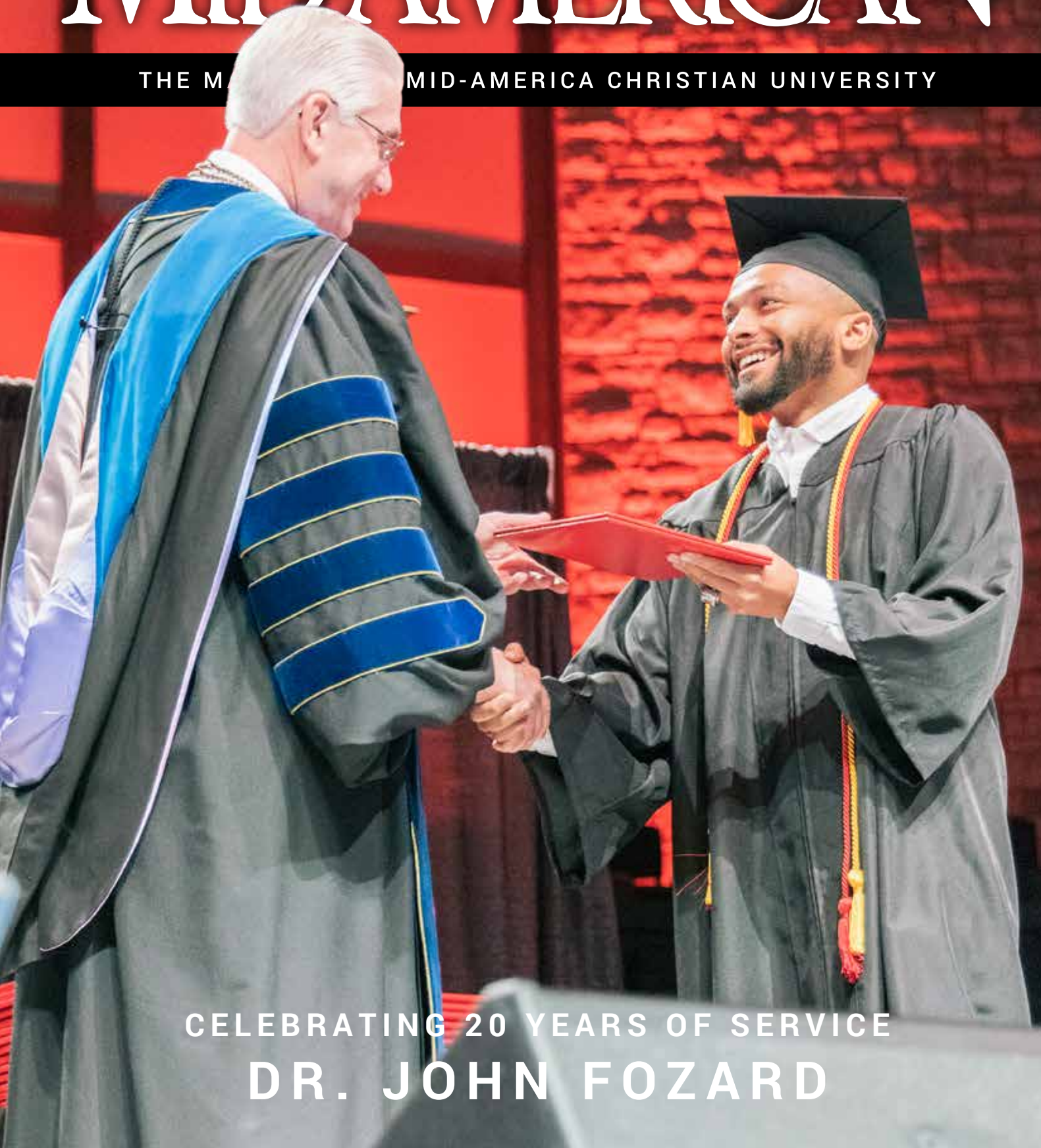


MID-AMERICAN

THE MID-AMERICA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY



CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF SERVICE
DR. JOHN FOZARD

SUMMER 2019

Dream Bigger. Do Greater.

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Dream Bigger. Do Greater.

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WATCH MACU CHAPEL LIVE EVERY
WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY AT 10 A.M.

COVER PHOTO

MACU President Dr. John Fozard congratulates Roger Peron during commencement exercises. MACU's 68th commencement ceremony was held at Crossings Community Church in Oklahoma City.

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MACU students celebrate the end of the spring semester with the All-School Picnic, an annual event that invites students, faculty and staff to come together for great food, fun and fellowship.



CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

A LETTER FROM CLAUDE ROBOLD, BOARD CHAIRMAN

AS WE REVIEW THE JOURNEY OF LIFE, we see God placing individuals in significant roles of leadership at the most critical moments for his divine redemptive intervention. He placed David on the throne of Israel and Joshua to lead the children of Israel across the Jordan. He continues this same process today.

