

Science Math Associates

News From Northwest Nazarene University

School of Health and Science

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Fall 2002

Greetings from the School of Health and Science. I was appointed the new dean on August 1, 2002, giving me the opportunity to serve students, faculty, and alumni. Dr. David Redfield, the previous dean, has accepted a position at Salano Community College in Fairfield, Calif., as dean of math and science.

For those who do not know me well, let me introduce myself. I graduated from Point Loma Nazarene University in 1987, attended graduate school at the University of Nevada, Reno, earning my Ph.D. in organic chemistry in 1993. After a one-year postdoctoral appointment at University of Oregon, I joined the faculty at NNU – my first real job! For the last three years I have been the chairman of the department of chemistry. My wife, Jill, and I have three children: Kyle, 8, Connor, 5, and Kaitlyn, 3.

As we start the academic year (2002-03), the School of Health and Science faces many challenges. We are working to enhance facilities, increase enrollments, add faculty in key areas such as computer science, and continue to strengthen our research program with outside funding. SMA plays a large role in all our endeavors, and we are very thankful for your support. This year we are planning to strengthen our relationship by establishing an alumni advisory board for SMA with a faculty representative.



Dr. Dan Nogales

The board will take a leadership role in directing the activities of SMA in support of the School of Health and Science. More information will be sent to you regarding new activities. If you are interested in participating in this new advisory board, you may either e-mail me at sma@nnu.edu or give me a call at (208) 467-8672.

I am excited for the opportunities of the new year, meeting the new incoming students, meeting with alumni and tackling the upcoming challenges. Please feel free to contact me any time if you have suggestions, comments and opportunities for SMA and NNU.

Medical Mission Trip to Nairobi, Kenya

The School of Health and Science at NNU is sponsoring a medical mission trip to Nairobi during May and June of 2003. Students, faculty and medical staff will stay on the campus of Africa Nazarene University (ANU) in Nairobi. This trip is designed to give NNU science and nursing students an opportunity to provide service to the people of Nairobi while gaining experience in the medical field.

The group will be working with a Nazarene clinic outside Nairobi and a children's AIDS orphanage that is near the campus as well as running a free medical clinic on the ANU campus using supplies and medicines donated from Hands of Hope (<http://www.hofhnw.org>) and Heart to Heart (<http://www.hearttoheart.org>).

The group will leave NNU on May 19, 2003. The two-week group will return June 2, and the four-week group will return June 16. The two-week trip will cost about \$2,300 and the four-week trip about \$3,100 for room, board and transportation.

For more information about the trip, please contact Dr. Chris Kapicka at (208) 467-8682 or e-mail her at clkapicka@nnu.edu. You can also get more information from the NNU Web site. Click on the School of Health and Science, and it will walk you through the rest of the steps.

Nampa, Africa and Beyond

I still remember the first night of my freshman year on campus. My room in "the new dorm" was only a 30-minute drive and a 10-second elevator ride away from my parents' house, but still, there was no denying the fact – I was actually on my own at college! There were so many new friends to meet. I was enrolled in science courses that were rumored to be almost impossible to pass, and tryouts for the baseball team were coming up. I felt ready to face these exciting challenges.

Coming to NNU I had an abundance of lofty goals, which included growing in the Lord, preparing myself for the MCAT and medical school, and nurturing life-long relationships. NNU provided an environment where all these goals could be achieved. Each chapel demonstrated an atmosphere of community worship in which I was challenged to let the Lord change my heart. However, chapel was not the place where most of the change took place. Watching faculty and other students (including my future wife, Kristina), who were living out Christ's example, sharpened me like iron.

As a student who was very conscientious about completing every assignment correctly, I never found a professor who was unwilling to give up personal time for the purpose of helping me to press on toward my academic goals. I'll never forget the passion that Dr. Redfield expressed during the first day of general chemistry as he set our sights on our graduation in four years. Dr. Powers cared enough about our learning to invite us to his own home for study sessions. I often smelled soup (signaling her lunch hour) as Dr. Kapicka helped me with microbiology problems. Dr. Nogales always knew exactly what to say to encourage me on my next step toward medical school and a life of integrity. These are just a few examples; every professor helped in his or her unique way.

