



150TH ANNIVERSARY

DOANE

Special Edition Alumni Magazine

A Look Into the Past

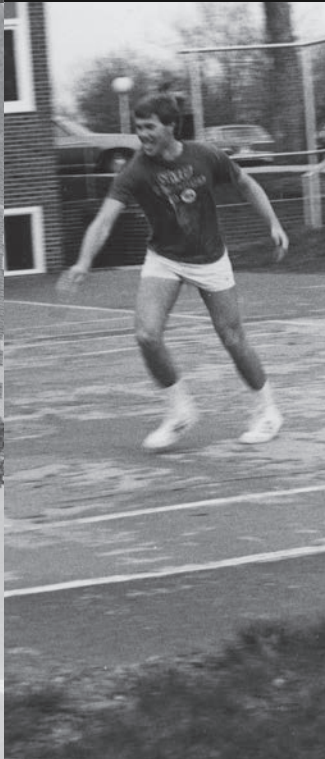


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Memory is a funny thing;
It means so much — so little.

When I think back through all the years,
The million years I’ve lived.
I have forgotten so many things
That once I surely knew.
And the things I do recall
Are commonplace and small:
Fear of a cat,
A doll with a broken leg,
A scratched piano bench,
Red-topped shoes —
What early good — these memories;
And yet — I cannot give them up.

Four college years!
They mean so much to me.
I want to remember friends.
A few heartaches — all the happy days.
But what I probably shall remember are these:
A tarnished radiator,
The steep hill to Gaylord,
Spinach,
A professor’s pointed shoes.

Why can’t we play safe
And keep all memories.
— Leora Carlson Anderson ’29
Poem published in Tiger Lilies, 1930.





**We still have a lot
of catching up to do.**

Members of the Doane College Band published in the 1951 Doane Yearbook. An all-female drum corps also existed at Doane, with the members coming up with their own drills, beats, trip planning and more, per the 1950 Doane Yearbook.

The year 2022 is also a big anniversary for Title IX. The landmark law that paved the way for women receiving equal opportunities in education — from admission to athletics and every stop in between — is celebrating 50 years.

Before its passage in 1972, women at Doane competed in the Women's Athletic Association (W.A.A.). Members sold concessions at men's football and basketball games, planned overnights for themselves and played volleyball, basketball and football among other sports.

Jennifer Kennedy-Croft, a former Division 1 soccer player for the University of Connecticut has experienced — and worn — a thing or two that highlight the lack of support women's athletics have historically received. In high school, she and her teammates sported old, hand-me-down boys' soccer uniforms.

Now in her seventh season as the head coach of the women's soccer team at Doane she's encouraged about making up for lost time.

"I have seen the changes in athletics, I've seen how far we've come. Not just in equity, facilities and pay, but in general in the excitement of the sports."

And she'll get the chance to be the woman leading the change when she serves as Senior Woman Leader, alongside her coaching duties, heading into the 2022-23 academic year. The new role comes from recent National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) legislation that encourages

representation by placing women in leadership positions within college sports administrations.

It's "a voice at the table," Jen said. And a step in the right direction toward progress that still has a ways to go.

She'll represent gender equity in leadership positions within education and serve as a role model for her daughter and female athletes. And she intends to honor the work of women who've "fought and fought really hard" for even just the basics of a sport while in the same breath saying, "hey, we still have things we can work on here."

Read more about the future of Title IX at Doane on pages 26-27.

No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.

45 C.F.R. § 86.31

A National Legacy Built by Fred Beile

By Ken Hambleton '72

The spark for Doane's first two national team titles could have been Fred Beile. It could have been great athletes — Mary Livengood Hageman '04, Wendy Brouillette Wortman '03, Nicole Stehlik '03 and Rochelle Schmidt Swanson '04.

The guidance of assistant Doane track coaches — Ed Fye '82, Dave Dunnigan, Brad Jenny '93 and others certainly played a major role in Doane taking the NAIA national women's track titles in 2001 and 2002.

But even Beile, who coached the women's track team since its inception in 1976, and his standout athletes would admit the mythical "Aunt Sadie" was the most important key to the team's success.

"Oh, I think we all heard about Aunt Sadie," said Wortman. "That was Fred's go-to for all of us. He'd say, 'My Aunt Sadie could run faster than you.' And 'We're burning daylight here,' was his other line you heard all the time."

Wortman, a 200m and 400m runner from Osceola, brought home the Doane 4x400 relay team to a stunning seventh place to notch the first national title in British Columbia in 2001.

"I still think about all the things I learned about people, coaching and myself during my years at Doane and Fred was a major part of all that," Wortman said.

Swanson, a 2004 Lincoln Journal Star State College Athlete of the Year, was a 16-time All-American in the triple jump and long jump and was a key contributor to the national titles.

"Fred made us understand it wasn't just the winning, but the seconds, third and fourths, and how we scored enough as a team

to succeed," she said. "He also reserved his compliments to individuals, but when you got one, you knew you did something pretty well."

Swanson said the emphasis on sequencing through workouts, practices and then meets, helped build the Tigers into a powerhouse team.

"The message was clear that we were all reaching for the same goal and Fred and his staff were so important in building us as a team," she said. "We'd cheer on the jumpers, then the throwers and everybody came together to cheer the runners."

Swanson ran a leg on the famous 4x100 relay team despite her long competitions in the jumps during the national championship runs.

"I think the fact many of us were two-sport athletes — I came to Doane on a basketball scholarship — and we understood the team concept well made us believe in how we could enjoy the challenge of all the events coming together in a team effort in track," Stehlik said.

"Coach Beile orchestrated the entire effort and we got the picture," she said. "There are so many reasons a track team succeeds but it all started with Beile."

Ed Fye, who took over as head coach at Doane in 2002, said, "Fred made it a family. We're trying to keep that legacy."

Beile was an assistant track coach from 1961 to 1973, when he took over for Al Papik '50. Beile coached the Doane men to national runners-up in 2001 and to 13 team finishes in the top four nationally. He coached 327 All-Americans and 101 NAIA Scholar-Athletes, and was named to the NAIA Hall of Fame.



Fred Beile, who served as assistant track coach until 1973, sits back in his office.



Beile (right), then head track and field coach, speaks with fellow Doane coaches during indoor track and field training in Fuhrer Fieldhouse in 1981.

A Tribute to ELVIN “AL” PAPIK

By Ken Hambleton '72

Al Papik '50, who served Doane in positions that ranged from head coach for track and football, to director of admissions to senior associate athletic director, speaks with student athletes on Doane's football team.



The midnight train that ran from Denver to Chicago stopped in Crete, if you waved the flag at the Crete Depot.

“It was often cold and I’d shiver and wave that flag and be off to Chicago,” Al Papik ’50 said in an interview with me in 2006. Papik, Doane’s legendary football coach from 1955 to 1972, was also head track coach and the director of admissions.

When school trustees decided to expand enrollment, diversity and athletics, Papik was at the head of charge. The 1944 Crete High graduate and Army veteran graduated from Doane after a stellar athletic career. He passed away on May 7, 2022 at 95 years old.

Speaking at Papik’s memorial services in May in Lincoln, former Nebraska football coach Tom Osborne said, “At 5-foot-8 and under 160 pounds, he was an all-conference offensive lineman. That’s a tough guy.”

Papik finished his career in education in 1999, after 18 years at University of Nebraska-Lincoln as senior associate athletic director.

The trips to Chicago and elsewhere, and the thousands of recruiting letters written by Papik and his family, and Doane basketball coach Bob Erickson and his family, helped change the Doane campus.

In Chicago, Papik recruited Paul Schelstraete ’70, Fred Davis ’69 and Paul Broussard ’69. Erickson recruited Les Grant ’69, one of the top basketball players in Doane history.

Even when Broussard moved to Port Arthur, Texas, Papik kept recruiting and built a pipeline to the predominantly Black Lincoln High in Port Arthur.

That led to recruiting football players Larry Green ’70 (quarterback), Mike Sallier ’71 (tailback) and tackle Otis Bryant ’71 (tackle). Glenn Mitchell ’70 came from Port Arthur and joined Chicagoan James Beatty ’70 to become dominant track stars. Along the way he recruited Craig Koinzan ’70, John Green ’73 and Tom Hood ’71 from the small Nebraska towns of Davenport, Sargent and Palisade, respectively.

“It was a mix of people from different backgrounds, little farm towns, Chicago, Pittsburgh and the Houston area,” said Hood, who later taught and coached at Doane. “It worked.”

Beatty, a Black student from St. Mell in Chicago, added, “The pipeline was open. The mix was life-altering for those of us who hadn’t been to Nebraska and farm country and kids who had never played against anybody who wasn’t white.”

“There was a lot going on around the country, but we never had a racial incident – never when I was at Doane,” said Beatty. “I think Al Papik had a lot to do with that.”

Mitchell said, “Our experiences in Port Arthur were all segregated and never integrated. Papik changed all that. I thank God for Al Papik for being placed in my life. For me to have the best experience that God could create for someone who was destined to work in a refinery and be poor.”

As a result, Doane grew in both diversity and recognition. Papik’s years at Doane established some of the college’s greatest moments in sports, including a 36-0-2 five-year run in football that gave Doane and Papik a national reputation.

“Al had the charisma and the character and demanded the discipline that made us a good team and a good start to expanding the campus and changing the student life,” said Larry Green, who later played in the Canadian Football League.

Papik was named to Hall of Fame spots at Crete High, Doane, Nebraska Football, NAIA football, Nebraska High School Sports, Nebraska Track and Field, and earned the Dick Herman Lifetime Achievement Award at Nebraska. In 2013, the Doane football field was renamed in his honor.



Head Football Coach Al Papik stands with three Doane football players on home turf at Simon Field.

Doane's TENURED FACULTY



CHRIS
MASTERS

While living in Africa, “with a dog and a pet baboon, what more could a boy want?” Masters said he thrived.

When polio killed his father, sister and an unborn child and paralyzed his mother and one of his brothers, Masters and his family moved to Massachusetts.

