


# CAMERON

FALL 2015

MAGAZINE



**COURTING  
SUCCESS**

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**CU ATHLETICS**  
ENJOYS RECORD-SETTING  
YEAR





# Message from the President



Dear Alumni and Friends:

The start of a new academic year brings renewed energy to the Cameron University campus. Our students are making progress toward degree completion, our outstanding faculty members continue to excel as they instruct and influence a new generation of community leaders, and our dedicated staff members answer the call to support the university's mission. It is an exciting time to be a Cameron Aggie.

Last spring, we continued our ninth academic festival, "Sustainability: Challenges and Opportunities" with an enlightening presentation by city planner and urban designer Jeff Speck and an entertaining and motivational Commencement address from actor and environmentalist Ed Begley, Jr. The university also examined other aspects of sustainability through a multitude of events. A photo recap appears on page 10.

In this issue, we also feature the perspectives of Jon Horinek, Cameron's first Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Success. VP Horinek has set lofty goals, and he was happy to give us a glimpse of what motivates him to achieve those goals. We also hear from Ninette Carter, our new Vice President for Business and Finance.

Cameron alumni Don Armes and T.W. Shannon tell us what they are up to following their respective service in the Oklahoma Legislature. Alumna Janie Heath shares her journey to a deanship at one of the nation's most respected schools of nursing. We also learn from alumna Diane Denham - once more a Cameron student - about how it's never too late to accomplish your dreams.

Our campus focus puts the spotlight on Dr. Matthew Mireles, whose passion for music translates to the classroom, and Cameron's unique Information Technology capstone course, which provides students an opportunity to demonstrate their teamwork and creativity.

In this age of decreasing state appropriations and rising costs, Cameron University relies on the generosity of donors to provide additional learning experiences and scholarship assistance. We'll take a look at how the Cameron University Foundation's Endowed Lectureship program takes learning beyond the classroom and how the C. Glyn and Virginia C. Mitchell Endowed Scholarship is making a difference in one student's academic life.

The faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends of Cameron University are dedicated to the educational, cultural and economic development of the communities we serve. Thank you for your interest in and support of Cameron University. I look forward to seeing you on campus soon.

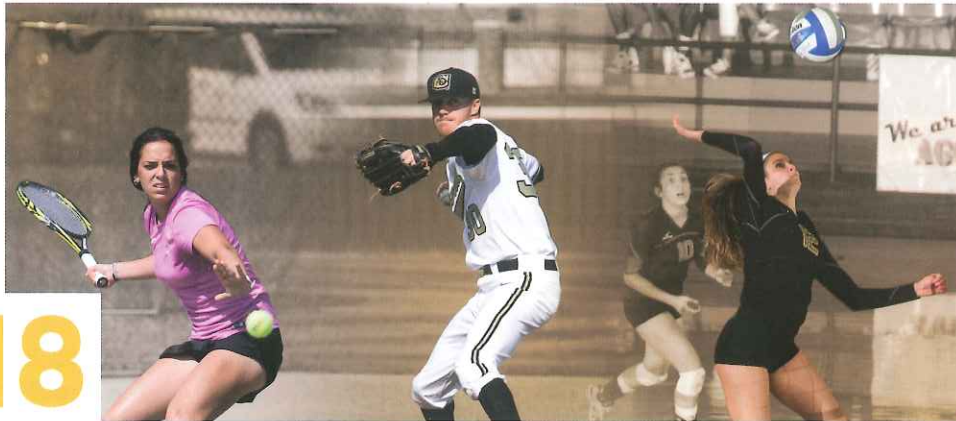
Sincerely,

John McArthur  
President

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MAGAZINE

Fall 2015 Volume 12, Issue 2



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## Cameron earns Tree Campus USA® Designation for Second Year



Cameron University has earned designation as a Tree Campus USA® for the second consecutive year. The national program, launched in 2008 by the Arbor Day Foundation and Toyota, honors colleges and universities and their leaders for promoting healthy trees and engaging students and staff in the spirit of conservation.

“A multitude of different tree species have revitalized the Cameron landscape over the past decade,” says Cameron President John McArthur. “Not only do the trees add to the eye appeal of Cameron’s campus, they also play a crucial role in sustaining the environment by cleaning the air and conserving energy when strategically placed around buildings. The trees also serve as an instructional resource for our faculty and students in the Department of Biological Sciences. It is gratifying to know that our efforts to act as environmental stewards have been recognized with this national designation.”

To earn the distinction, Cameron had to meet five core standards established by the Arbor Day Foundation. The standards are: maintaining a campus tree advisory committee, maintaining a campus tree care plan, demonstrating evidence of dedicated annual expenditures for its campus tree program, holding an Arbor Day observance, and promoting and sponsoring student service-learning projects related to the campus tree program.



The Lawton Northeast On-line Branch Lions Club donated another Eastern Redbud to the Cameron campus, a club tradition since 2009. Club members were joined by (left) Maurissa Buchwald, Director of Development and Alumni Relations, and (second from right) Bob Hanefeld, Director of Physical Facilities, to commemorate the latest addition outside Aggie Gym.

## Cameron maintains designation as a Certified Healthy Campus: CU-Duncan earns certification for first time

The Lawton campus of Cameron University has been awarded designation as a Certified Healthy Campus for the fourth consecutive year, and CU-Duncan has earned the designation for the first time. The designation is awarded by the Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH) in conjunction with the Oklahoma Academy, The State Chamber of Oklahoma, and the Oklahoma Turning Point Council. Certified Healthy Campus is a program of the “Shape Your Future” campaign which recognizes college campuses and vocational technical schools that make a positive impact on the health of their employees and students.

The Oklahoma Certified Healthy Campus status recognizes post-secondary public and private institutions of higher learning and career technology centers for their

outstanding efforts and achievements in actively creating a safe and healthy environment for faculty, staff, students and visitors. The American College Health Association’s “Standards for Practice for Health Promotion in Higher Education” helped set the criteria for the campus certification.

To achieve certification, Cameron met specific criteria that includes providing employee health screenings, status as a tobacco-free campus, workplace health and nutrition education, opportunities for physical exercise activities such as intramural sports, management support for healthy workplace environments, and sharing wellness activities, such as the Cameron University Community Garden and the Aggie Mile walking trail, with the community.

## Enactus and School of Business provide endowment to establish Sylvia M. Burgess Service Award

The Cameron University Foundation has established the Sylvia M. Burgess Service Award, thanks to a \$15,000 endowment provided by the Cameron University School of Business and the Cameron chapter of Enactus, a student organization comprised of students, business leaders, and academic leaders who are committed to using the power of entrepreneurial action to transform lives and shape a better, more sustainable world. The Sylvia M. Burgess Service Award is named in honor of Dr. Sylvia M. Burgess, a member of the Cameron faculty who serves as Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, and who is a former faculty advisor for Students in Free Enterprise, now known as Enactus.

The award will be presented annually each spring to recognize a Cameron student who has served the community in a voluntary capacity for at least 48 hours during the academic year of the award. Candidates must submit a letter of candidacy describing service to the community and a letter from community service organizations verifying time of service.



Commemorating the establishment of the Sylvia M. Burgess Service Award were (left to right) President John McArthur; Dr. Theresa Billiot, Assistant Professor of Management; Dr. Sylvia M. Burgess; Dean John Camey, School of Business; and Scott Hatch, Chairman, Cameron University Foundation.

## STAFF & FACULTY NEWS

### Winners Of Inaugural Staff Awards Announced

Cameron University staff members Brandy Belew, Mandy Husak and David Stone were selected in April as the inaugural recipients of the university's new Staff Awards. The awards were created during the Fall 2014 semester at the recommendation of Cameron's Staff Advisory Council. Nominations were made by CU students, faculty and staff.

The Staff Award for Excellence in Student Success, which recognizes a staff member who promotes a student-centered environment, was presented to Brandy Belew, Advisement Specialist in the Academic Advising Center. One nominator wrote, "Brandy's contributions to student success have been too numerous to ignore" and went on to cite her key role in Aggie Enrollment Days, her advising work with almost every new freshman entering Cameron, and her successful efforts in increasing freshman retention. A nomination written by a student summed up Belew's influence most succinctly with, "She personally helped me get back into academia."

Mandy Husak, Academic Affairs Coordinator, received the Staff Award for Excellence in Campus Stewardship, which recognizes significant contributions to the campus

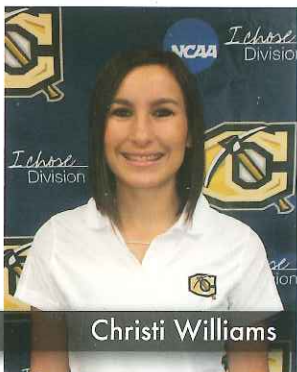


President John McArthur congratulates (left to right) David Stone, Mandy Husak and Brandy Belew as the recipients of the 2014-15 Cameron University Staff Awards

community. One nominator noted Husak's essential role in adapting the Degree Works program to meet Cameron's needs and her organizational skills and development of curriculum-tracking procedures. Another said, "Mandy regularly uses a combination of critical thinking, problem solving skills and intuition to help us find answers for many things that we do.

She is a scientist at heart and approaches her job logically and without bias. She genuinely works to help each of us and does so with a smile and an encouraging word."

The Staff Award for Excellence in Service recognizes exemplary contributions in the area of campus or community service and was presented to David Stone, Automotive Mechanic in the Transportation Department of Physical Facilities. He was nominated by a colleague who noted Stone's responsibility for day-to-day maintenance and upkeep of the university's fleet of vehicles. The nominator wrote, "David is always punctual and works many overtime hours, including nights and weekends, making sure the vehicles are ready for use. David always puts in 110 percent in his efforts."



Christi Williams

### Christi Williams, New Women's Golf Coach

Christi Williams is the new women's golf coach, following the retirement last spring of Rick Goodwin. She will also serve as event coordinator for the Department of Athletics. Williams had been both head men's and women's golf coach

at Western Texas College, where she led both programs to the NJCAA national tournament.

Prior to that position, Williams served as the graduate assistant golf coach at Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, Texas, where she earned her master's degree in Kinesiology, Sport and Recreation.

A two-time NCGA All-American Scholar Athlete, Williams played golf at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor in Belton, Texas, where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Sport Management. A native of Snyder, Texas, Williams was a member of Snyder High School's State Championship golf team in 2005 and 2006.

## Faculty Members Honored

Faculty members Dr. Ioannis Argyros, Donna Clopton, Dr. Michael Husak, Dr. Lynda Robinson and Amy Stockman were honored in April with awards recognizing their contributions to Cameron's academic community.

Dr. Ioannis Argyros, Professor of Mathematical Sciences, was the recipient of the Bhattacharya Endowed Lectureship for Excellence in Research Award, established in January 2008 by alumnus Sanjit Bhattacharya to advance the quality of research and creative and scholarly activity at Cameron University and in southwest Oklahoma.

A new award, the Adjunct Faculty Award for Excellence and Innovation in Teaching, recognizes an adjunct faculty member who performs superbly in the classroom. Donna Clopton, an adjunct instructor in the Department of English and Foreign Languages, was the recipient.

The Faculty Award for Excellence in Mentoring Student Research was presented to Dr. Michael Husak, Associate Professor of Biological Sciences. The award recognizes a faculty member who has an excellent sustained record of mentoring student research and scholarship.

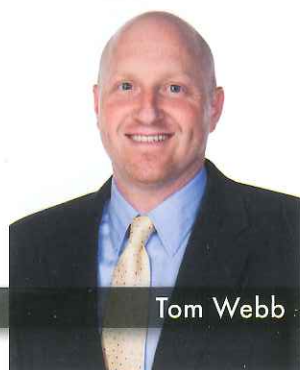
Dr. Lynda Robinson, Associate Professor in the Department of Education, was presented with the Faculty Award for Excellence in Service, which recognizes a faculty member



Dr. Ronna Vanderslice, Vice President for Academic Affairs (left) and President John McArthur (right) congratulate the winners of the 2014-15 Cameron University Faculty Awards (back, left to right), Donna Clopton, Amy Stockman, Dr. Ioannis Argyros, Dr. Michael Husak, and (front) Dr. Lynda Robinson.

who has applied his/her professional expertise beyond the classroom to advance the university and its constituents.

