



The Messenger

NORTHWEST NAZARENE UNIVERSITY | FALL 2014

Vol. 102, Num. 3

**BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE—
THE LEAH PETERSON LEARNING
COMMONS**

**SEEKING GROWTH AND VITALITY
FOR THE NEXT 100 YEARS**

**IMPROVING EDUCATION
THROUGH INNOVATION AND
TECHNOLOGY**

In August of 1984, as a brand new doctoral student on a library orientation tour, I heard the librarian say, “During the two years you are here, we will be phasing out the card catalog system.” Those were sad words to me. I liked using the card catalog; I went there to find information, discover new things and dig up detail and context. I loved the library and its invitation to learn. It had become the place where I gained knowledge, learned to reflect and develop a greater sense of understanding. But the library paradigm, as a physical repository of books, was changing.

Still today, some 30 years later, the transition continues: electronic books are overtaking printed copy, Wikipedia has replaced Encyclopedia Britannica and students are apt to Google first and ask a librarian second. The information explosion fueled by digital delivery systems has prompted many people to ask a series of questions: What is the nature and purpose of the 21st century library? Is the conventional library a thing of the past? Where and how will a university store and access ideas, facts and figures? Who will help sift through an ever-increasing sea of data to get to facts, knowledge, understanding, wisdom and, ultimately, truth?

In March of 2013 we broke ground for the Leah Peterson Learning Commons, which will house the John E. Riley Library. This building, the people who have planned it and the expanded body of people who will occupy it is Northwest Nazarene University’s answer to these questions. We have thought and traveled, planned and designed, and now all this work is coming to fruition.

This month we will dedicate the Leah Peterson Learning Commons and the John E. Riley Library. Yes, it will be a different space than the Riley Library dedicated in 1966 or the R. T. Williams Library (now the religion building) constructed in 1942. But it will continue to be the symbolic center of learning for NNU.

Students will gather, as they always have, to explore thoughts and theories and to learn proofs and postulates. But as the circumference of human knowledge has grown, so, too, has the number of people and departments who will be housed within the Peterson Learning Commons. They stand ready to guide faculty and students to information held within the walls of the building, provide electronic access to data from around the world, and foster the spirit of collaborative learning essential to success in our shrinking world.

In one form or another, the 21st century library will still be a storehouse of data and ideas. Yet the Peterson Learning Commons is more than that, for the NNU learning experience encompasses a body of knowledge that has been discarded by the secular universities. We seek not only to explore and understand the reality of the physical world and the accomplishments of humankind, but also to explore the spiritual dimensions of reality. In and through all our efforts to learn, we are responding to Jesus’ invitation to find the truth in Him.

It is that exploration—“faith seeking understanding” (Anselm)—for which NNU and the Peterson Learning Commons exists. In this space young men and women will come to learn to master a chosen field. And from this place they will go out to take what they have learned and incarnate both their craft and the nature and person of Jesus Christ in their lives, learning to be God’s creative and redemptive agents in the world.



David Alexander, NNU President



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Northwest Nazarene University, a comprehensive Christian university, offers over 60 areas of study, 19 master's degrees in seven different disciplines and two doctoral degrees. In addition to its 85-acre campus located in Nampa, Idaho, the University also offers programs online as well as in Boise, Idaho Falls, Twin Falls, and in cooperation with programs in 10 countries.

Founded in 1913, the University now serves over 2,000 undergraduate and graduate students, more than 6,000 continuing education students, and 2,300 high school students through the concurrent credit program.

President

Dr. David Alexander

Vice President, Enrollment & Marketing

Stacey Berggren

Director, Marketing & Media

Hollie Lindner

Marketing & Communications Coordinator

Anna Lee

Editorial Assistants

Barbara LeBaron, Tami Ponsford

Photographer

Brad Elsberg

Designer

Jenny Fultz, Fultz Design

Contact Us:

623 S. University Blvd.
Nampa, ID 83686-5897
www.nnu.edu

Office of Alumni Relations

800-654-2411 / 208-467-8841

Office of Enrollment & Marketing

208-467-8994

Office of Admissions

877-NNU-4-YOU / 208-467-8000

Office of University Advancement

866-467-8987 / 208-467-8772

Center for Professional Development

800-349-6938 / 208-467-8439

Cover image:

Brad Elsberg



A growing and vital university

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As NNU enters its second century, it continues to break ground literally and figuratively with innovative ways to provide Christian education.



Transforming education in Idaho

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The NNU Doceño Center for innovation in teaching and learning is setting the standard nationwide for equipping educators.



Expanding online outreach

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NNU Online takes NNU's unique educational experience to a larger, more diverse audience than ever before.



Building resources for the 21st century

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The Leah Peterson Learning Commons will be home to the expanded Riley Library, progressive technology and the new campus coffee shop.

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a grow and vital university

**Significant
changes
on campus
and online
expand
NNU's reach**

FALL of 2014 brings exciting change to NNU and not just to the physical campus. In addition to the seasonal excitement of welcoming a new class of freshmen, transfer students, and adult and graduate students, NNU is introducing its first fully online bachelor's degree program for the traditionally aged undergraduate student.

Online education is not new for NNU; however, until now, it has been available only for adult and graduate students. This fall, the new Bachelor of Arts in liberal studies will join all the existing fully online degree programs to form NNU Online—a new branch of the university that offers anyone a flexible, accessible, top-quality educational path.

NNU has provided outstanding brick-and-mortar-based education for a century. Exciting growth on campus like the Leah Peterson Learning Commons opening its doors and new programs like the NNU Doceō Center revolutionizing education in the state of Idaho prove the university's ongoing commitment

to its home in Nampa. Why then seek significant growth in an online arena as well?

One answer is because NNU offers a unique educational experience, and making that experience of an academically rigorous, distinctly Christian education available to anyone who desires it, regardless of location or economic status, fulfills the university's mission.

The story of recent alumnus Rev. David Ching serves as an illustration of the power of NNU's online reach. Ching had been serving as pastor of Fellowship Church of the Nazarene in Houston, Miss. until he received a diagnosis of stage IV cancer in his head, neck and throat in September 2011.

Dr. Jay Akkerman, one of Ching's professors in the Graduate Theological Online Education master's program, says, "David spent the majority of his graduate studies working through his illness. We at NNU had a front-row seat to his fight with cancer, including when treatment left him unable

ing



Ching (right) donned a cap and gown for a special graduation ceremony at his church where Akkerman (left) awarded him his diploma.




to speak for extended periods of time.” However, Ching pressed on despite all obstacles, even when he was told that, although he had beaten his initial diagnosis, he now had inoperable stage IV lung cancer. This shocking news came only a few months before he would finish with not his first but his second master’s degree from NNU.

When Ching’s health would not allow him to travel to receive his degree at Commencement, Akkerman traveled to Ching in Mississippi

to present him with his diploma at a special celebration at his church on Palm Sunday 2014.