After graduating from Doane, he went to Florida for graduate study and college teaching. “Then, in 1968, I learned that my

predecessor in the Doane Math Department had joined the FBI,” he said. He took the opening. His first office was a windowless storage closet in Goodall Science building and later moved to Butler Gym where he battled distractions from gym activities.

After a short time teaching at Doane, Masters faced a devastating loss of a friend and colleague. Dr. Mildred Gross suffered a brain aneurysm and Masters was the math department until Jim Johnson was hired. The department grew under Masters’ leadership.

As technology changed, so did math. “We were limited to slide rules and noisy desktop mechanical calculators that always seemed to jam up. Now our students have always been attracted to, and dependent on, technology. Perhaps, too much.”

In 1999 the math department moved to the new Lied Science and Mathematics building. New initiatives included triMATHlon and student research and student trips to the United Kingdom. Masters helped build the Termesphere, created by Dick Termes, which is a rotating sphere that contains images of famous mathematicians and tells a story.

Muckel graduated from Nebraska Wesleyan in biology and education. While teaching biology and chemistry at Centennial High School in Utica, Muckel picked up his master’s at Kansas State Teachers (now known as Emporia State University) in Emporia, Kan.

“I wanted to return to Nebraska and finish my Ph.D. Daryl Williams (Academic Dean at Doane) hired me,” Muckel said. “I never did beat him at ping pong.”

Muckel and Kartherine Buell built a tight friendship. “She

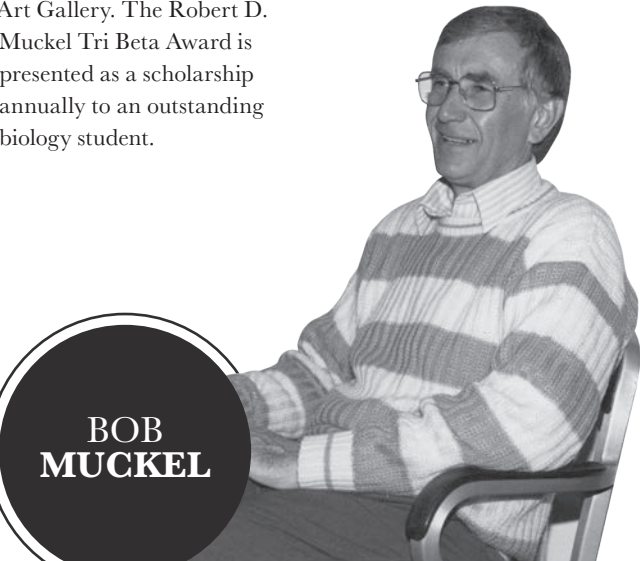
tolerated my humor. She used to put on piano recitals and tea for me and my wife Jean in her apartment,” he said.

“I love learning and sharing information with others. And I now see many of my students for health care,” he said.

Muckel and Everett Gross planted many of the trees at Doane during his time on campus.

The current science faculty and recent professors, such as Rob Wickel, remain close in Muckel’s life.

Muckel currently fills his time as a wildlife-nature



BOB
MUCKEL



EVELYN
HALLER



Dr. Bob Muckel, professor of biology, stands in a Doane lab with a student.

One of the few women on the faculty when she started, Haller eventually became the chair of the Fine Arts/ Humanities at Doane.

“I struck gold when I decided to teach at Doane,” said Haller, a Chicago native. “There were tough times, too.”

Sometimes she would have Erika Barton, who taught German and Spanish at Doane, drive home to Lincoln because there were battles about the Doane mission.

Haller was also raising two boys during her early years at Doane.

Over the years, she has published papers on Shakespeare, Willa Cather, Ezra Pound, Louise Pound, classical mythology and her favorite, author Virginia Woolf.

“My dedication was always to the profession, not the

institution,” she said. “To pursue education with like-minded colleagues and enjoying each other’s company was the objective.”

Haller said she arrived in the classroom each day (originally at old Gaylord Hall) with an idea of instruction and sharing. “The big challenge, related to students, was those who wanted to be there for a grade and so forth, and those who wanted an education. I became adept at dealing with the differences. Most students were wonderful. Doane gave me an opportunity and I tried to give that opportunity to my students.”

Haller continues her research and education. She recently participated in worldwide Zoom meetings to discuss Woolf. She has the opportunity to publish on Cather for the prestigious Newberry Library in Chicago.

Planting Roots & Sharing Knowledge

By Ken Hambleton ’72

They came. They stayed.

Doane has always enjoyed faculty among the best. One key reason is the love the faculty had for the school and the love the school returned to them.

For example, Dr. Chris Masters ’64 excelled in teaching math at Doane from 1968 to 2008.

Dr. Robert Muckel joined the science department in 1968 and stayed for almost 45 years.

Dr. Evelyn Haller joined the English Department in 1969 and taught for 49 years at Doane.

“We put down roots,” said Masters, who was born in London during World War II and later lived in Zimbabwe and eventually Massachusetts. “I took the train to Doane in 1960 as a student. I still live in Crete.”

Muckel joined Dr. Katherine Buell in teaching biology curriculum at Doane. “I came to love Doane for the atmosphere and the staff and students and that you were allowed considerable freedom in your course offerings.”

Haller considered becoming a medical doctor. She attended Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. A class in literature, then more classes in English, changed all that. She first taught at Creighton University in Omaha.

But a move to Doane was the final step.

“I never felt discouraged,” she said. “Doane understood that higher education is important for everyone. They let me decide how to teach.”

150 Years of Doane Leaders

Dr. Roger Hughes '82, Doane's 13th president, articulated a new motto, "We Build Leaders," last year. It highlights the fact that Doane's graduates have truly set themselves apart as leaders, entrepreneurs and critical thinkers for the past century and a half. Here are just a few who have stood out in their field, stood up for others and paved the way for future generations.



**Donald W.
Nyrop J.D. '34**

Nyrop graduated from Doane with a degree in history, and later earned a law degree from George Washington University. He held a distinguished career in aviation, heading the Civil Aeronautics Administration and running Northwest Airlines. While CEO of Northwest Airlines, he handled the hijacking of Flight #305, on Nov. 24, 1971. Nyrop was also a 14-year member of Doane's Board of Trustees and the recipient of numerous Doane awards for his long, generous support and leadership on behalf of the university.

John K. Vance '37

Vance worked for the CIA starting in 1947 and served on the inspector general's staff from 1960-63. He became director of central reference until he retired in 1971. He discovered in the early 1960s that the CIA was administering LSD and other drugs to human subjects without consent. His discovery — alongside the inspector general's report — helped stop the CIA's testing.

A. Ivan Johnson '41

Johnson's career and expertise in engineering and geohydrology took him across the world during his time with the U.S. Geological Survey, as a private consultant to Oman, Jordan, Egypt, Senegal and Morocco, and as UNESCO consultant to Turkey and Mexico. He received numerous awards throughout his career, including the Department of the Interior Merit Award in 1962 and Meritorious Service Award in 1977, and helped lead an international symposium on land subsidence for UNESCO.



**Rev. Robert L. Polk
Ph.D. '52**

Robert Polk has spent his career building bridges and challenging the barriers between races and cultures. He was the first Black student to graduate from Doane in 1952 and became ordained in 1955. Throughout his career as a reverend in the Congregational Church, he remained heavily engaged in working with young people and their families, as well as social justice outreach. Polk was appointed Dean of the Chapel and acting Dean of Students at Dillard University in 1966. Although he retired in 1997, Polk has continued to serve through numerous New York non-profit organizations and the City College of New York. The annual Robert L. Polk Lectureship on Race and Social Justice was created at Doane in his name in 2016.

**Margaret Thompson
Sheldon 1886**

Sheldon taught mathematics at Doane starting in 1886, and later became professor of English literature after receiving her master's degree in 1897. She was active in campaigning for women's suffrage, served on a commission for statewide child welfare reform, and participated in multiple civic organizations.

**Jane Renner
Hood Ph.D. '66**

Hood served as executive director of the Nebraska Humanities Council for 23 years before retiring in 2010. She has been recognized with many awards for her work in bringing arts and culture opportunities to communities across the state, including the 2013 Sower Award of the Humanities. She has served on Doane's Board of Trustees since 2011.



Sharon L. Wilch '59

Wilch was the first woman to lead the Colorado High School Activities Association, where she served as an administrator for 27 years. She established nationally recognized programs in equity and Title IX training and led the sanctioning of girls' sports at the CHSAA. Wilch was inducted into the CHSAA's Hall of Fame in 1997, and the National High School Hall of Fame in 1998.

**Judi M.
gaiashkibos '00L**

Since 1995, gaiashkibos has been the executive director of the Nebraska Commission on Indian Affairs, promoting opportunities for Nebraska's Native populations and working with the state legislature. She has won multiple awards, including the 2012 Humanities Nebraska Sower Award and was recognized in 2021 for Excellence in Government Service at Lincoln's Inspire: Celebrating Women's Leadership awards. gaiashkibos also served on Doane's Board of Trustees.

**Claude E. Welsh
M.D. '27**

Renowned surgeon who taught at Harvard Medical School, served as an Army surgeon in World War II and advocated for equality in medical treatments as chairman of the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine, among other positions. He is known for being called to Rome to consult on abdominal surgery for Pope John Paul II, after he was shot during an assassination attempt on May 31, 1981.



**Toshihiro "Tom"
Takami '56**

Founder of the Asian Rural Institute, a leadership training program that promotes sustainable agriculture and community development in rural Japan. Takami received the Yoshikawa Eiji Prize in 1994, the Ramon Magsaysay Award for Peace and International Understanding, and the William Sloane Coffin Award for Peace and Justice from the Yale Divinity Center in 2012.



Ola I. Kupka '66

Kupka took her degree in art from Doane to the Metropolitan Art Museum in New York City, where she was on the team that coordinated displaying King Tutankhamun's treasures in a tour across the U.S. from 1976-1978. This was the first time the exhibit was shown outside of Egypt.



