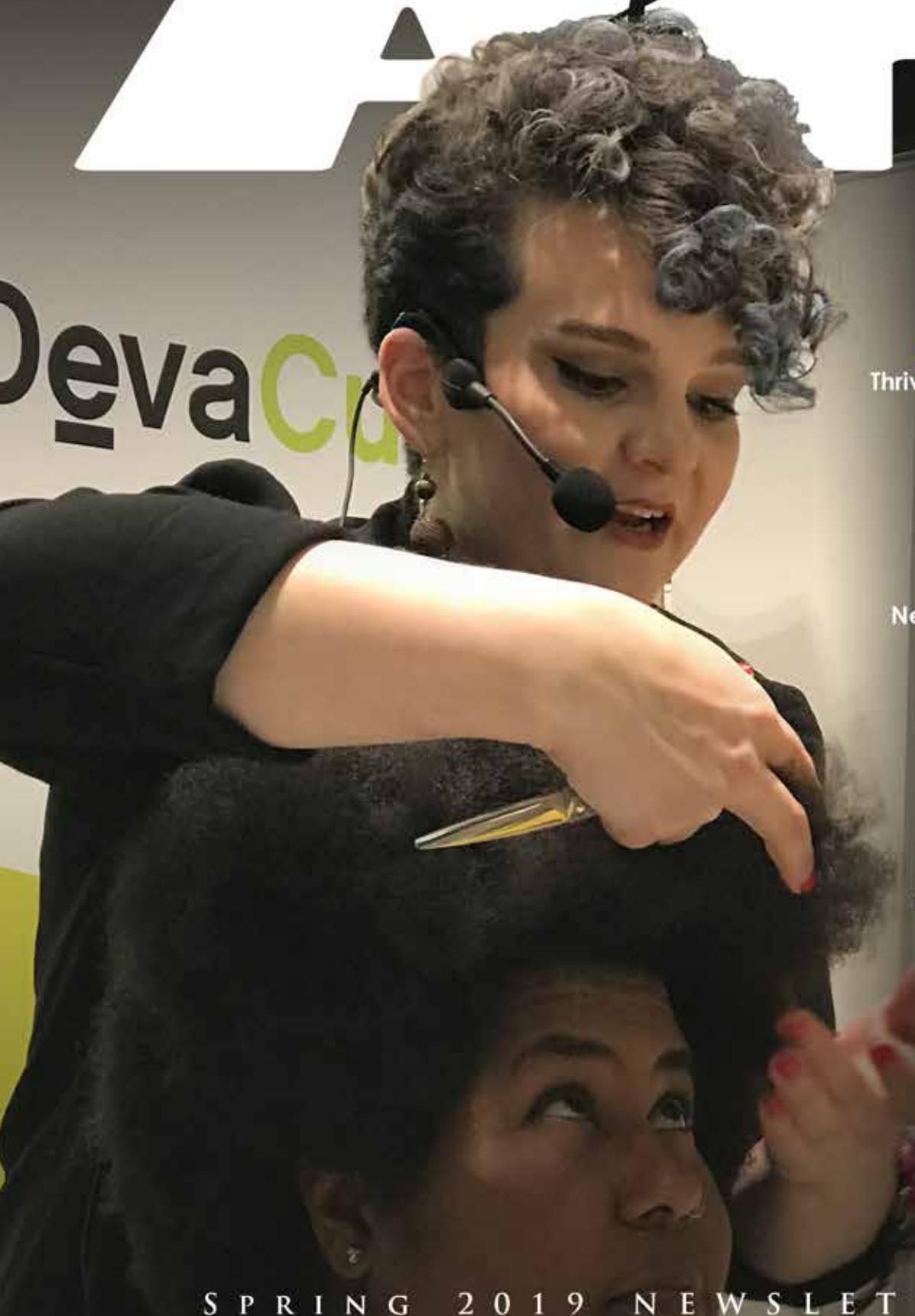


ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

A&F

DevaCu



**Jessica
Fitzpatrick**
Thriving Under The Lights
In NYC

**Sandy
Wiemers**
New Alumni Relations
and
Golden Tigers'
Coordinator

**Steven
Schoon**
Works His Way Up
To The Big 12

**Sumner
Campus**
Open House
April 27

SPRING 2019 NEWSLETTER

cowleyfoundation.org

From THE DESK OF

Cowley College has always been a special place. From the dream of an energetic group of high school seniors, who in the spring of 1922 led the crusade to create Kansas' third junior college, to the students who walk our halls today, our exceptional student experience creates a lasting bond rivaled by few. Over the decades the college has ebbed and flowed, morphed and transformed, celebrated good times and pulled together in challenging times. One thing, however, has remained resolute - our steadfast commitment to our students and our undying commitment to building community. Certainly the unique location of the college, deeply embedded within the core of the town, gives us all a sense of connection and energy. However, there is a special connection that is something much stronger and deeper. It is a sense of belonging that lives deep down inside the hearts of our students that stays with them long after their education at Cowley College has been completed. Cowley will always be, for them, a home.

Our alumni are doing amazing things. We continue to hear stories of those that have successful careers in medicine, motion pictures, athletics, politics, non-profits, entrepreneurial ventures, and social justice. Cowley College has provided thousands of students not only the academic foundation for success in their chosen careers, but something we believe to be even stronger, that "secret ingredient" that infuses every ounce of their Cowley experience. We understand that when people think back over their college days, they usually do not think about the hundreds or thousands of students they shared the campus with. They do; however, remember their teammates, the times they spent together studying, that professor who forever changed the trajectory of their life, the tight-knit community of their club or organization and yes, perhaps even some mischief along the way. Thinking back, these memories serve to help us relive our experiences and remind us of what this college has meant to us. Here at the Foundation and Alumni Association, we believe that all of us at Cowley College are still creating these lasting memories for our newest generations of Tigers who are proud to call Cowley home.