The Faculty Award for Excellence and Innovation in Teaching recognizes a full-time faculty member who performs superbly in the classroom and was presented to Amy Stockman, Instructor in the Department of Biological Sciences.



## Coach Tom Webb attends elite leadership program at Columbia University

Head women's basketball coach Tom Webb joined 36 other Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) members at the Center for Coaching Excellence (CCE), an invitation-only, elite leadership

training program held at Columbia University in June. CCE introduces coaches to various aspects of leadership and provides a deeper understanding and appreciation of the importance of ethics and integrity in college women's basketball through a rigorous curriculum presented in a seminar-style environment.

"The Center for Coaching Excellence was a first-class experience," says Webb. "The benefits from the Center for Coaching Excellence not only impact me, but will be an asset to my staff and most importantly the young ladies on the team. The tools taught over the three days of training challenge you to look inside yourself and your program to help create a special environment."

Webb, now in his eighth season at Cameron, was named the 2015 Lone Star Conference Coach of the Year and guided the CU program to its first NCAA Tournament berth since the 2002 season.

## Myers now Associate Director of Alumni Relations



Frank Myers

Frank Myers, previously Associate Director of Enrollment Management, is now Associate Director of Alumni Relations. A Cameron alumnus, Myers was a PLUS scholar and was highly involved in student government and other campus activities. He was named to Cameron's Top 20.



Today, he is actively involved in the community, serving on the board of Leadership Lawton/Fort Sill as well as serving as Chair of the Lawton Gang Intervention Steering Committee. He is an active outdoorsman who enjoys hiking, rock climbing and sports with his son.

"I'm looking forward to building relationships with more of Cameron's outstanding alumni," Myers says. "The Office of Alumni Relations will continue to provide experiences where Cameron alumni can connect, reminisce, strengthen relationships, build value, and make new memories. I plan to build engagement between our current student body and our alumni, capitalizing on their success to create more success. I'm excited about what the future holds as the Cameron University Alumni Association continues to grow. Please drop by to say hello during your next visit to campus, or feel free to contact me at 580-581-2988 or [fmyers@cameron.edu](mailto:fmyers@cameron.edu)."

Cameron students Ronnie Currey and Abigale Hooper put their vehicle through the course during the annual NASA Human Exploration Rover Challenge, held at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, Ala.

THE **PICKAXE** AWARD

SPRING 2015

SEAN DELCAMP      RENEE ROACH

Staff members Sean Delcamp and Renee Roach are the recipients of the Spring 2015 semester's Pickaxe Awards, which recognizes full-time employees whose performance is above and beyond expectations. Delcamp is the Storeroom/Waste coordinator for the Department of Chemistry, Physics and Engineering, and Roach is the Assistant Registrar.





# Ninette Carter named Cameron University Vice President for Business and Finance



Ninette Carter

Ninette Carter is the new Vice President for Business and Finance, following the retirement of Glen Pinkston, who held the position since 2003. Carter was previously controller.

In her new role, Carter will be responsible for the development and oversight of all fiscal planning, policies and

regulations; the administration of all institutional funds; and the cost-effective planning and operation of major administrative functions. She will provide supervision for numerous departments, including finance and accounting, human resources, purchasing and contracts, public safety, bookstore, and auxiliary enterprises related to administrative functions. In addition, she will work collaboratively and creatively with other university executive administrators to ensure Cameron's fiscal status allows the university to provide the resources required for student learning and success.

Carter graduated from Cameron with a Bachelor of Accounting in 1991 and joined the university's staff as an accountant in 1992, the same year she became a Certified Public Accountant. She was promoted to accounting manager in 1996 and named controller in 2002. She is a member of the Oklahoma Association of College and University Business Officers.

We asked Carter to share her thoughts on her new role.

## What are your priorities for crafting and implementing Cameron's operating budget?

Development of balanced budgets and improved financial processes that reduce debt, are fiscally responsible, and promote the strategic goals of Cameron University is a top priority. It is important for me and my staff to always remember that all we do in the Business, Human Resources, and Public Safety Offices ultimately supports the University faculty and staff in providing a unique experience to students who are striving to accomplish personal educational goals.

## What are you most excited about in this new role?

The opportunity to continue working with the Business Office and now Public Safety and Human Resources. I really enjoy working with people in overcoming challenges and mentoring hardworking employees who are looking for opportunities to be successful. Cameron University has been a wonderful institution to work for and I am excited to continue to contribute to our successes.

## What are your top priorities in your new role at the institution?

My top priorities in my new role as Vice President for Business and Finance are to (1) professionally lead by example; (2) provide oversight and guidance on the continued development and improvement of existing business, human resource, and safety plans and processes; (3) identify organizational needs and implement adjustments to develop and strengthen through focus on individual employees; (4) maintain a risk management and open communication approach among team members; and (5) constantly evaluate decisions for process improvement and the various impacts to the strategic mission and goals of Cameron University.

## What do you believe will be your greatest challenge in this position and how do you plan to overcome it?

The challenges we face will be the greatest opportunity for our teams to succeed. Planning for future University challenges that impact growth and leading financial adaptation to a volatile fiscal market will always be a priority in strengthening Cameron University as a premier university. Challenges are overcome by leading a strong, competent and professional staff through transitions, guiding and assisting them with new and changed processes that improve efficiency of our financial and human resource systems, and responsibly striving to improve the welfare and safety of our faculty, staff and students.

## Getting to know

# JON HORINEK

Jon Horinek, a 2003 Cameron alumnus, joined the CU staff in May as the university's first Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Success. We caught up with him over the summer to glean his perspectives on his role at the university, his personal Cameron experience and more.



*As a CU graduate, you have first-hand knowledge of how Cameron prepares students for the real world. What did you learn at Cameron that prepared you for your career path?*

I had five majors in four years and still graduated on time. I was a psychology major for two weeks, but I graduated with a degree in communications with an emphasis in print journalism. Now I am finishing up my Ph.D. in education. All this is to say where I ended up is not where I started, but the experiences I had both in and out of the classroom at Cameron have served me well. I learned to write at Cameron, and I learned to think at Cameron. Those are skills that are only gained through practice and persistence expressed through a strong general education curriculum. The academic rigor at Cameron has always been impressive to me. As a student of higher education, I can honestly say I worked harder and learned more here than I ever would have expected.

**Q:** *In attracting potential students to CU, what are the key “selling points” that Cameron offers?*

**A:** The Cameron experience is fundamentally different and better than the experience at any other institution in our state and region. We are a university of unique contradictions. We are both accessible and excellent. We are both challenging and supportive. We are both affordable and worthy of investment. We are a community college and a graduate school. These contradictions don't make Cameron University the right choice for one type of student, but they make Cameron University the best choice for every student. Truthfully, we don't have key selling points - we have key advantages.

*At press time, you've been on the job for just a few months. What are you looking forward to most in this position?*

American higher education is at a crossroads. For the first time since the creation of the land grant colleges and universities, people are questioning the true value of higher education as both a public and private good. This concern is not entirely unfounded. The massive expansion of higher education options have created market forces and competition that are a challenge for every institution. However, what excites me most about the work ahead (and there is plenty to do) is Cameron's unique and multi-faceted mission. It positions us for success and enables us to respond to student, employer, and community needs faster than larger colleges or universities. It truly is a time of great change and great possibility at CU.

### *What are some of your favorite Cameron memories?*

There are far too many experiences with wonderful faculty to mention. My involvement in campus activities, including The Collegian, PAC, and PRIDE are where I learned the most about myself. There were "aha" moments every day on this campus. It really is a special place.

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### *Cameron is extremely focused on student success. How do you impart this to high school seniors who may have difficulty making the transition to college classes and the academic setting?*

Every institution should be focused on student success, and Cameron has certainly demonstrated this commitment. I reject the idea that any student is not capable of success at the college level. Our challenge is supporting and encouraging students to reach beyond what they think they are capable of. We also must achieve this with our partners in K-12 to ensure that every student is college or career ready by the time they graduate. The transition is easier with a coordinated approach that starts much earlier than the senior year. Our challenge is to create a college-going and college-possible culture. This is a community goal and a national imperative.

# Q

**You bear the responsibility of maintaining – if not growing – enrollment. What is your approach to this task?**

# A

The stabilization and sustainable growth of our enrollment base are my two top priorities. This is not just my job; everyone on campus is committed to helping as many students as possible achieve their higher education goals. As a product of the Cameron experience, I can confidently say that our graduates are better equipped to make the most use of their degrees. That being said, Cameron has some unique challenges ahead. The past decade at Cameron University has been a time of tremendous evolution. Our challenge, and my challenge specifically, is finding the best way to capitalize on that momentum while strengthening our connection to the communities we serve. That means critically looking at every process from student recruitment to graduation and beyond to ensure that student success, not processes, are what drives our decisions as an institution.

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### *What is it about higher education that appeals to you?*

Higher education – in fact all education – is liberty and democracy in action. It is a place of radical optimism. A place that is built on an unwavering belief in human potential. Nothing is more powerful or fundamental than the work we do and the life-changing learning that we make possible. I choose to work in higher education because I am a radical optimist.

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### *Part of the Cameron experience is the one-on-one interaction that students enjoy with faculty and staff. How do you plan to stay connected to Cameron students?*

The best way to stay connected is to get out of the office. Luckily the campus is beautiful so that makes interaction with students all the more inviting.

## *What are the greatest challenges you face?*

Balancing affordability, access, and attainment in a region with demographic, educational, and socioeconomic challenges. In an era of declining state resources, we have to find a way to maintain and improve quality while shielding students from continual increases in cost. The model of "high tuition"- "high aid" is no longer tenable. As administrators we cannot continue to ask our students to shoulder perpetual increases in cost. This will mean hard choices and tough conversations. But I am ready to have them.



A year of →

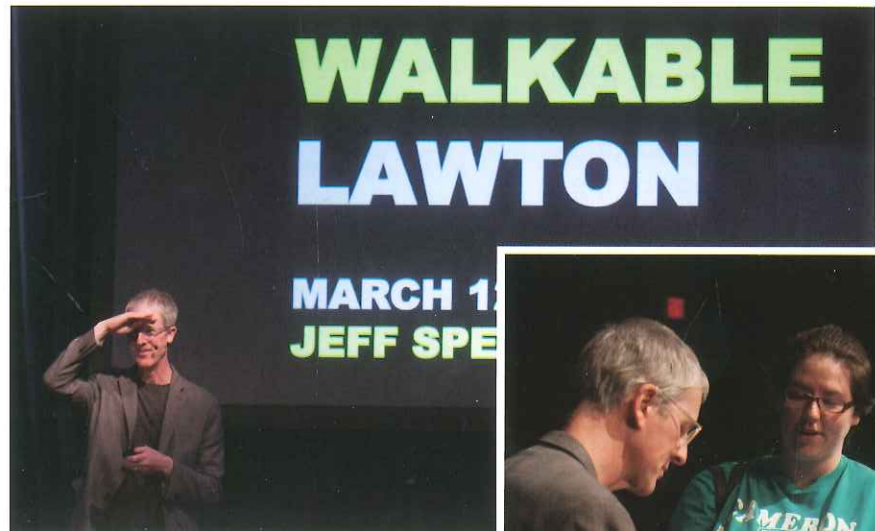
# SUSTAINABILITY

## CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

*"Sustainability: Challenges and Opportunities," Cameron's triennial academic festival, continued during the Spring 2015 semester with numerous events that focused on a multitude of topics relevant to the festival theme. Community members, students, faculty and staff were presented with ample opportunities to explore sustainability at campus events, community presentations, film screenings, workshops and more.*

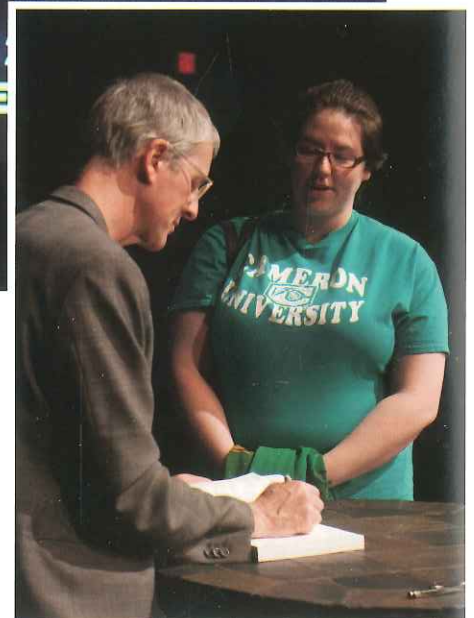
"The topic of sustainability for the Academic Festival proved to be extremely popular," says Cameron President John McArthur. "It allowed us to examine a variety of perspectives as we continued the festival through the second half of the academic year. Our spring keynote speakers - Jeff Speck and Ed Begley, Jr., were warmly received and made significant impressions during their respective presentations."