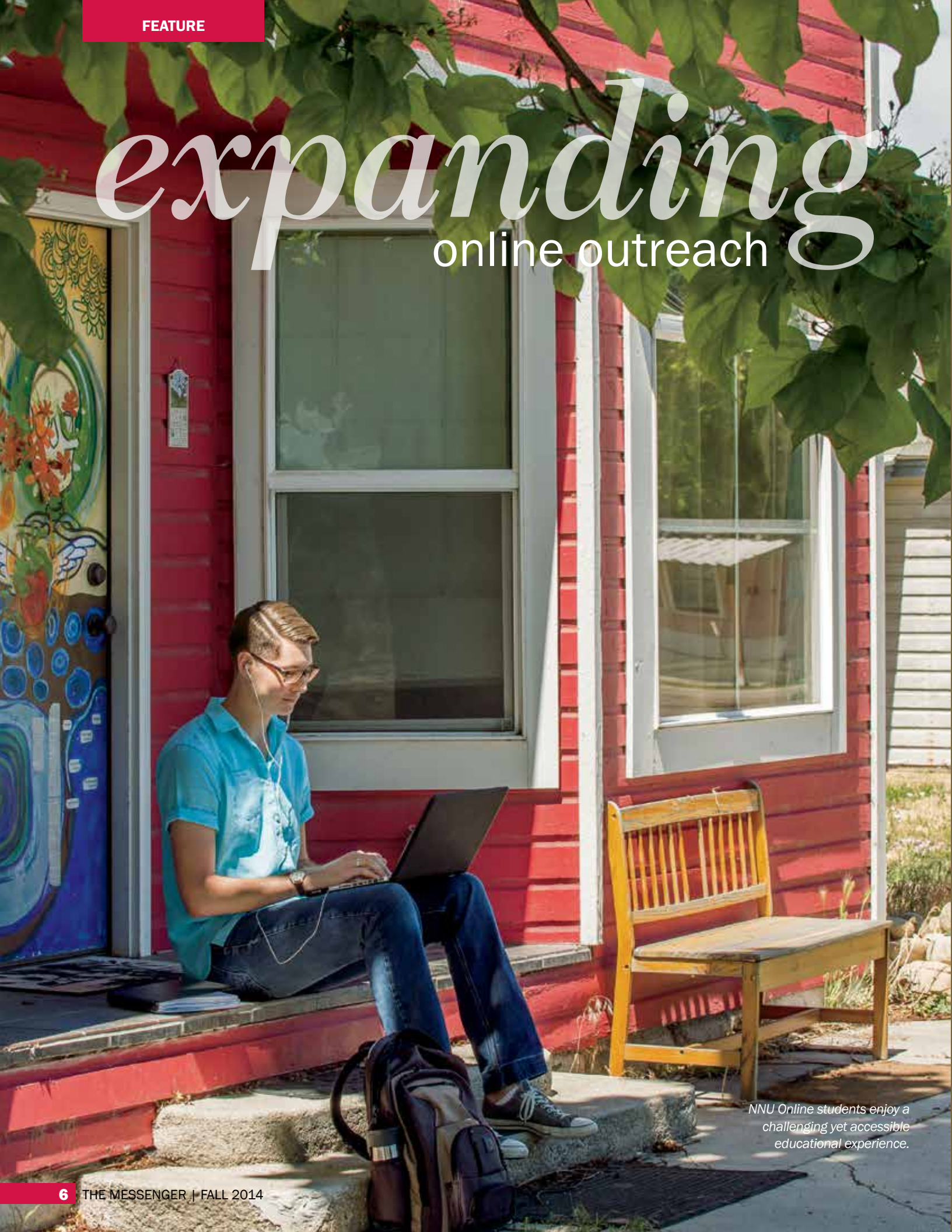
Ching said, “I would like to thank all my colleagues, the staff, the professors and all others from NNU and its surroundings for their support, love and prayers. I could not have done this without each of you.”

Students that come to NNU through less traditional channels contribute a great deal to the NNU family. Akkerman shared, “My colleagues and David’s classmates have all been inspired by his tenacity and his grace. David has enriched NNU’s community by allowing us to share in his experience.”

Northwest Nazarene University is committed to making its unique brand of education accessible around the globe for students like David Ching because of what they bring and what this university provides. NNU offers something distinctive both in Nampa and online—a community that cares about the heart, soul, mind and body of its people. 

expanding

online outreach



NNU Online students enjoy a
challenging yet accessible
educational experience.

NNU Online serves the mission of the university by reaching new populations with an academically rigorous, distinctly Christian education.

By Devon Van Essen, Class of 2004

THERE ARE few things as exciting as seeing the faces of new students starting classes each fall. However, there are few things as disappointing as hearing the stories of the eager student who had a family emergency at the last minute and had to stay at home or the one for whom job or financial responsibilities proved too heavy to leave behind. NNU has a heart for students like these that due to family commitments, distance or other circumstances simply cannot participate in a traditional educational experience.

For the first time, these students have another way to become part of the NNU community—one that is more flexible and accessible than NNU has ever been able to offer before. This fall marked the launch of NNU's first fully online bachelor's degree for traditional students. This new degree in liberal studies offers an emphasis in humanities or social sciences and is joined by online associate degree programs.

INTRODUCING NNU ONLINE

Dr. Eric Werth, director of the new Center for Online and Blended Learning at NNU, is committed to expanding NNU's accessibility to new communities in Idaho and beyond. Speaking of the new undergraduate online program, he says, "NNU education has all these academic and spiritual development benefits. There's a whole group of students who might not be able to take advantage of these opportunities who probably would like to. Offering this program also prepares us for the growth of online programs that we're seeing at higher education institutions around the country."

The Bachelor of Arts in liberal studies joins a cadre of existing online programs in adult and graduate studies that have been combined to form a new arm of the university called NNU Online. Through NNU Online, the university is reaching out to new populations and opening access to an array of students for whom traditional on-campus instruction is not possible. The delivery method may be different, but the academically rigorous, distinctly Christian, relationally focused education is the same.

CREATING COMMUNITY

An online delivery method has already proven successful in several existing graduate degree programs at NNU. In the online Master of Science in nursing program, for example, students work through one course at a time, each of which lasts five to six weeks. This program intentionally makes space for family holidays and

provides students—many of whom are also working full time and caring for families—with a great deal of flexibility as they move through the program.

Dr. Barbara Lester, chair of the Department of Nursing, says she and the other nursing professors work hard to create a sense of community through the cohort model, where students are placed in a small group, their cohort, and remain with that group through all their nursing courses.

Students in a cohort are encouraged to pray for each other and share their lives with one another, providing important emotional and spiritual support during their time in the program. When the first nursing cohort had five pregnancies during their course of study, the students supported one another through all five births, including a premature birth and a baby who spent time in intensive care. Through it all, the new mothers were able to continue their education and achieve their goals.

