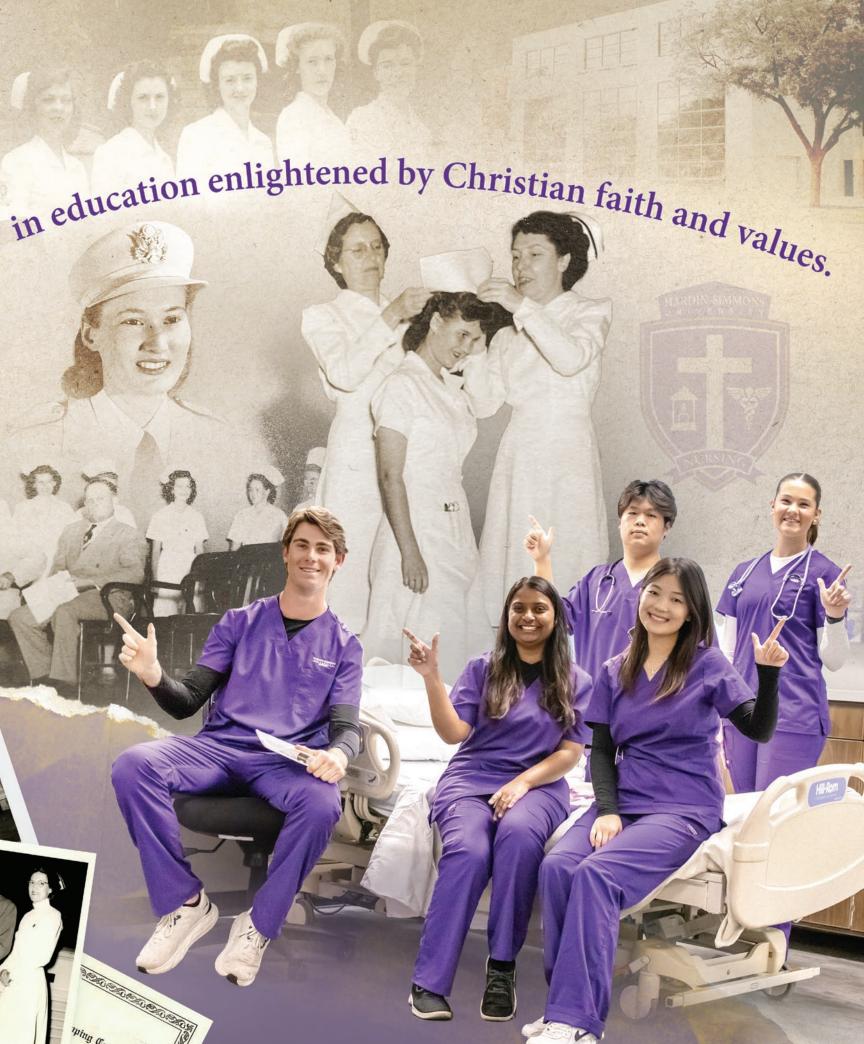
HARDIN-SIMMONS UNIVERSITY

RangeRIDER

SPRING 2025

CARRYING the MISSION FORWARD





PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Dear HSU family,

At Hardin-Simmons University, we stand on the foundation of a rich legacy built on faith, academic excellence, and a steadfast commitment to serving others. As you turn the pages in this edition of the *Range Rider*, we celebrate how that mission is alive and thriving in the hearts and lives of our students, faculty, and alumni. The theme, *Carrying the Mission Forward*, reflects our collective dedication to ensuring that the values and purpose of Hardin-Simmons continue to impact future generations of Cowboys and Cowgirls.

This commitment is reflected in the inspiring stories within these pages—stories of academic innovation, where our students and faculty engage in transformative learning experiences that prepare them for lives of leadership and service. You will see the dedication and perseverance of our student-athletes, who exemplify the spirit of excellence in both competition and character. You will witness our alums carrying our mission forward locally and beyond our campus into communities worldwide.

Through it all, one truth remains clear: the heart of Hardin-Simmons beats strong because of the people who embody its mission.

As we reflect on our past and look to the future, we do so with gratitude and expectation. Thank you for your continued support, prayers, and commitment to this university. Together, we are ensuring that the mission of HSU remains as vibrant and impactful as ever.

Serving Him as President,

Eric I. Bruntmyer, J.D./M.B.A.



CONTENTS

Social Media Snapshot

Athletics

Varsity Cycling Team, Servants of Health,
Fall Sports Recap

God Stories

Advancement
2024 Giving & SpeakLIFE Update, Why I Give,
Why I Serve, Hall of Leaders, Donor Honor Roll Call

Meet the Trustees

Mr. Mark Ganaway '97,

Mrs. Zelda Donaldson Ellison '71

Alumni
Outstanding Young Alumni, Commencement,
Homecoming Recap, Family News,
Welcome to the Family, Family We'll Miss

Spiritual Formation
Meet Roger Jackson, Devotional

CONTRIBUTORS

SENIOR EDITOR

Kacie Eurek '17/'19 Director for University Marketing

EDITOR

Laurin Kocurek Communications and Content Strategy Specialist

CREATIVE EDITOR

Todd Clower '99 Senior Graphic Designer and Creative Lead

CREATIVE TEAM

Fernando Hernandez '14 Graphic Designer

PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Emily Garner Visual Media Coordinator

ADVANCEMENT EDITOR

Dr. Vivian Bland Office Manager, Campaign Coordinator

ALUMNI EDITOR

Dr. Heather Hadlock '97 Associate Vice President for Engagement and Advancement

ATHLETICS EDITOR

Chad Grubbs '02
Director of Athletic Communication

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTORS

Dr. Lauren Cantrell '10/ '23 Department Head: Social Work; Associate Professor of Social Work

> Dr. Lanny Hall '68x HSU President Emeritus

Dr. Vicki House '01/'10/'22 Vice President for Engagement and Advancement

Britt Jones '84 Executive Director of Alumni Special Programs and Trustee Relations

> Sarah Palma '22/'24 Social Media and Communications Specialist

Shelli Presley
Director of Spiritual Formation

Bonnie Vander Schaaf '27 Student Graphic Designer

Dr. Jacob West '04/ '07/ '13

Dean of the Logsdon

School of Theology

Range RIDER SPRING 2025



SKILES BUILDING

FEATURES

Logsdon School of Theology

Building Leaders for a Changing World

Serving with Purpose

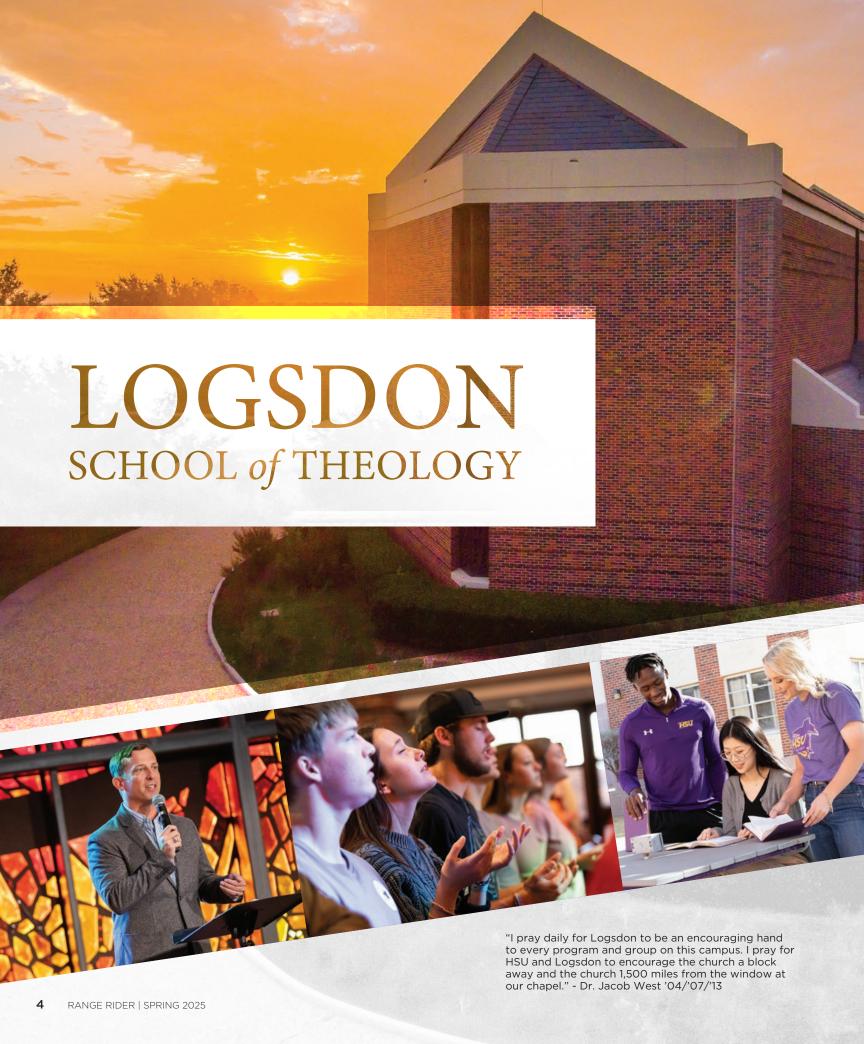
Dr. James B. Simmons
Dinner

Global Impact

 $\int \int$ Experiencing God

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ELEVATED to a COLLEGE, STRENGTHENING its MISSION

or more than 40 years, the Logsdon School of Theology has been a cornerstone of faith and learning at Hardin-Simmons University, shaping students to lead, serve, and share the Gospel. Rooted in biblical study, ministry training, and a heart for missions, Logsdon has prepared generations of Christian leaders. Now, this legacy is taking an exciting step forward.

In June 2025, Logsdon will transition from the Cynthia Ann Parker College of Liberal Arts to become its own college, a move that strengthens its mission and opens new doors for students answering the call to ministry. To honor its history, the "Logsdon School of Theology," name was preserved, ensuring its recognition for generations to come.

"Logsdon's experienced and dedicated faculty fosters a space for students to grow in faith, leadership, and ministry skills," said Dr. Jacob West '04/'07/'13, Dean of Logsdon School of Theology. "Logsdon has a strong group of students eager to share the gospel. I trust God will do a great work in their lives."

This transition reflects HSU's deep commitment to faith-based education. With its elevation to a distinct college, Logsdon joins the ranks of six official colleges at HSU:

- Logsdon School of Theology
- College of Arts and Media
- College of Health Professions
- Cynthia Ann Parker College of Liberal Arts
- Kelley College of Business and Professional Studies
- Holland School of Sciences and Mathematics

Logsdon will continue offering the Christian Studies major and minor, as well as courses in biblical studies, theology, church history, and ministry. Music majors concentrating in Worship Leadership will also continue taking Logsdon ministry courses, reinforcing the strong partnership between Logsdon and the College of Arts and Media.

Beyond academics, Logsdon plays a vital role in shaping the spiritual life of HSU. Nearly 400 students engage with Logsdon through curriculum courses and campus chapel, led by Shelli Presley, Director of Spiritual Formation. With this transition, Logsdon will strengthen its connections with local churches, expand its impact in ministry education, and create more opportunities for students to step into their calling.

This milestone will be acknowledged at the Pinson Lectures on April 23, 2025, featuring Dr. Elijah Brown of the Baptist World Alliance. These initiatives reflect Logsdon's long-standing relationship with Texas Baptists and its growing global ministry connections.

As Hardin-Simmons University remains committed to its faith-driven mission, the Logsdon School of Theology will continue shaping the next generation of Christian leaders to share God's truth with the world.



Experience Logsdon— Scan to watch.



BUILDING LEADERS for a CHANGING WORLD:

HSU's Institute for Leadership

"I will prepare, and someday my chance will come."

– Abraham Lincoln

This fitting mantra captures the spirit of a program dedicated to equipping students for leadership in an ever-changing world.

With a renewed vision from Dr. Lanny Hall '68x, HSU President Emeritus and trailblazing educator, HSU's Institute for Leadership is celebrating a dynamic resurgence rooted in history, driven by passion, and ready to help shape the leaders of tomorrow.

The Institute for Leadership program exists as a nine-hour curriculum designed to prepare students to lead in their respective fields.

Dr. Hall and the program's architects, Provost and Chief

Academic Officer, Christopher McNair, and Associate Provost and Chief Data Officer Mike Monhollon, intentionally focused on creating a practical and impactful educational experience.

"We're giving students arrows for their quiver," Dr. Hall explained. "We talk about trust, transparency, collaboration: all the things that make leaders effective."

The curriculum combines insights from leaders in business, military, and political fields with HSU's broader vision of fostering servant scholars and Christian leaders. Foundational courses such as "Foundations of Leadership," "Great Leaders of History," "Ethical Issues for Leaders," and "Communication for Leaders," are paired with a junior-year internship and a reflective senior paper, ensuring a balance of theoretical knowledge and real-world application.

Internships are tailored to each student's career goals, allowing them to gain hands-on experience in their field of interest. For example, one student, inspired by her love of literature and debate, plans to intern with her former teacher, who ignited her passion for education.

The first cohort of students represents a diverse array of aspirations: a literature professor, a sports administrator, an entrepreneur, a veterinarian, an HR professional, and future coaches. Each student brings unique ambitions, but they share a common goal of becoming positive influencers in their communities and professions.





A Curriculum Grounded in Servant Leadership

Aligning with today's societal needs, Hardin-Simmons University Social Work Program focuses on human behavior, social justice, and advocacy for vulnerable populations. Students delve into topics such as trauma-informed care, community development, and advocacy while exploring how faith can inform and guide their professional work.

Dr. Lauren Cantrell '10/'23, Department Head of Social Work and Associate Professor of Social Work for the Cynthia Ann Parker College of Liberal Arts, shares that what separates HSU's program is its integration of Christian ethics into these critical areas. "We are called to be the helpers, the wrap-around support, the ones who show up when others might turn away," said Dr. Cantrell. "We're called to walk alongside those whom others might abandon, offering a hand when the world offers none."