Speck, a city planner and urban designer, made the most of his two-day visit to Lawton/Fort Sill. He toured the community with officials from the City of Lawton and went on to focus his keynote presentation on "A Walkable Lawton." The following day, he met with city officials to present his recommendations on improving the community's walkability.



**(Above) City planner and urban designer Jeff Speck presented his views on a more walkable Lawton.**

**(Right) Festival speaker Jeff Speck signs a copy of his book for student Casey Brown.**



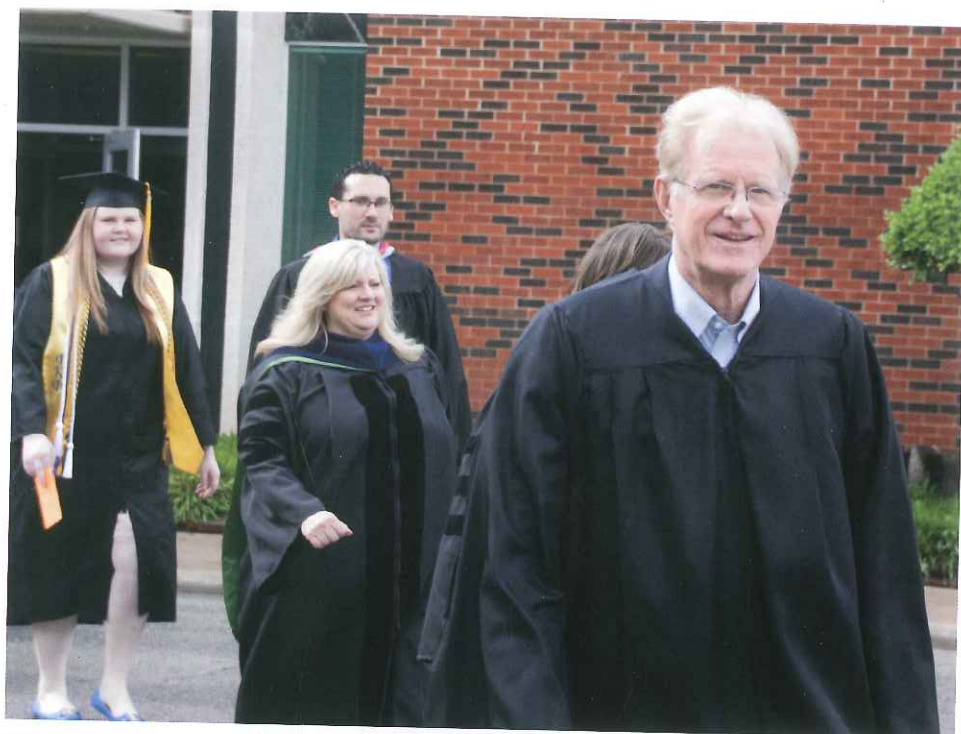
Begley, an award-winning actor and environmentalist, presented Cameron's 2015 Commencement address. He shared his personal journey to living a sustainable lifestyle, which included an anecdote about taking actress Cindy Williams on a date in his first electric car - which was little more than a modified golf cart. Begley's strategy to adopting a sustainable lifestyle starts with starting small, doing what you can do today and enhancing that in future years. He stated that if everyone would make even the smallest effort, "We can save the environment, lessen our dependence on foreign oil, and put money in our pockets."

"Cameron's academic departments and student organizations fully embraced the festival topic, presenting a slate of community and campus events that examined even more aspects of sustainability," says McArthur.

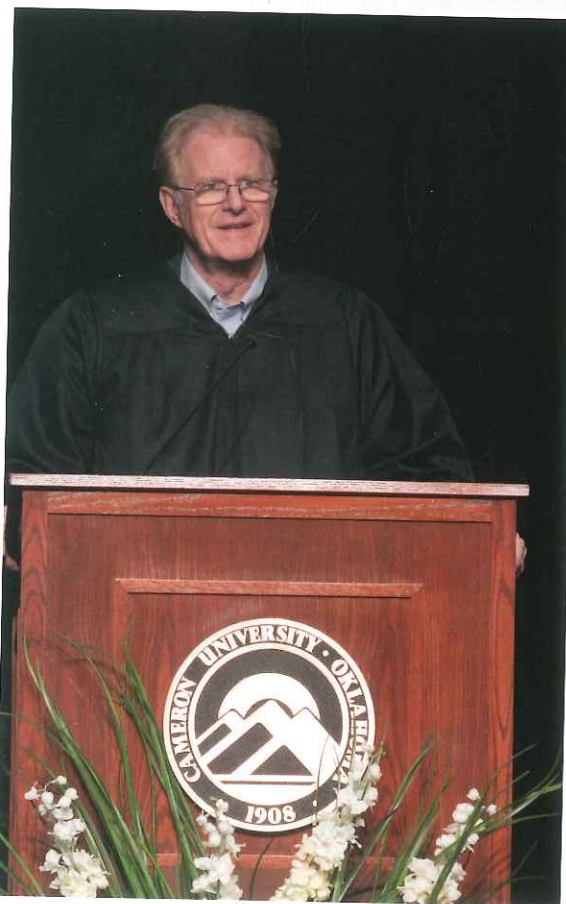
Members of the Biology Club and the Botany Club presented a community workshop on Sustainable Gardening. Participants learned how to establish seedlings and how to adapt soil and watering conditions to drought conditions. The workshop also presented information on how to determine soil type and amend it, composting, alternative water sources for gardening, different irrigation methods, propagating plants, transplanting and choosing plant varieties appropriate for the local climate.

The International Film Club examined food recycling with a screening of "Waste Not, Want Not," a 2000 French documentary highlighting the recycling of objects and food waste from grocers, restaurants, markets and farms. Movie-goers also heard from Joe Tilton, Fairmont Creamery, and Elizabeth Murphy, Murphy Farms.

The Department of Theatre Arts continued its season, "A Celebration of the Year of Sustainability: Challenges



(Above) Commencement speaker Ed Begley Jr. heads to Aggie Gym to present his address.



(Left) Actor and environmental advocate Ed Begley Jr. was the 2015 Commencement speaker, wrapping up Cameron's triennial Academic Festival, "Sustainability: Challenges and Opportunities."

and Opportunities" with "The Heretic," a black comedy that tackles the divisive issue of climate change and its sceptics, and "110 In the Shade," a musical adaptation of the romantic comedy, "The Rainmaker." As with the department's fall productions, these two presentations were heartily received by theatre-goers.



**(Left to right) Dr. Lisa Huffman, Dean of the School of Education and Behavioral Sciences; Albert Johnson, Jr., Vice President for University Advancement; Cameron President John McArthur; and Rep. Jeff Coody unveil one of Cameron's Free Little Libraries during a dedication ceremony in February.**



**Tower gardens at Pat Henry Elementary in Lawton provide students with a hands-on approach to sustainable and healthy living.**

Food was also the topic of a presentation sponsored by the School of Science and Technology. Plant biologist Dr. Roger Beachy focused his talk on "The Future of Food in a Crowded World with a Changing Climate." Beachy is the founding director of the World Food Center at the University of California and is internationally known for his scientific leadership and groundbreaking research related to disease-resistance in crops.

The School of Education and Behavioral Sciences (EBS) offered numerous opportunities to examine sustainability. In conjunction with Duncan Regional Hospital, EBS presented a screening of "Fed Up," a 2014 documentary focusing on the causes of obesity. Following the film, attendees heard from Dr. Ashley Weedn, a national expert on childhood obesity, and Casey Campbell, a registered dietitian.

The Department of Psychology and EBS presented "Sustainable Communities are Mentally Healthy:

What Can You Do To Help?," a seminar designed to reduce the stigma toward mental illness and encourage those who need help to seek it.

A campus initiative benefitting the Lawton/Fort Sill community was also sponsored by EBS. Faculty, staff and students worked together to create four Little Free Libraries on campus, each of which is filled with free books for community members to take and exchange later for additional books. The Little Free Libraries are located in the Charles S. Graybill, M.D. Courtyard, in the Jesse Davenport Unity Garden adjacent to the Cameron University Library, in the Louise D. McMahon Fine Arts Courtyard and on the north side of Bentley Gardens adjacent to the Sciences Complex.

EBS and Cameron's Department of Education, in conjunction with the Lawton Public Schools Foundation, sponsored the installation of five tower gardens at Pat Henry Elementary School in Lawton. The tower gardens help educate elementary school children about the science of plants,

what is needed to grow plants, and healthy eating. A tower garden is a vertical aeroponics growing system that allows gardeners to grow multiple fresh vegetables, herbs, fruits and more in a limited space. Aeroponics requires no growing medium, as water and nutrients are continuously cycled through the tower, showering the plants' roots. Tower gardens can be placed either indoors or outdoors, as long as there is sufficient light and appropriate temperature for growing.

"Cameron's academic festival, held every three years, is made possible by the McCasland/Amquest Bank Endowed Chair, which was established by the McCasland Foundation in 1989," says McArthur. "We are eternally grateful for that endowment, which allows us to bring internationally known speakers and experts to southwest Oklahoma. With the conclusion of 'Sustainability: Challenges and Opportunities,' we can now start thinking about the next Academic Festival."

*Janet E. Williams*

# WHY I GIVE

*“A farm boy and a farm girl met at Cameron. After successful careers in the petroleum and home economics industries and 71 years of marriage, we still credit Cameron professors for helping us realize that life’s problems can be handled through knowledge and intelligence. These professors instilled in us a desire to help others, which we did through ranching (FFA), church, scouts and 4-H activities. College broadened our horizons. Upon visiting Cameron 60 years later, we were impressed with its growth. We decided to fund scholarships in the hope that more students could achieve their dreams, too.”*

**VIRGINIA C. MITCHELL** and her late husband, **C. GLYN MITCHELL**, established the C. Glyn and Virginia C. Mitchell Endowed Scholarship in February 2015. The endowment will help full-time students from Tillman County and Cotton County achieve their goal of a college degree.



SCAN THE QR CODE  
TO GIVE TODAY!

## I WANT TO GIVE

If you want to help Cameron students achieve their academic goals, contact the Office of University Advancement.



580-581-2999

[www.cameron.edu/cu\\_foundation](http://www.cameron.edu/cu_foundation)



# HOW A DONOR HELPED ME

*“I’m honored and overjoyed to receive the C. Glyn and Virginia C. Mitchell Endowed Scholarship that will not only benefit myself, but my family as well.*

*This once-in-a-lifetime opportunity will open doors I once thought impossible and will ease the mind of my family about my financial future. I feel as though my prayers have been answered, and I’ve been given a chance to shape my future as I make my way through these upcoming years. I understand that this journey will come with its own set of challenges, and I’m prepared to accept them. Receiving this scholarship doesn’t mean that I’m representing only myself, but my family, community, university and the Mitchell family as well. I’m prepared and have the motivation to make them proud while I make the most of this opportunity. I haven’t truly chosen a major yet but I will start by pursuing criminal justice and political science studies this fall. I thank all of those involved in getting me this far and those who made this scholarship possible. I plan to make you all proud and will do my best to exceed the expectations set for me as I become an Aggie at Cameron University.”*

**BRANDON GIBSON** is a freshman from Frederick. He is one of the first two recipients of the C. Glyn and Virginia C. Mitchell Endowed Scholarship.

