

MID-AMERICAN

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President's REPORT

2019 - 2020



Fall 2020

Dream Bigger. Do Greater.

Presidential Address

I've been rereading Bolsinger's book *Canoeing the Mountains: Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory*¹. Based on the explorations of Lewis and Clark, the author explains the challenges that those explorers encountered as they sought to canoe the rivers believing they would find the Northwest Passage to the West Coast. They came to the irrefutable reality that there was no navigable water route to the Pacific Ocean. There they stood looking at the Rocky Mountains, peak after snow-capped peak in front of them. This was the moment when they had to leave their boats, find horses, and make the giant adaptive shift that comes from realizing that your mental models for the terrain in front of you are no longer accurate.

It strikes me that MACU and even our nation is at its own "Lemhi Pass," where the anticipated geography meets the harsh "geography of reality." We have to admit our inexperience in knowing what to do because we have never been this way before!

We read of Jesus in (NKJV) Luke 9:51: "Now it came to pass, when the time had come for Him to be received up, Jesus steadfastly set His face to go to Jerusalem." The Contemporary English Version translates the verse: "[Jesus] made up his mind to go...."

From his birth to his death to his ascension, the direction for Jesus was always the same: forward. That didn't mean he was never tempted to turn back. Satan often tempted him to deviate from the Father's commission. It doesn't mean that life was easy up until the crucifixion. It wasn't! He faced tough terrain. His life and mission were constantly resisted, criticized, and maligned. He even experienced the searing betrayal from one closest to him. The disciples were always struggling with the terrain. They envisioned a "passage" that led quickly to the kingdom's throne room. Instead, it was a terrain that didn't fit their mental maps.

Why did Jesus resolve to go forward? It was His Father's plan for redemption. He had accepted heaven's commission to blaze a passageway back to God. Why did Meriwether Lewis never consider retreat? For the same reason: he had a commission to fulfill!

I realize this pandemic has traumatized us! These unimaginable times have taken the wind out of our sails.

¹ Bolsinger, T. (2018). *Canoeing the Mountains: Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory*. Downers Grove: IVP Books.



COVID-19 has filled our days with uncharted landscapes and dangers. There have been some positive and negative reactions in addressing social injustice and the need for racial reconciliation. We struggle with how to navigate the terrain, so we end up truly crossing the divides and arriving together at the place of love and unity.

Despite this disturbing "new reality," we must not succumb to the mindset that today's expedition is simply to "survive these times!" Our trek this year is to inspire future generations that we not only endured a plague, social injustice and economic upheaval, but we actually made up our minds to go forward. We created new maps! We discovered a new route.

When the conditions are drastically different we must stay true to our core mission. Our core identity is to be Christian educators. We have inspired our students to live a life of discovery. We have challenged them to be world-changers! We are the explorers that map out knowledge, create journals and write new information. We are the corps of educators who are blazing trails for others to find new passageways!

Would we rob ourselves of the honor of being the first explorers to discover a way to keep providing Christian higher education in uncharted territory where disease and upheaval have caused others to give up hope? Would we forfeit adding our names to the role of explorers who actually tackled the mountains that have long blocked social progress? Would we

be so blinded by our fears and by the challenge of social distancing to overlook the incredible opportunities we will have before us?

We will carry out our mission of faith and learning in a world where many people's "gods" have died! Do we not understand that "setting our face" to go through this next academic year is blazing a trail of evangelism and discipleship of our students? Most of these students never supposed life could be so uncertain! They too face fears! Many students will be filled with questions and struggling to find purpose and something (or Someone) on which to anchor their future.

Look again at Luke 9: "...when the time had come for Him to be received up, Jesus steadfastly set His face to go to Jerusalem." I would have expected it to say, "when the time had come for Him to go to the cross...." His mental determination did foresee the suffering that awaited Him at Calvary. But the text emphasizes His Ascension — that is, His death. Resurrection, the giving of the Great Commission and His Ascension back to heaven where he is seated at the right hand of the Father!

Jesus did not look only to the tough and terrible terrain ahead. He looked to the completion of the mission, which is something that we must keep before us! Our goal is not to make it through this next semester or even the next academic year with the hope that the terrain

will get easier. We are on an expedition to help people find a passageway to Christ and new trails where He will lead them in their professional careers.

We must "Dream Bigger. Do Greater!" We must "set our face to go forward and not grow discouraged with the mountains before us!" We must lead the way to God, to healing of a nation and to the discipleship of our students. We are called to be trailblazers, to take the risks to find solutions and to encourage others to follow the pathways. Our focus is not upon a virus but upon THE VICTOR over sin, Satan and death itself! Let us go with Him on this great expedition...no turning back...no turning back!

Dr. John Fozard, President



Spring 2020 Commencement Ceremony to be Held in Fall

MACU is excited to announce that Brian Alarid, President and Founder of America Prays and World Prays, will address spring graduates as the commencement speaker, just as originally scheduled in May. After COVID-19 concerns canceled the spring ceremony, MACU will celebrate the persevering class of 2020 with an in-person commencement ceremony at 10 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 7, at Crossings Community Church in Oklahoma City. The decision was made after a survey showed that the majority of graduates still preferred to have a postponed commencement celebration.

America Prays unites believers, churches and pastors in 24/7 prayer around the world. Alarid has 26 years of experience in pastoral ministry and executive leadership and is the founding pastor of Passion Church in Albuquerque, N.M. He previously served as a Regional Manager for the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association. Alarid has preached the Gospel and trained thousands of leaders in 17 nations through conferences, churches, crusades, prayer rallies, television and radio. Recently, America Prays launched its Oklahoma chapter, which sees hundreds of local churches, businesses and individuals unite in prayer every day for the greater good of the state.



For more information about Alarid's work with America Prays, visit www.americaprays.org

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Dream Bigger.
Do Greater.



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Update or Story Idea?**
Please send it to:
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Watch MACU Chapel Live every
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macu.edu/watch



Student Spotlight

Harlee Kowals

An ordinary first grader might be into Disney princesses and stuffed animals, but for Harlee Kowals, "ordinary" was never an option. Kowals, who graduated from MACU this year with a biology degree, said her interest in the field of forensics began when she was a little girl. She became fascinated with the crime shows her dad had a fondness for, hoping to one day learn more of the processes and analysis that went into forensic science.

As she grew into a vibrant young woman, Kowals shelved the idea for a time, flourishing in the arts classes she took in high school. A native of Newcastle, Okla., she grew up a few miles down the road from MACU and received a full-ride scholarship to help her attend college. "I toured a few different universities, but I was overwhelmed by how large they were. When I went to MACU for the first time, I fell in love. It felt like home. I was a high school student, I was a nobody – but the MACU community embraced me straightaway."

As Kowals prepared to enter college, she found herself faced with a common challenge among freshmen: she didn't know what to major in. Although she enjoyed literature, poetry and writing classes in high school, she wasn't certain that was the career path God had in mind for her. "My admissions counselor at MACU sat down with me and asked me what I wanted to do with my life," she said. "I was honest with him: I wasn't sure."

Mulling her options, Kowals said her admissions counselor retrieved a pamphlet detailing 101 career opportunities with a biology degree, a program that MACU launched in 2017. Among them was forensic science, which called out to Kowals like an old friend. She became one of MACU's inaugural biology majors, where she joined with peers who shared her passion for science but who had a myriad of other career goals in mind. "Some of us wanted to go into nursing, forensics or other areas of biology," said Kowals. "It was a very broad spectrum. The faculty figured out ways to find classes that would help all of us specialize in what we wanted to pursue."

She said the helpfulness of MACU's biology faculty helped prepare her for her budding career in forensic science. "I would go to Dr. Deshani Fernando's office every day to ask questions, and she would always take the time to talk to me. Whether she was grading papers or working on the next lesson, she would always stop what she was doing so we could dive into a deeper level than what we had time for in class. That's not an experience you can get anywhere but at MACU."

Along with the deep relationships she developed with her professors, Kowals said the spiritual aspect of her education at MACU helped shape her not only for her career but for life. "You see God everywhere on this campus. You see it in how the faculty and staff act – you see it all around you. My floor in the residence halls had Bible studies once a week, which gave me an opportunity for fellowship with my peers, not to mention the discipleship opportunities I received from our faculty members and staff."



*"You see God everywhere on
this campus. You see it in
how the faculty and staff act,
you see it all around you..."*

Kowals said that MACU made it easy for her to plug in to God by placing an emphasis on her spirituality. "I feel like I grew in my walk with God at MACU," she said. This spring, Kowals graduated with her degree in biology – a diploma she immediately put to work. She was hired by ARL Bio Pharma in downtown Oklahoma City, which provides analytical and microbiological testing for the pharmaceutical industry. Right now, she's serving in a data entry role, where she sorts samples received from local hospitals, pharmaceutical companies and veterinary clinics.