This belief in meeting people where they are, without judgment, shapes the practice of instilling a strong sense of compassion, emphasizing every individual's fundamental dignity and worth.

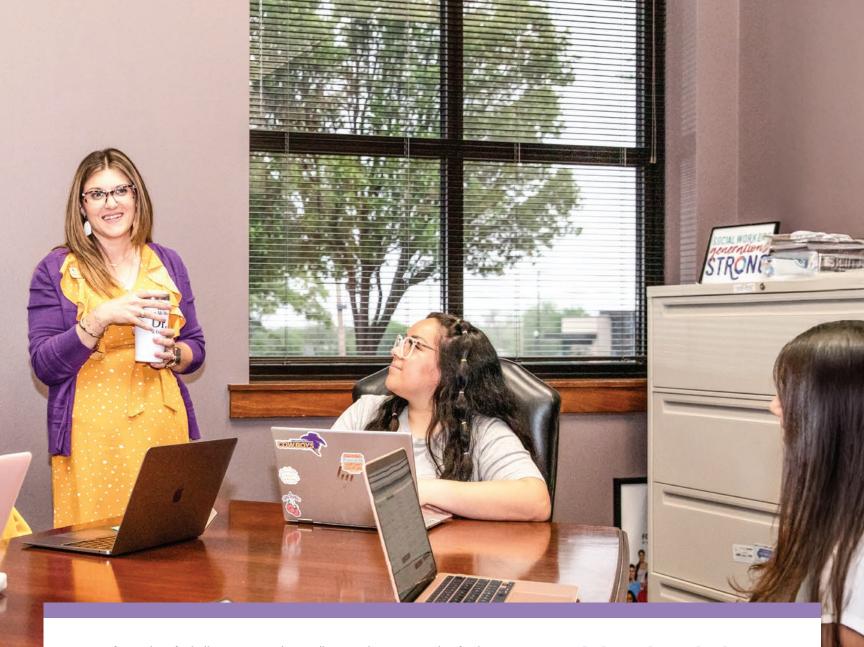
"Even when students are working with clients who are facing the darkest chapters of their lives, we remind them of their duty to treat each person with respect and love," explained Dr. Cantrell. "No matter the client's history or actions, they are loved by God and deserve to be treated as such."

Putting Faith into Action: Hands-On Learning

Through internships and fieldwork, students gain firsthand experience by working with families in crisis, supporting non-profits addressing homelessness, and collaborating with vital community organizations. The program's commitment to experiential learning helps students turn their passions into impactful actions.

"We cover everything from birth to death and everywhere in between," said Dr. Cantrell.

One example of this hands-on approach is the department's collaboration with local civic organizations to help solve community needs. Students partner with



non-profits to identify challenges, research solutions, and implement their findings, creating real change.

Over the last few years, initiatives have ranged from dating violence to dementia to honoring our local Veterans. Recently, students led a series on men's mental health, working to break the stigma surrounding seeking help.

"It's not just about raising awareness," said Dr. Cantrell. "It's about providing tangible support."

Students also work on interdisciplinary projects, such as partnering with the College of Health Professionals to navigate complex issues alongside healthcare students. These collaborative efforts teach them to approach social work within a broader professional context.

"Our students are sought after by agencies and organizations because of the strong foundation they receive during their studies at HSU," Dr. Cantrell shared. "We often receive far more requests for interns than we have students available, which speaks to the quality of education they receive."

In addition to hands-on experiences, advocacy is another cornerstone of the program. Through Social Work Day at the Texas State Capitol, students research and present on social issues during legislative sessions. This experience gives them a platform to advocate and experience what change looks like at a state level.

"We want our students to understand that their voice matters," Dr. Cantrell said. "They're equipped to speak up for the underserved and advocate for policy changes that can make a broader impact."

Living the Mission Beyond Graduation

Graduates of the program step into diverse roles, serving in child welfare, healthcare, mental health services, and community development. Whether they continue their education or enter the workforce, they carry the university's missions of service, integrity, and faith with them.

"Our goal is not just to educate social workers but to inspire them to live out their faith in ways that bring real transformation," Dr. Cantrell shared. "We want our graduates to carry this mission forward into the world, continuing to serve and lead with humility."

SOCIAL MEDIA SNAPSHOT

Stay connected! Follow HSU on social media:

Hardin-Simmons University

n Hardin-Simmons University

Hardin-Simmons University

% @hsutx

@hsutx

@hsutx

@choosehsutx

RANGE RIDER | SPRING 2025

Way to go HSU Cheer!! We had some super hard workers at Houses for Healing assisting with cleanup on Phase 3!! Many thanks Hardin-Simmons University for students serving in the community!!





Great way to start the day at @HSUTX Convocation! #HD71 #txlege #gocowboys

Stan Lambert August 27, 2024



High Five Friday!! Purcell Elementary, thank you for having us!!

#ChristCenteredChampions #GoCowgirls







When I spoke for HSU the other day a student came up to me and said she was intending to quit school that day due to personal struggles. With tears falling from her beautiful eyes she declared, "My roommate made me come this morning and I am so thankful because I am NOT going to quit!" She thanked me for sharing and for being so vulnerable. I gave her a momma hug and told her that I believed in her. It was a very meaningful moment for both of us.





Thank you, Hardin-Simmons University, for connecting us with talented professionals who share our passion for providing exceptional care.





Thanksgiving-Mas was a blast! Four lucky raffle winners, endless food, and unforgettable memories.

hsuapartments November 13, 2024



So thankful to call these guys friends ... for over 30 years now. And I love how they serve God and serve others in such incredible ways. Also so cool to see James get honored by @hsutx tonight.





We had the best time partnering with Hardin-Simmons University, HSU Alumni, and Professor Doug McIntyre to host an alumni networking event! We gathered students and alumni to share insights on everything from the challenges of transitioning from college to the working world, to practical tips for success in today's job market. Thank you so much for having us! We cannot wait to partner again!

Big Country Title November 15, 2024



The Social Work Club Officers volunteered to host a fundraiser for the Abilene Women's Foundation quest to advocate for the Alzheimer's Association!!! We made customized bracelets and set up a table for our fundraising campaign!!!









On November 15, 2024, at The Statler Hotel in Dallas, HSU proudly presented the Dr. James B. Simmons Award to Senator James Lankford, honoring his unwavering faith, leadership, and dedication to breaking barriers. The award recognizes individuals who use their God-given talents to serve others with courage and determination, principles deeply rooted in both Lankford's life and the legacy of Dr. Simmons.

Before entering public service, Lankford spent more than 20 years in ministry, including leading Falls Creek Youth Camp, the largest Christian youth camp in the nation. Since his election to the U.S. Senate in 2014, he has remained a steadfast advocate for government transparency, religious liberty, and policies that empower families and communities.

During his acceptance speech, Lankford spoke about the importance of leading with faith and conviction. "We should spend our days talking about what Jesus talked about, the way He talked about them," he shared. "Friends, I'm honored to stand here, but my challenge to all of us is to lead well—not just be a leader, but to lead well."

Beyond celebrating Lankford's achievements, the evening left a lasting impact. Thanks to the generosity of donors, the event raised more than \$100,000 to benefit Christlieb Scholarships, continuing HSU's mission to support students in need.

HSU President Eric Bruntmyer reflected on the evening's significance, stating, "Senator Lankford embodies the heart of this award. His life of service reflects the same bold faith and commitment to education that Dr. Simmons demonstrated."

Since the first Simmons Dinner, the event has raised over \$225,000 for scholarships, ensuring that students, regardless of their circumstances, can pursue an education that will shape their future.



Scan to give to the Christlieb Program.





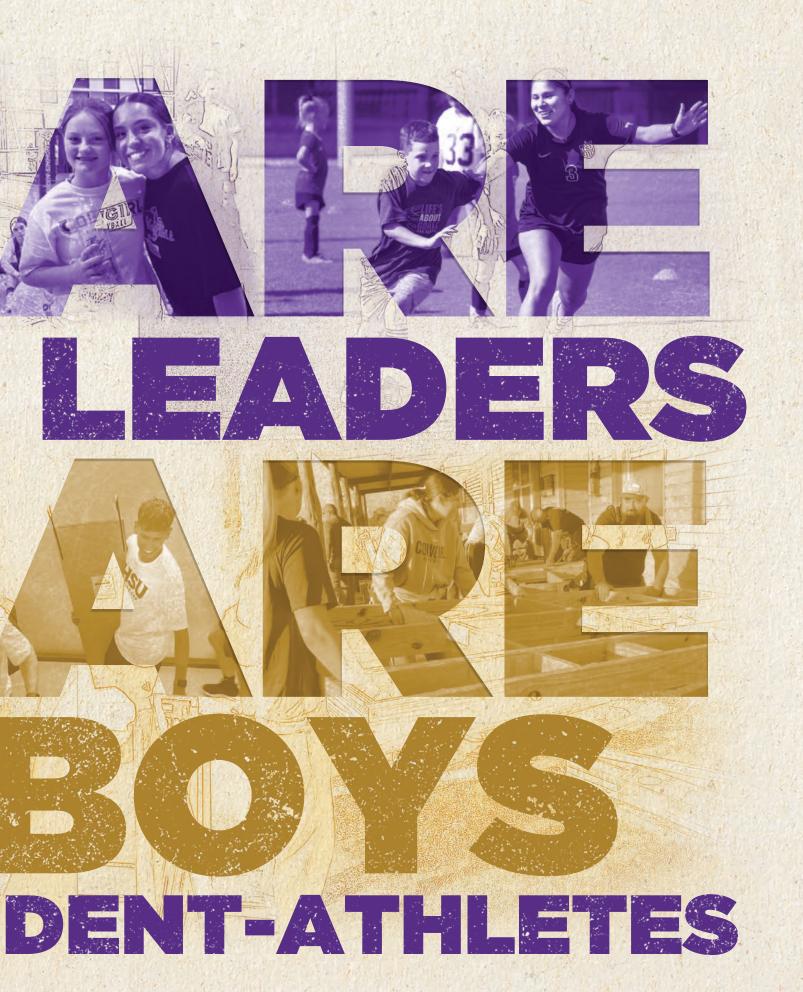
(Top) The World-Famous Cowboy Band takes the stage at the Dr. James B. Simmons Dinner.

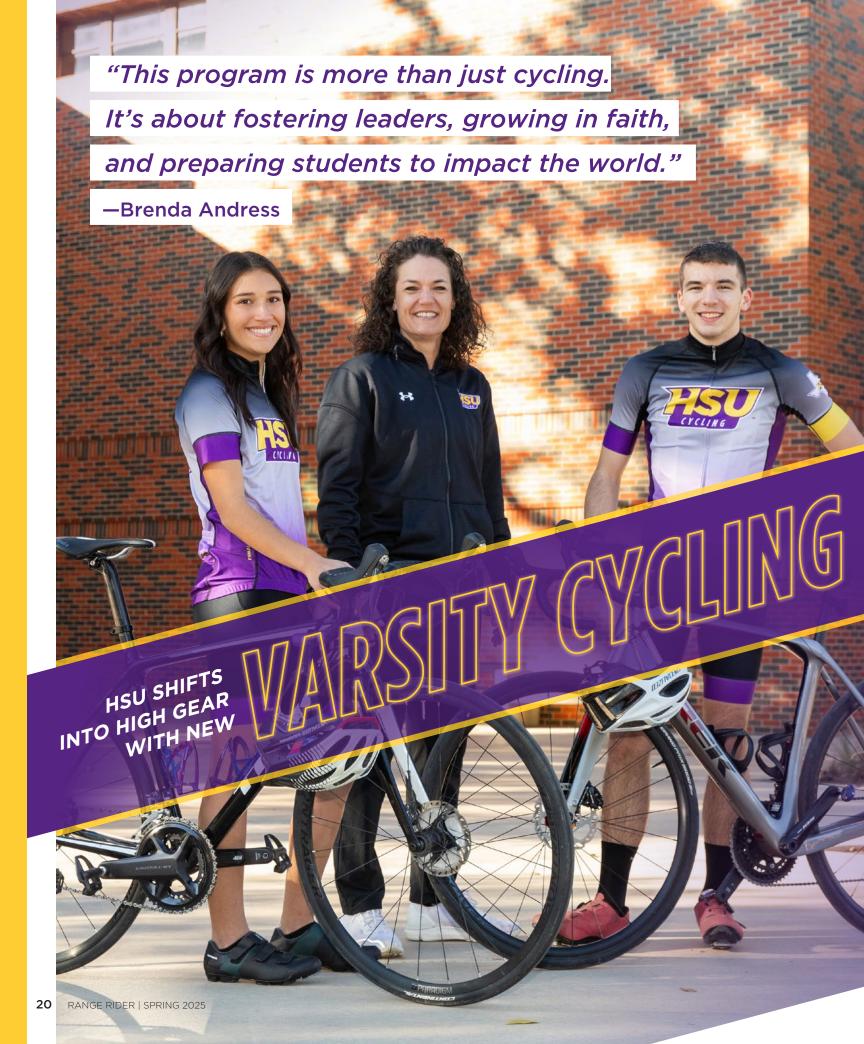
(Bottom) Dr. Hance and Mrs. Julie Dilbeck with Senator James and Mrs. Cindy Lankford.













ast Summer, Hardin-Simmons
University announced the
addition of cycling as a sport
and Brenda Andress as its
founding coach for the program,
bringing the only collegiate cycling
program to the Big Country area.

With a career immersed in education and coaching, adding a lifelong passion for cycling, Brenda is poised to lead this new program toward excellence.

MEET BRENDA

A native of Abilene, Brenda has been a cornerstone of the local athletic community. Before joining HSU, she served as head girls' basketball coach at Abilene High School while teaching special education and English. She holds a bachelor's degree in secondary education from Abilene Christian University and a master's in leadership from UT-Arlington – showcasing her commitment to both the development and mentorship of young minds.

