

# UNIVERSITY OF SIOUX FALLS

Magazine

// SPRING 2019



University of **Sioux Falls**

# A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings from the University of Sioux Falls. The faith and academic community of USF has had much to celebrate during the 2018-19 academic year, including record enrollment for both the fall and spring semesters. The University embraces the opportunity to continue expanding its mission-centric footprint in the city, state and region it serves.

The rapidly growing and changing healthcare industry, addressed in the pages of this issue, is among the most vital to the economic health of our region and beyond, and I am proud that our graduates are actively sought for their skills and the positive traits they bring to the workplace. Their exposure to a highly personal, Christian liberal arts education prepares them well to make an impact in a rapidly changing field—this is just one industry.

A recent survey indicates 99 percent of USF graduates from the Class of 2018 found employment in their chosen field or continued in professional studies within six months of graduation. Consistent statistics such as this suggest that USF is on track in offering programs relevant to today's workforce needs, yet we continually strive for improvement. Within those programs much care and consideration goes into creating a transformative experience to equip students to serve God and humankind for a lifetime.

In December, I was asked to serve on the Sioux Falls Development Foundation board. There is ever-increasing recognition that higher education plays a key role in meeting the changing demands of workforce development in the region. In my brief time with the SFDF, it is clear that USF is a significant regional player in this endeavor.



USF students continue to excel inside and outside the classroom in activities linked to research, faith formation, community service, clubs, the performing arts and athletics. In fact in December 2018, the NCAA announced that for the fourth consecutive year, the USF Athletics Department received the prestigious President's Award for Academic Excellence as a result of achieving an academic success rate of 92 percent and was recognized as the only Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference institution to receive this honor four straight years.

University stakeholders at all levels, beginning with our extraordinary leadership at the Board of Trustee level, continue to navigate the changing nature of the higher education enterprise through commitment to strategic planning and adherence to best researched practices. As we look to a bright future full of possibilities, we never lose sight of the alumni who have passed through this University at different points of its rich 135-year history. Our commitment to excellence is not only intended to serve the current day but also to honor the past and those alumni who serve as the University's greatest ambassadors. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brett Bradfield".

Dr. Brett Bradfield  
President, University of Sioux Falls



3

## COUGARS AROUND THE GLOBE

See how current students grow during Interim trips around the globe.

5

## A MIND FOR MEDICINE, A HEART FOR SERVICE

USF's pre-med program helps students find their calling.

8

## COUGAR FAMILY—FACULTY

Here's what USF faculty are accomplishing with excellence in the classroom and community.

9

## ALUMNI ASSOCIATION 101

See what events USF Alumni Association has hosted recently, and learn how to get in on the fun.

11

## Q&A WITH USF'S NEW DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

Pam Gohl talks program direction, her journey to USF and other insider details.

15

## USF TALENT SHINES AT THEATRE FESTIVAL

Through talent and truth USF theatre shines bright on the stage and in the community.

18

## COUGAR BULLETIN

Read up on the latest campus news, outstanding job placement rates, research events and more.

19

## COUGAR FAMILY—STUDENTS

From releasing a new single to excelling on the football field, meet three students who are living fully engaged.

20

## 135 YEAR CROSSWORD

Test your knowledge on USF's 135 years of rich history and traditions.

21

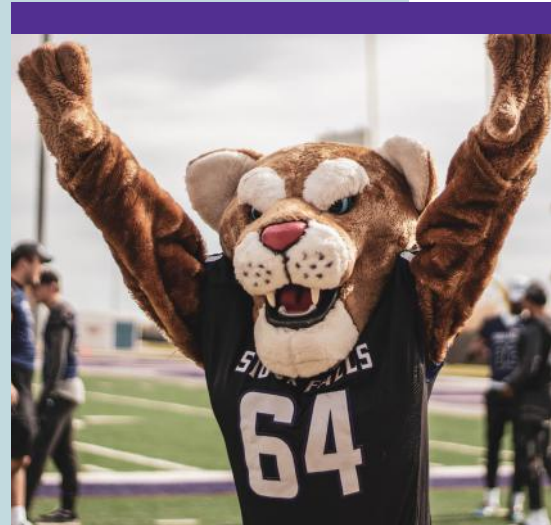
## CLASS NOTES

Celebrate births and marriages of fellow Cougars and honor those who have passed.

22

## COUGAR FAMILY—ALUMNI

Meet USF alumni who are impacting their communities and world.



# COUGARS

## AROUND THE GLOBE



**SPAIN**

**EDWIN IRAHETA-RETANA '20**

**EXPLORED A NEW CULTURE WITH FRIENDS**

<< “This trip was a great way to see the world and see the artwork that I had been studying in my art history courses.”



**PERU**

**JORDAN LAWSON '19**  
**SERVED WITH NURSING SKILLS**

vv “Looking back, the most impactful moment for me was sitting and praying for my patients, but also having my patients pray for me in return.”

On these pages students share first-hand how experiences during January Interim are helping them learn and serve the Lord around the world.

**ELAURA STRAATMEYER '21**  
**VISITED ONE OF THE SEVEN WONDERS**

^^ “Ever since I was a little girl, I was fascinated with the history of the Incan civilizations. This opportunity to travel to Peru meant the world to me!”