As you read through the pages of this newest edition of our Alumni & Friends Newsletter, please think back and remember the cherished moments you experienced during your tenure here. Remember the friends you made, the halls you walked, and the difference having been a part of this unique experience has played in your life. As you peruse the stories within these pages, stories of past, present, and future, we want to thank you for sharing a part of your life with us. While we continue to build toward the future, we are significantly reminded that some things never change. For those lucky enough to have experienced it, that Cowley "secret ingredient" has not changed and is as strong as ever, inspiring our latest generation of students. There is something that feels genuinely familiar, comfortable, and connected about this place. Whether your journey has taken you around the world or around the block, you are and forever will be, a part of the Cowley family. There truly is no place like our Cowley home.

Go Tigers!

Kori A. Gregg
Dr. Kori Gregg

Vice President of Institutional Advancement

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Cowley College Alumnus,

One of the predominant themes of the past decade in higher education is chaos, which is best illustrated through a metaphor of perpetual white water. At every level, higher education is under duress because of shifts in how education is delivered, how skill attainment is measured, or how to make education more affordable. However, a much more subtle theme, which has been ongoing in higher education, is the increasing interest in the “student experience.”

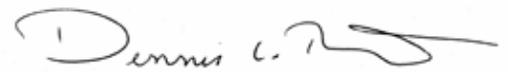
Students want to gain more than knowledge from books or instructional experts, they want to have a much more holistic learning experience while in college. This notion of a more comprehensive learning experience ties directly to Cowley College’s vision statement, which is to champion the relevance of a two-year education through holistic learning. Research has consistently shown that when students are in cohort models, especially living on campus, their satisfaction increases dramatically regarding their college experience as well as their involvement in extra-curricular activities. Our current motto, “Together We Roar” speaks to the importance of not only having an experience, but having a shared experience because experiences are most treasured and valued when they are shared with others.

With these ideas in mind, and as we look to our future, the emergence of the wrestling program, the resurgence of the Tiger Beat Pep Band, and the expansion of Tutoring services are reflections of our collective interest in having a shared experience. Students have ample time in isolation with their handheld devices but need shared and dynamic time with others to keep a balance. That is where Cowley College has a profound role in impacting a student and his/her decision to choose to become a Tiger. In summary, we are offering an experience...an experience to grow, an experience to know, and ultimately, an experience to go.

Recently, my wife and I proudly joined as Charter members of the Tiger Alumni Association. We did not join because we had attended Cowley as students, though we are both two-year college graduates, we joined because of the unity and shared pride in being part of a group of like-minded individuals, who collectively want to celebrate Cowley College and the many opportunities and advantages afforded to our graduates and those who have an affinity for this great institution. In many of our industrial and technical trades programs, our graduates have 100 percent placement rates. We have major companies such as GE Aviation, Newell Rubbermaid, ADM Milling, KanPak, Creekstone Farms, KANOKLA Networks, and TECT Aerospace to name just a handful located in our region. Why? Because our graduates are quality employees and tremendous citizens for our workforce and our communities.

In closing, I am proud to be a Tiger and am proud of the intensive energy each Cowley College employee expends to create a quality campus and learning experience for our students, visitors, and community members alike. The Tiger experience serves as a sturdy rudder in a world of chaos and perpetual white water. As we think about what we can do to ensure the Tiger Experience continues in all of its power and strength, please be an active alumnus by financially supporting the Foundation, looking at ways to serve, and by all means, showing your colors.

This is Tiger Territory, and we are proud of it!



Dennis C. Rittle, PhD
Cowley College President



MEET THE NEW ALUMNI RELATIONS AND GOLDEN TIGERS' COORDINATOR

Greetings, Cowley Tiger Alumni and friends! My name is Sandy (Erickson) Wiemers, and this past September, I took over as the Alumni Relations & Golden Tigers' Coordinator. As a Cowley Tiger Alumna myself, I am honored to represent Cowley College through our Alumni Association and our Golden Tigers' program.

I grew up in a small town in north-central Kansas, and I didn't know of Cowley when I began looking at colleges. I was what some would call a "late bloomer" as a softball pitcher, and around Thanksgiving of my senior year, I had only visited one college - Dodge City Community College. The head softball coach at Cowley, Ed Hargrove, was tipped off about me by former Board of Trustee Member, Albert Bacastow. Since signing day was very close, I had to make my official visit to Cowley on a Saturday morning during Christmas break. As you can probably imagine, the campus was like a ghost town. The parking lots were empty, and the buildings were dark and quiet. Still, I found a magic about the campus. I don't know how to describe it other than saying it felt like home. I remember getting into my car parked outside Galle-Johnson Hall and telling my mother very confidently that I was going to come to Cowley.

Signing with Coach Ed Hargrove to play softball at Cowley was better than I could have imagined. When I was a student here in 1997 through 1999, I remember all the students saying, "I wish they would make this place a four year!" I remember thinking maybe it was just the teammates and classmates I had the pleasure of sharing this journey

with that made it so special. I have no doubt that is true, but I later found out we weren't the only ones who have uttered those words throughout these halls.

After I graduated from Cowley, I continued my education at Washburn University. As I was getting ready for my senior year, my former coach, Ed Hargrove, called and asked if I would be interested in coming back to Cowley to help him coach. To say this was a dream come true is an understatement. I had never found that same pride after I left Cowley, and couldn't find anyone else who seemed to have the same experience I had at other schools.

I returned to Cowley in August 2001 as the assistant softball coach. I was excited and honored to be working for a place I loved so much. While I coached, I completed my bachelor's degree from Wichita State University in Kinesiology & Sport Studies. During my two-year coaching stint at Cowley, I found many of the girls I coached say those same words: I wish they would make this place a four year!

In the years between, my husband and I have moved quite a bit due to his profession. I've worked in many colleges and universities, both small and large. I've met many students, faculty, and staff that have become great friends and have influenced me and changed me personally and professionally. I went back to school and earned my master's degree in Athletic



Administration & Sport Business Management from the University of Central Missouri. Again, I met wonderful people and enjoyed my time at UCM. Yet, I still have not been able to find the magic and pride I found here at Cowley.