Allen "Al" L. Franta '41

Franta worked for 16 years with the Naval Research Lab in Washington, D.C. doing radar research, including on airborne early warning systems still used today. Later, he worked for Submarine Signal in Boston; and for NASA from 1959-75 where he helped select the sites for Cape Canaveral and Cape Kennedy, and helped build the Goddard Space Center. Additionally, Franta worked for General Electric, Lockheed and Bendix Aerospace.

Alva R. Kinney 1897

Co-founder of Nebraska Consolidated Mills, which later became ConAgra.

There are a lot more Tigers who have shown leadership than we could include on two pages. More bios are available online, and we know there are plenty more.

Have someone in mind who should be on our list? We'd love to hear more about them.

Email us at university.comm@doane.edu with two things:

1. *THEIR NAME*
2. *THEIR GRADUATION YEAR(S)*

Let's start a conversation!

A Country at War. A College Endures.

V-5 and V-12 Navy College Training Program’s impact on Doane during World War II and beyond.

By Ken Hambleton '72

Wars impact every aspect of our lives. Individuals enlist to serve or enroll to learn — and evade any draft. Colleges across the United States saw a pattern of the latter during the Vietnam War and subsequent draft.

But in the spring of 1942, after Congress declared war on Japan and subsequently entered World War II, enrollment was expected to decline at universities across the U.S. The focus of both men and women had turned both abroad and homeward toward war efforts.

Only 12 students were expected to be on Doane’s Crete campus come the fall.

In a dual effort to increase enrollment and assist wartime efforts for its country, Doane joined 130 other U.S. universities and colleges as a site for the V-5 and V-12 Navy College Training Program that ran from 1943-1945.

Trainees enjoyed the normal college activities of the time, attended classes alongside Doane students and simultaneously trained to become an officer in the United States Navy.

U.S. Senator Hugh Butler, who graduated from Doane College in 1900 and is the namesake of Butler Gymnasium, played a key



role in Doane’s selection for the program. Butler Gymnasium even added a pool to accommodate training needs.

More than 700 men participated in the program at Doane, many of whom returned later to finish their degree and attend reunions.

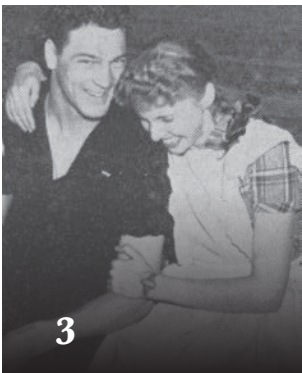
In 2002, the Navy Memorial Plaza on Osterhout Lane (the southeast corner of Crete’s campus) was built and dedicated as a tribute to the officer training programs. It includes an anchor donated by the U.S. Navy and brought to campus by alum Dean Petersen V12.

Another notable trainee alum who left his legacy at Doane is Dale Sloan V12, '46. He tracked down 250+ V5 and V12 participants for the 50th reunion in 1993 and donated \$1,000 just before the event to start the U.S.S. Doane Endowed Scholarship. Since then, more than 150 donors have contributed to the fund, some of which are estate gifts of generous amounts. Today, the endowment fund totals over \$700,000.

Whether through money, metal anchors or memories, the legacies of the V5 and V12 training programs live on at Doane University.



1. Sailors and their dates dance to the music of Bob Decker and his orchestra at the Navy Ball in 1945.
2. Marcella Ball Jensen '49 was chosen by the V-5 trainees to reign as Queen of the Navy Ball. Her escort is Lester Van Voorhis.
3. 1946 Doane yearbook caption for this photo was: “Daisy Mae and Lil’ Abner”
4. Navy drill practice in 1945.
5. Company officers pose for a yearbook photo in 1945.
6. Doane faculty in 1945.
7. Navy trainees form a “V for Victory” in the Butler Gymnasium pool in 1945.
8. Two images: Left shows sailors studying in Whitin Library; right shows sailors at drafting tables to learn mechanical drawing.
9. Sailors on horseback in 1945.



The Middle of Everywhere: *How Global Events Shaped Doane*

By Sara Hinds

The middle isn’t an all-too-bad place to be. You’re either forgotten or remembered. Ironically there’s no in-between or middle when it comes to these matters.

Presidential candidates for the 1976 election made it a point in their campaign to sway small-town America and farmers. Doane proved a worthy stop.

The Navy needed officers in WWII. Doane was a fine location for one of their training program sites.

In other instances, the effects of world events trickled from the coasts to Doane.

In all instances, global events are woven into Doane’s DNA and the memories of alumni, faculty and staff.

1918
Before the coronavirus, there was the Spanish Flu, also referred to as the 1918 influenza pandemic which was responsible for 50 million deaths worldwide.

The Doane Owl mentioned the Spanish flu with a call-to-action for students coupled with a subtle flex of Doane’s campus in autumn.

“...It is the duty of every Doane student to do his part by observing the rules of health. For instance never cough or sneeze without the handkerchief before the mouth, see that the ventilation is good and remain out of doors as much as possible.



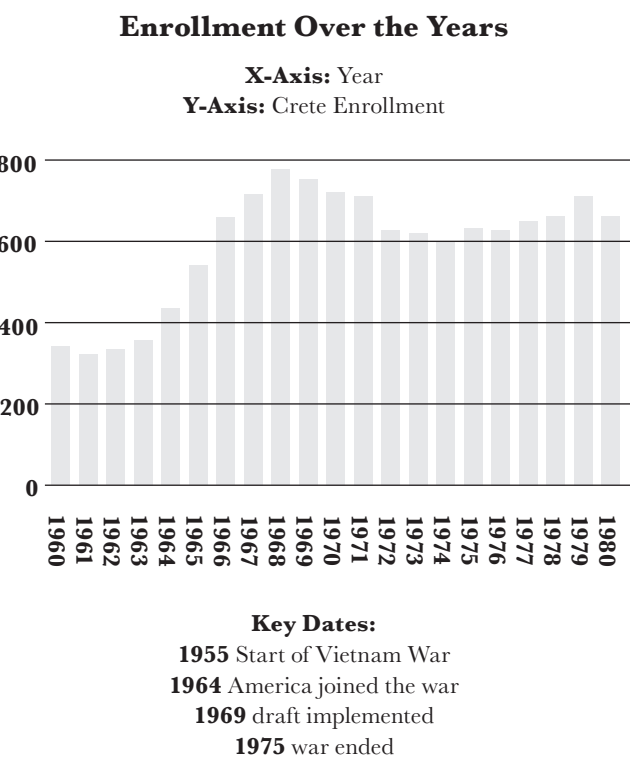
The Student Army Training Corps (SATC) at Doane on December 10, 1918, published in the 1919 Doane Yearbook.

Is this last command an irksome one to follow on the Doane campus in autum with the maples by the library a blaze of crimson that defies deception; ivy on Merrill that makes its bricks look pale; when the ash trees are golden yellow, and the sky the blue of blues?” (Doane Owl, Oct. 12, 1918)

Fiske Lodge—built in 1910 and later moved to the south end of Memorial Stadium, where it now serves as a ticket booth and concession stand—was converted into an infirmary for men. Crete didn’t have a hospital at the time and wouldn’t build a modern one until the early 1950s. A nurse took care of the women in Gaylord Hall. Only a small number of students became ill.

According to the Nov. 2, 1918, Owl article, “Quarantine is Lifted Friday Night By Gov.” schools were closed Oct. 22 through at least Nov. 2. as ordered by the State Board of Health.

1964-1975
Where Doane saw attendance plummet due to World War II, the college saw numbers skyrocket during the Vietnam War as men could defer the draft if they were in college. Schools on the coasts filled up first and then the great enrollment moved inward. Doane saw an uptick in diversity, too, as students came from a wider pool of states.



“Obviously war has a big effect on college.”

- Thom Reeves '88

Director of Planned Giving,
Doane’s Office of Advancement

1976
Pat Beans ’79 remembers a handful of presidential primary nominee candidates who stopped at Crete on their campaign trail, including eventual President Jimmy Carter. Fuhrer Field House and the Communications Building auditorium set the stages as Doane was at once a rural setting for the candidates targeting farmers and capable of handling crowds, according to Ed Watkins, Doane’s career development director at the time in a Crete News article (May 5, 1976).



President Carter defeated incumbent President Ford in the 1976 Presidential Election, and maybe the former’s campaign stop in Crete, Neb. that year was the winning ticket. Photo courtesy of Thom Reeves.

Democratic party presidential candidates who made stops at Doane:



Sen. Frank Church (Idaho)
17 Doane students rode his campaign bus that day alongside other Nebraskans. Read a write-up of the once-in-a-lifetime experience by Debbie Farrall Haskins ’79 in the Doane Owl from April 27, 1976.



Gov. Jimmy Carter (Georgia)
Thom Reeves ’88 attended Carter’s speech towing along a self-made sign “Get Smarter With Carter.” His friend’s sign, “Welcome back, Carter” was a play off the 1975 sitcom “Welcome Back, Kotter.”

1986
Thom Reeves recalls the near-sacramental daily ritual of students gathering around the TV in Perry Campus Center to watch “All My Children” at noon. A different story unfolded on screen on Jan. 28, 1986, when the Space Shuttle Challenger disaster happened.

2004-2006
Though school was out for the summer, Doane’s campus still felt an impact from the F-4 Hallam tornado (the nation’s second-largest tornado on record at 2.5 miles wide) that struck the town 11 miles southeast of Crete and multiple neighboring towns in its path on May 22, 2004.

Dave Dunnigan, longtime throws coach for Doane track and field, and his wife, Joy Thomson Dunnigan ’88, had to take shelter in a ditch and ultimately rebuild their home near Clatonia. (Doane Owl, Sep. 2, 2004)



The Dunnigans rebuilt their home on the same foundation after the Hallam tornado in 2004 wiped out their house. “It doesn’t seem like 18 years have passed since that night,” Dave Dunnigan said. Photo courtesy of David Dunnigan.

