

UNIVERSITY OF SIOUX FALLS

Magazine

// FALL 2020





Hello & Welcome



all greetings from the University of Sioux Falls. Through these unsettling times, the University has successfully navigated the myriad of challenges created by the pandemic. With a sense of unity, we have witnessed our students, faculty, staff and Board of Trustees work together in an epic effort to address the numerous disruptions to normal operations. The positive results of these efforts are visibly present in key indicators such as stable enrollment, retention of our students at the highest level recorded in recent University history, and successful integration of technological innovation into the teaching and learning process. Although we have successfully managed the health crisis thus far, we have also remained fully committed to strategic planning focused on advancing the University's mission beyond the pandemic.

USF's pursuit of excellence and commitment to programmatic innovation designed to address the future has persisted throughout the pandemic. During these challenging times, the University has launched its first doctoral program in the critical area of leadership. The response to this new program has been overwhelming and its first cohort is scheduled to launch beginning summer 2021. In addition, the University has created its new Center for Workforce Development (CWD) featuring access to post-secondary education through alternative pathways projected to become increasingly prevalent on the higher education scene in the future. The programs offered through the CWD represent expanded educational opportunity at USF that now spans the entire array of degree programs typically seen in much larger institutions, yet designed to provide the uniquely personal educational experience that is a trademark of our Christian university.

In addition, the University is in the development phase of a new undergraduate major in Data Analytics. This program is designed to serve the growing needs of business and industry in making data-informed decisions leading to success. The program represents just another example of the University's commitment to remain a significant player in workforce development for Sioux Falls, the state of South Dakota and the surrounding region.

Yet, even with this new and innovative programming, the University has not lost sight of its core mission to serve God and humankind. At the start of the fall semester, USF launched its Task Force on Diversity, Inclusion, Social Justice, Civic Engagement & Advocacy to address these important issues of our time as part of the educational experience USF students receive. We believe in our ability to make substantive change from our small corner of the world by sending our well prepared graduates to engage in a rapidly changing world, both in their professional and personal endeavors.

Sincerely,

Dr. Brett Bradfield
President, University of Sioux Falls

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Take our reader survey: usiouxfalls.edu/magazine-survey



USF STRONG

CAMPUS PERSEVERES THROUGH COVID-19

As the COVID-19 pandemic evolves, USF continues to adapt to keep the community as safe as possible while offering students an engaging, “as normal as possible” USF experience. To-date, USF has directly invested approximately \$2 million into areas such as technology improvements for classrooms; additional, robust, state-of-the-art facilities cleaning and disinfecting; and COVID-19 testing. USF installed eight new fogging systems to disinfect community spaces within buildings, placed 140 hand sanitizing stations throughout campus, purchased and distributed masks to every student and employee and implemented daily use of a symptom screening app for all students and employees on campus. While this fall looks different than others, what remains unchanged is the heart and perseverance of the USF community that is committed to academic excellence and care for one another.



ACADEMICS

Students moved back on campus the week of August 20. (See a few of the bright welcoming faces pictured left.) This fall semester began earlier than normal for undergraduate students to allow the fall semester to conclude by Thanksgiving and before the beginning of the projected flu season. Course modes have adapted into four forms:

- On-ground: Students meet in classrooms for learning and utilize social distancing and masks for safety.
- Hybrid: Students alternate tuning into class online with attending class in person, depending on the day of the week.
- Remote: Students tune into class online at a set time.
- Online: Students take these courses virtually on their own schedule.



STUDENT LIFE

The Cougar Activities Board has worked hard to plan engaging fall events. Students have enjoyed activities such as pumpkin painting, dancing lessons (pictured right), virtual trivia games, dressing up to celebrate a royal ball honoring homecoming royalty and more. Additionally, campus clubs like the Culture Club, Student Nurses Association, Coe Cinema Club have found creative ways to gather, grow and develop deeper friendships.



CAMPUS MINISTRIES

Serving at The Banquet (pictured right), gathering for Thursday Night Worship, holding a food drive and streaming virtual chapel are a few of the ways the campus community has continued to remain committed to growing in faith and serving those in need. Join us every Tuesday for virtual chapel at youtube.com/usioxfalls.



ATHLETICS

In August of 2020, the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference announced the cancellation of fall competition and championships, which included the suspension of all sports competition through December 31, 2020. With fall championships off the table, teams have used the time to focus on academics while also continuing to develop their athletic skills and techniques as they prepare for competition when conditions allow for resuming play.



T H E Y C A L L H I M

S I D

Q&A WITH USF LEGEND
KEN KORTMEYER



//ABOVE Among the myriad of jobs and responsibilities at USF, SID has also been a part-time announcer for the Cougars.

A native of Chancellor, SD, Ken “SID” Kortemeyer found his way to the University of Sioux Falls and has called the faith-based liberal arts university his home for more than 50 years.

In his own words, SID details his time on campus in a Q&A with USF Magazine. Kortemeyer has a long association with USF which began as a student. He was an equipment manager, golf coach, sports information director, director

of athletics and now serves as senior athletic administrator.

SID has always loved athletics and over time in various roles on campus, has made an impact.