The life-long relationships that I brought with me on graduation day have proven to be even more important than my diploma. I made great friends during my time out on the baseball field. My former dorm roommates are my current accountability partners and comic relief experts. And I was blessed enough to find a beautiful, God-fearing wife.

During the fall months after my graduation I had the opportunity to travel to Rwanda and Burundi, Africa, in order to get some hands-on medical experience. In addition to being able to serve others and to see the world, I hoped that I would gain insight about whether or not a medical mission was in my future. Standing in the way of these aspirations were my fears of the unknown. Would I survive the sadness and disease associated with a missionary hospital? Would I be okay in a lonely place without my loved ones? God would soon answer these questions.

On my first day in the hospital I had the opportunity to view a very interesting debridement of a liver infection. Such was the extent of my pre-surgical training, as the next day I scrubbed and became a surgical assistant. In all, I assisted in about 40 surgeries, including C-sections, amputations, orthopedic work, stomach surgeries and a wide variety of other procedures. Helping to heal people surgically was very exciting, to say the least, but the relationships that I was able to form with missionaries and patients were the most meaningful things that I took home from Africa. God's love flowed so freely there! I discovered how much I love being with children. For the first time I had the privilege of seeing the satisfied, thankful look of a healed patient from the doctor's point of view. Also, the missionaries encouraged me tremendously concerning my abilities as a future doctor. I left Africa more excited than ever to become a missionary doctor.

Now I find myself living in Loma Linda, Calif., with my new bride in our sort-of-new apartment. Medical school has already begun. The last five years of my life leading to this point in the adventure have taught me so much about loving God and others wholeheartedly. As I continue to grow, this type of love is what I want my life to be about.



Dan Benedick with a patient from Africa

NNU Hosts Science Olympiad

by Dan Benedick

Over 600 students from Idaho participated in the tenth annual Idaho's 2002 Science Olympiad on campus April 6, 2002. The Science Olympiad was founded in 1983 to increase student interest in science. Since that time, the Olympiad movement has grown to all 50 states and Canada. Both junior-high and senior-high school competitions had teams of up to 15 students enter in a series of individual and team events that encouraged learning in biology, chemistry, physics, problem solving and technology. Dr. Jennifer Chase, chemistry professor at NNU, was the chairperson of the event. This year's event will be held on April 12, 2003. For more information visit <http://interests.nnu.edu/olympiad>.

New Science Course for Education Majors

Dr. Dan Nogales, dean of the School of Health and Science, and Dr. Joy Bielenberg, professor of education at NNU, attended the NASA/NOVA leadership development conference on March 17 – 19, 2002, held at Goddard Space Flight Center near Washington D.C. Two invited presentations were made summarizing the new science course at NNU, NS 201: Science From Space, which is tailored for modeling inquiry for pre-service teachers. Wally Johnson (chemistry, 1957) and Dr. Dan Nogales teach the course. The course Web page can be found at <http://courses.nnu.edu/ns201dn>.

U.S. News and World Report Ranking

NNU was ranked in the latest U.S. News and World Report as one of the top colleges and universities in the nation. Listed in the master's-level category, NNU jumped from the second tier of rankings in the West in 2002 to being one of the top 37 master's-level colleges and universities in the West out of 573 nationwide in the 2003 edition. U.S. News and World Report gathers data on up to 16 indicators of academic excellence, with peer assessment receiving the greatest weight. Also included in the ranking decisions are retention, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources, graduation rate performance, and alumni giving rate.

NNU was also listed in the 2003 edition of U.S. News and World Report's America's Best Colleges as being one of the best values in its category, the master's-level universities, which is also the largest category in the pool of colleges and universities. Ranked 19th in the West, NNU was chosen because of the number of students receiving grants based on need, the average cost of attendance after receiving those grants, and the average discount from total cost.