Brenda's journey with cycling began in college, sparking a dedication that spans nearly two decades of advocacy for making Abilene a cycling-friendly city.

"This program is more than just cycling," Brenda explains. "It's about fostering leaders, growing in faith, and preparing students to impact the world."

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

While not an NCAA-sanctioned sport, HSU Cycling will compete at the varsity level in the South-Central Collegiate Cycling Conference (SCCCC) operating under the governance of USA Cycling (USAC). The SCCCC is a collection of cycling teams representing colleges and universities from Texas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Louisiana.

USAC races have different categories to encourage riders of all levels to compete (A-races for Category 1-2-3 riders, B-races for Category 3-4 riders, and C-races for beginners.) Riders move up categories by acquiring points in races. Scoring is like a track meet where racers score points for the team.

West Texas has fantastic weather offering year-round cycling access to great roads, endless miles of gravel, and fantastic mountain biking.

MINISTRY THROUGH CYCLING

Brenda's vision for the program is centered around partnerships and community. A youth league is in the works which Brenda said will help sow seeds for the long-term sustainability of the program. With additional collaborations from the City of Abilene and local businesses such as BikeTown, Brenda is hoping HSU's program not only becomes a nationally recognized, competitive program but also leads to city-wide cycling events bolstering the region's cycling infrastructure.

"Our focus is to welcome cyclists of all levels—whether they aspire to compete professionally or simply want to enjoy the sport," Brenda says. "Students may come to HSU for cycling but leave with a strong relationship with God."

For Brenda, the most rewarding aspect of helping start this program so far has been experiencing the community on campus. She said she finds fulfillment in being in the trenches with other likeminded believers who are all working toward the same mission and vision.

"God opened the door to HSU, and I'm walking through it with purpose and spiritual eyes," Brenda shared. "This is a family bound by Christ, and I'm honored to contribute to this community."

GET INVOLVED

You can help support the HSU Cycling program by spreading the word and helping connect Brenda to students at every level looking to compete and further their education.

For more information, contact Brenda at brenda.andress@hsutx.edu.



HARDIN-SIMMONS WINS

FOOTBALL

The football team won its second straight ASC title after going through the regular season undefeated. The Cowboys were seeded second nationally in the NCAA playoffs, but they fell to conference foe Mary Hardin-Baylor in the second round of the playoffs. HSU beat the Crusaders twice during the regular season.

The HSU Cowboy football team racked up the postseason awards. Charlie Patterson was named the ASC defensive player of the year, Dameon Gomes was the ASC special teams player of the year, Khalil Spivey was named the ASC offensive lineman of the year, Braden

Hargrove was the ASC defensive lineman of the year, and Jesse Burleson was named the ASC coach of the year.

Burleson also picked up the 100th win of his career with a 90-7 win over North American University on Sept. 28.

Patterson also hauled in some major awards. He was the defensive player of the D3football.com south region of the year and was a first-team All-American by the Associated Press, the American Football Coaches Association, and D3football.com.

He was also a national semifinalist for the Cliff Harris Award which is given to the best small college defensive football player, and the Gagliardi trophy that is given to the top player in Division III.

Spivey was named a first-team All-American by D3football.com and the Associated Press. Gomes was awarded first-team All-American as a kick returner by D3football.com, and Hayden Philpot was named a second-team All-American by D3football.com.







A t Hardin-Simmons University, our mission has remained steadfast since 1891—to provide excellence in education, enlightened by Christian faith and values. As part of this commitment, faculty and staff are finding innovative ways to integrate faith into the student experience, ensuring Christ-centered learning both inside and outside the classroom.

Tony Morrow, Director of Student Achievement, is leading an initiative to collect "God Stories" from students, faculty, and staff for a publication that will be used in Strategic Learning Initiative (SLI) courses starting Fall 2025. These testimonies—miracles, answered prayers, and encounters with God—serve as powerful reminders of His presence in our lives. By sharing real accounts of faith from the HSU community, Tony hopes to inspire students and encourage them to recognize that God is actively working in their lives.

Tony's own faith journey deeply motivated this initiative. He recalls a pivotal moment in high school when he first saw the presence of God through others: "When I heard people talk, I could feel the Spirit in them. It made me listen." His own experiences with God's voice and divine intervention sparked a desire to help others recognize His active role in their lives. Now, as he teaches SLI, Tony is using these stories to encourage students to develop spiritual habits like daily prayer and reflection, helping them see how God is working in their own journeys.

Several powerful stories have already been submitted, and Tony is thrilled by the impact they're having. These testimonies go beyond personal experiences—they help deepen students' connections with God and inspire them to live out their faith.

Contribute your "God Story" by emailing Tony Morrow at: tony.morrow@hsutx.edu

Tony Morrow shares a morning ritual with Gilbert, the beloved campus goose, in front of Richardson Library. Nearly every day, Gilbert waits patiently for Tony—or a new friend—to stop by with a snack.

ADVERTISEMENT row Archive

n 1964, H.S. "Higg" Higginbotham and Lynn Lee sat down at the Walgreens soda fountain and went to work naming their newly acquired Ford Dealership. They settled on the name Arrow and for 60 years Arrow Ford has been a staple of the Abilene community.

Throughout Arrow's history, a pattern has revealed itself. About every decade, Arrow undergoes some sort of renovation or addition. In 1974, Arrow celebrated its ten-year anniversary and moved into its current location at 4001 S. 1st Street. Rather than doing a re-model in the 80s, Higg's son, Seaton, established Arrow's Loan Arranger in 1987, offering financing to those the banks wouldn't help. Two years later, Arrow added Mitsubishi to its line of vehicles.

By the mid-90s, Arrow had adopted the slogan The Right Choice, and it was time once again to remodel the dealership, creating a finance and delivery showroom where customers could drive their new vehicle off the showroom floor.

In the new millennia, Seaton and the Arrow team weathered the storm during The Great Recession of 2009 in which Chrysler declared bankruptcy and terminated, without cause, 800 dealers, including Arrow Chrysler Jeep. The entire Arrow staff joined together to rebuild the organization and create Raving Fans by identifying customers' needs and satisfying them completely.

Another new decade spelled a new generation of leadership at Arrow Ford. Seaton promoted his daughter, Shanna Kevil, to General Manager and Trennon Cauthen to Comptroller. Arrow celebrated its 50th anniversary on June 4, 2014, and



embarked on the third renovation of its South First locale. Arrow's commitment to employee well-being paid off big in 2017, when Arrow Ford was awarded the prestigious "Small Employer of the Year" award by the Texas Workforce

Commission. This recognition, along with the opening of Arrow's on-site child recreation program, I Can Kids, in December of 2019, solidified their dedication to creating a supportive and familyoriented environment, attracting and retaining top talent in the competitive automotive industry.

Despite an ever-changing environment, Arrow continued to evolve to better serve its guests. Steadfast to Higg's philosophy of providing affordable pre-owned vehicles in convenient locations, Arrow opened Arrow Point Auto Mall in 2021 to cater to its South Abilene neighbors. Arrow Point revitalized a long-vacant building into an auto dealership of the new age with nods to history including a classic car collection and antique post office display.

Building upon their customer-centric philosophy, Arrow launched the Arrow for Life loyalty program. As Arrow for Life grew, it quickly became clear that Arrow would need to expand its workforce and footprint to provide quality experiences for its service guests. Facing a national shortage of automotive technicians and limited training resources in the Big Country, Arrow took on the challenge to grow talent locally and established Arrow Academy in 2022. Simultaneously, Arrow embarked on planning a major renovation of its service department. Doubling the current capacity, incorporating state-of-the-art equipment and a fully airconditioned facility, the upgrades promise faster turnaround times and an elevated experience for staff and guests alike.

By 2024, construction was well underway on the multi-milliondollar renovation and on June 4, 2024, Arrow Ford celebrated its 60th year of service to Abilene and the Big Country. Reflecting on the past 60 years and looking forward to the future, Arrow Ford's story continues to unfold, woven with threads of resilience, innovation, and unwavering dedication to family, community, and the ever-evolving world of the automotive industry. From its humble beginnings to its dynamic present, Arrow stands as a symbol of Abilene's spirit, forever etching its legacy on the Big Country landscape.









ADVANCEMENT

Dear HSU Family and Friends,

As the Vice President for Engagement and Advancement, I want to share why I find my role so fulfilling.

Advancing Hardin-Simmons University (HSU) brings me immense purpose, as the work today shapes tomorrow's Christian leaders while fostering their intellectual and spiritual growth. Our students' authentic, passionate hearts inspire me daily, reminding me of the importance of HSU's mission and the lasting impact of our work.

The pride and engagement of Hardin-Simmons' accomplished alumni are a testament to the lasting bonds we've built. Their connection to this institution fills me with gratitude, as does the unwavering support of our loyal friends. Their generosity ensures HSU's mission continues to thrive and make a difference.

It is deeply rewarding to share the opportunities and successes achieved by such a dedicated team. I am fortunate to do this alongside supportive servant leaders who lead with integrity, humility, and a shared passion for making the world a better place. We are united by a common purpose: to build a brighter future for Hardin-Simmons University and its students.

Capital Campaign continues, we have met our \$45 million goal ahead of schedule!

You will read more about this milestone over the next few pages, but I want to take a moment to reflect on how far we've come and thank the faculty, staff, alumni, and friends who have worked tirelessly and generously to help us achieve this goal.

I hope you feel the same gratitude I do for the meaningful work we are accomplishing together. As we move forward, I want you to know how thankful I am for your continued support of Hardin-Simmons University. We have been incredibly blessed over the past year and remain committed to making a lasting impact. Your support is vital to our success, and I am excited to continue this journey alongside you.

With all sincerity,

Dr. Vicki House '01/'10/'22

Vice President for Engagement and Advancement





More than \$13 Million Raised During 2024

In 2024, Hardin-Simmons University raised over \$13 million, marking the highest giving year of our speakLIFE Campaign. This milestone highlights the incredible support of the Hardin-Simmons community for the HSU mission.

We want to express our deepest gratitude to you, the HSU community, for helping us achieve a monumental milestone in our ongoing journey with speakLIFE!

In the fall of 2022, we moved out of the silent phase of our exciting and ambitious \$35 million speakLIFE Campaign and entered the public promotion phase, setting a challenge goal of \$45 million. With faith in God's provision and through the incredible generosity of the HSU community, we have already surpassed our challenge goal, raising a total of \$49,453,123 by the end of 2024—more than a year and a half ahead of schedule!

While we are celebrating this incredible achievement, it is important to note that the speakLIFE Campaign is not over. Some of our campaign projects have not yet been fully funded, and with the challenges of a post-COVID economy and the rising costs of construction materials, additional resources are still needed. Our commitment to

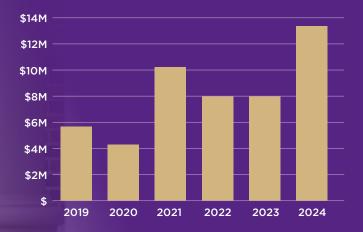
securing the necessary funding for these important priorities remains strong.

As we continue, we remember Colossians 3:17, which says: "And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."

Because of your generosity, the speakLIFE Campaign will continue to make an eternal impact on Hardin-Simmons University and our students, enabling the enhancement of facilities, programs, and opportunities for tomorrow's Christian leaders.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to completing the remaining speakLIFE projects together!

2019-2024 Calendar Giving











\$500 Thousand Donated for Equine Assisted Services Center

A \$500,000 donation from a long-time benefactor will support Hardin-Simmons University's Equine Therapy program and student scholarships. This generous gift advances HSU's commitment to expanding therapeutic services and providing more opportunities for students.

40 TEARS OF GIVING

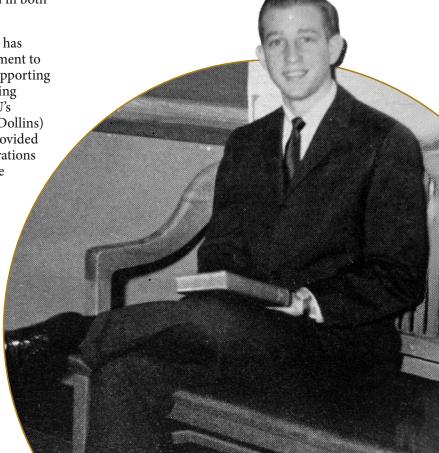
Keith Griffitts '64: Why I Give

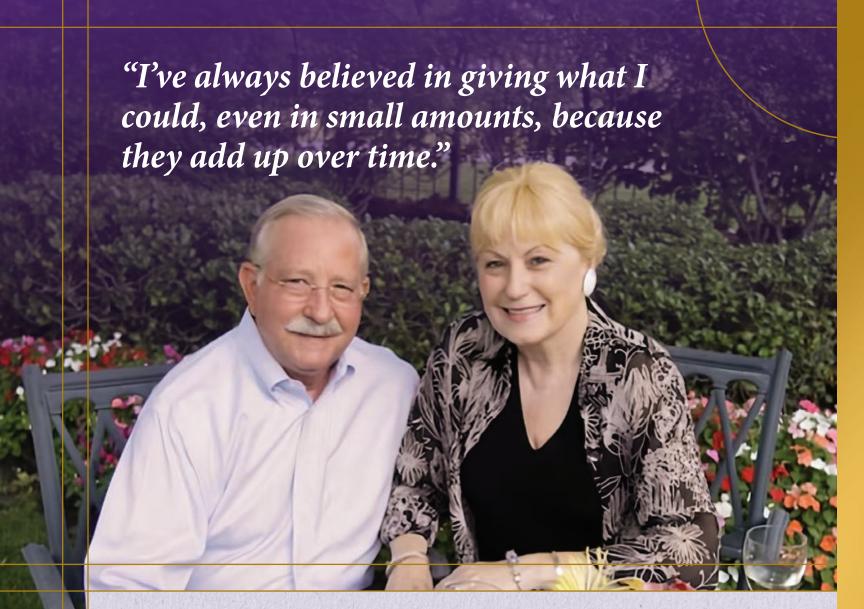
eith Griffitts stepped onto the Hardin-Simmons University (HSU) campus in 1960 as a young man eager to fulfill a dream his father never could. Unable to attend college due to the hardships of losing his own father at a young age, Keith's dad instilled the importance of education in both of his children.

