Dear MC alumni and friends,

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Most of my time is spent planning events. I have enjoyed meeting with so many of you in that process. We have held seven events since the end of September in Kansas, Illinois, and Indiana, and that doesn’t include Homecoming.

We received many positive comments about Homecoming this year and trust that if you weren’t able to attend this year that you will try for an upcoming year. It is so heartwarming to hear of your experiences while attending McPherson College at the Alumni Gatherings we have had.

Please check the calendar of upcoming events on the back cover to see when we will be in your area. You should receive invitations about three weeks before the event. Keep watch!

So, get on to reading the “Review” to find out what is happening at Mac! We hope to see you in your area soon.

Sincerely,

Karlene Tyler
Director of Alumni and Constituent Relations

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**McPherson College: Coming Soon To an Event Near You**

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**Inside**

**Escape from Nazi Germany**

Year-end gift idea: A peek into a stranger’s life.

Brandon Fruell 

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**Champions, Times Two**

Men’s Soccer wins in regular season, KCAC final

PAGES 26-27

**Micro gravity on earth**

Grant of a “universe” from life simulates space

PAGES 13

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**R E V I E W**

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1600 E. Euclid
PO Box 1402
McPherson, KS 67460-1402
620-242-0400
Toll Free: 800-365-7402
Fax: 620-245-9433

www.mcpherson.edu
Media Relations
Adam Paclit Public Relations Coordinator
Design by
DIGITAL Visual Communications
Contributions and Assistance from
Stevens-Gustafson Vice President for Advancement

Amber Gustafson
Vice President for Advancement

Art Cheany Athletic Communications-Director

Anne Tyler ’91 Director of Alumni and Constituent Relations

Brian Marver Vice President of Auto Restoration Projects

Cullen Gustafson ’98 Manager, Strategic Marketing and Branding

Brian Lundberg Web Developer

Dol-Wagner Administrative Assistant to Vice Presidents for Advancement and Athletics

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**Out of this world**

“Real-life video game” encourages academic achievement

PAGES 11

**Micro gravity on earth**

Grant of a “universe” from life simulates space

PAGES 13

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**Champions, Times Two**

Men’s Soccer wins in regular season, KCAC final

PAGES 26-27

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**Inside McPherson College review encourages academic achievement**

Inside
Ed Barr, assistant professor of technology, has received the KICA Faculty Distinction Award in the inaugural year of the honor. Only 18 faculty were named – one at each KICA institution. Barr also recently saw his name – and his voice – appear prominently on the popular “CARS YEAH” podcast. The full podcast may be downloaded at http://carsyeah.com/ourportfolio/ed-barr.

Jd. Bowman, associate professor of theatre, acted in the McPherson Community Theatre production of “Suite Surrender,” which ran at the beginning of November at the McPherson Opera House.

Red Gieselman, associate professor of business, presented “Injecting the Real World Into Your Capstone Course” at the 2014 Great Plains Economic and Business Conference on Oct. 24. The presentation included grading techniques from Gieselman’s capstone course for business majors, where all students start at the level of “OK” then increase their grade by impressing the “boss” (Gieselman) and earning Kudos or disappointing and making “Career Limiting Moves” that reduce their grade.

The course also brings in a panel of community business professionals who view their final presentations and provide feedback and critique. The course is designed to encourage the students to be more invested in their education and prepare them for real-world work environments.

Kyle Hopkins, associate professor of music and director of bands, has been selected to be a presenter at this year’s Kansas Music Educators Association State Convention in Wichita on Feb. 26, 2015. The title of his workshop is “Don’t Kiss the Mouthpiece…Teaching Beginning Brass Players.”

The workshop and clinic will discuss pedagogical issues that Hopkins experienced in teaching beginning brass players. One of the biggest bad habits he had to he learned and developed over the years to help correct those issues.

Hopkins also organized the college’s first jazz festival in November, which included 16 bands from 14 area high schools and middle schools. The event brought more than 300 students to campus.

Dr. Shane Kirchner, assistant professor of education, will serve on the accrediting team for the Kansas State Department of Education for the initial visit for Barclay College. Dr. Kirchner will help determine Barclay College’s preparedness to provide teacher licensure.

Dr. Manjula Koralagedera, assistant professor of chemistry, received a Watkins Summer Research Fellowship from Wichita State University to conduct an eight-week research project in the chemistry department during summer 2014. Also last summer, she participated in a workshop on “Green Chemistry in Education” at the University of Oregon for six weeks.

Dr. Bryan Midgley, associate professor of psychology, served as guest associate editor for the journal “The Psychological Record” during summer and fall of 2014. Dr. Midgley also accepted a three-year term as a member of the journal’s editorial board, starting in January 2015.

Dr. Josh Norris, assistant professor of music and director of choral activities, attended the Choral Music Experience at Carthage College in Kenosha, Wis., from July 30 to Aug. 5, 2014.

Dr. Herb Smith, professor of philosophy and religion, and Dr. Jeanne Smith will teach in February at the Gujarat School of Theology in Ahmedabad, India. This will be the fourth time in the last five years that they have taught at the school. The Smiths will also be leading a trip to Lalibela, Ethiopia, from March 25-April 1. The trip will include worship in a cave monastery and the Ethiopian National Cathedral, delivering wheelchairs to victims of polio, and delivering school supplies to school children and singing with and teaching them.

Contact Dr. Herb Smith at smithh@mcpheerson.edu for more information.

Dr. Kim Stanley, professor of English and communication, is the lead scholar for a project funded by Kansas Humanities Council through a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts called the Big Read. Six Kansas communities are each conducting a month’s worth of activities about veterans and the Vietnam War, centered on Tim O’Brien’s book “The Things They Carried.” Dr. Stanley will hold presentations, discussions, or both in Coffeyville, Harper, Wamego, Lansing, Manhattan, and LaCygne.

Dr. Stanley will also have her opinion piece - titled “Why I Hate Course Management Software” - published in an upcoming issue of “Vitaæ,” a career website created by “The Chronicle of Higher Education.”

Tim Swartzendruber, assistant professor of health/physical education and head men’s basketball coach, is currently a member of the Regional Educational Laboratories (REL) Governing Board. This board, which meets twice a year, consists of three members from the State of Kansas. Regional Educational Laboratories work in partnership with school districts, state departments of education, and others to use data and research to improve academic outcomes for students. The fundamental mission of the REL is to provide support for a more evidence-based education system.

Swartzendruber serves on the Central States region board which consists of Kansas, Missouri, Colorado, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Nebraska.

Ann Zerger, associate professor of art, had a bronze piece that was selected for the Wichita Arts Council Annual Juried Exhibit at City Arts throughout November. She was also invited to show a stone sculpture in the “Embracing Nature” exhibition at the Sandzén Gallery in Lindsborg in October. Zerger received the Tenured Faculty Teaching Award at McPherson College for 2014-2015.
McPherson College Announces Multi-Million Dollar Comprehensive Campaign:

**POWER the**

**the FUTURE**

At the end of October, McPherson College launched a $14 million comprehensive campaign called "Power the Future." For the next three years, this campaign will focus on enhancing opportunities for our most critical resource: The students of McPherson College.