USF won 19 South Dakota-Iowa Intercollegiate Conference championships as well as a national championship in football (1996) while he was director of athletics. In 1993, SID inaugurated USF’s Athletic Hall of Fame and was later inducted into

the USF Hall of Fame in the class of 2000. As golf coach, Kortemeyer earned two GPAC Coach of the Year Awards (2005-Men and 2007-Women). With Kortemeyer at the helm, the Women’s Golf Team won the Great Plains Athletic Conference Championship in 2007 while the 2005 and 2010 Men’s Golf Team finished second in the GPAC.

His time at USF has been remarkable and he has become an icon on campus, loved by everyone and certainly one of the most beloved “Cougars.”

Thinking back, what brought you to USF as a student?

KORTEMAYER: One of my hometown heroes played basketball here for the then called Sioux Falls College Braves and dated my sister. On visits to watch games I started to love this place. Plus, my sisters, Phyllis ’69 and Carolyn ’66, are both USF alumnae with education degrees who became teachers. So coming here became a family thing.

“MY PHILOSOPHY OF LIFE AND FAITH MESHED WITH WHAT THIS INSTITUTION IS ABOUT.”

Can you tell us why you stayed at USF for 50 years and counting?

KORTEMAYER: My philosophy of life and faith meshed with what this institution is about. I was afforded many opportunities for growth throughout my years here, and I had many mentors that impacted my life. Those mentors inspired me with their commitment to lifelong service to USF.

How would you describe being a USF Cougar?

KORTEMAYER: This community has a kindred spirit, and it draws people in. Whether it is community service, sharing our faith and working and learning together, the people of USF make this one big family, who always helps one another.

How would you describe your feelings about student-athletes and how they have impacted your time on campus?

KORTEMAYER: I enjoyed being a coach, teacher and administrator and was fortunate to be part of the students’ learning process. Students are amazing. When they come here, they are full of wonder and want to be part of something. They are USF’s lifeblood. They are the oxygen in the room.

What was it like to coach the golf teams?

KORTEMAYER: We really started small on the women’s side; we had only two golfers. But along the way we did some great things. I was lucky to get a couple of Coach of the Year honors, but it was the student-athletes that were responsible for our success. One of the great memories of that time was Brittany Hofer ’08, who was Player of the Year and helped USF win a league championship on her last shot of that tournament.

How did you get the moniker SID?

KORTEMAYER: It comes from being a Sports Information Director. I was the first SID at USF.

Can you reflect on your commitment to the campus and how you always have responded to the call?

KORTEMAYER: Originally, I didn’t see God’s plan. But it was there. I was young and as naive as anyone. I learned that one grows and you just do the best you can. I also found out you can’t do it alone. In 1991 we had 121



//ABOVE As a student at USF in the 1970s, SID served as a student manager for USF Athletics.

“SID *is* USF. Very few people have done as much for USF as he has, and with SID no job is ever too big or too small. He’s completely invaluable to our department. We’re all better off for him being here.”

Chris Johnson

USF Men’s Basketball Coach

student-athletes in six sports, but with the help of many talented people by 2001 we grew to over 400 student-athletes in 16 sports.

What gives you an always upbeat perspective?

KORTEMAYER: I thank God for my outlook on life. I had a positive influence from my mom, Sylvia. She always treated people nicely. I always thought, you take what life gives you and do your best.

When you started classes, most students still used a typewriter and didn’t have access to computers. How has technology impacted USF?

KORTEMAYER: When I was a student, we did stats by hand and we used mimeographs to make copies. Now stats are on computers, we stream games and websites make everything accessible. Reflecting back, I remember reporting scores by pay phone while standing in the rain in Orange City, Iowa. So much has changed.

Why is Culture of Service such a defining part of USF?

KORTEMAYER: As a student here, you are indoctrinated into service. You learn about culture and the value of community.

How has campus life evolved for students over time?

KORTEMAYER: Back when I was a student, we had black and white TVs and no internet. Now, we have virtual learning and mobile devices that do about everything.



//ABOVE SID makes his rounds at the SID Shootout, a golf tournament held every June to honor him and raise funds for USF Athletics.



What memories stick with you?

KORTEMAYER: I remember the first 10-0 football season in 1988. In the final regular season game, we were in the DakotaDome and beat Dana, 26-7. Then the team carried both Coach Bob Young and I off the field. The 1996 championship was special. We had hardly any home games (two), won a playoff game in the snow when David Ruter ran wild for 315 yards against U-Mary, and we finished unbeaten. At halftime of the title game, we were leading, 27-13, and I remember thinking, "We are going to win a national title. All of those rough years and calling in scores in bad weather, and here we are. We are going to be the first school in South Dakota with a football national title. It was an amazing moment."

The COVID-19 pandemic has been unlike any life event in this generation. What have you observed about the campus community in dealing with it?

KORTEMAYER: Our ability to adapt and persevere is a great trait of humankind. I had polio at the age of three and survived the polio epidemic. Challenges come to all of us, but when we lean on God and each other, we get to the other side. ■

//**ABOVE** SID was named GPAC Coach of the Year for the USF Men's (2005) and USF Women's Golf teams (2007). Here he is pictured with the 2007 women's championship team.