Kowals said she's excited for the path God is taking her on – and she's grateful to MACU for preparing her to walk alongside Him all the way. "MACU helped me prepare not just academically but spiritually. I have such a positive attitude because of my experience at MACU. Everyone there is so uplifting, encouraging and nice. They go out of your way to help you get whatever you need. I am so proud to be a graduate of Mid-America Christian University."

MACU Offers State's First Online Option For Teacher Certification For Paraprofessionals

Mid-America Christian University is stepping up to help fill the teacher shortage in Oklahoma, offering two pathways for paraprofessionals, or teaching assistants, who want to work toward Elementary or Early Childhood Alternative Education Certification.

"There is a need for teachers in Oklahoma, and MACU is committed to helping students earn their teaching certification in a convenient, online format," said Dr. Bobbie Spurgeon-Harris, Executive Vice President and Vice President for the College of Adult and Graduate Studies. "Our Teacher Education program is one of the best in Oklahoma, and we believe we have found ways to address the state's teacher shortage."

One path is for paraprofessionals who already have an undergraduate degree and at least one year of classroom experience. The Graduate Certificate in Curriculum and Instruction gives students an opportunity to complete the state requirements necessary for Elementary or Early Childhood Alternative Education Certification.

The other is for paraprofessionals who do not have an undergraduate degree but have a minimum of one year of classroom experience and at least 48 hours of college credit. This pathway provides the opportunity to complete an undergraduate degree and obtain a certificate that meets state requirements toward Elementary or Early Childhood Alternative Education Certification. Focused on adults who may not be able to attend on-campus classes, both tracks are offered 100% online. "This is the first online-only opportunity in Oklahoma," said Spurgeon-Harris.

"This is the first online-only opportunity in Oklahoma."

"Participants can keep their jobs and still work toward their certification. This is especially important for those who do not have a bachelor's degree yet. We've paired the classes with the required courses in our interdisciplinary study program, so teacher education certification can be included." According to Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE) guidelines, a teaching assistant with at least one year of experience in a public school is eligible to become a certified teacher if they meet certain requirements—all of which are covered by the MACU online programs.

OSDE defines public school paraprofessionals as "an employee of a school district whose position is either instructional in nature, or who delivers other direct services to students and/or their parents. A paraprofessional serves in a position for which a teacher or another professional has the ultimate responsibility for the design, implementation, and evaluation of the individual educational programs or related services and student performance."



PHOTO: MACU is helping teaching assistants transition into emergency certified teachers through two new unique programs.

Spurgeon-Harris said the programs fill a vital gap in the Oklahoma teacher shortage. Although more than 2,100 teaching professionals at the secondary level have received emergency certification this year, there has not been a similar opportunity for Pre-K to sixth-grade teachers.

The graduate path is 12 credit hours and leads to a Graduate Certificate in Curriculum and Instruction. It includes these courses: Language Acquisition, Literacy, and Reading; Classroom Management and Safe Learning Environments; Advocacy for Learning and Creating a Community of Diverse Learners; and Educational Psychology: Psychology Behind Learning.

Students pursuing undergraduate certification enroll in MACU's Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies program and complete 18 credit hours as part of this bachelor's degree. Courses include Foundations of Literacy, Educational Psychology, Instructional Strategies and Management, Development Across the Lifespan, Students with Exceptionalities and Math for Teachers. Spurgeon-Harris stressed that these certification paths for paraprofessionals are just one of the diverse options MACU has available for aspiring teachers.

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"MACU's School of Teacher Education is an excellent academic school that is held to the highest standards. We offer both bachelor's and master's programs for aspiring teachers of all backgrounds," she said.

To go above and beyond to serve Oklahoma educators, Spurgeon-Harris said, MACU offers a 10 percent tuition discount for teachers on all degree and certificate programs in the School of Teacher Education. MACU offers Bachelor of Arts degrees in Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, Elementary/Secondary Vocal Music Education, Secondary English Education, Secondary Mathematics Education and Secondary Social Studies Education. These



PHOTO: One of MACU's new options for teacher certification allows paraprofessionals to earn their bachelor's degree while meeting the requirements for Elementary or Early Childhood Alternative Education Certification.

degrees are offered on-ground as a part of MACU's traditional programs.

Last fall, the university rolled out two new Master of Education programs in Curriculum and Instruction and Educational Leadership and Administration. Both degrees are offered 100% online to allow busy teachers to earn their degrees on their own schedules.

For teachers who already hold a master's degree but need hours in teacher education, certificate programs are also available, providing a cost-effective option that will also allow them to finish their classes faster.

To learn more about teacher education programs or other programs offered at MACU, visit www.macu.edu/teacher-ed or call 888-888-2341.

MACU'S

25 YEARS OF

DISTANCE LEARNING

In an age before smartphones and hotspots, high speed internet and endless streaming services, MACU became a pioneer in distance learning. That was 25 years ago — today, the university is constantly reaching new heights by adding new online learning opportunities to its already-impressive repertoire. But none of it would be possible without the distance learning initiative that was launched in 1995.

It was then that Dr. Shirley Roddy envisioned expanding MACU's enrollments by reaching out to working adult students by holding adult classes on campus at MACU and around Oklahoma. "When I was in college, you left where you lived and moved where you were going to attend school," recalled Roddy. "The idea was to launch an adult program that would give older students with families and established careers the opportunity to earn their degree wherever they were."



That vision was realized when Roddy began building educational partnerships with two-year colleges and vocational schools in Oklahoma. Employing the use of Interactive Educational Television (IETV), MACU broadcast evening classes to satellite sites throughout the state while also having students in classrooms on the MACU campus. At the height of the Leadership Education for Adult Development (LEAD) program, MACU was broadcasting its classes to 21-off campus locations, as well as reaching into the states of New Mexico and Colorado.

MACU had articulation agreements with multiple state colleges, technology centers and military bases. Classes were also held at Crossings Community Church in Oklahoma City. "Distance learning created an opportunity for us to go outside of Oklahoma City, even outside of the state, to create opportunities for students who wouldn't be able to attend school here otherwise," said enrollment counselor Tami Marshall, who recruited students for the LEAD program and continues in that role for adult enrollment today.

When Dr. John Fozard became MACU's fourth president in 1999, he brought a vision and passion to lead the university in becoming one of the first private universities to offer online classes. In 2006, that vision was realized: MACU became one of the first Christian universities to receive the Higher Learning Commission's approval to offer all of its degree programs entirely online. Today, MACU offers 51 online degree programs and certificates, including in fields such as business, psychology and counseling, ministry, accounting, digital marketing, data analytics, criminal justice and more.

"When the pandemic hit in March, you saw some polls indicating student dissatisfaction with online courses," said Fozard. "One of the biggest reasons for that dissatisfaction was that many institutions or school systems had never designed their curriculum for online learning, trained their faculty on how to teach online or invested in distance learning platforms and software that provide the same learning opportunities as those on-ground, face-to-face classes did."

Two and a half decades of distance and online learning prepared MACU for that moment, said Operations Vice President Jody Allen. The university already had virtual conferencing tools in place to engage students with their professors. "MACU is always looking for ways to improve our educational experience, which sets us apart from other universities," said Allen. "In the past year alone, we have made significant investments in classroom technology, allowing us to live stream and record every classroom session."

Allen explained that classes are immediately uploaded onto an online platform, which is then transcribed by MACU's system to provide lecture notes. "This system allows our students to learn remotely whether they are traveling for a sports event, at home with a sick child or should the need arise again to move all courses to be virtual like this past spring," he said. "We are prepared to meet our students where they live and want to learn, just like we did 25 years ago when Dr. Roddy's vision began."



When his Homiletics class was abruptly moved online due to the COVID-19 pandemic, ministry professor Justin Key and his students utilized Zoom and YouTube to finish the semester strong.



While in Israel this spring, Dr. Cliff Sanders used MACU's distance learning tools to teach his ministry classes from the actual biblical locations where Jesus taught.

For more information about MACU's online programs, visit www.macu.edu

BUSINESS • DIGITAL MARKETING
PSYCHOLOGY & COUNSELING
MINISTRY • ACCOUNTING
DATA ANALYTICS • CRIMINAL JUSTICE
...and more!

Pg 8, Bottom Left: MACU's distance learning began in 1995, when Interactive Educational Television (IETV) was used to broadcast evening classes to satellite sites throughout the state while also having students in classrooms on the MACU campus.

David Rose knows better than most the experience of a non-traditional student. When he was fresh out of high school, he expected to follow the familiar track of any other college student. But after he ran out of money and his mother was diagnosed with cancer, he had to drop out and come home. “I’m the classic, adult, non-traditional student,” Rose said. When he picked up his studies again, he went to school not as a resident but as a commuter student. He said the vast majority of his college education — undergraduate, graduate and doctoral — was completed through online and weekly on-ground classes while he raised his young family.

