

Ward Cole: True Builder



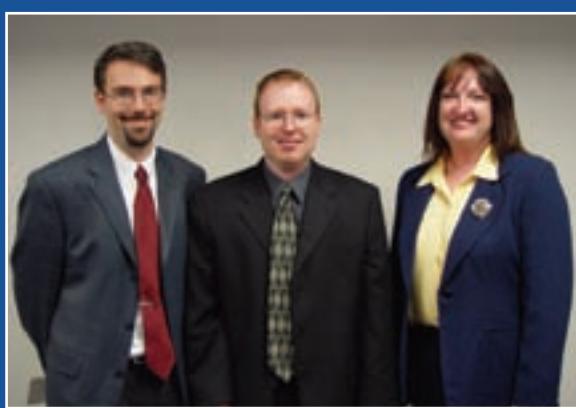
Several members of the Board of Trustees completed 12 years of service and reached bylaw-mandated term limits this year, including (left to right) David Smith '73, Salina; Margaret Gilger '49, Winfield; Kelly Rundell '82, Wichita; and Mike Metcalf '89, Prairie Village. Also completing 12 years board service was George Cole '63, Amarillo, Texas.

SC Thanks, Greets Trustees

Four new members have been confirmed to the Southwestern College Board of Trustees:

- **James Bryant**, Enid, Okla. An attorney, Bryant graduated from Phillips University and earned his juris doctor at Southern Methodist University. He served three terms as a trial judge in Oklahoma and also as a member of the Oklahoma House of Representatives.
- **Scott Hecht '90**, Lansing. Hecht earned his J.D. from Harvard University and now heads the insurance and reinsurance litigation practice of Stinson Morrison Hecker in Kansas City.
- **Richard Lee Jantz '70**, Lawrence. Jantz is owner of Millard Management, an agriculture-crop insurance business.
- **Leon Mattocks '74**, Wichita. A tax manager with Heritage Group in Wichita, Mattocks is an emeritus trustee who completed 12 years of board service 16 months ago.

Outstanding SC faculty and staff were honored in end-of-year ceremonies on campus. Recognized were (top photo, l. to r.) Christopher Caldwell, assistant professor of philosophy, United Methodist Exemplary Teacher; Adam Morris, Fassnacht Outstanding Administrator/Staff (Professional Studies), and Tami Pullins, Fassnacht Outstanding Administrator/Staff (Campus). Not pictured is Rich Bicker, Fassnacht Outstanding Faculty Chosen for Student Government Association citations were (lower photo) Omari Head, coordinator of student activities; and Charles Hunter, professor of biology.



What a Year!

When the last *Southwesterner* hit your mailbox, fans of the Builder men's basketball team were just heading for the national tournament in Branson, Mo. SC's tournament lasted only one game, but the conference championship was indicative of a spectacular run of athletic success at the college this year.

When the year had finished, Builders had won KCAC championships in seven sports—men's basketball, cross-country, track (the 24th consecutive title), and golf (national qualifiers); women's cross-country, softball, and track (14th consecutive title). Women's golfers also were region IV NAIA champions and national qualifiers (the KCAC doesn't award a championship in women's golf), and the men's golf and cross-country teams were region IV champions. The women's tennis team was third in the KCAC and advanced to region IV finals, where they finished as runner-up.

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Champion SIFE Team

Southwestern College's Students in Free Enterprise team was named regional champions during competition in Miami during April. The group of 10 business students was awarded the trophy for regional champions as well as winning two individual topic competitions and a monetary award of \$2,500. The team is under the leadership of Amy O'Connor, assistant professor of management, and SIFE student president Seth Holder. As of press date, the team was attending the 2006 SIFE USA National Exposition in Kansas City where they were to compete with hundreds of colleges and universities from across the United States.

One of the college's most faithful and generous alumni died May 13. Dr. Ward M. Cole, Wellington, was 97.

Dr. Cole's name on campus facilities is a tribute to his support of Southwestern—Cole Hall, the newest residence hall, was named for Dr. Cole in 2004 in thanks for a \$1 million gift to the college. The elevator addition in Christy Administration Building was named for Dr. Cole in 1998.

Dr. Cole's contributions to the college were more than financial, though: He served on the Southwestern College Board of Trustees from 1954 to 2000.

Ward Cole was born Aug. 11, 1908, on a farm north of Winfield. Left fatherless at 10, Ward, his siblings, and their mother worked hard to scratch out a living on the farm. Relatives and neighbors helped him pursue his dream and because of their generosity, he enrolled at Southwestern College in the fall of 1926.

In Ward's senior year at Southwestern, he was awarded a scholarship to work in biochemistry at the University of Kansas. He finished his Southwestern degree while doing the studies at KU.

At Southwestern, Ward met and married Ruby Hill, a bond that lasted more than 46 years.

After receiving a master's degree in biochemistry, Ward entered medical school at KU. With roots firmly planted in southern Kansas, he sought out a position in his home area and in 1939, he began his practice in Wellington.

During World War II Ward served in the Army medical corps in the Aleutian Islands. After his service, he returned to Kansas with Ruby to resurrect his fledgling medical practice.

Dr. Cole's passionate civic-mindedness took a new direction in the early 1960s when he and his family assumed responsibility for running and improving the then-struggling Wellington Airport. At various times, family members ran the restaurant, pumped gas for airplanes and cars or oversaw flight training. In 1975 the Coles donated their interest in the airport to Southwestern College.

Following his first wife's death, Dr. Cole married Helen A. Cole in 1978. They were married for 25 years before her death in 2003.

He is survived by his five children—four sons and their wives, George '63 and Linda Cole, Dallas, Harold and Ardis Cole, Grand Lake, Okla., Sherman and Candy Cole, Shawnee Mission, and Charles and Jan Cole, Farmers Branch, Texas; and a daughter, Mary Cole, Wichita.

Ward had a great spirit, a spirit of caring, of kindness and compassion, of healing. He had a sense of humor that blessed people with the joys of a light heart. Above all, he had a great spirit of gratitude that enriched all of us.

— President Dick