"Students are truly our focus here," said Michael Schneider, MC president. "Our entire reason for existing disappears without them. Focusing our campaign on making our high-quality education even stronger makes complete sense. Ultimately, we’re investing in the future of McPherson College by doing so."

MC already raised $5 million in lead gifts prior to the kickoff of Power the Future. Over the next three years, the college anticipates adding another $9 million in gifts to achieve its goals.

Steven Gustafson, vice president for advancement, said that the goal is ambitious but achievable, and that he has every confidence that alumni and friends will rise to meet the challenge.

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The Power the Future campaign has four funding priorities. First is giving to the McPherson College Fund, which directly supports student scholarships and internships, service opportunities, student activities and athletic experiences. McPherson College provided $4 million in scholarships last year to its students based on merit and need.

Tyler Henning, a junior and the Student Government Association president, said that his goal is to someday be able to give to the MC community in return for giving him the tools he needs to excel in life.

"Attending McPherson College has, without a doubt, been one of the best decisions I have ever made," Henning said. "Relationships with faculty, staff, and fellow students make my college experience something I will carry with me the rest of my life. I have been able to gain a better understanding of the world around me and discern what I truly value and appreciate, both as a student and an individual."

The second funding priority is program enhancement for academic departments and athletics. Areas of focus include specialized science and laboratory equipment, additional classroom and curriculum materials, internship opportunities, and athletic success fund. This fund is designed to help cover the costs of post-season play.

Third are capital projects that will benefit students and further enhance the appearance of campus. Marty Singing, director of facilities said the focus of the improvements is on accessibility, student facilities, safety, and campus appearance. (See page 10 for more about improvements to the MC campus.)

Fourth, continuing to build the college’s endowment, focusing on needs that will improve the student experience at MC, is a major priority. Opportunities include endowed faculty positions, permanent student scholarships, and special events such as guest speakers or artistic endeavors.

Donors have many options to choose from as they determine how they will support the Power the Future campaign. While many people give cash, other giving options include appreciated stocks and property, a life insurance policy or a percentage of an IRA, as well as deferred giving opportunities through charitable gift annuities or testamentary gifts.

Schneider concluded the event by sharing stories of enormous success at McPherson College and calling on the MC community to support the college – not only with gifts, but also with their goodwill.

“We ask that you send us your good vibes,” he said, “You send us your love, you send us your prayers, and you continue to support McPherson College in all the amazing ways that you have supported her in the past.”

Visit www.mcpherson.edu/giving to learn more about Power the Future and giving to the McPherson College Fund. The fund supports annual scholarships, internships, teaching and learning, co-curricular activities, and service opportunities.

A giving form is also available on page 29 to give by check, credit card or debit card.

**Statements of Support for Power the Future**

"McPherson College is a significant asset to the McPherson community. The students, faculty, and staff provide priceless knowledge and assistance by serving the community in a variety of roles. McPherson College enhances the community economically and culturally, as well as educationally. Students and graduates have taken jobs locally or started businesses as entrepreneurs assuring a bright future for the City of McPherson. McPherson College and the City of McPherson enjoy an enduring partnership."

Thomas A. Brown, Mayor of McPherson

"As long-term ministers in the Church of the Brethren and as coordinators of McPherson College’s Ventures in Christian Discipleship program, we heartily endorse the Power the Future campaign. We are seeing the college’s renewed interest in cultivating its relationship to the Church of the Brethren. This includes a greater intentional effort to recruit Church of the Brethren students and the development of the Ventures program which provides training for small church lay members. This excites us!"

Ken ’61 & Elsie Lucore ’58 Holderread

"I appreciate McPherson College for encouraging its staff to become aware of each individual’s strengths and contributions to the institution. By doing this, we enhance each other’s work and leadership skills and are able to, in turn, encourage and challenge the students around us to develop their skills. We care about our students, their futures, and the future of McPherson College."

Marylyn Mettheel ’96, Sr. Admin. Asst. to the VP for Academic Affairs
“I Am McPherson College”

By Dr. Herb Smith, professor of philosophy and religion

Editor’s note: Dr. Smith read his poem at the “Power the Future” campaign launch in October.

I am McPherson College.

I am located in the heartland, amidst the golden wheat fields of Kansas, founded 127 years ago by the Church of the Brethren. Like Plato’s Academy, Aristotle’s Lyceum, Alexandria’s Museum, Baghdad’s Hall of Wisdom, my arched entrance invites others to eat from the succulent fruit of learning.

I am McPherson College.

My tree-lined campus is gorgeous at night-time with the golden lanterns surreptitiously lighting up the walkways. During this autumn season, the trees are like an oriental carpet, a mosaic of hot orange, bright red, brown, and yellow at sunset.

As a temple of learning, as a shrine to alateia, the truth, with statues of the Muses, the daughters of Zeus, the liberal arts outside Friendship Hall, my campus resonates with the beauty of quadratic equations, gymnastics, celebrating the phenomenal human physique boundless creativity in a myriad of forms. Pondering the odyssey of the human adventure, even meditating, praying to the well-springs of life.

I am McPherson College.

I am J. Z. Gilbert discovering the paleontology of the Le Breà Tar Pits with its saber toothed tiger and mammoth bones.

I am Dr. Neinnerg with the world’s largest meteorite collection.

I am Dr. Hershey and his diamond creativity.

I am McPherson College.

I have founded Semester at Sea, traversing the globe as a learning experience.

I am Samuel Dali, Toma Raghjiva…

stellar graduates who are courageously leading the EYN Church in Nigeria.

I have enabled students to circumambulate the planet earth, traversing its saber toothed tiger and mammoth bones.

Gazing at the Indiana-Jones-like temples of Kampaucia, Cambodia delivering PET wheelchairs to victims of polo in the Horn of Africa. Singing antiphonally on the hilltops of Schwarzenburg, Germany. Climbing the serpentine dragon-like Great Wall of China. Sleeping in a Shingon Buddhist monastery in Nara Japan. Meditating in the Sistine Chapel of the magnificent Vatican.

I am McPherson College.

I have upheld the Trinitarian ideals: Scholarship, Participation, and Service. I honor the tradition of the Church of the Brethren values: living simply, peacefully, together.

I am McPherson College.

I am worthy of your support.

“Energy for What’s Coming”

As McPherson College embarks on its Power the Future campaign, test your knowledge of MC with this custom crossword highlighting the college.