Rose said his experience helped to kindle his passion for adult education. He has served in higher education on a full-time basis since 1996 and, this summer, he became MACU’s Assistant Vice President of Enrollment. “Along the way, I have run into so many people that have had the same kind of story that I did,” he said. “Being able to pursue education in the traditional sense of leaving home and living as a residential student in a dorm just doesn’t happen for everybody. Life happens and sometimes circumstances get in the way.”

Rose said an online format increases accessibility for students who can’t earn an education traditionally. “It’s a true joy and passion for me personally,” he said. “I truly believe education changes the career trajectory for many folks, exposing them to career opportunities that weren’t available to them beforehand.” He also emphasized the personal investment of a college education. For many individuals, Rose said, a diploma might satisfy a goal of personal satisfaction or self-fulfillment, or provide an important example to that person’s children or grandchildren. “A solid academic experience can have such a profound impact on someone’s life,” he said, “but delivering it from a Christian worldview carries even more significance.”



“A solid academic experience can have such a profound impact on someone’s life,” he said, “but delivering it from a Christian worldview carries even more significance.”

MACU masterfully combines a rigorous, dynamic educational experience while also serving students with the passion and humility of Christ, Rose said — and he believes that is what makes the university truly special. “From the leadership of President Fozard down to frontline staff members who are working and interacting with students every day, there is such a passion for and commitment to service,” he said. “From the people to the programs, the experience at MACU is very real and authentic.”

In his new role at MACU, Rose will be working side-by-side with the adult enrollment team. He has brought along his experience from many different universities, which allows him to share best practices when it comes to student service and technology that makes courses more convenient and accessible.

He is also working to develop a corporate partnership and development initiative, which will allow MACU to provide, assess and develop educational opportunities to frontline employees and middle management in both business and ministry. “I take the opportunity I have been given so seriously,” Rose said. “It is a blessing to use higher education to be able to minister to folks who may not have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.”

He said traditional higher education from a private Christian university is always focused on spiritual development, but many adult students seek out MACU simply because the class modality works for their busy lives. That provides a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for MACU to expose students from all walks of life to the Gospel while providing them with an accredited, high-quality education. “To be able to be in front of them and really take advantage of the opportunities to share our own faith, be able to introduce them to a Christian worldview, is a huge opportunity,” Rose said. “I believe it is why I’ve been called to work in non-traditional higher education. We are really able to participate in a very impactful relationship that changes peoples’ lives in a dramatic and profound way.”

Staff Update

David Rose

Assistant Vice President of Enrollment

Alumni Spotlight

GEORGIE SWIZE



Ever since she was a little girl, MACU alum Georgie Swize has had a heart for education. As a third grader, she remembers lining up her stuffed animals and teaching them — a passion that’s carried her through her illustrious career in education. She’s impacted elementary school children as a teacher, coach, administrator, assistant principal and associate principal. “I’ve never known anything but a bell schedule,” said Swize. “From going to school as a kid to attending college to starting my own career, I’ve never known anything else. And I wouldn’t want to. School has always been a safe place for me. It’s my home and my comfort; I couldn’t imagine being in any other profession.”

Now, Swize is excited to enter the next chapter of her teaching career: as principal of Mt. Peak Elementary in her hometown of Midlothian, Texas. She says it’s a thrill to return to her birthplace and impact young lives in the same district that shaped her own. “It’s all so exciting,” she said. “I’m finally back to where it all began. It’s all come full circle for me.”

Swize first started her educational journey at MACU in 1994, when the university was still known as Mid-America Bible College. “When I got there, it was one of those God things,” she recalled. “I had no idea what I needed, but He knew exactly what I needed and where He wanted me to be.”

A basketball player and diligent student, Swize said the relationships she built at MACU were one of the greatest parts of her college experience. “You were never a number or a person on the roster,” she said. “The faculty have personal relationships with each one of you. Even in our regular classes, we prayed every day and shared devotions and important things going on in our personal lives.”

Everything was about relationships, she said, which is the same focus with which Swize leads her teachers and staff today. “Everything that everyone did at MACU for me then is an inspiration to me now,” she said. “Staff always went above and beyond to connect with us as students. There was never a disconnect; we always felt supported. They wanted to be a part of our lives and help support us, grow us and turn us into productive human beings and successful young adults.”

Swize said the lessons she learned at MACU are ones that she’s carried with her into the classroom and the school system — but even more important than that, her time at the university helped shape her as a young Christian. “I grew so close to God and I learned so much about my relationship with Him,” she said. “Being a high school kid, there’s times when you stray away but I’ve never

been closer to God than I was those four years in college.”

Every day, Swize leans into that unshakeable faith she fostered those years ago. At the beginning of every school year, she prays over each classroom, seeking God’s wisdom, guidance and protection for her elementary schoolers.

“When things are tough and crazy — like right now with the pandemic — I can’t imagine not having that relationship with God and that faith in Him,” she said. “Where on earth would you be without it? I could not imagine processing through education, through life, without that.”

Swize said she is fortunate enough to work in schools where the majority of her teachers are Christians. She concludes every staff meeting with the opportunity to pray together. “We keep God at the center of what we’re doing,” she said. “Some kids come from families that don’t necessarily have the kind of support that we want for them. Sometimes prayer is the only thing you have.”

Now, as she looks forward to her first school year as principal of Mt. Peak Elementary, Swize said the lessons she learned and the relationships she built at MACU remain close to her heart. “It was a wonderful four years,” she said. “It made me who I am today.”

ONE COMMUNITY

This April, MACU launched the ONE Community initiative to help give back to the Oklahoma City community during the COVID-19 pandemic. Students, faculty and staff held virtual tutoring and reading sessions with metro elementary school students, offered mental health sessions with Master of Counseling Students, put on a series of free webinars and delivered treat packages with macarons and an encouraging word to homes across the metro.

Senior Margarita Pena Franco, a multidisciplinary Psychology/Mathematics major, helped tutor elementary school students who suddenly found themselves adapting to an online learning environment. "Helping young students during the spring was a great experience that helped not just them, but especially me," Franco said. "When I heard about the opportunity to participate in the ONE Community initiative, I did not think twice about helping out. I knew that if I was in that position, I would have loved to have received help if I was struggling with school at home and could not reach out to anyone close to me."

"Helping young students during the spring was a great experience that helped not just them, but especially me."

Franco provided tutoring to children from her home country of Spain, where she returned after MACU moved courses online. "It was a cool experience for the kids too, since I was on the other side of the ocean not only helping them with their classes, but also getting to talk with someone outside of their families for a little bit during the lockdown. It was like a way of disconnecting from reality for a little bit and getting to know new people. I really enjoyed the experience."



GAIN YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Your Degree, Your Career, Your Way

MACU has flexible options that work for your life. Choose from more than a hundred degree and certificate options that can be taken 100% online or one night per week on campus. Some exciting programs have classes beginning soon, including:

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Digital Marketing

Education

Healthcare Administration

...and many more!

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Phase 1: O'Brien Training Center

Phase 2: Donor Field House

Athletic Training Center Construction Begins

The center is expected to open in August 2021!

Because of the faithful support of those who have given generously and supported MACU Athletics, we are excited to share that ground has been broken on the O'Brien Family Training Center!

This 18,600-square-foot athletic facility will include a wellness and weight training room, new coaches' offices, new locker rooms for outdoor sports, a conference room, training room and a practice area with portable batting cages. "I could not be more excited about what the O'Brien Family Training Center will do in enhancing the student-athlete experience at MACU," said Athletic Director Marcus Moeller.



TOP & BOTTOM: Concept artwork shows the placement and design of the new O'Brien Family Training Center, as well as plans for a future field house.

Remaining Naming Opportunities

Field House	\$1,000,000
Workout Area	\$500,000
Locker Rooms	\$150,000
Lockers	\$250
Conference Room	\$25,000
Coaches Offices (10)	\$25,000

Text MACUAthletics to 41444 or visit give.macu.edu to learn more about the O'Brien Family Training Center and how you can help! Naming opportunities for an accompanying field house and other vital facility facets are still available.

"At the core of who we are, our athletic department serves to put Christ at the center of our programs, provide a vehicle for an incredible education and achieve an unparalleled level of competitive excellence," Moeller said. "Each piece of this facility was carefully crafted to allow us to do these things at a deeper and greater level. I am incredibly grateful for the donors that see the value of the vision we had for athletics and jumped on board to partner with us in creating this terrific facility for our student-athletes."

The O'Brien Family Training Center is the first phase of an athletic capital campaign providing necessary resources to student-athletes. Other phases of the campaign will include a second gymnasium for practices and tournaments, an outdoor facility with restrooms and concessions and sports lighting for the outdoor athletic fields.