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A LETTER FROM THE TASK FORCE ON DIVERSITY

INCLUSION, SOCIAL JUSTICE, CIVIC ENGAGEMENT
& ADVOCACY

USF Community,

One way in which 2020 unfortunately has been closer to “normal” than not are the pre-judgements and tragedies that continue to occur in communities across our nation and in our back yard including based on skin color and structures that fail to safeguard fair and equitable opportunities and treatment of members of our communities. Immediately it was unequivocally clear to USF leadership that the tragic death of George Floyd was wrong. It has taken time, however, to determine how we can meaningfully be a part of a lasting solution that will stand the test of time.

Some want to have seen a more swift and forceful response over the course of this summer from our University. Some expressed hurt by a lack thereof. While even the opinions of members of this newly-formed committee vary, we firmly agree that no hurts or dismissals were intended. Google “lip service George Floyd” for page after page of results on how institutions and entire industries have been saying the right things in the wake of tragedy but not taking meaningful steps to follow through with durable action. USF is keenly interested in getting the durable action part right.

So what has USF done since May? This summer, USF began work on a sustainable and durable action plan in alignment with its mission to make the conversation on social justice in America more accessible and deliberate. Some actions were straightforward to determine and execute. In a move unprecedented at least as far back as the 2000s and perhaps in the entire history of the institution, a group of USF faculty (the Academic Area Chairs) met on a weekly basis throughout the entire summer as they were also retooling fall courses for four different delivery methods necessitated by COVID-19. Under the direction of Dr. Joy Lind, Vice President

for Academic Affairs, USF faculty examined their coursework to determine where it would be appropriate to address topics related to diversity and social justice. As a matter of both due recognition and education, faculty were asked to document how they were already addressing such issues in those courses and/or how they would add content to those courses this fall to do so. The resulting list includes over 40 courses from many faculty across many disciplines. These changes have already been implemented for the current, fall 2020 semester.

Other needed actions have not been as quick to identify and require collaboration, input and the efforts of many to identify and act upon. Some faculty have requested opportunities to be better equipped to guide these discussions with humanity and take them beyond an academic exercise. Other members of our USF community have requested a review of campus policies for things like financial aid, and there is a desire to find new ways to support all members of the USF community. These are just a few examples.

This work now continues with this task force. The group’s various goals ultimately boil down to purposefully building a stronger campus culture that proactively seeks equity and education opportunities for all. Our major goals and actions as they are developed will be tied to our institution’s strategic plan as a means of ensuring a lasting and meaningful impact backed by resources and monitored for success and progress.

As an institution of higher learning that proudly centers its identity and mission around Christ and His life-changing, radical love, USF is uniquely positioned

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and equipped to make an impact on issues of human dignity and social justice that are fully aligned with its longtime mission and motto. Our mission is to educate students in the humanities, sciences and professions; and our traditional motto of Culture for Service is to seek to foster academic excellence and the development of mature Christian persons for service to God and humankind in the world.

On today’s important issues of social justice and human dignity, we are called to lead by example and make an impact in our sphere of influence using our unique resources to make a meaningful and lasting impact. It is our responsibility to produce graduates who are equipped to go out into the world and do the same.

We know that a perfect consensus on what needs to be done within our nation or within our community is not possible, but what we can agree on is that the University has a responsibility to its people and to its mission to put time, effort and resources in supporting the cause of humanity and dignity and equitable opportunity for all.

May God help us at the University of Sioux Falls to be instruments of peace and progress and to be used by God to redeem these difficult times.

Sincerely,
Members of the Task Force on Diversity, Inclusion, Social Justice, Civic Engagement & Advocacy

Members of the Task Force on Diversity, Inclusion, Social Justice, Civic Engagement and Advocacy (alphabetically)

Mekonnen Afa	International Education and Human Resources Associate
Karen Bangasser	Director of Presidential and Board Operations
Dr. Brett Bradfield	President
Apolonia Davalos	Student
Dr. Jason Douma	Associate Vice President for Institutional Research/Professor, Mathematics
Pam Gohl	Athletic Director
Allan Idjao	Associate Director of Student Life
Dr. Joy Lind	Vice President for Academic Affairs
Dr. George Mwangi	Associate Professor, Chemistry
Dr. Randy Nelson	Associate Professor, Education/Director of International Education
Mercy Oyadare	Student
Alex Ramirez	Member, USF Board of Trustees
Sarah Strasburg	Director of Marketing & Communication

NEW DOCTORATE IN LEADERSHIP

NEW DOCTORATE TAKES LEADERSHIP TO THE NEXT LEVEL

As a continuation of the University's long-term commitment to producing leaders in industry, non-profits, schools, churches and communities, the University of Sioux Falls proudly announced in October the addition of a new Doctorate in Leadership program that's built for full-time working professionals.

It's the first-ever Doctorate in Leadership from a Sioux Falls university for the Sioux Falls community and beyond.

"We believe the Doctorate in Leadership program will deliver a significant and positive

impact to our region and provide the foundation for USF students to truly transform the leadership roles in their respective fields," says Dr. Brett Bradfield, President of the University of Sioux Falls.

Between 2016 and 2019 alone, regional demand for doctoral-level interdisciplinary leadership professionals increased by 77 percent according to a recent regional study.

