Kansan returns to head SC fund raising

DeAnn Dockery is now Southwestern College’s vice president for institutional advancement. She began her duties on Jan. 13 and will supervise staff with responsibility for alumni, annual fund, major gifts, and other development functions.

“I am very excited to join Southwestern,” Dockery says. “From the moment I stepped on campus, it felt like a great fit. It is a tremendous college with wonderful history and traditions. I am looking forward to being part of that and experiencing what it really means to be a Builder!”

Dockery comes to Southwestern as a Certified Fund Raising Professional (CFRE) with 22 years of experience in nonprofit fund raising and management and five years of experience in sales and marketing with a multinational corporation, and extensive volunteer experience.

“DeAnn’s extensive fund-raising experience, including in the private education sector, combined with her Kansas roots, add up to a great fit for Southwestern,” says Southwestern College president Dick Merriman. “I know our alumni and friends will enjoy getting to know her and I look forward to her leadership for our fund-raising and friend-raising programs.”

Prior to coming to Southwestern, Dockery was the Community Hospice Foundation executive director and vice president of philanthropy at Community Hospice of Northeast Florida, a $90 million nonprofit hospice and palliative care organization serving 7,000 patients and their families each year in the five counties of Northeast Florida. As chief development officer, she managed the Community Hospice Foundation board of directors and oversaw $14 million in endowed and non-endowed investment funds.

Dockery is a native of Overbrook, located 20 miles south of Topeka. She earned two bachelor’s degrees from Kansas State University. Her husband and two children will be joining her in Winfield.

In addition to a new vice president, the Office of Institutional Advancement has seen several additional changes in staff in the past year:

**Mike Farrell ’68** has retired from the position of vice president but will continue to serve the college as a gift officer on a part-time basis.

**Charles McKinzie** has joined the staff as gift officer following the retirement of Ronnie Jenkins.

**Jessica Dibble ’09** is director of the annual fund. (Jessica Falk accepted a position as director of camps and conferences at Southwestern.)

**Steve McCann** is coordinator of advancement services.

**Holly Peterson** (formerly faculty assistant in nursing) is administrative assistant.

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**S’no more!**

Below-freezing temperatures kept February’s snow on the ground too long for some members of the football team who had been practicing indoors. Ricky Higuera and Justin Owens break out the snow shovels to clear a space for off-season drills.
November 18 started off as just another day for Southwestern College basketball player Cameron Rodriguez. He went to class and practice, and then traveled to Oklahoma City to watch a National Basketball Association contest between the Oklahoma City Thunder and the Denver Nuggets. As he was walking through the Chesapeake Energy Arena concourse, though, he was approached by a member of the Thunder promotions staff, who asked Rodriguez to participate in a halftime promotion in which he could shoot a half-court shot for the chance to win $20,000. Rodriguez agreed, signed the necessary paperwork, and started preparing mentally for his opportunity.

When halftime came, Rodriguez stepped onto the court, made a running start, and launched the basketball toward the goal. As the ball swished through the net, the arena went crazy, and Rodriguez celebrated his $20,000 prize. But even as the hubbub was winding down, Rodriguez realized that he might not be able to accept the money.

Under National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics rules student-athletes cannot accept monetary awards using their sport as a means of profit; according to these rules he would either have to reject the money or forfeit his eligibility. So Rodriguez called head coach Matt O’Brien, who called SC athletic director Dave Denly, and the next morning, a call was placed to the NAIA national office. Could Rodriguez accept the $20,000 as a scholarship?

It was nearly a month later when NAIA officials announced that Rodriguez would be allowed to retain his winnings as a scholarship, a decision that drew praise for Southwestern College, the Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference, and the NAIA.

“We are proud of our student-athlete for doing the right thing in contacting his coach before he did anything else,” President Dick Merriman said when the ruling was announced. “We are also proud of the NAIA for doing the right thing in their ruling, and are pleased with the outcome of the situation.”