More information on the rankings and U.S. News and World Report's America's Best Colleges can be found on their Web site, <http://www.usnews.com>.

Dates to Remember:

October 12, 13	School of Health and Science Retreat, Cascade, Idaho
November 15, 16	Murdock Undergraduate Research Conference (Whitman College)
November 27 – 30	NNU Homecoming http://www.nnu.edu/alumniandfriends/alumni/homecoming/main.html
November 30	SMA Breakfast in the Wordsworth Dining Room
March 31 – April 4	Career Week http://www.nnu.edu/career
April 10-12	Idaho Academy of Science (Lewis-Clark State College)
April 12	Science Olympiad http://interests.nnu.edu/olympiad
May 2, 3	Senior Seminar http://interests.nnu.edu/seniorsem
May 17	Commencement
May – June	Nairobi Mission Trip http://www.nnu.edu/academics/schools/healthandscience/mission_trip_to_nairobi.htm

Department of Nursing Receives Full Accreditation – Graduates First Class

Seventeen graduates of the Department of Nursing at NNU were awarded a bachelor of science with a major in nursing on May 11, 2002. The graduation was special for the Department of Nursing and NNU as these were the first graduates from the program of nursing that was begun in 2000. This first class represents the fulfillment of a dream for the administration, faculty and the entire NNU community.

Families of graduates, representatives from the health care community of Idaho, alumni of the Samaritan Hospital program and members of the NNU community attended the first pinning ceremony sponsored by the Department of Nursing on May 10, 2002, in College Church of the Nazarene. The newly designed nursing pin representing NNU was awarded to each nursing graduate along with the privilege of wearing the pin on his/her nursing uniform. During the ceremony, Dr. Judith Stocks, chair of the Department of Nursing, explained the significance of each element in the artistic design of the pin. The shape of the pin, the Maltese cross, was taken from the pin of the Samaritan Hospital Training School of Nursing. The inner circle of the design was adapted from the NNU seal.



David Sever assisting Frances Mangum

The ceremony included a "Rekindling of the Nursing Flame" by Frances Mangum (see picture above), wife of Dr. Thomas Mangum, founder of Samaritan Hospital, and an instructor in the Samaritan Hospital Training School. Dave Sever, a 2002 graduate, invited Mrs. Mangum to light the flame. Dave then invited the entire class of 2002 to light their candles representing a life of service in the nursing profession. Dave, Wendy Haydon and Janna Venard, 2002 graduates, have earned degrees from NNU previously, and Dave has the distinction of being a son and nephew of Samaritan nursing graduates. Dr. Samuel Dunn, academic dean of NNU, challenged the graduates to be life-long learners, to provide nursing for all God's creations and to view nursing as a ministry to God.

Prior to the pinning ceremony on May 10, a press conference was held announcing a cooperative agreement between NNU and local hospitals including Idaho Elk's Rehabilitation Hospital, Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center, Saint Luke's Regional Medical Center and West Valley Medical Center. The hospitals awarded NNU \$60,000 for the nursing program to help diminish the nursing shortage in Idaho. Mercy Medical Center has supported the program financially from its initiation and recently awarded \$65,000 for the further development of nursing education at NNU.



Some of the nursing graduates - Candle lighting

Adding to the excitement of the week, the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education announced the award of five years of full accreditation to the Department of Nursing. The accreditation was based on a departmental report and an assessment visit during Fall 2001. To achieve full accreditation for this length of time without recommendations and prior to a graduation is a major achievement and affirmation of the quality of the program. Accreditation is important to the graduates, as they are now eligible to enter governmental services or governmental employment and to achieve admission into graduate programs.

The Department of Nursing is celebrating its achievements and is now looking to the future. Plans are being made for a baccalaureate completion program. The search for qualified faculty continues, and dreams of a facility are being envisioned. International learning experiences for the students continues to be a goal, as well.