Across

1. Possible subject of A & P Class
2. Merrin Godfrey, e.g. (or any campus caretaker)
3. With “hems,” speech of a student who didn’t study
4. Sink, in olden times
5. Person found in Hess, often
6. First name in former MC Prez Clement (1911-1913)
7. One who copies
8. Shot-caller at MC athletics
9. A 41 across at MC might get one for her invention
10. Ejected
11. Action implied by 3rd word of MC mission
12. Like a cat who’s escaped a dog
13. Options on the caf’ deli line
14. Overthrow
15. A gift for 51 across?
16. “___ out!” (Baseball call)
17. Shield’s central knob
18. Short summary
19. “Let us ___!” (Invocation)
20. Forma place to rest your “Fanny”?
21. Fired up
22. Student
23. “___ out!” (Baseball call)
24. Item for joy in “The Review”
25. SW tribe (and topic in Native cultures course?)
26. Having the skill
27. “___ of war” (Spirit Week tradition)
28. “Let us ___!” (Invocation)
29. A pet students are allowed in dorms?
30. Dorm bathroom essential
32. Sink, in olden times
33. Native cultures course?)
34. Occurrence
35. SW tribe (and topic in Native cultures course?)
36. Item for joy in “The Review”
37. What you’re holding now (of a confident solver)
38. Short summary
39. Interest of H. H. Nininger (esp. if ancient or ET)
40. “The _____ of Amherst”
41. What a Cockney student calls his band instrument?
42. Short summary
43. Interest of H. H. Nininger (esp. if ancient or ET)
44. “Let us ___!” (Invocation)
45. Irish county (and part of a World Cultures course?)
46. “I’ve Grown Acustomed ___ Face” (Possible performing arts number?)
47. Essential equipment for 27 down
48. Reaction to eating found couch food?
49. Staple in the caf
50. Common Bogart char.
51. Item for joy in “The Review”
52. Alumnus notes section
53. Name of MC’s next capital campaign
54. Yang’s counterpart
55. Occurrence
56. Fired up
57. SW tribe (and topic in Native cultures course?)
58. How to do when MC calls on you
59. Name of MC’s next capital campaign
60. Maurice ___ (Beloved MC English prof)
61. “It ___!” (Good reason for joy in “The Review”)

Down

1. Dig. version of the “Review” (at www.mcpherson.edu/ review)
2. First name of former MC Prez Clement (1911-1913)
3. Native cultures course?)
4. Sink, in olden times
5. Person found in Hess, often
6. First name of former MC Prez Clement (1911-1913)
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Campus Polishes Up

When students came to McPherson College at the beginning of this year, it may have felt like coming to a brand-new campus.

Starting last summer and continuing through the rest of the year, MC has been in the midst of renovation and beautification projects with the goal of making campus more welcoming to its students, faculty, staff and visitors.

Marty Sigwing, director of facilities, has overseen and directed many of these projects.

“It’s a retention and recruitment tool and can be a deciding factor,” he said. “Aesthetics are important.”

One of the most-anticipated and desired improvements is a recently-completed ADA-accessible ramp on the north side of Miller Library. The ramp will make this essential campus resource easier for students with a disability to enter – directly into the main floor of the library.

The Hoffman Student Union also received a significant renovation as Fresh Ideas – the college’s new food service management company – began operating this year. Some of the changes were aesthetic, such as new signs for the different sections, but it also included shifting the locations of food options and adding in restaurant-style booths and tables.

Throughout campus, even signs and banners got a revamp. All were repainted or repaired as needed and new banners reflecting the college's graphic and marketing specifications have gone up across campus, adding to the sharper, cleaner look of McPherson College’s campus overall.

Just outside of Miller, in September and October crews worked on repairs to the circle drive where Euclid Street meets the campus. The work included repairs to the gutters, curb and sidewalk around the circle drive.

In Mohler Hall, the first building many visitors and prospective students enter when visiting MC, renovations included replacing the carpet and giving the walls a new coat of paint. In addition, the main area for admissions added a large photo wall, with images from the college’s long history.

The library also had some other minor renovations, including taking out a wall out from behind the circulation desk.

An augmented reality game is a genre that essentially adds another “layer” on top of real-life events and goals to add an element of fun to what might otherwise be dull or dreary tasks.

“This has happened and we have support,” he said. “I’m just excited that something like this exists in the world.”

Players in the Markarian Colony game visit the Quartermasters’ Station during a game event on Homecoming Weekend.

Helping Students Meet Academic Goals

This year, McPherson College students have been having so much fun playing a science-fiction-based game that they hardly realize how much it’s helping them achieve at college.

Dr. Kerry Dobbins, assistant professor of history, helped to guide the students who developed the “augmented reality game” as a part of her course “Readings and Research: Games in History and History in Games.”

An augmented reality game is a genre that essentially adds another “layer” on top of real-life events and goals to add an element of fun to what might otherwise be dull or dreary tasks.

“We need fun, goodness and permission to play,” Dr. Dobbins said. “We want it to be academic, but we also want them to know that there’s a joyfulness.”

The game – called “Markarian Colony” so that it shares the same “MC” initials with “McPherson College” – simulates a science-fiction themed storyline that turns every student at McPherson College into the “survivors” of an accident that destroyed their spacecraft and left them stranded on the distant “Relay Station 472.”

Students become “residents” of the colony and work to accomplish goals as individuals or teams during special event days, which advance the storyline, as well as smaller “side quests.”

Based on both a student’s year at MC and their major, each student receives special abilities that help him or her succeed in the game. “It’s a real-life video game,” Dr. Dobbins said. “You’re solving puzzles and riddles, doing challenges.”

As students advance in the game, they receive “Value Units” – or “VUs” – pretend money that can be exchanged for real goods, such as rolls of quarters, laundry detergent or gift cards.

Included among some more light-hearted goals, students are also presented with rewards for achieving essential tasks to help them succeed at McPherson College, such as filling out the Free Application for Student Aid by the priority deadline.

If that all sounds a little complicated or intimidating, well, it’s a good point. But the students who worked together to develop the idea – James Covell, junior, Wichita, Kan.; Justin Biegger, a 2014 alumnus from Fuquay Varina, N.C.; and Nicholas Greenway, sophomore, Wichita, Kan., primarily – have carefully designed the game and the challenges to feel accessible to all students.

“I think it has the potential to get everyone together and pulling in the same direction,” Covell said.

So far, the game has had two “event” days, one at orientation and one during homecoming. One more is planned for this year, which will wrap up the storyline and set the stage for the storyline next year.

At Homecoming, Austin Crosby, freshman, McPherson, Kan., was working as one of the game’s “Quartermasters” – students who volunteer their time and efforts to make the game run smoothly.

Crosby said a game such as Markarian Colony was an activity he’d always wanted to be a part of.
I’m the last person in the world you would expect to be writing an article about why I give to McPherson College.

In fact, I had a vow with my younger sister that neither of us would ever attend McPherson College! I believe this was during yet another bothersome tour of the campus on one of our annual visits to see my grandparents.