So if the NAIA had decided the prize made Rodriguez ineligible to compete at Southwestern, how would he reacted? When Rodriguez drained the shot on Nov. 18, he was not eligible to compete on the men’s basketball team due to transfer eligibility issues. He was to be cleared following the fall semester, but had no guarantee of playing time. Nevertheless, Rodriguez says the thought of giving up his eligibility never crossed his mind.

“I knew that we had a chance to be a very good team, and I knew that I wanted to do whatever I could to contribute, whether it meant playing two minutes or 35 minutes per game,” Rodriguez says. “Being a 23-year old sophomore, the chance to play basketball was much more important to me than money. If I took the money and left, my competitive basketball career would be over, and I’m not ready for that yet.

The entire situation has actually made Rodriguez a better half-court shooter. In early interviews, Rodriguez told reporters that he struggled to make half-court shots in practice. But repeated requests for him to shoot half-court shots have changed that.

“If I were to shoot 100 half court shots, I honestly feel like I could make 15–25,” Rodriguez said. “I’ve had a lot of practice thanks to the Thunder situation, so I’ve got a lot of confidence in them now!”
The U.S. News and World Report 2014 rankings of the best online programs have been announced and Southwestern College Professional Studies (SCPS) is listed in three of the six categories.

With nearly 1,000 distance education programs completing the survey, SCPS earned a #84 ranking for best online graduate education program, #112 ranking for best online bachelor’s program, and a #164 ranking for best online graduate business program.

“Southwestern College Professional Studies is honored to continue to receive recognition for our online programs from U.S. News,” says Pamela Monaco, vice president and chief academic officer at SCPS. “Online college students want high quality programs that not only intellectually engage them but also provide the means for meaningful engagement with other learners and faculty. We listen to our learners and the marketplace in our dedication to providing students with the education that will give them career opportunities.”

Southwestern College has been offering online bachelor’s degree programs since 2001. All of the classes are delivered via the internet so students can access course material at their own convenience. Online learning provides the flexibility to complete educational goals while meeting work and family obligations.

“Education programs at Southwestern College engage learners at all levels of learning,” says Cameron Carlson, dean of education at Southwestern College. “Our program desires to educate all learners to serve PK-12 schools. Into all programming, we integrate five components: content and pedagogy, instruction and assessment, collaboration, leadership, and reflection and growth. We are pleased to be recognized for providing a quality program.”

To view the complete rankings, go to www.usnews.com/education.

Susan Backofen has joined the staff of Southwestern College’s Professional Studies unit as the new vice president for enrollment management. Backofen will be responsible for recruitment and retention of adult learners and will supervise staff related to these efforts.

“Our service to adult learners through online instruction means we are recruiting learners nationally and internationally. We are in a highly competitive environment that requires sophisticated use of technology combined with timely, high-touch service. Susan Backofen stood out in our search in terms of experience and track record. I’m pleased the college was able to hire her and think she’ll help us thrive,” said President Dick Merriman.

Backofen joins SC with more than 15 years experience in student recruitment and retention management. She has experience with many of the marketing techniques necessary in reaching adult learners, such as web strategies, search engine optimization, and search engine marketing.

Backofen has led enrollment management programs at Mountain State University and the University of Charleston, both in West Virginia. She has also been administrator in the adult-serving program at Ottawa University in Kansas.
Don Phillip Gibson ’61 was honored on Dec. 23, 2013, which was his birthday, for 49 years as church organist at First Presbyterian Church of Winfield, Kansas. The theme of the evening was a Gold Rush Forty-Niner party, and Winfield Mayor Greg Thompson read a proclamation declaring the day Don Phillip Gibson Day. Following the dinner and birthday cake with twin brother Benn Gibson, lifelong friend Jim Leland performed an organ recital to provide a musical element to the celebration.

Judy (Fairchild) Brown ’63 remembers well meeting her husband, Jon Brown ’64, at SC in 1962, attending a formal with him and dancing to the Dorsey Band. Their first dance was in the Student Center, and the band was playing “Moon River.” The Browns celebrated their 50th anniversary on Dec. 29, 2013, in Overbrook, Kan.