Twenty years ago, God chose a man with David's heart and Joshua's spirit to lead Mid-America Christian University, then known under the name of Mid-America Bible University. He was not widely known as he was tending his pastoral flock in Effingham, Illinois. Although he did not at first realize the floodtide he was entering, he accepted his new assignment.

When John D. Fozard assumed the helm, over \$14.5 million of debt was threatening to push the college out of existence. As the debt grew to over \$17 million, leadership could do nothing but fall upon their knees and cry out to the Lord. As we all know, God brought forth the needed resources and rolled away the waters of debt.

This birth of a new day at MACU and these past 20 years of leadership under President Fozard have brought forth an expanding and exciting path for the university. Let's review some of the accomplishments over these last two decades.

President Fozard's leadership has brought a new culture to MACU that has established discipleship as a priority, appointed each student a minister and placed in the hearts of every Evangel a calling to "Dream Bigger" and "Do Greater."

The Board of Trustees wanted to recognize this God-given leadership. At our most recent board meeting, we surprised President John and his wife, Brenda, with a special banquet held at the Petroleum Club in downtown Oklahoma City. This surprise evening included his children and grandchildren, along with Dr. Steve Trice, Dr. Bill McDowell and lifelong friend, Colonel Tim Willoughby, to share in an evening of tribute. The board then presented the Fozards with a wonderful financial gift.

The surprises continued the following day! During weekly chapel services, the Board of Trustees celebrated President Fozard's 20 years of servant leadership by naming the main campus building "Fozard Hall" in honor of President John D. and Brenda Fozard.

As Chairman of the Board of Trustees, I share these actions with you readers to show what God has done through his faithful servants. It is truly a joy to celebrate, recognize and honor the gifted leadership God has given us.

It is with great joy that I announce to you that President Fozard has accepted another five-year term to lead Mid-America Christian University to "Dream Bigger" and "Do Greater!"



Respectfully,

Dr. Claude L. Robold

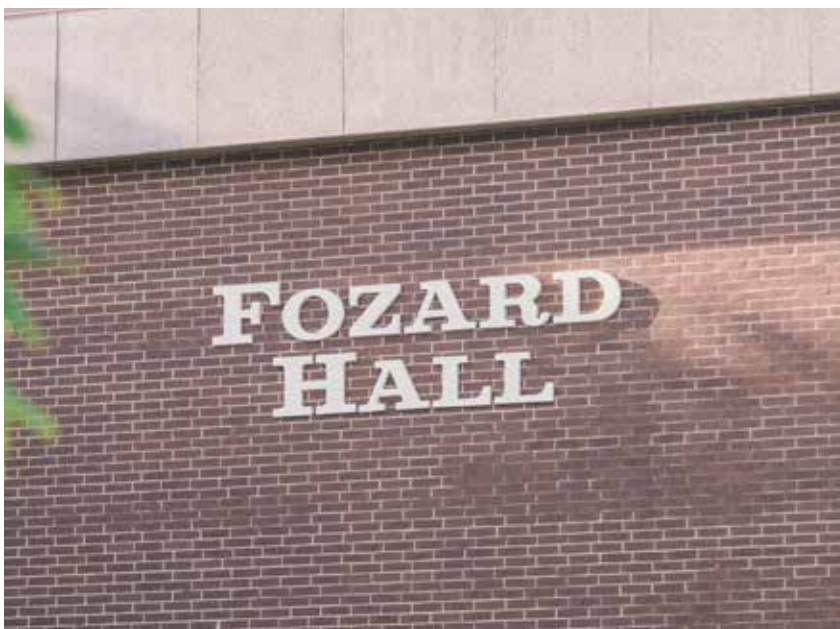
Chair, MACU Board of Trustees



-
- **University income has grown from \$7.1 million to \$22.3 million**
 - **University assets have grown from \$14.6 million to \$40 million**
 - **University enrollment has grown from 564 students to 2,028 students**
 - **The needed classrooms, offices and library housed in Kennedy Hall were built debt-free**
 - **Two new residents halls were constructed**
 - **The Student Center moved and saw expansion**
 - **The dining hall was remodeled and fitted with private dining rooms**
 - **The Board of Trustees expanded to 30 members**
 - **Policy governance was implemented**
 - **The establishment of the President's Advisory Council on Excellence**
 - **The remodeling of the JASCO Chapel**
 - **The establishment of the Thomas School of International Studies, the Center of Wesleyan Studies and the James E. Massey Center**
 - **The athletic department moved to the NAIA**
 - **The purchase of an additional five acres west of the Gaulke Activity Center**
 - **The revamping of the front entrance and addition of new parking lots**
 - **The remodel of the President's Office**
 - **The expansion and growth of faculty and staff**
 - **Online education was implemented and expanded**
 - **Many learning partnerships have been established**
-

Fozard Hall

AS WE CELEBRATED President Fozard's 20th anniversary at MACU, a special dedication took place during chapel services March 13. The main campus building, which was never previously named, was named Fozard Hall in honor of two decades of his incredible, God-driven leadership.