You see, McPherson College has been part of my life as long as I can remember. I grew up hearing stories of the pranks and mischief my parents (Ron Cassidente and Carolyn Lehman Cassidente) were involved in while attending in the 1960s. I grew up knowing friends of my parents who they had met while attending.

My great-great-uncle, D. W. Kurtz, was president here when my grandmother (Buhl Kurtz Lehman) has niece, attended in the 1920s. My grandpa (Harvey Lehman) not only attended with his twin brother, Harry, he helped personally recruit my dad to attend.

Our annual family vacations were always to McPherson to visit my grandparents and attend family reunions and tour the college. So you can imagine how boring and unadventurous going to college here someday seemed to me as a teen. Never, never, never!

But as a high school senior I had applied at some in-state universities in Indiana, but my life was taking me to Paris, France, right after graduation, and I planned to put college on hold. It was only after returning stateside – unexpectedly early – that I learned the meaning of “never say never.” Indiana University didn’t have any dorm space, so my mom asked McPherson College to consider a fast application, and I was accepted. My plan was to attend for a year and then transfer out to Indiana. I figured I could manage just one year.

Plans changed yet again when I fell in love with McPherson College and the dedicated professors who brought the lessons I was learning to life. I even took classes with professors who my parents had been in class with (and heard some great stories along the way!)

I experienced what a difference it makes to have people who are tied to the Church of the Brethren and dedicated to the school and who actually teach their own classes. I felt known, valued and respected.

So I stayed all four years, and to this day I credit it as one of the best decisions that I ever made. I remember names, faces and moments in classes with my professors. There were so many more, but Rick Tyler, Kim Stanley, Herb Smith, Lee Lengel and Wayne Conyers immediately come to mind. The amazing truth about this about list is that they are all still teaching and dedicated to the college!

When I graduated in 1997, I was the third generation of my family to attend McPherson College. When I walked across the stage in my Ruby Red shoes (did I mention I was a theatre major?), it was the 30-year anniversary of my father’s graduation and the 70-year anniversary of my grandfather’s graduation.

I felt connected to my past and ready to meet my future. Of course, as a young graduate I joked about not giving money back to the college until my student loans were paid off! However, I’ve come to realize how deep my ties to this college really go. Those four years were transformational in my life, and I’ll back then I had no idea how much of an impact those four years had on many of our lives.

I give to McPherson College because after a difficult time in my life it was a refuge, a place where I was seen as an individual with unique strengths and needs. Everyone I encountered who worked at the college – from the janitor who cleaned in the dorms to the administrative staff to the professors all the way up to the president himself – were kind, helpful and caring.

At McPherson College I wasn’t a number. I was a person with a name. I give so that other students have the chance to experience what a difference that can make in your life! I want others to experience their own life-changing transformation.

I give because I secretly hope that the college will eventually build a third Fahnestock Hall. I was lucky as a woman to live there during the brief time when it was co-ed. My Grandfather lived in the original Fanny, and my dad and I both lived in the “New Fahnestock Hall.” That dorm and the people in it were a second family. If you lived there, you know what I’m talking about.

I give to McPherson College because former President Paul Hoffman changed the course of my life in August of 1993 by allowing me to attend unexpectedly that fall. I give because the Church of the Brethren values led me to my current Mennonite College here in Milwaukee. I wasn’t interested in those Anabaptist values back then, but they laid a foundation for service, peace and compassion for others that I draw from today.

I give because I would be proud if one of my five children chose to become the fourth generation of our family to attend. I give so that one day in my 90s I might be blessed to see my great-grandchild (or great-grandchild) walk across that stage.

I hope that others consider giving – no matter how small or large your gift. Consider giving if any of my reasons apply to your life, or for reasons of your own. If McPherson College touched your life, think about paying it forward!

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Grant of Research Instrument from UN Allows Students to Study Plants in Low Gravity

Say you want to study the way plants grow in the near-weightlessness of space. You can go with Option #1: Spend millions of dollars to burn rocket fuel to travel to the International Space Station, grow plants and see what happens. Or you could opt for the far more affordable Option #2: Attend McPherson College.

Thanks to a grant from the United Nations, McPherson College received a research instrument called a “clinostat” delivered from Vienna, Austria.

While not exactly the same as researching in micro-gravity, the clinostat is the next best option and far less expensive than space travel, said Dr. Jonathan Frye, professor of natural science.

“The effects of gravity on life on Earth are pervasive,” Dr. Frye said. “The only way to study what they are to be able to cancel them out and see how growth, development, and function change in the absence of gravity.”

Earlier in 2014, Dr. Frye applied to one of 20 institutions worldwide to receive a clinostat from the UN’s Zero Gravity Instrument Project, and he learned that the application was approved just before fall session classes began.

“The UN’s interest is to engage all of the world’s nations collaboratively,” Dr. Frye said. “And to provide opportunities for basic research to those who otherwise would not have them.”

Dr. Frye said that MC has not owned a similar piece of equipment before and that a clinostat typically costs several thousand dollars to purchase.

Plants and organisms respond to gravity, but there is a delay in response time. The clinostat simulates a microgravity environment by rotating at the same rate as the response time of the organism being studied.

With the clinostat, students will be able to perform research projects on a variety of organisms including bacteria, fungi, plants and animal cell cultures to investigate the effects of gravity on their growth, development and physical structure. Dr. Frye has already started to incorporate the device into college classes.

As part of the application, Dr. Frye created a four-year plan to research the effects of microgravity on eight grass or grain plants. Even after the originally proposed research is completed, McPherson College will retain ownership of the clinostat to use in continued research. Dr. Frye said the basic research that will result from having the clinostat would be publishable in professional peer-reviewed scientific journals.

But Dr. Frye said the largest benefit of receiving this grant was the connections it will open up for McPherson College students.

“This is a great opportunity for collaboration with a growing network of educators, researchers and students worldwide,” Dr. Frye said.

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Refer a Student
Chances are, you know a student who would be a great fit at MC. But there’s also a chance that they’ve never heard of us. So we’d like your help.

Please take a moment to send us the name and address of a student you think should give McPherson College a look. Suggestions may be sent to the college Admissions Office at admis@mcpherson.edu.

www.mcpherson.edu
If it wasn’t for McPherson College, it’s doubtful that Sarah Snow would exist today.

The story is a long one, but it begins with Snow’s grandfather – a McPherson College alumnus named Thomas Doeppner, who in 1939 was offered admission to McPherson College and a scholarship to attend. This allowed him to escape from Berlin as it came under Nazi control and quite possibly save his life.

Snow visited the college archives on Aug. 6, 2014, seeking more information about her grandfather and the remarkable story that brought him from Germany to the heart of Kansas.

“This is where the beginning of my life became a possibility,” Snow said. “I have a soft spot for McPherson now.”