# The Many Faces of Diane Denham



Diane Denham sits in her office at Merrill Lynch surrounded by decoratively framed portraits of her children and grandchildren with a volume of William Shakespeare's collected works splayed open behind her. A certified financial planner for the past 35 years, Denham earned a Bachelor of Business Administration from Cameron in 1971. But that wasn't her original career goal.

"I would have chosen theatre way back when, except my daddy said, 'No, you have to make a living,'" Denham says. "At the time I was starting at Cameron, I was dating my husband (Ronnie) who was an accountant, and I was working in his office. That's what led me to a business degree."

Still, she couldn't pass up the lure of live performing.

"I had gotten back into theatre with the community theatre and enjoyed it immensely," Denham says. "I was frustrated because so many of the other community theatre members had theatre degrees or they had been in the theatre longer than I had and knew more terminology. They knew more do's and don'ts."

That's when she knew she wanted to return to her earlier dream of getting a degree in theatre. When she decided to

return to Cameron, she approached Scott Richard Klein, chair of the Department of Theatre Arts, whom she knew from the Lawton Community Theatre board of directors, and asked what he thought.

"He was very welcoming," she says. "'Come on, come on,' he said. I asked him if I would be disruptive. I didn't want to take any regular student's place, so to speak."

The choice to return as a student was a natural one for Diane as she has remained deeply involved in the Cameron community for decades - as a student, an alumna, as President of the Cameron University Foundation Board of Directors, and as a President's Partner. She was named a Distinguished Alumni by the Cameron University Alumni Association in 2012.

Now a senior theatre arts major, Denham has pursued her second Cameron degree part-time for five years. "I didn't want to give up my clients," she says. She works with members of her family and now attends school with two of her granddaughters.

"As it has evolved, my son has worked for me part-time while he was going to Cameron, and now he is the lead broker, and I am here assisting him," Denham says.

"When I went back to Cameron and did a production, it was exactly 50 years after the first time I was in a Cameron theatre production, which was 'Bus Stop' in 1961," she says. In 2011, she played Madam Pernelle in Moliere's "Tartuffe."





In the interim, Cameron has changed “light years.” The look of the campus has changed several times over the years. Expectations for female students have also changed.

“I had one year as a regular student, and then after that I was a wife and I was pregnant,” she recalls. “You didn’t go to school when you were pregnant back when I did. I can remember sitting there that semester with morning sickness and thinking ‘I can’t let on.’”

Her fellow students have welcomed her, despite the generation gap.

“I have been overwhelmed by how accepting they have been. I’m just another one of them. I get a little preachy sometimes when they need a kick in the fanny, and they take me with a grain of salt sometimes. They are totally open to me – maybe too much so at times,” she says with a laugh.

Additionally, she speaks of Cameron to community members. Denham said she encourages her friends and others to attend Cameron every time she gets the chance.

“Cameron is probably the biggest asset we have in town,” she says. “I almost get to be like a missionary. I get so mad at my generation who are bored and have nothing to do, and they’ve got Cameron. I’ve talked a few of them into it.”

When it comes to Cameron’s Theatre Arts department, Denham places a special emphasis on the small boutique nature of the program and the potential for hands-on experience with the material, makeup, costuming, set building and other skills.

“Dr. (Deidre) Onishi makes theatre history come alive,” she says. “There are four semesters (covering theatre history), and I wish it was eight. She does such a superb job teaching. Eric Abbott has all the fun classes – design and makeup. I have really enjoyed working with him on costumes. Judd Vermillion in the shop is a genius.”

Upon completing her theatre arts degree, she plans to stay active with the theatre program, the university, and continue working. Denham is a life-long learner with no plans to stop anytime soon. Her goal over the summer was to read all of Shakespeare’s plays.

Staying connected to Cameron is important to Denham.

“Cameron has done so much for me and my family that I could never give enough back,” she says. “Everything we earned from our livelihood is based on what we got from Cameron. It has kept us entertained. It has given us clients. Everything. There is just no way I can give enough back.”

Denham’s service to the university comes from not only a place of love, but also a place of understanding for her fellow students who need support to achieve their dreams and complete their degrees. She recalls when she was pursuing a master’s degree at the University of Oklahoma.

“I worked nights to pay tuition at OU. I worked two nights and went to school two nights. I know that is tough. It’s important to do anything I can to help through the Foundation and President’s Partners to make life easier and keep other students in school. I hope that by doing that, when I’m gone they will be there to give back.”

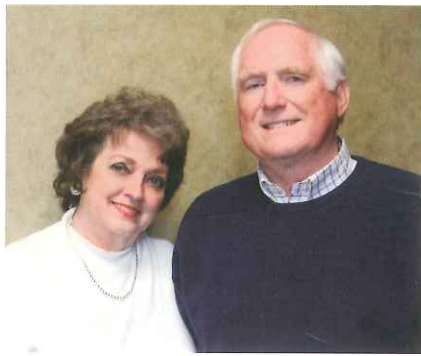
-Casey Brown

# Taking learning out of the classroom through Endowed Lectureships

**Take a look at Cameron University's Core Values, and you'll see that student learning is the university's top priority. An integral part of that commitment to student learning (a fundamental cornerstone of student success) is Cameron's ability to provide academic opportunities that augment the concepts, theories and practices that our outstanding faculty members teach in the classroom. Many of those opportunities are made possible by YOU – Cameron's alumni and supporters – through the endowed faculty positions created by the generosity of our valued donors and administered by the Cameron University Foundation.**

Following are just two of the experiences that Cameron students have enjoyed in recent years and the endowments that made them possible.

## Dr. William L. and Barbara Scearce Endowed Lectureship in Political Science



For the past two years, Cameron has sent a team of students to participate in the Midwest Model U.N., an annual conference that serves as a forum for college students to learn about international affairs,

diplomacy and teamwork. In 2015, Cameron's seven-member team included Brandon Clark, Chris Greene, Kelly High, Norman Holcomb, Jacob Martin, Sabrina West, Lawton; and Audrey Whitefeather, Elgin. Mentored by Dr. Wendy Whitman Cobb, Assistant Professor of Political Science, they were among approximately 400 students from 38 colleges and universities who participated. Representing the Russian Federation over four days of competition, Cameron's team focused on issues such as unmanned aerial vehicles, the concept of universal jurisdiction, HIV/AIDS, and cyber warfare.

"I have been involved with the Model U.N. since coming to Cameron and it has helped incorporate what we learn in the classroom with real world application that you don't get in lecture," says High, a history and political science major who plans to pursue a doctorate in history or archaeology. "It has strengthened my listening, speaking and negotiating skills as well as opened a network with other universities. It has taught me the value of research application. Being in Model U.N. and serving as president has taught me a lot

about leadership and organization. Going to the Midwest conference taught me how to stand my ground, take a position on an issue that may not be what I think, and how to negotiate on resolutions."

High was named Outstanding Delegate on the Security Council. She was recognized for her work in representing Russian interests through a crisis simulation wherein a French-sponsored agency undertook a cyber-attack against Russia.

Greene won the Delegate's Choice Award for his performance on the General Assembly First Committee.

A political science major, he served on the General Assembly First Committee, which examined two specific topics: the role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament, and general and complete disarmament as it relates to national legislation on transfer of arms, military equipment, and dual-use goods and technology.



Cameron student Kelly High (left) hones her leadership skills during participation in the Midwest Model U.N. Conference.

**Edward and Lenora Hamra, Edward's Men's Wear**  
Endowed Lectureship in Retail Marketing



Dr. Theresa Billiot, Assistant Professor of Marketing, secured funding through this endowment to allow students Felipe Anzarut, Juan Haayen and Andrew Koracin to conduct research in sustainable marketing.

According to Billiot, funding from the endowment provided Cameron students with a rich experience. At the conclusion of the project, they developed a better understanding of consumers and markets, learned how to make sound marketing decisions with a high degree of confidence, and gained an edge in the job market within the marketing research field. The endowment also allowed the students to present their position paper at the 2015 Marketing Educator's Association annual conference.

**Other endowed lectureships have enabled Cameron students to participate in a variety of projects. These include:**

- The Department of Communication's summer documentary class (*R.H. Drewry Endowed Lectureship in Telecommunications*)
- Attend the language immersion program at Middlebury College (*Jane Godlove Endowed Lectureship in Foreign Languages*)

- Travel to New York City to visit the Financial District (*BancFirst Endowed Lectureship in Investments and BancFirst Endowed Lectureship in Finance*)
- Undergraduate research in paleobotany and paleoecology throughout the southeastern U.S. (*Dr. Bobby Gene Vowell Endowed Lectureship in the Physical and Biological Sciences*)
- Undergraduate research, travel to Notre Dame Radiation Laboratory and presentation of research at professional meetings (*Harvard L. and Judith D. Tomlinson of Duncan Endowed Lectureship in the Physical Sciences*)
- Student travel to and participation in the Oklahoma Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance Conference (*Gladys "Slats" Patton Endowed Lectureship in Science Adventures*)
- Student travel to manufacturing organizations and to attend the Who Wants to Be An Entrepreneur workshop (*Dr. Wayne and Cassandra Johnson Lectureship in Business*)
- Student travel to the annual Phi Alpha Theta/Oklahoma Association of Professional Historians regional conference (*Katherine D. Lacy Endowed Lectureship in History*)
- Student travel to the Scissortail Creative Writing Festival (*Charles and Edythe Holmes Endowed Lectureship in English*)
- Student travel to tour and observe a Reggio-inspired school and a Montessori school (*Buck and Irene Clements Endowed Lectureship in Child Development*)
- Student travel to the National Association for the Education of Young Children National Conference (*Croy Foundation Endowed Lectureship in Education*)

Janet E. Williams

## How can YOU contribute to student learning and success?

Thanks to a committed group of supporters, Cameron University has a greater number of endowed faculty positions than any other regional public university in Oklahoma. These positions make a direct contribution to the quality of teaching and learning at Cameron by enabling academic endeavors that would otherwise not be possible. When you contribute to an existing endowment or establish a new one, Cameron receives a dollar-for-dollar match from the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, doubling the value of your contribution.

For information on how you can contribute to student learning and student success through the Cameron University Foundation's Endowed Faculty Position program, contact the Office of University Advancement at (580) 581-2999 or [advancement@cameron.edu](mailto:advancement@cameron.edu).

# COURTING SUCCESS

## CU ATHLETICS ENJOYS RECORD-SETTING YEAR

*Cameron's spring athletic teams enjoyed unprecedented success, setting new records in numerous sports and earning accolades for a multitude of student athletes.*

### MEN'S TENNIS THREE-PEATS AND REACHES ELITE EIGHT

A 14-8 finish to the regular season can be seen as an off-season for the Aggie men's tennis program, which saved their best play for the postseason. The Aggies slid to fourth in the South Central Region and for the first time in years, they did not host. Instead they were forced to play a semifinal duel against Newman with the winners playing Midwestern State.

Cameron handled the semifinal and would face rival MSU on their home court. Earlier in the season, the Aggies lost to the Mustangs when they met in Lawton, but the regional was another matter, with CU beating MSU 5-3 to take the title.

"I told the team before we got off the van that they needed to step-up, and they did," says head coach James Helvey. "This was the best tennis we've played all year."

The win took the Aggies to the NCAA National Championship for the third year in a row and fourth trip overall. In the three prior trips, Cameron was knocked out in the opening round. This time, the team got a long-awaited win, beating Mercyhurst 5-0 and earning a spot in the Elite Eight for the first time in program history.

"Getting past the first round in the National Tournament was a long-time goal of ours, and we did it," says Helvey.



## WOMEN'S HOOPS MAKE NCAA TOURNAMENT; WEBB NAMED LSC COACH OF THE YEAR

For some in sports, it's not how you start, it is how you finish. This was definitely the case for the CU women's basketball team after they opened the season 1-6.