THE 2019
DREAM MAKER
AWARD WAS GIVEN TO
THE CLEMENTS FAMILY IN
APPRECIATION FOR THEIR
CONTINUED SUPPORT
OF MACU AND ITS
STUDENTS.

360
SEATS
SOLD





Mid-America Christian University

DREAM

SCHOLARSHIP GALA



95
DONORS

\$146,750
RAISED



REMARKABLE

A REMARKABLE CULTURE is one in which people believe the best in each other, want the best for each other and expect the best from each other — that's the ethos behind MACU's Remarkable! initiative, which launched last year.

The initiative was inspired by Dr. Randy Ross and David Salyers' book, *Remarkable! Maximizing Results Through Value Creation*, and highlights employees who carry out ordinary workplace acts in extraordinary ways.

Throughout the year, MACU professors and staff were nominated by students and co-workers to receive the Remarkable! nod. Those winners were celebrated on-campus during a banquet on April 30.

"The idea of Remarkable! is to create a customer experience that people would remark about — the idea that they are

marked by our extraordinary acts," said Jessica Rimmer, GiANT Worldwide senior consultant.

Rimmer previously served as MACU's vice president for Student Engagement and Success for more than a decade.

She said that every winner was the recipient of not just one but multiple nominations by their co-workers and the students they serve, whether through in-person interactions on campus, in the physical or online classroom or even over the phone.

"By coming into work every day and serving faithfully, these men and women make a mark on their fellow faculty and staff members as well as MACU students," Rimmer said. "They are the reason why MACU is a remarkable university."

To join the MACU family, visit www.macu.edu/careers for a list of open positions.



SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ESTABLISHES PHI BETA LAMBDA CHAPTER

MACU
NATIONAL
QUALIFIERS

**ELIZABETH
BERTRAND**

Impromptu Speaking

**KAITLYNN
BLOOMFIELD**

Public Speaking

ANDRE BOGEE

Contemporary
Sports Issues

ENDRI COPA

Future Business
Executive

**“MACU SCHOOL OF
BUSINESS STRIVES
TO PROVIDE A SEGUE
TO A SUCCESSFUL
BUSINESS CAREER
THAT BUILDS
ON REAL WORLD
SKILLS WITHOUT
COMPROMISING
CHRISTIAN VALUES”**

WITH MORE THAN ten thousand members across 350 U.S. chapters, Phi Beta Lambda is serious business — as it should be, since it is the collegiate division of the Future Business Leaders of America, which helps over 230,000 students prepare for business careers every year.

This spring, MACU started its own PBL chapter with more than a dozen ambitious business students. Less than a month after starting the chapter, the MACU campus played host to the organization's yearly state convention, which saw competitions ranging from economics and entrepreneurship to retail, accounting, job interviews and public speaking.

Five MACU business students placed in the competition, with four of them qualifying for nationals in San Antonio this summer.

Freshman business major Kaitlynn Bloomfield, who helped spearhead the creation of MACU's PBL chapter, said the competition was an exciting opportunity for herself and her peers.

“It was a great chance for us to get job experience before getting a job,” Bloomfield said. “Competing builds you up in the perspective of leadership and confidence. It's not just fun — you're still able to learn and grow and network with others.”

Bloomfield finished second in the public speaking contest, earning her a trip to nationals later this year.

From an employer's perspective, Business and Administration Co-Chair Steve Clouse said the experience students gain from groups like PBL is irreplaceable.

“Seeing this on a resume would automatically set them apart for me,” Clouse said. “For a college student to give up their free time to work on their professional skills is impressive and an important aspect of being a successful business student.”

As the university's most popular degree path for traditional and adult students, he said the MACU School of Business strives to provide a segue to a successful business career that builds on real world skills without compromising Christian values — and therein lies the key to its resounding success.

“We want our students to be prepared for real life,” Clouse said. “Academics and theory are extremely important, but in 40 years of management, there was never a single time when I reached behind my desk and grabbed a textbook to solve a problem.”

The MACU School of Business impresses the importance of soft skills like communication, writing and critical thinking. Most importantly, however, is the emphasis placed on keeping God in business.

“I tell my students that there will be a time someday in their life when they will have to be willing to lose their job to take a stand for what's right,” Clouse said.

“As a Christian, I believe with my whole heart that you can operate in business with ethics and Christian values. That doesn't mean handing out tracts at work all day long; it means you don't violate your own integrity.”

In the future, Clouse said MACU hopes to make PBL available for its online and adult students as well. For more information about the organization, visit www.fbla-pbl.org.





2019 COMMENCEMENT

SEVEN HUNDRED AND TWENTY-NINE STUDENTS made up MACU's 2019 graduating class — one of the largest in the university's 60-year history. Commencement exercises were held May 4 at Crossings Community Church in Oklahoma City.