This upcoming May marks the 20th anniversary of my graduation from Cowley College. I find it serendipitous that I am in this position 20 years after I left this campus. It's true that much has changed, but there is a lot that still feels like the home I once knew. The campus has grown in many ways, yet there are familiarities that bring back feelings of nostalgia. There are new faculty and staff that I've enjoyed getting to know, and there are the old familiar faces that feel like home. As I learn

about the new programs, campuses, sports, and identity Cowley has taken on, I'm filled with pride for my alma-mater. Cowley has weathered many storms, and there's no doubt there will be more to come. However, Cowley has what it takes to overcome these obstacles because of the people that show up every day to ensure the students here feel that same magic I did 20 years ago. Cowley has a pride that many try to duplicate but few achieve.

The Cowley magic is still alive and strong. I'm excited about the future at Cowley, and on behalf of my amazing co-workers, we will continue to work tirelessly to ensure the Cowley pride lives on for years to come.

Together we roar.
Together we are TIGER PROUD.

Sandy Wiemers, Class of 1999

PS - I love hearing from others about what Cowley has meant to you, so please share your memories and stories with me by filling out the card on the back page.

alumni@cowley.edu
facebook.com/cowleycollegealumni/
instagram.com/cowleyalumni/

SUMNER CAMPUS OPEN HOUSE SET FOR APRIL 27



Cowley College's Sumner Campus in Wellington, KS continues to take shape and is preparing for an Open House event on Saturday, April 27 to celebrate the

opening of the Short General Education Center.

The Sumner Campus Short General Education Center will begin offering general education classes in the fall of 2019.

Cowley College celebrated the opening of the Sumner Campus Technology and Innovation Center with a ribbon-cutting ceremony held on August 9, 2018.

The Sumner Campus Technology and Innovation

Center offers programs of study in manufacturing, agricultural studies, computer science and information technology, and general educational development.



COWLEY GRAD THRIVING UNDER THE LIGHTS OF NYC

Jessica Fitzpatrick, a 2015 graduate of the Cowley College Cosmetology program, is pursuing her dreams as a stylist for DevaCurl in New York City.

Fitzpatrick graduated from Goddard High School (KS) in 2006. In high school she participated in Teens as Teachers where individuals connected with elementary school students and assisted them in the classroom. Fitzpatrick also participated in a work-study program where she was allowed to count her full-time work schedule towards high school credits.

Never one to sit still, Fitzpatrick also worked at Texas Roadhouse and quickly became a hostess trainer and a server in one of the busiest restaurants in Wichita, Kansas.

While Fitzpatrick was always interested in hair, she didn't pursue hair as a career opportunity until she started to understand her own curly hair.

"I had always attempted to reach out to stylists that had experience with curly hair, and I was ultimately let down," Fitzpatrick said. "I realized that it wasn't just a haircut; it was a complete embodiment of wearing our hair in its natural state, physically and also mentally and emotionally, and finding the professional that understood how to cut curly hair and how to bring it back to health. With that understanding, I knew there was a huge missing piece in the beauty industry with a focus specifically on curly hair. I knew that if I pursued

the cosmetology industry, my goal would be to focus on working with hair in its natural state and allowing women to embrace themselves as they were."

Ultimately, Fitzpatrick decided to attend Cowley College to attend their cosmetology program.

"At the time, it was the least expensive program in the area while still offering the full curriculum of hair, skin, and nails," Fitzpatrick said. "Cowley also offered a smaller class setting.



I knew that Cowley would offer me the stepping stone to further my career by giving me the requirements to pass the state boards. With that licensing under my belt, I was able to continue my education with a specialty in naturally curly hair."

Fitzpatrick said attending Cowley presented its challenges, but none of which she couldn't overcome.

"The class of 2015 worked hard to achieve their completion and came together as a team," Fitzpatrick said. "We were there for each other through the good times and the challenging times. We formed a bond in that year that still exists today. It taught me how to be an advocate for what I truly believed in and how to be a voice in the time of need. As a woman in her mid-twenties, I definitely started the program with a lot of younger women who looked to me as role model. I used that position to help propel this group of women forward. It showed me how to be a team player and that would only help me in the long run. With a lot of creative minds joined together, it's difficult to set aside our egos to know what's best to move us forward. Nevertheless, we persevered together. The girls that completed the program in 2015 gave me sisterhood that I hadn't experienced in another setting. We became one lovable, dysfunctional family in that time that supported and empowered one another."

Fitzpatrick has fond memories of working with Chris Cannon and former Cowley employees Donni McClafin and Kim Swopes.

"They helped us see within ourselves the possibilities of our own futures," Fitzpatrick said.

Upon completing her cosmetology licensing at Cowley, she set out to the DevaCurl Academy in New York City to continue her focus on curly hair techniques. Fitzpatrick was in NYC for three weeks attending curly hair focused courses. Upon completing courses at the DevaCurl Academy, she had anticipated returning back to Kansas to continue her career.

"While I anticipated

returning back to Kansas, these curly girl dreams had bigger things in store," Fitzpatrick said. "The day before I was supposed to fly back to Kansas, I spent the day at the DevaChan Salon in Soho. I was practically kicked out of the salon at the end of the day - I didn't want to leave. They advised me that I had done very well in my courses at the DevaCurl academy and that I would have a position available to me if I wanted to return to NYC."

Scheduled to fly home the next day, Fitzpatrick was faced with a decision to make.

"I didn't know what it would entail, but I did know it was exactly where I was supposed to be to get this career move of mine rolling," Fitzpatrick said. "I stayed. I cancelled my return flight back to Kansas and stayed in New York City. I had a suitcase full of summer clothes, an empty bank account, and an abundance of bravery that I didn't know the depth of."