This deep appreciation for education has inspired Keith's unwavering commitment to HSU, where he has been faithfully supporting the university for over 40 years, making him the longest-giving donor in HSU's history. Alongside his wife, Cherry (Dollins) Griffitts '64, Keith's generosity has provided scholarships that ensure future generations of students can benefit from the same transformative opportunities they once had.

Keith recalled graduating from one of the state's largest high schools, where involvement was limited. At Hardin-Simmons, he ran for freshman class president. Although he didn't win, he said the experience was fun and broadened his perspective.

"Giving to HSU is the best investment in the future of our nation," Keith said. "We need more Christian leaders, and Hardin-Simmons produces them. Supporting the school means supporting the students who will go on to change the world."





Keith's journey at HSU began as a psychology major, but he later shifted his focus to earning a teaching certificate, following in the footsteps of many educators in his mother's family. This launched his initial career in education before an eventual transition into a successful 30-year career in the oil industry.

Like many young graduates, Keith couldn't afford to give large sums to the university he cherished. Still, he discovered creative ways to contribute during a time when his financial resources were limited.

"I've always believed in giving what I could, even in small amounts, because they add up over time," explained Keith. "It goes back to the old saying: "How do you eat an elephant? One bite at a time."

Keith took "bites" out of giving by purchasing a \$12,000 life insurance policy from a Hardin-Simmons graduate, thinking it would be a meaningful connection. A modest \$25 monthly premium—an amount Keith says was manageable—grew over 30 years into an impressive gift worth over \$20,000.

"At the time I started giving \$25 a month, I could never have imagined being able to make a \$20,000 donation all at once," shared Keith. "That experience taught me the power of small, consistent giving. Those small gifts accumulated into something much bigger than I could have imagined. It's a lesson I hold onto and a way I've been able to give back over time."

In addition to his financial contributions, Keith has served on HSU's Board of Development and Board of Trustees, dedicating over 25 years to advancing the university's mission. His commitment is rooted in his belief of the university's transformative power.

"Hardin-Simmons doesn't just provide an education. It nurtures Christian character, instilling values that last a lifetime," said Keith. "If you're considering giving to HSU, know that you're not just supporting a school; you're shaping lives and that's the greatest gift you can give."



Want more of Keith and Cherry's story? Scan the QR code.

BY THE NUMBERS

In FY24 (June 2023-May 2024), alumni and volunteers played a vital role in supporting HSU through service, leadership, and student engagement.

> – **110** – volunteers

1,115
TOTAL HOURS
SERVED at

15 EVENTS

75
BOARD OF YOUNG
ASSOCIATES &
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
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36
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Matt Dowling '06 Board of Development

"I feel God has called Christians to be the light of the world, and supporting an institution of higher education that centers around Jesus is what our nation needs.

I came to HSU without knowing a single person, but it is a place that I will always cherish because I developed lifelong friendships.

We were all like a big family and I want students to have the same great experience I did.

I served as Student Body President and on the Board of Young Associates. I loved my time serving the school and my fellow students. HSU's success needs to continue and the Board of Development plays an important role in this effort."

Why I Serve

erving is a vital expression of the mission of Hardin-Simmons University. We're sharing three stories of how service to the university after graduation helps create a lasting impact transforming the lives of current and future students while carrying the mission forward.





Joanna Cone '92 Alumni Association Board of Directors

"My own experiences at HSU showed me what it means to live life in a way that advances the Kingdom of God. I believe in the HSU mission and firmly believe that HSU is shaping the next generation of Christian leaders. I want to help advance that mission in any way I can.

I want to extend the same connection to the next generation of students that I received through alumni from my hometown and my church family. Serving on the board is one way to do that.

I hope my time serving shows current students that we are connected for life and that they will pass that on to future generations of students."

Brittney Dillman '11/'13 Board of Young Associates

"As a student, I experienced faculty and staff who cared about me not only as a student but as a person. My experiences showed me how special HSU is, and the people I met helped shape me into who I am today. I wanted to give back to the school that gave me so much.

When I graduated, I didn't just want to put my years at Hardin-Simmons behind me—I wanted to find a way to continue to be connected with the school. BYA was the perfect way to give back to HSU and be involved.

As a board member, I feel blessed to be an ambassador of HSU, engaging other alumni, and helping to promote the importance of maintaining involvement after graduation. As alumni, I feel like we can help advance HSU not only with monetary gifts but also by promoting to future students how special HSU is."

HALL OF LEADERS

2025 HONOREES



DR. LANNY HALL '68x

THIRTEENTH & FIFTEENTH PRESIDENT OF HARDIN-SIMMONS UNIVERSITY

Dr. Lanny Hall, born in Fort Payne, Alabama, moved to Fort Worth, Texas, as a child. He graduated from Haltom High School as student body president and attended Hardin-Simmons University. He then transferred to North Texas State University to complete his Bachelor of Science degree in secondary education, with teaching fields in government and history. He received his Master of Education

from North Texas State University and a Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Administration from the University of Texas at Austin. He also completed Harvard University's Institute for Educational Management.

Dr. Hall served over 50 years in education and government. He taught public school at L.D. Bell High School, where he was named Teacher of the Year, and later served as a Congressional aide and a Texas State Representative. As a legislator, he co-sponsored major transportation initiatives, including Dallas Area Rapid Transit and

the Fort Worth Mass Transportation Authority.

He served as president of three Texas Baptist universities, leading efforts to raise over \$80 million and expanding Hardin-Simmons University's endowment by \$83 million. Under his leadership, new programs, campus renovations, and health education initiatives flourished.

A dedicated educator and ordained Baptist deacon, Dr. Hall is also a devoted husband, father, and grandfather. His legacy reflects a lifetime of transformative leadership, service, and faith.



DR. ANDY J. PATTERSON

AWARD-WINNING MUSICIAN

Dr. Andy J. Patterson (1929–2005) was a renowned musician, educator, and composer. Born into a Vaudeville family in Gordon, Texas, he developed a love for improvisation and music early. By age 5, he composed his first melody; by 13, he was teaching music. Proficient in numerous instruments, he studied composition under notable mentors, including

Arnold Schoenberg and Darius Milhaud.

Graduating as valedictorian from Diamond Hill High School at 16, Dr. Patterson earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in music from Texas Christian University, where he was the youngest graduate. He pursued advanced studies at Florida State University and worked with celebrated composers like Stravinsky and Villa-Lobos.

A dedicated educator, he taught at multiple institutions before joining Hardin-Simmons University (HSU) in 1959, where he served for over 40 years, earning numerous accolades, including two Cullen Professor awards and a Texas Composers League Composition Prize. He contributed significantly to HSU's music program and composed works performed across North America.

Active in his community and church, Dr. Patterson also toured internationally as a musician. After retiring in 2000, he was honored with a studio in Caldwell Hall. His legacy endures through his compositions, students, and the Dr. Andy J. Patterson Memorial Scholarship.

READ MORE ABOUT ALL HALL OF LEADERS INDUCTEES,

visit us at hsutx.edu/about-hsu/hall-of-leaders

Established in 2001, the Hardin-Simmons University Hall of Leaders provides permanent recognition of graduates, former students, and former employees who have distinguished records of achievement and proven themselves as men and women of good character. It is located in the Elwin L. Skiles Social Science Building on the first-floor circular corridor. The Hall of Leaders was made possible by a generous gift in 2001 from Inez Kelley '51x of Houston, Texas, and her late husband, Dr. Doyle Kelley '51.



DR. EVAN ALLARD REIFF

NINTH PRESIDENT OF HARDIN-SIMMONS UNIVERSITY

Evan Allard Reiff (1907-1962) demonstrated resilience and dedication from a young age.

Following his father's death, he supported his family by working and helping his mother manage a rooming house. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in English from Oklahoma Baptist University in 1930, followed by a Master of Arts in 1931 and a Ph.D. in 1937 from the University of Iowa.

Dr. Reiff's life centered on his faith and calling to ministry, pastoring churches in Oklahoma, Iowa, Kansas, and Pennsylvania. He also taught English at several institutions before becoming president of Sioux Falls College and later Hardin-Simmons University (HSU) in 1953. At HSU, Dr. Reiff championed academic excellence, financial stability, and inclusivity, leading the university to become the first racially integrated private college in Texas. He also initiated programs that enriched cultural and leadership opportunities for the community.

Dr. Reiff's leadership was marked by challenging decisions, including ending the costly football program to prioritize education. Despite facing financial pressures, his vision transformed HSU. Though his tenure ended in 1962, his legacy of faith, education, and courage endures. HSU proudly honors him in the Hall of Leaders.



TOM WOMBLE '65

LEGAL STRATEGIST

William Thomas (W.T.)
Womble was born on
January 1, 1943, in Morse,
Texas. A 1965 graduate
of Hardin-Simmons
University (HSU) with a
Bachelor of Science degree,
he graduated near the top
of his class from Texas Tech
University School of Law in
1971, where he was editorin-chief of the Law Review.

Following graduation from HSU, Womble served as a captain in the U.S.

Army, earning the Army Commendation Medal for meritorious performance with the U.S. Army Security Agency. His career included roles with Atena Life Insurance, Baker and Botts law firm, and as a Law Clerk for U.S. District Judge William T. Steger.

As president of Womble and Spain in Houston, established in 1988, Womble built a notable practice representing railroad and shipping clients, particularly in Jones Act cases, catastrophic losses, and oil and gasrelated matters. He served

as vice president of the National Association of Railroad Trial Counsel and was active in the Texas and Houston Bar Foundations.

A former HSU trustee, Womble also served on the Board of Development and received HSU's 1995 Distinguished Alumni Award. Married to Mary Jane Horton since 1965, they have three children and six grandchildren. The Wombles are members of Houston's Second Baptist Church.



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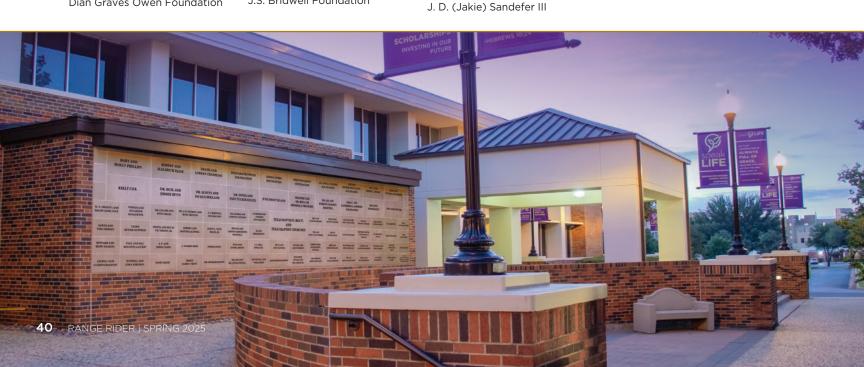
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JOHN G. HARDIN SOCIETY Remembering Stella Louise Moon '65

₹ tella Louise Moon arrived in Abilene in 1961 to attend Hardin-Simmons University feeling alone and destitute. A few days after school began, she was called into an administrator's office and informed a payment was due that day for tuition and board. Later the same day, a letter arrived from a prominent Houston law firm notifying the university that they had awarded Stella a full scholarship, because of her outstanding achievements at Houston's John H. Reagan High School. This life-changing gift set Stella on a path of success.

During her time at HSU, Stella was named Freshman Class Favorite and University Princess. She was a member of the elite Cowgirls, was a mission volunteer and served through various councils and leadership positions.

Stella had an exemplary 30-year career working for the Social Security Administration within the Department of Health and Human Services. She traveled throughout the U.S. meeting some of the most influential minds in American industry at the time, including meeting one-on-one with Lee

Iacocca, Chairman and President of Chrysler Corporation.

Stella deeply loved her time on the Hardin-Simmons campus, crediting the university for her success. She generously bequeathed her estate to HSU, funding essential renovations on campus and providing an extensive collection of her personal HSU memorabilia to exhibit for current and future generations.



\$2 Million given through ESTATE GIFTS

This year Hardin-Simmons University has been blessed to be the beneficiary of more than \$2M by John G. Hardin Society member estates including gifts from:

- Frances "Lamoyane" (Harrell) Bradshaw in the amount of \$1.4M benefitting the Frances Lamoyane Harrell Bradshaw Scholarship
- **Nelson Lee Mauldin** in the amount of \$580k
- Robert Reed (Bob) Donelson '61 in the amount of \$450k
- Mozelle (English) Burr Green '52x in the amount of \$159k

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HSU is offering our family and friends two estate planning tools, GivingDocs and an Estate Planning Course, for FREE!

GivingDocs

GivingDocs allows you to create a legally valid will to protect the people and communities you love in just a few minutes. Write your will for free at plannedgiving.hsutx.edu/giving-docs or scan the QR code.



Estate Planning Course

Learn how to keep more of what's yours and give to those you love and support by downloading this personal estate planning course lesson book from HSU's Planned Giving website. Just scan the QR code.



Meet HSU's TRUSTEES



MR. MARK GANAWAY '97

Seeking God first, above all else

Mark Ganaway, one of Hardin-Simmons University's dedicated Trustees, firmly believes in trusting God rather than relying solely on personal abilities. His guiding verse, Matthew 6:33, reminds him to prioritize following God, trusting Him to handle life's worries.

Mark's career journey began with a B.B.A. in Finance from HSU in 1997. He then joined the commercial bank training program at Chase in Dallas. After six years in corporate banking and earning his M.B.A. from the University of Texas at Austin (UTA), he joined the team at Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway (BNSF) in Fort Worth.

