

SPRING 2012

SOUTHWESTERN

NEWS AND STORIES FROM SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE



SC offers first doctoral degree

Southwestern College will enroll its first doctoral students in June following the January approval of its new Doctor of Education degree in educational leadership. The fully-accredited program has been sanctioned by the Kansas State Department of Education and by the Higher Learning Commission (the regional accrediting agencies for colleges and universities), and will qualify degree recipients to become licensed as principals, district superintendents, or teacher leaders.

“Our new Ed.D. program is just the latest example – and there are many more – of how Southwestern ‘gets’ the needs of rural communities and schools and is able to design educational offerings that meet those needs. The range extends from tailor-made non-credit training programs for businesses to advanced, terminal degrees,” says President Dick Merriman.

The Ed.D. degree at Southwestern is tailored specifically for teachers and

administrators currently working in education. The new program will include a summer residential component (one or two weeks spent on the Winfield campus) and the remainder of classes will be offered online.

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– President Dick Merriman

“This degree is especially appropriate for persons in more rural areas of Kansas and the surrounding states,” explains Dr. David Hofmeister, SC’s director of teacher education and architect of the new degree. “It will allow for licensure and advanced degrees without the travel and out-of-district time usually associated with doctoral studies.”

Unlike most doctoral programs, students may begin work toward the degree following completion of a bachelor’s degree. Persons who already have earned master’s degrees will be able to finish the program in three years; five

years are necessary for those who enter with bachelor’s degrees.

In addition, SC’s curriculum allows learners to focus on two of three leadership areas simultaneously – teacher leadership, building leadership, and district leadership.

“We are building a synergistic environment where various components of educational leadership come together,” Hofmeister adds. “All of our doctoral candidates will take the same modules to begin their studies, and later focus on either two or one of the three licensure options.”

All faculty for the program will be educators who have earned doctoral degrees and are currently working in the field.

For more information, visit sckans.edu/graduate or contact Hofmeister at david.hofmeister@sckans.edu, or 620-229-6115.

Foundation recognizes SC as ‘corporation of the year’

The W.G. Williams Community Foundation named Southwestern College its Corporation of the Year during Martin Luther King observances Friday, Jan. 13.

Presented by Pamela Williams, executive director of the foundation, the award recognizes Southwestern’s involvement in Wichita’s educational landscape, especially programs established through the work of Dawn Pleas-Bailey. Vice president for student life, Pleas-Bailey has been instrumental in building awareness of Southwestern in Wichita, forming a partnership with Stuckey Middle School, increasing recruitment of Wichita ethnic minority students, and partnering on events with the foundation.

The W.G. Williams Community Foundation is a Christ-centered organization that values ethnic, gender and denominational diversity. It focuses on academic wellness and youth, and values programs and activities that promote lifelong learning.

The award presentation is made to the corporation that exemplifies company values that support and promote education and continuing education excellence; excellence in promoting the “value of inclusion” within their corporate structure; an established diversity program that excels in active recruitment and promotion of ethnic minorities; and encouragement of its employees in community volunteer programs.

ON THE COVER: Students accepting the award were (from left): Kimberly Kellogg, Raven Carr, Austen Holloway, Lai-L Clemons (director of campus life), Christine Sheppard, Paul Mata, Hayley C. Westin-McLain

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Southwestern College President
Dick Merriman

The Southwesterner

Sara Severance Weinert, *editor*; Susan Burdick, *graphic designer*; Susan Lowe '95, *director of alumni programs*; Robin Crain, *coordinator of alumni notes*. Cover photo by Terry Quiett '94.

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Future Task Force looks at post-SC experiences

It's a snowy day in February, a day school has been cancelled in most area high schools. Instead of being in their own apartments, though, Christian Butler and Meredith Chavers are at a parlor table of the Iron Gate Inn. They're discussing upcoming events at the historic Winfield bed-and-breakfast with the innkeeper.

Is everything ready for the Valentine's special? How about the mystery weekend in March?

Butler and Chavers are Southwestern College students, but they're also playing a crucial role as the Iron Gate seeks to grow its business. As business and theatre majors, the two are earning college credit while working at the inn, learning about their career choices first-hand while improving their resumes.