**GUATEMALA**

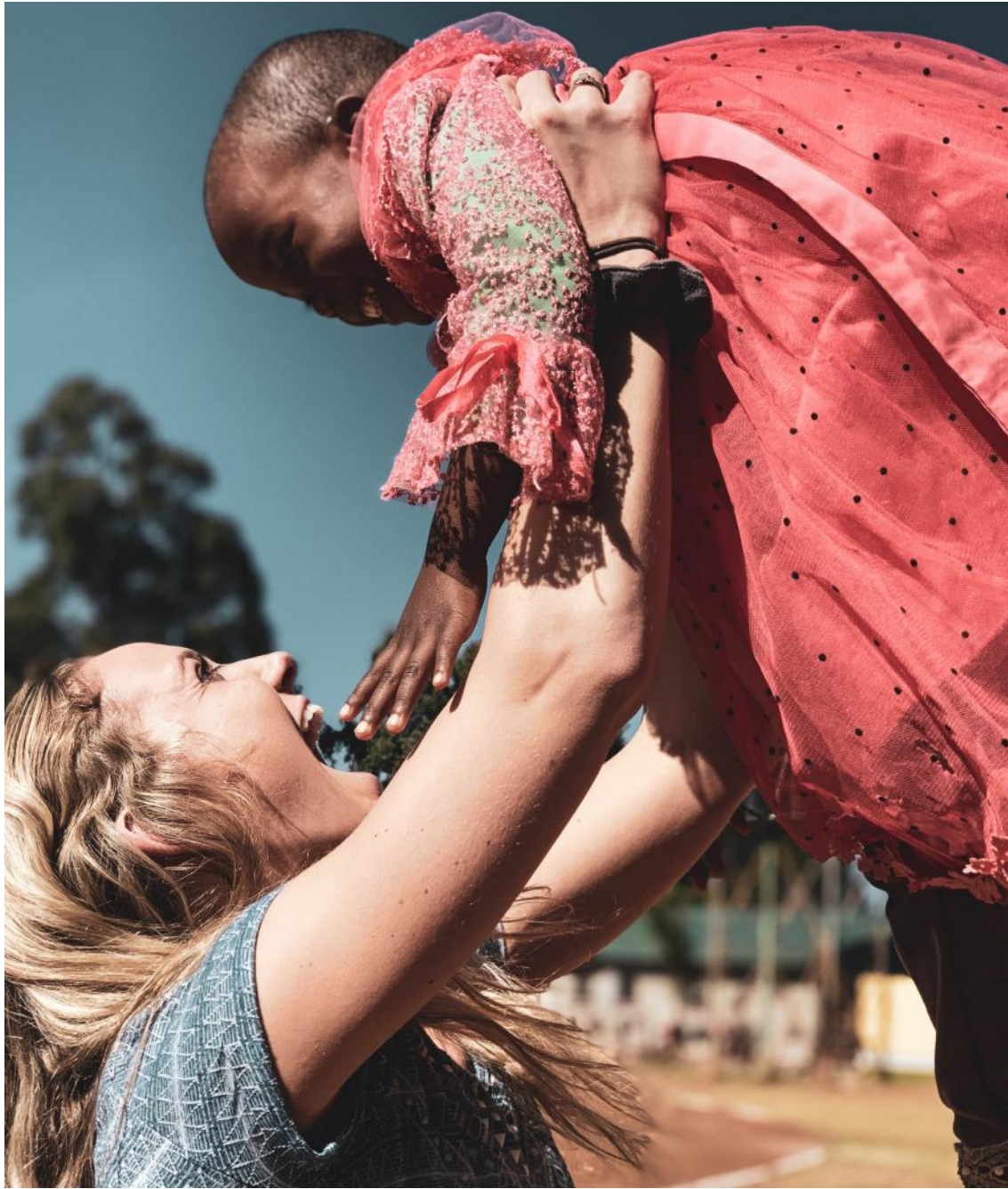
**HAYLEY ROGERS '20**  
**BUILT A HOUSE FOR A FAMILY IN NEED**

>> “God showed me that if it is His will, He will provide. I have learned to trust that if I am working for Him, He will make the pieces fall into place.”



**JUAREZ**





# KENYA

SHANIA SCHEIDT '19  
SERVED AT A MEDICAL CLINIC

Over 1,500 Kenyans came through the two-day Simba Medical Clinic—every single person received medical treatment and healing prayer. “It was beyond amazing to serve Kenyans who maybe have never seen a doctor before,” says Shania Scheidt as she recalls how her time with Simba Educational Ministries in Kenya impacted her. The senior biology

major has a heart to serve people and her sights set within the field of medicine—specifically physician assistant school.

“We had two big medical clinic days where we partnered with Kenyan doctors, nurses, nurses aids and pharmacists,” Shania says. “We set up a clinic outside where we saw medical issues, from small to large

and all ages on the spectrum. We also got to visit the school that Simba Ministries partners with and hold a small medical clinic for the new children that attend the school this year. Playing with the children and seeing the love and joy of Jesus Christ they portray is something I will never forget.”









# A MIND FOR MEDICINE

## A HEART FOR SERVICE

### USF'S PRE-MED PROGRAM HELPS STUDENTS FIND THEIR CALLING

Like most professors at USF, Dr. Bill Soeffing, professor of biology, knows his students. In addition to learning their names and hometowns, Dr. Soeffing can tell you other important details—like who owns an iguana and which students cheer for the Vikings. His personal, vested interest in each student helps guide them toward careers that match their strengths, passions and personalities.

“Some students start out in our pre-med program wanting to be surgeons, but we discover their true gifts are in the lab or maybe in another area like physical therapy or nursing,” he explains. “Our focus is helping them find their best match within the field of medicine. We are very intentional about that.”

A 2018 study conducted for the Association of American Medical Colleges predicts the United States will face a shortage of between 42,600 and 121,300

physicians by 2030. Shortages will occur in both primary and specialty care. This all points to an increased demand for doctors, nurses and other healthcare workers.

At USF, approximately 20 percent of students enrolled as biology or chemistry majors are pursuing a medical degree, while 65 percent are interested in the allied health professions. An estimated 30-50 students are enrolled in the pre-medical program each year. As USF celebrates 135 years of success, the University is focused on boosting those numbers through significant scholarships for high-achieving high school students.

“USF students do really well on the MCAT,” Dr. Soeffing says. “We prepare students not only academically through comprehensive coursework and real-world research opportunities, but also through our Culture for Service environment that encourages students to serve others and be

//**LEFT** Dr. Soeffing guides student Rebecca Goertzen in hands-on research and experience.

engaged in the world. We push our pre-med students to the max. If they can make it here, they can make it in med school.”

Many physicians around the area earned their undergraduate degrees from USF and can attest to the amazing support system available to them on the private Christian liberal arts campus. Dr. Alan Sazama, an emergency medicine physician at Avera Medical Group in Sioux Falls, graduated from USF with a chemistry and exercise science degree in 2010 and from the USD Sanford School of Medicine in 2014.

