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New master’s programs on campus, Eagerheart to celebrate 75 years of joy, SC professor’s Newsweek essay

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COVER
Congratulations Class of ’07!

SECOND COVER
An impromptu chest bump at April 20’s employee recognition event celebrated 40 years of service by SC faculty members Phil Schmidt and Max Thompson. These good sports later recreated the moment for a photographer.

Unless otherwise credited, photos by Sunni L. Sheets, Charlie Owen ’94, Eloy Mendoza ’06, Monica Springer ’08, and Sara Weinert.

Unless otherwise credited, stories by Sara Severance Weinert.

administration viewpoint
Each year at about this time, I suffer from empyema. syndrome.

A few weeks ago a couple hundred of “my” kids walked across the stage and received congratulations as new graduates of Southwestern College. They packed their cars and drove away from Southwestern, ready for new lives that for the first time in several years will not include returning to Winfield in the fall.

This year I have a special empathy with these students. As a doctoral student for the past 30 months, I knew the pressure that comes from combining school with a job, I know the sleepless nights that result from too many tasks in too few hours, I knew the bone-deep creep of panic that sets in when “I know I could do better” meets “I don’t have time.” I was deeply relieved when I successfully completed my degree, but I still felt a pang of loss and knew I would miss the intellectual stimulation and wonderful classmates I had gained in my program.

But the new SC graduates, like me, have been fortunate. We’ve learned from the best and been surrounded by the brightest. This combination means I now have an unquenchable and ineradicable love of learning, a love that will last a lifetime.

Welcome to your life, Class of 2007. We’re new graduates, but we won’t stop learning.

Dawn Pleas-Bailey
Vice President for Student Life
Dean of Students

SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE PRESIDENT
Dick Merriman

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Sara Severance Weinert, editor; Sunni L. Sheets, graphic designer; Susan Lowe ’95, director of alumni programs; Nan Hinson ’97, alumni notes coordinator; Charles Owen ’94, news bureau/communications assistant.
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Communicate with The Southwesterner:
E-mail: Sara.Weinert@sckans.edu
Write to: Sara Weinert
Southwestern College
100 College St.
Winfield, KS 67156-2499

Board of Trustees

Visit Southwestern College’s home page at www.sckans.edu