Several naming opportunities remain in the O'Brien Family Training Center. Please consider sponsoring an area of the facility to provide funding to support our student athletes.

Thomas School of International Studies

Since it was established in 2006, MACU's Thomas School of International Studies (TSIS) has seen hundreds of Hispanic students from around the globe graduate from certificate and degree programs, as well as take part in countless workshops, conferences and counseling opportunities, all offered to them in their native tongue.

"We are a school that equips people for multicultural servant leadership," said Anna Melody Cepeda de Macri, who has been with the school since it began fifteen years ago and took over as the Chief Executive Officer of TSIS this year. "The goal of each one of our programs is to prepare servant-leaders who are able to create, collaborate and innovate to solve local and global problems and to do greater things for God and His Kingdom."

She said her new role is both exciting and inspiring. "One of my main responsibilities is to develop our programs at TSIS. We are adding new programs online, updating our Master's of Leadership courses and revising the Bethel series material," said Macri. "We are also expanding our fundraising opportunities and creating new partnerships throughout the community." In addition to her new responsibilities, Macri already manages a full plate: she also oversees TSIS personnel, adjunct faculty and conference speakers; consults with business and church leaders to determine their training needs and degree interests; and continues to teach TSIS students and maintain connections with them.



PHOTO: Thomas School of International Studies CEO Anna Melody Cepeda de Macri with her husband, David, and their children, Joshua and Ariana. Macri, who has been with TSIS since it began in 2006, became the school's CEO this year and has already seen it through several unique challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.

She said that meeting her students and getting to know them on a personal level is one of the many blessings God has given her through MACU. "I love getting to work with people from different cultures, backgrounds and experiences," Macri said. "Providing opportunities to our students that they never would have had and helping them grow personally and achieve their dreams is something that is so rewarding and fulfilling for me."

This year provided TSIS with some unique challenges in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. Macri said several students faced unexpected financial challenges, while others who live in developing countries encountered their own struggles, making it hard to get back — and stay — on track.

But, as He often does, Macri said God has used the difficult circumstances to create new opportunities for TSIS and its students. This spring, TSIS partnered with the international chapter of the Christian Business Men's Connection to create a series of free virtual seminars to encourage and give practical tools for Spanish-speaking people in a variety of relevant topics. The series saw hundreds of attendees every week as it was simulcast on Zoom and Facebook Live. In all, citizens from 21 different countries registered to attend the bi-weekly webinars, which covered essential topics like Financial Planning, Decision Making, Corporate Responsibility During a Crisis, Stress Management, Finding Peace During the Crisis and Hope for the Future. In total, more than a thousand unique contacts were made.

"COVID-19 opened more online opportunities to reach out to people who wouldn't have otherwise considered studying online, participating in webinars or virtual conferences before the pandemic," she said. In addition to planning more webinars for the fall semester, Macri said TSIS is also developing virtual asynchronous and synchronous courses for leaders, organizations and churches.

"COVID-19 opened more online opportunities to reach out to people who wouldn't have otherwise considered studying online, participating in webinars or virtual conferences before the pandemic."

"I am excited for the challenges we have before us with the uncertain times we are living: the opportunities TSIS gives to our students providing affordable quality online education, the possibilities that are before us with the new courses we are creating and most of all, the privilege that we have to reach out to other nations," she said.

"We are facing the unknown in many ways, but we do know that God is the same today, yesterday and forever; he doesn't change. I invite all our MACU family, friends and supporters to keep trusting God. He's always been faithful and He always will."



PHOTO: This spring, TSIS put on a free webinar series in Spanish. More than six thousand individuals viewed the bi-weekly series from 21 different countries.

NEW Board of Trustees

MACU is excited to welcome six new members to the Board of Trustees, each of whom have been elected to five-year terms.



Mr. Stuart Graham



Rev. Todd Braschler



Rev. Crystal Colp



Rev. Richard Mansfield



Dr. Jessica Rimmer



Rev. Larry Speelman

Pastor Richard Mansfield is the lead pastor of New Beginnings Church of God in Albuquerque, New Mexico, which he founded in 1999. In 1997, Mansfield helped start Houston's Southwest Ministry Center with the guidance of late MACU President Forrest Robinson. He is especially passionate about ministering to gang members and runs outreach programs for gang-ridden and impoverished communities.

Stuart Graham is Senior Vice President with CBRE in the Oklahoma City office, specializing in the sale and leasing of shopping centers, retail buildings, restaurant properties, commercial land and large development tracts. Stuart also specializes in tenant representation and site selection services for those looking to relocate or expand their business in the Oklahoma market.

Dr. Jessica Rimmer currently serves as a Senior Consultant at GiANT Worldwide, a global content and leadership development company. GiANT works with global companies in a variety of industries. Clients include Google, BMW, Leidos and the U.S. military. Prior to GiANT, Dr. Rimmer served as an executive leader in higher education, where she led initiatives that helped define and distinguish organizational culture through focusing on team performance, leadership development and customer experience.

Larry Speelman is a 1988 Pastoral Ministry graduate of Mid-America Bible College. Since graduation, he has served as a pastor in Longmont, Colorado, and Wilmington, Ohio. He is presently the chaplain for R+L Carriers and the World Equestrian Center. He has also held positions managing distribution maintenance operations for Micro Warehouse and Value City Department Stores.

Crystal Colp is a wife, mom, speaker, teacher, writer and ordained minister in the Church of God. She serves on staff at the First Church of God in St. Joseph, Michigan, where she is a speaker, writer and pastor of adult discipleship. She has co-written four Bible studies published by Warner Press Publishing. Warner Press also released her book on Women's Ministry in the fall of 2017.

Pastor Todd Braschler is an ordained pastor in the Church of God and has served as an associate pastor in Worship, Youth, Equipping and Assimilation, Christian Education and Connecting ministries in churches since 1985. In 2001, he founded his full-time ministry, Todd Braschler Ministries, where he serves as a Christian recording artist and guest speaker. He also speaks for revivals and works with pastors as a vision coach.



Staff Spotlight

MaKailee George

Associate Director of Annual Campaigns

MaKailee George feels like she's just returned home every time she steps onto the MACU campus. A native of Memphis, Tenn., George grew up in Moore, Oklahoma, after her father was stationed at Tinker Air Force Base. After graduating from Moore High School in 2013, she began attending MACU the following fall. "I enrolled about two weeks after I checked out MACU for the first time," she said. "I just knew that MACU was different. I didn't know what that meant at the time, but in my heart, I knew I needed to be here."

Now, two years after graduating with her degree in Literary and Cultural Studies, George believes she has a better understanding of just what God was trying to tell her then. This year, she reunited with her MACU family in a new capacity: as the Associate Director of Annual Campaigns. That means she gets to fund raise for student scholarships — a cause that is deeply personal to her.

"I absolutely love my job because I remember being so thankful for the scholarships that I received while I was a student here and how much they helped me. I feel that in my new position, I get to give back to the school that gave me so much while I was here. I get to work hard to raise money that will help students not only pay for college but to follow their dreams — whatever they may be." George said that's the same spirit of encouragement she found when she enrolled at MACU seven years ago.

"If I had to do college all over again, I would pick MACU every time because the person that I became while I was here, I wouldn't change her for anything."

"The English department at MACU truly changed my life," she said. "Professors Beccah Bland, Mark Harris and Mark Pickens helped me academically, personally, and spiritually, and I will forever be grateful for them in my life."

George said she grew especially close with Bland, who she served with on two mission trips to Ecuador and a third to Kenya. "Professor Bland helped me grow my faith tremendously," she said. "She was always there to challenge and support me, and to this day she is still one of the people I call on for advice. She helped me realize that there is so much more to my life and to think outside of just myself."

Majoring in Literary and Cultural Studies also helped George with her current position in MACU's Office of University Advancement. "When you are analyzing literature, you have to look at it from so many different perspectives that you may or may not agree with. I think that has been a key component that has helped me in my life, especially when you work in a field that deals with people," she said. "Everyone is different and when you are trying to build relationships, you can't be so stuck on your opinion, but you have to be open to embrace others and their different views."

Although the COVID-19 pandemic has exposed George to many challenges both professionally and personally — her wedding ceremony was scheduled the week Oklahoma went on lockdown, taking the joyous occasion down from a guest list of 250 to only 10 — she said there is nowhere else she would rather be.

"It feels so great to work for my alma mater," she said. "It feels like I've returned home, and it helps me with my job because I can relate and have a personal experience with the impact that scholarships can have on a student."

She hopes that her time as a MACU Evangel can help current and future students, too. "If I had to do college all over again, I would pick MACU every time because the person that I became while I was here, I wouldn't change her for anything."