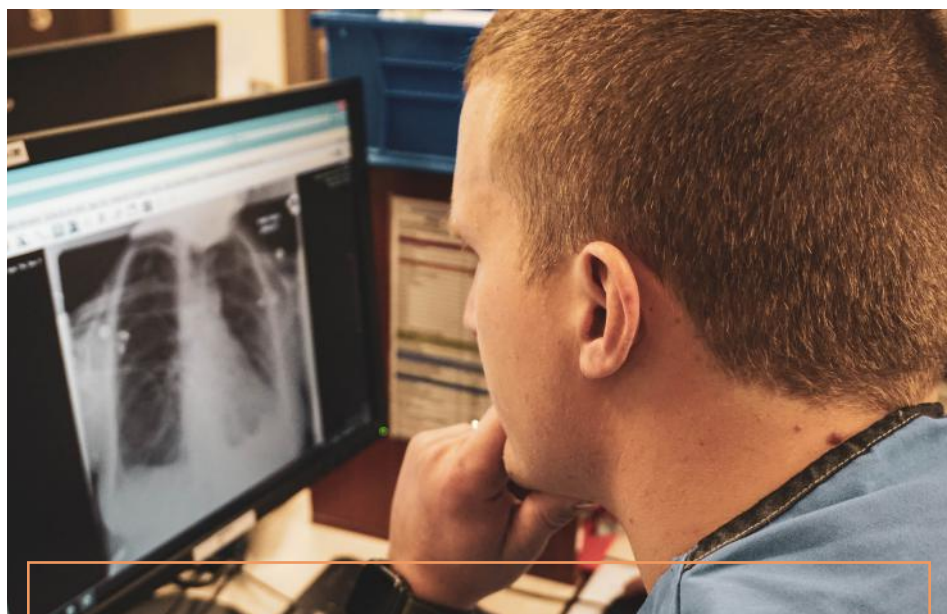
“I was able to work directly with my USF professors in the classroom and through hands-on research,” he says. “I got into the Sanford School of Medicine on my first try. While you can never be truly prepared for the rigors of medical school, at

**“WE PUSH OUR PRE-MED STUDENTS TO THE MAX. IF THEY CAN MAKE IT HERE THEY CAN MAKE IT IN MED SCHOOL.”**

USF I learned to master time management and how to study for tough exams. Those skills are vital to surviving med school.”

Current biology, chemistry and math major Rebecca Goertzen agrees.

“I have so many opportunities here. As a student-athlete, I have supportive professors who work with me and care about me. I was able



**//ABOVE** Emergency Medicine Physician Dr. Alan Sazama, contemplates treatment options as he reads a patient’s X-ray.

to take a medical mission trip to El Salvador and have participated in the South Dakota Biomedical Research Infrastructure Network (BRIN), where I studied under Dr. George Mwangi,” she says.

Each year, USF students immerse themselves in meaningful research through USF’s participation in programs like BRIN. Access to research gives students an advantage for the future.

“This is not an easy degree, and it’s not for everyone,” Dr. Soeffing says. “Medical school is a tremendous challenge. At the end of the day, we want our students to find themselves in rewarding careers that give meaning to their lives.”

USF takes pride in providing a strong foundation for students who want to work in the medical field, as it’s a field that directly reflects the mission of the University.

But is all that hard work worth it?

“My 20s were a decade spent studying and working long hours in hospitals,” Dr. Sazama says. “Through all the late nights and the stress, I can say it’s absolutely worth it. I’ve been given the skills to save lives, and I do not take that lightly. It is an honor, and I would do it all over again.” ■



Faculty

# COUGAR

## FAMILY



**DR. RACHELLE LOVEN**

Professor, Education

For 32 years Dr. Loven has developed relationships with USF students and watched them grow into influential teachers, lifelong learners and friends. "I am passionate about providing the very best teachers for students and families in kindergarten through 12th grade classrooms," Dr. Loven says. She believes students in K-12 classrooms deserve strong teachers who are academically prepared to teach and understand what a deep privilege and responsibility it is to help students mature socially and emotionally within the academic classroom. Dr. Loven is one of an entire lineup of outstanding education faculty at USF that challenge and support students in the classroom while providing frequent experiential learning opportunities. "I think it is the amount of practical experience USF students receive that creates a strong foundation for the development of teachers," Dr. Loven says. Time and time again students from USF's education program are sought after by superintendents across the country. USF's elementary education program ranks in the top 10 percentile of over 800 teacher education programs.



**DR. SHAWN CHIAPPETTA**

Associate Professor, Mathematics and Computer Science

As Dr. Chiappetta continues his 16th year of teaching, he is also preparing USF to host a regional annual meeting of the Consortium for Computing Sciences in Colleges. "One of the consortium's purposes is to provide opportunities for colleges and universities to interact with one another and work to improve curricula," Dr. Chiappetta says. The collaborative nature of the conference aligns with USF's mission of Culture for Service, and Dr. Chiappetta is eager to share his passion for this subject, learn from colleagues, share the joys of his students' successes and live out his faith in a welcoming environment. "Hosting the conference provides opportunities for USF and its students," Dr. Chiappetta says. "Importantly, students will have the opportunity to participate in a poster session and show what types of projects they have worked on to other faculty, students and working professionals in attendance." Other schools and businesses in the community will be invited, which can provide students the networking opportunities that are so important in today's rapidly changing world.



**DR. CHRISTINA HITCHCOCK**

Professor, Theology

In her recently published book, "The Significance of Singleness: A Theological Vision for the Future of the Church," Dr. Christina Hitchcock, professor of theology, challenges assumptions about "the problem" of singleness and offers a contemporary theology of singleness relevant to all members of the church. Dr. Hitchcock joined the USF faculty in 2001, and while the book developed over a long period of time, she feels the flexibility and support of her colleagues and USF as a whole made this book a reality. "I didn't get married until I was 30, so I had about eight years of single adulthood which prompted me to start thinking about singleness from a theological point of view," she says. According to Dr. Hitchcock, the message of her book is timely for a culture grappling with identity issues, specifically as they relate to sex and sexual relationships. She also specifies that the book is meant for the church as a whole, not just for single Christians. "I hope that by recapturing the theological significance of singleness, we can find ways to speak a genuinely new word to both ourselves and the culture around us," Dr. Hitchcock says.

# ALUMNI ASSO

## USF GRADUATES ARE AUTOMATICALLY ALUMNI BUT JOINING THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION REQUIRES REGISTRATION.

French macarons, gregarious game nights, ice skating escapades and inspiring speakers have all come together in recent months to bring the USF alumni community closer together thanks to the USF Alumni Association.

USF's alumni and friends community is over 15,000 strong, and many are entering the next chapter of their USF journey by joining the USF Alumni Association. "Memberships support USF in a unique way by enabling us to hold social and networking events, offer special discounts, provide career services and so much more," says Brittany Hanson, director of alumni relations.

### Why Join the USF Alumni Association?

Joining the USF Alumni Association takes your support and commitment to the next level at an affordable cost.

### How do I become a USF Alumni Association Member?

Visit [usiouxfalls.edu/alumni/association](http://usiouxfalls.edu/alumni/association) to become a member.

### Connect with us!

Call | 605-331-6632 Email | [alumni@usiouxfalls.edu](mailto:alumni@usiouxfalls.edu)

Facebook | [@usiouxfallsalumni](https://www.facebook.com/usiouxfallsalumni)

## MEMBER Benefit HIGHLIGHTS



SOCIAL AND NETWORKING  
EVENTS



MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER



USF SWAG



TICKET DISCOUNTS TO USF  
EVENTS



HOTEL DISCOUNTS



DEEPER CONNECTION WITH  
YOUR USF COMMUNITY

## Young Alumni Membership

\$10 / year

USF alumni who received a traditional undergraduate degree within the last 5 years enjoy a discounted individual membership to the association. This membership is active from July 1–June 30 of each year.