They're examples of a new emphasis at Southwestern College, one now being formalized in the work of the Future Task Force 2012. Appointed by the president and convening every three years, the Future Task Force focuses on the direction the college will take in the coming years. The 14-member group includes trustees, administrators, and faculty from across the institution.

Formed in September 2011, the task force expects to submit a report to the college's Board of Trustees in October 2012.

"The timeline of the task force follows the trustee retreat that takes place every three years," says Steve Wilke, chair of the task force. "Last summer the board met in Kansas City and the primary interest was in creating a report that identifies what currently is happening and what needs to be happening in relation to helping our students use their college experiences to be more prepared for their after-college lives. We know our graduates are facing a more competitive environment in the years ahead, and we want to make sure they are ready for that environment."

Following this trustee discussion, the task force already has articulated the direction it expects the college to take in the next few years:

"While it is important that Southwestern students and learners have a good experience



Christian Butler and Meredith Chavers work with innkeeper Melinda Slayden in planning upcoming events at the historic Iron Gate Inn. The interns are receiving Southwestern College credit for the real-world experience.

while studying, the real 'value' the college aims to create for our students and learners is only realized through admission to desirable graduate programs, attainment of fulfilling and well-compensated employment, and access to challenging and satisfying careers," an early report draft reads.

SC has done well in providing a high-quality and enjoyable campus experience to its students, Wilke points out. Data from ongoing surveys show that students are engaged with each other and with faculty, and that they are challenged and learning. Our students have been "enjoying the ride," he says, and the customer service component of SC's culture will not be abandoned.

However, a new emphasis on post-Southwestern expectations for students will be launched following the Future Task Force's work.

This emphasis probably will include internships and practica, and Wilke expects focus to be placed on faculty and alumni mentoring and networking. The Responsibility for the Future capstone course is being scrapped in favor of an ongoing process throughout the Southwestern years that will require students to take part in career exploration beginning with freshman year. Job-seeking skills and graduate school options will be presented in more formalized and integrated ways. Focus groups of employers will be used to find

employers are willing to invest to get the skilled graduates they need.

"Now, it's time to help our students focus on their futures. They must get the experience they need to identify career paths, and get the information and experience they need to move forward in those paths," Wilke concludes.



FOUNDERS DAY WEEKEND

A special milestone will be marked at Founders Day with the dedication of the Reuters Organ. The renovation of the organ was a major goal of the Great Performances Capital Campaign, and organists James H. Strand and James M. Leland will present the dedicatory concert in Richardson Performing Arts Center at 8 p.m. on Saturday, April 21.

On Sunday, April 22 at 3 p.m. the Spring Choral Concert will be held in Richardson. For more information, contact susan.lowe@sckans.edu or 620-229-6334.

1940s

James B. Story '42, Niceville, Fla., has written an autobiography of his life as a pilot in WWII and the Vietnam War titled *The Story*. After retirement from the USAF, he went on to a career in real estate and community service. J.B. has donated a copy of his book to Southwestern's Deets Library, or it can be purchased at Amazon.com.

JC '48 and Virginia (Roberts) Fikes '46 of Carlsbad, Calif., celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on Dec. 21, 2011.

1950s

Lyle Sneary '57 of Alva, Okla., and his blue heeler, Rancher, were written up in a book titled *Dogmania*, which features amazing but true canine tales. Lyle is married to **Jean Sneary '57**.

Mary (Carttar) Hartley '58 presented a paper on Leoti Newland, longtime music teacher in Winfield, at the Celebrate Winfield History conference in January 2012. In her two years of research and writing of this paper, Mary discovered that Leoti often attended SC summer sessions and occasionally taught summer school classes in elementary school music teaching methods.

Myrne Roe '58 edited the first book release in 20 years by Wichita publisher Watermark Press. Roe gave a presentation and signing on the release day of *Radiating Like a Stone*:

Wichita Women and the 1970s Feminist Movement, Tuesday, Dec. 13, 2011.

1960s

Tom Groene '60 was honored with a card shower on his 80th birthday Dec. 29, 2011.

James B. "Jim" Dean '63 received the first Cooperative Achievement Award from Rocky Mountain Farmers Union Foundation at the Rocky Mountain Farmers Union annual convention in Cheyenne, Wyo., on Nov. 18, 2011. He retired from the practice of law in Denver on April 30, 2011. Much of his 45 years of practice was devoted to development and representation of cooperative enterprises in various industries as well as lecturing and writing about, and preparing legislation relating to, cooperative businesses.