Nursing Partnership

According to Jane Nelson of the Oklahoma Association of Nurses, the state of Oklahoma has a ratio of 700 registered nurses per 100,000 Oklahomans — well below the national average. “This ranks us in the bottom of states in the number of RNs per 100,000 people in the country,” Nelson said. In addition to many registered nurses reaching retirement age, the COVID-19 pandemic has fostered many unique challenges. With increasing numbers of hospitalized Oklahomans, there is a profound shortage of registered nurses in the state right now.

To help address this critical need, MACU has partnered with Oklahoma City University to provide MACU students with an avenue to earn a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) from OCU’s Kramer School of Nursing.

The articulation agreement between the two universities will allow students to complete their general education and major science courses at MACU and then seamlessly transfer to OCU to enter the nursing program. “Healthcare services continues to be an expanding profession, nursing especially,” said Dr. David Rose, Assistant Vice President of Enrollment at MACU. “Specifically, as we look to the post-COVID environment, there will be a continued increasing demand for registered nurses.”

Nursing has been one of the most frequently requested majors from prospective MACU students. To meet that need and address the state’s nurse shortage, Rose said senior leadership set out to develop the articulation agreement with OCU and was met with an overwhelmingly positive response.

Enrolled students will fulfill their general education requirements, electives and science courses at MACU, then they will matriculate to OCU to finish their final 56 hours of nursing courses at OCU.

The articulation agreement is effective immediately, meaning that students who have fulfilled their course requirements at MACU may begin the process to transfer to OCU for their nursing degree.

“Kramer School of Nursing is thrilled to enter into this partnership with MACU to provide baccalaureate nursing education of the highest quality to prepare the next generation of nurses and servant leaders,” said Dr. Lois Salmeron, Dean of OCU’s Kramer School of Nursing.

For more information about the new partnership, please visit www.macu.edu/nursing Classes are enrolling now!



PHOTO: OCU President Martha Burger and MACU President Dr. John Fozard held a signing ceremony on the MACU campus earlier this year to mark the articulation agreement.

SPORTS UPDATE

Combined with nominations from Evangelists sports fans and careful evaluation of each player’s personal, statistical and team accomplishments, the MACU athletic administration has selected ten players each to be named to a Team of the Decade of their chosen sport. MACU is proud to celebrate these outstanding student-athletes and the impact they have made on our athletics history!

History-Makers: MACU Athletics Celebrates All-Decade Teams

PHOTO: Infielder Jerry McNew from Moore, Oklahoma, was named as MACU baseball’s Player of the Decade. McNew played from 2013-2017 and finished his historic career by breaking the school record in career home runs with 27.

Men's Golf

Caleb Conn



Isaac Maston
Tyler Price
James Wiginton
Karl Griffith
Gage Gibson
Ryan Harris
Jerry Miller
Matt Costilow
Nathan Chadd

Volleyball

Christiane Costa (Smith)



Calle Solie
Camera Broadnax
Hannah Luedtke
Laurel Church
Becca Anderson
Taryn Walker
Larissa Runyan
Shannon Niemeier
Kacee Montgomery

Men's Soccer

Andrew Webster & Raphael Bonelle



Tyler McIntosh
Kevin Cabello
Oliver May
Gleydson Neri
Willy Deleon
Peterson Neri
Javier Hernandez
Bryce Jantz

Women's Soccer

Julia Nimal



Kassie Shivers (Byrd)
Chelsea Swisher
Brittney Stephens
Melissa Dobie
Cici Mitchell
Kaci Power
Rachel Lynn
Nicole Farquhar
Rachel Scott

Men's Basketball

Charlie Shorter



Brandon Williams
Olajuwon Garner
Angelo Lewis
Devonse Reed
Bryon Miller
Malcolm Mann
Jerrick Massenburge
Chris Runnels
Justin Bogle

Women's Basketball

Kourtnei Williams



Ashlee Ferguson
Kelli Tolar
Shaylan Coleman
Nicole Wittman
Karina Trindade
D'Shala Culberson
Melissa Aguilar
Brittany Johnson
Parris Price

Baseball

Jerry McNew



Wyatt Glasgow
Diego Pichardo
Luis Martinez
Nicole Wittman
Ben Donnell
Robert Santana
Pete Feurtado
A.J. Wilson
Ryan Moseley

Softball

Tiphani Napier



Jackie Hilterbran
Macie Crites
Kenna McCoy
Hanna Harris
Caitlyn Ulmer
Ashley Sanford
Larie Amos
Tiffany Holt
Morgan Wardlow (Graham)

PHOTO: During chapel services last year, MACU Board of Trustees member Marsha Reeder oversaw the baptisms of eleven MACU students, culminating in a beautiful service that lasted well past the appointed chapel hour.

A Year In Review

Looking Back at
2019-2020 at MACU

Staff

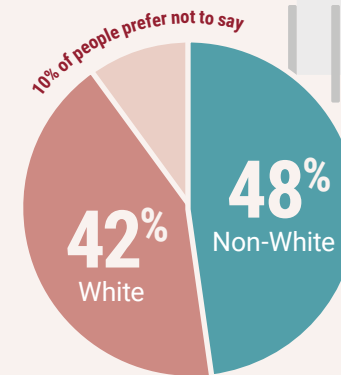
296
Adjunct Professors

32
Full Time Faculty

167
Staff Members

14
New Degrees &
Certificate Programs
Launched

Students



204
Students Living
on Campus

82
International
Students

1,948
Adult Students
498 Traditional Students
119 Concurrent High Schoolers

97
Students Working
on Campus

565
New MACU Grads

Ministry

45 Bethel Bible Series Students

12 Baptisms
249 Ministry Students

7 Conversions
139 Church of God Students

President's REPORT

2019

2020

Athletics

RECORD
BREAKING
106

Student-Athletes were selected to the Sooner Athletic Conference (SAC) Commissioner’s Honor Roll

ALL 7
MACU
TEAMS

Named to the Scholar-Team List for the Very First Time



TOP: MACU Men’s Soccer Team, victory over Grace College, Dec. 2019.
Bottom: D’von Moore, MACU v. SCU, Jan 23, 2020.



Men's Soccer at MACU Wins
FIRST-EVER CHAMPIONSHIP

Victory over Grace College on December 7th, 2019

Historic 20-3-1 Record
Record-Breaking Offense and Defense

267 Points 81 Assists
94 Goals Scored 13 Shutouts

Women's Basketball breaks
NAIA Era Program Records

130 Most Points Scored 54 Most Field Goals Made 27 Most Steals

Men's Basketball
MAKES HISTORY

Historic 30-2 Regular Season
Won the Sooner Athletic Conference Championship
Longest Win Streak (20 Games) Since 2003

President's
REPORT

Donor
Honor Roll

10 YEARS OF GIVING

Church Support: Church of God

40th Avenue Church of God	HATTIESBURG	MS
Bonnie Church of God	BONNIE	IL
Brookville Church of God	BROOKVILLE	PA
Burkeville Church of God	BURKEVILLE	TX
Cedar Creek Church of God	GREENEVILLE	TN
Cornerstone Church	CLINTON	OK
Crossings Community Church	OKC	OK
Crosspointe Fellowship Church	KILGORE	TX
Eagle Point Church of God	LITTLE ROCK	AR
East Side Church of God	ANDERSON	IN
Eastland Church of God	LEXINGTON	KY
Emerson Street Church of God	KENNETT	MO
First Church of God	BRISTOW	OK
First Church of God	CROSSETT	AR
First Church of God	CUSHING	OK
First Church of God	DONIPHAN	MO
First Church of God	EAST PRAIRIE	MO
First Church of God	EFFINGHAM	IL
First Church of God	ELKHART	KS
First Church of God	HATCH	NM
First Church of God	HOLDENVILLE	OK
First Church of God	HUGOTON	KS
First Church of God	HUTCHINSON	KS
First Church of God	MARION	IL
First Church of God	PAULS VALLEY	OK
First Church of God	POINT PLEASANT	WV
First Church of God	POPLAR BLUFF	MO
First Church of God	PRYOR	OK
First Church of God	ST. JOSEPH	MI
First Church of God	VENICE	FL
First Church of God of Little Paint	EAST POINT	KY
Fresh Start Community Church	MOORE	OK
Goodwill Church of God	OAK GROVE	LA
Hope Chapel of Lee's Summit	LEES SUMMIT	MO
Hucrest Community Church	ROSEBURG	OR
Jones Avenue Church of God	OAK HILL	WV
Landmark Church of God	COVINGTON	LA
Living Grace Church	TYLER	TX
New Beginnings Church of God	ALBUQUERQUE	NM
New Covenant Church	MIDDLETOWN	OH
New Covenant Church of God	PEKIN	IL
New Song Community Church	BENTON	AR
New Song Community Church	BETHEL PARK	PA
Oak Grove First Church of God	OAK GROVE	LA
Oakmont Church of God	SHREVEPORT	LA
Palm City Church of God	MCALLEN	TX
Pekin First Church of God	PEKIN	IL
Pleasant Prairie Church of God	SATANTA	KS
Red Fork Church of God	TULSA	OK
Rock Creek Church of God	BESSEMER	AL
Sapulpa First Church of God	SAPULPA	OK
Shartel Church of God	OKC	OK
St. Andrew Church of God	CAMDEN	SC
Sullivan Church of God	SULLIVAN	IL
Teays Valley Church of God	SCOTT DEPOT	WV
Waynoka Church of God	WAYNOKA	OK
Welty Church of God	WELTY	OK
Zion Community Church of God	OTTUMWA	IA
Church of God Ministries	ANDERSON	IN