In 2005, students in advanced newswriting and reporting contributed articles to a special edition of The Voice News of Southeast Nebraska, “52 Miles of Broken Dreams and New Beginnings” that commemorated the one-year anniversary of the tornado that killed one and caused millions of dollars in damage. (Doane Magazine, spring/summer 2005)

In 2006, theatre students along with then-theatre professor Eric Selk wrote “Blown Away” during January interterm. Proceeds from the free-will offering during February performances were donated to the Hallam Community Foundation. (Doane Owl, Jan. 26, 2006)



Remembering Merrill Hall

By Ken Hambleton '72

Built in 1879, Merrill Hall was the biggest and oldest building on campus until a fateful fire in 1969.

A climb up the stairs to the second floor of Merrill Hall led to many wondrous things.

The homes of the Doane Owl (the campus newspaper) and the Tiger Yearbook were located on the second floor of the 90-year-old building.

The offices of history professors Dr. Kenneth “Doc” Rossman and Dr. Thomas Coulter, economics professor W. Stewart Nelson, political science professor Robert Conner, J.D., and education department chair Glenn Hinkle were down the hall.

The first floor contained Dean of Students Dan Steller’s offices, student records and institutional records.

The biggest, oldest building on the Doane College campus, the building that at one time noted the strike of noon with the ring of a bell and the drop of a big red time ball, was gone.

Still smoldering by sunrise on February 28, 1969. But all gone.

Thomas Doane, school founder, surveyor for B&M railroad and Burlington railroad chief engineer in Eastern Nebraska, called the “hill” on which Merrill Hall was built the most beautiful spot between the Missouri River and the Rocky Mountains. The building, named for Rev. O. W. Merrill, was completed in 1879 and dedicated in June of that year.



Merrill Hall engulfed in flames during Feb. 28, 1969 fire.

The Crete Fire Department called the destruction complete while flames were still dancing out the windows of the three-story wood-and-brick building.

An intercom announcement at Frees Hall claimed no one was to leave the residence hall. But the girls sneaked out through a basement door. Men’s Hall (renamed Smith Hall in 1977),



Merrill Hall stood tall for 90 years before it burnt down one cold February night.

Colonial and Georgian (renamed Burrage Hall in 1978) emptied to watch the 3 a.m. fire.

In a flash, a pile of rubble marked the middle of the campus. The ashes included hundreds of irreplaceable books and papers from the offices of Rossman, Coulter, Hinkle, Nelson and Conner.

“We found the old bell, but it had melted right in half,” David Osterhout ’37, Doane’s business manager at the time, told the Lincoln Daily Journal that day. Osterhout died in 2007.

Part of the bell holder was saved and remains part of the memorial Merrill Tower that marks the center of campus today.

After the fire, editors Elaine D’Amato ’71 and Ibrahim “Pappy” Khouri ’70 quickly assembled their Owl staff and pieced together a story of the fire, the loss and the heartbreak. The newspaper was published on time by March 4.

Just 10 days earlier Doane student Ron Hatchett and his daughter Gloria Jean died along with six others when a train derailed in downtown Crete sending a cloud of deadly anhydrous ammonia into a neighborhood near the tracks. Ron’s wife, Ethelene Hatchett Boyd ’72 survived but was injured.

“It became such a sad year – Merrill, the train accident, accidents on Stop Day,” said Debra Solomon Khouri ’71, who worked for the Owl with her future husband, Pappy. “I remember a dark cloud hung over campus for a long time that spring.”

But the spirit of the campus lived on.

Merrill Tower — new bell and all — was built in a year.

As campus headed into spring, Doane’s many flowering trees and shrubs opened buds around the space previously occupied by the building.

The Owl and the Tiger Yearbook were moved to Boswell Observatory. Women’s P.E. moved to the National Guard building, and faculty moved to Gaylord Hall, the Con and Fiske Lodge.

Library books borrowed by Owl sports editor Abe Goteiner ’71, and others, left in Merrill were never returned to Whitin Library.

Long-time school records, a master’s thesis for Richard “Doc” Dudley ’56, and student history of 90 years were all gone.

The memory of February 28 still burns brightly for Deb Khouri.

“The night of the fire Elaine [D’Amato] woke me up, asked me when I had last seen [her co-editor] Pappy,” she said. “I said he was going to the Owl office to study.”

Khouri said she and D’Amato could see the flames at Merrill from their windows at Frees Hall. But if Pappy had been in the building earlier in the evening, he luckily was gone by the time the fire began. They found Pappy and his roommate Wayne Lammel ’69 at their apartment in the house of Crete News publisher and owner, Lloyd Reeves ’52.

Jeanne Brodbeck Leitze ’70 remembers many education majors lost their senior year term papers from the previous semester.

“Many of us were in Copenhagen (during the fire) and hadn’t collected our papers in our student mailboxes,” Leitze said. “I often wished I had my ‘Religion of the World’ paper for Bob Conner. We all lost something important when Merrill Hall burned down.”

There were a few good things that happened after the fire, though. Just two weeks following, the March 18 issue of the Owl noted that a \$23,000 gift had been made to support rebuilding efforts. After publishing that same day, a \$150,000 gift made by Edson Walker in honor of his wife, Ida Padour Walker ’15, was announced.

Minnie Harms, who taught Spanish on the third floor of Merrill, also probably didn’t miss the stairs. The building had no elevator. She had suffered a bad fall and had to recruit four football players to carry her up the stairs to her classroom.

“We thought we’d wait for her and head to the campus center after a couple of minutes,” said Goteiner, to maybe get a little studying done, but likely have some time to goof off. “But she had the class. Bummer.”



Unidentified men (students perhaps) help a firefighter with a hose the night of Feb. 28, 1969.



CHECK OUT DOANE

01

Our Campus Today

BOSWELL OBSERVATORY

Built in 1883 and named for Charles Boswell, whose stepson, Reverend Charles C. Stearns taught Greek at Doane. Boswell was a close friend of Doane's first president, David Brainerd Perry and donated \$5,000 for the building and astronomy equipment, which included an eight-inch Alvan Clark telescope. The observatory is believed to be the first weather service headquarters in Nebraska and is one of three Doane buildings listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

02

BURRAGE HALL & COLONIAL HALL

Known together as "The Quads," these residential halls housed Doane students in four-bedroom suites from 1965 and 1966 through 2022. Burrage was originally named Georgian upon its completion in 1966, it was later renamed after Dwight Burrage, who taught Greek and Latin and served as Doane's registrar from 1906-44. Colonial was named for its architectural style. "The Quads" were demolished in July to make room for a new residence hall slated to be completed in December 2023.

03

BUTLER GYMNASIUM

Built in 1936 and named in honor of U.S. Senator Hugh Butler, a longtime member and chairman of the Board of Trustees (1917-54). An addition was built onto the gymnasium in 1944 to house a former swimming pool, and in 1955, classrooms were added to the west side of the building.

04

CHAB WEYERS EDUCATION & HIXSON LIED ART BUILDING

Built in 2007 as the home of Doane Education and Art and Design Departments. It also houses the university's Farley Korff Welcome Center, Admission Office, Information Technology Services and Human Resources. The main entrance to the building features the reclaimed signature portico of the former Whitin Library. It was funded in part by a \$2 million gift from the Lied Foundation Trust and a donation by Larry '67 and Lois Chab Weyers '67.

05

COMMUNICATIONS BUILDING

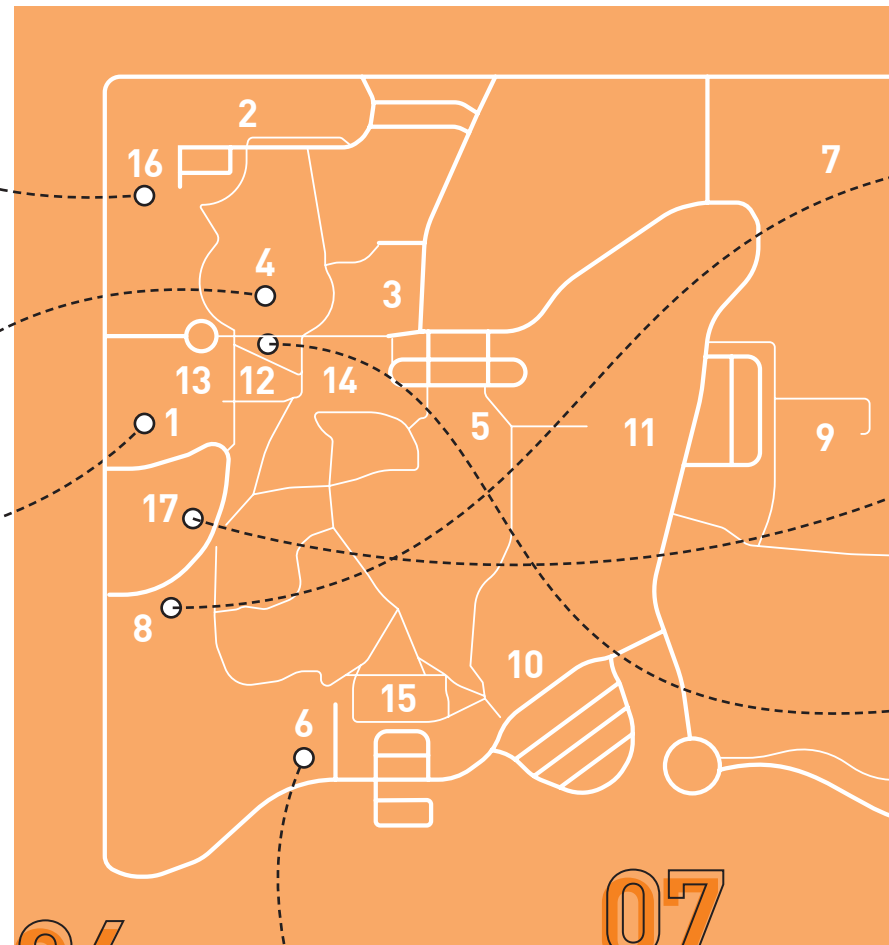
Built in 1970 to house the library, media center and fine arts, the Communications building remains home to Perkins Library, named for gifts made by the Kitty M Perkins Foundation to support it. The Rall Art Gallery, created in 1986 and named for Reinhold '33 and Lillian Rall, and Leonard '35 and Dorothy Ross Rall '38; and the Learning Commons, which includes the 24/7 Computer Lab, Writing Center, Technology Services, Research Services, classrooms and collaborative spaces, and more; and Heckman Auditorium, named for Doane's 9th President Dr. Phil Heckman, are also located inside Communications.