1970s

Mark Conard '70, Hutchinson, is the first clergy person in the Kansas West Annual Conference to be elected as a delegate to the 2012 General Conference of the United Methodist Church. This is his fifth time to serve as a delegate, but the first time to head the clergy delegation.

Jim Littell '77, of Stillwater, Okla., has been named head women's basketball coach at Oklahoma State University.

Lynn Dyke '78 was appointed as the United Methodist Church's new Mid-State

District Superintendent for the Missouri Annual Conference in Columbia on July 1, 2011. The Mid-State District serves 81 churches in a 14-county area.

1980s

Jo Ellen (Parker) Cates '85 and Robert Andrew Ryder were married on Aug. 27, 2011. The Ryders live in Wichita.

Steve Peebles '89 coached his alma mater, Manatee High School, in Bradenton, Fla., to the 7A Florida State Football Championship in December 2011. He has now coached in state championship games in four decades (1989, 1992, 1993, 2009 & 2011). Steve also won a state championship as a player in 1983

1990s

Brian Stone '91, coordinator of Cowley County Emergency Management, was named Kansas Emergency Management Professional of the Year in Topeka.

Julie Satterthwaite '93 and Lou Mignone '77 were married on Nov. 12, 2011. Julie is an elementary school teacher in Winfield and Lou, a retired teacher and coach from Dexter, continues to officiate three sports.

2000s

Deb Schmidt '01, '03, was ordained and installed by the Presbytery of Southern



SC Champions: '92 basketball team reunites

Coaches, players, and family members were honored at a 20-year reunion Saturday, Feb. 11.

Kansas, and on Sunday, Nov. 27, 2011, began her role as the new pastor of the Wellington First Presbyterian Church.

Adam Catlin '03 is currently working on his master's degree in teaching at Wichita State University. He is writing a new book, *They Never Really Left*, set during the final three years of St. John's College in Winfield, from 1984-86. Adam is also doing book signings for his last two books, fictional accounts of ghost hunting in Winfield and Cowley County.

Lonnie Young '03 has accepted a position as a photo tech at Walgreens in Los Angeles, and is also a manager at Denny's.

Heather Studebaker '04 and Jeff Baker were married Nov. 19, 2011. Heather graduated on Dec. 16, 2011, from Saint Louis University with a Master of Science in Nursing as an acute care nurse practitioner; Jeff is a police officer.

Nick Gronseth '04 recently accepted a position as site supervisor of the Fort Totten State Historic Site, run by the State Historical Society of North Dakota. He began his work in December of 2011.

Avery Archambo '08 accepted a position in the fall of 2011 as a project assistant (entry-level paralegal) in the litigation department of the Washington, D.C., office of Winston & Strawn LLP.

Natalie Snow '09 and Derrick Fox were married on Nov. 19, 2011.

Kate (Topham) Morgan '09 graduated with her master's degree in human nutrition from Colorado State University in August 2011 and passed her Board Certifying exam in October 2011 to become a registered dietitian.

2010s

Sara Book '16 and Steven Linnebur were married Oct. 15, 2011, in Wichita. Sara is the daughter of **Larry '75 and Sharlene Book**, Oxford, and Steven is the son of Kent and Lori Linnebur, Wichita. Sara is a student at Southwestern College, pursuing a business degree. Steven is an electrician at Linnebur Electric in Wichita.

Dianna Parmley: Builder Fund booster



Dianna Parmley's days are filled.

This 1975 SC graduate has plenty of meetings: As dean of educational services at Central Community College, Dianna is responsible for academics at a multi-campus community college serving a 25-county area in central Nebraska – approximately 14,000 square miles with a population of more than 300,000. Her role on the Columbus campus means she oversees programming for about 80 faculty members. And she is responsible for the paperwork and details involved with articulation agreements, transfer policies, and other fine points involved in the academic life of a college.

But her work doesn't end there. This year she's responsible for a Legacies and Landmarks program offered for community college faculty nationwide. The two summer workshops attract 25 faculty members from all over country to each week-long session, with the program underwritten by a National Endowment for the Humanities grant.