University of Sioux Falls garnered direct input from area businesses and organizations in developing the program to meet the needs of area employers and the region, and its

**WE BELIEVE THE DOCTORATE IN LEADERSHIP PROGRAM WILL
DELIVER A SIGNIFICANT AND POSITIVE IMPACT TO OUR REGION
AND PROVIDE THE FOUNDATION FOR USF STUDENTS TO TRULY
TRANSFORM THE LEADERSHIP ROLES IN THEIR RESPECTIVE FIELDS.**



graduates will help position our state for future success in a variety of industries including business, education, health care, ministry, non-profits and more.

And while other doctorate programs have been available in Sioux Falls through partnerships and consortiums, this one will be fully taught by USF professors with on-campus, online and hybrid courses, which allow for both flexibility and a valuable cohort experience where students will regularly meet face-to-face in either the on-ground or virtual environment.

The program is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and will take approximately 39 months to complete.

What's unique about this program is the applied dissertation in practice that begins early in the program to provide students a more manageable writing process, thus improving the likelihood of graduation compared to other doctoral programs. Professionals can continue working full-time throughout the entire degree, and will take on an important issue within their own professional context, be that in their

LEAD

IN TIMES OF CHANGE

Experienced professionals from a wide range of sectors including K-16 education, business, banking, ministry, nonprofits, healthcare and government will be a good fit for this interdisciplinary program.

77%

Regional employer demand for doctoral-level interdisciplinary leadership professionals increased 77% from September 2016 to January 2019.

IMPORTANT DATES

November 1, 2020	Applications open
April 2021	Applications close
June 2021	Classes begin

workplace, in their field, or an approved special topic that's in line with the aims of the degree program.

"Our goal has always been to provide truly transformative education," says Julie McAreavey, Associate Vice President for Continuing & Professional Studies, who led development of the new program. "The new interdisciplinary doctorate program continues this mission and is designed to offer a collaborative experience for

those seeking a Christian focused approach to leadership in today's world."

The new Doctorate in Leadership program adds to the University of Sioux Falls' comprehensive workforce development approach and continuing education opportunities by joining existing programs including degree completion, certificates, associate degrees, bachelor degrees as well as MBA and graduate education offerings. ■

Sample employers with a demand for doctoral-level leadership professionals:

- + Sanford Health
- + Avera Health
- + Universities
- + U.S. Air Force
- + U.S. Army
- + U.S. Bancorp

TOP REGIONAL JOB TITLES

- + Medical Director
- + Professor/Assistant Professor
- + Health and Safety Officer
- + Program Manager
- + Vice President
- + Recruiting Manager
- + Director of Education
- + Health Services Director
- + Director of Research
- + Business Development Manager
- + CEO
- + Health Services Director

LEARN MORE AT [USIOXFALLS.EDU/DOCTORATE](https://usioxfalls.edu/doctorate)

COUGAR

FAMILY

Faculty



DR. JARED BERG

Assistant Professor, Education/
Education Specialist Coordinator

"My favorite part of being a professor at USF is the opportunity I have to walk along that life-changing path with our students every day," Dr. Jared Berg says. He recently finished his doctorate in which he researched the motivational factors that impact students' decisions to major in education. "I have always been fascinated by the 'big decisions' individuals make in their lives, like what career brings them satisfaction," Dr. Berg says. "I saw the dissertation research as a way to explore these big decisions and make an impact on the educational research community." He discovered that altruistically minded, intrinsically motivated students who have had prior professional experiences in education, as well as prior experiences of encouragement to pursue careers in education during their K-12 years, are best situated to persevere in their teaching careers. He is applying these findings as he guides students in finding the major or pathway that fits their passions. "We spend most of our adult lives 'working,'" Dr. Berg says. "My desire for students is that they find their unique calling to impact the world positively and serve humanity humbly."



**DR. JUDY TIESZEN-
ZIMBELMAN**

Assistant Professor, Social Work

COVID-19 has created many difficult situations, but when challenges arise there is always an opportunity for growth and development—growth that cannot be taught just from a textbook. "I saw students not too excited about the classes all being online in the spring, then, who adjusted to the format and really applied themselves and adapted by the end of the semester," Dr. Zimbelman says. "These opportunities for students to push themselves and adapt to the changing world are skills that they will take with them." Students already have an advantage studying social work in Dr. Zimbelman's classroom; she brings over 17 years of experience in the field and a passion to raise up a future generation of world changers. "Watching students grow into professionals is such a rewarding experience," Dr. Zimbelman says. "Social work will continue to be crucial to help people in our community and society adapt to the ongoing changes in our world. I am so fortunate that I am able to watch these students grow into these roles and go out into our community to make a difference!"



**PROFESSOR
BRIAN LOWERY**

Assistant Professor, Biology

"Professor Lowery acts with a Culture for Service attitude each day on campus," said an anonymous USF student who nominated Lowery for the 2020 Outstanding Faculty Award. "He takes his role seriously as a professor, but also as a follower of Christ. He is giving, loyal and helpful to his students in their time of need. Professor Lowery has made me feel at home at USF, and as a non-traditional student, that's extremely important to me." Professor Lowery has been teaching full time at USF since 2012 and this spring received the Outstanding Faculty Award which recognizes two full time faculty for excellence in teaching and scholarly endeavors. His classroom is a place where scientific principles and critical thinking are taught with excellence while balancing an awareness of students' needs and a drive to push them to future success. "Whether it is admission into graduate or professional school or landing a job to start their professional career, the most rewarding part about being a professor is seeing our students succeed in achieving their next step beyond graduation," Lowery says.