The Weikel Sisters Love Their Chemistry



Rebecca Weikel

Rebecca and Wava Weikel graduated from Northwest Nazarene University on Saturday, May 11, 2002, both with a bachelor of science in chemistry. The Weikel sisters began their studies at NNU in the fall of 1998 and plan to earn their doctorates in chemistry. Rebecca has been accepted into Texas A & M's graduate program and will study organic chemistry. Wava has been accepted to the University of Southern California-Irvine's graduate program and will study physical chemistry. Both girls started their five-year journeys this fall.



Wava Weikel

After only two years of high school at Nampa Christian, Rebecca began classes at NNU at the age of 16. Her research included working on a project called, "The Molecular Tweezers."

Wava graduated with honors, and was inducted into the National Honor Society for scholastic achievement at Nazarene Colleges and Universities. Her research was part of a project developing a molecular switch, which she called "A Controllable Molecular Shuttle."

Both Wava and Rebecca are daughters of Wayne and Nancy Weikel, of Middleton, Idaho, and the granddaughters of Helen Nanney, of Boise, Idaho.

*Article published in the Idaho Press Tribune
May, 2002*

Students Present Science Research

Senior students from NNU's School of Health and Science and the Department of Psychology presented their research to faculty and peers at a Senior Seminar on Saturday, April 20, 2002. The seminar followed a Friday night banquet honoring the senior presenters.

The keynote speaker for the banquet was NNU graduate Dr. Joe Kronz, M.D., whose presentation was titled "Lessons Learned from Medical Research." Dr. Kronz reviewed his research that began at NNC/NUU and continued through his residency at The John Hopkins University Hospital. In addition, he discussed practical lessons he learned as they apply to high quality research. Dr. Kronz's major emphasis has been Internet-based tools for medical education and second opinions of cancer diagnosis. Dr. Kronz works in the department of pathology at Mercy Medical Center in Nampa, Idaho.

The seminar, along with an accompanying senior thesis, is the completion of student projects that span more than two years. The senior seminars and theses are the capstones of the students' undergraduate education in which they are expected to show evidence of not only their scholarly pursuit of knowledge but also how they have made a contribution to the world of scholarship.

Seniors' research reports included such topics as asteroids, linear mechanical translator with stepper motor control, flight performance determined with custom-built GPS data acquisition system, the scanning radio imager, optimization of the synthesis of a molecular tweezer, home range size estimates of the Mojave black-collared lizard, and photoisomerization in molecular recognition, to name a few. Several seniors will present their work at the Murdock Undergraduate Research Conference at Whitman College, November 15 - 16, 2002. All the presentations can be found on the Web at <http://interests.nnu.edu/seniorsem>.

ALUMNI INFORMATION

It is always wonderful to hear what is going on in your lives, and we would love to hear from everyone. Please send this type of information to SMA via e-mail (sma@nnu.edu) or by mail. Include your name, year of graduation, your major, information on your present employment, hobbies, family, etc.

40s **Virgil Vail, mathematics '49** – was recently honored by the Department of Communication Studies at NNU with an award named in his honor. The Virgil Vail Media Studies Award is presented to a senior student who has exhibited exceptional knowledge and skill in their media study courses. Virgil built and engineered the radio station KCRH-FM at NNU during the '60s. He continues to aid the department through the design and construction of studio equipment and facilities.

60s **Marvin Daniels, mathematics '62** – after a career in education in Oregon, Marv has retired to Nampa, Idaho. He has served seven years as adjunct math instructor for Boise State University.

Mary Lee Yarborough (Lester), mathematics '62 – retired in '99 after teaching mathematics in Richland, Wash., for 37 years. She and her husband, Jim, have two children, Steve and Lee Ann ('93), and three grandchildren.

Bob Danker, physics '67 – worked for TRW in California for 16 years. Currently Bob is devoting full-time work to Living Stream Ministry. In this assignment he spent three years in Warsaw and currently is preparing a study Bible of the Old Testament.

Dr. Rodney D. Bell, biology '68 – was honored for his work with the Philadelphia Stroke Council in an effort to increase public stroke awareness and care. Dr. Bell is a professor of neurology and chief of cerebrovascular disease at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, Philadelphia, Penn.