06

FREES HALL

Built in 1931 as a women's residence hall, but is now coed. It was designed by Dean and Dean, Architects in the Collegiate Gothic architecture style. The building matches Smith Hall in design and was built to accommodate 185 students. A 450-seat dining hall was included in the basement, where students ate their meals until the campus center was built. The hall is named for Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Frees for their "generous interest in Christian education in Nebraska." It was renovated in 2009.



07

FUHRER FIELD HOUSE

Built in 1969 to enclose 55,000 square feet of space for men's and women's athletics. In 2014, a 20,694 square-foot expansion was completed. Arena seating can now accommodate 1,130 spectators. A 200-meter regulation length track and classroom space were added during the renovation and the indoor track space was dedicated as the Fred Beile Competition Arena, named after Doane's legendary track and field coach.

08

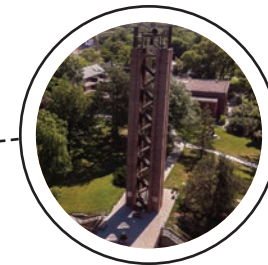
GAYLORD HALL

Built in 1884 as Ladies Hall but renamed in 1890 for the Rev. Reuben Gaylord, a pioneer home missionary and Christian educator. The building today houses classrooms and faculty offices, as well as studio recording space, the radio station and production facilities for the Owl. Gaylord is one of three Doane buildings listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

09

THE GEORGE & SALLY HADDIX RECREATION AND ATHLETIC CENTER

Built in 2010, the center spans two levels and 63,535 square feet, housing Bob Erickson Court for basketball and volleyball, a fitness center, several classrooms, and office space for the athletic department. The center is funded in part by George and the late Sally Haddix, two longtime members of the university's Board of Trustees, and their families. The Gibson Hall of Fame Room looks out above the gym and is named after Richard '57 and Wanda Gibson.



10

HANSEN LEADERSHIP HALL

Built in 2000, this residence hall is named for the late Zenon C.R. Hansen, former CEO of Mack Trucks and was funded in part by the Zenon Hansen Foundation. It offers suite-style living for honors and leadership students.

11

THE LIED SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS BUILDING

was completed in 1999 and was funded in part by a \$3 million gift from the Lied Foundation Trust. The \$10.2 million, 60,000 square-foot building houses the the science, engineering, mathematics and information science departments. The building is connected to campus by the Bridge of Distinction.

12

MERRILL TOWER

Built in 1971 to memorialize Merrill Hall, Doane's first campus building, which was destroyed by fire in 1969. The building's cornerstone remains in the tower, as do charred remains of the building's bell.

13

PADOUR WALKER ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

Dedicated in 1972. Edson O. Walker provided funding for the building in honor of his late wife, 1915 Doane alumna Ida Padour Walker. Built just west of Merrill's original site, it houses administrative offices, a conference room, and Noyce Chapel, which was dedicated in 1975 in memory of Ralph B. Noyce '15.

14

PERRY MEMORIAL CAMPUS CENTER

Built in 1963 and named for Doane's first President, Rev. David Brainerd Perry. Perry has been expanded several times, with a two-story addition in 1970, a second addition in 1995 and a renovation in 2007. Perry contains staff offices, student health, the cafeteria, bookstore, boardroom, mailboxes, Student Affairs and Lakeside Coffeehouse.

15

SHELDON HALL

Built in 1970 as a women's dormitory, and later became a coed residence hall. The building is dedicated to Margaret Thompson Sheldon, an 1886 graduate, Doane's first dean of women and professor of English. Sheldon Hall was renovated in 2010.

16

SMITH HALL

Built in 1971 to memorialize Merrill Hall, Doane's first campus building, which was destroyed by fire in 1969. The building's cornerstone is mounted in the brick by one of the side lights and part of the original bell is mounted on the west side of the tower.

17

WHITCOMB LEE CONSERVATORY

Built in 1906-07 in the Prairie School architectural style. The building originally housed a chapel and the music department. Since its renovation in 2004, "The Con" is now home to Doane Theatre, speech and forensics. It is one of three Doane buildings in the National Register of Historic Places.

The NEXT LEAP

By Liz McCue

In 1980, then-President Dr. Phil Heckman told Doane College faculty and staff that it was time “for the next leap,” as recounted by Dr. Donald Ziegler ’50 in his book “Doane College in Lincoln: The First Twenty Years.”

That leap? Initially, it was right down the road from Crete — in the city of Lincoln, where opportunities abounded to reach students who weren’t looking for a residential college experience, but wanted to attain their undergraduate degree while working or caring for family.

What started in fall 1981 as just seven nontraditional learners seeking to improve their careers through higher education is now a bustling campus location offering undergraduate degrees, seven master’s programs, one doctoral degree, and a home to many administrative offices and



departments that support all facets of the university.

Doane Lincoln completed the first academic year in spring 1982 and celebrated its first three graduates in 1984. As of May 2022, 5,506 students have earned their undergraduate degrees. 8,517 students have earned graduate degrees during this period, as well.

From the get-go, Angie Oltman Klasek ’81 was involved, hired almost right after graduating from Doane herself, to join the staff leading the fledgling Lincoln program. Her title changed from administrative assistant, to adviser, to instructor, to supervisor of advising, to campus director, to executive campus director—Lincoln, but her excitement to see students grow and succeed at all ages and in all careers stayed constant.

“That is my biggest passion, the students,” Klasek said.

One of her role models, and an important early collaborator in building Doane Lincoln, was Dr. Fred Brown ’59. In the early ’80’s, he was president of Buena Vista College in Iowa, which had successfully established partnerships with several

community colleges to provide access to bachelor’s degrees. Brown later served as Doane’s 11th president from 1987-2005.

The Lincoln campus location’s first home was at 4600 Valley Road, where courses were offered to students to attain their bachelor’s degrees, many of whom came directly from earning associate’s degrees in partnership with Southeast Community College. Career development and management workshops were also offered.

It was a challenging start, Klasek said, with limited space, budget and staff. Materials to ensure success in the classroom were hard to come by.

That changed with a proposal from Don Clifton, then president of Selection Research, Inc. in 1982, to create a joint computer training venture to help SRI employees learn the new technology. The partnership gave a jumpstart to Doane Lincoln – both in enrollment as other companies followed suit in providing tuition support and professional development to employees, and with a more permanent building location. Later, Doane Lincoln moved to its current location at 52nd and R Streets.

“I’m very proud of how we’ve created a community that students, staff and faculty are proud to be part of, that focuses on educating all students in a variety of ways,” Klasek said.

That community has grown over the years, as well. In 2003, Brown opened courses in Grand Island in collaboration with Central Community College. In 2014, Doane’s location in Omaha opened, and Doane’s Open Learning Academy came online in 2016 (literally! All OLA courses are available on the internet.)

Throughout that time, the staff and faculty of Doane’s non-traditional programs — and residential programs, too! — have been a major factor in why Klasek spent her career here. There’s always been a commitment to students, and to creating programs that allow them to balance the desire for learning with the demands of their lives.

“My mission has always been to serve the students, to help them learn about themselves and empower them to take on new challenges,” Klasek said.

Sadly, Klasek passed away from pancreatic cancer on Sept. 28, 2022. Doane, especially Lincoln’s campus, won’t be the same without her passionate presence.

- 1981** Classes at Doane Lincoln begin in collaboration with Southeast Community College
- 1982** Don Clifton, president of Selection Research, Inc., proposes a joint computer training venture taught to SRI employees through Doane; Doane offices and classrooms move to SRI building
- 1990’s** Graduate courses are added, first the Master of Arts in Business and the Master of Arts in Management, then the Master of Arts in Counseling and Master of Education program
- 2003** Doane opens classes in Grand Island
- 2014** Doane opens location in Omaha at 147th and F Streets
- 2016** Doane launches the Open Learning Academy (OLA) to offer multiple online learning opportunities under state and national reciprocity agreements
- 2018** Doane joins EdX, a non-profit online learning and massive open online course (MOOC) provider founded by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard, to offer both free and tuition-bearing courses to global learners
- 2020** Doane’s Grand Island campus location is closed as courses move online during global pandemic
- 2022** The Master of Arts in Counseling program receives accreditation by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP), backdated to January 2020 due to delays in the accrediting process caused by the pandemic.

FACT #1

The Master of Arts in Counseling program was first offered in fall 1995.

FACT #2

753 students have completed their Master of Arts in Counseling degree through Doane.

FACT #3

The MAC program is just one of five counseling programs in Nebraska accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP).

FACT #4

Students have enrolled in Doane’s online classes and programs from all 50 states and from 175 countries.

FACT #5

Since Fall 2016, 61,056 credit hours have been logged by students for courses and programs offered in the Open Learning Academy.

FACT #6

As of May 2022, 5,506 students earned their undergraduate degrees through Doane Lincoln; 8,517 students have earned graduate degrees.

QUICK
FACTS

Capital **IMPROVEMENTS**

It's understandable that after 150 years, maintenance plays an important role in keeping Doane's residential campus in Crete beautiful as well as safe and structurally sound. On the inside and outside, there's the wear-and-tear from not only Nebraska's mercurial seasons but thousands of undergraduate students. Along with maintenance, you have to consider when infrastructure needs repairs, renovations and — take the Quads as an example — replacing, to accommodate student needs, increase accessibility and ensure the longevity of the campus as a whole.