A key employee at BNSF, Mark leads teams responsible for economic forecasting and maintaining relationships with smaller railroads that connect to the BNSF. He credits his 20-year tenure to the company's fantastic culture and the wide range of opportunities it offers.

When Mark first enrolled at Hardin-Simmons, he quickly felt at home, making lifelong friends during freshman orientation. He joined Kappa Phi Omega, a men's social club, and enjoyed participating in intramural sports. His love for sports continued at UTA, where he played on the graduate school rugby club team. "I racked up a number of injuries in two short years," he recalls with a wry smile.

If Mark could give advice to his younger self, it would be to "enjoy every moment and not just wish to graduate. The working world is a lot harder!"

A native of San Antonio, Mark now lives in Colleyville, Texas. A strong advocate for Christian education, he chairs the Board of Trustees at Covenant Christian Academy in Colleyville, where his daughters, Natalie and Courtney, attend high school.

While the girls' sports endeavors and his own volunteer activities fill many of Mark's spare moments, when time allows, he enjoys diving into a good book and playing sports.

Mark and his wife, Angi, are active members of 121 Community Church in Grapevine. Their involvement includes children's ministry and mission work in Moldova, the poorest country in Europe.

Mark says serving as a Trustee for Hardin-Simmons is a true blessing, explaining that it is an honor to give back to and serve the school which has given much to him and his family.

"The Board of Trustees is committed to the university's mission and vision," he says, "and we are excited about how HSU will shape future Christian leaders in the years ahead."

MRS. ZELDA DONALDSON ELLISON '71

A positive voice for others

Referencing an old hymn, Hardin-Simmons University Trustee Zelda Ellison strives to continually "Give Her Best to the Master."

Zelda's life has always been accompanied by music. She started piano lessons at age 5 and, by 11, was a church accompanist, a cherished role she has continued at every church she has since attended. "If you ask me who I am," she says, "I would say 'I AM a church musician'—not the greatest, mind you, but nevertheless, a musician."

The youngest of five, Zelda and her two sisters formed a trio when she was 11. Later, in the mid-1970s, she performed in the gospel and country music scene at the West Texas Opry with the likes of Don Caldwell and the Maines Brothers.

Zelda fondly remembers an eighth-grade visit to Abilene, where her oldest sister Jolene attended Hardin-Simmons. "I fell in love with HSU," she recalls, "and immediately knew it would someday be my home." That weekend, she met Terry Ellison '68, whom she would eventually date and marry.

During her freshman year at HSU, Zelda recalls struggling a bit with math. One evening, her teacher, Mrs. Henderson, called to offer extra help. "I was blown away and vowed to be that kind of teacher," she says. That goal persisted throughout her 43-year career teaching English and Business Computing.

Zelda graduated Magna Cum Laude in 1971 with a B.S. degree, double majoring in English and Business Education. Her extensive campus involvement included Phi Phi (Tri Phi) women's social club, Alpha Chi honor society, and a job at the Computer Center.

Zelda remained engaged with Hardin-Simmons over the years. She served a two-year term as president of the Alumni Association and was a member of the Alumni Association's Board of Directors and HSU's Board of Development.

Only after much prayer did Zelda agree to be nominated as a Trustee despite feeling unworthy. She hopes to be a voice for others who, like her, want Hardin-Simmons to remain a place where students build an excellent faith-based educational foundation, enabling them to make a positive, Christian impact on the world, grounded in accurate Biblical truths.

Zelda and Terry live in Lockney, Texas, where she is the pianist and secretary for First Baptist Church. They spend many joyful moments in Abilene with their daughter Tiffany Gutierrez '99, her husband, and children.



SERVANTHEARTS CREATING, CD BAL IMPORTANT OF THE ART O

Hardin-Simmons University (HSU) alumni are making an impact worldwide, carrying the university's mission forward through faith, service, and leadership. Whether serving on mission trips, providing disaster relief, or leading educational outreach, they embody Christ-like service, extending HSU's commitment to faith and excellence far beyond our campus.

Jinja, Uganda

Serving through education

Chelsea (Baker) '11 & Kirk '08 Ashby

For Chelsea and Kirk Ashby, God's calling on their lives has been evident starting from the beginning. Though they attended HSU four years apart—between 2005 and 2011—their experiences were beautifully intertwined with a greater purpose. HSU wasn't just a place of preparation; it was where they trained for the mission ahead.

After years of teaching in public education, they felt a new stirring in their hearts. The Lord was leading them beyond the familiar—to teach overseas. Today, they serve in Jinja, Uganda, as teachers with Amazima Ministries, where their gifts as educators are shaping students and teachers alike.

For the past six months, they have mentored and empowered both students and teachers, creating a ripple effect that extends far beyond the classroom.

Through music and physical education, they have had the privilege of educating over 2,500 students, helping them discover and use their unique talents.

Grateful for God's guidance, Kirk and Chelsea see their time at HSU as an essential foundation for the work they now do. They ask for prayers and support for their community in Jinja, Uganda.

To partner with them in ministry: rceinternational.givingfuel.com/staff

Barranquilla, Colombia

Serving through short-term missions

Calynne Cordes '23

For many, college is a pivotal time of transformation. For Calynne Cordes, it was where she made faith her own. At HSU, she found a spiritual community that challenged and encouraged her, preparing her to step boldly into mission work.

Last August, she traveled with South Side Baptist Church in Abilene on a mission trip to Barranquilla, Colombia. The church partnered with Cru, an organization that connects with local churches to spread the gospel in universities worldwide. Through teaching English and praying over the students, she saw firsthand how faith transcends borders.



Calynne recalled that a profound moment of the trip was witnessing the strength of local women in the church. Their resilience and hope deepened her faith, reminding her that Christianity is a global mission.

Looking ahead, Calynne hopes to continue serving through short-term mission trips and is prayerfully considering a future in long-term medical missions after graduating from occupational therapy school.

North Africa

Serving through long-term missions

Anonymous



For one (HSU) alum, who has requested to remain anonymous, college wasn't just an education—it became the foundation for a life dedicated to missions.

During her time at HSU, professors and staff played an integral role, encouraging her to think deeply about her faith and how she could use it to impact the world. They guided her in navigating the call to missions, helping her discern the ways in which she could serve and make His name known among the nations.

Now living in North Africa, she spends her days teaching English to preschoolers and her nights sharing the Good News in a place where believers are few. The transition wasn't easy—moving across the world and stepping into an unfamiliar culture required deep trust in the Lord.

Over the past year, she and a coworker have discipled a sister in Christ, witnessing a remarkable transformation in her life. Once timid and hesitant to share her faith, this young woman goes out weekly to share the Gospel with others—a testament to the Lord's work in her life.

Beyond her local ministry, she finds joy in mentoring college students considering mission work. Watching their excitement and obedience to the call fuels her own passion for the mission field.

Her story is a reminder of how a Christcentered education and community can equip believers to impact the world.

Across Africa

Serving through community development

Laura (Berkley) '94 & Jeff '94 O'Loughlin

Laura and Jeff O'Loughlin's time at HSU instilled in them a deep desire to serve others. Today, they are putting that passion into action in South Africa through Send Relief, a Baptist community development and disaster response organization.

Their mission is rooted in the principle of providing a "hand up," not a "handout," and serving in "word and deed." They have coordinated disaster response efforts following cyclones in Mozambique, famine relief in Lesotho, and war-zone aid in the Central African Republic. Their community development work includes literacy programs, small-space gardening projects, job skills training, trauma healing training, and disaster response training, all paired with sharing the gospel.



their most impactful projects was

projects was Serve

Tour Cape Town, a massive, city-wide volunteer event that saw Americans partner with local churches to serve their communities. The impact was so profound that one local Cape Town church made service a central part of its ministry, inspiring a city-wide Baptist Disaster Response network.

Through every initiative, Jeff and Laura's mission remains the same: to help people be (in the words of a mentor of Jeff's) not dependent, not independent, but GOD-dependent!

To support their work: sendrelief.org

Outstanding AWARDS 2025

This award recognizes alumni less than 45 years old who have attained outstanding achievements in their field of endeavor, community, state, or nation. This award was created by the Board of Young Associates and was first presented in 2004. This year's recipients were honored at the Outstanding Young Alumni Dinner on Friday, February 28, 2025.



DR. AMANDA (LARUE) ANDREWS '05

Dr. Amanda Andrews is a passionate Athletic Trainer and educator who has devoted her life to sharing Christ's love through teaching, athletics, and service.

Amanda earned a Bachelor of Behavioral Science in Athletic Training from HSU in 2005. She then received a Master of Education in Physical Education from Northwest Missouri State University in 2017 and a Doctor of Education in Curriculum and Instruction from Liberty University in 2021. Since joining Life School in 2012 as the district's first full-time athletic trainer, Amanda has been crucial in establishing their sports medicine program.

At HSU, Amanda was active in the Baptist Student Ministry, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and served as treasurer of the Athletic Training Society. She also worked as a tour guide in the admissions department. In 2004, she was honored as the American Southwest Conference All-Academic Athletic Training Student Assistant and recognized as a United States Achievement Academy All-American Collegiate Scholar.



MR. ROY JUAREZ JR. '09

Roy Juarez Jr. is an activist, advocate, and motivational speaker who inspires others through his organization, IMPACTtruth.

After overcoming his journey with homelessness at the age of 14 and dropping out of high school, he was determined to change his life. Roy completed high school and later earned a Bachelor of Business Administration from Hardin-Simmons University in 2009.

After graduation, Roy chose to return to life on the streets as an advocate for homeless youth, aiming to shed light on their struggles and provide hope. In 2018, he published *Homeless by Choice: A Memoir of Love, Hate, and Forgiveness*, sharing his personal story.

During his time at HSU, Roy was involved in campus life by serving as chief photographer for the student newspaper and worked as a circulation clerk in the library. He was also active in theatre, founded a student-to-student mentorship program, and participated in the Kiwanis Club of Abilene.



DR. JOHN WHITTEN '07/'11

Dr. John Whitten currently serves as the Senior Pastor of Abilene's Pioneer Drive Baptist Church. His leadership there spans decades, beginning as a Ministry Intern in the mid-2000s. Over the years, he has held roles as Associate Teaching Pastor, Teaching Pastor, and now Senior Pastor, leaving a lasting impact on both the church and the Abilene community.

John earned two degrees from HSU — a Bachelor of Business Administration in 2007 and a Master of Divinity from Logsdon Seminary in 2011. He later earned a Doctor of Ministry at Truett Seminary in 2018.

While at HSU, John was a prominent campus leader. He served as President of Kappa Phi Omega, was a member of the New Student Orientation
Steering Committee, sat on the Executive Committee for the Christian Association of Student Leaders and was a founding leader of the Baptist Student Ministry's Night of Worship. In 2007, he was recognized as the Outstanding Management Student for the Kelley College of Business and was named Homecoming King and Mr. Bronco.

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Homecoming '24 SNAPSHOTS

- 1 The class of 2004 gathered to celebrate their 20-year reunion.
- Alumni, family, and friends enjoyed purple pancakes at the Late Night Breakfast on Friday night.
- We kicked off Homecoming 2024 with alumni, friends, faculty, and staff at the Friday Night Festival and Pep Rally.
- 4 This year's SING! show winners Kappa Phi Omega performed to the song "Fight Song" as part of their performance.

- Alumni visited with professors to share about their careers and to catch up.
- 6 Parents had the opportunity to fellowship with one another and hear from student life at the Parent's Only Breakfast.
- Members of the Homecoming Court prepared for halftime recognition at the HSU football game. Several members were not pictured due to athletic commitments.
- B Dr. Jacob West '04/'07/'13, Dean of the Logsdon School of Theology, delivered the message at the Family Worship Service.

- 9 Hardin-Simmons recognized alumni award recipients for their outstanding accomplishments in their professions and communities.
- The petting zoo was a popular new addition to the Kids Corral for families on Saturday morning.
- The Student Organization events brought alumni and current students together in fellowship. Pictured here is Phi Phi Phi.
- The alumni choir performed to celebrate Woodward-Dellis Recital Hall's 50th anniversary under the direction of Dr. Loyd Hawthorne.

Family NEWS

1950s

Edmund "Ed" Nichols '54 B.M. recently self-published a memoir, *Throckmorton and Then Some* about his life. A digital version is available on Amazon for \$1.

1960s

Don Ray "DRay" Taylor '61x and Betty (McFarlin) Taylor '61x retired to San Angelo, Texas, after 70 years in ministry serving churches in Texas and Colorado. They met in the School of Music at HSU and are beyond thankful to the Lord for the life He has given them.

Terry Broxson '68 B.A. is one of the authors of a new book, "12 New Christmas Stories, An Anthology." It's his second Christmas book after last year's "Santa Claus: The Beginning."

1980s

Michael James Murphy '80x and wife, Laura Lee (Staggs) Murphy '80x recently relocated to Reno, Nev., where Michael is now the Executive Pastor of Ministries and Weekend Experience at Life Church Nevada.

Dr. Tim Tremaine'81 B.A./'87 M.A. recently earned a doctorate in theology and has been accepted into the adjunct faculty for the School of Ministry at Williamson College in Franklin, Tenn. He has also started a church consulting business at thechurchrepairman.com. Tim and Dottie are now the proud grandparents of four granddaughters aged 5 and under: Selah, Harlow, Vivian, and Verity.

Johnny Yeary '82 B.B.A. announced his retirement in August 2024 after a 41 year career as a hospital executive and CEO, serving both urban and rural hospitals in Texas and Louisiana. He and his wife, Tena (Patterson) Yeary '81 B.B.A., plan to make their retirement home in Fairfield where they currently live and where John served as CEO of Freestone Medical Center for the past six years. The Yeary's plan to travel, spoil their grandkids, work in their local church, and serve in shortterm missions while taking care of their home and property.

Bill Fox '84 B.A. began a new job on September 23, 2024 as an estimator and purchaser with Kristynik Hardwood Flooring in Austin.

2000s

Viviana (Mora) Poppy '02 B.B.S. married Greg Poppy on June 7, 2024 at Chapel by the Sea in South Padre Island.