A home loss to Southeastern Oklahoma proved to be a turning point for the program. The Aggies went on a tear, winning 13 of their next 18 contests in the regular season. Finishing with a 12-4 record in the Lone Star Conference, the Aggies wrapped up the regular season in a tie for second place.

The Aggie turnaround earned head coach Tom Webb the LSC's Coach of the Year award. The team's 15-11 record was good enough to land CU in the national tournament for the first time since 2002.

"I'm really proud of the seniors and really proud of our team," says Webb. "We went through a lot of adversity early in the season with some injuries and different things, and the girls fought through. They continued to believe, and they became a family. We had some special things happen throughout conference."

Brandi Leal set a new program record for three-pointers in a season with 96 and was named LSC Newcomer of the Year. Senior Jazzmine Robinson became the program's sixth overall All-American after leading the league in scoring.



## MEN'S GOLF TAKES TEN; HRNCIAR NAMED COACH OF THE YEAR

The Aggie men's golf team continued its winning ways by picking up back-to-back Lone Star Conference championships, taking their 10th title since 1989 and setting a new league mark in men's golf. The Aggies have won three championships in the last four years.



Cameron took the title in match play against rivals Midwestern State after finishing the final round tied 2-2. The drama quickly ended in the first playoff hole with CU junior Zander Winston sinking the final putt to give the Aggies the league championship.

"This championship is special for the program because it moved us past Abilene Christian, a team that has since left the league," says head coach Jerry Hrnciar. "It will be tough for another program to pass the record we set this year."

The Aggies dominated the LSC's postseason awards with Cullen Stahl, Bradley Ferrell, and Dylan McClure named as First Team All-Conference; Winston and Corey Bounds both landed as Second Team honorees. Hrnciar was named Coach of the Year for the third year in a row, his seventh overall.

McClure took the league's Academic Player of the Year and was named to the All-South Central Academic All-Region team.



## CAMERON SOFTBALL RAISES THE BAR

The Cameron softball program set a new gold standard in Spring 2015, completing its best finish in 38 years with a 41-18 overall record and earning the runner-up spot at the NCAA South Central Regional. In the last two years, the Aggies have re-written the record book and established the start of a winning tradition at Cameron University.

Cameron's 41 wins was a new high water mark for the program, besting the old record, set in 2008, by six. Significantly, the 2008 squad accomplished that mark in 65 contests; the 2015 team did it in just 59.

"After making the NCAA Tournament for the first time in 2014, we wanted to set the bar higher for the 2015 season," says head coach Rodney DeLong. "Anything less than going back to the tournament wasn't going to cut it. Our goals before the season were to win at least 40 games, be nationally ranked, and get to the College World Series."

Cameron checked off two of those preseason goals when they broke into the National Fastpitch Coaches Association's Top 25 Poll at the end of a 17-game winning streak in the middle of the year. The appearance was a first for Cameron, placing the Aggies among the most elite teams in the nation.

Aggie power pushed the team to elite status with Paige Daino, Tara Martini and newcomer Lauren Renneker all hitting more than 20 homers each, surpassing the old season

record of 19 that was set in 2009. The three players made up the heart of the CU lineup and were fourth through sixth in homers nationally in NCAA Division II.

In the stretch run toward the end of the season, Cameron faced an unusual situation at both the Lone Star Conference Tournament and the NCAA Tournament. The Aggies, who concluded the season against Angelo State, opened both the league and national tournaments against that same team. As for the NCAA Tournament, it was made up of all LSC programs.

Cameron took three of four at McMahon Field to end the regular season, marking the first time that Aggies have won a series against Angelo State, a team that had won 32 of the last 36 meetings prior to this season. The Aggies knocked out ASU in the LSC Tournament opener 13-4 and rallied back in the NCAA Tournament opener 5-4 to take five straight against Angelo State.

Both tournaments were hosted by West Texas A&M, the defending NCAA Champions. The Lady Buffs would knock Cameron down in the league tournament, but the Aggies rebounded one week later during the NCAA tournament.

Cameron's sweetest win of the season was its last. After opening the game with a two-run lead, senior Kelsey Watson came in with the bases loaded and no outs in the fourth to strike out the next three batters. Of the final 12 outs of the game, Watson struck out 11 West Texas batters, including the final out to knock out the defending champions on their home field.

The win would move the Aggies to the regional championship game, which ended with a disappointing loss to Tarleton State to conclude Cameron's record season.

"We played tough in the regional," says DeLong. "Kelsey was as dominant as you could be in the circle. West Texas had the best batting average in the nation. She shut them down to give us a chance. We ran into a hot team during the championship game. The 2015 season raised the bar even higher for our returners and gave something to our seniors to hang their hats on."



The Aggies had nine All-LSC selections, eight All-South Central award winners, and two All-Americans - the most post-season honors in program history. Additionally, the team shattered seven team season records and finished in the top five nationally in five statistical rankings.

With the stellar play this year, the Cameron community pulled in their support with over 5,000 fans coming to McMahon Field. The program had the eleventh largest total attendance across NCAA Division II.

Cameron got a seat at the table last season with its first NCAA Tournament invitation, and the Aggies nearly won the regional. It's easy to guess the team's 2016 goal: make the College World Series.



## CU ATHLETICS LAUNCHES ONLINE STORE

Aggie fans now have access to a new online merchandise store, **ShopCameronAggies.com**, thanks to a partnership with Advanced-Online, a Texas-based company that specializes in the collegiate athletics market. **ShopCameronAggies.com** is the official online store for the Cameron University Athletics Department.

Supporters of CU athletics now have access to items from brands such as Adidas and Under Armor, and can choose from a variety of shirts, jackets, hats, office essentials, duffle bags, golf supplies, tailgating gear and much more.

Head to **ShopCameronAggies.com** for more than 800 products that can be customized with the CU athletics logo. All orders are produced and shipped within 24 hours.



## TOTH SETS NEW BAR FOR CROSS COUNTRY PROGRAM

Cameron senior Thomas Toth had a year to remember for the Cross Country program, highlighted by taking an 11th place finish at the NCAA National Championship.

The championship wasn't run under ideal conditions and was shortened slightly because of deep standing water on a section of the course. That didn't slow down the Canadian who ran the event in 30:56.2.

"The race was muddy, windy, cold - a nasty day which was perfect for a runner like Thomas," says head coach Zach Johnson. "Thomas had the best individual season in program history. He won a conference title and finished 11th in the nation after not even qualifying for nationals last season."

After winning the LSC individual championship, Toth earned billing as the league's Male Runner of the Year and became Cameron's second All-American in program history.

-Don Vieth

# Life After the

*For many years, Cameron alumni T.W. Shannon and Don Armes were dedicated public servants, serving in Oklahoma's House of Representatives. Both have now returned to the private sector. We caught up with these former Oklahoma politicians to see how each is coping with life after the legislature.*



**DON ARMES**

Faxon native Don Armes was elected to the Oklahoma State House of Representatives in 2002, serving his full-term limit of 12 years. Following his distinguished legislative career, he formed Armes and Associates, a business which allows him to work as a contract lobbyist for people who need help navigating the seas of state government.

Armes says his years in the legislature taught him a lot about the process of passing a law. "I personally had my name on 125 pieces of legislation – not ones that I attempted but ones I authored or passed and were signed into law by the Governor. I know how

to pass a bill and get it done. That has a lot of value to those folks who don't know how to get legislation passed."

Becoming a lobbyist was a natural progression. "I know the process from the inside," Armes says. "Not only do I have a knowledge of the process but I have relationships with legislators, leaders and agency heads. There are two parts to that: knowledge of the political and legislative process and relationships, which are extremely valuable."

His proudest accomplishment really had little to do with legislation.

"I ran for office to help rural Oklahoma, and I was able to do that in many different ways," he says. "I am proud of the time when the City of Lawton was going to shut down Tinney Road to expand the landfill. There were only a few families who would be affected by the decision, and it was necessary for the city to do it because the landfill needed more room. It was going to be a problem for the farmers in that area to pull a plow or drive a tractor seven miles around the landfill to their land. I was able to broker a deal between the city and the county to make a path around the north end of the landfill to keep that end of the landfill open and available. In addition

to helping those who farmed in the area, it also increased public safety."

He takes satisfaction from the stand he took on behalf of agriculture against overzealous agencies who sought to impose harsher regulations. "I'm proud of my record in coming up with a workable solution that was fair and equitable for farmers and the state."

Armes said his best memories from attending Cameron University include meeting his wife, Dede, on campus and his time as Aggie Club president in the early 1980s.

"We still had the Cameron rodeo every year," he recalls. "I had a lot of fun doing that. It was a really good time in our lives. We met a lot of friends that are lifelong friends."

Armes earned a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture with a concentration in Animal Science in 1984. "I was able to work in agriculture, and I did radio and television for almost 10 years as an ag reporter," he says. "All that prepared me for the legislative phase of my life. I was encouraged to get on the livestock judging team, and that gave me the training I needed to think and speak on my feet. It was a good thing for me because it got me over that fear of public speaking."



# Legislature



T.W. SHANNON

A member of the Chickasaw Nation, T.W. Shannon was elected to the Oklahoma House of Representatives in November 2006, making history as the body's first African-American Speaker of the House - as well as the youngest in history - in January 2013. He stepped down in 2014 to run for a U.S. Senate seat, but was defeated.

"I ran statewide for elected office, and that wasn't what God had in mind for me at that time," Shannon says. "He had other things in mind for my wife and me. We settled in Tulsa, and we love it here. We feel like it's a second home for us - Lawton will always be home but Tulsa has really become a home for us too. I enjoy what I'm doing here, and I'm excited that we got to stay in Oklahoma. It's important to me that our kids can grow up in Oklahoma."

These days, Shannon serves as managing director for Premier Consulting Partners, where he is responsible for fostering relationships and growing the portfolio of services offered. His duties include working with state banking associations across the country as the representative for StoneCastle Financial.

"I travel the country meeting with community bankers and listening to the challenges they experience in regard to finding access to capital," he says. "Through my partnership with StoneCastle, I am able to introduce bankers to a public market that until recently has only been reserved for the too-big-to-fail banks."

Shannon also serves as chair for the Republican State Leadership Committee's Future Majority Project, a national initiative to recruit, train and elect Republican candidates from diverse communities on the state level.

Shannon says his proudest accomplishment as a legislator was authoring legislation on two issues: workers' compensation and providing a state tax deduction for families who provide foster care, positioning Oklahoma as the first state in the nation to offer such a tax deduction.

Shannon's ties to Cameron go beyond the Bachelor of Arts in Communication he earned in 2000. It's also where he met his wife.

"The highlight of my Cameron memories is meeting my wife, Devon

Murray, on campus when I was a senior and she was a freshman," he recalls. "We both went to school in Lawton and knew a lot of the same people, but we had never met. I saw her walking across campus, and it was absolutely love at first sight."

Shannon says he learned many tools and techniques at Cameron that he still uses today. "I still use the tools I learned in Speech 101 when I travel around the country and speak to the young conservatives and college kids. Giving speeches is a big part of what I do. I gained a big dose of confidence and frankly learned some real techniques that I use in writing a speech. I'm a decent writer, and I honed that skill while I was at Cameron.

"I remember taking a pretty difficult course in organizational communication with Dr. Ron Price. He asked a lot of his students. I remember thinking after that course that if I could do well in that class, I could do anything as far as education goes. That's when I decided to go to law school, because it couldn't be any worse."

He went on to earn a juris doctorate from Oklahoma City University Law School.

"I am really proud of the education I got at Cameron which prepared me to do well in law school and throughout my career."

*Monica Wood*

# EVERY STUDENT. EVERY STORY.

*At Cameron University, incoming freshman are reminded that “Graduation Starts Today” – meaning that each academic decision they make in their collegiate career gets them one step closer to degree completion. For the Class of 2016, the onset of the fall semester is the “beginning of the end.” We asked four seniors what they are most looking forward to in their final year of study, and why each chose his or her respective degree plan.*

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**MONICA  
WITHERSPOON**

**Monica is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Psychology with a minor in criminal justice.**

“For many years I have mentored, advised, and helped give direction to many young men and women but wasn’t quite sure of what direction I was to take. After reading ‘The Dream Giver’ by Bruce Wilkinson, it sparked a desire in me to understand my purpose. As a Christian, I believe in divine inspiration; choosing psychology as my major was divinely inspired.