The same considerations are made for Doane's campus locations in Lincoln and Omaha. The Fred Brown Building has been in use for 40 years.

The Quads — Colonial and Georgian (later renamed to Burrage) — were built in 1965 and 1966, respectively. The buildings have housed thousands of students during their half-a-century lifespan, creating friendships and memories that will long outlast them. But the way the halls were constructed was steadily requiring more, and costlier, maintenance, and wasn't conducive to renovations.

"The Quads were built using block construction, so it would have been extremely difficult to renovate them and provide the types of community space that students want," said Brian Flesner, Doane's director of facilities operations and construction projects.

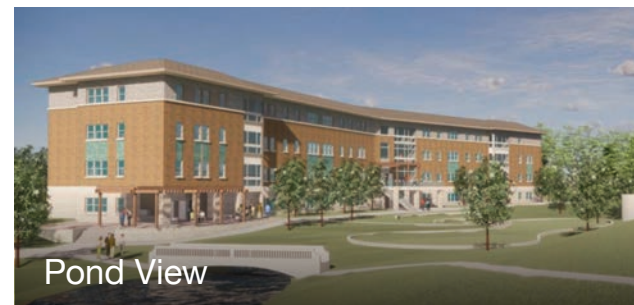
The new residence hall will still feature suite-style living for up to 154 students in groups of four, six or eight, but will have additional lounge and study space both inside and outside on two separate patios. Suite entrances also won't face directly outside, ensuring more security and a much safer way to get downstairs during winter weather.

The hall will also be much more accessible, with ground-level entrances and an elevator. Additional rooms can be added in the future in storage space purposefully left unfinished in the lower level of the hall.

Construction of the hall is estimated to be complete by December 2023. That isn't the only adjustment to this part of campus, though. "The parking lot that previously sat in front (south) of The Quads will now be closer to 13th Street in the location where The Quads previously lived. Additionally, the ravine leading to Miller Pond will be leveled. Green space including a small outdoor amphitheater will help connect the residence halls with the rest of campus. A new basketball court will also be included, to provide an additional option for outdoor activities.



Overview from South



Pond View

RECENT & UPCOMING MAINTENANCE & CONSTRUCTIONS PROJECTS:

- Repairs and maintenance to Crete campus bridges
- Replacing turf at Al Papik Field in summer 2023
- Installing new bleacher seats on the home side on the current grand stand structure; adding new lights and fencing around Memorial Stadium; renovating press box interior
- Repairs to concrete walkways around the Crete campus
- Repairing the concrete ramp and stairs on the north entrance of Perry Campus Center
- Interior updates in Perry Campus Center
- Replacing lights in Butler Gymnasium
- Remodeling Butler Gymnasium to include a women's locker room for Women's Wrestling
- Exterior and interior updates to Fred D. Brown Center (Lincoln location)

Digitization Opens Doors for Archival Preservation

By Abrianna Miller '23

Doane's Perkins Library is home to irreplaceable primary sources — like the Doane Owl newspaper, yearbooks and photographs dating back to the early years of the university. In the past, these materials could only be seen in-person. Cali Neuberger Biaggi '14 has led efforts to change that, along with fellow library employees and Doane students.

Biaggi is Doane's online learning librarian. As an alum, compiling and digitizing the Doane Owl newspaper, historical documents and photos into a comprehensive and accessible database has been rewarding.

As a student, she worked in the archives with Janet Jeffries, who retired from the library and is now the university's historian. Those experiences showed Biaggi that creating and preserving an accessible archive is an invaluable resource for current, past, and future students.

"In terms of education, I am really passionate about developing critical thinking in students, and I think using primary sources and using archives is an excellent way to do that," Biaggi said.

The person viewing the archive acts as a filter, she said. They use critical thinking to interpret a document or image and draw conclusions based on their own experience.

Connections to the greater Doane community played a key role in the digitization of Doane's archives, too. Biaggi cites experiences with family members searching for information about a loved one and relying on archived yearbooks.

"We aren't going to digitize everything because there's a lot, but there are some things that definitely would be worth digitizing just so that people don't have to travel

to campus," Biaggi shared. "We have alumni all over the world and they can look at these things and learn from these things, too."

Biaggi said the Doane Owl was digitized by an outsourced company and is now available on a database. Her next goal is digitizing the yearbooks in-house, then other materials, like photographs and negatives.

Biaggi aims to make the database of archived materials as accessible and user-friendly as possible by using metadata, which acts as a digital card catalog. Metadata allows database users to easily locate materials through keywords or phrases. They can search wherever, whenever, too, which reduces the amount of physical contact with the original materials.

"Frankly the fewer people who physically touch things the longer they last, too, so digitization is important for preservation," Biaggi said.

But if someone needs a clearer or more specific scan of any resource, Biaggi said she's happy to do so upon request.

Biaggi is thankful to the student workers and faculty members that have helped throughout the process, including students Erin Burke Benal '22, Jeremy Henning '22, and Christian Stacy '20. She thanks Jeffries for laying the foundations and Holly Baber '10, previously the library's cataloging assistant, now gift accounting specialist in the Office of Advancement, for cataloging the archives with her.

While there is still work to be done, Biaggi and those who have assisted in preserving the archive have accomplished an impressive amount of work that will be appreciated for years to come.

We need to get the story out.

How, in six years, Doane's engineering program has built a reputation of leadership and excellence.

By Liz McCue

Featured in this article...



TYLER SULLIVAN '22

JUSTIN STARK P.E. '01



Tyler Sullivan '22 knew that he wanted to study engineering in college, and eventually become an engineer. But he also wanted to keep playing basketball, and at many of the Division I and II schools he initially considered, that wouldn't be an option.

Twenty years earlier, Justin Stark P.E. '01 faced the same challenge. Both of them now work at Olsson, an engineering firm based in Lincoln with locations in nine states. And at a critical point in their lives, both had someone say, 'hey, have you considered Doane?'

This is the seventh year of Doane's Bachelor of Science in Engineering program, which recently received accreditation from the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET).

Stark went through an earlier iteration — a dual-degree pathway that involved studying physics at Doane followed by two years at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to attain degrees in physics and civil engineering. He remained involved as a member of the advisory committee for the physics department, which later provided guidance and direction as the engineering program was in development. Stark also served as an adjunct engineering professor in 2018.

Throughout his involvement after the launch of the engineering degree in 2016, he's thought, 'we need to get the story out about this program.'

Everything he's seen, from the perspectives of an adjunct, an alumni and a team leader at Olsson, has convinced him that the Doane program has got it right. Compared to larger, traditional engineering programs, Doane's is a breath of fresh air for hiring managers — students have had opportunities to explore leadership and know how to apply their knowledge to the real world.

"Our engineering graduates excel at communication and teamwork," said Dr. Joel TerMaat, assistant professor of engineering and chair of the department. "Employers recognize how important these qualities are when hiring."

In fact, companies around Crete and Lincoln are already competing to hire Doane students as interns and entry-level engineers.

"Doane is really trying to train leaders. That's a big component you may not get at other universities," Stark said. "You just get a different level of education."

Those leadership skills are something that Genna Ryan-Piasecki '22 calls upon daily in her work as a project engineer at Hexagon Agility.

"My current job relies heavily on working within multiple teams to complete tasks and projects," she said. "Whether it was solving complex problems in the



Henrique Henriques '23, engineering major

classroom, playing on the court, or planning events for my residents as a CA, Doane taught me what it takes to get the job done and how to work productively with others."

Sullivan said Doane's program taught him to think for himself, be confident in trying new things and to get used to being uncomfortable — all skills that have helped him adjust to a new job where he's working and learning at the same time.

He also saw, in speaking with friends who did attend larger schools, the immense value in having close relationships with engineering and physics faculty — TerMaat, Dr. Cale Stolle, Dr. Guadalupe Leon, Dr. Ather Mahmood, Dr. Lavi Zamstein and Dr. Chris Wentworth, who retired in 2021 but remains an adjunct in the department.

That statement was echoed by Turner Hill '19. He also graduated from an earlier degree program in Engineering Physics, but took many of the same classes as Ryan-Piasecki and Sullivan.

"The most important gift that Doane's engineering program gave me was my relationship with Dr. Stolle," he said, and that all faculty went above and beyond to help him and his classmates succeed in the classroom, in internships and in their careers.

Hill is currently an Engineer II at Malco Products, in DeWitt. Of the six-engineer team at the Eagle Grip plant

there, three are Doane grads who interned as students because of the connections Stolle had made.

That experiential learning is baked into the program, in part because advisers like Stark gave recommendations on what they were looking for in future hires. It's also one piece of the liberal arts foundation on which the program is built, which values critical thinking, experimentation, teamwork, communication, leadership and service to others.

Like the community of DeWitt, which used to be home to ViseGrip.

"We have had the experience of a lifetime seeing our plant grow from a warehouse to creating a prideful product that restored a town," Hill said.



Jeremy Allgeyer '24, engineering major

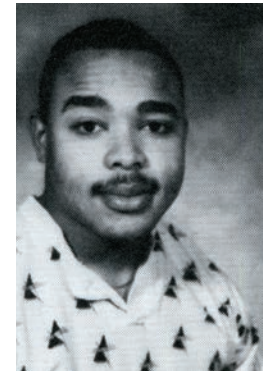


support for the next us

A new scholarship fund aids
minority students who are less likely
to have a financial safety net.