After an opening foreword by MACU Board of Trustees member Dr. John Steffens and a special music performance by Ron Townsdin of Southwest Electric of Oklahoma, MACU President Dr. John Fozard introduced Rev. Richard Mansfield as the commencement speaker.

Mansfield, who is the founding and senior pastor of New Beginnings Church of God in Albuquerque, N.M., is no stranger to MACU. He previously served on the Board of Trustees as well as in the capacity of campus pastor, and remains a devoted friend to and supporter of the university.

In his inspirational commencement address, Mansfield encouraged graduates to embrace themselves as unique creations of God.

"A lot of you graduating today might have a little bit of a flaw. You might have something that kind of sticks out," he said. "People might make fun of you and look at you differently. But I'm telling you, God wants to use you and your talents and your brilliance and your skills. He's going to use you for His glory if you just believe Him and trust Him."



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WWW.MACU.EDU OR EMAIL INFO@MACU.EDU.**





JAVIER HERNANDEZ

BEFORE HE was even out of elementary school, Javier Hernandez had offers to join a gang.

Born in Mexico City and raised in the U.S., Hernandez grew up in a crime-filled neighborhood riddled with gang violence. In fifth grade, when most ten and eleven year olds were playing sports and video games, he realized that something needed to change.

"I had to break that path," he said. "I had to go somewhere different. I knew there was something in my community that I needed to escape from."

From sixth grade onwards, Hernandez attended Dove Science Academy, a charter school with a focus on math, science, engineering and computer technology. He thrived there and soon began looking into colleges — which came to a sudden halt after a difficult conversation with his parents.

"I found out that I was undocumented — I was not a U.S. resident. I was not a U.S. citizen. I could not leave the country because I would not be able to return," he said. "It was an impactful moment for me."

Hernandez's undocumented status also had a big impact on his college application process. He was disqualified for FAFSA and many scholarships, leaving him unable to pay for his college education.

At his lowest moments, Hernandez recalled nearly giving up on his dreams to attend college.

"I was so down, I didn't think I wanted to pursue a higher education anymore. But when my other opportunities went out the window, God opened a door."

That door led him straight to MACU, where Hernandez was able to receive athletic and academic scholarships. He enrolled in the university's School of Math and Science, where he studied and graduated with a degree in mathematics.

Although he initially planned to pursue a career in engineering, Hernandez found a calling for law. Having worked for Lambert Dunn and Associates in Oklahoma City as a legal assistant, he recognized the calling God placed on his heart while he was at MACU.

"I wasn't sure I wanted to pursue a legal career until I started school and felt some of the impact I could have in our community," he said. "I started speaking with clients a little more, seeing how I could help them with the problems they had going on, and that's when I realized the gravity of it all."

Hernandez said once he took that first step towards a legal career, there was no going back. After graduating from MACU, he was accepted into law school at Oklahoma City University, which he described as a moment of culture shock.

"When I stepped into orientation that day, there were two Hispanics, three black students and 167 white students. I was out of place. I had no idea what was going on — I spent half my time in the dictionary and the other half in the actual textbooks."

During his time in law school, Hernandez had the opportunity to travel across the country. He joined United We Dream, a Washington D.C. group that advocates for the DREAM Act, and attended conferences with the American Immigration Lawyers Association.

He also attended the Hispanic National Bar Association Conference, which didn't have a lean on immigration law but advocated for Hispanics and Latinos in the legal system as a whole. There, he found people working as corporate counselors for big names Walmart, Microsoft, Coke and Spotify.

"It was so inspirational for me to see Hispanics working in those areas," Hernandez said. "It was then that I knew everything had fallen into place the way it was supposed to. I felt like that could only be the work of God. I always wanted to do something that could allow me to help people on a daily basis, and He made that path clear for me."

Now, Hernandez has the opportunity to fulfill his dream and touch lives of individuals and families every day: on April 5, he learned that he passed the bar exam, making him the first undocumented attorney in the state of Oklahoma.

"Sometimes I didn't feel like I was doing the right thing," Hernandez admitted, "but God knew exactly what He was doing. He has a way of making things work out the way they should."



**GRADUATE CLASSES
START AUGUST 12**



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CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

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EXCITING NEWS!

For a limited time, MACU alumni can continue their education with an exclusive

10% DISCOUNT
on graduate degrees.



SPORTS UPDATE

MACU LAUNCHES PARTNERSHIP WITH NIKE, BSN SPORTS

MACU has entered into a multi-year partnership with Nike through BSN Sports. The agreement, which will take effect on July 1, 2019, is part of BSN Sports Collegiate Select program, which aims to make BSN Sports a one-stop provider for all collegiate athletic equipment to all DI, DII, DIII, NJCAA and NAIA schools.

The agreement includes numerous incentives in the form of discounts and rewards along with incentives for on-field achievements and additional marketing, branding and promotional opportunities.