"What's the winning formula?" says Lester. "I think it's faculty. I think it's the nature of nurses' being relational. I think it's been the cohort model and the flexibility that when life does happen—and it does—that faculty look at new ways of managing it."

BUILDING DIVERSITY

Creating a strong sense of community is just one way NNU Online brings the university's values to this delivery method. Online education also facilitates interaction with a much

more diverse group of students than one often finds on campus, and these diverse experiences and perspectives add a great deal to the spiritual atmosphere online.

Dr. Jay Akkerman, professor of preaching and pastoral theology, appreciates the connections his Master of Divinity students are able to make around the globe. "I have friends all over the world now because I've had them in class. Those doors are open." He has seen American ministers in cohorts with indigenous leaders in Africa and Asia who built partnerships that have continued well beyond their studies at NNU.

NNU Online is poised to take NNU to more students than ever before. Whether it is a first-generation college student who never dreamed a private Christian education would be possible or a pastor in Ghana achieving a graduate degree while continuing to serve his flock, as Akkerman puts it, "We really are reaching the globe with what we're doing here on these 88 acres."



DEGREES OFFERED

Liberal Studies (A.A., B.A.)

Business Administration (A.A., B.S., M.B.A.)

Elementary Education (A.A.)

Educational Leadership:
Building Administrator (M.Ed., Ed.S.)

Educational Leadership:
Doctorate (Ed.D., Ph.D.)

Educational Leadership:
Superintendent (Ed.S.)

Christian Ministry (B.A.)

Christian Studies (M.Div.)

Ministerial Course of Study

Missional Leadership (M.A., M.Div.)

Pastoral Ministry (M.A.)

Spiritual Formation (M.A., M.Div.)

Youth, Children & Family Ministry (M.A., M.Div.)

Nursing (M.S.N.)

RN to BS in Nursing (B.S.)



Amy Ackley introduces tablet technology to her fifth grade classroom.

THE NEED for education reform in America, and particularly Idaho, has filled this year's headlines and evening newscasts. Northwest Nazarene University's new Doceño Center is serious about helping Idaho educators change that story. "Idaho has some of the most dedicated and able teachers that I have seen," says Dr. Eric Kellerer, director of the Center. "But still only half of our 8th graders are proficient in math or reading, and we are the lowest state in the nation for sending students on to college."

The NNU Doceño Center exists to inspire personalized learning in pre-school through college-level classrooms by use of innovative practices in education. "The mission of the Center is the same as that of the university," Kellerer explains. "We're seeking transformation both on and off campus."

Fifth grade teacher Amy Ackley ('01) was able to witness the power of what the NNU Doceño Center is offering after it helped her implement iPad use in her classroom. "Technology gave my students a voice," Ackley shares. One boy who had never raised his hand or talked in class was able to communicate with the iPad in front of him with no hesitation. "For the first time, I got to hear what he was thinking. That's powerful!"

"I have kids who have created things—mastered things—that I never could have imagined before. When you allow change

and allow the fear of change to be set aside, you allow great things to happen," Ackley explains. Her experience with the Center and the transformation she saw in her students inspired Ackley to join the team at NNU. "I'm excited to share this vision we have with others and to expand the opportunities for professional development and consulting with teachers and administrators throughout the state."

The NNU Doceño Center is also entering year two of its Kahn Academy pilot project—a program that helps students to fill in gaps in their learning on an individual level through the use of laptops or tablets. Over 10,000 students participated the first year, and the Center will add another 10,000 students in the second. Through this pilot program, Kellerer and his team are seeking to answer the question, "In what cases does a student learn the most?"

"It's exciting to watch the transformation that happens in the classroom as students begin to engage and learn," Kellerer shares. "We want to take what we've learned from Khan Academy and see if it will transfer to different blended learning platforms." The report from the first year of the pilot program has not yet been published, but it is safe to say that integrating technology into the classroom has been a success.

On the NNU campus, the Center is working to integrate



transforming Idaho education

**The NNU Doceño Center
is revolutionizing
the use of technology
in Idaho classrooms and
gaining national attention**

By Linnea Hanson, Class of 2011

technology more fully into the classroom and everyday life of NNU's students. To aid classroom development, the Center is awarding grants to faculty and staff who wish to purchase technology or technical services for use in general education or teacher education courses. The Center has awarded \$39,000 in technology and professional development funds for this autumn alone. These mini-grants, spread across 10 departments on campus, will help to enhance student academic outcomes and fund professional development for faculty.

The establishment of the NNU Doceño Center and its programs was made possible by grant funding from the J.A. & Kathryn Albertson Foundation. This funding allowed NNU to become part of the greater Doceño Center initiative begun by their foundation specifically for educational reform in Idaho.

NNU's newest building, the Leah Peterson Learning Commons, will house the Center. This space will expand opportunities for integrating technology on campus and resourcing educators around the state. Kellerer's goal is that

the Learning Commons will be a space where students think differently about learning and teachers think innovatively about teaching.

Planned technology for the building includes collaborative, small-group learning spaces with shared displays and a MultiTaction board—a 10' x 5' multiuser, multitouch LCD

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display that will allow students to manipulate and display information from their tablets or smart phones. NNU is also collaborating with the University of Central Florida on avatar technology designed to assist student teachers with the development of classroom skills.

As the reach and capabilities of the Center grow, Kellerer hopes that other states and universities will begin looking

to Idaho and NNU as an example. "Idaho is small enough to see change happen quickly, but large enough to show how ideas can be replicated in other parts of the country and world. Good ideas spread rapidly." ❖

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

A native Idaho teacher, Mrs. Leah (Webster) Peterson spent one year at NNC—earning her teaching certificate in 1928—but for her it was enough time to receive an impression she would carry her entire life. After her death in 2007, she honored NNU with a gift of \$7 million, signifying the impact that NNU made on her life and her long-held passion for Christian education. Her generosity began the building process for the Leah Peterson Learning Commons—a state-of-the-art academic facility that includes an expanded library and a myriad of technology resources.

After leaving NNC in 1928, Peterson began teaching in a one-room schoolhouse in the isolated Salmon River backcountry of Idaho. She married fellow educator Chester Peterson in 1930, and the couple moved to Alaska in 1939 to continue teaching.

Throughout her 42 years of service with the Anchorage School System, Peterson's vocations included elementary school teacher, remedial reading specialist, supervisor, curriculum coordinator, elementary director and principal. She wrote a social science textbook, "This is Alaska," which was adopted by the state of Alaska for use throughout the state.

building

The new Leah Peterson Learning Commons will provide

By Melissa Smith, class of 2003

Walk through the spacious Learning Commons, and you will quickly discover NNU is serious about academic inquiry. The new 57,000-square-foot facility is dedicated to assisting students as they learn and educators as they teach.