DAVID & CAROLYN CLEVELAND:

THE BUILDING OF A LEGACY





Growing up the son of an American Baptist minister, David Cleveland never considered going anywhere other than Sioux Falls College after high school.

"I went fully dedicated to the idea of becoming a minister, but soon realized that ministry wasn't my calling," remembers David. "When I told my dad, instead of being disappointed, he surprised me by saying, 'this world needs more Christian business leaders.'"

Pastor Sandy Cleveland's wise words would come back to David time and again over the years and still drive many of the decisions he makes today.

A PATH WELL CHOSEN

After graduating from Sioux Falls College in 1955, David was drafted into the Army for two years of active duty. When he returned to Sioux Falls, he applied for two jobs listed in the newspaper. One was paying \$275 a month to work for the city. The other was a bank job paying \$275 a month plus the use of a car.

"I needed a car, so I went to work for First Bank of Sioux Falls in the loan department," he says. "That decision changed my life."

Turns out David had a knack for the banking industry. More importantly, he discovered he had a knack for people. David's ability to see beyond numbers to the heart of the people sitting in front of him carved a path to success few others were willing to take. David grew his reputation as a maverick in the banking industry by loaning money to people who could not get a loan anywhere else.

"Numbers alone can't tell you about the integrity of a person, or the passion and hard work they are willing to put into a business," he says. "I made a career by dealing with entrepreneurs who had great ideas but no money."

In 1973, he founded Riverside Bank in the Twin Cities with the notion that entrepreneurs and small businesses were every bit as valuable as larger corporations. His competitors figured this mentality would close Riverside's doors, but David's belief in people proved them wrong. By championing small businesses, Riverside was eventually rated one of the Top 5 business banks in America, with over \$315 million in assets. David was named to the Minnesota Business Hall of Fame in 2016.

More importantly to David, he was able to help countless entrepreneurs launch businesses around the region. His legacy as a local hero to small business owners is filled with unconventional stories of a man who went out of his way to offer hard-nosed advice and valuable friendship.

//**LEFT** David and Carolyn Cleveland's appreciation for USF led them to donate to the construction of a new building in honor of David's parents, Sandy and Miriam Cleveland. The Cleveland Professional Development Center celebrates 20 years as the hub for USF's business, entrepreneurial and MBA programs.

MAKING AN IMPACT

Beyond their major donation to the Cleveland Professional Development Center at USF, David and Carolyn Cleveland have provided the campus with significant examples of servant leadership by giving their time, treasure and talents:



David has served on the USF Board of Trustees since 1996.



Carolyn provided interior design expertise for multiple buildings on campus, including the Cleveland Professional Development Center.



David and Carolyn were co-chairs of the \$30 million USF Greatest Gift Campaign from 2003-2008.



They established the Carolyn Cleveland Endowed Scholarship to support students in the fine arts.

David and his partners sold Riverside Bank in 1999, but David's contributions to entrepreneurship, small business, the banking industry and his many philanthropic efforts continue to this day—including a major contribution made by David and his wife Carolyn to the University of Sioux Falls.

A GIVING PHILOSOPHY

In 1996, David received a call from his former Sioux Falls College roommate about donating to his alma mater. Soon after, David and Carolyn were encouraged to take on significant roles at USF. David began serving on USF's Board of Trustees and Carolyn used her skills as an interior designer to help design and renovate numerous buildings on campus. Even though Carolyn was a graduate of the University of Minnesota, she fell in love with USF and the people she met there.

"I made wonderful friends on campus and look forward to our trips to Sioux Falls," says Carolyn. "I feel like USF is as much a part of my life as it is David's. We always have a great time when we come visit and I really enjoy the area."

In 1999, the couple's appreciation for USF led them to donate to the construction of a new building in honor of David's parents, Sandy and Miriam Cleveland. The Cleveland Professional

Development Center opened its doors in 2000 and remains a hub for the business, entrepreneurial and MBA programs today.

"My dad spent a lot of time at USF and was a strong believer in the Christian principles taught there," David says. "I feel it's important to put your money where your heart is. After all, you can't take it with you."

REAL LIFE ROLE MODELS

The Cleveland Professional Development Center is celebrating twenty years on the USF campus this year, and in that time has graduated some of the area's most distinguished business leaders. Many of these leaders embrace USF's Culture for Service spirit the same way David and Carolyn do.

"David and Carolyn are extraordinary people," says Jon Hiatt, senior major gifts officer at USF. "David serves on our Board of Trustees and his expertise on the finance committee is invaluable. Carolyn has lent her interior design savvy to numerous buildings on campus and is a champion for the fine arts. Together they served as co-chairs for The Greatest Gift Campaign which raised over \$30 million for the University. They are fully committed to the mission of USF and we are extremely grateful for their friendship and support."

