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New degree, new faculty, new campaign, new honors

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Mike and Jackie Foster, alumni calendar

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COVER



The Class of 2010 bonded at Builder Camp, as evidenced in this photo by Xavier Whitaker, director of student life. See more of the new freshmen on pages 6-7.

SECOND COVER

Painting a rock for the Mound requires special concentration, captured by photographer Shan Szetho '05. See a story on Mound renovation on page 3.

Photos in this issue are by Josiah Chieng '04 (pages 6-7), Shan Szetho '05, Sunni L. Sheets, and Charles Osen '94.

Stories by Sara Severance Weinert

From the President



Dear friends,

As I write this the college is going through its annual moment of acceleration. Young people have returned to the hill and working adults – many of whom are resuming their studies after a long hiatus – are returning to the classroom.

Being with these two groups of learners is a study in contrasts. One thing eighteen-year-olds have is time. They are hungry for new experiences and new connections with people and it seems to me that they are quite heedless of time. Their whole lives are ahead of them; what's the hurry? Adult learners, by contrast, have lots of life experience and their people connections – to family, schools, church, co-workers – are well established. What they lack is time; "Let's get on with it" is their motto.

It's a tribute to the agility of Southwestern that we can serve them all extraordinarily well. So well, in fact, that for the second straight year, the *U.S. News and World Report* rankings of "America's Best Colleges" chose Southwestern as a "Top Tier" comprehensive college in the Midwest. We're proud of this recognition. You should be too.

Thanks for all you do for Southwestern!

Best regards,

Dick Merriman

Dick Merriman
President

Administration Viewpoint



We have a lot of limits in our modern world. Visas and passports determine where people can travel and how long they can stay. Time zones, distances, and languages all act as barriers to connecting people. So saying that Southwestern College stands for "leadership through service in a world without boundaries" would seem to be a brash claim. It is, however, an easy assertion to verify.

Simply take a look at our new faculty.

Biswajit Panja is putting his knowledge of sensor networks to use in our division of computer science and communication. Amarpreet Kohli is sharing his expertise in operations management with our business majors. Ahmad Mojiri is setting the stage for another generation of mathematicians, and Aliaksander Lavinets has stopped by for a visit this semester to share his experiences in the world of political science. These remarkable scholars started their journeys from India, Iran, and Belarus. Happily, ideas have no weight restrictions, airlines have not set limits on talent, and all of these remarkable scholars are now Moundbuilders.

Our unbounded Builder spirit is also visible in other ways. The border between the U.S. and Mexico disappears when Alfonso Armendariz fires up his high-tech video link to deliver Spanish lessons to Southwestern College students. John Dupuy crossed the line between industry and education in order to lead our business program. Amy O'Connor is dissolving the disciplinary boundaries between education and business. And in the education division, Chelie Nelson and Pam Green are defying time by investing their knowledge in future teachers.

In short, Builders are indomitable. Which frontiers will you help to conquer?

J. A. Sheppard

Andy Sheppard
Vice President for Academic Affairs; Dean of Faculty

SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE PRESIDENT

Dick Merriman

THE SOUTHWESTERNER

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