"We are ecstatic to partner with Nike and BSN," said Athletic Director Marcus Moeller. "We feel strongly this opportunity allows us to outfit our teams in elite athletic apparel while also furthering the MACU brand with the most recognizable logo in the athletic arena."

The Evangels will outfit their seven athletic teams in Nike Apparel through the agreement.



WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM WINS SECOND CONSECUTIVE NCCAA NATIONAL TITLE

For the second consecutive year, the Mid-America Christian University women's basketball team has claimed the National Christian College Athletic Association (NCCAA) National Championship title.

The Evangels overcame an eight-point deficit with four minutes left to go in the game, triumphing over Brewton-Parker College with an 87-84 win.

"We are extremely proud of what our group accomplished this week and this season," said head coach Hannah Moeller, whose third season at the helm has yielded two national championships.

"I am so happy for the seniors for their careers to end this way. It was a blast to coach these women this year, and I'm so proud of how they've represented our program, our university, and most importantly, the Lord," said Moeller.

Those seniors include Shaylan Coleman of Dallas, Jennah Coffman of Tuscola, Texas, and Darby Price of Manhattan, Kansas.

For her performance in the preceding regional championship game, junior forward Alexis Shannon was named the NCCAA Central Region



Co-Player of the year. Following the national championship game, Coleman was named the NCCAA Championship Most Outstanding Player.

Shannon and Coleman also earned All-Region team member slots alongside Coffman and Blanchard, Okla. native Nevada Denton.

HANNAH MOELLER NAMED 2019 NCCAA DI COACH OF THE YEAR

Mid-America Christian University women's basketball head coach Hannah Moeller has been named the NCCAA Division I Coach of the Year for the second consecutive year.

The announcement comes shortly after MACU's 87-84 national championship win over Brewton-Parker College on March 16, which marked the Evangels' second national title in two years.

"Coach of the Year awards are only won if you have great players and a terrific staff. Fortunately, I am lucky enough to have both," Moeller said. "The credit for the award goes to them."

The title is a close to Moeller's third year at the helm of MACU's basketball program, which has seen unprecedented success under her leadership. Last year, Moeller set program wins in a season both overall and within the Sooner Athletic Conference, then led the Evangels to their first-ever NCCAA championship title as a Division I school.

However, Moeller said what matters most is what happens off the court.

"My greatest takeaway this year is the lives that have been changed by the Lord in our program. I'm humbled and thankful, but most of all I am grateful for how the Lord is moving in the lives of our players," she said. "That's better than any award."

Moeller took over in 2016, returning to MACU after previously serving as an assistant women's basketball head coach during the 2010-2011 season.



DONNELL NAMED TO SAC GOLD GLOVE TEAM

For Mid-America Christian University's baseball team, Ben Donnell was a bright spot in a 2019 season that was filled with ups and downs. After the conclusion of the Sooner Athletic Conference Tournament, Donnell was honored in a way that was a first for an Evangel under head coach Adrian Savedra.

Donnell was named the pitcher on the SAC's Gold Glove Team — the first Evangel to earn a place among the SAC's top defenders since Justin Rivera earned the honor in right field in 2012.

Donnell, a 6-0 senior left-hander from Oakville, Ontario, had a perfect fielding percentage on the season, and that helped him earn the honor. He had one putout and 19 assists on the season in 83 and two-thirds innings of work. He was 5-6 with a 3.35 ERA, and he was selected in a coaches' vote as a part of the coaches' meeting before the SAC tournament began. Ben did not commit an error during his 3-year MACU career.



MACU HIRES SOWERBY TO LEAD MEN'S SOCCER

With the departure of co-head soccer coach Zach Bice, the Mid-America Christian University soccer teams needed to fill a spot on the coaching staff for the 2019 season. This May, MACU introduced Mitchell Sowerby as

the new men's soccer coach, taking over a program led by Bice and Evan Dresel as co-head coaches for more than a decade.

"We are ecstatic to bring on Mitchell as our new head coach," said Athletic Director Marcus Moeller. "He is a dynamic leader of young men whose combination of passion, energy, poise and confidence make him a great fit among the rest of our athletics family."

Dresel will move over and become the head coach of the women's program while Sowerby steps in to lead the men's team.

"I am excited to work with Evan and all the other coaches in the MACU coaching family going forward," Sowerby said. "I cannot wait to work with such an amazing team that has already built a strong culture."

Sowerby joins the Evangels after a two-year stint on the staff with the Rogers State University Hillcats in Claremore, Oklahoma.

MACU GIVES VOLLEYBALL REINS TO FITZGIBBON

MACU Athletic Director Marcus Moeller recently announced that the Evangels Volleyball program will begin the 2019 campaign under the direction of new head volleyball coach Kevin Fitzgibbon.

"Kevin is coming in during a crucial time for our program," Moeller noted. "I'm really excited to have him on board and look forward to watching the growth of the program under his leadership."