Fitzpatrick started behind the chair at the Deva Salon in October of 2015. She took every opportunity that was set out before her to further her career and quickly became involved in their academy programs as an educator.

She began teaching Deva courses in June of 2016 and quickly became a sought out educator with Deva and a top stylist at the DevaChan Salon. Fitzpatrick continues to work as an educator in the DevaCurl academy in NYC and teaches across the states. In addition to working in the academy, she also works as a platform artist at beauty shows, and takes clients behind the chair in Soho.

"This crazy curly dream of mine has landed me more opportunities than just working behind the chair as a stylist," Fitzpatrick said. "I get the pleasure of traveling around the states to showcase innovative techniques and products, and inspiring the beauty industry to think outside the box. I have worked alongside Sephora and Ulta trainings in unique demonstrations of the DevaCurl line, as well as been a part of many DevaCurl photo shoots, both in the shots and behind the scenes. This career has allowed me to fully come into who I was meant to be and inspire the same within my clients and students across the globe."

"Ask a curly girl about her hair and

she will tell you about her life." This is Deva's mission and I am living proof. I grew up hating my hair, which led to a lot of self-doubt and feeling like I never fit into society's mold, a story which all curly girls can relate to. The most enjoyable part of my career is inspiring that self-confidence within a curly girl. I get that opportunity to feel that way time and time again every day. Every curly girl should be able to leave the salon feeling empowered in who they are, rather than told they need to be "fixed". When you allow that person to feel beautiful in their own skin, it opens up so many more doors.

This career has an endless amount of opportunity; the sky is the limit. The key is to get out of your own way and keep reaching for the stars.

I would be lying if I didn't say this city is the biggest boot camp for the rest of the world. It has tested me emotionally in ways I would have never said I was prepared for. It stripped me of everything I ever knew - from my morning commute to how to go grocery shopping (by the way, it's called "food shopping" in NYC). This city makes my feet hurt more times than not, and tests my patience time and time again. Yet, there is something magical about a city that forces you to be so true in your own identity. It forces you to hustle harder than you knew was possible and how to make time for the things that matter most - because there really isn't much time for anything else. It's exhausting and beautifully chaotic.

I have many memorable moments. I am lucky enough to get them week after week. Nothing fills me with more joy than to see a woman's face light up in the mirror when she sees her beautiful head of curls that she has fought back for so many years. I love spotting my client on the train or at the store gleaming in her own skin. Or when a student sends me a photo of their curly masterpiece that she nailed! How about the aha-moment when I'm teaching a student how they don't need to use a comb to cut hair! It's changing the beauty industry one head of curls at a time.

I hope you keep pursuing what makes you feel whole. What do you have to lose? Along that pursuit, perhaps your mind changes courses, yet you'll never regret the feeling of not trying.

SCHOON WORKS HIS WAY UP TO THE BIG 12



Steven Schoon, a former athlete at Cowley College and sports editor of the Cowley Press student newspaper, has parlayed his love of athletics into working as the Associate Director of Athletic Communications for men's basketball and men's golf at Texas Christian University (TCU) in Fort Worth, Texas.

Schoon grew up in Winfield, KS and had ties to Cowley College through his mother, Dr. Michelle Schoon, who has been an instructor at Cowley since 1991. His brother, Kevin, and sister, Stacie, also attended Cowley, as well as his sister-in-law, Breann.

"I grew up going to Cowley basketball games, Puttin' on the Hits and several plays and musicals at the Brown Theater," Steven said. "Being from Winfield and with my mom teaching there, it seemed like a great chance to stay close to home for my first two years of college. Also, I wanted to be a college athlete. Cowley gave me that opportunity."

Schoon was an accomplished runner at Winfield High School and ran as part of the Cowley cross country and track and field teams both years at the school.

When Schoon came to Cowley, it was in the first few years of the cross country and track program. He was recruited by a different distance coach than who he ran for his freshman year. Then for his sophomore year, he had another new coach in current Tiger head coach Mark Phillips.

"Mark Phillips was the constant in all of this and the respect and trust I had in him helped me in my two years," Schoon said. "I wasn't the fastest. I never won a race. I never earned any awards. Our team was pretty good though and to this day I am still friends with some of the guys that I spent so much time and ran so many miles with."

Along with competing with the Tiger cross country and track and field teams,

Schoon also was a member of the Cowley Press.

"I didn't plan on being a part of the Cowley Press when I started school. I was asked by the editor at the time, Tara Vanderpool, if I wanted to join since I had worked on the newspaper and yearbook staffs in high school. I became the sports editor of the paper and really enjoyed getting involved with something outside of being a student-athlete," Schoon said.

After graduating from Cowley, Schoon went on to earn a Bachelor of Science in Education, Sport and Fitness Management from the University of Kansas in 2008. While at KU, he served as a Media Relations Student Assistant.

"The transition from Cowley to KU was easy and about all of my classes transferred with no problem," Schoon said. "I had so many great teachers at Cowley, yes, my mom included. However, the classes that helped me the most with what I do now were my composition classes, taught by Marlys Cervantes. Those classes really improved my writing skills."

After graduating from KU, Schoon went on to serve a 10-month Media Relations internship at Florida International



University. While at FIU, he served as the sports information director for volleyball, women's swimming and diving and softball.

He used this experience to be hired as the Assistant Media Relations Director at Louisiana Tech University. Schoon spent nearly two years at the school serving as the sports information director for men's basketball, women's soccer, women's bowling and women's tennis.

He then moved on to Conference USA and served as the Associate Sports Information Director at Marshall University in Huntington, West Virginia. At Marshall, he spent two years as the sports information director for men's basketball and the secondary director for football.

In October 2013, Schoon left Marshall to become the Assistant Director of Athletic Communications for the University of South Florida in the American Athletic Conference. After more than three years at South Florida, Schoon was hired for his current position at TCU in January 2017.