## Annual Membership

\$50 / year

Join the association with a membership that fits into your yearly budget with this yearly household membership. This membership is active from July 1–June 30 of each year.

## Lifetime Membership

\$1000

Join the association with a membership that supports our University and preserves its great traditions for your lifetime and beyond. Pay once and never pay dues again with this household membership.



# CIATION 101



<< Short and Sweet events have been loved by all ages! Alumni Association members have enjoyed gatherings at CH Patisserie and Half Baked.



>> Friendship, hugs and reconnecting is what the USF Alumni Association is all about.



^^ "The Alumni Association has been a great way for me to stay connected with my former classmates while also meeting new people from the USF community."  
- Hailey Schmidt '18



>> "The USF Alumni Association has allowed me to be on the inside of a powerful network. It has given me the opportunity to give back to the University that provided me with everything I need to be successful."  
-Jeff Veltkamp '97, '07







# Director of Athletics

P A M G O H L

LEADS FULLY-ENGAGED  
BY HOLDING TRUE TO  
**FAITH AND FAMILY**



With a nod and smile toward her family, Pam Gohl stepped to the front of a University of Sioux Falls news conference announcing her as the institution's director of athletics in December.

It was fitting for the highly respected and hard-working 42-year old Manning, Iowa, native to acknowledge her family. Gohl, who has achieved much in a short time in University athletics at four different universities, believes strongly in faith and family, and this enables her to lead with a fully-engaged self. Gohl is the kind of athletics administrator who you're as likely to see sweeping the floor at halftime of a USF game as sitting in a board room.

USF Magazine caught up with a busy Pam Gohl for a Q&A.

**You've been with USF for seven years in athletics administration. Did you always know this was the path for you?**

**Gohl:** My dad was a teacher and a coach, and from a young age, I kind of wanted that for myself. I went to college—also at an NCAA DII private liberal arts college—to play basketball and intended to be a high school coach. But I had a revelation of sorts as a student-teacher that it wasn't a fit for me. So I turned my sights to collegiate-level athletics, applied for and received a graduate assistantship at St. Cloud State to be on the coaching staff, and that's led me to this moment.

**Not many collegiate athletic directors are national champion coaches, and even fewer were student-athletes themselves. In what ways does your non-traditional path benefit you?**

**//LEFT** Gohl cuts the net after she directed Minnesota State to their first-ever NCAA DII women's basketball championship in 2009 in San Antonio, Texas.

**//ABOVE** The Gohl family includes Pam, husband Eric, son Carson and daughter Cate.



//**TOP** President Brett Bradfield congratulates Gohl at the December 7 news conference where she was announced as director of athletics.

//**BOTTOM** Student-athlete Abby Feyereisen gives Gohl a congratulatory gift.

**Gohl:** I believe my background in athletics both as a student-athlete and a coach helps me connect with our current student-athletes and coaches. Furthermore, I think my years of building relationships in recruiting and on-campus will help me as I look to continue to connect with alumni, boosters and corporate sponsors in fundraising efforts through the athletic director position. The student-athlete experience should be the “why” to every athletic department, and it will be my challenge to shine a light on the student-athletes as I work with Institutional Advancement to continue to generate revenues to enhance our student-athletes’ experiences.

### With national success, why leave coaching and enter the athletics administrative world?

**Gohl:** The decision was really about pursuing a new professional challenge and family. I felt like I was being called to do use my leadership skills in another capacity. I was very intrigued about the opportunity to come to USF’s campus as USF transitioned to NCAA Division II and the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference. I thought my experiences at the DII level and relationships established in the NSIC might be of some help, and I was eager to be able to get to a higher level in the decision-making process on a college campus. In addition, as our children were getting older, my husband and I were looking for a more stable family life-style that administration seems to offer. We feel extremely blessed to be a part of this very special USF community where it’s acceptable for our kids to walk around with me on a game day.

### What is your vision for USF Athletics?

**Gohl:** Our vision is really in line with the NCAA DII’s. By that I mean to be a model of success in athletic competition, life in the balance and community engagement. And on top of that, at USF we desire that our student-athletes and coaches model Christian values, seek excellence in academic performance, grow spiritually and become involved with the greater Sioux Falls community. I love that our student-athletes can be more than just athletes. They don’t miss a lot of class and compete for championships. It doesn’t happen at the other levels. I competed in the NCAA DII regionals as a DII athlete, participated in the DII national championships as a coach, and now to see our student-athletes have similar opportunities means our focus is in the right place.

### What is your goal as athletic director?

**Gohl:** It is our responsibility to help guide and mentor student-athletes and help them prepare for their futures. It is to bring back alumni and the powerful influence they have. It is working



with Institutional Advancement to further build partnerships within the community.

**What is the role of tradition in USF Athletics?**

**Gohl:** The role of tradition is a strong one at USF. We talk about it in terms of having four pillars or main values including excellence in classroom and in competition, Culture for Service, integrity, and family. It is what we strive for every day. Since before my time to today, USF coaches have done tremendous work teaching our student-athletes how to live out these values, and I hope to continue to honor these traditions.

**What is the best thing about USF being in DII?**

**Gohl:** We have had tremendous success at USF in just seven years at DII. The Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference is a phenomenal league and USF holds its own and more. We finished fourth last spring in the league's all cup standings, which measures success across all programs. We are the only league member to earn the Presidential Award for Academic Achievement four straight years, which affirms our student-athletes graduate at a high rate (91 percent). It shows our focus is opportunity, centered through Christian faith, with a Culture for Service model to keep us fully engaged.

**What went through your mind when USF offered you this role of leading USF Athletics?**

**Gohl:** I felt really fortunate to have the opportunity. There are 308 DII institutions nationwide, and to have opportunity to be at a strong DII institution, it was a special feeling, and I felt honored. In a community like USF, it is really a dream scenario. Our coaches have been empowered to run their programs. Our staff works extraordinarily hard. Our student-athletes excel at a high level in competition and in the classroom and give generously with their time in service projects.



//**ABOVE** Gohl led Minnesota State to a 78-39 record in four years as head coach, which included a 32-2 record, NSIC title and NCAA DII Championship in 2009.