Between her work and her free time activities (she loves to travel, and keeps up with two grown daughters) Dianna found she simply didn't get around to financially supporting Southwestern College's programs. She had graduated from SC in 1975 and as an educator, knows the fine foundation her SC days established under her career.

"My support of the college was very hit-and-miss, so (gift officer) Joel Reinoehl suggested I consider direct deposit," she says. Dianna looked into the process and discovered she could easily set up regular contributions.

Now Dianna has a monthly direct deposit to SC that automatically transfers from her bank account to the college.

"It isn't a ton of money, and really, I don't even notice it, but because it's done automatically the amount I donate on an annual basis has gone up by a significant percentage," she says.

After 36 years in education (34 of these at the college level), Parmley knows she supports a worthwhile cause.

"Southwestern was a quality institution and I've been very grateful that I went there," she says. "We had excellent instructors, and the alumni is a close-knit group. I brag about the college whenever I can."

For more information on direct deposit of your gifts to Southwestern College, contact Jessica Falk, jessica.falk@sckans.edu, or call 620-229-6155.

Reconnect with Builders near you in 2012

Look for these upcoming regional gatherings and plan to attend one near you!

April 10 in Lawrence, Kansas, hosted by Lyle '61 and LaReta Kallenbach '62.

April 12 in Leawood, Kansas, hosted by Jim '77 and Meg Fishback.

April 13 in Lenexa, Kansas, hosted by Art '85 and Cindy Neely '86.

May 19 in Flagstaff, Arizona, hosted by Hal '52 and Dorothy Tretbar

June 6 in Greeley, Colorado, hosted by Jim '71 and Virginia Vanek '69

June 7 in Littleton, Colorado, hosted by Wilt '71 and Paula Cooper

For more information about regional events, check the alumni website at www.sckans.edu/alumni2 or contact the alumni office at 620-229-6334.

Esther (Ridings) Olmstead '34 died Nov. 9, 2011, at the age of 99. She is survived by her son, Niles Olmstead.

Dorothy (Jones) Copeland '37 died Dec. 5, 2011, in Anaheim, Calif. She is survived by a daughter Carol Kirkland.

Florence Lee (McIntire) Stephens '38 died Jan. 17, 2012. Florence was a professional worker with the USO during WWII. She was director of guidance for USD 470 and a counselor at Cowley College. After retirement, Florence traveled extensively and entertained children as a professional Christian clown in children's hospitals in Florida and Alabama. She was preceded in death by two husbands, Donald W. Goforth and Bruce Stephens.

Clarence J. Borger '39 died Dec. 21, 2011. Through his work in the ministry at First United Methodist Church Wichita, and churches in Newton, Hutchinson, and Valley Center, as well as his time at Southwestern, Rev. Borger was well-known by many Moundbuilders. He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Willa Mae (Nida); two sons, **Bill Borger '74** and **Jim Borger '82** and their wives; and three grandchildren.

Ruth (McIntosh) Clair '39, retired music teacher, collaborative pianist, and coach, died on May 27, 2011. She is survived by her sister, **Janice (McIntosh) Korchak '45**, and children, Alicia Clair, Carol Spencer, Michael Clair, Mary Parks, as well as with several grandchildren and great-grandchildren

Irene (Pickering) McKinley '41 died Dec. 9, 2011, in Arkansas City. Irene is survived by a son, **Ian McKinley '77**.

Betty Arlene (Dulaney) Tholen '41 died Aug. 21, 2011, in Emporia, Kan.

Robert W. Owen '44 died Aug. 20, 2011, in Shirley, Mass. He is survived by his wife, Mary Ellen (Chamberlin) Owen.

Leonard M. Smith '44 died of cancer on Dec. 15, 2011, at his home in La Mesa, Calif. He had an architectural background and was a realtor for 65 years in the La Mesa area. He is survived by his wife of 67 years, **Grace (Eckel) '46**, son David, daughter Jill, and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren

Alma (Morrison) Fulton '50 died Dec. 17, 2011, in Wichita. She was preceded in death by her husband, **Doug Fulton '47**. Alma is survived by her children, Pat Stevens, Janice Fulton, Gwen Kellogg, and David Fulton.