Doeppner was born and raised in Berlin. His father – a newspaper editor – ran afoul of Adolf Hitler and got out of the country, landing a job with United Press in Amsterdam. Doeppner’s father was Christian and his mother was Jewish. His parents were divorced, so while Doeppner’s father went to Amsterdam, he remained in Germany with his mother.

When he graduated from high school, he “saw the writing on the wall” that he would almost certainly get drafted. The clear indication was that his passport was stamped “for identification purposes only,” meaning it was illegal for him to travel and a signal of an imminent draft. Doeppner contacted his father, who managed to arrange getting him smuggled out of Germany and into Holland in 1938.

“Then he started the process of getting anywhere,” Snow said. As part of this process, Doeppner got in touch with the American Friends Service Committee – an agency of the Quaker Church that specialized in getting refugees out of oppressive or dangerous situations and into safe countries. Because Doeppner wanted to attend college, it was easier to arrange a student visa for him.

McPherson College was one that agreed to sponsor a refugee student with a scholarship funded by students and alumni. He had to have a summer job and a part-time job during the year. There were also a few other strings attached.

“He could not drink, dance, play cards or smoke,” Snow said. “He agreed.”

In the fall of 1939, after being late in getting a boat to travel to the United States, Doeppner found himself at Ellis Island with a bus ticket, a few dollars and a scholarship to attend MC.

When he arrived at the bus station, the student body president came and picked him up in an ice truck – which happened to be for his work. Coming from the large city of Berlin, it came as a shock. He attended MC for two years before transferring to Kansas State University, where he met his wife, Marjorie.

“I’ve always wanted to write and I’ve always been interested in my grandparents on both sides,” Snow said. “We knew Opa – my grandfather – had an interesting story, but we didn’t know the details. It was like opening a treasure box. Each step along the way, crazy things have been happening for us and doors opening wide.”

While she survived, she lived only a few years following liberation. His sister had been attending school in unoccupied France, and fought in the resistance against Nazi occupation.

After discovering those letters, Snow started on a journey to tell more details of her grandfather’s life. She’s blogging about the experience at www.tomandmarjorie.com.

“Some students and faculty who assist in the program are members of local churches,” Snow said. “We wanted to do this in honor of my grandfather.”

Other students and faculty have offered books as prizes for the best essay or artwork that students create for the program. The program initially made five MacBikes available for loan to McPherson College students, faculty and staff who need them to get around town or who just want to pedal down the road for fun and exercise.

In selecting the bicycles for the program, Dr. Yohn said MacBike has been helping students discover the wider community of McPherson. The program has been a significant success, with bikes being checked out more than 40 times for times ranging from a few hours to a week.

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Sarah Snow shares a discovery about her grandmother she found while visiting McPherson College’s historical archives last summer.
Learning to Play
Playing to Learn

Alumni who found their joy – and a career – at McPherson College

McPherson College encourages students to explore and find what they love – even if it happens to be outside their major field of study. MC, in short, encourages its students to “play.”

The result is students who are not only interested and motivated to learn, but who also find careers that they love. These alumni – Mike Horner ’99, Jenny Stover-Brown ’97, and Brian Kruschwitz ’92 – are paid to play every day of their working lives.

Mike Horner

When you’re trying to get a dragon to eat a plate full of spaghetti, it’s a clear sign that your daily work involves play.

“Play is how we figure out problems,” Horner said. “You can sit there and draw things out for hours and hours, but until you take materials out and start playing with them, you don’t know how they will act.”

Horner has made a career of building fun and unique puppets – such as the spaghetti-eating dragon – and using them in engaging and humorous performances. He has worked as the associate artistic director at Mesner Puppets in Kansas City, Mo., for eight years, where their current show focuses on jazz saxophone player Charlie Parker.

He’s also worked on a number of independent one-man shows, including the “Timey Wimey Puppet Show” – a parody inspired by “Doctor Who” – and “A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Death Star” – a “Star Wars” parody adapting to puppetry, a script a colleague wrote for the stage. Horner premiered the puppet version of the parody at McPherson College’s homecoming this fall.

“You don’t just put it on a wall,” Mesner said. “After you’ve created it, you go and put on a show with it. It’s art that has a function.”

Horner got started in puppetry at the age of 3, when he traveled with his parents and two other couples who would tour with a puppet ministry show. For him, it was playtime – traveling, performing and helping to make the puppets, sets and props for the show.

Creating has always been an interest for Horner, but making puppets in particular interested him because it combines performance and visual art.

“You can find yourself involved with things you didn’t expect.”

Check out short video skits from Horner’s “Timey Wimey Puppet Show” at www.youtube.com/TimeyWimeyPuppetShow.

Mike Horner shows off one of his in-progress puppet creations.
through airport security with her accordion – which she named “Delores” to match the inscription that was on it when she first bought it.

“Delores is completely suspicious,” Stover-Brown said. “They x-ray her inside and out and they want to swab all her keys. One security guard asked, ‘Do you play this?’”

She also frequently travels with “Constance” – a more petite accordion of 1932 vintage she rescued from the trash at an area thrift store – and “The General” – a larger, ol’ reliable accordion that’s backup if Delores springs a leak.

Stover-Brown feels a close connection with these musical personalities, but none as much as Delores, who she first discovered at a 2004 garage sale in Minnesota.

“It’s to the point that if someone says, ‘Hey, Delores,’ I answer,” Stover-Brown said.

But while many of her experiences as a traveling musician are amusing, many others tend to be profound.

She and Jeffrey Faus (who’s the “Pickin’-Fretter” of the band name, on guitar) play covers arrangements as well as original songs that handle difficult or highly emotional topics – such as divorce, suicide or death of a loved one – all with an eye toward being uplifting or healing.

One song – “Little One” – includes a mother struggling to understand a miscarriage. Following one performance, she connected with a woman who feared she was infertile. At a show the following year, Stover-Brown ran into her again – and her baby.

“They’re topics that used to be taboo,” Stover-Brown said. “People relate to these on a deep level, and I think that’s why people are coming out. A soul connection is made.”

Soul-sustaining though it may be, Stover-Brown adds that it “doesn’t pay the mortgage.” Fortunately, she loves her day job, she said, and it supports her “music habit.”

Stover-Brown works as a school social worker. The job involves making sure that children’s emotional needs are being met in the school setting across three school districts. Her education at McPherson College has helped prepare her for this career, as she was encouraged to explore her interests and develop the “whole person.”

“Today she encourages the students she counsels to do the same. “When I work with my kids at school, I talk to them about having a vocation and an avocation,” she said. “If you have other passions, follow those, too. Don’t let them drop off of your radar.”

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Of course, MC influenced her music career as well through the influence of Alan Gumm, the college choir director at the time.

“He shaped me vocally to enable me to do what I’m doing now,” she said. “He developed my professional voice.”

Follow “Delores and the Pickin’-Fretter” on Facebook at www.facebook.com/DeloresBand and see some of the band’s performances on YouTube at www.youtube.com/dfbband.