Fitzgibbon, a 2003 graduate of Simpson University in Reading, California, was an outside hitter on the men's volleyball team until the program was disbanded following the 2001 season. He completed his degree in theology, and after college, he joined the Army and served for five years as a combat medic.

"I am humbled and honored," said Fitzgibbon about the chance to coach at MACU. "My goal is to impart a genuine love for the game and to support my players in a cooperative relationship."

"I have a job to do," he continued, "just as they do. My job is to help them get better by cultivating an atmosphere that promotes growth, not fear of failure. Volleyball is a game. It should be fun. Practice should be challenging but not something players dread. I believe players should be able to look forward to it because it is helping them to achieve their goals."

SIX SOFTBALLERS HONORED BY SAC

The Mid-America Christian University softball team posted another 30-win season in 2019, their fourth such season in their last six campaigns, and they posted a third place finish in the Sooner Athletic Conference. When the SAC announced their all-conference softball teams this week, MACU had six players honored on the lists.

Five MACU players—Alanna Leisy, Hannah Salmon, Jessica Holt, Regan Martin and Hanna Harris—earned second team All-SAC honors. Amber O'Bryant was named a recipient of a SAC Gold Glove.



GORDON ADDS ASSISTANT AD TITLE

MACU's head athletic trainer Justin Gordon has been named the new assistant AD, a title which he will add to his duties as a trainer. He has been with MACU's athletic department since 2012, and he also serves on the University's Title IX team.

"Moving Justin into an administrative role is a no-brainer for our athletic department," Athletic Director Marcus Moeller said of Gordon. "He has gone above and beyond in his role as head athletic trainer to find ways to serve our student athletes as well as the campus as a whole. He and his wife Tobi genuinely love MACU and our athletes. I'm really excited to serve alongside Justin in this role!"

Gordon echoed Moeller's enthusiasm for the new assignment. "I am grateful for the opportunity to move into a new role within our athletic department," he said. "I want to thank Marcus for his confidence in my ability and dedication to our student-athletes. While I still enjoy working to keep our athletes in top condition, I am also looking forward to the chance to help our teams grow in other areas as well."

Gordon began his time at MACU in the spring of 2012 as the assistant athletic trainer. He came to MACU after spending a semester at nearby Cameron University as a graduate assistant in athletic training, and in the fall of 2012, he assumed the position as MACU's head athletic trainer. He has helped treat athletes in all nine of MACU's sports that have been offered in his time at MACU. In that time, MACU has claimed three national championships and two Sooner Athletic Conference titles, and the Evangels have made six other trips to national tournaments.



NCCAA RECOGNIZES LARIE AMOS AS 2019 SOFTBALL GP4L CHARACTER AWARD RECIPIENT

The NCCAA is pleased to announce Larie Amos of Mid-America Christian University as the 2019 Softball Game Plan 4 LIFE Character Award recipient.

A two-year team captain, Amos strives to be a fierce competitor. During her collegiate career, Amos averaged .375 (69-for-184) from the plate with 18 doubles, 6 home runs, 28 runs, and 33 RBI's. On the mound, Amos holds a 10-6 record with a 2.68 ERA, 6 complete games, 3 shutouts and 1 no-hitter. She has 53 strikeouts in 78.1 innings while allowing an opponent batting average of .224.

The senior from Oklahoma City, has battled adversity as both her junior and senior seasons were cut short by injury. Even on a shortened season, Amos earned First Team All-Conference and Sooner Athletic Conference (SAC) Pitcher of the Week in 2018. Through the difficulty of experiencing two season-ending injuries, Amos believes God has a plan for her and that He placed this opportunity in front of her to do His will.

Amos' honesty and integrity have made her a special teammate. She quietly motivates and challenges her teammates with positive communication and role modeling. As a biology major, Amos has earned academic awards that include NCCAA Scholar-Athlete, SAC Commissioner's Honor Roll, and SAC Softball Academic All-Conference.

"Larie is a coach's dream to coach and be around," said MACU Head Coach Robert Wakefield. "Her teammates look up to her as a role model on and off the field as well as in the classroom."

Award Description

The purpose of the Game Plan 4 LIFE Character Award is to recognize NCCAA student-athletes who epitomize the Christian character qualities of:

LOVE: demonstrating a caring and consistent love for others (I Corinthians 13)

INTEGRITY: living out ethical principles in a clear consistent manner (Job 27:5)

FAITH: acknowledging a life of faith and sharing that faith with others (Hebrews 11)

EXCELLENCE: striving to do all things at the highest standard (Philippians 4:8)



School of Music Spring Concert Featured Variety of Performances

MACU'S SCHOOL OF MUSIC held its spring concert on Tuesday, April 23, 2019, and according to School of Music chair Eddie Vandewalker, it was one of the longest and most diverse concerts thus far.

"We had such a great concert because of the variety," Vandewalker said.