"I have been interested in sports since I could walk, which is pretty much when my mom started teaching me tennis," Schoon said. "Besides playing sports most of my life, I remember always showing interest in sports news. I would

always read the sports section of the Winfield Courier and the Sunday edition of The Wichita Eagle and showed an interest in the box score section of the papers where all the numbers and statistical information was. When I chose to attend KU after Cowley, my dad called a friend, Doug Vance, who was the director of communications at Kansas for men's basketball when Roy Williams was the coach. He put my dad in touch with the communications folks at KU. During my first week at KU, I had a brief interview and was brought on as a student assistant. I'll never forget them saying to me that my job is to know all there is to know about Kansas Athletics. I remember thinking, there's a job like that?"

At TCU, Schoon's job is to promote Horned Frog athletics through the media as well as social media. He primarily works with the men's basketball and men's golf teams. He also has to maintain accurate statistics and historical records of those sports as well as publicize TCU on its athletics website and on many social media accounts.

"Steven is a tremendous young man, and I am not surprised one bit by his success," Cowley head track and field coach Mark Phillips said. "He worked his tail off to be a contributor to the track and cross country teams."

Schoon covers all of the men's basketball games, home and away. That included Schoon traveling with the team to the Diamond Head Classic in Honolulu, Hawaii this past December.

"Some people I know have got out

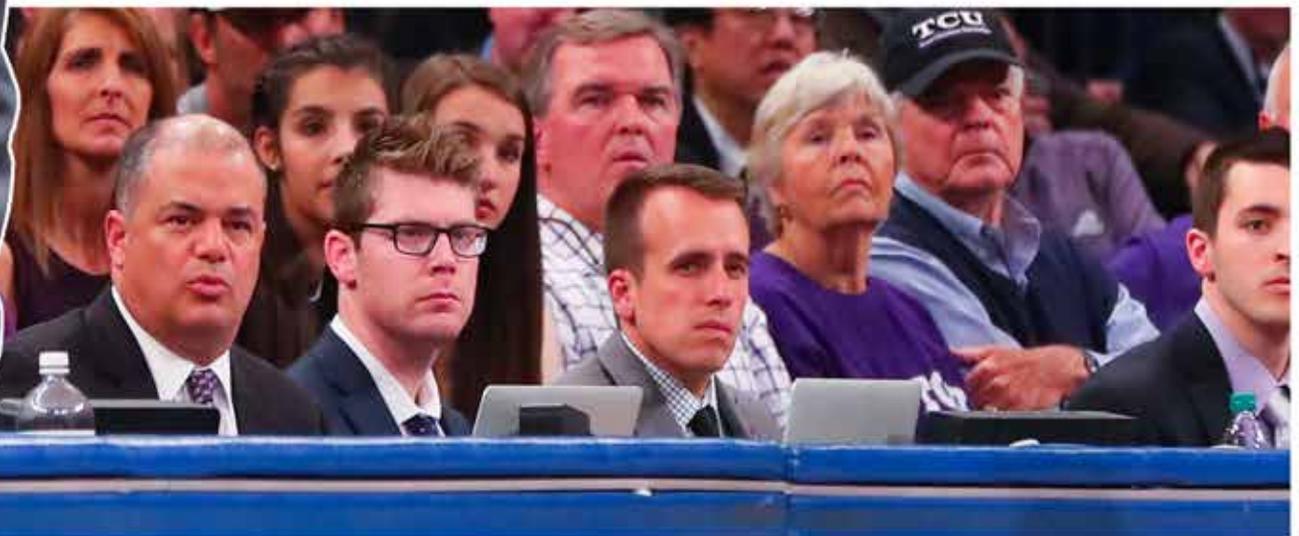
of this business due to the travel demands, but I still love it," Schoon said. "I also enjoy interacting with the coaches, student-athletes and the media, including the television networks that air our games. Being able to tell the story of a student-athlete to someone that can then tell the world is very rewarding to me."

Schoon has been a part of some memorable moments in TCU basketball during his three seasons at the school. The Horned Frogs won the NIT championship during Schoon's first year at the school and then advanced to the NCAA Tournament for the first time in 20 years during the 2017-18 season.

Thinking back of his time at Cowley, Schoon has many fond memories of winning intramural ping pong tournaments, turkey bowling, and living in the Docking Dorm with his track teammates.

Along with coach Phillips and Marlys Cervantes, he also will never forget Dejon Ewing's theatre class, Todd Shepherd's astronomy class, Connie Donatelli's ability to make people appreciate music they have never heard before, and learning from the best teacher ever, his mother.

"Cowley gave me everything I needed to further my education and succeed in life," Schoon said. "I am never ashamed to say I went to a two-year college, and I am very happy about my choice to start my college life and in some ways, my career, at Cowley."





Fosters receive Ambassador Award; Courtney Sendall named Young Achiever

Treated to an evening of dinner and music, a large crowd of Cowley College donors attended the annual Cowley College Foundation banquet held Thursday, November 8 in the Earle N. Wright Community Room.

The event had generous support from CPA Solutions L.L.C., and The Trust Company of Kansas who have served as sponsors for the event for a number of years.

Cowley College vice president of institutional advancement Dr. Kori Gregg served as emcee for the evening and thanked those in attendance for their support.

“All of you make what we do such a joy,” Dr. Gregg said. “Because of you, we are able to help our students get the higher education that they all deserve. Your dollars are making a difference in our students’ lives.”

This past fall, the school was able to provide \$115,000 worth of scholarship support to more than 200 students.

Great Western Dining provided a

wonderful dinner. Following the banquet, those in attendance were treated to dueling pianos from Fun Pianos, which donated 100 percent of their tips to the Starting Point Scholarship.

During the banquet, Dr. Gregg presented the Ambassador Award to Bob and JoLynn Foster. The award recognizes individuals who have given significant volunteer and other contributions to both Cowley College and the community and consistently give of themselves and their time to make the community better.