Newt and Doris Richardson ’63 celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on Dec. 26, 2013, with a family party at the home of their son-in-law and daughter, George ’74 and Susan (Richardson) Lowe ’76/’95. Over 30 family members were there. Other Moundbuilders in attendance were Stan and Ann (Myers) Richardson ’77/’79, Scott ’98 and Dana Lowe, and Jeff ’01 and Brooke (Youle) Lowe ’01.

Robert “Bob” Niles ’69 has joined Herrman Realty in Arkansas City as a real estate agent. Bob recently retired from Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad. He and his wife, Bonnie ’70, also an agent at Herrman Realty, owned and operated Harvey’s Fashions and Mr. Harvey’s for over 29 years.

Sherry (Galloway) Willis ’70, ’95, author of Cowboy Tad the Triangle Man, now has her second book, Rex the Mighty Rectangle, available. These books teach not only basic shapes but also the concepts of courage, friendship, acceptance of differences, and standing up to bullies.

Sue (Kraus) Ferree ’73 recently moved to the Denver area when her husband, Richard, retired after 34 years in family practice in McPherson.

The Kansas Association for Justice honored F. James “Jim” Robinson, Jr. ’80 with a Distinguished Service Award in 2013. This honor is part of the organization’s annual recognition of those who have made significant contributions to justice. Jim was selected for his tireless efforts on behalf of merit selection for the appellate courts and for preservation of a fair and impartial judiciary in Kansas. He has been hugely influential in urging attorneys to step up and take a stand to protect the impartiality of the judiciary in Kansas.

Matt ’83 and Laura Bradbury are the parents of a daughter, Katherine Elaine, born Nov. 25, 2013. Katherine joins a sister, Sierra. Grandparents are Jim ’71 and Charlotte ’89 Buterbaugh and Bob and Kay Bradbury.

Jerry Kill ’84 was inducted into the Southern Illinois University Athletic Hall of Fame on Jan. 31, 2014. Jerry is currently the head football coach for the University of Minnesota Golden Gophers, but before going to Minnesota, he coached SIU football. At SIU, he inherited a program that had 11 straight losing seasons, but after Jerry took over, the Salukis were 55-32, including 50-18 his last five years there.

Keith Kuretich ’84, police chief of Fort Morgan, Colo., retired Sept. 6, 2013, after nearly 30 years of service. Kuretich will begin a new job as a criminalist with the Colorado Division of Marijuana Enforcement that oversees both the medical and recreational industries.

Sharon Taylor ’85, former professor of nursing, has joined Hermann Real Estate Appraisal and Management in Winfield. Taylor, a licensed real estate agent, will also assist buyers in planning remodeling projects and improving newly purchased properties. Sharon retired from Southwestern in 2003.

Monty Lewis ’86 became the all-time wins leader as head football coach at Friends University during the 2013 season.
The old record was 71 wins. Friends won its 72nd game under Lewis versus Sterling College on Oct. 21, 2013. Lewis’s record at Friends is 77-36, a winning percentage of .680. His overall record of 137-68 is a .670 percentage, which puts him fifth all-time in the NAIA. Monty also is all-time wins leader as coach at Southwestern College.

1990s

Gloria (Morey) Gifford ’93 has joined the faculty at Norman (Okla.) North High School as a Spanish teacher.

Robert “Don” Gifford ’93, an assistant U.S. Attorney in Oklahoma City, was named by the Oklahoma Bar Association as the state’s Prosecutor of the Year. Don also currently serves as the Chair of Military and Veterans Law section and on the Board of Governors for the Oklahoma Bar Association.

2000s

Jeffrey Lowe ’01, an attorney in Wichita, has been selected as a rising star attorney in the family law category in the 2013 edition of Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers. Additionally, Lowe has recently been accepted as a fellow into the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers.

Monica Morrison ’05 married Eric Cooper of Salina on March 15, 2013. The Coopers are at home in Abilene.

JJ Marafioti ’05 married Carl Titterington on Dec. 22, 2013, at the Marland Mansion in Ponca City, Okla. The Titteringtons are at home in Winfield.

Erick Byrd ’06 married Sheila Gall on May 19, 2013. Erick is currently an E4 Specialist with the Army, and will be serving overseas in Germany until 2016.