Jim Danker, engineering physics '68 – is a systems analyst with Raytheon Systems Co. in Fountain Valley, Calif. Much of Jim's work involves the country of Portugal.

70s **Mike Benedick, D.D., biology '72** – is a dentist in Caldwell, Idaho. Around NNU Mike is known as the father of Tim ('99), Dan ('01), and now Steve. Mike and Carol have another son, Mark, who is a sophomore in high school this year.

David Rudeen, biology '72 – after obtaining a master's degree in rangeland resources management in '77, David has worked for the U.S. Forest Service and is now a senior review appraiser. David and Phyllis have two daughters, Wendy and Susan.

80s **Lucille Morris McElrath, nursing '82** – received an ADN/RN from NNU/BSU and later obtained a BSN from Grand Canyon University. Lucille is currently a clinical care manager at Desert Samaritan Medical Center in Mesa, Ariz. Lucille and Tom have a five-year-old son.

Valerie Adams McMahan, mathematics '82 – taught math to put her husband, Joe, through seminary and currently is a homemaker with three children in Medford, Ore.

Mark Yuly, Ph.D., physics '87 – is currently chairman of the Department of Physics at Houghton College in New York. Mark and Robin's family consists of three boys (7,7,5) and one girl (2).

Mark & Susan Wheeler, both biology '88 – have returned to NNU where Mark is the director of campaign and facility development. Mark just completed a term as Alumni Board president.

90s **Bruce Belzer, biology '91** – came to NNU to take pre-med courses in preparation for medical school.

This was not unusual except that Bruce had a law degree and was a vice president of the J.R. Simplot Company in Boise, Idaho. After several years of science courses, Bruce was admitted to the University of Washington Medical School. Bruce finished family practice residency June 30, 2001, and currently works at the Wellness Center in Boise, Idaho. Although Bruce didn't graduate from NNU, we have adopted him as an honorary alumnus of the class of '91.

Charles Glenn Brockway, pre-engineering '92 – completed a B.S. in civil engineering at University of Idaho, Ph.D. in civil and environmental engineering at the University of Iowa and currently is a consultant in water resources at Brockway Engineering in Twin Falls, Idaho.

Dr. Suzanne Clark Anstine, biology '93 – just finished her residency at Michigan State and now works at Saint Luke's in Boise, Idaho, as an OB/Gyn doctor.

Peter Gaede, biology '93 – will have a collection of his scientific illustrations that he used for naturalist magazines such as National Geographic displayed in the Friesen Galleries, Brandt Center, located on the NNU campus November 4 through December 31, 2002.

Dr. Robyn Hyde, chemistry '93 – received her

Ph.D. in biochemistry from the University of Utah. She was recently elected to the faculty in the University of Utah's Department of Medicinal Chemistry.

Jami Mittelstaedt York, biology '95 – began work for Ninth House Network (NHN) after finishing a master of science in management at the University of Denver. NHN is a Corporate Learning Network providing management training for corporations.

Michael Ellis, engineering physics '97 – is currently employed by Hewlett-Packard Co. in Boise, Idaho, as a research and development engineer.

Patrick Gray, biology '97 – is pursuing a nursing degree.

Jennifer Hubartt, biology '97 – received her master of medical science in physician assistant May 26, 2002, from Midwestern University in Glendale, Ariz.

Jason Mittelstaedt, engineering physics '97 – works for RightNow Technologies in Bozeman, Mont. He divides his time between technology management, business planning, and product management.

Jason Steiner, computer science '97 – started with Micron Technology in Boise, Idaho, as a systems administrator and then moved into managing VMS systems. Recently Jason was promoted to leading this group.

David Zink, engineering physics '97 – after working at Micron Technology for four years as an engineer, David now works for the Boise Company in the procurement department. David and Julie have one son named Timothy.

Shelby Schmollinger, biology '98 – is working at Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle, Wash., where she makes between 300 – 600 plates each day. Shelby commented that "I have learned SO much from NNU – my classes in microbiology, chemistry and genetics, besides other lab classes have greatly helped me."