Alumni Giving

Alsip, Morgan** and Carol**	KNOXVILLE	TN
Boyles, Matthew and Judith	LOVELAND	OH
Burton, Judith	OKC	OK
Cantrell, Richard and Kaye	LEBANON	TN
Cepeda, Enrique** and Lidia	OKC	OK
Chapman, Ryan and Linda	FISHERS	IN
Chiles, Steve* and Wanda	OKC	OK
Cottom, Steve* and Heather	OKC	OK
Cravens, Arley and Ruby	SCOTT DEPOT	WV
Davidson, Jeff and Stephanie**	MOORE	OK
Fozard, John** and Brenda	OKC	OK
Hanohano, George and Sue	MOORE	OK
Hyatt, C Donovan and Maribel	LAPORTE	TX
Mashue, Wanda	HOUSTON	TX
Parker, Doris	OKC	OK
Rehbein, Jon and Esther**	MOORE	OK
Robold, Claude* and Janice	MIDDLETOWN	OH
Spear, John* and Suzon	PEORIA	AZ
Stevenson, U. Jean	CLEVELAND	TX
Taylor, James** and Celeste	OKC	OK
Whitesel, Doyle and Velva (dscd)	AUGUSTA	KS

Individual Giving

Adair, Rob and Leann	EDMOND	OK
Bale, Clifford and Luella	COFFEYVILLE	KS
Basham, Darrell	EASTLAND	TX
Beltz-Martin, Linda	DIXON	MO
Berg, Duane and Linda	YUKON	OK
Bollenbacher, Wayne and Linda	YUKON	OK
Brandt, John and Barbara	WENATCHEE	WA
Brown, Elaine	OKC	OK
Clemens, Janis	OKC	OK
Conrad, Harold	NOBLESVILLE	IN
Cox, G. David and Jan	CLAYTON	OH
Daniels, Robert and Verdie	HEBER SPRINGS	AR
Darr, Charles* and Shari	EDMOND	OK
Dover, William and Beverly	SAND SPRINGS	OK
Dunn, Clarence and Linda	SOUTH PRINCE GEORGE	VA
Elkins, Helen	BASTROP	LA
Fowlkes, Edgar and Carol**	MOORE	OK
Freymond, Richard and Jabet	HACIENDA HEIGHTS	CA
Hall, David and Dee	PORT RICHEY	FL
Harlow, Margaret	LOUISVILLE	KY
Harris, Mark** and Faith	BETHANY	OK
Hoover, Steve and Patti	REDMOND	OR
Joseph, Eric** and Jill	EDMOND	OK
Langford, Ron* and Lillian	HAMILTON	OH
Odom, Paul and Beth	OKC	OK
Palmer, Ralph and Nan	WINCHESTER	KY
Patadal, Elissa**	TACUMSEH	OK
Phillips, James and Barbara	MISSOURI CITY	TX
Richardson, Barry Sr. and Norma	MARSTON	MO
Rimmer, Terry and Jessica	EDMOND	OK
Russell, Jeff* and Mary Carol	OKC	OK
Sartin, Susan "Mici"**	EDMOND	OK
Sevier, Owen and Lea	EDMOND	OK
Sloan, Stephen**	BETHANY	OK
Smith-Hinderliter, Maxine	CLOVIS	NM
Steffens, John* and Patricia	EDMOND	OK
Tidwell, Ted and Jan	TULSA	OK
Todd, Elaine	FLORA	IL
Torrez, Michael and Rosanna*	ALBUQUERQUE	NM
Townsdin, Ron and Stacy	EDMOND	OK
Tyler, Dennis and Pat	COLORADO SPRINGS	CO
Willoughby, Tim and Jane	TARPON SPRINGS	FL

Corporations & Organizations

Bill Warren Office Products	OKC	OK
Leisure Times Pools and Spa	EFFINGHAM	IL
Prosperity Bank	OKC	OK

THIS YEAR'S DONATIONS

Church Support: Church of God

40th Avenue Church of God	HATTIESBURG	MS
Alva Church of God	ALVA	OK
Amsterdam Community Church	AMSTERDAM	OH
Bethel Church of God	LIBERAL	KS
Bonnie Church of God	BONNIE	IL
Brookville Church of God	BROOKVILLE	PA
Burkeville Church of God	BURKEVILLE	TX
Church of God	DETROIT	MI
Church of God Fellowship	TOPEKA	KS
Cornerstone Church	CLINTON	OK
Crossett First Church of God	CROSSETT	AR
Crossings Community Church	OKC	OK
Crosspointe Fellowship Church	KILGORE	TX
Dayspring Community Church	MCMINNVILLE	TN
Eagle Point Church of God	LITTLE ROCK	AR
East Side Church of God	ANDERSON	IN
Eastland Church of God	LEXINGTON	KY
Elk City Church of God	ELK CITY	OK
Emerson Street Church of God	KENNETT	MO
Faith Community Church of God	SHAWNEE	OK
First Church of God	ATHENS	TX
First Church of God	BRISTOW	OK
First Church of God	CHARLESTON	IL
First Church of God	CUSHING	OK
First Church of God	DARLINGTON	SC
First Church of God	DONIPHAN	MO
First Church of God	EAST PRAIRIE	MO
First Church of God	EFFINGHAM	IL
First Church of God	ELKHART	KS
First Church of God	HARRISBURG	IL
First Church of God	HATCH	NM
First Church of God	HOLDENVILLE	OK
First Church of God	HUGOTON	KS
First Church of God	HUTCHINSON	KS
First Church of God	IRA	TX
First Church of God	JEFFERSON CITY	MO
First Church of God	MARION	IL
First Church of God	NACOGDOCHES	TX
First Church of God	NOWATA	OK
First Church of God	PAULS VALLEY	OK
First Church of God	POINT PLEASANT	WV
First Church of God	POPLAR BLUFF	MO
First Church of God	PRYOR	OK
First Church of God	PUEBLO	CO
First Church of God	ST. JOSEPH	MI
First Church of God	VENICE	FL
First Church of God	WAUSEON	OH
First Church of God of Little Paint	EAST POINT	KY
Fresh Start Community Church	MOORE	OK
Goodwill Church of God	OAK GROVE	LA
Hope Chapel of Lee's Summit	LEES SUMMIT	MO
Hope Community Church of God	ANDOVER	KS
Horse Creek Church of God	CHUCKEY	TN
Hucrest Community Church	ROSEBURG	OR
Iglesia de Dios de Obligado	PARAGUAY	
Jones Avenue Church of God	OAK HILL	WV
Landmark Church of God	COVINGTON	LA
Liberty Grove Church of God	WEST MONROE	LA
Life Builders Church of God	DECATUR	IL
Living Grace Church	TYLER	TX
MACU Comunidad Hispana	OKC	OK
Maple Avenue Church of God	FAIRBORN	OH
New Beginnings Church of God	ALBUQUERQUE	NM
New Covenant Church	MIDDLETOWN	OH
New Covenant Church of God	PEKIN	IL
New Dawn Fellowship	ODESSA	TX
New Life Church of God	BAUXITE	AR
New Song Community Church	BENTON	AR
New Song Community Church	BETHEL PARK	PA
New Vida Church of God	DALLAS	TX

North Crossings Church of God	MONROE	LA
NorthPark Church of God	MERIDIAN	MS
Oak Grove First Church of God	OAK GROVE	LA
Oakland Church of God	DISTANT	PA
Oaklawn Church of God	HOT SPRINGS	AR
Oakmont Church of God	SHREVEPORT	LA
Palm City Church of God	MCALLEN	TX
Pekin First Church of God	PEKIN	IL
Pine Grove Church of God	CARTHAGE	MS
Place of Grace Fellowship	SAN ANTONIO	TX
Pleasant Prairie Church of God	SATANTA	KS
Rainbow Community Church of God	RAINBOW CITY	AL
Red Fork Church of God	TULSA	OK
Restoration Church	SPRINGFIELD	MO
Rock Creek Church of God	BESSEMER	AL
Sapulpa First Church of God	SAPULPA	OK
Shartel Church of God	OKC	OK
South Sand Springs Church of God	SAND SPRINGS	OK
St. Andrew Church of God	CAMDEN	SC
Sullivan Church of God	SULLIVAN	IL
Teays Valley Church of God	SCOTT DEPOT	WV
Towne Boulevard Church of God	MIDDLETOWN	OH
United Covenant of Hope Church	HOUSTON	TX
Waynoka Church of God	WAYNOKA	OK
Welty Church of God	WELTY	OK
Zion Community Church of God	OTTUMWA	IA