Today, David and Carolyn are retired and living in northwestern Wisconsin. They remain highly involved in their church and community, and are advocates of music, the environment, nature, education and small business development. Their long list of endowments and donations includes the Minnesota Cup, Hunt Hill Sanctuary, the Carolyn Cleveland Endowed Scholarship at USF and many more. ■

I FEEL IT'S IMPORTANT TO PUT YOUR
MONEY WHERE YOUR HEART IS. AFTER
ALL, YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

"Over many years of meritorious service, Dave and Carolyn Cleveland have had a profound and enduring impact on our University and so many students' lives. Without question, their legacy will be present and recognized by generations of USF stakeholders far into the future. They epitomize the heart of USF!"

- Dr. Brett Bradfield, University of Sioux Falls President

COUGAR FAMILY

Students



Apolonia Davalos '22
Fairbanks, AK

"USF has been a campus of infinite opportunity for me," says Apolonia Davalos, a media and entrepreneurial studies double major. "As a transfer student, USF was my second choice, however, I quickly learned that being a Cougar was the true answer to my prayer." Mutually, the USF campus has been blessed by her bright energetic charisma on campus, specifically, in her involvement in choir, campus ministries, theatre, student leadership and more. One will find Apolonia's presence is already reaching beyond USF to the Sioux Falls community. Earlier this year, she represented USF by serving as a member of the Mayor-appointed Sioux Falls Arts Task Force, a group working to implement the growth of arts and culture in Sioux Falls. "Post-graduation, I intend to open a film production studio in Sioux Falls," Apolonia says. "My career aspiration is to significantly impact, assist and uplift my peers and community of fellow creatives to produce groundbreaking art that communicates truth through beauty and enriches joy into every living soul!"



Jacob Johnson '22
Brookings, SD

"This University just seemed different," says entrepreneurial studies major Jacob Johnson, as he reflects on why he chose USF. "When I first visited it seemed that USF was a big family, and everyone cared about each other. I knew this was a community I needed to be a part of." Jacob is making the most of his time at USF as he is involved in the Honors Program, track team and Fellowship of Christian Athletes. "Being a part of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes has been one of the the most impactful parts of my time at USF so far," Jacob says. "Every Wednesday night, I get to hang around fellow believers, and I always walk away feeling refueled. I LOVE IT!" While he is enjoying his time as a student he has a passion and vision to take his education in entrepreneurial studies and impact the world. "I want to use my platform to speak about the beauty of the Gospel," Jacob says. "I want to show that Jesus has a place in the business world. I hope to raise up the next generation of leaders and fill them up with the love of God."



Michaela Davis '24
Rochester, MN

For Michaela Davis making her final decision on which university to attend ultimately came to finding a place with a strong elementary education program and a great choir. Now enrolled at USF she feels confident that her choice will equip her to fulfill her passion in life, as both parents attended USF in the very program she is pursuing. "My parents' connection to USF did influence my decision because through them I got to see first-hand how well the USF education program prepares teachers and sets them up for success." Both Michaela's parents, Linda Souder-Davis '94 and Todd Davis '94, were also involved in music during their time on campus. "I hope to be in Concert Chorale next year and eventually a Madrigal singer like my dad was," Michaela says. When she isn't practicing with the Collegiate Choir, gathering with the education club or mingling at a Culture Club event she is creating her own memories on the third floor of Kroske hall and cherishing the memories made before her. "I live in the room right across the hall from where my mom lived her freshman year," Michaela says. "It's very special for me to know that I am experiencing some of the same exact things as my parents during my college experience even with some of the same teachers that they had! I'm definitely glad I chose USF!"



COUGAR FAMILY

Memories!

USF is no stranger to transition and continues to be nimble in challenging times. This year's Cougar Days called for creativity as the NSIC athletic conference canceled all fall sports seasons, including the homecoming football game scheduled against Augustana University. Even though our community could not be together to celebrate many of the Cougar Days traditions in person this year, the COOmmunity celebrated with these adapted events!

1

LAWN CHAIR CHORAL CONCERT

Masks could not hinder the beautiful music and talent of the Concert Chorale, Collegiate Choir, Men's Ensemble, and Madrigal Singers. Friends and family enjoyed a beautiful concert of hopeful melodies from their lawn chairs on the campus Quad.

2

1996 CHAMPIONSHIP GAME WATCH PARTY

With live sports on hold, USF Athletics reached into its vaults to share a classic college football game. Many celebrated Homecoming by rewatching the USF Cougars and Coach Bob Young win the 1996 NAIA National Championship. Find the game at youtube.com/usioxfordfalls

3

CELEBRATING THE CLASS OF '70

While the official 50th class reunion will take place next fall, the Class of 1970 shared a Zoom call to reminisce wonderful memories made at Sioux Falls College. Pictured right is a flashback from the 1970 yearbook of the student newspaper team hard at work.

4

OUTDOOR POP-UP CONCERT

Rich notes floated through the Salsbury Science Center Plaza as the Flute Ensemble and Chamber Strings shared their talents in a special homecoming pop-up concert.