Kenna Corley ’08 has returned to Southwestern College as coordinator of social media, with duties in the admission and communications offices. She will be responsible for building relationships online through Facebook, Twitter, and other new media, as well as having photography and graphic design responsibilities. After graduation from SC Kenna earned a degree in interior design from Wichita Area Technical College. She had done freelance design work and was graphic designer at a Texas church before returning to Winfield in December.

2010s

Shelley Hoffman ’10, Professional Studies affiliate faculty, was named Central District PE Teacher of the Year by the Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance. This district includes six states. She now will compete to be National PE Teacher of the Year in St. Louis the first week in April.

Ashton Sudduth ’13 and Tim Miller ’11 were married on May 11, 2013, in Winfield where Tim was the director of music at the First Presbyterian Church. Since then, the Millers have moved to California where Tim is pursuing his M.Div. from The Master’s Seminary.

SC receives bequest from Harold W. Deets

Long before he passed away last fall, Harold Deets made a decision that ensures his gifts to Southwestern College will continue every year into the future. Not only did Harold provide for SC in his estate plans, he directed that his final gift create an endowment to support the Harold and Mary Ellen Deets Library at SC. In the mid-2000s, Deets made a large gift to renovate the library. His total giving for the library totaled $1 million.

“The beauty of endowment is that the dollars are invested and will forever provide annual income to the college,” said DeAnn Dockery, SC’s vice president for institutional advancement.

Endowments can be established for a variety of programs, including student scholarship endowments starting at the $5,000 giving level. For more information about establishing an estate gift and/or endowment giving, contact the Office of Institutional Advancement at 620-229-6279 or DeAnn Dockery at deann.dockery@sckans.edu.
Edythe Wendt '35 died April 2 in Newton. Edythe was retired from KGE as a home demonstrator. She was a long-time member of First United Methodist Church and active in the community, volunteering with numerous organizations including the Bloodmobile and Asbury Park. A great friend to many and a loving aunt, she is survived by several nieces and nephews.

Dr. Hobart “Paul” Boles '39 died Jan. 2, 2014. Dr. Boles was honored as a member of the inaugural class of the Southwestern College Natural Science Hall of Fame in 2001 for his outstanding career. He was a dedicated professional entomologist. His positions included associate professor of biology, Huron College; assistant professor of entomology, University of Arkansas; research entomologist, USDA, stored rice insects lab, Houston; stored products insects lab, Savannah, Ga.; US grain marketing research center, Manhattan, Kan.; adjunct assistant professor, Department of Entomology, KSU; and assistant entomologist at Kansas Agricultural Experiment Station until retirement. Dr. Boles published 50 research papers in the field of entomology. A World War II veteran, he is survived by his daughter, Cathy Amara, and her husband, Don, one granddaughter, and one great-granddaughter. His daughter stated, “My father loved Southwestern. We brought him back for his 50th reunion.”

Betty (Birchenough) Rayl '43 died Jan. 3, 2014. Betty was a teacher for Kansas City, Kan., public schools for over 30 years. She is survived by two sons, Jan and Chris; and by four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Doris (Highfill) Rose '43 died Jan. 12, 2013. She was the widow of Malcolm Evans Rose '42. According to her son, Bruce, Doris had a long, full life and the family enjoyed the last eight years when she lived in Junction City and they were able to spend time with her and hear stories of when she met and fell in love with Malcolm at Southwestern College.

Rachel Shockey '45 passed away Nov. 6, 2013, in Riverview Manor Nursing Home, Oxford. Rachel worked as a nurse’s aide at Winfield Rest Haven for 25 years, retiring at the age of 75. She enjoyed flowers and gardening. Survivors include her son, Willard; daughters, Carmen Stanislaø, Annette Long, Donna Heeney, and Karen Schenck; nine grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Albert Caywood '48 died at the Ardmore Veterans Center following a brief illness. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy; and daughter, Mikelann Caywood-Baerg.