Nathan Mason, chemistry '99 – was accepted to Medical School Ben Gurion in Israel, which is affiliated with Columbia University in New York.

Joel Sauder, biology '99 – just finished his M.S. in zoology at Idaho State University and now works at the High Desert Ecological Research Institute as an ecologist in Bend, Oreg.

Farah Tengra, biology '99 – will begin studies this fall in molecular biology at Washington State University.

00s Angie Bradburn, biology '00 – was accepted to intern at Turpentine Creek Wildlife Refuge in Eureka Springs, Ark., where she worked with 100 of the big cats. Angie has returned

to school at NNU to pursue a career in biology education.

Amy Mason, biology '00 – began dental school at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebr.

Dan Benedick, biology '01 – began medical school in August 2002 at Loma Linda University in California.

Andrew Relph, biology '01 – will finish an M.B.A. in December and then plans to work while his wife finishes the nursing program at NNU. After his wife graduates, he plans on going to medical school.

Tiffany Brush, biology '02 – is now working at the University of Idaho's Caine's Veterinary Teaching Center dealing with micro-biology.

Jerome Chatelain, biology '02 – will begin a program in plant genetics this fall at Washington State University.

Jennifer Edmonds, biology '02 – will begin studies this fall in veterinary medicine at Oregon State University.

Patrick Lebow, bio/chem '02 – is working for North Wind Environmental at the INEEL in the Remediation Technologies Division. His group specializes in cleaning up chlorinated solvent plumes in groundwater. He will start a master of environmental science this fall through the University of Idaho.

Laura Luckey, biology '02 – started working for the Montana State Department of Agriculture in Bozeman, Mont., this fall as an agriculture laboratory technician. She will be testing pesticides and feed supplements for the agriculture farmers in that area.

Micah Parrish, computer science '02 – completed his third year internship at Hewlett-Packard in Boise, Idaho. His projects have been in areas of high availability mass storage testing, test tool development, UNIX administration, and corporate Web logs. Micah will enter Southern Adventist University this fall to work toward a master of software engineering degree.

Jaden Perry, engineering physics '02 – works for Colvin Engineering Associates, Inc., in Salt Lake City, Utah, as a mechanical designer. Colvin is a mechanical engineering firm.

Steve Roth, chemistry '02 – will begin Ph.D. studies this fall in organic chemistry at the University of Nevada, Reno.

Rebecca Weikel, chemistry '02 – is going to Texas A & M University this fall to begin a Ph.D. program in chemistry.

Wava Weikel, chemistry '02 – will begin a Ph.D. program this fall in physical chemistry at the University of California.

Career Week 2002

March 11, 2002, kicked off a week of career-related activities at Northwest Nazarene University. The week opened with an Etiquette Dinner and Dress-for-Success Style show in the Brandt Center lobby. The Career Fair Convocation followed this. The Career Fair was held in the Montgomery Field House with exhibitors from over 90 organizations who were available to discuss employment and internship opportunities.

Career Week is an excellent example of the NNU community with over 150 volunteers working together to assist students in their career choices and to help them make decisions that will impact their lives in a positive way. Career Week 2003 is scheduled for Monday, March 31 - Friday, April 4. For updated and detailed information about Career Week activities, check out our web site at www.nnu.edu/career or contact Dianna Gunderson, Career Center director, at 208-467-8402 or dvgunderson@nnu.edu.

NNU Shows Growth in Fall Enrollment Numbers

Total undergraduate enrollment this year was 1152, compared to last fall's 2001 enrollment of 1096. A key factor in the enrollment was a 23 percent increase in first-time freshman over last year. Also showing growth this fall are NNU's graduate programs. Graduate programs were up 15 percent from 274 for the Fall 2001 semester to 317 this fall. NNU offers graduate degrees in business, education, ministry, and social work, with one degree, the master's of arts in spiritual formation being offered exclusively online using the concept of learning communities.

An all-time high was also reached in the continuing studies department, which served nearly 6,000 students in non-degree programs over the last year.



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