

# Alumni, Friends Receive Honors at Homecoming

## Ron and Kristi Molz SC Ambassador Award

This award is presented to non-alumni who have contributed significantly to the success of Southwestern.

The Molzes have been valued friends of the college ever since their son, Ryan, decided to attend college at Southwestern. They have become familiar faces at SC football games and at other college activities. They have also provided financial support; their most recent contribution was to provide funds for the new scoreboard in Sonner Stadium.

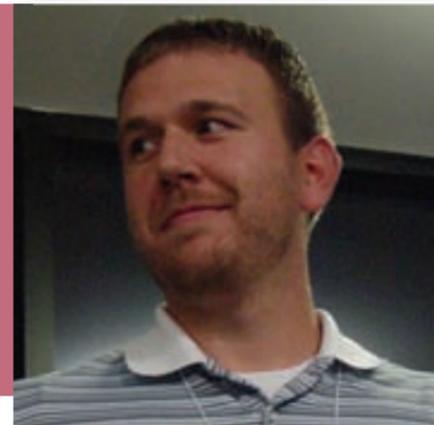


## Branden Banks '02 Young Alumni Award

This honor is presented to a recent graduate who has made an outstanding commitment to the college.

Banks is executive vice president of sales for the Brooke Corporation in Overland Park. While a student at Southwestern, he played basketball, participated in Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and was active in student government. He earned recognition as an NAIA scholar athlete, an NAIA academic All-American, and was on the national dean's list.

In the year following graduation, Branden married his college sweetheart, Mandy Munding, and together they have been strong advocates for Southwestern. Branden has been a willing volunteer for the alumni department, filling roles that impact the lives of current students. In addition, he has participated in SC fund-raising events, and has been committed to support the college that helped steer him into his career path.



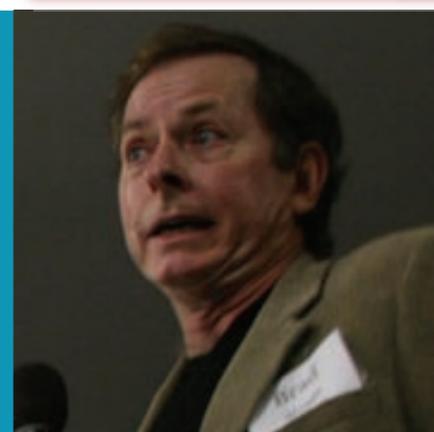
## Brad Weigle '72 Alumni Recognition Award

This honor recognizes significant contributions to the college and to community.

During college Weigle was involved in Tri-Beta, student government, student activities association, and Theta Phi Delta.

Today Brad is a senior project manager for Photo Science in St. Petersburg, Fla., working primarily with the USDA Forest Service to digitally map national resources. He gives credit to the strong science department at SC for encouraging him in a career of marine biology. He also earned a master of science degree from the University of South Florida before leading marine mammal research programs at the Florida Marine Research Lab for 13 years.

Weigle continues to be an advocate for Southwestern and is beginning a term on the science advisory council this year. He has been a volunteer for the alumni department by serving on the alumni career network, traveling back to campus several times to be a part of career fairs to talk with students. He also helped organize a fund-raiser for the Theta Phi Delta fraternity in contributing to a landing for the 77 steps.



### More on the Web...

For details on how to honor a professor, classmate, or loved one through a tribute at Southwestern College—[www.sckans.edu/development](http://www.sckans.edu/development)

For information of interest to high school students in the college search process—[www.sckans.edu/admissions](http://www.sckans.edu/admissions)

For latest results on the cross-country teams' national competition (and to see a team photo)—[www.sckans.edu/crosscountry](http://www.sckans.edu/crosscountry)

For live audio streaming of chapel and basketball games, and archived performing arts events—[www.moundbuilder.com](http://www.moundbuilder.com)

For information on helping the homeless in Wichita through Inter-Faith Ministries (see *Under Hope's Roof*, page 9)—[www.ifmnet.org](http://www.ifmnet.org)

### DON'T DELAY

Nomination deadlines are drawing near for the spring Halls of Fame:

- **BUSINESS HALL OF FAME**  
Jan. 15
- **SCHOLARS HALL OF FAME**  
Jan. 15
- **EDUCATORS HALL OF FAME and MARILYN McNEISH SPECIAL EDUCATION AWARD**  
Feb. 1

Forms may be obtained by contacting the office of alumni programs at (800) 846-1543, ext. 6334, or nominations may be submitted online at [www.sckans.edu/alumni2](http://www.sckans.edu/alumni2).



## Syllabus: *role of 'sandwich' parents examined*

### Faculty Series Offers Growth, Collegiality

Tracy Frederick is a full-time faculty member at Southwestern College, an associate professor of communications who has earned a reputation as a tough grader whose students leave her classes as better speakers and writers.

She's also a wife, and mother to 17-year-old Erin. Several years ago a riding accident left Erin critically injured; in November she had the latest of several reconstructive surgeries. Tracy was the mom who held it all together, from the scheduling of appointments to drinking coffee in the waiting room and holding her daughter's hand as she swam up through anesthesia.

These were the roles that Frederick had always envisioned playing. But today, she has an additional role: She's the caregiver for an aging parent.

At age 42, Tracy realized she represented a growing segment of the American population. These Baby Boomers, many of whom put having children on hold until their careers were established, now find themselves at a loss when trying to describe their lives. Her own experience led Frederick to research the subject, and the results became a paper, "Communicating Identity: Parenting a Parent," shared in a Faculty Colloquium.

Scheduled every Wednesday afternoon, the colloquia give an ongoing forum to scholars in the campus community.

Michelle Boucher, associate professor of English, was chair of the sponsoring faculty development committee when the colloquia began three years ago. The series had three purposes, Boucher says: It would give faculty the chance to share their original research with colleagues who would serve and provide friendly critique; faculty also would have the opportunity to give presentations on subjects of interest that might be outside their research focus; and it would be a venue to discuss topics that could lead to improvement in teaching effectiveness.

So when Tracy Frederick presented her research on the changing self-perception of the "Sandwich Generation" (middle-aged parents who are also caregivers for their own parents), she spoke to colleagues who not only understood her life situation, but also could respond to the scholarship foundational to the paper.

"At a time when most people are planning on relaxing in retirement or enjoying their children," Frederick reported, "many are faced with a new family, their parents." Frederick's research reported data showing that roughly 5.8 million people in the United States fall into the "sandwich" category. Of those sandwiched, 30 percent experience stress and strain on other relationships.

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Tracy Frederick

Several of those Frederick interviewed for her ethnographic study confirmed this resentment. With the fastest-growing segment of population over age 85, the sandwiched must keep up with the demands of both their parents and their children. But the role also affects the caregiver's perception of his or her own future identity. As they care for their parents, Frederick's subjects noted, they discuss how they wish to be remembered, how they want their family to know them, and who they want to be when they are in the same place.

"Despite the stress and strains adult children of aging parents feel while caring for their parents, children will continue to care for their parents out of a sense of obligation, responsibility or love," Frederick concluded. "The opportunity to tell stories and disclose the pain, frustration, confusion, and guilt adult children feel when caring for an aging parent can be the key to helping them find their place in a situation that seems hopeless."