The multifunctional Learning Commons houses the John E. Riley Library's traditional print collections and has a variety of study spaces designed to address different learning needs; it offers group study rooms, cozy window-seat niches, a quiet reading room, testing rooms, an instructional lab and computer workstations. There's even The Bean, NNC's soda shop of the 40s and 50s, revisioned as a new campus coffee shop available to befriend early birds and night owls during their study sessions.

Students will no longer have to traverse campus to access technology and media assistance, academic coaching or

peer tutoring. The Learning Commons is now home to most academic service units of the university, including the following partners: Center for Academic Success and Advising, Center for Online and Blended Learning, Information Technology, Technology and Media Resources, Library, and University Archives. The Commons will also be home to the growing NNU Doceō Center for innovation in teaching and learning.

Please join us in dedicating and celebrating the opening of the Leah Peterson Learning Commons. The following dates and times have been set aside to recognize this moment and provide students, alumni and friends the chance to familiarize themselves with the new building and its services.



resources for the 21st century

a wealth of space, resources and technology.

LEAH PETERSON LEARNING COMMONS DEDICATION CEREMONY

October 9, 4:30 p.m.
(Building will be open for tours)

HOMEcoming: BUILDING TOURS

November 7, 2:00-3:30 p.m.
November 8, 11:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

HOMEcoming: CENTENNIAL TIME CAPSULE CEREMONY

November 7, 3:30 p.m.

LEARNING COMMONS PARTNERS REUNION BRUNCH

November 8, 8:30-10:30 a.m.
All current and former employees of
the Learning Commons partners (see
list in article) are invited. For additional
information or to RSVP, contact
learningcommons@nnu.edu.



*Junior McCrea Nirider (pictured at right on a
tour of the construction site) can't wait to use
the Learning Commons. "It's so amazing,
I may never leave. If you see someone
camped out with a sleeping bag by the
fireplace, that might be me!"*


CONTINUING THE LEGACY

Since its dedication in 1966, the John E. Riley Library—named for NNU's longest-serving president—has stood as an academic cornerstone and testimony to the man who valued ministry and Christian higher education enough to dedicate his life to serving both.

John E. Riley graduated with honors from Eastern Nazarene College (ENC), earned a master's in theology from Boston University and was awarded a Doctor of Divinity from ENC. He moved to Nampa, Idaho in 1944; for eight years, he pastored College Church of the Nazarene and taught philosophy and theology at the neighboring college. In 1952 he was elected president of NNC and spent the next 21 years in that role.

During his years as president, the student body grew, the number of faculty with advanced degrees increased, the academic component of the college was strengthened and a dozen new buildings either were built or saw substantial structural additions. Dr. Riley worked hard to maintain student-administration relations during difficult decades and inspired confidence in those who worked with him.





FRESHMAN MAGGIE ALCARAZ ENJOYS ROOT BEER FEST ON THE LAWN DURING NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION. SHE AND 287 OTHER NEW STUDENTS EXPERIENCED THIS AND MANY OTHER DISTINCTIVE NNU TRADITIONS DURING THEIR FIRST FEW WEEKS ON CAMPUS.



READ MORE ABOUT MAGGIE AND NNU'S FAVORITE ACADEMIC, SPIRITUAL AND SOCIAL TRADITIONS AT [CAMPUSLIFE.NNU.EDU](https://campuslife.nnu.edu).



Celebrating growth in freshman class

"This year's enrollment of 2,058 students is the second highest in university history made possible in part by a large freshman class. It is our privilege to provide a dynamic Christian community committed to forming scholars, and we are delighted with the number and variety of students that have joined us this year," said President David Alexander.

Overall, numbers for 2014 indicate an increased total enrollment of 1,332 undergraduate and 726 graduate and doctoral students for a total enrollment of 2,058 compared with 2,036 students last fall. Particularly notable is an 11 percent growth in first-time freshmen. The registrar reports 288 first-time freshmen registered compared to 258 in the fall of 2013.

The top majors chosen by this year's class of incoming freshmen include biology, pre-health and nursing.

As one of NNU's largest undergraduate areas of study, it is clear NNU's science and pre-health programs are thriving and attracting strong students seeking a well-rounded education. Freshman Isaac Mitchell, Sandy, Ore., shares, "NNU will provide me with the degree and the knowledge to be successful in medical school. Most importantly, NNU will provide an environment in which I can easily seek out influences that will help me grow and mature in my faith."



New faculty eager to challenge and nurture

NNU is pleased to welcome 15 new faculty to campus this fall. Joining the community will be Amy Ackley ('01), instructor of innovation in education; Tawny Billings, assistant professor of education; Rick Boyes, assistant professor of counseling; Justin Clardie, assistant professor of international relations; Michelle Hunt ('03, '13), assistant professor of nursing; Becky Louber ('11), assistant professor of kinesiology; Dustin ('99) and Olivia Metcalf ('00), co-directors of the Office of Spiritual Formation and university chaplains; Stevan R. Pekovich, assistant professor of biology; Amy Rice ('02, '14), assistant professor of library services; Ryan Roberts ('88, '93, '05), assistant professor of education; Gregg D. Russell, administrative faculty in the NNU Doceō Center; John Stutz, assistant professor of engineering; Leonie Sutherland, professor of nursing; and Celia I. Wolff, assistant professor biblical studies.

In addition to the academic positions they assume, these individuals may also be found in their lesser-known roles of landscape artist, world traveler, martial arts teacher, photographer, couch potato, musician, outdoor enthusiast and horse whisperer, to name a few. Interests and abilities such as these make NNU certain our new professors will be wonderful contributors to our liberal arts education.



Millions fund original undergrad research

This summer, NNU received notification of the renewal of the INBRE grant for a total of \$3.2 million over the next five years in partnership with all the universities in Idaho to support biomedical research. The grant comes through the IDeA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence (INBRE) Program.

Dr. Dan Nogales, dean of NNU's College of Arts and Sciences, says, "We are incredibly grateful for the support of the INBRE Program. It will continue to enhance the already active research happening at NNU and give us opportunities to expand research capabilities for our students and faculty over the next five years."

In addition to the INBRE grant, NNU professors have obtained funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, NASA and the Idaho Space Grant Consortium. This funding is supporting 35 undergraduate students who work directly with faculty on original research projects. Examples of these projects include testing materials and electronics for space flight, synthesizing self-assembling molecules capable of encapsulating smaller molecules, using remote sensing to evaluate crop health, and researching the causes for illness such as MRSA bacterial infections and Alzheimer's disease and the effect of alcohol on fetal development.



Fresh Retreat cultivates deep roots

Traditional freshman students were treated to a special tradition at the end of their first week on campus: Fresh Retreat. All first-time freshmen loaded up buses and headed north to the Trinity Pines Camp and Conference Center in Cascade, Idaho. There, the new students began to acclimate to college life while bonding with their new classmates and experiencing memorable activities together.