Ralph Shaw '50, Towanda, died Jan. 2, 2012. He is survived by his wife, Billie.

Max Rife '51, Lawrence, died Dec. 24, 2011. During his time at SC, he lettered in track, football and basketball, and was named by the *Topeka Daily Capital* as an All-CIC football player in 1949 and 1950. In 1994, he was inducted into the SC Athletic Hall of Fame. Among his survivors are his wife **Wilma (Stratton) '49**; four children, Kurt Rife, Joel Rife, Trish (Rife) Robinson, and Libby (Rife) Holub; four grandchildren, and his two sisters, Lois McKee and **Donna Coble '57**.

Franklin Scott Newman '53 died on Nov. 11, 2011. He was a longtime member of the faculty at Montana State University and was one of the founders and director of the MSU branch of the University of Washington Medical School Regional Medical Education Program. He is survived by his wife, **Marilyn (Gale) '55**; sons Scott and Eric, daughters Gayle Roth and Lynn Sweeney, and 13 grandchildren. He is also survived by his brother **Everett '55** and sister **Joyce (Newman) Dorsey '51**. Frank was an active and involved class host for his 50-year Southwestern reunion in 2003.

Helen Louise (Hawes) Bissantz '55 died Oct. 5, 2011, in Wheat Ridge, Colo. She is survived by a son, Robert D. Bissantz, and a daughter, Katie Alfano.

Richard T. Knowles '55, West Hills, Calif., died Aug. 12, 2011. He was retired from the private marriage and family counseling practice that he started. He is survived by three children, three grandchildren, and one sister, **Pat (Knowles) Jackson '51**, of Colorado Springs.

William Wayne (Bill) Billau '57 died Jan. 2, 2012, in McPherson. He is survived by his children, Gweneth (Billau) McClenton and William Billau and his sister, Mary Janet Howard '52.

Irma Mae (Craig) Jones '58 died Sept. 13, 2011, in Oxford, Kan., at the age of 102.

Dean L. Price '60, McPherson, died Oct. 23, 2011. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving during the Korean War, and was retired from Farmers Alliance Insurance Company where he worked for 34 years. He is survived by his wife of almost 60 years, Alma (Lindquist) and three daughters, Gaylene, Carla and Pamela.

Annamarie (Burford) Young '60 died Nov. 10, 2011. She was actively involved in music throughout her life and was a music teacher in Winfield (1960-64) and Blue Valley School District in Overland Park (1979-99). She is survived by her husband, **Bernie '61**, and a daughter Lisa Thomas.

Donald D. Willson '64, Lawrence, died of heart failure on Dec. 13, 2011. He is survived by his wife Gay, and three children, Sheri Burge, Debbi Croxton, and Brad Willson.

Dorcas (Lambertson) Jackson '73 died Nov. 24, 2011. She is survived by her husband, Joe, of Bella Vista, Ark.; her children, Matthew Lewis, Hester Gonzales, and J.R. Jackson; and three grandchildren.

Norma J. (Ballin) Wade '75 died Dec. 12, 2011, in Oxford, Kan. She is survived by daughters Karen Morrell and **Marilyn Jones '92**, and a son, Henry Wade.

DEATHS OF FRIENDS

Norma Jean (Heffner) Bossi died Aug. 29, 2011, in Winfield, KS. She is survived by her husband, Tom Bossi '66, and a son, Mark Bossi.

M. Albert Dimmitt Sr. died Dec. 19, 2011, in Topeka. In the 1970s, Dr. Dimmitt was an associate professor of European history in the division of social sciences at Southwestern College. Among his survivors are his wife, Jean; his children, **M. Albert Dimmitt Jr. '85**, **Daniel Dimmitt '78**, Janice (Dimmitt) Bode, and **Cathy (Dimmitt) Field '83**, and his stepchildren Leslie (Atkins) Durham and Christopher Atkins.

Denzell Brooke Ekey died Dec. 25, 2010, in Topeka. He is survived by his wife **Mary**

(Finley, McCormick) Ekey '61; his children, Dirk Ekey, Kay Ekey, Scott Ekey; and a granddaughter.