By Liz McCue

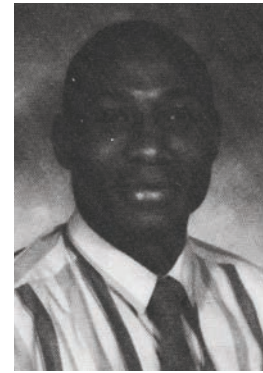
André Davis '89



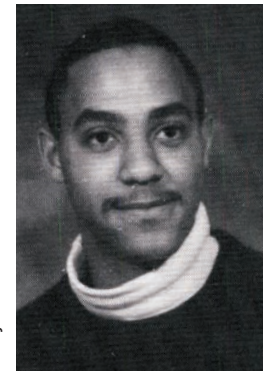
Jerry Gamble '88



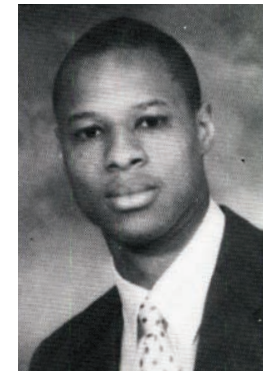
Steve McAlester '88



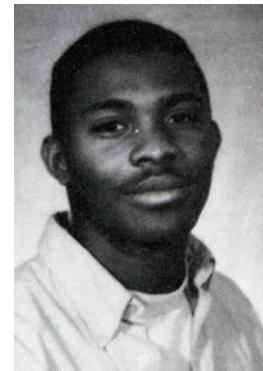
Tony Tolliver '88



Dexter Hoskins '88



Jerall Moreland '89



André Davis '89 poses for a photo
with several of his fraternity brothers.

For many students, budgeting for college isn't just a good habit to develop on the path to adulthood. It's an incredibly careful act to make sure that the funds of each month can stretch to cover housing, food, phone bills, gas.

And if an emergency comes up, there might not be anything left to address it, particularly for minority students who are less likely to have a financial safety net from family. That's why six alumni — André Davis '89, Tony Tolliver '88, Jerry Gamble '88, Dexter Hoskins '88, Steve McAlester '88 and Jerall Moreland '89 — created the NexTus Scholarship fund.

The name is a portmanteau, blending next, us and nexus.

"So think about what a nexus means. It means connection, it means relationship, it means joining," Tolliver said. "And 'us' is in the middle of that. That means us as Black men, as Black students, as Doane alumni. We wanted to do something for people who look like us who had an experience like us that they weren't anticipating."

For Tolliver, it was a broken tooth. The dental costs were high enough that, on his own, he would have to drop out of Doane to have it fixed.

Instead, Marty Fye '83, then an admissions counselor and currently vice president for advancement, located some funds through the college to cover Tolliver's dental work. When Davis's car broke down, Crete residents gave him

a tow into town, or said "pay when you can" for repairs. Coaches came together to ensure that Gamble could return home to South Carolina for "recruiting," but really so he could be with family as his mother passed away.

For these six men, and countless other alumni, there have been many instances where the college and change to surrounding communities stepped up to support students. But a formal fund had never before been established, they learned from Fye, who remained friends with them over 30-plus years.

That changed in 2020 with the NexTus Scholarship fund, which has been funded entirely by Davis, Tolliver, Gamble, Hoskins, McAlester and Moreland. Currently, at least. With greater knowledge of the scholarship, they hope other alumni will contribute to reach their base goal of getting \$25,000 in the fund, which makes it endowed.

They aren't waiting, though — the NexTus scholarship has already been awarded to several students who faced unforeseen circumstances. The scholarship is awarded to minority students on Doane's residential campus on an as-needed basis.

"For many kids of color that are coming to schools like this out of state, et cetera, we can't rely on an account...there are no funds sitting anywhere you could pull money and go, 'hey, you know, car broke down,'" Davis said.

Most of the six were first-generation college students,

and most held multiple jobs throughout their time on campus. But if something came up beyond the \$20 or so they had to get through each month — that was it.

And those challenges still present themselves to students today, particularly students of color and first-generation students. There are no college funds. There are no generational resources to pull from, either.

"If your family wasn't able to assist you, I mean, what do you do? That can be very stressful," Hoskins said. "It's gratifying to us to be able to help out in that perspective."

Donations can be made to the scholarship by calling Doane's Office of Institutional Advancement at 402-826-8256 and asking for Fye or Julie Rasgorshek, executive director of the Doane Fund.



"Believe you me, at some point in my attendance at Doane, I was in need. I like being one of many contributing to someone in need, be that financially, mentally or emotionally. Starting the NexTus fund was a no-brainer. It makes me proud to be a Doane alum."

— Steve McAlester '88



A TEAM OF THEIR OWN

By Sara Hinds

“Just throw me out there!” is Kenisha Jacsaint’s catchphrase at every wrestling meet she attends as manager for Doane University’s men’s wrestling team.

The Doane senior has been part of the men’s wrestling program for the past two seasons, serving as manager last season.

She wrestles against her classmates in practice. This summer she competed in the USA Weightlifting National Championships 25 & under group.

Her jovial plea, though valid, had to be dismissed because women couldn’t wrestle men. And Doane didn’t have a women’s team.

But now the women have a team of their own.

Women’s wrestling is the “latest and greatest” sport in high school and collegiate athletics.

Dana Vote, Doane’s men’s head wrestling coach and newly named Director of Wrestling, and his staff intend to run with the “greatest” identifier when the Tiger women compete in their inaugural season this winter.

The timing couldn’t be better.

In Nebraska, girls’ wrestling graduated from an “emerging sport” to a sanctioned sport with a championship, after a unanimous vote by the Nebraska School Activities Association (NSAA) board of directors in May 2021.

The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics NAIA followed suit nearly a year later as women’s wrestling grew from an invitational sport to a national championship sport in April 2022. Such a status requires at least 40 schools to sponsor the sport on a varsity level.

Previously, women’s wrestling teams from every division — NAIA, JUCO, Division I, II and III — competed for one championship under the Women’s College Wrestling Association.

Come winter, Doane will be one of five* schools in the Great Plains Athletic Conference (GPAC) with



The inaugural women’s wrestling team gathered for a cookout at Dana Vote’s house (Doane Director of Wrestling and men’s head wrestling coach).

women’s wrestling teams. They’ll join Dakota Wesleyan University, Hastings College, Midland University and the University of Jamestown.

Six teams are required for it to become a conference sport. As of now, Doane will likely compete in either the Heart of America or Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conferences.

Adding a sport is about more than sufficing a trend or keeping up with the Joneses and Jimmies of the GPAC.

Logistics have to make sense from both an administrative and athletic perspective. Are facilities already in place to host practices? Is it feasible to maintain another sport?

Vote originally wrote a proposal to add women’s wrestling when he was first hired as head coach of men’s wrestling in 2019. Two years later the timing was right.

Doane’s Board of Trustees approved the addition of women’s wrestling in October 2021.

With an existing men’s team that’s achieved conference and national success since Vote’s hire in 2019, what would be a totally acceptable “building” year for a first-time program has the resources and support to launch as a championship contender team. The thirst for continued dominance in a sport is there.

The facilities are almost there. Butler Gymnasium, the current home of the men’s wrestling program, is undergoing renovations that will keep its historical integrity intact, but add space and amenities both necessary and nice to have for two wrestling teams.

Plans include a women’s locker room, workout space and wrestling room.

Since his hire, Vote has transformed the men’s team from just four returning wrestlers into national contenders. In the 2021-22 season, the team was GPAC tournament champions, received four NAIA All-American honors and finished fifth at the NAIA National Championships. Coming into this next season, senior Baterdene “Baagii” Boldmaa has a chance to become a four-time national champion.

The success of the men’s team partially translates to the women’s team in that recruiting numbers are distinctly higher than their competitors.

Less than six months before the first scheduled meet, Vote said recruiting was in the double digits.

“If you look at all the programs around the country at the start, anybody that’s got more than 10 in their first year did a pretty good job,” Vote said.

Vote and company have since reached their goal of 20 women wrestlers to start the season.

“It’s a dogfight out there for getting numbers [...] and getting talented girls that are going to help build the program,” he continued.

Despite growth in the sport’s popularity, the number of colleges offering programs is outpacing the number of girls looking to continue wrestling after high school. It’s a game of catch-up right now.

“And that’s the biggest thing for us is we don’t want to just have a program, we want to be successful,” Vote said.

Normally, this is where the foundation of a successful men’s team doesn’t factor in. Men’s and women’s wrestling programs are like comparing apples and oranges.

“It’s like baseball and softball,” Vote said. “It’s the same concept but you got a totally different ball.”

Mechanics, technique and scoring are all different. You wouldn’t dare run practices together because it just wouldn’t make sense.

Men’s collegiate competes in folk style wrestling — women’s collegiate competes in freestyle. Vote said that most girls wrestle folk style in high school and must transition to freestyle in college.

It’s unfair, unfortunately, as they’ve never likely wrestled freestyle in their career. But Doane has a fairly huge advantage in Zach Wilcox and Tsogtbayar “Buka” Tserendagva.

The pair served as assistant coaches on the men’s side under Vote. In August 2022, Wilcox was named the head coach for women’s wrestling and Buka was named an assistant coach.

Wilcox led the Team USA 20U Greco-Roman Wrestling team to the championship of the Pan-American Wrestling Championships in May 2022. He also coaches the Nebraska USA Wrestling (NEUSAW) Freestyle and Greco teams.

Buka is a Mongolian coaching powerhouse. In his home country he led club teams to medals at the U23 World Championships and Women’s Youth Olympic Games and served as the Mongolia Paralympics National Coach and Junior National Team coach.

He’s well-versed in many wrestling styles from sumo to greco, but freestyle happens to be his favorite.

“I have not coached women since I left Mongolia, so it will be a breath of fresh air to be able to coach women again,” Buka said.

Buka — and the rest of the women’s wrestling team at Doane — can expect to compete against some opponents of the same caliber he coached in Mongolia.

“The unique thing about the women is — even at the smaller colleges — you can have girls that are wrestling at the World Championships, that can qualify for the Olympic trials and things like that,” Vote said. “You’ll see girls that are at the small universities that are wrestling on the world stage.”

But if anybody is up to the challenge and can compete with the best of ‘em, Jacsaint is your woman.

TIGERS TO WATCH OUT FOR!

Erin Benal '22 said it best when she was asked to share the influence of Doane on her current path: "My time at Doane gave me space to learn, grow, and really figure out what I wanted to do to serve my communities."