I started this journey in higher education with fear and trembling; my ability to look forward was very limited but through prayer, support of my family and friends, and the encouragement I received from faculty members, fear dissipated and confidence emerged. I am looking forward to being a part of some of the student organizations and activities available, as well as the challenges of experimental psychology and psychological research to see what interest may be sparked to propel me into the next level of higher education.”



## ASHLEY BRINCK

Ashley is on track to earn a Bachelor of Accounting with a minor in finance.

"I am looking forward to receiving advice from the faculty in my department about continuing education and careers.

I had an interest in accounting coming into college but my first class, Principles of Accounting, really confirmed it for me. I loved the class and the professor, Ms. Bernadette Lonzanida."

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## PHILIP WORTHEN

Philip chose the health professions concentration for his Bachelor of Science in Chemistry degree.

"I am looking forward to becoming more involved in the field of dentistry. I hope to gain experience by volunteering in local clinics and by doing mission work abroad.

I chose the Health Professions Chemistry degree because it allows me to focus on the classes that will best prepare me for dental school. This degree plan affords pre-health professionals the greatest freedom to focus on the specific coursework needed in their field."

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## COURTNEY BARDEN

Courtney plans to graduate in May with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with a minor in sociology.

"I am most looking forward to the classes that I'll be taking my senior year. I've really connected with my professors and love the topics that we are studying. I am also very excited to graduate in May.

I have always enjoyed history and government classes, but once I took my Federal Government class during my freshman year, I realized that I really enjoyed learning about politics. That led me to select political science as my major. The fact that the required classes for the major made me excited told me that was the major I needed to be in."



# JANIE HEATH

## HER PATH TO NURSING LEADERSHIP



All that glitters may not be gold, but from one Cameron alumna's perspective, "all that does not shine can glow and turn golden, given the right circumstances and opportunities." That's the philosophy of Janie Heath, Ph.D., APRN-BC, FAAN, who is celebrating her one-year anniversary as Dean and Warwick Professor of Nursing at the University of Kentucky College of Nursing. It's a position that she calls "truly the best job I've ever had."

The path to that position started with two Cameron degrees. Heath earned an Associate of Applied Science in 1976 and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 1981. Heath credits the professors at Cameron as the reason she's the quality teacher and dean she is today, citing their overflowing amount of patience and tips for developing study strategy skills.

"That's where it all started," Heath says, "You can't say enough about affordable education and exceptional education and incredible support. That's what I got from Cameron University."

Upon graduation, a door of opportunities opened for Heath as she climbed the ranks at Comanche County Memorial Hospital, filling positions ranging from a night shift emergency room nurse, staff nurse, charge nurse and Director of First Coronary Care before working with doctors who specialized in internal medicine or surgical practices.

At the same time, she earned a Master of Science in Nursing - CNS Acute and Critical Care Focus from the University of Oklahoma.

Her marriage to a member of the U.S. Army would eventually take her to see a large portion of the nation.

"The day I left Oklahoma was really bittersweet," she says. "That's where I was educated, that's where I was raised. It was a special, special place to me. It's a part of who I am, it's my roots, and it's where my nursing got started."

Life as a military spouse would prove to be a most fruitful experience for Heath, giving her

the background to be adaptable to any situation while providing her with valuable career opportunities.

“The path that I went on, the different places I’ve been, it helped me become a better nurse,” says Heath. “It helped me become a better nurse leader, it helped me become a better educator, and certainly I’d like to say a better person in general.”

Her husband, Mike, served as pharmacy consultant to the U.S. Army Surgeon General while Heath spent her time teaching, earning a Post Masters Nurse Practitioner Certificate from the University of South Carolina, and working on her doctorate at George Mason University. By the time she had completed her Ph.D., her husband had retired from the Army. The dynamic of the relationship changed: it was her turn to take the lead and make the call on their next destination.

They eventually relocated to Augusta, Georgia, where Heath served as Associate Dean of Academic Programs at Georgia Health Sciences University. Then she was recruited to the University of Virginia School of Nursing in the same capacity. During her tenure at UVA, she worked with Dean Dorrie Fontaine, PhD., who became her mentor and encouraged her to climb the hierarchical ladder.

“I knew it wouldn’t become a question of if I would ever become a dean, it became a question of when I would become a dean,” Heath says.

Only four schools - University of Virginia, University of Georgia, University of South Carolina and University of Kentucky - met her basic requirements.

“I had some high standards,” Heath says “I would consider a deanship if it was a flagship school of nursing, if it was in an academic medical center, if it

was a research intensive university and if I had personal or professional connections in that area.”

So when the opportunity arose at the University of Kentucky, Heath answered the call. Not only did UK meet all of her requirements, it put Heath, who has an extensive background in tobacco control, in the “belly of the beast.”

“It was the perfect match,” Heath says. “I’m doing important work that needs to be done to improve health and wellness in Kentucky.”

Heath, who firmly believes “teaching is a privilege,” operates on a two-prong educational philosophy to ensure her students receive the same quality of education she did when she attended Cameron.

The first aspect behind Heath’s philosophy is maintaining the quality of some of her past professors and their ability to care, connect and comfort.

“Regardless of what I’m teaching or what I’m doing or who I’m working with - students, faculty or alum - I do it with all my heart and all of my enthusiasm,” she says. “I put my students first. I take care of students like I would want to be treated. I believe in them. I see value in everyone, and I would like to bring out their very best so they can reach their potential.”

The second aspect is maintaining credibility and relevancy in the field and having the ability to “resonate within your students and make an impact to help with their learning experience.”

“Students are the first to know how long it’s been since you’ve been on the front lines,” Heath says. “It’s always been important to me even as a dean to stay relevant in my field, whether that’s going to be staying on top of the literature or actually having feet on the



**“Regardless of what I’m teaching or what I’m doing or who I’m working with - students, faculty or alum - I do it with all my heart and all of my enthusiasm.”**

ground, taking care of patients and families and communities. That’s important.”

Heath is proud to be an Aggie alumna. Cameron remains dear to her heart and deeply intertwined with her roots, her foundation and the background to her career.

“I thought about it, that ‘Black and Gold’ experience,” Heath says. “Because of my opportunities at Cameron, it made me realize that regardless of your background, given an opportunity for affordable and exceptional education, it’s possible to have a golden experience and a golden outcome.”

*-Charlene Belew*



DR. MATTHEW MIRELES

# A Passion for Euphony\*

\*AN AGREEABLENESS OF SOUND

With the sounds of piano music permeating throughout Cameron's Music Building, Assistant Professor of Music Dr. Matthew Mireles makes his way to a bookshelf amid a small gathering of brass instruments in his office to retrieve his debut solo recording effort on CD. "Prometheus," a solo euphonium album done in collaboration with renowned tuba composer John Stevens and released by Potenza Music, is a project he will long take pride in.

Mireles, the project's main euphonium soloist, performed with a string orchestra, the University of Wisconsin-Madison Wind Ensemble and guest pianist Dr. Kirstin Ihde. This variety was one of Mireles' two primary goals with this solo effort.

"John Stevens is a titan in the tuba world as a composer and arranger," Mireles says. "But nobody had really recorded his stuff on euphonium before. For me to release a solo album on euphonium, especially [of] John Stevens' [work], was my main goal."

To achieve this goal, Stevens and Mireles worked together in Madison for the recording process. According to Mireles, this presence and guidance helped facilitate the album's production.

"This was my first recording, so it was nice to have him there to guide me through the recording process," Mireles says.

"He's had a lot of experience doing that on his own and with other people. It was really smooth for me, having him there."

In the interim between recording and release, Mireles had worked on the post-production aspects of the album. While this is the first time he has done this process alone, he has previous experience with the album production process as an integral part of the Boreas Quartet's album "The Serpent's Kiss."

"That was a different experience because we're getting into the same professional quality, but we did it on our own, which was really amazing to do," he says. "With the solo album, I just focused on the music. I play the music, and it will get recorded and edited later."

On both albums, Mireles has a chance to showcase his primary instrument, the euphonium. With both the quartet album and his solo effort, he hoped to showcase the different capabilities of the brass instrument in original ways.

"I'm not interested in recording something that's been recorded by someone else," he says. "It's just a little more fulfilling to bring something new and fresh to the field."

Doing so would also give him a chance to share his love for his primary instrument.



*“Euphonium, to me, is one of the most beautiful sounding instruments in the world,” Mireles says. “It has endless possibilities that a lot of people don’t really know about.”*

“Euphonium, to me, is one of the most beautiful sounding instruments in the world,” Mireles says. “It has endless possibilities that a lot of people don’t really know about. That’s what I wanted to accomplish with the quartet, and that’s what I’m trying to accomplish with the solo album. The euphonium has meant so much to me that I want other people to be able to share in the experience.”

Mireles’ history with euphonium and brass instruments as a whole dates back to his time in South Texas, where brass players in the region inspired his interest as much as his brother, a trumpeter, and his uncle, a trombonist.

However, he credits his grandmother as his main influence to perform music.

“I remember going to her house on the weekends and seeing her play this fantastic classical music that I’d never heard before,” Mireles says. “When I watched her playing, I knew I wanted to learn how to make music.”

During his time at Cameron and in southwest Oklahoma, Mireles has noticed a similar drive to learn in many of the musicians he has encountered.

“The music education community in this area is very fruitful,” he says. “Whenever I go and conduct for an ensemble in this area, they’re always really excited to have me on campus. They’re really engaged. It always seems that whenever I work with them, they’re thirsty for more knowledge.”

According to Mireles, the music community’s desire to learn has benefitted Cameron in its growth as a watering hole to sate the musicians’ collective thirst.

“This school is becoming the beacon for the music education community in this area,” he says. “I really want it to be to where all these students from different high schools come to this school so we can all make music together here.”

Mireles’ connection to music, which he cites as “personal and spiritual,” has driven his eagerness to share the power of

music with others through teaching, conducting and performing. Collaborating with musicians renowned and new has been his goal from day one.

“That’s all I’ve ever wanted to do: to make music with people and teach people how to make music,” Mireles says. “There’s nothing more important to me than that because it’s so enriching, uplifting and fulfilling in people’s lives and the community.”

Sharing that vision as a member of Cameron’s faculty has benefitted not only his students and the community, but Mireles himself. He says that coming to Cameron “has been the best thing that’s ever happened to me.” As a result, he believes he has become a better musician and, thus, a better collaborator in his craft.

“Cameron has given me a great opportunity here, and I couldn’t be any more thankful for that,” Mireles says. “I’ve always been one who’s worked hard; but here at Cameron, I’ve had the opportunity to concentrate on conducting, performing and teaching at the same time.”

Acting as teacher, conductor of the Cameron University Concert Band and recording artist, Mireles brings those disciplines together into one singular aim, much like a true musical arranger unites a multitude of instruments, beats and harmonies to create a pleasing, cohesive sound.

“I’m just trying to make the best music I can with the best people I can,” he says. “I look forward to bringing even newer music to Cameron and new opportunities to students here to make higher quality music.”

In the meantime, he continues to do as much as he can in the music world, performing, conducting and teaching during his “summer off.” In true musical fashion, as the temperatures have crescendoed, so has Mireles’ drive to make and share music.

“I wouldn’t want to be doing anything else with my time,” he says.

*Jacob Jardel*

# Teamwork + Creativity = HAPPY CLIENT

*As college students go through their undergraduate careers, they find the coursework gets easier with each year until it comes to their final class: the oft-dreaded capstone.*

A capstone course covers everything a student learned within his or her degree program and is usually the last thing holding seniors back from walking across the stage at Commencement. Cameron senior Bishaka Karki, who will complete her course requirements for two degrees – one in Information Technology and one in Communication – this fall, admits she would take her Information Technology capstone class all over again just for fun.

“It was probably the most amazing class I had at Cameron,” Karki says. “It was not like a traditional class where you sat down and the teacher goes on for an hour and fifteen minutes, lets you go, and you have homework. It was nothing like that.”

