Barton County Academy in Great Bend, an alternative school for individuals who are working to earn a secondary diploma. She also teaches English as a second language at the academy.

In 2002 the Bauses invested in an ethanol production plant, which served as “the perfect hedge against rising fuel costs on the farm,” according to Mark. “As fuel prices shot up, so did our returns from the investment. As grain prices go up, we profit from the grain at market, but the profits from ethanol are reduced. When grain prices fall, our ethanol profits rise.”

The couple was honored with Kansas Farm Bureau’s Young Farmers and Ranchers Award in 1990. This led to the American Farm Bureau Federation’s national competition in Phoenix in 1991, where Mark and Ann finished in the top fifteen.

The Bauses have fulfilled the mission of their alma mater by answering numerous calls to serve. They have been active in the First Lutheran Church in LaCrosse, Kan., a church that Mark’s great-grandfather helped found more than 100 years ago. Mark has been a lay pastor for 32 years, and both he and Ann have taught Sunday school and held other positions in the church.

Each has also been involved in and held leadership positions in community organizations, including Mark’s 17-year service as mayor of the city of Alexander. He has been involved with the Rush County Farm Bureau, the Rush County Economic Development Commission and the Rush County Extension Council. Mark also serves his college alma mater as he is on the Alumnus Board at McPherson College. Ann served as treasurer for the city of Alexander, has worked with 4-H and the Kansas Farm Bureau and was a student council and Spanish club sponsor at Bazine High School.

The Bauses think not only locally but globally when it comes to service. The family went on a mission trip to Ecuador in 1998, and Mark, Ann and daughter Veronica have individually gone on several mission trips. This spring brought another opportunity for international travel as Mark and Ann visited their daughter in Spain, where she is spending a year of study abroad.

A special highlight for the family occurred in 2003 when they had a special visitor on their farm. During a family vacation to Branson, Mo., they attended a comedy show by Yakov Smirnoff. After the performance they were able to speak with the comedian. One thing led to another, and several weeks later the Russian comedian and his son and daughter were visiting the Baus farm.
Following the season, it was announced that Marcus Hicks would not return for a second season as the head coach of the Lady Bulldogs.

**MEN’S BASKETBALL REVIEW**

Three overtime losses in the final half of the season left McPherson College with a final record of 16-13. While it was disappointing to be so close to what could have been a 19- or 20-win season, in the end it was a testimony to the grit of an undersized pack of Bulldogs and coach Roger Trimnell.

“We gave ourselves a chance,” was the lament of head coach Roger Trimnell several times during his 26th and final season at the helm of the Bulldog program. “That’s all you can ask.”

Picked for a second-division finish in the preseason polls, the undersized Bulldogs were still in every game against bigger, more physical teams, largely due to a baffling mix of their match-up zone and man-to-man defenses and the three-point shot.

“When we hit from the outside, we were a pretty good team,” said Trimnell.

After opening the season 4-4, the Bulldogs put together a five-game winning streak surrounding the Christmas-New Year’s holidays and entered mid-January standing 3-1 in the conference and 9-4 overall. That run caught the eye of the rest of the KCAC, and from then on, no one overlooked the Dogs.

While the Bulldogs dropped four of their next five games, the win was a 25-point division over KCAC champion-to-be Ottawa University, and the losses included a two-point overtime loss to Southwestern and a three-point decision to Kansas Wesleyan University, teams that would later tie with Friends for the runner-up spot in the final KCAC standings.

The Bulldogs then gathered themselves for a three-game winning streak, which included wins over Sterling, Tabor, and Bethany College. The win at Tabor was the Bulldogs’ first in Hillsboro since 2001 and left the Bulldogs with a 15-12 overall record, 9-9 in KCAC play and a spot in the final KCAC standings.

Down the final stretch, McPherson would drop four of six games, including two more in overtime. Yet, a 63-57 regular-season finale win on the road against Friends University, teams that would later tie with Friends for the runner-up spot in the final KCAC standings.

**WOMEN’S BASKETBALL**

Coming off McPherson College’s third winning season in the past 25 years, the Lady Bulldogs entered the 2008 season with three returning full-time starters, three key reserves, and a boatload of expectations along with a new coach and a much anticipated newcomer.

But the season wasn’t going to be all smooth sailing, and reality set in quickly as the Bulldogs were upset in their season opener.

Rather than fold, the Bulldogs regrouped, put together a five-game winning streak and began to garner votes in the NAIA D-II national poll as they entered the KCAC portion of their schedule.

The conference portion of the Bulldogs’ schedule opened with back-to-back losses to Sterling College, the defending champion, and Tabor College. However, a win over intra-county rival Bethany sent the Bulldogs into the holiday break with a positive attitude and jump started what would become a six-game winning streak.

The Bulldogs won seven of their final 10 games to finish the regular season 18-8 and with an 11-7 conference mark, good for third place.

But the season wasn’t going to be all smooth sailing, and reality set in quickly as the Bulldogs were upset in their season opener.

Led by their long-range offense, the Builders ended the Bulldogs’ season, denying McPherson a berth in the KCAC postseason championship game and bringing their record-tying 18-9 season to a close.