The concert encompassed a broad range of performances, featuring the university's concert choir and band, as well as a guitar ensemble, piano duet, vocal quartet and student conductors. In addition, the students performed an original piece written by the Music Theory IV class.

Three students leaving the School of Music were recognized in the concert. Two of them, Aubry Weatherly and Thembi Wenyika, were graduating seniors. Weatherly plans to return to MACU to earn her master's degree, while Wenyika has been hired to lead worship at a local church.

The third student recognized that night, Adanna York, is following her original college plan to transfer schools after two years in order to study music therapy.

At the end of the show, School of Music alumni joined the current students in singing the final song, which was performed in the previous year's concert. The song, "A Million Dreams" from movie "The Greatest Showman", echoes Mid-America Christian University's mission of Dreaming Bigger and Doing Greater.

"It was the longest concert we've done in two years," Vandewalker said, "because of the students and how amazing they are."

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OR MISSIONS AT MACU, VISIT
GIVE.MACU.EDU OR CALL 405-692-3191.**



MACU Sends Out Three Mission Teams this Summer

THIS SUMMER, many MACU students are putting one of the university's core passions — solving local and global problems for the glory of God through Jesus Christ—into action through mission work.

Mid-America Christian University will send out three mission teams to three different locations this summer.

Led by Professor Vickie Hinkle, a group of Teacher Education students will travel to Honduras, where they will work with students at Samuel Raymond Christian School. The trip will give students an opportunity to apply what they've learned in classes and to minister to youth.

Campus pastor Matt Cossey will lead a mission experience at the LA Dream Center in Los Angeles. Working with the Dream Center Food Truck, the team will not only meet physical needs by serving food to impoverished individuals but also address spiritual needs by offering to pray with them. In addition, the group will have the opportunity to spread the Gospel through family and youth programming.

Another team of MACU students will venture to Asia under the leadership of student life director Blake Carlson. Through partnering with an organization experienced in ministering in Asia, the crew will spiritually serve communities by sharing the Gospel with children and young adults with disabilities.

Carlson's hope is that the love of Christ is revealed to those served on the mission trips as well as within the teams. He says he knows team members will develop relationships that "go beyond a couple weeks of a mission experience."

"Our hope is that through these missions, people will come to know Jesus Christ, and our students will grow in their own faith."



Ex-Mob Boss Speaks at MACU Chapel

FOR A DECADE, Michael Franzese lived the life of a mobster. In the '70s and '80s, he made millions of dollars every week through meticulous scams conducted in the sphere of legitimate business. A mob boss deemed the "yuppie don," Franzese was one of the most successful money earners in the mob since Al Capone.

When he entered a committed relationship with Jesus, everything changed.

During chapel on Wednesday, April 17, 2019, Franzese shared his story of leaving the mob and becoming a Christian, encouraging audience members to allow God to radically change their lives. According to Franzese, an important part of walking with God is being intentional in running with the right crowd.

"In this world, remember this: we are who we hang out with." Franzese went on to discuss how being around people of good character has helped him stay on a godly path.

"We are influenced by the people we hang with," Franzese said. "You know how I made it? Because I keep myself accountable. I keep the right people around me."

Franzese's story of transformation achieved through the grace of God and by placing himself among godly people has inspired many around the country, and it has certainly inspired the MACU community. As he does in speaking engagements across the United States, Franzese urged listeners to invite God into their lives.

"Remember, people, our God is never an intruder on our lives. He's always what?"

Franzese asked the audience as he closed his message. "An invited guest."

MACU HONORED WITH YMCA SERVICE TO YOUTH AWARD



IN RECOGNITION of MACU's years-long partnership with the Earlywine Park branch of the YMCA of Greater Oklahoma City, the YMCA named MACU its Service to Youth award-winner earlier this year.

"MACU has been a great community partner," said YMCA of Greater Oklahoma City Executive Director Kelly Kay. "They truly live their mission and the mission of the Y by investing their time and talent in the Oklahoma City community through volunteer work, sports camps and clinics, facility rental and more."

It's a relationship that MACU resident director Mason Brown described as "organic."

"Our partnership with the YMCA aligns perfectly with who we long to be," Brown said. "At MACU, our vision statement says that we are preparing students to do greater things for God and His Kingdom and that our students would help solve local and global problems for the glory of God and the good of society."

Those statements are derived from John 14:12, the Bible verse that serves as the heartbeat of the university.

Brown said that, like MACU, the YMCA is an organization that has the sole purpose of "doing good" for our society and the communities in which they operate.

"That's why I find it so meaningful that the YMCA would select us to be the recipient of the Service to Youth award," he said.

"It is an affirmation that MACU is about more than just words: we are people of action. We are living out our mission daily in the local community as we find creative avenues in which to do 'greater things' and embody the love of Christ in our heads, our hearts and our hands."

MACU Student Life Director Blake Carlson and MACU Resident Director Mason Brown accept the Service to Youth award from YMCA of Greater Oklahoma City Board Member Tricia Everest at a ceremony at the Oklahoma City Golf and Country Club in Nichols Hills, Okla.