Church Support

Apostolic Assembly Church	OKC	OK
Asbury United Methodist Church	GREENEVILLE	TN
Braden Park Baptist Church	TULSA	OK
City on a Hill	FORT WORTH	TX
Colorado District Church of the Nazarene	DIVIDE	CO
Del City Christian Church	DEL CITY	OK
Evangelistic Center Church	SHAWNEE	OK
Faith Church	OKC	OK
First Baptist Church	NEWCASTLE	OK
First Baptist Church	OKMULGEE	OK
First Congregational Church of Morristown	MORRISTOWN	NY
First Presbyterian Church	CHANDLER	OK
Followers of Jesus Church of Christ	TUTTLE	OK
Freedom Church	MT STERLING	KY
God's Amazing Grace Fellowship	VAN BUREN	AR
Hope Connection Church	OKC	OK
Liberty Worship Center	OKC	OK
New Hope United Methodist Church	OKC	OK
Newcastle Christian Church	NEWCASTLE	OK
Pentecostal Revival Center	PRINCETON	WV
Sowing Seeds Ministries	ENGLAND	
Summit Church	NORMAN	OK
Summit Covenant Church	NORMAN	OK

Church of God: Agencies

Arkansas Chrisitan Women Connection	BENTON	AR
Church of God Ministries	ANDERSON	IN
Cornerstone Church CWC	CLINTON	OK
Heritage First Church of God WCG	KINGSPORT	TN
Mississippi General Assembly of the Church of God	LAUREL	MS
Missouri Christian Women Connection	INDEPENDENCE	MO
West Virginia Christian Women Connection	CULLODEN	WV
Western Oklahoma Association of CHOG	CLINTON	OK

Alumni Giving

Adamson, Donn and Gaylene	PARK HILLS	MO
Allen, Darryl** and Susan	MCMINNVILLE	TN
Allison, Glen and Judy Martin	COOKEVILLE	TN
Alsip, Morgan** and Carol**	KNOXVILLE	TN
Anger, Dennis and Mary Fatih	ROANOKE	TX
Arcuri, Micah and Angela	BONNIE	IL

Barker, Randy and Becky	DUNN	NC
Bath, Bill and Sandy	BARTLESVILLE	OK
Beavers, Cindi	OKC	OK
Bell, Ted and Andrea	MIDDLEBURG HEIGHTS	OH
Bohannon, Larry and Linnea	HOUSTON	TX
Boyles, Matthew and Judith	LOVELAND	OH
Burton, Brian and Vanessa	INDIANAPOLIS	IN
Burton, Judith	OKC	OK
Cantrell, Richard and Kaye	LEBANON	TN
Cepeda, Enrique** and Lidia	OKC	OK
Chapman, Ryan and Linda	FISHERS	IN
Chiles, Steve* and Wanda	OKC	OK
Clouse, Steve** and Patty**	YUKON	OK
Cottom, Steve* and Heather	OKC	OK
Cox, Troy and Elizabeth	MOORE	OK
Cravens, Arley and Ruby	SCOTT DEPOT	WV
Davidson, Jeff and Stephanie**	MOORE	OK
DeBusk, Gayle	HOUSTON	TX
Dobbs, Roy and Donna	CLINTON	OK
Doty, James Frederick	ROSHARON	TX
Ebert, Derry and Brenda	WINTER HAVEN	FL
Ebert, Mike** and Jeanne	VAN BUREN	AR
Elvik, Elizabeth A	OKC	OK
Fairbanks, Kenneth and Nancy	COLUMBUS	OH
Flanagan, Joe and Jeanne	TEXHOMA	OK
Ford, Clint	HUACHUCA CITY	AZ
Fozard, John** and Brenda	OKC	OK
Fuller, Tommy and Mary	FLORENCE	MS
Gangolf, Matt and Linda	FORT WORTH	TX
Giron, Jesus	ABILENE	TX
Gleason, James W.	KEARNEY	NE
Goldsmith, Tyron	OKC	OK
Hanohano, George and Sue	MOORE	OK
Hartmann, Karl and Linda	LANCASTER	OH
Higgins, Dave and Jackie	ELKHART	KS
Hughes, Wilbur and Jeanne	SOUTHSIDE	AL
Hyatt, C Donovan and Maribel	LAPORTE	TX
Jacquemot, Lyndl	MOORE	OK
Jones, Nancy A	WICHITA	KS
Kendall, Gary* and Belinda	OLATHE	KS
Kennedy, Mickey and Cheryl	KITTANNING	PA
Key, Justin**	OKC	OK
Knight, Whitney**	OKC	OK
Knowles, Richard R and Leslie	MOORE	OK
Koch, Justin* and Christy	ELK CITY	OK
Konstantopoulos, Bill and Kay	WINCHESTER	KY
Lacy, Adrian and Vanessa	VALLEJO	CA
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Martin, Ron and Collene	CROSSVILLE	TN
Mashue, Wanda	HOUSTON	TX
Mathewes, John and Darlyne	AUGUSTA	GA
McCall, Michael	OKC	OK
McClain, Joy	EVANSVILLE	IN
McElhany, Jake and Stephanie	BLANCHARD	OK
Meeks, Chester and Donna	ANCHORAGE	AK
Middlebrooks, Marvin** and Janice	OKC	OK
Miller, David and Paula	NACOGDOCHES	TX
Mobley, Larry and Che Che'	SARASOTA	FL
Mosteller, Timothy and Peggy	TAHLEQUAH	OK
Myers, Debbie	LAWTON	OK
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Norholm, Kresten and Lenora	YUKON	OK
Parker, Doris	OKC	OK
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Rehbein, Jon and Esther**	MOORE	OK
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Rudd, H. Gerald and Ruth	INDIANAPOLIS	IN
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OKC	OK
MOORE	OK
LANCASTER	OH
ELKHART	KS
SOUTHSIDE	AL
LAPORTE	TX
MOORE	OK
WICHITA	KS
OLATHE	KS
KITTANNING	PA
OKC	OK
OKC	OK
MOORE	OK
ELK CITY	OK
WINCHESTER	KY
VALLEJO	CA
OKC	OK
CROSSVILLE	TN
HOUSTON	TX
AUGUSTA	GA
OKC	OK
EVANSVILLE	IN
BLANCHARD	OK
ANCHORAGE	AK
OKC	OK
NACOGDOCHES	TX
SARASOTA	FL
TAHLEQUAH	OK
LAWTON	OK
SARALAND	AL
YUKON	OK
OKC	OK
OKC	OK
SACRAMENTO	CA
MOORE	OK
OKC	OK
JESUP	GA
MIDDLETOWN	OH
OKC	OK
CEDAR HILL	TX
INDIANAPOLIS	IN
BLANCHARD	OK
OKC	OK
HURST	TX
STILLWATER	OK
EDMOND	OK
PITTSBURG	TX

Spear, John* and Suzon	PEORIA	AZ
Spencer, Vicky	BETHEL	AK
Spurgeon, Donald Jake**	OKC	OK
Stevenson, U. Jean	CLEVELAND	TX
Stoner, Ryan	EDMOND	OK
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Tolliver Baer, Trulafaye	CARLISLE	PA
Wakefield, Michael**	EDMOND	OK
Ward, Jamie and Heather	OKC	OK
Wax, Gary and Tana	OKC	OK
Wehmuller, Charlotte	EL RENO	OK
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Berg, Duane and Linda	YUKON	OK
Blackwell, Betty	MUSKOGEE	OK
Boelte, Craig and Paula	EDMOND	OK
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Crockett, Ola	LAUREL	MS
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Denson, Larry	OKC	OK
DeScottier, Leon**	OKC	OK
Dill, Joe and Helen	OKC	OK