Brian Kruschwitz

Look around right now. If you find yourself living in an oversized tent as your primary residence and your work involves presenting programs on world culture, dance and music, know that you’ve followed your passion in life.

Brian Kruschwitz has pursued these interests and made a full-time career from it.

Kruschwitz and LuAnne Harley bill themselves as “Yurtfolk” as they present their interactive programs about world cultures in libraries, schools, churches and other venues.

“We like to consider ourselves educators as opposed to entertainers,” Kruschwitz said.

The name comes from the yurt – a type of Mongolian tent – where they live, which has just slightly more than 700 square feet of living space. It’s located on the grounds of the nature-focused Joyfield Farm in Indiana, which has solar panels for electricity, solar water heaters and a working windmill. There, Kruschwitz and Harley’s main agricultural pursuit involves maintaining a small organic garden.

“A yurt was a quick and rather inexpensive way to try out living here, rather than the money and time commitment to build a conventional house,” Kruschwitz said.

It also fits his personality, his outlook on life, and his desire to live in connection with nature.

Kruschwitz graduated from McPherson College with an interdisciplinary major focused in environmental science. He said that has influenced his career and choices, even though he’s gone into artistic performance and education rather than science.

That broader perspective and a focus on the environment led him to live in Mexico for several years, serve as an artist in residence in the Dominican Republic, and to start Yurtfolk.

McPherson College is also where he started to learn to play the myriad of instruments that he uses in many of the Yurtfolk programs.

“I feel like it was the beginning of my journey into the musical world,” he said.

Kruschwitz has at least some ability with about 30 instruments and specializes in playing different varieties of guitar from around the world and several accordions. In addition to traditional guitar, banjo and mandolin, Kruschwitz also plays a vihuela (5-stringed Mariachi guitar), jarana (8-stringed guitar from Veracruz, Mexico), and balalaika (3-stringed Russian guitar).

He also plays some more obscure instruments, including a donkey jaw (for percussion), an Australian digeridoo, a hano (a Hawaiian nose flute), and even a conch shell.

Their programs include exploring world culture, trying out fun and unusual instruments from around the globe, and a program focused on the music and culture of Mexico, which combines English and Spanish.

That last program was developed upon the request of a library in Kentucky, who let them know that many in the audience would be Hispanic. As two people of clearly Caucasian ethnicity, Kruschwitz and Harley were nervous about how they presenting Hispanic culture would be received.

They need not have worried.

“After the program, people came up with eyes glowing,” Kruschwitz said, then summarized what many of those Hispanic families said to him. “You don’t understand, this means more to us because you’re not Hispanic. A lot of the people here don’t know about our culture and they don’t respect it.”

That kind of experience can trace its roots back to the MC campus and his time in Brethren Volunteer Service at home and abroad after graduation. These diverse experiences drove him to seek out variety throughout his adult life.

“A liberal arts education was good for me because I got to do many different things,” Kruschwitz said. “That made an impact on me.”

Read more about Yurtfolk at www.yurtfolk.com and hear a demonstration of Kruschwitz performing a Mongolian “throat singing” technique that allows him to produce two notes at the same time at www.mcpherson.edu/review.
There are some friends who regardless of time and distance, pick up right where they left off.

For Jamie Risser ’99 and Johnson Chow ’99, the time was 15 years. The distance was returning to McPherson College’s homecoming - Oct 17-21 - from Maryland and Hong Kong, respectively.

The former roommates shared a hug at Homecoming as they saw each other in person for the first time since they graduated.

“There’s something about the personal one-on-one interactions,” Chow said. “Facebook is nice, but it’s not enough.”

Now both fathers, they swapped stories and realized they weren’t able stay up as late as they once were.

“We were a lot younger,” Chow said. “Things change. I used to stay up all night.”

This year, Homecoming included the Student Activities Fair, inflatable games and bouncy castles at the tailgate dinner, and a wide variety of arts and sports events.

Performing arts performed their musical revue “Miscast” and alumnus Mike Horner ’99 presented, for the first time, a puppet show called “A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Death Star” – a “Star Wars” parody.

In athletics, the football team, men’s soccer and women’s soccer all took on their counterparts from the University of St. Mary.

At the tailgate, with “Dolores and the Pickin’ Fretter” playing in the background, Harold ’62 and Lynda ’61 Connell came dressed all in McPherson College red. Harold wore a hat bearing the college “M” logo and Lynda had a flannel vest in exactly the right shade.

Seeing people she hadn’t encountered since college was one of her favorite parts of Homecoming.

“It’s great to see people you haven’t seen since long ago,” she said. “For some it’s been several decades.”
‘Global Enterprise Challenge’

at McPherson College, Challenges Students to Develop Ways to Help in Ethiopia

Thanks to an entrepreneurship challenge at McPherson College, patrons of coffee shops and businesses in McPherson and surrounding communities gave more than $280 to support literacy for Ethiopian children.

Through the “Global Enterprise Challenge,” McPherson College called on its students to put their creativity and innovation to work for the good of others during Global Entrepreneurship Week, which ran Nov. 17-21.

The college presented the challenge to students on Nov. 13, and they had until Nov. 20 to work on their ideas. On that day, the 14 students who entered the challenge presented their concepts to a judge panel composed of college faculty and staff.

Adam Porter, junior, McPherson, Kan., won the competition with his concept to support the organization Ethiopia Reads. Ethiopia Reads works with communities in Ethiopia to build schools, create libraries, train teachers and increase literacy. The organization has served more than 130,000 children since its foundation in 1998.

In just one week, Porter successfully convinced 11 area coffee shops and businesses to become a donation site for their customers to give money to Ethiopia Reads during a special fundraising push on Nov. 22. Porter estimated that the fundraiser could reach more than 29,000 people through social media and foot traffic.

Participating businesses were located in McPherson, Manhattan, Wichita, Sterling, Hutchinson, Lindsborg, Salina, and Newton. Porter created signs for donation jars as well as printed business cards to place next to them. The cards listed how much different donation amounts would “buy” for Ethiopia Reads.

“This was just a way for me to send a clear message about what Ethiopia Reads does,” Porter said during his presentation.

The one-day fundraiser brought in $284.64 from on-site donations alone — enough to purchase 142 children’s story books in Moundridge, Kan. PET creates all-terrain wheelchairs for the disabled in developing countries.

As the winner of the challenge, Porter will travel in late March on an all-expenses paid trip to Ethiopia that Dr. Herb Smith, professor of philosophy and religion, organizes each year. Dr. Smith said it’s a life-changing journey for the students who travel to Ethiopia.

“When we take students to Lalibela, Ethiopia, every spring,” Dr. Smith said. “We hope that it awakens their social conscience to the joy of serving — both at home and in the global community.”