Donald King '51 passed away Jan. 4, 2014, in Arkansas City. Don proudly served his country in the Army Air Corps during World War II and worked for Boeing Aircraft in Wichita his entire career, retiring in 1983. Don is survived by three sons and three daughters.

LeRoy Young '50 died Oct. 21, 2013, in Dewey, Okla. LeRoy was employed as an aircraft sheet metal worker for most of his working life. His hobby was playing bluegrass music in the Desert Rhythm band. LeRoy is survived by daughters, Linda Nelson and husband, Terry, and LaDonna McCune; three grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Art Modschiedler '58 died on Nov. 24, 2013. Art was a successful businessman, making a career with Travelers Insurance Company. In August of this year, he and his college sweetheart, Sharyll (Vincent) '62, celebrated their 53rd wedding anniversary. Art was an active alumnus of Southwestern College, which honored him in 2003 with induction into the SC Business Hall of Fame. In 2008, he filled the role of class host for his 50-year reunion. Art’s 77th birthday was on Nov. 11, 2013. In addition to his wife, Sharyll, he is survived by son Todd, daughter Tara Fleming, their families, and a brother, Kon Modschiedler '59.

Gerald McGee '63 passed away Dec. 15, 2013, at the Iowa Methodist Medical Center in Des Moines. Gerald had served for many years as a United Methodist minister and had devoted his life to his wife and family. He enjoyed model railroads and railroad history; and had published several articles on that history. Those left to honor Gerald’s memory include his wife, Winonah (Evans) '64, daughter Elisa Gatz, son Todd, and five grandchildren.

Harold Porter '64 of Ft. Collins, Colo. died November 14. Harold worked as an engineer and inventor through the 1960s and 1970s for a variety of engineering firms including Gates Rubber Company, Schlumberger, and WaterPik. His tinkering with early home computers in the 1970s led him into a career as a computer software and hardware consultant. He was an advocate of reason as a force for personal liberty. He is survived by sons Mark '84 and Lael '92, three grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. Lael Porter is the manager of Richardson Performing Arts Center.

Kingsford David '68 passed away Dec. 5, 2013, in Smithville, Mo., following a lengthy illness. David was the founding pastor of the Fellowship of Love Church in Kansas City, Kan., and a member of the Senior Singers who sang for nursing homes and retirement communities. He is survived by his wife, JoAnn, nine children, 17 grandchildren, and 14 great-grandchildren.

Ruth (Dyer) Littell '69 died on Nov. 22, 2013. She was the widow of Gene Littell '71, who died in February 2012. She is survived by daughter Edie (Littell) McLain '73/‘92, son Jim Littell '77, and several grandchildren.

Catherine (Stover) Pottorff '73, died on Dec. 14, 2013, in Boulder, Colo. She taught school for over 22 years in Douglass, Kan. Catherine is survived by her children, James, Richard, Mark, Mike, Stephen, Mary Hill, Timothy, and 13 grandchildren.

Joseph Calise RN '74 died Dec. 14, 2013, in Las Vegas, Nev. He was dedicated to his profession and a proud American. A loving husband and father, he is survived by his wife, Diane, three children, Joseph, Jamie, and Kim Beckers, and three grandchildren.

Diana Foiles '83 passed away Jan. 5, 2014, at her home in Lyndon. Diana was
employed at the Wal-Mart store in Ottawa. Diana is survived by her husband, Gary; a son, Alex; and a daughter, Grace.

Woo Sun “Michael” Chang ’99 died on Nov. 4, 2013, in Wichita. He and his wife were en route to Mid-Continent Airport, to return home to South Korea.

DEATHS OF FRIENDS

Chelsea Jean Larsen, daughter of Marcia (Hinegardner) Larsen (deceased) and Ed ’97 and Colleen Larsen of Katy, Texas, died Dec. 26, 2013, from injuries suffered in a traffic accident. In addition to her parents, she is survived by siblings Matt Larsen, Abbey Larsen, Mark Larsen, Stacey Larsen, Jacob & Cristin Tiernan-Larsen, Daniel Larsen, Tabitha Bruce, Miranda Calhoun and Austin Calhoun.