*J. Hall
Adult School of Arts
and Sciences Chair*

MACU DEBUTS MASTER'S IN EDUCATION DEGREE PROGRAMS, CERTIFICATES

Building on the historic success of its traditional teacher education programs, MACU has added two Master of Education degrees: Educational Leadership and Curriculum and Instruction.

With the changing nature of education in Oklahoma, Adult and Graduate Studies Dean J. Hall said the new degree programs, which are also available as certificates, are another way for MACU to offer education to teachers and meet a very significant need in the state.

"It gives them a new opportunity, particularly with the Curriculum and Instruction degree, to pick up pay or to move up and become a department head," Hall said. "For the Educational Leadership degree, it provides a necessary bridge for teachers to move forward and become administrators."

He said the new degree programs allow MACU to expand an already-popular program while meeting the critical need of helping Oklahoma teachers, connecting the university's mission with the needs of the community.

To build the degree programs, Hall said MACU specifically sought out school superintendents from across the state, including Peggs superintendent and Cooperative Council for Oklahoma School Administration president Dr. John Cox, Blanchard superintendent Dr. Jim Beckham and Shawnee superintendent Dr. April Grace.

Cox, Beckham and Grace are among some of the educators who both developed and will teach courses in the programs.

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

Both Educational Leadership and Curriculum and Instruction courses begin Sept. 24.



*Vickie Hinkle
School of Teacher
Education Professor*

SCHOOL OF TEACHER EDUCATION CONTINUES STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE WITH CAEP PREP

Just like students who are constantly learning and growing in the classroom, Professor Vickie Hinkle said MACU's School of Teacher Education program is committed to constantly improving to keep up with the ever-evolving landscape of education in the U.S.

"We are working on accreditation for the Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP), which means the School of Teacher Education is in a continuous state of growth and improvement," Hinkle said.

CAEP is a professional accreditor that advances equity and excellence in educator preparation through evidence-based accreditation, assuring high-quality education programs and ensuring that they do not grow stagnant.

After passing the state accreditation visit five years ago with a resoundingly positive report, Hinkle said the focus now is to revisit the program as a whole and see where improvements can be made.

"We want to raise the bar for our students who are already highly effective and who are in demand in public schools," she said.

Recently, she said several graduates of MACU's School of Teacher Education have been recognized as teachers of the year in multiple school districts. Many more continue to make a daily impact on the lives of Oklahoma children — just as Hinkle has made an impact on them at MACU.

She described teaching future teachers as an opportunity that transcends anything she ever imagined for herself.

"My goal is always for students to see beyond their circumstances," Hinkle said. "I get to inspire students to take the love of Jesus into the classroom to build relationships with students and set high expectations for them so that they can be giant-killers like David. I hope I inspire them to become the best they can be."

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO ENROLL IN ONE OF OUR TEACHER EDUCATION DEGREE OR CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS, PLEASE VISIT [PROGRAMS.MACU.EDU](https://programs.macu.edu) OR CALL 888-888-2341 TO SPEAK TO AN ENROLLMENT COUNSELOR.



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D. DEWAYNE REPASS

IN HIS SHORT but full 71 years of life, D. Dewayne Repass — known by most as ‘Reep’ — made a broad and deep influence on the lives of many through his longtime ministry.

Born in 1947, Repass received his education for ministry from Gulf Coast Bible College in Houston, today known as MACU. He led the Church of God in the state of Indiana to monumental growth and impact, having served as a regional minister for nearly a decade. He also pastored several CHOG congregations.

In 2002, Repass joined the staff of Church of God Ministries, where he served until 2013. From then until his passing this February, Repass served as a credentials and endowment specialist for Florida Church of God Ministries.

In his life, Repass was known for his unforgettable catchphrase: “better and better,” which he used to answer those who asked how he was doing.

“After Dewayne retired, he had an office in his home. Above its entrance, he had a sign that said, ‘It doesn’t get any better than this,’” remembered MACU Board of Trustees Chair Dr. Claude Robold. “Today, he truly repeats this phrase in the presence of Jesus.”

Robold described his friend of 54 years as a “true disciple of Jesus and a great ambassador of Christ to the church.”

“He was a blessing to all who were touched by his life,” he said.

Although Repass has gone home to the Lord in heaven, his impact on earth remains: prior to his passing, he established the Rev. Dewayne Repass School of Ministry Scholarship, which benefits MACU ministry students.

A service honoring and celebrating the life and ministry of D. Dewayne Repass will take place prior to the Church of God Convention 2019 and General Assembly. The memorial service will be held at 12:30 p.m. June 27 at Solid Rock Community Church in Kissimmee, Fla.

If you would like to make a contribution to the Rev. Dewayne Repass School of Ministry Scholarship in his honor, call University Advancement at 405-692-3191 or email advancement@macu.edu.

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