In addition to free time and fresh air, the group also learned more about college life in sessions hosted by campus personnel. Student Development staff, Wellness Center counselors, Dr. Alexander and many other NNU staff and faculty gave up their Labor Day weekend to get to know the new students and help make their first days at college special.

Director of Community Life Grant Miller said, “Freshman retreat is always an amazing time for our students to begin to grow deep roots at NNU. Stepping away from campus after the hustle and bustle of orientation and the first week of classes helps everyone to take a deep breath and remember that their time at NNU is going to be a remarkable, life-changing experience.”



Alumna shares insights on mystery years

The NNU Wesley Center, in partnership with Focus on the Family, offered an educational seminar for youth pastors, educators and parents featuring Cynthia Tobias, NNU alumna, best-selling author and learning-styles expert.

The one-day conference on September 6 tackled the topic of better understanding the mysterious world of middle school students.

Tobias and co-author Sue Acuña recently released a book entitled “Middle School: The Inside Story—What Kids Tell Us, but Don’t Tell You” that addresses current middle school issues like puberty, the Internet, romance, faith and school. They shared insights gained from years of listening to kids on how to keep lines of communication open and how to deal with overwhelming emotions.

Attendees enjoyed learning from these two experts, getting questions answered and interacting with each other on these topics and others facing students in this critical transitional period of life.

The event held on campus in the Brandt Center not only empowered the local audience but a national audience as well via live simulcast.



Senior engineers design to help a friend walk

In July, members of one of NNU’s engineering senior design teams traveled to Ashford, Wash. to deliver the equipment they spent their senior year researching and constructing. The recipient of their efforts was Richelle Heacock, a childhood friend of David Vinson (Elbe, Wash.) who was one of the team members. Richelle was left paralyzed in 2010 after a tragic car accident.

David, along with team members Paulo Salvador (São Paulo, Brazil) and Mark Horton (Nyssa, Ore.), decided to take on the project as an opportunity to help Richelle fulfill her dream of being able to walk again. They designed a walking rehabilitation machine to assist Richelle in re-training nerves.

David shared his hopes for the project: “I’m trying not to get too excited, but if it is effective for Richelle, there is the possibility that it could be used to help others as well.”

The equipment is currently being evaluated by Richelle’s physical therapist, Ron Stone. Stone commented, “This project demonstrated the students’ ability to synthesize what they have learned and apply it to an urgent, compassionate engineering problem. I applaud their outcome!”



NATALIE EVANS, HONORED WITH THE 2013-14 STEVE HILLS CROSS COUNTRY AWARD, RUNS IN THE ROGER CURRAN INVITATIONAL. SHE IS ONE IN A LONG LINE OF OUTSTANDING ATHLETES THAT HAVE REPRESENTED NNC/NNU AS PART OF THE TRACK AND FIELD AND CROSS COUNTRY TEAMS.

IF YOU ARE A CURRENT OR FORMER NNU TRACK AND FIELD OR CROSS COUNTRY ATHLETE, DON'T MISS SPECIAL REUNION EVENTS IN YOUR HONOR DURING HOMECOMING & FAMILY WEEKEND.



VISIT [NNU.EDU/HOMECOMING](http://nnu.edu/homecoming) TO LEARN MORE AND PURCHASE TICKETS.

CRUSADERS RACE TO TOP OF GNAC

When John Spatz stepped onto Northwest Nazarene University's campus back in the fall of 2003, he took over a young Crusader Track & Field program that had seen success at the NAIA level but now faced the challenges of competing in the NCAA and for Great Northwest Athletic Conference Championships.

Twelve years later, Crusader Track & Field is one of the elite athletic programs both at NNU and in the GNAC. The Crusaders have claimed eight individual GNAC championships in 2014, 39 Crusader student-athletes have earned All-GNAC honors in indoor or outdoor track & field, 21 have earned Academic All-GNAC honors, and the Crusaders have competed in six events at the NCAA Division II national meets.

"It's taken time to grow and to become a recognized name," said Spatz, who credits a consistent and talented coaching staff for part of NNU's success.

The success of former Crusader student-athletes like two-time NCAA Division II National Champion Ashley Puga, who won the 2009 title in the 800 meters both indoors and outdoors, NCAA Division II All-Americans Emily Peterson (2006, high jump), Josh Heidegger (2009, javelin) and Dallas Beaty (2009, 400 hurdles) has also helped propel the Crusaders toward the GNAC summit.

"The quality [of these former team members] has continued to help us recruit quality student-athletes," Spatz said of the program's growth. "That's expedited the success of the program."

Success has also contributed to the growing numbers of the team, which ballooned from 53 student-athletes in 2003 to what

Spatz admits was an almost unmanageable team roster of 85 to 90 in the 2007-09 season. In 2014, the Crusader roster checks in at 63 student-athletes.

In terms of athletic achievement, the growth has been remarkable. In 2003, the Crusaders claimed four All-GNAC outdoor track & field honors and one GNAC title as Zach Dwello won in men's steeplechase. In 2014, the Crusader women's track & field team entered the final event of the GNAC Outdoor Championships racing for the

team title, settling for a program-best runner-up championship finish.

In addition, NNU has hosted all 11 years of Indoor Championship meets since the championship's inception in 2004. This is yet another sign of the program's growing prominence.

"The Lord has just blessed us with a lot of resources and support; the credit really goes to Him with the athletes we attract," Spatz said. "I'm very proud of the process; I like building things," he added as he prepares for season 13 leading NNU's track & field and cross-country programs. "I like seeing things improve. The work of the assistant coaches and the student-athletes—they've just poured everything they have into the program, and that's the reason for our success."

HOW CRU ARE YOU?

Northwest Nazarene University Athletics wants to see your positive Crusader pride, and we're going to reward you for it, too!

Snap a selfie or get a friend to capture you sporting Crusaders logo merchandise or doing whatever you do to positively support NNU Athletics.

Send your photos to us at nnusports@nnu.edu, and we will post them on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Every two weeks, we will randomly pick winners from the submissions to receive prizes, which include Crusader logo gear, special autographed Crusader memorabilia, season tickets to Crusader sporting events, tickets to NNU Athletics' annual CRU Awards Banquet and more.

So Crusader fans, let's see just "How CRU are you?"