**In your view, what makes this place special?**

**Gohl:** Everybody wants the best for students and really each other. I think the Christian-centered approach helps us stay balanced in a whirlwind of activities, spurs a family perspective and living a life fully-engaged.

**Lastly, what is something about Pam Gohl that the public doesn't know?**

**Gohl:** I am a diehard Chicago Cubs fan. And I LOVE to roller skate. ■

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# USF TALENT *Shines* AT REGIONAL THEATRE FESTIVAL

"Jesus is my why, theatre is my how and service is my heart."

These are the words of Alecia Martinez, a USF grad and current visual and performing arts admissions counselor enrolled in an online graduate school program at Regent University. Alecia led a faith-based workshop at the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF) Region 5, held in Sioux Falls January 20–26.

As part of its 135-year celebration and commitment

//**LEFT** Emily Magera (left) performs Broadway choreography.

//**TOP** Rebecca Onnen receives recognition for the play she wrote, "An Armful of Marbles".

//**BOTTOM** Students experience over 100 workshops, intensives, competitions and of course live performances.









// USF theatre is more than a group—it's a family.

USF's Communication Studies and Theatre students graduate with a vast number of real-world career options, both on stage, behind the scenes and in areas such as public relations, marketing, writing, teaching and more. Performance scholarships are available to fine arts students who are encouraged to take advantage of opportunities such as KCACTF. In addition, the USF campus is home to many theatre/communications events that serve others and the City of Sioux Falls as part of the Culture for Service mission:

- JazzFest Jazz Camp
- Never the Same Camp
- Miss Siouxland Pageant
- Sioux Falls Children's Choir
- Distinguished Young Women
- South Dakota Symphony Orchestra
- Salvation Army
- All City Elementary All School Musical
- March of Dimes
- SD Army National Guard
- SD Air National Guard



// USF theatre students snap a quick photo before the awards ceremony begins.

to community support, USF was an associate host for the festival, which drew over 1,560 students from 85 schools across the region. Alecia was just one of many workshop presenters at the festival.

"As a theatre artist who believes in Jesus, I find myself walking in a predominantly secular world. It's sometimes hard to speak truth in this setting, and it can feel isolating as a believer," she explains. "So much material is not Christian. In my workshop, I spoke candidly about the Holy Spirit and how God helps guide people through what we should do versus what we must do—the things that make us come alive."

Twenty-five participants from a diverse group of schools attended the workshop, and according to Alecia, several students expressed appreciation for the Christian perspective.

"In theatre, we talk about inclusion all the time. Sexuality is an acceptable topic, but God has become a hush word. USF gave me the background and the confidence to reflect Jesus in my work, and I feel that is a gift," she explains.

This year 31 USF students participated in the weeklong festival, which took over downtown Sioux Falls. Festival events took place in venues including the Washington Pavilion, Orpheum Theatre and the historic State Theatre.

Sixty of the best dancers in the region competed to work with professional choreographers and perform in the Musical Theatre Intensive (MTI) cabaret. USF junior Emily Magera was one of the 20 students chosen to perform choreography from the Broadway musical, "42nd Street" in front of the entire festival.

Madison Rimmer and Brady Boerema competed against over 100 other acts for a chance to perform in the MTI cabaret as singers. Their duet was one of 20 acts selected to receive professional training and perform in the cabaret.

Senior Rebecca Onnen wrote one of four full-length plays chosen for national KCACTF recognition. Her play "An Armful of Marbles" took her a year to write and is part of her senior honors thesis. The play explores grief, healing and the concept of "grieving well." As part of her senior capstone project, Rebecca produced and directed the play on the USF stage February 21-24.

"I had 22 people audition for six parts," she says. "The support and collaboration I had from my peers and professors was amazing,

and it was fascinating to see my ideas come to life."

Rebecca wrote the majority of her play while studying at the University of Oxford in Oxford, England, through the USF Honors

Program, but had significant support from USF theatre advisor Joe Obermueller while abroad.

"Joe made me set a deadline, and we worked back and forth on my script through email," she says. "He is such an encouraging person. He helped me see that writing is my strength and gave me the confidence to move in that direction."

Rebecca will be notified in April on her placement in the national competition, but no matter what the outcome, she is proud of her accomplishments. "Coming to USF was such a God thing for me. I can't point to one reason for choosing USF in the beginning, but I know why I am here now. This is where I became who I am," she says. ■

**"USF GAVE ME THE  
BACKGROUND AND THE  
CONFIDENCE TO REFLECT  
JESUS IN MY WORK. . ."**



Event  
held to  
recognize

## USF students' academic excellence

On February 15, a reception was held to recognize the over 500 students who made the 2018 fall dean's list. Refreshments were served to students, their parents and faculty with a time of fellowship. A recognition announcement during halftime of the men's basketball game honored the students' rigorous academic achievement.

## Survey shows 99 percent placement for USF grads

A new survey shows 99 percent of USF graduates from the undergraduate class of 2018 were either employed or attending graduate or professional school within six months of graduation. Results are equally as impressive for USF master's degree programs in business administration and education. The same study found 99 percent of graduates secured a position or continued their education within six months of graduation.

## President Bradfield elected to local development foundation

Recently the Sioux Falls Development Foundation chose three local leaders to serve on the organization's board of directors—President Bradfield was chosen as one of these leaders. Elected through a vote of the membership, the new board members began their terms of service January 1, 2019. The SFDF is a non-profit economic development corporation with the mission of improving the economy of the Sioux Falls region.

## Students prepare for 11th Annual Research Symposium

On April 11, undergraduate students, graduate students and faculty will share their academic and creative research. The all-day, open to the public event, features numerous 15 minute research presentations on a wide variety of topics and a luncheon presentation from keynote speaker Dr. Joshua Pope, a Hispanic linguistics professor at Doane University.



Students

# COUGAR FAMILY



**ELIZABETH ENALLS '19**  
SIOUX FALLS

USF senior and Student Body President Elizabeth Enalls has worked to embrace all aspects of the USF experience. Recently Elizabeth released an original Christian song entitled “Abraham”, available for download on Spotify and Amazon Music, as part of her capstone for the honors program. “My single was both a personal goal and a part of my honors thesis,” Elizabeth says. “The single is just a taste of a greater project to come.” In the Honors Program, students engage the world of ideas, scholarship, culture and service. “I would highly recommend participation in the Honors Program,” Elizabeth says. “It is an invaluable experience to research a project, send those ideas through a refining process and have professors help guide you to a final product.”