5

COUGAR ROYALTY

King: Noah Tyson, Sports Management Major

Queen: Janae Gustafson, Nursing Major

back row left to right:

Janae Gustafson, Adam Paulson (blue shirt), Ben Sokup (white shirt, blue tie), Hannah Matzner, Kayla Andersen (blue dress), Sydney Johnson, Noah Tyson.

6

front row left to right:

Tatiana Jaimes, Miles Allevan (suit, blue tie), Logan Hansen, Tori Frahm (black dress), Grace Trautman (white dress), Mercy Oyadare, Mitchell Mund.



1



2



3



4



5



6

CLAS S NOTES

All notes are based on information received between April 1 and August 31, 2020. Send us your update today at usioxfalls.edu/keepintouch.

// CELEBRATIONS

Alumni

Janet (Pedde) '76 and **Norbert Griebel '76** celebrated fifty years of marriage on Aug. 29, 2020.

Emily (Knutson) Paulsen '06 and Jon welcomed Wallace Wayne on June 4, 2020, in Sioux Falls.

Shannon (Smith) Poor Bear '09 and Aaron welcomed Taliyah Rose on Feb. 17, 2020, in Storm Lake, IA.

Amanda (Koenig) Waddell '09 and Luke welcomed Link Tellee on Aug. 19, 2020, in Sioux Falls.

Jennifer (Loomans) Woodruff '09 and David welcomed Ezra on Jan. 22, 2020, in Sioux Falls.

Tracie Erdmann '10 married Jeff Ritz on Aug. 29, 2020, in Le Mars, IA.

Morgan (Caselli) '10 and **Allan Idjao** adopted McKennan Byrl on April 23, 2020.

Andrew Buschena '11 and Amelia welcomed Melody Suzanne on April 23, 2020, in Coon Rapids, MN.

Sarah (Jundt) Benne '13 and Matt welcomed Lane Joel on Aug. 17, 2020, in Rapid City, SD.

Mollie (Potter) Lage '13 and Chase welcomed Isla Roann on Aug. 11, 2020, in Sioux Falls.

Jill (Rokeh) Miles '14 and Dillon welcomed Holly Avis on May 14, 2020, in Mitchell, SD.

Tia (Nihart) Chase '15 and Derek welcomed Emilylyn Marie on June 14, 2020, in Huron, SD.

Loranda (Regynski) '15 and **Chris Kenyon '13** welcomed Miles Alan on Aug. 28, 2020, in Sioux Falls.

Kayla (McMahon) Wynia '15 and Jim welcomed Huxlee Miles on July 2, 2020, in Sioux Falls.

Rachel (Thornton) '16 and **Luke DeBoer '17** welcomed James Thorton on May 9, 2020, in New Brunswick, NJ.

Andrew Johnson '16 married Sarah Walklin on Sept. 29, 2019, in Sioux Falls.

Rosalyn Rasmussen '17 and Brandon Devries welcomed Nora Grayce on June 11, 2020, in Sioux Falls.

Kyle Athmann '17 and Ashley welcomed Eli James on Nov. 2, 2019, in Sioux City, IA.

Jessica (Houser) Haas '17 and Dylan welcomed Hadley Ann on Aug. 4, 2020, in Sioux Falls.

Austin Hogie '17 and Helen welcomed Christopher William on June 8, 2020, in Sioux Falls.

Cassidy Wright '17 married Gavin Frederick on June 26, 2020, in Lead, SD.

Erica Ziegrowsky '17 married Trenten Tharp on May 9, 2020, in Washington, IA.

Liz Julian '18 and Damien welcomed Luthor Francis on Oct. 21, 2019, in Sioux Falls.

Molly Briney '19 married Noah Hanson on June 6, 2020, in Hartford, SD.

Kelli Holloway '19 married **Dalton Elliott '19** on April 11, 2020, in Lincoln, NE.

Jordan (Achterberg) '19 and **Nick Lawson '19** welcomed Miles Dean on April 22, 2020, in Sioux Falls.

Morgan Smith '19 married Lucas Van Holland on June 26, 2020, in Canton, SD.

Clara Koerner '20 married **Billy Beseman '18** on June 6, 2020, in Freeman, SD.

Faculty & Staff

Chris Hamstra and Caitlin welcomed Josephine Ruth on May 26, 2020, in Sioux Falls.

Victor Larsen and Rachel welcomed Dodge DeNeui on April 25, 2020 in Sioux Falls.

Bethany Sheets married Ryan Dahl on May 30, 2020, in Mitchell, SD.