Mitchell L. Etter '06 B.M./'15 M.Ed. was recently promoted to associate director at Integra Realty Resources - Fort Worth (IRR). IRR is the largest independent appraisal company in North America with more than 50 offices spread across the country. Mitchell and his wife, Amanda (Perez) Etter '05 B.A. live in Colleyville with their three sons: Owen, Eli, and Noah.

Glenn Revell '09 B.B.S. was recognized by the San Antonio Business Journal as an "Individual of Impact" for his philanthropic contributions to San Antonio.

2010s

Joanna (Daniel) Jenkins '15
B.B.S. married Hunter Jenkins
on December 17, 2023. Joanna
is currently staying home with
Jett, but spent the last nine years
teaching and coaching. She spent
her last two years at Martin's
Mill ISD where they won the
class 2A Girl's State Basketball
Championship in the 23-24 season.

Katie (Earles) Hendrock '18 B.B.S. married Marine Corps Veteran Logan Hendrock on November 3, 2024.

2020s

Ashley Riemitis '20 B.H.S./'22 M.B.A. started her own company, Cattle Country Media where she provides social media management and content creation.

Kadyn (Kuehler) Richey '21 B.S. married Trace Richey on July 6, 2024 at Sabrina Cedars in Abilene.

4 Kassidy (Munton) Van Voorhis
'21 B.S. married Chase Van Voorhis
on September 19, 2024 in Mykonos,
Greece at Saint John's Villas and
Resort, overlooking the Aegean Sea.
Kassidy is the daughter of Dr. Dan
Munton '91 B.S. and Tracy (Turner)
Munton '91 M.A.

Alyssa (Castillo) Calingo '22 B.H.S. married Ethan Calingo on November 30, 2024 at the Holy Family Catholic Church in Abilene. They met in 2021 through HSU alum Dr. Laura (Faz) Garrison '19 B.A./'21 D.P.T. Submissions received from June 7, 2024 - January 13, 2025







Lauren (Fisher) Quinn '22 B.H.S. married Jimmie Quinn on September 14, 2024. They have a 2-year-old daughter who was born on April 22, 2022 and are expecting their second child in June of 2025 and are so excited.

Alexis Adams '23 B.H.S. obtained his Registered Behavior Technician license in February of 2024. He was recently employed by Action Behavior Centers as a registered behavior analyst before beginning the Occupational Therapy Program at Abilene Christian University in August 2024.







Maylena (Homer) Stevens '23 B.S.N. married Michael Stevens on October 26, 2024. Their ceremony was held at the Japanese Garden in the Fort Worth Botanical Garden. They celebrated their honeymoon on a cruise to Honduras, Costa Maya, and Cozumel. They are so excited to continue their lives together as The Stevens'.

Velcome to the FAVILY Submissions received from June 7, 2024 - January 13, 2

- 7 Katie (Davenport) Appleton '09 B.B.S. and Scott Appleton '13 B.B.S./16 M.A. welcomed son Bentley on June 13, 2024. Older sister Hallie is thrilled.
- Barrett Hoekstra was welcomed by Dr. Erin (Hohmann) Hoekstra '10 B.B.S./'12 D.P.T., Eric Hoekstra, and big sister Holland Hoekstra on October 10, 2022.

Timothy Ezekiel Derton was born on June 27, 2024 to Andrew Derton '11 B.B.A. and Juleen Derton. He was 7 pounds, 3.9 ounces and 19 inches at birth. He's a very happy and vocal baby. His mom and dad couldn't be more thankful and humbled to have him as part of their family.

9 Hunter Wyatt Green and Jade Anne Green were born on June 24, 2024 weighing 5 pounds 5 ounces and 3 pounds 10 ounces to Dr. Kelly (Johnson) Green '11 B.B.S./'13 D.P.T. and Bret Green.

Ivy Caroline Mclain was born on August 5, 2024 to Chase McClain '11 B.B.S. and Christin McClain.

10 Koby Kendrick '12 B.S. and Allison (Causey) Kendrick'14 B.A. welcomed their first baby, Kinsley Grace Kendrick on August 15, 2024. They cannot wait to show her around campus and attend a football game!

Lauren (Hassell) Ramelot '12x and Rio Ramelot welcomed Evelynn Leigh on July 31, 2024.

Silas Grant Wennerlind was born on April 24, 2024 to Alyssa (Thompson) Wennerlind '12 B.A./'15 M.A. and Nathan Wennerlind. Big brother, Owen Titus, was born on May 12, 2021.

Audrey (Salter) Prater '13 B.B.S. and Captain Kevin Prater '15 D.P.T. welcomed baby boy Mack Paul Prater on August 27, 2024. Mack's great grandmother is Jo Anne (Yarbrough) Keeter '55 B.S.

Angelica (Hernandez) Rodriguez'14 B.B.S. married Marcus Rodriguez on August 29, 2020. They welcomed their daughter, Aria Rodriguez, on January 19, 2023 and their son, Luke Rodriguez, on June 6, 2024.

Charlotte Elise Spruiell was born on June 24, 2024 to David Spruiell'14 B.M. and Jenny (Wheeler) Spruiell '14 B.A./'18 D.P.T. Grandparents are Linda (Haire) Wheeler '84 B.Ed. and Jon Wheeler '87 B.S.







- 11 Lainey Rose Aleman, daughter of Sean Aleman '15 B.B.A. and Jaime (Higginbotham) Aleman '16 B.B.S., was born on September 16, 2024.
- Riley Mae Ashcraft came into the world on August 23, 2024 in Fort Worth to Brittany (Garner) Ashcraft '15 B.B.S. and Austin Ashcraft.
- Joanna (Daniel) Jenkins '15 B.B.S. and Hunter Jenkins welcomed sweet baby boy, Jett Daniel Jenkins on June 17, 2024.









Submit your news!

We want to hear updates from the HSU family. You can submit your news by visiting:

connectnow.hsutx.edu/register/FamilyNews



...or you can scan this QR code.

Please note, HSU administration reserves the right to review and include, or reject, any submission made for publication in the Range Rider. Also, because of printing limitations and deadlines, inclusion of news and use of submitted photos cannot be assured for any date or particular issue.

Future Alumni: Please indicate whether the addition to your family is a boy or girl and provide the full birthdate.

Marriages: Remember to indicate the date & place of your wedding.

Friends We'll Miss: Memorial announcements must be submitted by a family member or be accompanied by a link to or photocopy of a published obituary. Please include class year for all HSU exes in the family.

> You can also email news to RangeRider@hsutx.edu





- 14 Clancey Lynch' 15 B.A. and Katie (Key) Lynch' 16 B.B.S. welcomed daughter Daisy Estelle Lynch on January 4, 2024.
- 15 Jack Wyatt Patterson was born on September 27, 2024 to Matt Patterson and Lyndsey (Blagrave) Patterson '15 B.B.S.

Emily (Wittner) Pierce '15 B.S.N. and Hunter Pierce welcomed Charlotte Grace Pierce on November 21, 2024. She joins big brother Barrett and big sister Caroline.

16 Erika (Sparkman) Sessum '15 B.B.S. and Luke Sessum welcomed Gabriel William Sessum into their family on April 9, 2024.

Beau Dale Asbury was born on February 23, 2023 in Abilene to Mykala (Williams) Asbury '16 B.B.S. and Bryan Asbury.

Cayleigh (Little) Freeling '16 B.B.S. and Cade Freeling '17 B.B.S. are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Presleigh Ann Freeling. Presleigh was born on September 17, 2024 in Amarillo.

Bayli (Bishop) Fudge '16x and Grant Fudge welcomed their second child, Parker Jean on August 26, 2024. Everyone is smitten and older brother, Fletcher, is adjusting well.





- 17 Kallan Edwin McCorkle was born on August 1, 2024 to Kourtney (Holyfield) McCorkle '17 B.B.S. and Brent McCorkle.
- 18 Kevin Scroggins '17 B.B.S. welcomed daughter Cora Clark on April 8, 2024. She is very advanced for only 8 months old.

Marisa (Ledkins) Walker'17 B.B.S. and Dr. Devonte Walker'18 B.B.S. welcomed their future cowboy, Truett, on October 25, 2024.

19 Taylor Cooling '18 B.B.A. and Neely (Lott) Cooling '18 B.B.S. welcomed McCall JD Cooling into the world on August 13, 2024. Big sister Collins Drew (2yo) is very proud.

Tori (Waters) Flores '18 B.B.A. and Stephen Flores welcomed their baby boy, Elijah Flores on April 10, 2024.

- Bailey (Johnson) Hebert '18 B.B.S. and Danny Hebert '19 B.S., currently living in Waco, welcomed baby girl Elliot June Hebert on April 8, 2024. Grandparents are Christi (Smith) Johnson '91 B.A. and Russ Johnson.
- ²¹Alex Hunt '19 B.B.S./21 M.S. and Megan (Carlson) Hunt '18x welcomed their son, Johnny Brooks Hunt on March 12, 2022 and their daughter, Margo Nicole Hunt on June 13, 2024.







- 22 Emily (Hardin) Maris '19 B.B.S. and Tyler Maris welcomed Asher Thomas Maris into the world on November 8, 2024. He weighed 7lb 14oz and was 19.5 inches long. Asher is a gift from God and his parents are in love with their sweet boy. Asher's grandfather is Paul Hardin '84 B.B.A.
- 23 Baby boy, Boston Massey, was born on November 5, 2024 to Colt Massey'19 B.B.S. and Kyndall (Blagrave) Massey'19 B.B.S.

George Neef '19 B.B.S. and Charlotte (Pachall) Neef '19 B.B.S. welcomed daughter Georgia Mae Neef on May 24, 2024.









24 Kirsten (Kenyon) Pearson '19 B.B.S. and Trenton Pearson welcomed Tayten Pearson on February 4, 2024.

Dr. Tara Lamson '21 M.S. welcomed Cooper Lee Lamson on July 24, 2024 at 2:24 a.m.

Nate Mardo '23 B.B.S. and Jessica (Smith) Mardo '24x introduced their first child and daughter, Sabrina Ivory Mardo, into the world on August 16, 2024. She was born at 9:32 a.m. and was 8 lbs, 2 oz. She was born with a full head of hair and already loves watching HSU Cowboy Football!

GRADUATES

DR. CHARLES **TANDY '49 B.A.**

September 11, 2024

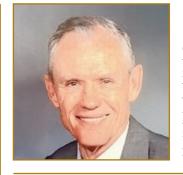


When he was only 10 years old. Charles Tandy watched his father die in their home. Right then and there he decided to become a physician. He worked multiple part-time jobs to help support his mother and two siblings. He worked his way through Hardin-Simmons and then with financial help from a relative, he graduated from UT Southwestern Medical School in 1953. Following his internship and residency at Parkland Hospital, Dr. Tandy joined the Air Force as a Flight Surgeon. Upon finishing his tour of duty, he became only the second anesthesiologist hired at Methodist Dallas Medical Center. He remained there for 52 years, retiring at the age of 83. It was said that he retired from medicine, but not from life.

In demand as a public speaker at medical conferences throughout the U.S., Dr. Tandy spent his off hours digging through used bookstores in the cities where he spoke. He collected medical literature and early English Bibles. His close friendship with Dr. Charles Ryrie and fondness for Dr. Ryrie's biblical teachings had a profound impact on Dr. Tandy's love for the Bible. He amassed a priceless collection of historic Bibles dating back to the 1500s, which he and Roena donated to Hardin-Simmons University in 2008.

Dr. Tandy received the Distinguished Alumni Award from HSU in 1988. In 2022, Dr. Charles and Roena Tandy were honored with the James B. Simmons Award.

Dr. Charles Tandy is survived by his dear wife of 53 years, Roena Tandy, son Glen Tandy'80 B.S. and brother Alex "Rollie" Tandy '62 B.A.



CLAUDE DOLLINS '63 B.S.

December 12, 2024

Claude Dollins and Lavenia Wages were students together at HSU and married shortly after graduating. They were married for 61 years at the time of his passing. Claude served on HSU's Alumni Association Board of Directors and the Board of Development. He received the Distinguished Alumni Award in 1998 and was a member of the John G. Hardin Society.

Claude is survived by his beloved wife Lavenia (Wages) Dollins '63 B.S.; their son Dan Dollins and daughter-in-law Jeanne Dollins; grandchildren Grant and Brooke Dollins; his sister Cherry (Dollins) Griffitts '64 B.S. and brotherin-law Keith Griffitts '64 B.S.

Mrs. Bertha "Lucile" (Ballenger) Smith '48 B.A. 6/8/24. Survived by nephew Jeff Ballenger '87 B.B.S. and niece Carrie (Ballenger) Conley'83 B.Ed.

Mr. Gordon Russell '49 B.A. 7/31/24

Mrs. Patsy "Pat" (Bodine) Petty '49 B.A. 8/3/24

Mr. John Sherwood '49 B.A. 11/26/24

Mrs. Katherine (Takagi) Sanbei '50 B.A. 3/9/24

Rev. Wiley "Roland" Williams '51 B.A. 10/22/24

Ms. Jo Alice "Jody" Darden '51 B.B.A. 8/23/24

Mr. William "Bill" Davis '52 B.A. 8/18/24

Dr. James "Jim" Graves '52 B.A. 10/29/24

Mrs. Bessie (Burkholder) Steenman '52 B.S. 7/24/24

Mr. Weldon Yarbro '53 B.B.A. 11/6/24

Mr. Frederick "Kent" Holder '53 B.M. 5/3/24. Survived by wife Clara Elizabeth "Betty" (Martin) Holder 53 B.M.

Mr. Lawrence Owen '53 B.S. 8/26/24

Mrs. Jo "JoAnn" (Strickland) Peterson '54 B.S. 10/9/24

Rev. Dan Cozart '55 B.A. 10/5/24. Survived by wife Nora (Brown) Cozart '55 B.A.