**GABRIEL WATSON '21**  
PIEDMONT, CA

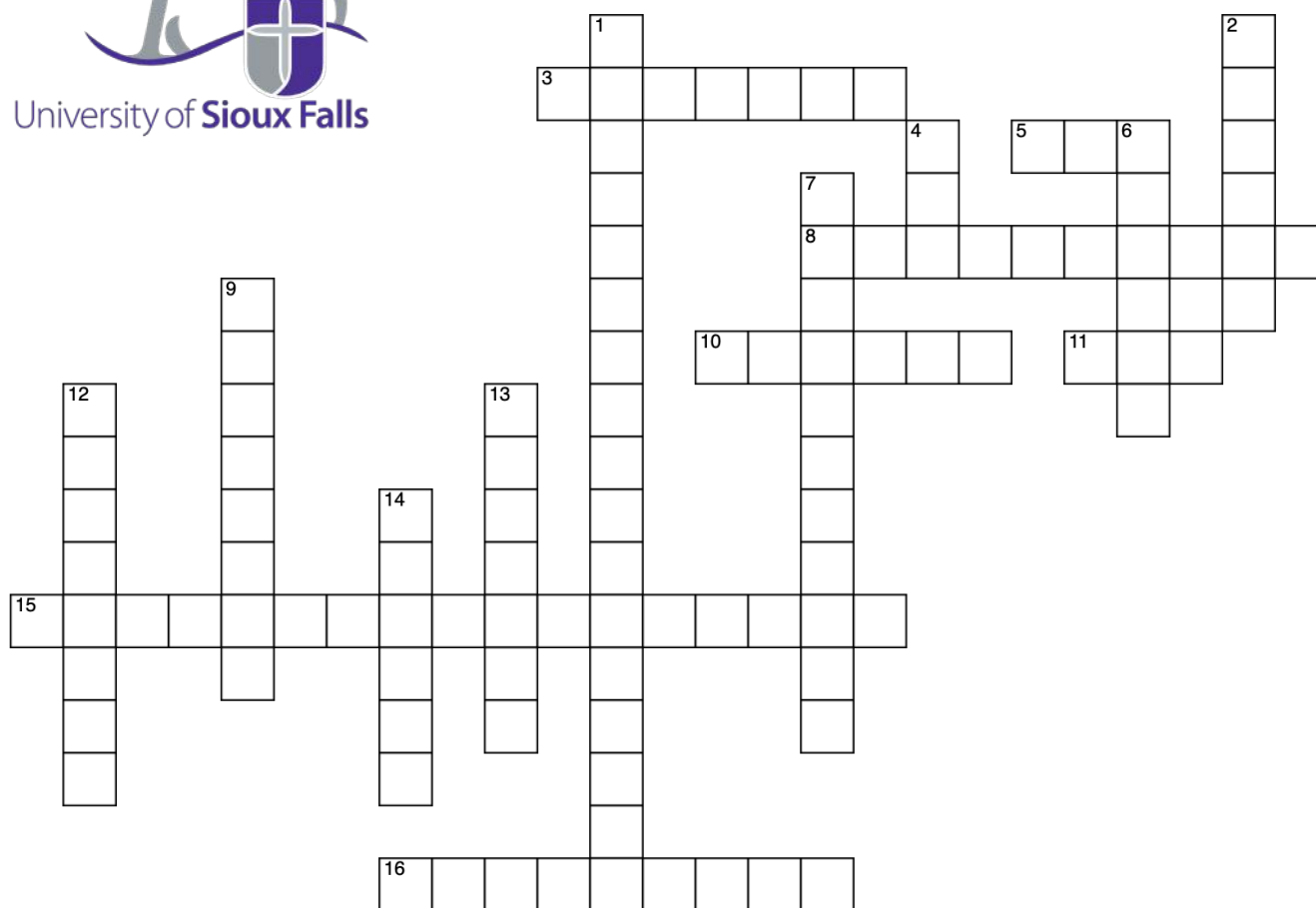
Finding a place to call home is an important part of finding the right University, just ask junior Gabe Watson. Known for his success with Cougar football as a Harlon Hill Trophy finalist and a first-team All American, Gabe was looking for the right fit in athletics and academics. “When I came on my visit to USF I felt as if I fit in the second I met with the team, and I knew that I belonged in Sioux Falls,” Gabe says. He attributes his success to his work ethic and focus, striving to be the best athlete and student that he can be. “If I am going to do something, I may as well try to be the best,” Gabe says. “As a student and athlete, I always feel like my coaches and teachers care about my interests not only on the field or in the classroom, but in my personal life as well. They have helped me feel more connected to my community which prompts me to want to be more involved.”



**RACHEL BOYER '22**  
HUDSON, SD

As a freshman psychology and sociology major, Rachel Boyer loves the liberal arts aspect of USF and says the Christian atmosphere was also a huge factor in her decision. “Before the tuition drop, the USF price tag seemed out of reach,” Rachel says. “After the reset, I felt more at ease about being able to afford USF, and I know USF will aid me in my intellectual, spiritual and individualistic growth journeys.” Neither of Rachel’s parents attended college, but her older sister also attended USF. “I am very passionate about learning and knew it was important to my future career goals that I attend college. I also thought it was important to further my education, so I could ensure a more secure future for myself,” Rachel says. After USF, Rachel’s goal is to enroll in a graduate program to pursue a masters degree in mental health counseling. “My dream is to be able to help erase the stigma behind receiving help for mental health concerns.”





## DOWN

1. The traditional motto of the University is \_\_\_\_\_ (17), that is, we seek to foster academic excellence and the development of mature Christian persons for service to God and humankind in the world.
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ (6) Feather tradition began in 1921 and continues to recognize students for outstanding contributions of scholarship, character, leadership and service.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ (3) pride is a buzz word on campus and social media to express loyalty and pride in the USF community.
6. In 1979 the \_\_\_\_\_ (6) mascot was changed to Cougars.
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ (11) tradition occurs twice a year on campus with events ranging from speed walking to figure skating as residence halls compete for the gold.
9. Established in 1963 by Lois Harchanko, Music Professor Emeritus, the \_\_\_\_\_ (8) Dinners represent one of USF's longest-standing and strongest traditions.
12. Approximately 1,500 \_\_\_\_\_ (8) from 36 states and 15 countries attend USF today.
13. University of Sioux Falls is the oldest \_\_\_\_\_ (7) institution of higher education in South Dakota that was founded within the state, even before South Dakota was a state, and it quickly moved to Sioux Falls.
14. In 1963 Grand \_\_\_\_\_ (6) Hall was built.