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Fitzpatrick, Raymond	SALINA	KS	Oldham; Alvin and Glenna Oldham Trust	WEST MONROE	LA
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Garza, Lisa	YUKON	OK	Proctor; Proctor Joint Revocable Trust	WETUMKA	OK
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Heath, Kevin M.	MUSKOGEE	OK	Schneiter, L. E. and Marsha	EDMOND	OK
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Hockman, Marilyn G	QUINCY	IL	Shackleton: Martin L & Jean L Shackleton Living Trust	OKC	OK
Hodge, Rex	CALERA	OK	Shatswell, Julie**	OKC	OK
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Hoover, Steve and Patti	REDMOND	OR	Sheriff, Darcy	BARABOO	WI
Horn, Eddie**	MUSTANG	OK	Simpson, Kacie	CONWAY	AR
Huff, Sherman	EDMOND	OK	Sloan, Stephen**	BETHANY	OK
Humburg, Paul and Tammy	OOLOGAH	OK	Smith; Timothy J Smith Family Trust	EDMOND	OK
Johnson, A. M	DENISON	TX	Smith-Hinderliter, Maxine	CLOVIS	NM
Johnson, Rachelle	ALEXANDRIA BAY	NY	Stanley, Marilyn	MILWAUKEE	WI
Jones, Todd**	LIBERTY	NC	Staton, Scott and Angela	OKC	OK
Joseph, Eric** and Jill	EDMOND	OK	Stear; Stear Family Trust	WEST FARMINGTON	OH
Kennedy, W. Elton	MER ROUGE	LA	Steffens, John* and Patricia	EDMOND	OK
Knowles, Richard A and Pam	MOORE	OK	Stone, Randall and Sherri	ANTON	TX
Kreke, Dennis and Nancy	EFFINGHAM	IL	Stortz, Linda**	ST. PETERSBURG	FL
Lair, Robert	EDMOND	OK	Stuewe, Candy	ALMA	KS
Langford, Ron* and Lillian	HAMILTON	OH	Sudduth, Louise	BLUFFTON	SC
Lawson, Betty	HOUSTON	TX	Sutton, Loren and Elouise	OPELIKA	AL
Lawson, Jayme	EDMOND	OK	Tedder, Verne	BAKERSFIELD	CA
Lease, Ken and Sharon**	OKC	OK	Thorne, Whitney	EDMOND	OK
Lee, James and Luella	BUCYRUS	KS	Tidwell, Ted and Jan	TULSA	OK
Leisy, Judy	OKC	OK	Tipton, Daniel and Terri	OKC	OK
Lenardson, Dave and Judy	APACHE JUNCTION	AZ	Todd, Elaine	FLORA	IL
Limm, Jeff and Jayne	YORK	PA	Torrez, Michael and Rosanna*	ALBUQUERQUE	NM
Listen, Jackie and Paula	NOBLE	OK	Townsdin, Ron and Stacy	EDMOND	OK
Liu, Chengsi	NORMAN	OK	Tullis, Rex	OKC	OK
Love, Lonnie	VAN BUREN	AR	Tyler, Dennis and Pat	COLORADO SPRINGS	CO
Marshall, Darwina**	OKC	OK	Vanderslice, Dorothy	ALBUQUERQUE	NM
Martin, Bobby and Janet	BETHANY	OK	Wakefield, Robert**	EDMOND	OK
Martin, James	NEWKIRK	OK	Wakefield, Shane	MOORE	OK
Martin, Norma	FRANKLIN	IN	Weatherman, Catrina	OOLOGAH	OK

Whitton, Ron* and Cathy	GROVELAND	IL
Williams, Barry and Sadonia	MT VERNON	IL
Williams, Carolyn	TULSA	OK
Willoughby, Tim and Jane	TARPON SPRINGS	FL
Wilson, Joanne	ATHENS	TX
Woodson, Richard and Collette	OKC	OK
Wu, Junjie	NORMAN	OK
Young, Dee	VAN BUREN	AR
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Abel Law Firm; Ed Abel*	OKC	OK
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Thank You!

to all who support MACU!

Remembering

Dr. William McDonald Dr. Nita Adams

This summer, MACU lost two long-standing and long-loved members of the campus community.

Dr. William McDonald, known affectionately to many as “Brother Mac,” passed away on May 9. Known for his passion for teaching and his great sense of humor, Brother Mac began his teaching career at MACU in 1962 when it was known as Gulf Coast Bible College in Houston. He moved with the university to Oklahoma City and continued teaching until his retirement.

Brother Mac was the epitome of a godly servant dedicated to Kingdom work. He and his late wife, Pat, loved the mission of MACU and especially loved the students. More than once, they anonymously placed funds into students’ accounts so that they could finish school.

“They lived sacrificially and they loved others sacrificially”

“They lived sacrificially and they loved others sacrificially,” recalled MACU President Dr. John Fozard. “Brother Mac will be remembered for his impeccable character, unbelievable work ethic and loyalty to the local church. He was a lover of puns and stopped me many times to tell a joke, holding his hand over his mouth and chuckling.”

JAN 18, 1937 - MAY 9, 2020



OCT 13, 1932 - JUN 25, 2020

Dr. Juanita Adams, known by many as Nita, passed into eternal glory on June 25, 2020. Together with her beloved husband, Robert and Nita built what would become the MACU School of Music from the ground up. Her passion for music was seconded only by her love for the Lord, which shone through in all of her works.

Nita began working in the university in 1957 in Houston. She and her husband founded the School of Music and fulfilled virtually every role there, including as conductors, theorists, composers and professors of several instruments. In her 34-year career, Nita helped educate countless Christian musicians who have since gone around the world to spread their ministry.

“We would have never had a music program without Nita and Robert,”

“We would have never had a music program without Nita and Robert,” said Dr. Christian Morren, former chair of the MACU School of Music. “Every music student we ever had came here because of them.”

In 2016, the Adams moved to Kentucky to remain close to their family after Nita began developing dementia. She was lovingly cared for at home by her husband, daughter and son-in-law before she left the land of the dying and entered into the land of the living at home this June. Her legacy will forever live on at MACU and through the countless music students her passion and instruction touched over more than three decades.

In the early 1990s, Marvin Cottom was asked to serve on the MACU Board of Trustees. His arrival came during a difficult time for the university: after moving to Oklahoma City from Houston in 1985, the buyer of the prior Houston campus was unable to fulfill his commitment. Cotton’s prowess as a businessman — he founded WEOKIE Credit Union at the age of 27 — brought sound financial advice to the board as he helped navigate the university through dark financial times. “If it were not for the help that Marvin provided at a financial risk to himself, the university would not be in existence today,” said MACU President Dr. John Fozard.

In addition to assisting with the restructuring of loans and securing financing for the university when cash flow for summer operations was needed, Cotton also found a way to provide MACU with a letter of credit to the Department of Education, which made financial aid available to students without the university having to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars in letter-of-credit fees. As a result of his earnest and sacrificial efforts, MACU was able to become debt-free in 2006. “Simply put, my parents just believed in the mission of the university,” said son Steve Cottom. “They saw that MACU was absolutely vital in their role of raising leaders within the Church.”

Even after his tenure as a Board of Trustees member, Marvin Cottom and his beloved wife, Betty, continued to support the university and its athletics programs financially. The Cottoms, who attended church services at nearby Shartel Church of God for almost 60 years, routinely “adopted” MACU students for the school year, providing them with meals, mentorship and a place to do their laundry. “My parents loved people with the love of Jesus, no matter their age, education or financial status,” said Steve Cottom. “Now that they have each passed, we have been touched by the amount of people that have commented about just how they were impacted by the lives of my parents.”

Marvin Cottom left this earth for his heavenly reward on May 27, 2016, with Betty Cottom following him to Heaven with her passing on November 25, 2019. The couples’ eternal investment in MACU can be seen today, reflected in every student that passes through the university’s halls — and in basketball fans who pack the Gaulke Activity Center! “My dad was a big sports fan and had season tickets to OU football and OKC Thunder basketball, but his favorite sporting event was watching Coach Holley lead the Evangsels to victory,” Steve Cottom said. “He and a group of senior-age friends were always regulars. It makes me smile when I recall those 70- and 80-year old fellows giving the referees ‘the business’ ...all in a Christian way, of course!”

MACU is forever grateful to the Cottom family for their many selfless acts that made the university what it is today.

If you are interested in learning more about the impact you can have by giving to MACU, please visit give.macu.edu or call the Office of University Advancement at 405-692-3191.

Eternal
Investment

WHAT'S NEXT?

- SEP 17 Dream Scholarship Gala (virtual)
- NOV 7 2020 Commencement
- JAN 5 Master's Classes Begin
- JAN 12 Traditional Classes Begin
- MAY 3 MACU Golf Classic

20 **M** 20

DREAM SCHOLARSHIP GALA

Join us online
Thursday Sept. 17th at 7 p.m. by
visiting dreamgala.macu.edu
You can also text **Dream20** to
91999 for a reminder link!



This year's Dream Gala will be held 100% online and will feature student and alumni testimonies and an inspiring word. Join us at online on Sept. 17th at 7 p.m. by visiting dreamgala.macu.edu.