Bob and JoLynn were married in 1960. Bob went on to graduate from Kansas University with a degree in journalism, while JoLynn received an accounting degree from Wichita State University. Bob then ran Bob Foster’s Furniture until his retirement, and JoLynn worked at Parman, Tanner, Soule & Jackson as staff accountant, as the regional air carrier controller at Midwest Airlines in Wichita, KS, and then in the Finance and Compliance Department at GE until her retirement.

Never ones to sit still, they have been very active in retirement, volunteering throughout the community including Habitat for Humanity, Sacred Heart Church, Rotary and Cowley College where JoLynn serves as the Chair of the Board of Trustees and Bob serves on the Foundation Board.

They attend numerous Tiger athletic events and serve in Cowley College’s Foster Parent program.

“The handprint they have placed on this college and community has been remarkable,” Dr. Gregg said.

The couple were surprised at the banquet by their three daughters.

“We are very appreciative of this award and could not be more surprised,” JoLynn said. “Thank you all and Together We Roar.”

Courtney (Crain) Sendall was then announced as this year’s recipient of the Young Achiever Award. The award recognizes individuals age 40 or younger that have had success in their educational achievements, careers and community service, and/or service to

Cowley College.

Sendall graduated with a 4.0 grade point average from Cowley College in 2008. At Cowley, Sendall was a true leader on campus. She served as the Assistant Editor of the Cowley Press, the President for Tyger Tawk, the Vice President of Fellowship in Phi Theta Kappa and a Student Ambassador. She was also involved in Campus Christian Fellowship, Journalism club, Math and Science club and Act One. She also served as a work study for the Humanities Department, was a member of the Concert Choir and was a finalist for Queen Alalah.

She is the daughter of Kent and Pam Crain of Arkansas City.

Sendall went on to earn a Bachelor of Arts in Communication from Wichita State University and began her career in Corporate Communications at Intrust Bank. She is currently the Director of Marketing and Communications for the Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce. She has won numerous national, state and local awards for the Chamber's marketing and communication pieces.

If that isn't enough, she is actively involved with the Alzheimer's Association, the Kansas Food Bank, Kansas Humane Society, Kansas Specialty Dog Services, Make a Wish Foundation and Young Professionals of Wichita.

"I am very humbled and very honored to receive this award," Sendall said. "I am so grateful for my Cowley experience. The opportunities afforded to me in this building are priceless. I am a big advocate for this college. It is so easy to be involved and make a difference at Cowley."

Also during the banquet, a video was shown featuring Foundation Scholarship recipients. The Foundation Scholarship recipients thanked the donors in attendance for making their scholarships possible.

To donate to the Cowley College Foundation, contact Dr. Kori Gregg at 620-441-5245 or go to www.cowleyfoundation.org/donate.



ATHLETIC ROUNDUP

Men's Basketball

The Cowley College men's basketball team just missed its second straight 20-win season as they finished the year with a record of 19-12. The Tigers managed to finish second in the Jayhawk Conference Eastern Division and earned a home playoff game in the Region VI Tournament. Head coach Tommy DeSalme will enter next year needing only three wins to become the all-time winningest coach in the history of the program.

Women's Basketball

The Lady Tiger basketball team had another solid season, finishing the 2018-19 campaign with a record of 24-8. Cowley finished in second place in the Jayhawk Conference Eastern Division and advanced to play in the Region VI Tournament at Park City's Hartman Arena. Kedrahea Addison's 24 points in her final game moved her into 12th place on Cowley's all-time single-season scoring list with 537 points, while Brenda Da Silva finishes her career with 857 points and moved into 10th place on the Lady Tigers' all-time scoring list passing Georgiana Geleriu, who scored 844 points during the 1993-1995 seasons.

Wrestling

The Tiger wrestling team took a big step forward in the second year of the program as they qualified eight wrestlers for the NJCAA National Championships in Council Bluffs, IA. Freshman Garrett Lange led the way by placing seventh nationally in the 165-pound weight class. The Tigers also won five of seven conference duals and placed third in the Jayhawk Conference.

Bowling

It was a successful first season for the Cowley bowling teams. The Tigers qualified both teams to compete at the national tournament in Cheektowaga, NY. The Tiger men placed 11th out of 24 teams, while the Lady Tigers placed 13th and were led by Abigail Parks being named an All-American.

Men's Indoor Track & Field

Led by the men's 4x800-meter relay team, made up of Donte Howard, Morris Wynn, Deven Marshall, and Tanner Blackmore, breaking the school record in the event with a third place time of 7:48.11, the four runners achieved All-American honors and broke the previous school record time of 7:48.50 set in 2009. Blackmore also garnered All-American honors by placing third in the 800-meter run, while fellow sophomores Donte Howard (1,000-meter run), Deven Marshall (1,000 meter run), Dae'Trell Gordon (shot put), and Nathan Vann (heptathlon) rounded out other Tiger All-Americans as Cowley placed 12th nationally.

Women's Indoor Track & Field

Leading the way for the Lady Tigers was sophomore Ieshia Dickerson, who earned All-American honors in the mile run, 3,000-meter run, and as part of the distance medley relay team that finished as the national runner-up. Sasha Elizondo, Rosie Perez, and Anna Keller teamed with Dickerson to post a time of 12:13.91 in the distance medley relay and also earned All-American honors.

Other members of the Cowley women's track and field team that achieved All-American status were pole vaulters Thais Lindemayer Gomes and Kylie Klassen, high jumper Takia Zachery, Harlie Schmeling Hanson (5,000-meter run) and Sasha Elizondo (1,000-meter run). Led by these efforts, Cowley finished ninth nationally.

Baseball

The Cowley College baseball team has battled the weather to get off to a fast start. The Tigers won nine of its 13 non-conference games and now have its sights set on a third straight conference title and a trip to the JUCO World Series in Grand Junction, CO for the third time in the past four seasons. Sophomore outfielder Grady Davenport led Cowley at the plate with 20 RBIs in the team's first 13 games.