## ACROSS

3. The USF School of \_\_\_\_\_ (7) was founded in 2009.
5. Purple Briefcase is USF's current \_\_\_\_\_ (3) and internship database that connects employers and USF talent including current students AND alumni.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ (10) College became the University of Sioux Falls, effective January 1995.
10. Our lovable cougar mascot's name is \_\_\_\_\_ (6).
11. \_\_\_\_\_ (3) to the City is a football trophy battled for against city rival Augustana. Contrary to some theories, the oversized key does not in fact unlock all doors in the city.
15. \_\_\_\_\_ (17) is a leadership philosophy in which the main goal of the leader is to serve.
16. The \_\_\_\_\_ (9) Center is a distinct campus building with great light and a round dome. It houses the Vucurevich School of Business.

\*() Parenthesis denote number of letters in the missing word(s).

\*\*Find the answers on [usioxfalls.edu/alumni/magazine](http://usioxfalls.edu/alumni/magazine).

# Class NOTES

All notes are based on information received between July 1 and December 31, 2018.

Send us your update today at [usioxfalls.edu/alumni](http://usioxfalls.edu/alumni)!

## // CELEBRATIONS

### Alumni

**Ryan Klenner '04** and Pam adopted Abigail Stella Grace born on July 16, 2018, in Sioux Falls.

**Daniel Grenz '05** and Karla adopted Jael Tirzah born on Oct. 28, 2017, in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

**Emily (Knutson) Paulsen '06** and Jon welcomed Wilder Arne on Feb. 19, 2018, in Sioux Falls.

**Clint Thomas '07** married Twana Johnson on Nov. 24, 2018, in Marion, IN.

**Kaia (Mogen) Hedrick '09** and Kurtis welcomed Selma Jane on Sept. 17, 2018, in Sioux Falls.

**James Myers '09** married Emily Gardner on Sept. 1, 2018, in Brandon, SD.

**Bill Ballard '10** and Rachel welcomed Emmie Kay on Nov. 11, 2018, in Sioux Falls.

**Kari (Roozenboom) '10** and **Brett Quall '11** welcomed Anders Brian on Nov. 23, 2018, in Sioux Falls.

**Joe Wiltse '10** married Katrina Yde on Oct. 6, 2018, in Crooks, SD.

**Mary Egstad '11** married Aaron Juliot on Dec. 30, 2018, in Fergus Falls, MN.

**Carrie Kiewel '11** married Sam Wintersteen on Sept. 15, 2018, in Sioux Falls.

**Kalah (Matthies) Luke '11** and Steven welcomed Kaislee Mae on Oct. 9, 2018, in Sioux Falls.

**Miranda Metzger '11** married Tyler Goodchild on Aug. 1, 2018, in Lester, IA.

**Lindsay (Reinhardt) '11** and **Tony Benedetto '12** welcomed twins, Remi Laurel and Ezekiel Anthony on Feb. 15, 2018, in Garland, TX.