Mr. Lawrence "Ken" Marks '55 B.B.A. 7/2/24. Survived by daughter Julie (Marks) Jackson '94 B.B.S.

Mr. Robert "Bob" Womack '56 B.S. 6/26/24. Survived by wife Jane Elizabeth (Huestis) Womack '55 B.S.

Chap. Douglas Pond'56 B.S. 10/12/24. Survived by wife Nancy Ann (Stewart) Pond '55 B.S.

Dr. Hal "Bud" Ramsey '57 B.A. 7/28/24

Mr. Donald Adlong '57 B.A. 10/13/24. Survived by wife Paula Ann (Conwell) Adlong'x.

Mr. Jerry "J.R." Goad '57 B.B.A./'58 M.A. 8/8/24

Mrs. Peggy "Janel" (Hacker) Markwood '57 B.S. 8/4/24. Survived by husband Lewis Markwood'57 B.M.



25 Rev. Thomas "T.C." Melton '57 B.S./'59 M.A. 12/15/24. Survived by daughter Lisa (Melton) Blackwell '92 B.B.S., daughter Katrina "Katy' (Melton) Miller '86 B.Ed., son-in-law Phillip Miller '86 B.B.A., daughter Debra (Melton) McFadden, son-in-law Don McFadden '00 B.B.S., granddaughter Laura (Miller) Owen '11 B.B.S., and granddaughter Christina "Chrissy" (McFadden) Cross '05 B.A.

Mr. RB Hall '58 B.M. 10/22/24. Survived by wife Helen (Taylor)

Mr. Bobby Pangle '59 B.A. 12/17/24. Survived by wife Sibvl "Gav" (Crenshaw) Pangle '61x and son Keith Pangle '82x.

Mrs. LaDoska (Breneman) Smith '59 B.S. 9/30/24. Survived by husband Alton Smith '57 B.A.

Mr. Doyle Parker '59 B.S. 10/7/24

Rev. James Allison '59 B.S. 10/7/24. Survived by wife Mary Ann (Shults) Allison'x.

Mr. Dayland Parsons '61 B.B.A. 6/6/24

Mr. James Perry '62 B.A. 10/14/24

Mrs. Sandra "Doylene" (Little) Raney '62 B.B.A. 5/19/24

Maj. Tommy Neatherlin '62 B.B.A. 10/14/24

Mrs. Earlene (Offholter) Griffith '62 B.S. 6/12/24

Mr. Chester Miles '62 B.S. 6/19/24

Ms. Empress (Thorne) Collins '62 B.S. 7/8/24. Survived by sister Shurlene (Thorne) Allaire'x.

Mr. Buddy Everett '62 B.S. 8/5/24

Mrs. Linda (Winter) Denton '62 B.S. 10/14/24

Mrs. Wanda "Nelle" (King) Brown '62 B.S. 10/21/24

Mr. John Huff '63 B.A. 2/20/23. Survived by wife Martha Jean (Crippen) Huff'62 B.S.

Dr. James Pressley '63 B.A. 10/10/24. Survived by sister Ennis Marie (Pressley) Kelly '67 B.A., sister Christy (Pressley) Robertson' 69 B.S. and brother-in-law Larry Robertson'69 B.S.

Mr. James "Jim" Farris '63 B.A. 10/12/24. Survived by daughter Gwen Farris'87 B.A.

Mrs. Sandra (Pitts) Meek '63 B.B.A.

Mrs. Billie (Hargrove) Sanders '63 B.S. 12/30/24

Mrs. Linda (Little) Bratton '64 B.M./'67 M.M. 12/2/24

Ms. Peggy (Bond) Gibson '64 B.B.A. 11/26/24

Mr. Patrick "Pat" Batten '64 B.S. 6/22/24

Mr. Randal Wiginton '65 B.A. 7/18/24. Survived by wife Gloria (Gayle) Wiginton '93 M.Ed.

Ms. Sherry (Burson) Upshaw-Carter'65 B.A. 9/17/24

Mrs. Sharon (Gilmore) Barnes '65 B.B.S. 6/19/24. Survived by husband Garv Barnes'66 B.S.

Mrs. Victoria "Vicky" (Walton) Stevenson '65 B.S. 1/23/24

Mr. George "Pierre" French '65 B.S. 6/22/24

Mr. Dwayne "Dee" Arrott '67 B.B.A.

Mr. James Griffith '68 B.S. 10/26/24

Rev. Harold Davis '69 B.A. 7/1/24. Survived by wife Marilyn (Forbus) Davis '71 B.S. and daughter Dodie Sharee (Davis) Glover '01 B.A.

Mrs. Judy (Casey) Echols '69 B.S./'88 M.Ed. 10/29/24

Rev Danny Niedecken '69 B.A. 11/20/24

Mr. James "Jim" White '69 B.S. 7/17/24

Rev. Buddy Norville '70 B.S. (unknown)



Mr. Glenn Ward '71 B.A. 8/31/24. Survived by wife Carolyn (Springer) Ward '72 B.S., daughter Donna Ward, daughter Mindy (Ward) Logsdon '96 B.B.S. and son-in-law Rick Logsdon '95 B.A., daughter Dalese (Ward) Black '97 B.B.S. and son-in-law Eric Black '97 B.B.S., and sister Donna (Ward) Headstream '70 B.S.

Mr. Leslie "Les" Oldham '71 B.B.A. 11/7/24

Mrs. Doniece (Johnson) Neely '71 B.S. 1/9/24

Mrs. Dorotha (Konczak) Tucker '71 B.S. 7/28/24

Mrs. Rebecca (Jones) Norris '71 B.S. 8/29/24

Mrs. Janna (Bishop) Jackson '71 B.S. 9/17/24

Mrs. Marjorie (Bliss) Stephenson '71 B.S.N. 12/24/24. Survived by husband Andrew Stephenson '73 B.A.

Mrs. Jere (Johnson) Thomas '72 B.S. 7/27/24

Mr. Acey Steel '73 B.S. 8/7/24

Lt. Col. James "Jim" Stewart '73 M.B.A. 9/30/24

Mr. Jimmy Herman '74 B.A. 7/4/24. Survived by wife Gretchen (Walker) Herman '93 B.F.A.

Mr. Clyde Johnson '74 B.S. 3/19/24. Survived by wife Janice (Holland) Johnson '74 B.S.

Mrs. Robyn (Potts) Kelley '78 B.S. 11/6/24

Mr. Larry Pritchett '78 B.S. 12/18/24. Survived by wife Martha (Graves) Pritchett '78 B.S., daughter Bethany (Pritchett) Busby '11 B.B.S./'16 M.Div. and son-in-law Ryan Busby '13 M.Div.

Mr. Steven Kilgore'79 B.M. 12/5/2023. Survived by wife Sherron (Graves) Kilgore'80 B.B.S. Mr. Gert Winter'79 M.Ed. 1/5/25. Survived by daughter Cornelia "Patricia" Winter-Valdez'83 B.S. and son William "Dean" Winter'83 B.S./87 M.S.

Mr. John "Robert" Grant '80 B.B.S. 6/27/24. Survived by wife Brenda (Simpson-Swarts) Grant 'x, sister Gayle (Grant) Bailey '83 B.Ed., and brother-in-law Mark Bailey '88x.



Mr. Mark Kirkpatrick '80 B.B.A. 8/16/24. Survived by son Andrew "Andy" Kirkpatrick '17 B.S.

Mr. Bryant Scott '83 M.B.A. 12/15/24

Mr. James Farr '84 B.B.A. 10/8/24. Survived by wife Kelly (Patterson) Farr '84 B.B.S.

Mr. Michael Dorsett '85 B.B.S. 10/18/24

Mr. John Rivera '85 M.B.A. 8/22/24

Mrs. Karen (Davis) Stiewert '86 B.S.N. 8/24/24

Ms. Gary "Nan" (Laughlin) Pesch'87 B.B.S. 7/9/24. Survivied by daughter Keri (Pesch) Farrell'85 B.B.S. and son-in-law Stewart Farrell'84 B.A., daughter Sheri (Pesch) Bonsal'88 B.Ed. and son-in-law Doug Bonsal'89 B.S., grandson Nathan Farrell'10 B.B.A., granddaughter Rachel (Farrell) Boscamp'14x, and granddaughter Kennedy Bonsal'23 B.B.S.

Mrs. Dena (Holley) Ivie '87 B.Ed. 6/20/24. Survived by son Tim Griffin '91 B.B.S. and daughter-in-law Dina (Miller) Griffin '88 B.Ed.

Mr. Orvil "Wayne" Fletcher '89 M.B.A. 6/24/24. Survived by wife Sonja (Jernigan) Fletcher '90 B.B.A., daughters Kelly (Fletcher) Schurr '87 B.A. and Kari Fletcher '90 B.B.A.

Mr. Jack Kidder '91 M.Ed. 1/21/24

Mrs. Frances (Hounshell) Williams '92 B.B.S. 1/19/24

Ms. Hilda "Jeana" Villalobos '93 B.B.S. 9/9/24

Mr. Keith Carpenter '97 M.B.A. 4/17/24

Mrs. Carolyn (Moore) Griffith '98 M.A. 11/28/24

Mr. Joe Grist '00 M.Ed. 8/13/24

Ms. Caren Beach '01 B.B.S. 6/15/24

Mr. Steven Hudman '05 M.Ed. 6/22/24

Mrs. Karen (Shelley) Michaeli '05 M.Ed. 6/23/24

Ms. Marylin Angell '06 B.S. 8/15/24

FORMER STUDENTS _____

Mrs. Janet (Dunn) Ammons 7/31/24 Mrs. Darla "Janie" (Bushell) Beggs 6/29/24

Mr. Roy "Dale" Bench 12/30/24

Mrs. Linda (Pirtle) Black 8/8/24. Survived by husband Robert Black 'x.

Mr. Leslie Broadhurst 10/28/24

Mrs. Helen (Nabers) Brown 8/27/24

Mr. Robert Buckley 6/10/24. Survived by wife Pamela (Garrison) Buckley'x.

Mrs. Beverly (Hobbs) Carter 11/19/24. Survived by husband Garland Carter '76 B.S. and daughter Allison (Carter) Everett '04 B.B.S.

Mrs. Peggy (Ivy) Childress 5/25/24

Mrs. Dorothy (Wallace) Cook 9/29/24

Mr. Eulan "Wayne" Eakins 1/4/24

Mrs. Velda "Vee" (McHaney) Evans 6/4/24

Rev. Donald Francis 6/10/24

Mr. Sheril Howard 5/28/24

Ms. Jessie (Gibson) Luce 12/2/24

Mrs. Anna (Perkins) Madison 6/3/24

Mrs. Junita "Nita" (Watson) Meads 10/6/24. Survived by son David "Dave" Meads '94 B.B.S. and daughter-in-law Ashley (Featherston) Meads '94 B.B.S.

Ms. Polly Middleton 11/9/24

Mrs. Lena "Sue" (Chilton) Murray 11/28/24

Mrs. Edna (Applin) O'Banion 9/29/24

Ms. Michelle Proudfoot 11/3/24

Dr. Horace Ross 7/23/24

Mrs. Jois (Martin) Ross 6/18/24

Mrs. Diana (Ostrander) Russell 12/8/24

Mr. Eddie Sandusky 2/15/24. Survived by wife Barbara (Terrill) Sandusky '58 B.S./'83 M.Ed.



Rev J. Melburn Sibley 12/16/24. Survived by wife Martha Sibley and sisters Annita (Sibley) Frazier'51 B.A. and Betty (Sibley) Hawley'x.

Mrs. Joann (Whitworth) Stovall 6/16/24. Survived by husband Philip Stovall '56 B.A.

Mrs. Rose "Maxine" (Frost) Terry 11/21/24

Mrs. Viva (McKeever-Wright) Turnbow 8/20/24

Mrs. Mary (Lester) Turner 7/12/24

Mrs. Bethie "Beth" (Lindsey) Whitaker 11/20/24

Mrs. Dorothy (Bennett) Williams 7/23/24

Mrs. Betty (Osborne) Wilson 6/4/24 Mr. Harold "Wayne" Wise 12/25/24

FRIENDS __

Mrs. Carolyn (Morrow) Beam 6/17/24

Mr. George Blankenbeckler 5/30/24

Ms. Marilyn Buchanan 7/5/24. Survived by daughter Marsha Rutland '02 M.Ed.



Mr. Jimmie Cantrell 7/8/24



Mr. Larry Carter 7/19/24.
Survived by wife Linda Carter '99
M.Ed. He left a generous bequest to establish the Larry and Linda
Carter Endowed Scholarship.

Mr. Marvin Cole 6/15/24. Survived by wife Joyce (Rycroft) Cole '81 B.Ed./'86 M.Ed.

Ms. Rebecca Deulen 10/31/24. Survived by daughter Melissa (Martin) Milliorn '93 B.B.S.

Mrs. Glendon "Trelle" (Goodman) Heppner 7/10/24

Mr. James "Jim" Holley 4/30/24. Survived by wife Phyllis (Harbin) Holley '74 B.S.

Mr. Robert Howell 9/2/24

Mr. Joe Keith 8/3/24. Survived by daughter Kathy (Keith) Taylor '87 B.B.S. and son-in-law Paul Taylor '88 B.Ed., daughter Kay (Keith) Campbell 'x and son-in-law Jason Campbell '93 B.B.S., and son Gary Keith' 15 B.A.

DR. DOROTHY CAROL (KRAFT) BARNES

July 14, 2024



When Dorothy Carol Kraft and Robert Carroll "Bob" Barnes married in 1966 they embarked on a personal and professional partnership that spanned more than five decades. For 32 of those years, they served together on the HSU counseling faculty. Dr. Bob continued to teach another eight years following Dr. Dorothy's retirement. Individually, and together, they impacted the lives of thousands of students. The Barneses established the Drs. Robert C. and Dorothy C. Barnes Undergraduate Endowed Scholarship at HSU. Dr. Bob passed away July 6, 2021.