Global Entrepreneurship Week is an annual event that calls on entrepreneurs worldwide to participate in events and competitions designed to encourage innovation and creativity. This year, organizations in 150 countries and millions of people around the world participated in more than 25,000 events.

At McPherson College, the celebration of Global Entrepreneurship Week also included an open house for Etch, the college’s student-run graphic design firm that focuses on creativity and entrepreneurship; and guest speaker Beth Tully, entrepreneur and founder of Cocoa Dolce chocolates. Tully told her story and gave advice to an all-campus gathering on Nov. 21.

McPherson College has participated in Global Entrepreneurship Week since 2010 with the first Global Enterprise Challenge, when students in all majors develop their entrepreneurial mindset.

In the computer design course, students will now be able to see whether the completed replacement actually fits. If it doesn’t, it means the restorer just wasted time and money to turn valuable raw materials into a now-useless hunk of metal.

A scenario common to automotive restorers is needing to mill a new metal part for a broken component. Standard practice before at McPherson College has been a lengthy process to design and create a full metal replacement. After all of that work, the student has to see whether the completed replacement actually fits.

Now, however, thanks to a new “MakerBot Replicator” 3-D printer, purchased by a donor for the visual arts department, students can allow their imaginations to go to new, creative places.

Dee Erway-Sherwood, associate professor and program director of graphic design, said that students could create real-world prototypes of their designs that they could hold in their hands in about a day.

“We can now actually think of the design of the packaging itself,” Erway-Sherwood said.

Erway-Sherwood said that the printer opened up possibilities for studio art majors as well as graphic design. Possibilities include printing off parts that are assembled into a larger 3-D sculpture, creating a 3-D scale model of a larger public art project, or using a 3-D print as the basis for a metal mold.

In addition to the MakerBot in the art department, a different donor who is an antique automobile collector made a generous donation to the MC automotive restoration department for the purchase of another 3-D printer.

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Women Find Their Niche in Automotive Restoration

In a stereotypical ‘car guy’ profession, women studying AR at McPherson College have both experienced prejudice before coming to MC and enjoyed enthusiastic acceptance at the college.

The restoration program currently has seven women enrolled full-time in the program. For many of them, their love of classic cars goes back to childhood. Kala Tiemann, senior, Lewis, Kan., had a father in the Navy, who would teach her how to work on and maintain cars whenever he was on shore leave. When she worked on her 1992 Passat, Tiemann was hooked. When she looked into a place to study automotive restoration, MC was her first choice.

“I love every second of it,” she said. Angelina Walker, sophomore, Jamestown, Kan., seemed almost destined to become interested in cars, with five older siblings – four brothers and a sister – to teach her. Her first experience looking under the hood was at age 6, when her brother was working on a 1963 Ford Galaxy and started showing her what he was working on. She’s always wanted to go into doing something in this area, she said. “But I was discouraged by some in my family.”

Prejudice against these young restorers based on their gender is unfortunately common to their experience. Alley Doman, junior, Chicago, Ill., was told in high school that she couldn’t even enter the automotive classes offered there. She’s also experienced prejudice when asking for job applications, with potential employers assuming she’s asking on behalf of a boyfriend.

“I think it’s hard for women to break into a male-dominated industry,” she said. “On the other hand, some people like to see women in the industry.”

Women in the program at MC said that the men and professors in auto restoration are almost universally supportive and encouraging. Women in the program are also working to be more intentional in connecting and supporting each other.

In the automotive restoration industry, these women represent pioneers who are breaking new ground and demonstrating that a love of old cars extends beyond arbitrary gender divisions. “If you love it, do it,” Doman said, giving her advice to any young women considering the career.

Tiemann agreed, saying, “Don’t let anyone tell you different.”
For the third time in seven years, the McPherson College men’s soccer team is the Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference Champion.

The squad won the 2008 KCAC Postseason Tournament, the 2009 regular season, and has now won both the 2014 Regular Season and Postseason Tournament.

Doug Quint, men’s soccer head coach, said they don’t talk about winning or losing in the soccer program.

“We believe success is a byproduct of what we do,” Quint said. “This year our team’s overall vision statement was to have a disciplined side that shows up every day with something to prove. I definitely think we have lived up to that.”

Doug Quint, men’s soccer head coach, said they don’t talk about winning or losing in the soccer program.

“Winning as a player was great, but now winning as a coach has a whole different meaning.”

Following their undefeated regular season in the KCAC, the team came away with eight All-KCAC honors and five individual awards, including Coach of the Year for Quint. Oscar Cortez was named Most Valuable Player. Alex Ronneburg received Offensive Player of the Year and Newcomer of the Year honors while Tanner Horton was voted Co-Freshman of the Year.

Jose “Ardi” Reyes, assistant men’s soccer coach, has now won championships as both a player for MC and as a coach.

“Winning a KCAC title as a player was a goal of mine and put the cherry on top of my experience here as a student-athlete,” Reyes said. “It’s been a great experience to watch a great group of guys work so hard and achieve all of the goals we set out to reach. Winning as a player was great, but now winning as a coach has a whole different meaning.”

Two of the seniors on the Bulldog roster are four-year players who have been through it all with McPherson College. Oscar Cortez and Tito Ruiz, both Texas natives, arrived at McPherson College in 2011.

“Obviously as coach you want every player in your program to experience winning a championship,” Quint said. “It was very special for me to see these two win one. They have been the heart and soul of our program for four years and have come so close. It was their time!”

Despite having eight seniors, this year’s roster was transfer-heavy. Of the 13 players who played in more than half of the team’s contests, only three were first-time freshmen when they enrolled at MC.

“College experience is huge,” Quint said. “In the last two years we have graduated a number of guys who were pivotal to our success. There is no quicker way to sustain a high level than to find guys who have been there already. Our goal this past off-season was to get experience.”

Quint has learned that a tough non-conference schedule translates well during KCAC play. This year was no different as he set up matches during the regular season with five top-25 NAIA teams and a difficult road test in Utah.

“Challenging yourself every day is important,” Quint said. “It shows you the character of the team and what you can grow from. We work hard to find teams that will show us different levels and styles of play.”

The season didn’t start off the greatest for McPherson College as the team lost its first two matches to a pair of tough opponents. The Bulldogs then went on a three-game winning streak to pull their record to 3-2 heading into their Utah trip. A 1-1 split in Salt Lake City, and a tie in their first game after they returned to McPherson, ended the team’s non-conference play with a record of 4-3-1.

The KCAC season started with an easy win, followed by a battle with the four-time defending champs – Kansas Wesleyan University – who at that time were No. 13 in the NAIA. That contest ended in a 1-1 tie, with both goals coming on penalty kicks. In the final seven conference matches, MC outscored opponents 27-6 and ended the regular season with four-straight shutouts.

Winning as a coach was great, but now winning as a coach has a whole different meaning.”