**Sean MacDonald '12** married Rachel Schomacker on Feb. 18, 2018, in Genesee, CO.

**Nicole Josephsen '13** married Ben Norton on July 6, 2018, in Sioux Falls.

**Lindsey (Schultz) Mengenhausen '13** and Jared welcomed Peyton Olivia on Nov. 2, 2018, in Sioux Falls.

**Erica (Tumbleson) Rayman '13** and Brett welcomed Quinn Charlotte on Jan. 31, 2018, in Sioux Falls.

**Erica Tumbleson '13** married Brett Rayman on June 23, 2018, in Sioux Falls.

**Olivia (Zantow) '13** and **Jason Rypkema '14** welcomed Beckett Daniel on Sept. 26, 2018, in Omaha, NE.

**Rachel (Olsen) Halsey '14** and Travis welcomed Simeon Platt on Nov. 25, 2018, in Huron, SD.

**Josh Leisinger '14** married Hannah Beckwith on Oct. 6, 2018, in Sioux Falls.

**Kari Lena '14** married Josh Helling on Nov. 3, 2018, in Tea, SD.

**Mollie Potter '14** married Chase Lage on July 14, 2018, in Sioux Falls.

**Debbi Jones '15** married **Bobby Kooiman '15** on Oct. 7, 2018, in Harrisburg, SD.

**Jacee McLellan '15** married Tyler Johnson on Aug. 4, 2018, in Sioux Falls.

**Lindsey Mettler '15** married Bryn Dubs on June 10, 2018, in Sioux Falls.

**Kayla (McMahon) Wynia '15** and Jim welcomed Hattie Rae on Sept. 26, 2018, in Sioux Falls.

**Victoria Dwyer '16** married Aaron Boese on Oct. 28, 2018, in Freeman, SD.

**Dakota (Harper) '16** and **Tyler Reidmann '16** welcomed Jacob Andrew on Nov. 26, 2018 in Omaha, NE.

**Colleen Thompson '16** married Isaac Parsons on Aug. 19, 2018, in Canton, SD.

**Grace Bootsma '17** married **Alex Collins '17** on Sept. 15, 2018, in Sioux Falls.

**Emily Erickson '17** married **Clint Thomas '17** on June 23, 2018, in Fort Collins, CO.

**Laura Kunz '17** married **Israel Parsons '18** on Oct. 14, 2018, in Sioux Falls.

**Jada (Plath) '17** and **Witt Dobesh '17** welcomed Audrey Ann on Aug. 24, 2018, in Sioux Falls.

**Devon Comp '18** married Lexi Westra on Sept. 23, 2018, in Sioux Falls.

**Tiffany Hooten '18** married Daron Reaves on Sept. 1, 2018, in Sioux Falls.

### Faculty & Staff

**Sandy Biewer** and Chris welcomed Linden Elliott on Oct. 2, 2018, in Sioux Falls.

## // IN MEMORIAL

### Alumni

**Jean (Jensen) Group '40**, Aug. 26, 2018, Louisville, NE

**Jean (Goodbarn) Hawthorne '42**, Nov. 29, 2018, Rapid City, SD

**Eldon Bills '53**, Dec. 17, 2018, Cottonwood, AZ

**John "Jack" Pickart '59**, Aug. 10, 2018, Chancellor, SD

**Rodney "Rod" Birger '61**, Sept. 9, 2018, Tea, SD

**William "Bill" Fisher '64**, July 27, 2018, Irene, SD

**James "Jim" Henjum '64**, Sept. 28, 2018, Sioux Falls

**Ronald "Ron" Bonenberger '65**, Aug. 7, 2018, Lyons, WI

**Josephine (Lillemo) Burch '65**, July 20, 2018, Rapid City, SD

**Lawrence "Larry" Behl '66**, Dec. 25, 2018, Aurora, CO

**Loran Tilley '66**, Oct. 16, 2018, Grand Island, NE

**Lena (Williams) Nelson '68**, Dec. 14, 2018, Sioux Falls

**Virgil Tinklenberg '69**, July 4, 2018, Spokane, WA

**Clifford "Cliff" O'Connor '70**, Aug. 3, 2018, Sioux Falls

**Gladys (Poppenga) Fodness '71**, Aug. 13, 2018, Sioux Falls

**James "Jim" Anderson '72**, Sept. 28, 2018, Martinez, CA

**Bonnie (Rauch) Hoover '72**, Dec. 10, 2018, Canton, SD

**Marsha (Mydland) Marty '73**, July 7, 2018, Sioux Falls

**Jeffrey "Jeff" Morris '74**, Nov. 9, 2018, Lake Tomahawk, WI

**Barbara (Herrick) Seivert '77**, Sept. 26, 2018, Renner, SD

**LeAnn Torney '80**, Oct. 6, 2018, Burt, IA

**Mark Kenyon '82**, Dec. 8, 2018, Sioux City, IA

**N. Kris (Harrison) Davison '83**, Feb. 16, 2018, Lubbock, TX

**Julie (Banks) Banks '84**, July 23, 2018, Salt Lake City, UT

**Gregory Grabill '86**, Feb. 22, 2018, Sun City, AZ

**Jeff Timmerman '87**, Aug. 18, 2018, Lennox, SD

**Connie (Vandentop) Evenson '00**, Sept. 5, 2018, Sioux Falls

**Robert "Bob" Johnson '09**, Nov. 3, 2018, Sioux Falls

**William "Bill" Brockmueller '15**, Dec. 10, 2018, Providence, RI

### Friends

**Robert "Bob" Elmen**, July 26, 2018, Sioux Falls

**Telfer Epp**, Dec. 27, 2018, New Orleans, LA

**Donald H. Lambert**, July 1, 2018, Sioux Falls

**Harold Nyhaug**, Dec. 9, 2018, Irene, SD

**Ronald "Ron" Schallenkamp**, Aug. 2, 2018, Sioux Falls

Do you want to honor the outstanding achievements of fellow alumni? Submit your alumni achievement award nominations before May 1. Visit [usioxfalls.edu/alumni/awards](http://usioxfalls.edu/alumni/awards).



Alumni

# COUGAR FAMILY

## **MAT '01 & SARA '02 NELSON** | SALES REPRESENTATIVE AT AVI SYSTEMS & SENIOR PASTOR AT FIRST UNITED METHODIST



USF alumni Sara and Mat Nelson seek to make God's love visible and real to others in very different ways. Sara serves as senior pastor at First United Methodist Church in Watertown, and Mat works as a sales representative at AVI Systems, an audiovisual company. USF's focus on service provided them the opportunity to participate in domestic and international mission trips and helped prepare them for these diverse careers. "Without a doubt, those experiences greatly influenced my desire to make a difference for Christ in the world," Sara says. The couple remains connected with USF since graduating. "USF continues to make a big difference in the lives of students at a critical time in their lives, which is why we support USF both with our financial gifts and by staying connected with what is happening," she says. In 2016 Sara and Mat established an endowment to support the Women in Leadership Award given each year to a deserving female student who demonstrates leadership, integration of Christian mission of the University, and a heart for serving others.

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## **TREVOR HOLLEMAN, DDS, '10** | ORAL AND FACIAL SURGEON

Since July of 2018, Dr. Trevor Holleman has served as an oral and facial surgeon at River Ridge Oral & Maxillofacial Surgical Center in Sioux Falls. In his personal and professional life, Dr. Holleman strives to incorporate USF's mission of service by serving all whom he encounters in the best possible way. "I strive to be the best surgeon I can be, in the OR, clinic and community. I want my legacy to be not only about surgical skills, though, but more about my compassion and care for the people I serve," Dr. Holleman says. Along with over 40 former student-athletes, Dr. Holleman was a member of the NAIA Championship Football Teams of 2008 and 2009 that were inducted into the University of Sioux Falls Athletics Hall of Fame. "From playing football, to my time in the labs, to all the friends I still cherish today, my entire college experience is a great memory for me."



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## **MARK MILLER '96** | JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL MATHEMATICS INSTRUCTOR



In October of 2018, Mark Miller was appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Education to the National Assessment Governing Board to assist in setting policy for the National Assessment of Educational Progress. "I recognize this rare opportunity for a teacher to be on the development, implementation and governing side of education," Miller says. "I am very excited to collaborate with other educators, government officials, researchers and business representatives and to give a voice to the millions of teachers and students that are in class," he says. Miller has been teaching mathematics for over 20 years and currently chairs the mathematics department at a junior high school in Colorado where he also teaches. USF interim trips to Chicago and Mexico required him to step out of his comfort zone and meet students in their environment. "These experiences inspired me to build relationships with students, to care for the whole child, to deliver a message of hope, and to prepare them for a world yet imagined. I am very thankful to the USF faculty that modeled these values to me through their care and support of me as a student."

# GET INVOLVED



## April

- 10-13 **USF Theatre presents "She Loves Me"**, 7 p.m., Meredith Auditorium
- 14 **USF Theatre presents "She Loves Me"**, 2 p.m., Meredith Auditorium
- 11 **USF Research Symposium**, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Cleveland Professional Development Center
- 13 **Women's Golf** Augustana Spring Invitational, Prairie Green Golf Course
- 13 **Women's Tennis** vs NSIC Tournament, Minnetonka, MN
- 16 **Softball** vs. Augustana, 3 p.m. and 5 p.m., Sioux Falls

16 **Baseball** vs. Augustana, 4 p.m. and 6 p.m., Sioux Falls

## May

- 1 **Alumni Achievement Award** nominations due. Visit: [usiouxfalls.edu/alumni/awards](http://usiouxfalls.edu/alumni/awards).
- 11 **USF Music Spring Instrumental Concert**, 7 p.m., Jeschke Fine Arts Center
- 12 **USF Music Spring Choir Concert**, 4 p.m., Meredith Auditorium
- 14 **Spirit of Excellence Awards Program**, 10 a.m., Meredith Auditorium

19 **Graduate Commencement Ceremony**, 10 a.m., Washington Pavilion

19 **Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony**, 2:30 p.m., Washington Pavilion

## June

21 **SID Shootout** golf tournament at Spring Creek Golf Course

## July

19 **USF Football Golf Outing**, 10 a.m., Grand Falls Casino & Golf Resort



University of  
**Sioux Falls**

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For exact dates and times, please visit [usiouxfalls.edu](http://usiouxfalls.edu) // [usfcougars.com](http://usfcougars.com) // 605-331-6600 // 1101 W. 22nd Street