Softball

Like the Tiger baseball team, the Cowley College softball team has spent a lot of time indoors instead of on the diamond due to the weather. Playing a difficult early season schedule, Cowley has gotten off to a 10-11 start. However, the Lady Tigers will be shooting for a third straight Jayhawk East title. Sophomore transfer Haleigh Scott batted .466 with a team-leading 16 RBIs through the team's first 17 games.

Men's Tennis

The Cowley College men's tennis team is ranked seventh nationally. The Tigers, under the direction of first-year head coach Manuel Raga, defeated Baker University and Newman University in the early portion of their schedule and will use the experience of its nine sophomores to be a force in the region.

Women's Tennis

The Cowley College women's tennis team is ranked 10th nationally. The Lady Tigers defeated a pair of ranked opponents while opening the season with three straight wins. Cowley will benefit from having a veteran group that features seven sophomores. The team's six freshmen add to the talented lineup.

Sara (Dauber) Williams looks back fondly on her time at Cowley

Sara (Dauber) Williams, a 2003 graduate of Cowley College, has gone on to accomplish many things since her time spent at Cowley. The energetic mother of two somehow finds the ability to balance her time with work and raising a family, while also donating her time to many worthwhile organizations in Cowley County.

Williams graduated from Oxford High School in 1999 and came to Cowley on a basketball scholarship.

"I had taken dual courses in high school, so I thought Cowley would be a great fit," Williams said.

Along with spending the first semester as a member of the Lady Tiger basketball team, Williams was also involved in Phi Theta Kappa.

While at Cowley, Williams said faculty and staff such as Kristi Shaw, Bruce Watson, and JoLynne Stalnaker helped her along the way to achieving academic success.

"College, beyond the knowledge you gain, teaches you hard work, perseverance and dedication," Williams said. "For many it can be a confusing time in life and it's important to find a school that goes beyond supplying its students with information and facts. Cowley cares about its students and shapes them to be not only knowledgeable people in their field, but well-rounded and contributing members of society. I also

remember there was never a dull moment living in the dorms with my teammates. Anytime you needed someone to talk to or help with homework, or just to hang with, there was always a friend nearby."

After Cowley, Williams went on to obtain a Bachelor of Science and a minor in Business Administration from Southwestern College in Winfield, KS. At Southwestern, she was involved in Beta Sigma Phi and Students in Free Enterprise.

"I was able to get my undergrad completed at Cowley, which allowed me to focus more on my degree at SC," Williams said.

After college, she went on to spend some time working in the sales department of the NBA's Houston Rockets before being employed as an accountant at Easter Seals Capper Foundation and later at Inno-Labs.

With Inno-Labs planning to close, Williams learned of an upcoming Job Fair to be held at Cowley College. Williams attended the Job Fair and applied for the General Manager and Director of Sales position at the Best Western Plus Patterson Park Inn in Arkansas City.

"I applied in person with the owner, had two phone interviews and two face to face interviews, and here I am now," Williams said. "As the General Manager, it is my responsibility to oversee the operations of the hotel. The General Manager is responsible for all aspects of operations at



the hotel, day-to-day staff management, and guests. I am to be an ambassador for the brand and for my hotel, provide leadership and strategic planning to all departments in support of our service culture, maximized operations, and guest satisfaction. I work very closely with the hotel owners and other stake holders, and I am responsible for managing the hotel's management team (HOD's) and overall hotel targets to deliver an excellent guest experience. As the GM, I am also required to manage between profitability and guest satisfaction measures."

Williams enjoys the people she works with and the people the hotel serves.

"Every day we get to take care of someone and be their home away from home," Williams said. "We get to build relationships with those travelling into town for either corporate or leisure travel and when you love people and you love what you do, you never work a day in your life. "

Williams was the recipient of the Exceptional Woman

in Industry, Business and Agriculture Award, and has seen Best Western Plus Patterson Park Inn be recognized for numerous honors since opening in 2014.

Most recently, Williams and the hotel were inducted into the Business Hall of Fame at Southwestern College.

Williams and her husband, Brandon, reside in Winfield, KS. The couple have two children, daughter Braelyn 11 and son Braesyn 10. Williams currently serves as a Board of Director for the Winfield Chamber of Commerce, VISIT Ark City, & Cowley County Tourism Alliance. She is also active in her children's school on the Site Council and devotes her time to her children's activities and sports.

"To live in this community and to be able to serve my community and my guests is something I cherish each and every day," Williams said. "I cannot truly express what a gift it has been to find a career I enjoy in the community I love. I could not have made it through the tough times or been offered the jobs I have had without the education and formation I received from Cowley College and Southwestern College."



20th Class inducted into Tiger Athletic Hall of Fame

Celebrating 20 years of the Tiger Athletic Hall of Fame, four new members represented the Class of 2019 at the Hall of Fame festivities held Saturday, January 26 in the Earle N. Wright Community Room.

Those inducted, from left to right, were softball player Cassi (Vandever) Lund, sportswriter Bob Patterson, volleyball coach Jenifer Bahner, and volleyball player Fernanda (Domingos) Raney.

Cowley College athletic director Shane Larson said one of his favorite events of the year is the annual Hall of Fame induction ceremony.

Tiger Booster Club president James Schaefer, who served as the master of ceremonies, echoed Larson's sentiment. Schaefer said the Hall of Fame luncheon is an opportunity to celebrate all that is good about college athletics.

"I have a personal connection with the people going into the Hall of Fame," Schaefer said. "We thank them for making Cowley special."

Known as the athlete that helped return the Cowley College volleyball team to prominence, Fernanda (Domingos) Raney was the program's first-ever two-time All-American.

She helped the 2005 team finish as the national runner-up and capture its first outright conference title since 1981. The Lady Tigers' finished the 2005 season with a record of 30-6 overall and 9-0 in the Jayhawk Conference Eastern Division as they were ranked No. 1 in the final regular-season poll.