The Bulldogs opened KCAC postseason tournament play with a 22-point win over Friends University in the quarterfinals. With that win the Lady Bulldogs tied the school record for 19 wins in a season, originally set in 1981, and set up a return match at Southwestern College, a team that had handed McPherson a pair of heartbreaking losses during the regular season.

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By Carol Swenson

Sports Information Director

Roger Trimmell ’73, the “Father of Dogball,” has announced his intention to retire as head coach of the McPherson College men’s basketball program.

Trimmell recently completed his 26th regular season as the Bulldogs’ head coach and as the school’s all-time career win leader with 370 wins and 345 losses (entering postseason play). His regular season conference record was a composite 221-231.

In announcing his retirement, Trimmell said, “I want to thank [Dr.] Paul Hoffman for giving a young high school coach an opportunity to return to his alma mater and build a program.

“God has blessed me with the opportunity to pursue my passion, and along the way I have seen many young men grow and flourish as they moved on in their own careers. I have also had some outstanding community people give support to an opportunity to return to my alma mater and build a program. I have known Roger for years, and replacing him as the head coach of our men’s basketball program, said Barton at the time of the announcement. “I believe it will be a great relationship. I am looking forward to getting on campus and having the conference-allotted time to work with the athletes already in the program and later with those joining us in the fall.

McPherson College is located in a good community and has great support, and I am pleased to be a part of that.”

Barton served as the assistant coach at McPherson College for the 2004 season under Nathalea Stephenson. Prior to her time at McPherson College, Barton served as head coach for girls’ basketball, assistant volleyball coach and softball coach at Canton-Galva High School.

New coaches to lead Bulldog basketball and volleyball

McPherson College has announced the hiring of Tim Swartzendruber as the new head men’s basketball coach, effective immediately.

LaMonte Rothrock, McPherson College dean of students/athletic director, commented, “I am pleased, along with the team, to announce that Shelly Prescott has accepted the position as the head women’s basketball coach for McPherson College. She will begin her responsibilities immediately.”

Rothrock added, “Shelly brings knowledge of the game, not only as a college player, but also from her past three years as an assistant at McPherson College. Her time as assistant coach gives her a good background in the KCAC and an understanding of our expectations in recruiting and graduating outstanding student athletes.”

Prescott said following the announcement, “I am very excited to become the head women’s basketball coach at McPherson College! We had a great season this past year, and I, as well as the girls, will be working hard to build on our accomplishments as we move into the upcoming season. I am appreciative and blessed to have been given this opportunity at McPherson College.”

Volleyball

McPherson College has announced the hiring of Susan Barton as the new head women’s volleyball coach, effective immediately.

“We are fortunate to find a coach of Susan’s caliber to head our volleyball program,” said LaMonte Rothrock, McPherson College dean of students/athletic director, in making the announcement. “Susan comes to us with coaching experience from several outstanding programs, most recently Moundridge High School. I know that the volleyball ladies on campus are very excited about Susan’s arrival. Susan has a good grasp of athletics at McPherson College and our goals in recruiting and graduating outstanding student athletes. We look forward to continued progress with the volleyball program under Susan’s leadership.”

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

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“We are pleased to have Tim Swartzendruber coming on board as the head coach of our men’s basketball program,” said LaMonte Rothrock, McPherson College dean of students/athletic director, in making the announcement.

“Tim brings to our program proven recruiting ability in the state of Kansas. His record of success, not only in wins and losses, but also in recruiting strong student athletes who graduate, fits with our college mission.”

“I am very excited about taking the position at McPherson College,” said Swartzendruber. “McPherson is a top-notch school in the KCAC.”

“I’ve known Roger Trimmell for years, and replacing him as the head coach here is a real honor.”

“I am looking forward to representing McPherson College the best way possible, on and off the court, and continuing the success the men’s program has had.”

III
Pauline Ryder '69, San Antonio, Tex., is considered the founder and editor of the Health Care Executive (HCE). Mao had previously worked as a volunteer in China, where he taught English and helped build schools.

Mao then moved to the United States, where he continued his education at Harvard University, earning a Ph.D. in Political Science in 1976. During his time at Harvard, he became involved in the anti-war movement and was a vocal opponent of the Vietnam War. His political activism landed him in prison for 17 years, where he continued to write and develop his ideas.

After his release from prison, Mao returned to China and became a key figure in the Chinese political landscape. He was instrumental in the establishment of the Chinese Communist Party and played a crucial role in China's economic reform and modernization efforts.

Mao's contributions to Chinese and world politics are significant and his legacy continues to influence discussions on leadership, governance, and international relations.
McPherson College students, faculty and staff administered the second annual McPherson College Math Competition in February for more than 300 area high school students.

### Coming Events

**May**
- 3 Pat Noyes Memorial Golf Experience
- 3 9th Annual C.A.R.S. Club show – on campus
- 12 Band Pops Concert
- 18 European Choir Concert
- 22 Senior Banquet – Welcome into Alumni Association
- 25 Commencement

**July**
- 13 Alumni Luncheon at Church of the Brethren Annual Conference – Richmond, Va.
- 20 Alumni Family Day—Henry Doorly Zoo, Omaha, Neb.

**August**
- 17 Alumni Family Day—McPherson Water Park

**September**
- 19 Limon, Colo., Football Hotdog Feed
- 19 Quinter, Kan., Football Hotdog Feed

**October**
- 10-11 Alumni Board meetings