Following their undefeated regular season against conference opponents, MC earned the top seed in the postseason tournament. After taking down Friends University 2-0 in the semifinals, the team was faced with Kansas Wesleyan University, with whom they had tied 1-1 earlier in the season.

It was a cold night with some precipitation falling in the second half. The Bulldogs were on the board first, but allowed a goal less than a minute later. MC put the game winner in midway through the first half. The McPherson defense shut down Kansas Wesleyan’s attack, allowing just five shots on goal all night and holding off a late surge to secure the 2-1 victory and the team’s trip to nationals.

McPherson College drew No. 3 Grand View University in the 2014 NAIA Men’s Soccer National Championship opening round where the team’s stellar season came to a close with a 2-1 loss.
A bit of cleaning up before an awards dinner at McPherson College was a simple action that Carol Swenson didn’t give a second thought to.

But those few minutes in 2000 would define Swenson’s career until the day he retired in 2009. It’s what prompted Bob Knechel, vice president of development then, to hire Swenson as the college’s first sports information director.

During Homecoming Weekend on Oct. 18, MC honored Swenson with entry into the Athletic Hall of Fame for his years of service. “I was completely surprised,” Swenson said. “I know there’s a lot of really deserving people.”

For those who worked with Swenson, however, he was a natural selection.

Swenson began his career after graduating from Kansas State University by teaching math in high school and junior high in Washington, Kan., and McPherson. After 22 years in the classroom, he then worked for another 10 years as McPherson High School’s activities director.

As he felt it was time to retire and make a change from his work at the high school, Swenson said he was open to possibilities. “I just figured the Good Lord is going to place me where he wants me,” Swenson said.

That place was McPherson College, where as sports information director he helped define the job, not only for McPherson College, but across the Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference.

Before he began at MC, no other college in the KCAC had a non-student employee dedicated full-time to sports communications. Now, basically all of them do.

“They’ve seen the value of telling that positive story in the media and reconnecting with alumni and friends of the college,” Swenson said.

Swenson saw athletics as a wonderful avenue to help McPherson College grow, as he oversaw the growth and development of the booster club during a time that saw the renovation of the McPherson Stadium and the expansion of the Sport Center.

Although he retired from McPherson College in 2009, he still has a hand — or rather a voice — in the world of athletics. He has now logged 40 years as the announcer for the annual Kansas high school state track and field championships held in Wichita.

For all of his contributions to Bulldog Athletics, Swenson claims that he was never much of a sportsman, just that growing up in Alta Vista, Kan., everyone ended up on one team or another.

“I was never an outstanding athlete by any stretch,” Swenson said, “But I enjoyed sports and enjoy being around them.”

McPherson College honored three of its outstanding young alumni on Oct. 16 during homecoming weekend. Carolyn Masterson ’84, Carine Ullom ’84 and Barry McMillan ’94 received the honor, which recognizes accomplished MC alumni who have graduated within approximately the last 30 years.

Carolyn Masterson
Masterson graduated with a degree in business/economics, then went on to Wichita State to earn her MBA. Starting as an agency audit clerk for Farmers Alliance Insurance Company before graduating from MC in 1984, she moved up the ranks at Farmers, reaching a hand – or rather a voice – in the world of athletics. He has now logged 40 years as the announcer for the annual Kansas high school state track and field championships held in Wichita.

Carrie Ullom
Ullom graduated with degrees in computer science and German in 1984, then went on to earn a master’s in German from the University of Wyoming. She has held a number of roles related to computers, program oversight and technology. Those included project coordinator for the Office of International Studies and software training specialist at the University of Kansas; director of the Language Resource Center for St. Lawrence University in Canton, NY; and most recently as the director for the office of Academic Technology at Ottawa University in Ottawa, Kan. She recently concluded a term serving as a member of the McPherson College Board of Trustees.

Barry McMillan
McMillan graduated from MC with a bachelor’s in elementary education in 1994, and worked as an elementary school teacher from graduation until 2000. He worked as co-chair on a drive to create a large children’s playground in Lindabo. In 2000, he moved to become a financial advisor for Ameriprise Financial Services, receiving recognition for overall excellence of financial planning services in 2002.
Alumni Can Make a Difference
By Katie Sawyer, Career Services Director

McPherson College believes internship and career experiences are central to the MC experience. As part of its mission to develop whole persons through Scholarship, Participation and Service, the college aims to provide all students a liberal arts education and an opportunity to step into the workplace, see professionals on the job, and gain first-hand knowledge of what it takes to translate an education into a career.

Those experiences are made possible through cooperation with businesses near and far, large and small, private and public. MC students are hungry for real-world experience and are increasingly looking to new and unique career fields, and that is where you, as an alumnus, can help.

You have gone on from the college and blazed a career path of your own, along the way stepping into a variety of offices, industries and opportunities. Career services at MC is always searching for new business partners, new offices and new connections to help our students and to open new doors.

If you have internship opportunities at your current office – or simply experienced an internship connection to a fantastic internship experience – we would love to hear from you. It is my goal to increase the number of companies we work with and to find an internship opportunity to meet each student’s needs. With your assistance, MC can be the leader in internship opportunities and career connections that translates into excited students and outstanding graduates.

Katie Sawyer, Career Services Director, can be reached at sawyerk@mcpherson.edu or (620)242-0436.
COMING EVENTS

FEB. 8-9
Alumni & Friends Gathering
Los Angeles area and
San Diego area

MARCH 6
President’s Club Dinner / Recognition of Citation of Merit recipients
5:30 p.m. - The Cedars Conference Center - McPherson, Kan.

MARCH 8
Mohler Lecture: Dr. Katherine Ramsey Melhorn ’77
4 p.m. - Mingenback Theatre - McPherson, Kan.

MARCH 13-15
Amelia Island Concours d’Elegance
Amelia Island, Fla.

MARCH 21-22
Alumni & Friends Gathering
Topeka/Lawrence area and
Kansas City metro area

MARCH 23
Alumni & Friends Gathering
Warrensburg, Mo.

APRIL 18-19
Alumni & Friends Gathering
Des Moines, Iowa, area
and Waterloo, Iowa, area

APRIL 19
Religious Heritage Lecture: Dr. John Paul Lederach
4 p.m. - McPherson Church of the Brethren - McPherson, Kan.

MAY 1
An Evening with Auto Restoration
McPherson College campus

MAY 2
C.A.R.S. Club Car Show
McPherson College campus

MAY 9
Blake Reed Miracle Mile
McPherson, Kan.

MAY 17
Commencement
2 p.m. - Brown Auditorium - McPherson, Kan.

JUNE 6
Pat Noyes Golf Experience
Turkey Creek Golf Course - McPherson, Kan.

JUNE 20-28
The Great Race
Kirkwood, Mo., to Santa Monica, Calif.

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Royalty presentation during homecoming 2014 to Scott Crist, senior, Quinter, Kan., and Colby Patton, senior, Maize, Kan.