What sets the Information Technology capstone apart from many others is that it is a hands-on course involving multiple academic disciplines and featuring a real-life client. Students are divided into two or three teams and presented with a client. The teams are then let loose to design a system to solve their client’s dilemma.

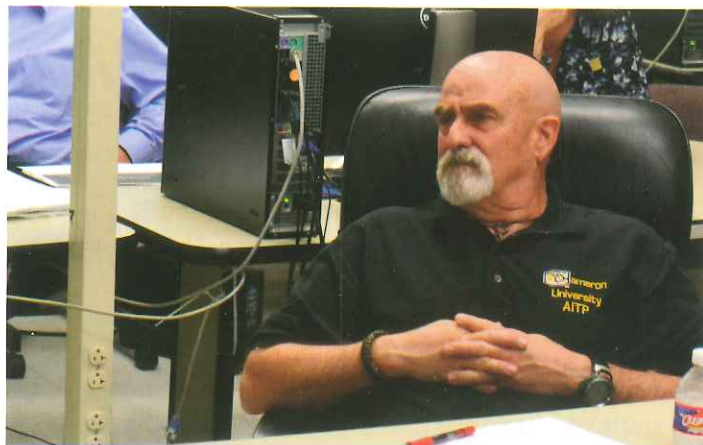
David Smith, an instructor in the Department of Computing and Technology, is one of the forefathers of the class. He is joined by his departmental colleagues Dr. Chao Zhao and Dr. Abbas Johari along with Dr. William Carney, Associate Professor of English and Foreign Languages. Smith says the class is basically run like a software company, complete with four disciplines: multimedia, information technology, computer science and English.

“It is a fantastic process,” Smith says. “The students in our field really need to learn how to work in interdisciplinary teams. They’ve got to be able to work with a team that is

composed of coders, system analysts and all of these other pieces. They’ve got to be able to come together to collate and be able to build what they have to build.”

The capstone class is a required course for information technology, computer science and multimedia majors, who build the system for the client. The English majors serve as tech writers so the entire process is communicated in a way that students and clients can understand. One English student serves as the tech editor, overseeing the tech writers in the class.

Over the last several years, the class has completed successful programs for the City of Lawton’s Information Technology Department, the Center for Emerging Technology and Entrepreneurial Studies, Lawton’s Court Appointed Support Agency and the Lawton Police Department. The Spring 2015 project was to create an IT inventory system for Comanche County Memorial Hospital (CCMH).



Computing and Technology instructor David Smith listens as members of his capstone class present their final projects.



The class had more than 60 students, broken down into three teams composed of a team leader, small groups representing each discipline and one tech writer. Karki served as the team leader for her group.

The capstone teams complete a project in four months – a process that would take a normal software company a year to build. Each team interviews the client to determine how to accommodate the client’s wants and needs.

“The people at CCMH knew what they wanted, but they didn’t have any prototype or any visual example of how they wanted it done,” Karki says. “Because we didn’t have a prototype to work from, we had to build the system from scratch.”

The students had multiple opportunities to meet with the client throughout the semester. In fact, the client is required to attend the class once every two weeks in order to see how the project was coming along and to keep good communication with the students.

Dee Smith, systems administrator at CCMH, was one of the client representatives who met with the students about the project.

“It was a lot of fun for us on our end,” she says. “We were very intrigued and excited to see what they were able to come up with.”

At the end of the semester, the groups presented their completed projects to the client and professors. If their system works, they pass the class. The client selects a winner from the options presented, giving that team bragging rights. If adjustments are required, all of the students – not just those who created the winning project – collaborate to fine tune the final product. Each student is presented with a recommendation letter from the client, and most, if not all, have been successful in launching a career after graduation.

“We have been told by some people in our industry that this is the way a capstone course should be run,” says Dave Smith. “The students are getting not only the soft skills, but the hard skills as well. They’re providing a service and an actual product for a client.”

“I think it’s very much going to be what we want and need,” Dee Smith says of the final product. “Now we know a little bit more. I think we should’ve tested a little bit longer. But those are things we’ll work out with the instructors for the next project. We really are looking forward to working with Cameron again.”



Dee Smith spearheaded the Spring 2015 capstone project on behalf of CCMH.

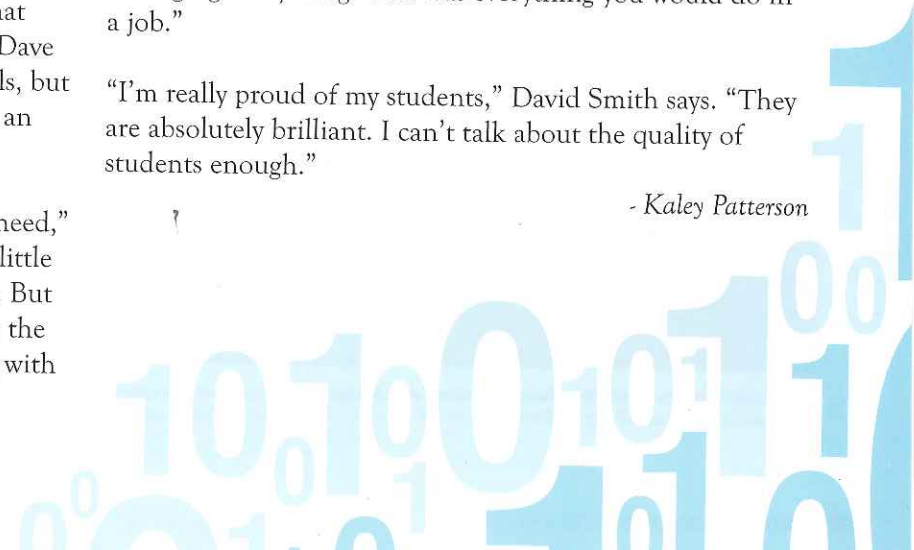
David Smith believes hands-on classes like this Information Technology capstone as well as the Database Design & Management class he teaches are important to student learning because it replicates what students will be up against in the workforce. Although the students log “mega hours” for the class, they enjoyed every minute of it.

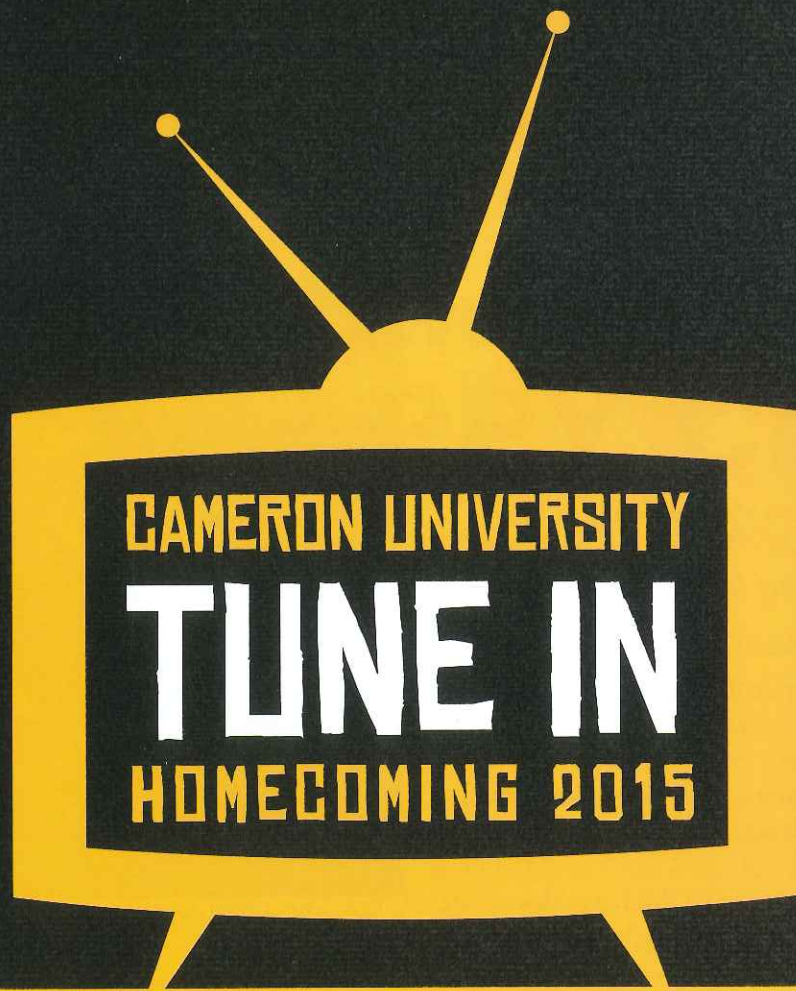
Karki said her experience in the capstone class was more like a taste of the real-world rather than an overview of everything she had learned prior to the course.

“This was much more like a job,” she says. “You had to account for hours and for your duties. You had to account for responsibilities because you actually needed to have a complete project at the end no matter how you did it while managing everything. This was everything you would do in a job.”

“I’m really proud of my students,” David Smith says. “They are absolutely brilliant. I can’t talk about the quality of students enough.”

- Kaley Patterson



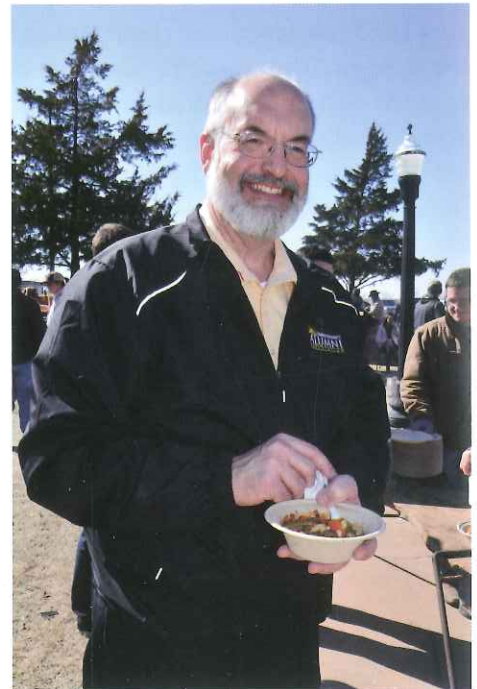


**CAMERON UNIVERSITY**  
**TUNE IN**  
**HOMECOMING 2015**

Last February, Cameron alumni and friends reunited on campus to join students, faculty and staff to celebrate the university's annual Homecoming festivities, TUNE IN.



Cameron alumnus Lonny Morrison and his wife Dottie sample the fare at the annual Homecoming Chuck Wagon Cook-off and Tailgate Party.



Cameron President John McArthur enjoys a bowl of stew prepared by CU students during the annual Homecoming Chuck Wagon Cook-off and Tailgate Party.



Cameron alumni (l to r) Taylor Brunwald, Shanta'e Hicks, Amanda Finch and Justin Payne shared their CU memories during the Cameron G.O.L.D. (Graduates of the Last Decade) get-together at Mike's Sports Grille.



Alumna Jenny Clement-Shaw crosses the finish line in style during the annual Aggie Fun Run and Walk.



CU student Jordan Sanders checks on a bubbling pot of stew during the annual Homecoming Chuck Wagon Cook-off and Tailgate Party.



Cameron Athletics Director Jim Jackson presents Kathy Smith with a plaque commemorating her induction into the Cameron Athletics Hall of Fame. Smith played volleyball and basketball for the Aggies.



Larry Lawler, a 1959 Cameron graduate, looks through an old Wichita yearbook during the Aggie Family Coffees.



The Aggie Spirit team kicked off the campus Golf Cart Parade.



The annual ROTC Reunion provides former members of the Comanche Battalion an opportunity to reminisce.