Dorothy was named Former Faculty Member of the Year in 2012 and received the Virtue Award from HSU's Roundtable in 2018. She is survived by many nieces, nephews, and cousins, a large family of former students, treasured colleagues, and dear friends.

Ms. Freda Litton, former staff, 7/11/24

Mr. Samuel "Sam" Shields, former staff, 12/16/24

Mr. John Steele 4/24/24

Mrs. Doris "Elaine" (Reynolds) Strahan 7/25/24

Dr. Jimmie "Jim" Tanner 11/30/24

Mrs. Mary Louise (Moddrell) Tolle 12/6/24. Survived by son Stuart Tolle '76 B.M.

Editor's Note: All cities are in Texas unless otherwise noted. Email addresses are included when possible. Information reflects submissions received from June 7, 2024 - January 13, 2025. Acronyms: AHOF Athletics Hall of Fame/DAA Distinguished Alumni Award/HOL Hall of Leaders/HD Honorary Doctorate Degree/KASA Keeter Alumni Service Award/LDA Logsdon Distinguished Alumni Award/OYA Outstanding Young Alumni Award

JAMES LEE "J.L." COLE

December 7, 2024



J.L. joined the HSU Social Work Faculty in 1976, later became Department Chair of Sociology and Social Work, and retired in 2011 as Associate Professor, receiving the high honor of being granted Emeritus status. During most of his years teaching at HSU, J.L. held at least one other job, and frequently two. He served Hendrick Home for Children from 1974-1979, was Director of Children's Protective Services from 1979-2001, and was a part-time child therapist at Abilene's First Baptist Church Counseling

of Ministry and Enrichment from 1983-2001. Following retirement, J.L. and Diane established the J.L. and Diane Cole Endowed Social Work Scholarship at HSU.

J.L. is survived by his beloved wife of 57 years, Diane Baker Cole; their three sons, Jim Cole and wife Becky, Dr. John Cole and wife Marci (Follis) '98 B.A., Andrew Cole and wife Janelle; and seven Cole grandchildren, Carson, Madison, Currian, Jacob, Allison, Joshua, and Jackson.

JUDITH ELAINE (POTTER) HANCOCK

September 11, 2024

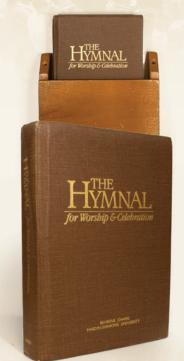


Judith "Judy" Potter and Omer (Butch) James Hancock, Jr. met while students at Oklahoma Baptist University. Both graduated in May, 1964 and they were married that August.

In 1981, the Hancocks moved to Abilene where Dr. Omer Hancock joined the HSU theology faculty. Lifelong educators, Judy retired from teaching in public schools in 2007 and Dr. Hancock retired from HSU as Professor of Church Ministry in 2014. In 2017, they established the HancockPotter Endowment for Vocational Ministry.

Survivors include husband Dr. Omer Hancock; daughter Kira (Hancock) and husband Col. Kyle Ingham; son Kyle Hancock; daughter Rev. Kirsten Hancock '04 M.Ed.; son Kirk Hancock '01 B.B.S./'03 M.Ed.; and grandchildren Capt. Austin Ingham, Houston Ingham, Hannah (Ingham) '20 B.B.S. and husband, Lt. Chase Evans, and William Hancock.

Own a Piece of HSU HISTORY



Since the school's beginning in 1891, worship has been part of the life and curriculum of HSU; and, since it was built, Behrens Chapel Auditorium has been central to HSU's mission of education enlightened by Christian faith.

Hymnals and hymnal racks were removed from Behrens Chapel Auditorium in preparation for the building's remodel.

You can own your own piece of HSU history by purchasing a hymnal and hymnal rack from Behrens Chapel Auditorium for \$100.

Donate and receive your piece of HSU history - while supplies last!

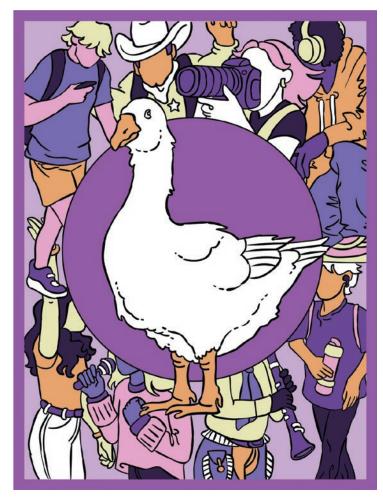
connectnow.hsutx.edu/register/ Hymnal&Rack

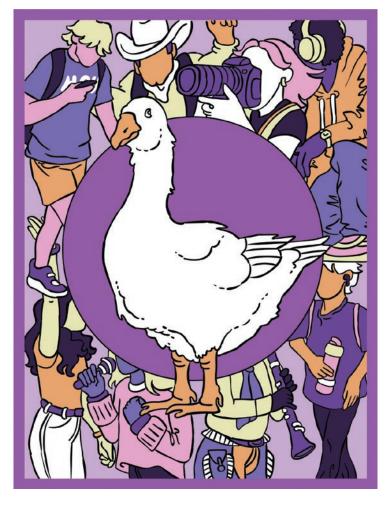
Range Rider Find the Difference

Find the eight differences between these two Illustrations. The Illustration was created by Bonnie Vander Schaaf '27, a student worker for the HSU Marketing Office.

ANSWERS

Clockwise from person on the top left to the girl on the bottom left: shirt logo for the guy on his phone, Hoss star pin, and vest stripes on girl with pink hair, wrist-watch on guy with headphones, water bottle for the guy on bottom right, button/clasp on chaps-pocket for the person with rist, button/clasp on chaps-pocket for the person with bracelet for the girl with microphone, and one bracelet for the girl in the bottom left.







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connectnow.hsutx.edu/ register/Bible2025



HSUConnect is an online community for Hardin-Simmons University alumni and donors. You can:

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- Make an online gift to HSU
- View your personal giving history
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- View/Print your Annual Tax Statements

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If you have questions, please contact the Alumni Office at alumni@hsutx.edu or 325-670-1317.



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> Tanzania Wildlife Safari 2 March 10-21, 2026

*Danube Delights Cruise 1 with HSU President Eric & Elise Bruntmyer May 14-22, 2026

Grand Seine River & Normandy Passage Cruise
June 20-28, 2026

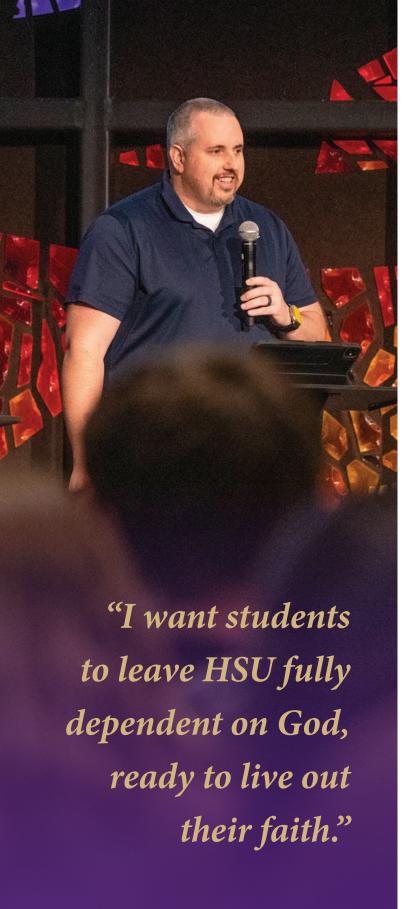
Visit hsutx.edu/travel for more 2025 & 2026 adventures!

Traveling Range Riders





REQUEST INFO



Meet ROGER JACKSON

Leading with Purpose as the New BSM Director at HSU

Roger Jackson, the new director of Hardin-Simmons University's Baptist Student Ministry (BSM), is dedicated to building a faith-driven community. With years of ministry experience and a passion for discipleship, he aims to empower students to live out their faith through service and meaningful relationships.

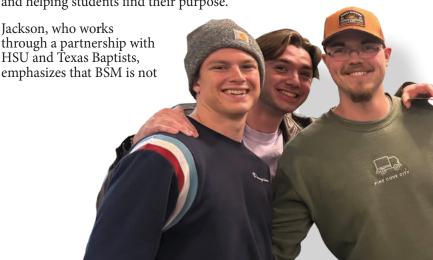
"I'm here to help students grow in their relationship with Christ and develop into leaders who serve others," Jackson said.

"We focus on two key areas: discipleship and evangelism. It's about more than just spreading the gospel—it's about building genuine relationships."

With a master's in theology from Liberty University and years of ministry experience, Jackson is passionate about mentoring the next generation. His brief time at Hardin-Simmons strengthened his connection to the university, drawing him to the BSM director role to impact students' lives.

"I felt that God was leading me here," Jackson said.

"It's a place where I can focus on what I love—discipleship and helping students find their purpose."





a replacement for the church but an extension of the church here on campus.

"Discipleship is about walking alongside someone, helping them understand their faith and live it out practically with the ultimate goal of getting people fully dependent on the Lord," he explained.

Key initiatives include student-led Bible studies, community groups, and mission trips.

"We're launching something new called BSM United," Jackson shared. "It's a monthly gathering for worship, prayer, and preaching. We want to create a space where students can come together, grow in their faith, and build community."

Jackson's approach is both inclusive and relational.

"It's not about forcing faith on anyone," he said.

"We want to understand each student's story, love them where they are, and help them take the next step in their faith journey." With a fresh perspective, Jackson is implementing changes that he hopes will better serve HSU students.

"We've shifted from smaller worship nights to larger gatherings on Wednesdays, and we're creating fun community events like game nights and scavenger hunts," he noted.

Another significant change is renaming small groups to community groups, a reflection of BSM's focus on fostering authentic relationships.

"Students kept saying they were looking for community," Jackson explained. "We want to be intentional about making everyone feel included and supported."

Jackson is also passionate about reaching students in all areas of campus life.

"We're praying for and connecting with different departments, from business to athletics," he said.

"Our goal is to serve the entire campus and be present wherever students need us."

For Jackson, success isn't measured by numbers but by helping people reach their full potential in Christ.

"I want students to leave Hardin-Simmons fully dependent on God, ready to live out their faith," he said. "Whether they become pastors or professionals, we're all called to make disciples and serve others. We want students to graduate not just with degrees but with a heart for service."

As he settles into his role, Jackson is excited about the future.

"Every year brings new students and new opportunities to serve," he said. "I feel blessed to be part of something so impactful. This is my passion. I can't wait to see what God does through these students."

Rooted in faith and fellowship, the Baptist Student Ministry at HSU provides a space for students to grow spiritually, serve others, and build lasting community.







EXPERIENCING

A Journey of Faith and Mission at HSU

ne of the many benefits of attending a university rooted in Christian faith is the vast number of opportunities to lean in and develop your relationship with Christ. Through weekly Chapel services, the Baptist Student Ministry (BSM), and countless other faithfocused activities, Hardin-Simmons University (HSU) offers intentional campus ministry.

Recently, Shelli Presley, director of spiritual formation, led a select group of faculty, staff, and students through a 12-week study called "Experiencing God." Created by Henry, Richard, and Mike Blackaby, and Claude V. King, the study goes beyond academic study, inviting participants into a dynamic relationship with God that integrates faith, learning, and action.

At its core, "Experiencing God" teaches that God is always at work, pursuing a loving relationship with us and inviting us to join Him in His Kingdom purposes. Shelli explains that what makes this study uniquely

impactful is its focus on relationships over religion. Rooted in Christcentered principles, it encourages participants to explore how God speaks and calls them to engage with His mission.

"There is an activation that occurs through walking this program out. It is not just book learning that is incredible in this study. It is experiencing a journey with God as you relationally connect, trust His guidance through the Holy Spirit, and act in obedience. As we do, the Kingdom purposes of God come forth," explained Shelli.

Ultimately, Shelli's goal is for students, faculty, and staff to encounter God, know him intimately in a deep relationship, and enjoy serving him in His mission to bring His Kingdom on earth. Participants have shared how hearing God's voice and acting obedient has brought renewed purpose and clarity.

This transformation extends beyond individuals, fostering a stronger campus community united by faith and action. "Studying His Word is unifying and transforming," Shelli says. "It inspires participants to embrace God's call and work together to advance His Kingdom."

Shelli invites students, faculty, and staff ready to dive in and join this life-changing journey to contact her at shelli.presley@hsutx.edu. For Shelli, the "Experiencing God" study is just the beginning— a launchpad for a deeper focus on discipleship and community here at HSU.





Blesseal

are the PURE in HEART

SHELLI PRESLEY
DIRECTOR OF SPIRITUAL
FORMATION

"...Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

—Matthew 6:33

In Matthew 6:33, Jesus commands us to seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, promising that all we need will be provided. Jesus modeled this throughout His life—studying, teaching, and obeying the Father. He dedicated His time and energy to knowing God and doing His will. His life reflected a pure heart in His quest to seek a deep, intimate relationship with the Father and a clear purpose in bringing the Kingdom to earth.

He was committed to making disciples who did the same—men and women who deeply loved God, genuinely loved others, and who were willing to sacrifice daily to see the Kingdom of Heaven established on earth.

We see in Jesus' life the purity of heart and purpose we are to live. The promise attached to living from this purity of heart is profound: Matthew 5:8, "Blessed are the pure in heart for they WILL SEE GOD." Jesus and His disciples saw God move in mighty ways. They lived truly abundant lives filled with power and purpose. They saw heaven come to earth.

As we follow in Christlikeness, the same is true for us. We WILL SEE GOD. We will see his goodness and power manifest in our own lives and the lives of others. We will join God in His Kingdom work and be filled with joy as His presence and power move among us to accomplish His divine purpose. We are praying to this end for you, our dear HSU alumni, for friends of HSU, and for us presently serving God in this place. May His Kingdom come, and His will be done on the HSU campus, and through your lives in the places He has each of you.

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