CRUSADER SCOREBOARD

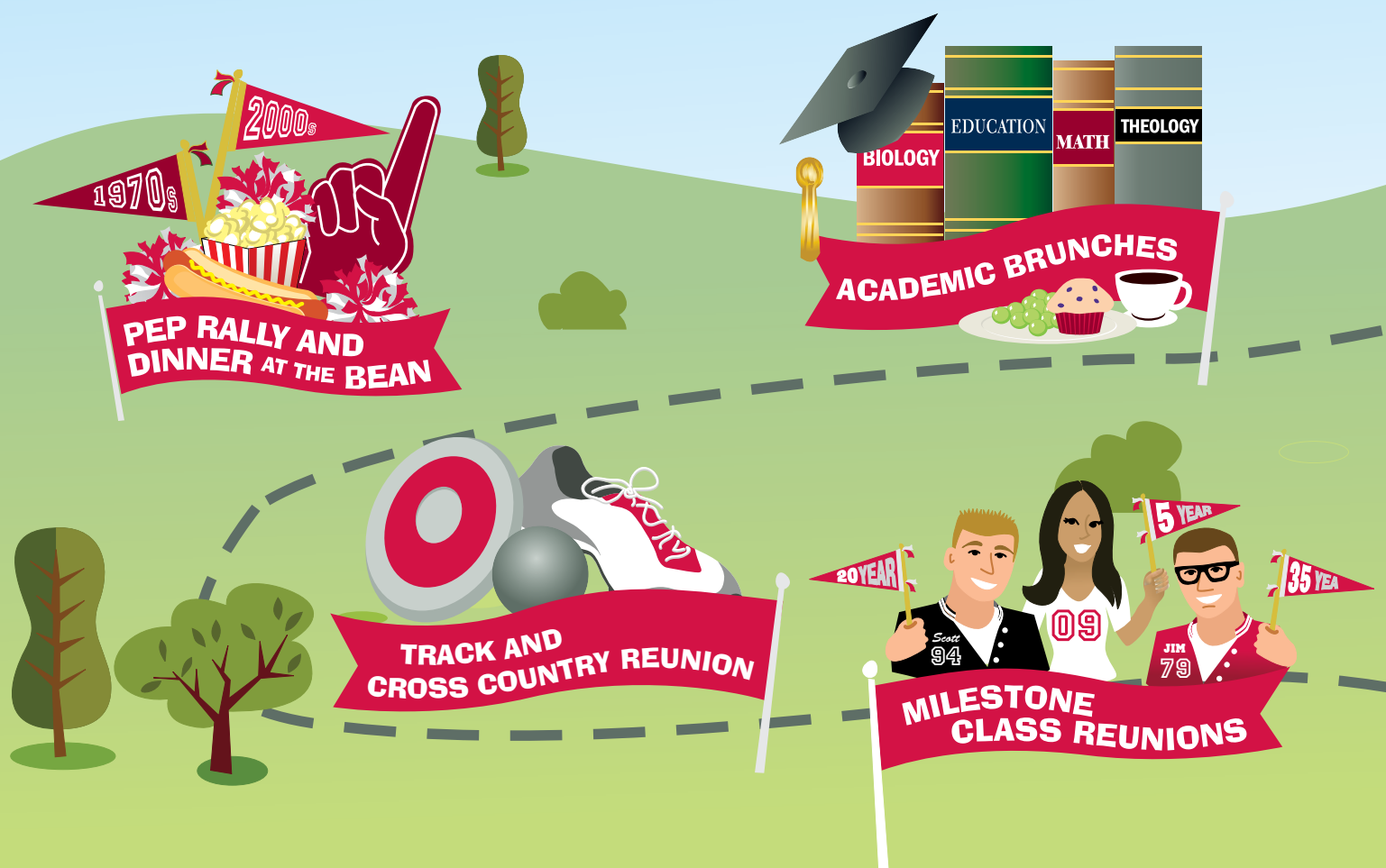
 No matter how you follow Crusader athletics, we've got you covered. Get scores, schedule information and the latest news online at nnusports.com

 Social Media fans, Like us on **Facebook at Northwest Nazarene Crusader Athletics.**

 Follow us on **Twitter @NNUSports**



 Follow us on **Instagram at NNUSports.**

 Remember that you can catch game highlights or Crusader athletics' weekly "Crusader Coaches Corner" show on our **NNU Crusader Athletics channel on YouTube.**




COME HOME TO NNU

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6

-  7:00 p.m. NNU Nursing Alumni Gala Dinner
-  7:00 p.m. Fall Play—"The Boys Next Door"


FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7

- 8:00 a.m. Legacy Breakfast (invitation only)
- 8:00 a.m.-10:30 p.m. KidZone open
- 10:00 a.m. Alumni Awards Chapel
-  Noon Alumni Awards Banquet
- 2:00 p.m. Theology panel

2:00-4:30 p.m. Tours of Leah Peterson Learning Commons

3:30 p.m. Centennial Time Capsule burial

 4:00 p.m. Fall Play—"The Boys Next Door"

 5:00-7:00 p.m. Pep Rally & Dinner at the Bean

7:00 p.m. Coronation

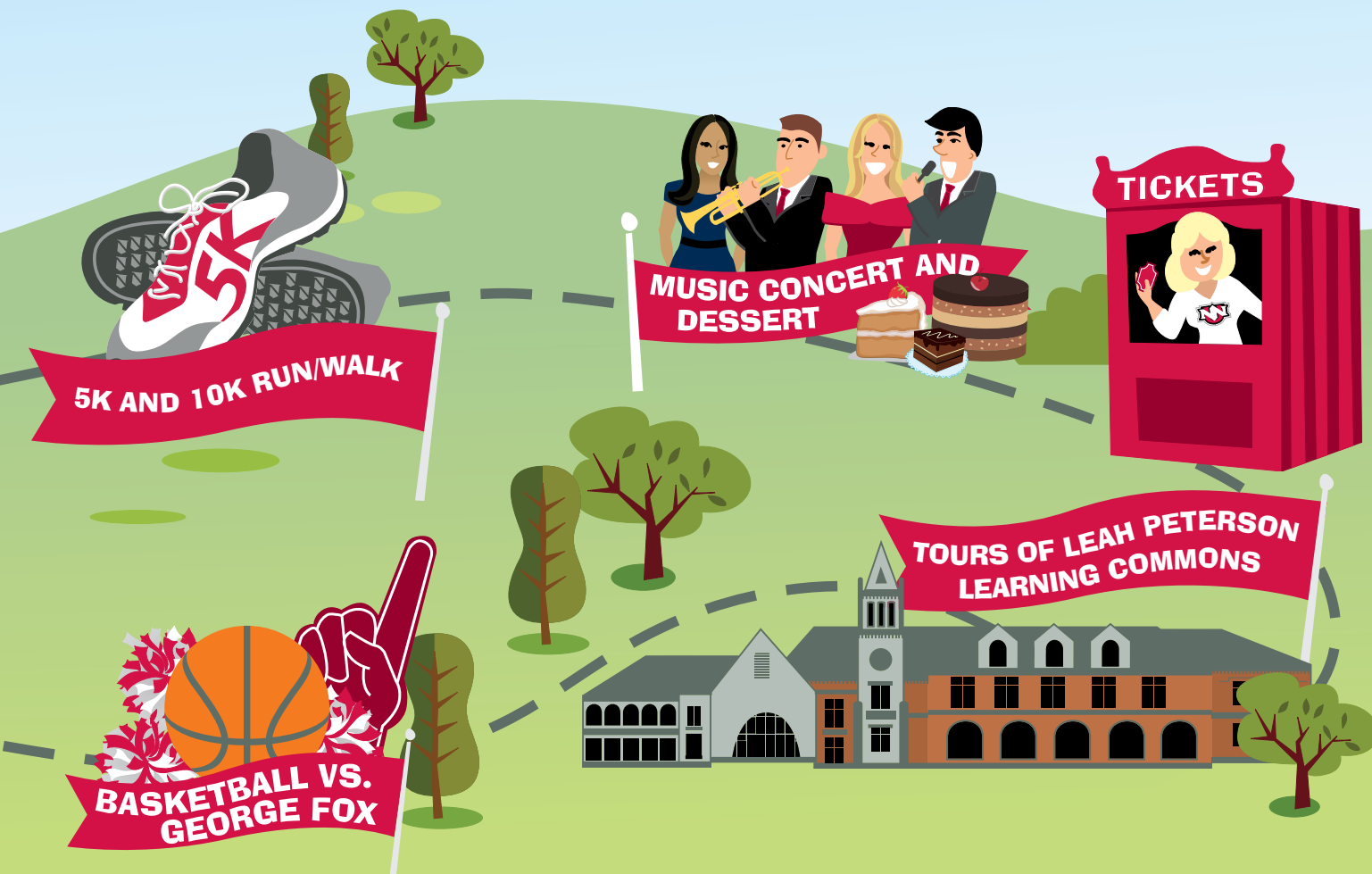
7:00 p.m. Reception honoring Track/Cross Country athletes