Rev. Mel Short, Manhattan, died Dec. 3, 2013. A United Methodist minister, he was a trustee and Honorary Doctor of Divinity at Southwestern College. Mel’s wife, Gloria, died in 2012. He is survived by their four children and families: David ’74, Kathy (Short) Stone ’74, Steve ’78, and Marsha (Short) Kedigh ’81; and by his brother, Rev. Kenneth Short ’54, and his sister, Janet (Short) Hopkins ’63.

Dr. James Ray Wintle, a well-known composer, stalwart advocate for the arts in Oklahoma, and professor of music theory and composition at Southwestern College from 1969 to 1971, died on Nov. 16, 2013. He is survived by his wife, Betty Jane, and their two children, Anne (Wintle) Ortega, and James Emerson Wintle.

Founders Day Weekend

For more information on these events, call 620-229-6279. Space is limited and RSVP required for meals.

Friday, April 11

2 p.m. Presentation by Dr. Stephen Woodburn, author of a translation of Nikolai Danilevskii’s *Russia and Europe: The Slavic World’s Political and Cultural Relations with the Germanic-Roman West*, Deets Library. This is the first translation into English of this work, which was first published in 1869 and has had eight new editions since 1991. Book-signing to follow

Leaders in Service Hall of Fame for the Social Sciences: 5:30 p.m. unveiling of plaques, 6 p.m. dinner, Deets Library

Inductees: Bishop Bruce Blake, Harry H. Dunn ’23, and Pedro M. Esquivel ’62

Saturday, April 12

9 a.m. Dedication of TOMARI Theatrical Arts and Technologies Center

Fine Arts Hall of Fame: 10:30 a.m. reception, Darbeth lobby; 11 a.m. induction, Messenger Recital Hall

Inductees: George M. Cole ’63, Loren B. Crawford ’34, and Ronald K. Curfman ’64

Business Hall of Fame: 12:30 p.m. unveiling of plaques; 12:45 p.m. luncheon, Deets Library.

Inductees: Rodney C. Kreie ’77, James L. Richardson ’70, and Merle D. Sharick ’68

Business Builder Award: Sandy Foust (S & Y Industries)

Educators Hall of Fame: 3:30 p.m. reception, 4 p.m. induction, Deets Library

Inductees: Frank D. Davidson ’79, John W. Marshall ’70, and Ronda Jo (Sims) Marshall ’70

Scholars Hall of Fame: 3:30 p.m. reception, 4:45 p.m. induction, Deets Library

Inductees: Marilyn (Brown) Corbin ’70, and Everett V. Samuelson ’48

BIRTHS


A son, Grant, born Nov. 21, 2013, to Dennis ’01 and Brandy (Richardson) Coogler ’01. Grant has a brother, Gage (2).

A daughter, Eva Julia, born Nov. 4, 2013, to Nate and Abby (Brummett) Snodgrass ’04. Moundbuilder grandparents are Mike ’79 and Karla (Will) Brummett ’74, and great-grandparents are Dick ’42 and Mary (Williams) ’47 Brummett.

A son, Granten Alexander, born Nov. 21, 2013, to Shane and Tara (Williams) Harper ’04. Granten has a sister, Katey (5) and a brother, Isaac (3).

A daughter, Annabelle Lynn, born Oct. 27, 2013, to Warren ’05 and Theresa Bergquist, Chesterfield, Mo.


A son, Easton Dallas, born Oct. 21, 2013, to Ryan and Katie (Burrow) Cody ’07. Easton has a sister, Henley (3).

A daughter, Emma Grace Findley Robinson, born Nov. 13, 2013, to Brian ’04 and Ashley (Findley) ’09 Robinson. She has a brother, John (4).

A daughter, Arya LaRue, born Nov. 6, 2013, to Elynne (Fell) ’11 and Chaz West. Mike ’77 and Ann Fell are the grandparents.
NOW, IT'S A SNAP TO CELEBRATE A BIG WIN, AN
AWESOME PLAY, OR YOUR FAVORITE PLAYERS.
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TO SUPPORT OUR MOUNDBUILDERS. EASY. DONE.