Fernanda was Cowley's first All-American in volleyball since Peaches Harris in 1987. She was named first-team all-conference and all-region each year at Cowley.

She capped her Cowley career by being named the 2006 Female Student-Athlete of the Year.

She went on to play volleyball at NCAA Division I University of Alabama-Birmingham (UAB) where she was named the Conference USA Newcomer of the Year and led the Blazers to its first-ever NCAA Tournament appearance.

Fernanda was named a second-team all-conference selection as a senior at UAB and was named the Conference USA Offensive Player of the Week following a 27-kill performance in the team's win at Alabama.

After her playing days, she went on to serve as an assistant coach at Fort Hays State University before becoming a preschool teacher in Lawrence, KS.

"I am grateful for my experience at Cowley," Raney said. "I am honored to remember all the special times I had here."

Cassi (Vandever) Lund played softball at Cowley College during the 1997 and 1998 seasons and still ranks in the top-15 of every pitching category at the school. She was named the Jayhawk East Most Valuable Player as a freshman and was a two-time First-Team All-Region VI selection.

Her 0.78 earned run average (ERA) during the 1997 season ranks second all-time at Cowley, while her career ERA of 1.41 ranks fifth. She tossed 12 career shutouts and won 45 games as she helped Cowley win the Jayhawk East and region titles both years at the school.

She was the first Cowley pitcher to be named an All-American.

After Cowley, she went on to play softball at Emporia State University.

Longtime sports editor for the Arkansas City Traveler, Bob Patterson covered Cowley College athletics for 20 years (1957-77). He covered Tiger home and away games, while also serving as the Sports Information Officer for the Jayhawk Conference, which consisted of writing weekly football and basketball press releases.

While in the service, he worked as a journalist for the Hampton Bureau of the Newport News (Virginia) Daily Press. He returned to Arkansas City as sports editor in 1961 and remained sports editor for the Traveler until 1977.

Patterson's career at the Traveler corresponded with a "golden age" in high school football and junior college basketball competition. Basketball coach Dan Kahler led the Arkansas City Junior College (now Cowley College) Tigers to top rankings in the nation in the mid to late 1950s.

Patterson was respected countywide for his dedicated coverage of Tiger Athletics.

After 20 years at the Traveler, Patterson was named sports editor of the Abilene Reflector-Chronicle. He later became managing editor of the Reflector-Chronicle and worked in Abilene for 12 years. He was named the Kansas Wrestling Sportswriter of the Year in 1979.

Patterson went on to join the Ponca City News in April 1989. He was named City Editor of the Ponca City News in 1996 and spent a total of 29 years with the newspaper.

In only five seasons as an NJCAA volleyball coach, Jenifer Bahner made a lasting impact at Cowley. The Kansas City native helped guide the Lady Tigers to its first two NJCAA Division II Volleyball championships (2011, 2013) and posted an impressive career record of 177-16 (.917).

The Baker University (KS) alum was hired as a graduate assistant at Pittsburg State (KS) in 2007 and spent two seasons on the bench before taking over as the head coach at Cowley at just 24 years of age. In her first season at the helm, the Tigers recorded a 32-5 record and were the runners-up in the national

championship match, losing in five sets to Illinois Central.

Two years later, the Tigers captured their elusive first national championship under Bahner, finishing the campaign at 38-2. The second title and final season under Bahner's leadership were in 2013 where Cowley defeated Parkland (IL) 3-2.

For her efforts at Cowley, Bahner was named the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) Coach of the Year in 2013. In five seasons under Bahner's tutelage, Cowley never finished outside the national top three rankings.

Bahner went on to coach at Drury University (MO), an NCAA Division II program. Bahner helped Drury achieve the program's first-ever national ranking, win their first co-championship in the Great Lakes Valley Conference, and earn their first bid to the NCAA Division II national tournament in team history.

"I am so grateful for my experience at Cowley," Bahner said. "Tom Saia and Pat McAtee took a chance on me as a 24-year-old coach. I was fortunate to surround myself with talented players and talented assistants. The community support was a huge part of what I loved about this town."



The Cowley College Alumni Association was formed in May 2018 and strives to engage alumni, students, and friends of the college by upholding Cowley traditions, promoting pride in a Cowley education, and providing opportunities to connect all Tigers and strengthen the Cowley Family.

What does it mean to be a **TIGER**?

True Orange:

As a Tiger, we bleed orange. We are more than just a college – we are a FAMILY.

Invest:

We invest in the future of our students – past, present, and future – and our college.

Give:

We give our time, talent, and fiscal good fortune for the betterment of the college, its alumni, students, and our community.

Engage:

We engage with our Tiger family through college and alumni events and offer opportunities for alumni to stay connected.

Recognize:

We recognize the achievements of Cowley students and alumni, and honor the uniqueness of the Cowley experience!

As a TIGER, we stand TOGETHER. Together we unite. Together we support. Together we continue the proud history and tradition of Cowley College. TOGETHER WE ROAR.

Not yet a member? You can sign up online here:

cowleyfoundation.org/product-category/alumni-association/

**SPRING 2019
CHARTER MEMBERS**

David D. Bartlett
Lynlea A. Bartlett
Susan L. Bartlett
Jim Bossi
Matt Brumback
Carson L. Stalnaker & Ashley R. Demaree
Robert M. & JoLynn Foster
Alex & Laura Gottlob
Dr. Kori A. Gregg
Lisa Grose
Ed & Linda Hargrove
David & Mandi Hernandez
Roxanna L. James
David M. Knapp
M. Shane Larson
Michael J. Marvel
Hayley D. Merz
Patricia D. Mugler
Dr. Nathan & Amy Niles
Jason & Shannon O'Toole
Todd & Holly Peters
Dr. Dennis C. & Christy M. Rittle
The Schwintz Family
Brian & Liz Shepard
Lena Spencer
Jennifer Steele
John & LeeAnn Sturd
Tiffany Vollmer
Vincent R. Warren
Valerie A. White
Sandy Wiemers