Doane is the intersection of passion and service for many graduates like Erin. And a degree is the green light to pursue lifelong or later-in-life goals.

The following Tigers are just a few who are already making a difference in the space around them — and have big plans to carve their dreams into reality.

Kenny Kemp '22
Engineering (mechanical)



NOW: Kenny is working abroad in Germany through the International Research Experience for Students (IRES) grant, researching organic solar cells. He uses state-of-the-art scientific equipment like the Atomic Force Microscopy — which allows him to study the structure of a material on the nanoscale — and an X-Ray scattering machine — which lets him conduct GIWAXS measurements that analyze the internal structure of materials.

SOON: Landed a job in New York where he'll help provide clean low carbon energy to more than 2 million households nationwide.

"I have been able to visit multiple cities including Bamberg, 'Home of the Smoked Beer'; Munich 'Commonly known for its soccer team Bayern'; Paris, 'The city of love and the home of the Eiffel Tower'; and Nuremberg which is famous for its Imperial Castle."

Erin Burke Benal '22
History and political science



THEN: In the fall of 2021, Erin interned in the U.S. Attorney's Office and worked on the January 6 cases; also worked on prison reform for the nonprofit DC Justice Lab.

NOW: Lead for Nebraska Fellow, working on broadband expansion and economic development in rural communities for South Central Economic Development District.

"Throughout the year I'll get to travel around the country and Nebraska learning new techniques from leaders in economic development while serving my favorite state."

Taryn Retzlaff '05
English/language arts in secondary education



THEN: Theatre teacher and director for the last 17 years and at Norfolk High School for the last nine.

NOW: Started as Assistant Director of the Nebraska School Activities Association in August 2022 managing play production, speech, journalism and music. Oh, and Taryn and her former colleague are working with HBO to co-produce their life story as two LGBT teachers in rural Nebraska — thanks to a couple viral TikToks filmed during their lunch breaks. They give feedback and content and once the season is written they'll pitch it.

"I have no idea if it will even get purchased by a network, but it has been an amazing adventure, to say the least!"

Charity Iromuanya '22E



THEN: As part of her internship requirement for Doane's Master of Education in School Counseling program, Charity started Sisters' Circle in the 2021-22 school year at Lincoln Northeast High School (LNE), where she works as a school counselor. The student group provides a safe and empowering environment for Black females at LNE.

NOW: Continues to work as a counselor and basketball coach at LNE and is developing curriculum to expand Sisters' Circle student group.

"I hope that they walk away knowing that they matter. And that this school is for them. And that whatever they want to achieve in their future is attainable."

Sue Walsh '22B



THEN: Worked in HR for 30 years and earned her producer's license in life and health insurance.

NOW: Studying for the exam to become a licensed Medicare advisor; contracting with carriers to start her own business to ease confusion and frustration surrounding the process for Medicare-eligible individuals.

"I will always be Doane University's biggest advocate for non-traditional students who want to advance their education, but aren't sure if they can do it. I am turning 64 years old next month [July 2022] and believe me, if I can do it, anyone can."

Nell Piper '20
History and political science



THEN: Nell worked as an electoral fellow for Planned Parenthood Advocates of Nebraska before gaining admission to University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law. She was elected as Student Bar Association 1L Class President in September 2021.

NOW: Recently elected Student Bar Association's Executive Vice President for the 2022-23 school year. Working at Disability Rights Maryland as a legal intern with their Housing and Community Inclusion team.

"The incredible faculty and the history and political science programs sparked my inspiration to become a public interest lawyer."

Andy Theiler '21
Biology



THEN: Finished his fifth and final year on the Doane baseball team where he was a two-time First Team All-GPAC outfielder and helped lead the team to two regular season conference titles. Signed with the Lincoln Satldogs of the American Association of Professional Baseball league summer 2021 and scored two runs in his first professional start.

NOW: Earning his MBA through Doane and no longer pursuing a career as a professional athlete.

SOON: Attending other advanced medical degree programs or entering the medical sales field.

"The people at Doane, professors, fellow students, and counselors have all put me in a position to have career opportunities in whichever path I choose upon completion of my MBA."

Suzy Higgins '04L



NOW: Working to develop a foster care closet and backpack program as resources for foster children and foster parents — and finishing her second Doane degree, a Master of Arts in Leadership.

SOON: With 20+ years helping families and kids, Suzy wants to "improve a system that has flaws but just needs a little support" by opening a transitional living/emergency shelter for older youth in Nebraska. It'll serve as a safe place to sleep and learn valuable life skills.

"When children come into the foster care system it has become a 'norm' for them to be moved using trash bags. By providing backpacks with hygiene items, clean clothes, a new blanket and even a stuffed animal allows these youth to feel a sense of love and normalcy."

Know a Tiger (current student or alumni) who is doing big things? We're always looking for individuals to feature in our publications.

Email osm@doane.edu.





150

Word Essay Contest

Earlier this year, we asked students, alumni, faculty and staff to chip in 150 words on their Doane experience. Entries ranged from not-at-all-inhibited memories of student life (we see you Stop Day) to the university's lasting imprint on them today.

For many, campus was the setting for their coming-of-age story. For others, it's a dichotomy between fondness and regret.

We thought it might prove difficult to succinctly summarize what Doane means to each individual. But of course, as graduates and employees of a liberal arts university, the essays are creative, mini time capsules back to each author's days — or into the future — as a Doane Tiger.

From the entries, a select few are printed here. We also included a couple poems from early 20th century graduates.

Ali Glendenin '22B

Being a Doane Tiger means being a leader to me. As I sat amongst my fellow grads last month in the cool morning mist, Dr. Hughes' emphasis on how Doane builds leaders resonated with me as I quietly reflected on the journey to my MBA over the past year. Tigers symbolize strength, and leaders need it more now than ever amidst uncharted waters. I am grateful for the well-rounded business education I received in the online program, from both my professors and colleagues alike. This experience and degree has been and will continue to alter the trajectory of my life. I will take the knowledge and practical applications with me to lead with integrity and always recognize the strength that comes with teamwork. I might be in California, but being a Doane Tiger goes beyond city limits, impacting our greater community in a multitude of positive ways.

Brooke Burianek Harms '14

Doane. One name to evoke countless memories of friendship, fun, and laughter. A place where

opportunities abound and the tools to excel are at your fingertips. A place where help is always

available if you ask. A tight-knit community proud of its roots and excited for the future. Native

Nebraskans and others from around the country and globe coming together in one unique place.

Evenings on the quad balconies, the Caf, Butler Dances, Homecoming, Stop Day, Greek Week.

126,227,704 (approximately) seconds spent on the campus that go by in the blink of an eye. Where

5 days a week on campus was never enough and you wanted to spend weekends there too because

0 other places like it exist in the universe.

Thank you to all who have made Doane home to many over the past 150 years. Happy birthday Doane and cheers to 150 more!

Alyssa Fetzler Dennis '11

I'm frequently nostalgic for Doane.

There are the obvious things; campus is unbelievably beautiful, professors are real people who care about you, and you know the students sitting next to you in class.

And then there are the things that take up residence in your heart and create the individual Doane experience. I get to wake up every morning next to the boy who stole my heart in the Quads; he's now my husband and the father of my three babies. I have an old Gamma sweatshirt that wraps me in so many sweet memories of friendship, fun, and laughter with the best girls. I can vividly picture CM02 where I wrote all my papers. I've been chased by swans and stood at the top of Merrill Tower. There were Stop Days and Interterms - and also ordinary days, which all made you count your blessings that you could be there.

Amy Slama '98

Doane symbolized many "firsts" for me in my coming of age. I was a first-generation college student, studying an array of subjects within the Doane Plan. There were new diverse friendships in the making, and I was exposed to fresh ideas and concepts. A first-ever jet ride for the Africa study abroad was the catalyst for future trips by other students led by Dr. Levitov to the continent. It was at Doane that I fell in love and experienced heartbreak. In Gaylord Hall, I discovered a new-found calling for writing. In fact, I was the first student with freshman status to covet one of the Owl's writing awards. Lastly, Dr. Brubacher's New Testament Bible class proved to be a foundation for spiritual growth and understanding as I did not have that growing up as a kid. For me, Doane was pivotal and magical...and it remains that way today.

Daniel Jackman '89 (trustee since '06)

Doane College, now Doane University, "the College on the Hill" is a place to grow, learn and explore. My family history with Doane goes back to when my grandfather graduated in 1908. We now have four generations who have graduated from Doane. The distinct advantage of being a small liberal arts school is the connection and learning opportunities with faculty, administration, and classmates (and even Trustees). All of my family members who attended Doane have these experiences. My favorite memories from Doane included the support from faculty and the administration to pursue international experiences. I enjoyed a semester in Copenhagen and two trips to the Soviet Union. Whether it was parties in Quads or the lectures from Gleason, McPartland, Masters and Freer or wandering Moscow, Russia with my classmates over interterm, Doane expanded my mind, gave me confidence and a foundation to explore the world. May Doane's tradition live on!

*Read all essays
and submit your
own online!*

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DOANE MAGAZINE

150th Anniversary
Special Edition

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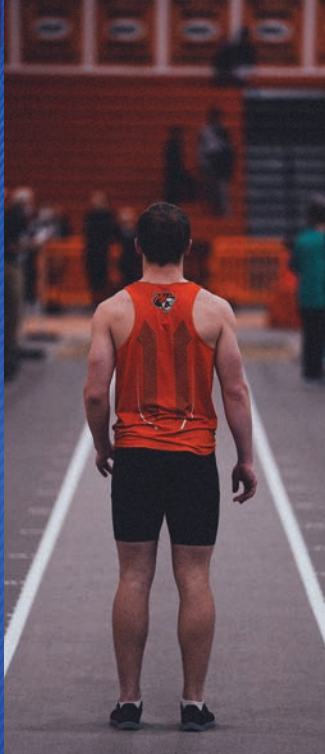
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