 8:00 p.m. Men's Basketball

Halftime Parade of Track/Cross Country alumni

9:30 p.m. '80s Slick

Visit nnu.edu/homecoming for details,
or register now at nnu.edu/tickets or by calling 208.467.8841.



HOMECOMING & FAMILY WEEKEND NOVEMBER 6-8, 2014

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8

8:00 a.m.-10:30 p.m. KidZone open

 8:30 a.m. Academic brunches


8:30 a.m. Learning Commons Partners reunion brunch

 8:30 a.m. Track/Cross Country gathering and breakfast


11:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Tours of Leah Peterson Learning Commons


 11:30 a.m. Reunion lunch gatherings


-2:30 p.m. Classes of '69, '74, '79, '84, '89, '94, '99, '04, '09

 2:00 p.m. Fall Play—"The Boys Next Door"

 2:30 p.m. 5K/10K Run/Walk

 3:00 p.m. Afternoon Tea

 5:00 p.m. Fall Play—"The Boys Next Door"

 7:30 p.m. NNU Department of Music concert
—dessert reception following

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9

We invite you to attend the church of your choice.

Alumni News

1970s

Don -70- and **Barbara (Kaye) -73- Climer** are again enjoying part-time employment in guest services with the Seattle Mariners baseball team, working for their fifth year on the lower level at Safeco Field, which is known as The Pen.

Frances (Tish) Huffman -76- has been hired as the CEO of Tesh, a Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, nonprofit that offers life- and job-skills training, counseling and child development services to Kootenai County residents with disabilities. Since 2008, Frances has served as director of special services for Coeur d'Alene School District.

Judith (Wrightsmen) Taylor -76- has retired after nearly 25 years as a clerk with the U.S. Postal Service. Judith lives in Boise.

1980s

Dan Vogt -82- has been hired as the new principal at Twin Falls High School where he has worked for eight years, most recently serving as vice principal.

Patricia (Cooper) Burgess -83-, in her 30th year of teaching at the elementary level, was honored this spring by the Elk Grove School District as Teacher of the Year. Patricia is presently in a doctoral program.

Laura E. Burri -83- recently moved her law practice to Morrow & Fischer, PLLC of Nampa, Idaho. She was a partner at Ringert Law Chartered, Boise, Idaho, from 1986 to 2014.

Julie (Van Beek) Heisey -89-, head women's basketball coach at Seattle Pacific University and former NNU standout, was invited to share her experience and perspective at the Women in Sports Career Seminar, hosted by the GNAC at the Washington Convention and Trade Center in Seattle.

1990s

Lance Nelson -BA 95-/MS 06- has returned to his hometown of Coos Bay, Ore. with his wife Anna and their three children, Savannah (13), Isabella (10) and August (3). He has taken the position of integrated behavioral health program manager for Waterfall Community Health Centers there. Waterfall operates three non-profit clinics throughout the county serving as the

"safety net clinic" for the homeless, uninsured and others with barriers to medical and mental health care.

Andrew Zirschky -97- graduated May 24, 2014 with a Doctor of Philosophy degree from Princeton Theological Seminary. Andrew, his wife **Kristina (Hedstrom) -95-** and their two children live in Spring Hill, Tenn.

2000s

Benjamin Warren -02- is a member of the newest class of Idaho's 40 Accomplished Under 40 named by "Idaho Business Review." Selections are based on professional accomplishments, leadership skills, community involvement and long-term goals. Benji is a financial consultant with Rathbone Warwick & Daly Investment Consulting in Boise.

Scott Nelson Foster -05- recently completed two commissioned portraits of the Patroness of the St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish of Schenectady, N.Y. The paintings celebrate the life of St. Kateri Tekakwitha, a 17th century Mohawk woman born in the Mohawk River Valley of upstate New York. Images of the paintings can be viewed on Scott's blog, kateriportrait.blogspot.com. Scott is an assistant professor of creative arts at Siena College; he and his wife Katria live in Albany, N.Y.

Laryssa Mereszczak -05- continues to pursue her life-long dream to be a professional beach volleyball player. She is presently ranked 33rd in individual Association of Volleyball Professionals (AVP) women's rankings and ninth in team rankings with her partner Megan Wallin from Michigan State.

Juli Wozniak -MEd 06-/MEd 13- is the new principal at Gearhart Elementary School in the Seaside, Ore. School District. Juli and her family will be relocating from Fruitland, Idaho. She has 12 years of teaching experience.

Jillian (Jenson) Viles -09- completed a Master of Arts in industrial and organizational psychology in July 2014 from the Chicago School of Professional Psychology. Jillian resides in Prineville, Ore.

2010s

Michael Corbett -EdS 13- is the new principal of Oakley High School in Cassia County School District of Eastern Idaho. Michael

and his wife Jamey live in Shelley, Idaho and have four children.

Jonathan Hawkins -14- is finding great success in basketball overseas. In March, Hawkins went from substitute teaching in Washington, D.C. to helping the city of Jurmala, Latvia make history in the Latvian LBL league. He now heads to Gold Coast, Australia to play professional ball from September through December as part of a unique ministry opportunity. Jon will be working in full-time ministry five days a week at a Christian high school in addition to practicing with the pro team owned by the high school in an Australian league similar to the NBA-D-League.

Jordan Nicholes -14- will make his professional basketball debut playing for the Westfalen Mustangs in the second-highest professional league in Germany. This follows a summer spent working in NBC basketball camps in Alaska.