// IN MEMORIAM

Alumni

Paul Hammond '45, June 20, 2020, Tulsa, OK

Lois (Belcher) Hammond '46, July 27, 2020, Tulsa, OK

Ruth (Bowman) Smith Cullen '48, June 21, 2020, Helena, MT

Merle Johnson '52, Oct. 8, 2020, Sioux Falls

Eleon Sandau '52, Jan. 14, 2020, Baton Rouge, LA

Marcene (VanderPlaats) Rummler '53, April 13, 2020, Pittsford, NY

Robert Edrich '58, July 24, 2020, Colton, CA

Jean (Godden) Grimm-Ford '59, Aug. 17, 2020, Oakland, IA

Jean (Heard) Lambert '64, June 22, 2020, Savannah, GA

Shelly (Hartsook) Bergstrom Wallin '69, June 6, 2020, Naperville, IL

Glenn Rivers '69, June 14, 2020, Sioux Falls

Bert Itterman '69, Aug. 29, 2020, Sioux Falls

Vic Milejczak '71, May 27, 2020, Columbia, SC

Michael Batten '72, June 24, 2020, Council Bluffs, IA

Tom Waggoner '73, June 3, 2020, North Ridgeville, OH

Timothy Burrell '75, Aug. 28, 2020, Harrisburg, PA

Tania Larson '76, June 13, 2020, Sioux Falls

Anne Soderlund '78, June 13, 2020, Omaha, NE

Ron Ries '82, April 15, 2020, Canton, SD

Brian Wear '87, July 16, 2020, High Point, NC

Duncan Tilton '91, July 14, 2020, Ankeny, IA

Friends

Tom Houle, April 24, 2020, Sioux Falls

Dan Canete, June 17, 2020, Corpus Christi, TX

Rowena Cowles, Aug. 22, 2020, Sioux Falls



A TRIBUTE TO RICH GREENO

On June 24, 2020, the Rich Greeno Memorial was dedicated on the footbridge south of Pasley Park on the Sioux Falls Bike Trail System. The sculpture of "Coach" is a life-size bronze statue sculpted by Darwin Wold and was commissioned by the Rich Greeno Memorial Committee. Greeno served as USF's Track and Field/Cross Country coach from 1991 to 2004. Among many awards, he was a member of the South Dakota Sports Hall of Fame, National High School Sports Hall of Fame and USF Athletics Hall of Fame. Greeno (1928- 2017) is memorialized for his lasting impact on sports and advocacy for fitness in Sioux Falls and South Dakota. A coaching icon, he built winning programs with a focus that "it's about the kids."

COUGAR

FAMILY *Alumni*

Virginia Miller '68 | Organist, Pianist, Accompanist and Piano Teacher



Observe Virginia Miller's life, and one will find the very essence of USF's mission of service to God and humankind. Miller uses her talents, time and resources to invest in her family, friends and community. After graduating with a degree in secondary education, Miller taught for five years, paused to raise three sons and has now spent 52 years and counting serving congregations as an organist, pianist, accompanist and piano teacher. "My part-time church musician career continues today with no plans for retirement until more bad notes occur than correct ones," Miller says. She has also served as a school volunteer, school board chair, leadership in Minnesota Extension Services, 4-H, local food shelf, church council and various church teams. During her time at USF, she recalls living on the third floor of Grand Island Hall. "It was on that floor that I met life-long friends, and I still cherish the memories," Miller says. "I remember learning very early in life that what you are speaks so loud that people cannot hear what you say," Miller says. "I believe that living your faith with respect for others, showing empathy and making good choices may be the best way for me to influence those around me. I try to never miss a teachable moment!"

Travis Lape '10, '16 | Innovative Program Director, Harrisburg School District



From April 5 to August 19 Travis Lape utilized 3D printers to create over 3,500 plastic shields and 2,500 ear savers to send to frontline workers and educators across the United States in need of PPE supplies—at no cost to the recipient. "I didn't charge because I wanted to be able to just pay it forward," says Lape, who credits a generous community for their financial support to make this possible. The idea sparked back in March. "When schools closed I was surfing the internet one night," Lape says. "I came across a Boy Scout in Canada who was printing ear savers for his local hospital. I thought 'wow I can do something like that and help our community.'" His work is a powerful example of another USF alumnus living out Culture for Service. "Oh my, the mission of USF runs through me," Lape says. "It all started for me at a freshman meeting where people kept saying, 'Get involved.'" He was the first to ever attend college from his family, so this was a new experience. "I think about my memories and the impact that professors had on my life like Beth Jernberg, Bill Soeffing, Dennis Thum, Kim Bartling, SID Kortmeyer, Rachelle Loven, Carol DenOtter, Arlys Peterson, Randy Nelson, Michelle Hansen and John Hiigel," Lape says. "These individuals all played a part in shaping who I am today, and for that I am THANKFUL for each of them."

Jeff '91 and Heidi '94, '01 Reynolds | Agency Director at Vision Video Interactive & Elementary Instructional Coach



Jeff and Heidi reflect fondly on their time at USF—recalling mentors who believed in them, service opportunities that changed their perspective and building relationships that would stand the test of time (like their marriage!). Today, Heidi is in her 25th year working for the Sioux Falls School District, and Jeff has built a name for himself in the advertising community in Sioux Falls over the last 30 years where he is now agency director at Vision Video Interactive. As they both excel in their careers, the Reynolds' connection with USF is more than a memory to reflect on because they have remained involved in the USF community. "It's important for us to stay connected to USF because it has had such a big influence on both of our lives," Heidi says. She currently serves on the Alumni Association Board, and Jeff has generously invested back into USF by donating many hours to creating campaign videos and helping develop the USF media center—Media Studies now being one of the Top 10 majors at USF. The Reynolds regularly return to campus for special events, are involved in the Alumni Association and have two children who attended USF. Jeff and Heidi are Cougars for life, and their talents and hearts of service continue to impact the USF community and the world beyond.



EXPLORE

INTERACT

ENGAGE

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