# SAVE THE DATE

## HOMECOMING 2016

ALUMNI EVENTS: FEBRUARY 19-20, 2016

For a schedule of events, contact the Office of Development and Alumni Relations at (580) 581-2988 or at [www.cameron.edu/alumni/homecoming](http://www.cameron.edu/alumni/homecoming)



## PRESIDENT'S PARTNERS: 25 for 25!

Celebrating its 25th anniversary, Cameron University's President's Partners program welcomed 25 new members during 2014-15! We are pleased to welcome the following new President's Partners:

- Ag Preference, Altus
- American Fidelity Assurance Company, Oklahoma City
- Steve and Cindy Barnes, Lawton
- BAE Systems, Elgin
- Theresa Billiot, Lawton
- Bryan and Maurissa Buchwald, Lawton
- Farm Credit of Western Oklahoma, Anadarko
- Chris Deal, Duncan
- Dawn C. Holt, Altus
- Duncan Area Economic Development Foundation, Duncan
- Duncan Chamber of Commerce, Duncan
- Jon Horinek, Lawton
- Lisa Huffman and Martin Wakhanu, Lawton
- Sylvan Learning Center, Lawton
- Jerry and Polly Krasser, Chattanooga
- Liberty National Bank, Lawton
- Chris Middick Insurance Agency Inc., Lawton/Frederick
- Andrea Montgomery, Lawton
- Bob Morford, Lawton
- Zeak Naifeh, Lawton
- Don L. Smith PLLC, Lawton
- Fabian Turner, Cache
- Paul Warmuskerken, Lawton
- Amy Wyatt-Burton, Hollister
- Fred and Terry Wyatt, Hollister

Established in 1989 to meet the growing demand for short- and long-term financial commitments, President's Partners is a society of loyal Cameron University donors who commit to a minimum donation to the Cameron University Foundation of \$1,000 per year. That support is utilized for scholarships, to fund faculty and student research, enhance educational resources, support Cameron's Study Abroad Program and more.

*To learn more about President's Partners and how you can become a member, contact the Office of University Advancement at (580) 581-2999 or [advancement@cameron.edu](mailto:advancement@cameron.edu).*



A group of Cameron students lends their organizational skills to the Lawton Food Bank, as part of the university's participation in the Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service. Each January, approximately 400 Cameron volunteers participate in the national community service initiative.



The Cameron campus exploded with color during the Third Annual Technicolor Run. Proceeds from the event benefit the Children's Starlight Fund at Comanche County Memorial Hospital.



Cameron was proud to host the American Cancer Society's Relay For Life in April.

# ALMA MATTERS

Alumni who received more than one degree are listed by year of their first degree. Those who attended but did not graduate are listed under the year they would have graduated; or in some cases, the last year they attended. If you have changed your address, have a new job or have other news to share, contact the Office of Development and Alumni Relations, 2800 W. Gore Blvd., Lawton OK 73505, 580-581-2988; alumni@cameron.edu; or on the web at www.cameron.edu/alumni.

## 1940s



**Darrell Bolich (AA '49)**, Ada, was honored as Grand Marshal at the Ada Air Expo in June 2014. A veteran of the U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force, Bolich recently honored his family's military tradition by purchasing commemorative bricks honoring his father and brothers on the National Museum of the U.S. Army's Path of Remembrance.

## 1950s

**Jerry Salyer (AS'56)**, Oklahoma City, was recognized by the Oklahoma Supreme Court Judges for his 18 years of service as an Oklahoma Workman's Compensation judge, where he served from 1988 to 2006. He is a colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve.

## 1970s

**Dick Adams (BBA'70, AA'68)**, Edmond, was inducted into the Oklahoma Officials Association's Hall of Fame. He is a retired school administrator.

**Jerry Couch (BS'70)**, Duncan, retired from the ministry following 55 years of service, primarily spent at Highland Park Baptist Church.

**Susan Zwaan (BS '76)**, Lawton, was sworn into office as Comanche County Special District Court Judge in January 2015.

## 1980s



**Wallace Bridges (BA '83)**, Ypsilanti, Mich., was awarded a 2015-2016 Fulbright Fellowship to teach and direct theatre arts at the University of Ghana - in Accra, Ghana, Africa. He will teach a theatre course and direct "A Raisin In The Sun."

**Dorothy G. West (BS'84)**, Lubbock, Texas, is now the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction at the Lubbock Independent School District. She was formerly Area Director at Garland Independent School District.

**Jon Kalbfleisch (BA'85)**, Alexandria, Va., received the 2015 Helen Hayes Award for Outstanding Musical Direction-HAYES Production for "Sunday in the Park with George" at the Signature Theatre.

**Miles Thompson (BS'89)**, Elgin, is the head girls basketball coach at Elgin High School. He previously coached boys' basketball at Snyder.

## 1990s

**Lt. Col. John Spivey (BS '92)**, Lawton, is now Provost Marshal at Fort Sill's Directorate of Emergency Services.

**Robin Muse (BS '98)**, Cache, was named the first place grant recipient of the 2014 Teacher Awards for Literacy by the Penguin Random House Foundation. The award recognizes the nation's most dynamic and resourceful teachers of reading. Muse teaches fifth grade reading in Cache.

## 2000s



**Suzanne Robinson (MS'01)**, Norman, received the University of Oklahoma 2015 Provost's Outstanding Academic Advising Award. She is an academic counselor in the University of Oklahoma's College of Architecture.

**Donna Cook (BS'01)**, Lawton, was named Lawton Public Schools Teacher of the Year. She teaches math at Eisenhower High School. She was also honored as AFA Southwest Oklahoma Teacher of the Year by the Air Force Association.

**Christy LaPierre (BS'02)**, Cache, was named Teacher of the Year by Cache Public Schools. She is a kindergarten teacher at Cache Primary School.

**Jamie Glover (MBA'05)**, Elgin, was honored with the Natalea Watkins Communicator of the Year Award during the Oklahoma College Public Relations Association's fall 2014 workshop.

**Frank Myers (BS'06)**, Lawton, is now the Associate Director of Alumni at Cameron University. He was previously employed at Cameron in the area of student recruitment and enrollment management.

**Amanda Lard (BS'07)**, Duncan, is the head volleyball coach at Duncan High School. She previously taught and coached at Duncan Middle School.

**Chase Massie (BA'07)**, Lawton, is now the Director of Human Resources for the City of Lawton. He was formerly Director of Human Resources at Cameron.



**Chelsea Turner (BS'07)**, Clarksville, Tenn., has joined the women's basketball coaching staff at Austin Peay State University. She was previously director of player development and team manager at the University of Tulsa.

**Gordon Shaw (BS'08, AS'01)**, Lawton, is now Director of Human Resources at Cameron University. He is a veteran of the U.S. Army and was previously employed by ALATEC.

**Jennifer McGrail (MBA'09)**, Lawton, is now the Small Business Development Coordinator at the Great Plains Technology Center. She

was formerly Director of Alumni Relations at Cameron.

## 2010s

**Tiffany Martinez (BA'13)**, Lawton, married Kyle Vrska on May 30 at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church. They are both reporters for The Lawton Constitution.

**Anna White (BS'13)**, Ada, was united in marriage to Trevin Vass, on May 23 at the Southwest Church of Christ in Ada. She is currently pursuing a physician's associate degree, and he is a staking engineer at People's Electric Cooperative.

**Clinton Jones (BS '13)**, Walters, and **Hailey Harris (BFA'14)**, Chattanooga, were united in marriage on April 11 at the Medicine Park Music Hall. Harris was one of three artists whose works was selected for the Momentum OKC 2015 "Spotlight" art exhibit.

**Matthew Hughes (BFA'14)**, Lawton, is the executive director of Lawton's Leslie Powell Gallery. He is a former member of the U.S. military.



**Jack McGuire (BA '14)**, Lawton, has joined the KSWO staff as a sports reporter. He was previously with WILO in Lima, Ohio.

**River Mitchell (BS'14)**, Fletcher, married Emaria Mantooth on April 18 at the Mitchell family ranch. The newlyweds have moved to western Canada, where he manages a cattle ranch.

**Ashley Winfrey (BA '14)**, New Orleans, appeared in an

episode of "NCIS: New Orleans." She has also appeared in "Beyond Deceit," "My Invisible Sister" and "Scream Queens."



**CAMERON UNIVERSITY**

**WHAT'S NEW WITH YOU?**

Send your news to [alumni@cameron.edu](mailto:alumni@cameron.edu), fax to **580-581-2988**, or drop us a line at **Office of Development and Alumni Relations, 2800 W. Gore, Lawton, OK 73505-6377.**

# IN MEMORIAM

## Cameron Alumni

Christina "Christy" M. Argo, '91, Broken Arrow  
 Mike H. Asenap, '72, Indianahoma  
 Debora Kay Bates, '80, Mountain Park  
 Gladys Marie Cassell, '49, Faxon  
 Dennis R. Chupp, '81, Lawton  
 Beverly Ann Collins, '13, Lawton  
 John W. Crabtree, '80, Lawton  
 Cynthia Tuesday Downs, '97, Lawton  
 Raymond Elliot, '90, Broken Arrow  
 Patrick Wayne Foster, '13, Lawton  
 Amelia Fricke, '52, Durham, N.C.  
 Brian Douglas Gibson, '01, Norman  
 Harold Ellison Hackler, '93, Duncan  
 Gena Hise, '36, Elgin  
 Rudy John King, '70, Anadarko  
 Tamara K. Jones, '14, Lawton  
 Marc L. Loehr, '96, Lawton  
 Sherril Don Martin, '88, Apache  
 Regina McCracken, '90, Lawton  
 Emmett Meraz Jr., '48, Lawton  
 1st Sgt. (Ret.) Jose A. Mercado, '84, Lawton  
 Paul David Pahcheka, '87, Cache  
 Jim Parker, '65, Lawton

Howard Leroy Payne, '80, Lawton  
 CWO (Ret.) Harold E. Pendergraft, '87, Lawton  
 Bryce R. Petty, '78, Fort Worth, Texas  
 Laurie Lee Philpott, '96, Lawton  
 Ivan Ray Prowell, '58, Lawton  
 MSG (Ret.) Gloyd Roberts, '79, Lawton  
 Wanda Jene Robertson, '79, Mansfield, Texas  
 Lenora Mary Russell, '93, Lawton  
 Henry (Hank) A. Sabine III, '64, Medicine Park  
 David Selstad, '87, Tulsa  
 Robert Ray Storlie, '84, Duncan  
 Billie Charles Spradlin, '54, Kilgore, Texas  
 Maj. (Ret.) Angelo Venniro, '73, Lawton  
 Johnny R. Wilson III, '66, Mangum  
 Paul Preston Wilson, '67, Lawton  
 Linda Faye Woodman, '72, College Station, Texas

## Faculty/Staff

MSG (Ret.) Melvin H. Fredricksen, Lawton  
 Nickie Keith Harrison, Chickasha  
 Keith Lavender, Lawton  
 Tom McCollom, Lawton  
 Jacqueline L. Miller, Lawton  
 Robert "Bob" Whan, Lawton

# CAMERON

MAGAZINE

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Lawton, Oklahoma 73505-6377  
580.581.2211

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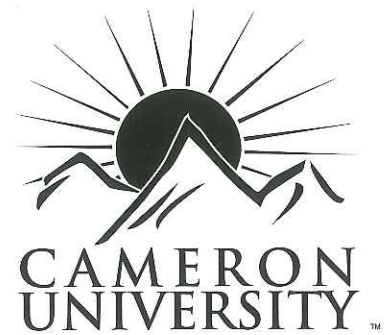
**PAID**

Lawton, OK  
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## START PLANNING TODAY TO JOIN US AT CU!

### Important dates for Cameron Supporters:

- Welcome Week to CU Students: August 17-21, 2015
- Paint the Town Black and Gold Partner Fair: August 26, 2015
- Back the Axe Athletic Events: <http://www.cameronaggies.com>
- Cameron Foundation Board Meeting: November 5, 2015
- Community Tree Lighting Reception: November 30, 2015 (Duncan campus)  
December 1, 2015 (Lawton campus)
- Take an Aggie to Work: February 1-5, 2016
- Red River Career Expo: February 18, 2016
- Homecoming 2016: February 19-20, 2016
- Endowment Appreciation Dinner: February 25, 2016
- Annual President's Partners Event: April 7, 2016
- Commencement 2016: May 7, 2016



We hope to see you on campus this upcoming year!