Marriages

Danielle Rogers -11- and **Stuart Montgomery -11-** on April 11, 2014, in Snohomish, Wash. The couple reside in Nampa, Idaho. **1**

Laura Luckey -02- and **Jeron Chatelain -02-** on May 3, 2014, in Selah, Wash. The couple will reside in College Place, Wash. **2**

Megan Hill -07- and **Joseph Gravelle** on May 4, 2014, in Windemere, Florida **3**

Kendra Waitley -05- and **Glenn Dustin** on May 25, 2014, in Nashville, Tenn. The couple will reside in Spring Hill, Tenn.

Emily Curty -14- and **Jeremy Huard** on June 7, 2014, in Ashland, Ore. **4**

Lindsey Bramson -11- and **Jayson Helfer** on June 27, 2014, in Pasco, Wash. **5**



Births

Jathan Elliot on Jan. 9, 2013, to Alexandra and **Renatto Brito -11-** **6**

Hannah Jo on Jan. 27, 2013, to **Sarah (Stude) -00-** and **John Greentree -99-** **7**

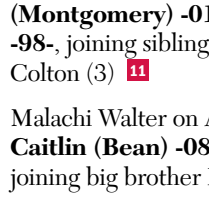
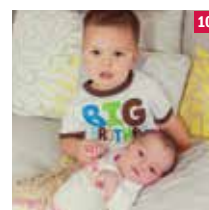
Nicole Elizabeth on Aug. 16, 2013, to **Jennie (Allen) -06-** and **Toby Hazen -97-**, joining brothers Bradley, Jacob and Benjamin **8**

Samuel Robert on Aug. 20, 2013, to **Kristi (Trigg) -03-** and **Willis Cook -03-**, joining siblings Gabrielle, Annabelle and Nathaniel **9**

Carly Renee on Sept. 16, 2013, to **Erin (Sanders) -07-** and **Bryce Johnson -07-**, joining big brother Colt James (2) **10**

Lucianne Reese on March 1, 2014, to **Jayci (Montgomery) -01-** and **Chris Field -98-**, joining siblings Isabella (6) and Colton (3) **11**

Malachi Walter on April 28, 2014, to **Caitlin (Bean) -08-** and **Tim Risi -07-**, joining big brother Ezekiel. **12**



Amelia Rene on April 30, 2014, to **Britni (Davies) -08-** and **Philip Nelson -10-** ¹³

Kenny Eastman Arthur on May 5, 2014, to **Nikki (Bodenstab) -06-** and **Kenton Lee -07-** ¹⁴

Lilian Alice on May 12, 2014, to **Hilary (Johnson) -11-** and **Paul Swidecki -12-** ¹⁵

Samuel Devonshire on May 15, 2014, to **Alison (Brown) -04-** and Tim Weeks ¹⁶

Zander Glenn (3 ½) adopted on May 20, 2014, by **Dena (Jones) -00-** and **Adam Juhrs -00-** ¹⁷

Gideon Randolph George on May 21, 2014, to **Kristina (Scharfenberg) -02-** and George Samuel, joining brother Thaddeus (2) ¹⁸

Colton Thomas on May 26, 2014, to **Melissa (Robinson) -06-** and **Tyler Gilmore -06-** ¹⁹

Nolan Carter Lee on June 3, 2014, to **Lindsay (Van De Hay) -08-** and **Dale Raybould -08-**, joining brother Keanan and sister Kyleigh. ²⁰

Eva Soraya on June 8, 2014, to **Deanna (Pelletier) -99-** and **Kevin Durfee -99-**, joining big brother Elijah ²¹

In Memorium

Harold D. Litsey (39) on Sept. 13, 2013, Kailua, Hawaii

Doris (Snyder) Lisk -40- on May 22, 2014, Grants Pass, Ore.



Gary Jasper -67- on June 12, 2014, Wasilla, Alaska

R. Arthur Freeman -68- on June 16, 2014, Ontario, Ore.

Ch. Charles Hallin, Jr. -73- on May 8, 2014, Kansas City, Mo.

Cynthia (Hicks) Benoit -74- on November 9, 2013, Eagle, Idaho

John D. Roberts -74- on June 9, 2014, Portland, Ore.

Edith Boyd -75- on July 9, 2014, Nampa, Idaho

Steven Eichenberger -79- on June 17, 2014, Boise, Idaho

Peter Mangum -79- on June 15, 2014, Nampa, Idaho

Darrell Gardner -82- on May 14, 2014, Durango, Colo.

Jaylynn Twiss -MBA 07- on June 18, 2014, Paul, Idaho

-year- indicates graduation year

(year) indicates matriculation year

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Price includes: 4-star hotels, two-night cruise with outside cabin, all taxes and fees, all breakfasts, all dinners, two lunches, Patmos cruise excursion, travel insurance and all gratuities.

Tentative cost: \$2,300 plus air fare. Registration limited to 46 people.

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It started for us in mauve-colored pews surrounded by stained glass. It happened as Rev. Gene Schandorff faithfully opened the Word. We experienced it in classrooms as godly men and women taught us. Sometimes it would be around a table in the cafeteria, on a couch in a dorm lobby or on the grass under the stars with friends. We felt a change as we fed hungry people, worked with kids from tough backgrounds and put others' needs before our own. It stirred within us as our eyes and hearts were opened to the greatness of the whole world, not just the world we knew.

We were spiritually formed as students at NNU.

The seats are green and the walls are brick in the place we now preach. The world has shifted in many ways since we were students over a decade ago. However, our desire, as we step into this role as university chaplains, is no different than the desire of those who have gone before us. We want to see a generation embracing the call to love God and love people. We long to see the world a better place because students, faculty and staff journeyed together toward Christ. We hope to see hearts and minds opened to the greatness of our God and the importance of a life lived for others.

This year our theme for spiritual formation on campus is "Right Side Up." We believe the world is upside down because of sin—it is a broken and hurting place. But we are not hopeless! With Christ everything can be mended, healed and restored. It is with this conviction that in chapel we will study the Sermon on the Mount. The provocative and powerful words of Jesus' sermon will influence more than just our corporate worship gatherings. Through small groups, accountability, worship experiences, mentoring and service projects, both locally and globally, we believe our lives, our campus, and our world can be transformed by the love of Christ.

We need your help, though. Will you pray for us and with us? Will you lift up the students of NNU? Will you pray for the faculty and staff? Will you pray that new growth and vitality will happen in the hearts and lives of everyone who steps foot on our campus? Will you pray that we will see the world being turned "Right Side Up" through NNU?

Dustin and Olivia Metcalf are in their first semester serving as university chaplains and co-directors of the Office of Spiritual Formation.

▶ Get a glimpse of the spiritual growth they are helping ignite on campus by listening to full chapel messages online at nnu.edu/chapel.



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—Paulo Salvador, 2014 engineering graduate, São Paulo, Brazil
Read his story at nnu.edu/paulo

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