Rex Everhart, son of **Ken '57 and Shirley (Marsh) Everhart '56**, died Dec. 20, 2011. Other Moundbuilder family members are Rex's sister **Lori (Everhart) Oathout '85**, brother **Jeff Everhart**, sister **Joni (Everhart) Hopkins**, and niece **Lyndsie Oathout '10**.

Selma Fanshier, wife of **David Fanshier '70**, died Dec. 17, 2011 in Salina. In addition to her husband, she is survived by her children, **Shawnette Fanshier '83**, Lisa Fanshier, and David Fanshier, numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Allen J. Hein died Jan. 6, 2012, after a courageous battle against liver cancer. He and his wife Jean were owners of the Winfield Western Auto Store for 32 years, and employed/befriended many college students during that time. In addition to his wife, Jean, he is survived by their three children, Barbara King, **Mary Jo (Hein) Rohr '77**, and Doug Hein; seven grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, his stepmother, Sylvia Muse, his sister-in-law, Sue Hein, and his brother-in-law, **Charles '55 and Ann '56 Muse**.

George A. Rethorst Jr. died Oct. 16, 2011. George is survived by his wife, Joan, and children, Mariann Rethorst, **Steve Rethorst '85**, and **Janette (Rethorst) Lucciola '87**.

Lola Viets, longtime librarian at Winfield High School and friend of Southwestern College, died on Dec. 15, 2011.

BIRTHS

A daughter, Amelia Hazel, born Oct. 5, 2011, to **Philip and Joyelle (Pickett) Hood '97**.

A son, Tyler Jensen, born Dec. 1, 2011, to **Troy and Jennifer (Jensen) Compton '01**.

A son, Spencer Gray Jewell, born Nov. 28, 2011, to **Brian and Erin (Rankin) Jewell '01**.

A girl, Alyssabeth Nicole, born Sept. 8, 2011, to **Nicholas Gronseth '04 and Jessica Ostrom '04**. Alyssabeth has an older sister, Michaela (4).

Grant to capture wind at SC

Southwestern College is one of four sites in Kansas selected to receive Wind for Schools grants this year. In November, Green Team director Jason Speegle applied for the grant which is arranged by Kansas State University and funded in part by Westar.

"We had a very strong application, including letters of support from the City of Winfield, USD 465, and Cates Supply (local wind turbine installers). I also received unwavering support from the administration of the college as well as the plant operations director," Speegle says.

This is the second wind turbine to be installed on the SC campus, and one also is in place at the biological field station north of Winfield. This turbine will be located near the new plant operations building at the corner of Warren Street and Viking Boulevard. The turbine will either be either a Skystream 2.4 (identical to the turbine installed on campus in August 2011) or a Raum 3.5, a slightly more powerful machine.



SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE FOUNDERS DAY | HALLS OF FAME

FRIDAY
APRIL 20

Leaders in Service Hall of Fame for the Social Sciences:

Larry Eason '55, Gene Lowry '55, and Myrne (Richards) Roe '58.

SATURDAY
APRIL 21

Fine Arts Hall of Fame: Jim Strand, Jerry Thomas '81, and Orcenith Smith (deceased, accepted by Nancy (Livingston) Tredway '55).

Business Hall of Fame: Terri (McCorkle) Dalenta '87, Ron Richardson '83, and Bob Redford (Walnut Valley Festival Assoc., Business Builder Award).

Educators Hall of Fame: Anne Farmer '97, Jim Wilson '67, and E. Katherine (White) Davidson '38 (deceased, accepted by her daughter, Margaret Davidson '63). Andrew Brenn '01/'06 will receive the Marilyn McNeish Award for Special Education.

Nomination deadline for the 2012 Athletic Hall of Fame and the 2012 Natural Science Hall of Fame is May 1. If you know of any outstanding alumni of Southwestern College who should be considered for recognition in either, we encourage you to send in their names and details of their accomplishments. Forms for either of these halls 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.



Do you have news?

Contact the alumni office at
(620) 229-6334
or e-mail information to
southwesterner@sckans.edu



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Builder
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2012

Haven't been back yet to see the new Jantz stadium or
the beautifully renovated Richardson Performing Arts Center?
This is the perfect opportunity.

Reunions will be held for class years ending in "2" and "7."

For more information, please contact the alumni office toll-free at (800) 846-1543 ext. 6279.