The South Dakota Board of Regents has approved a new undergraduate degree in sport marketing and media, with classes starting this fall. Courses in the major will teach broad skills in marketing, advertising and public relations, event management and law and ethics. New graduates will be prepared to work in high school and college athletic departments, advertising and public relations firms, merchandising companies, professional sports teams, athletic facilities and the news media. The degree will help fill demand in the sport and sport entertainment industry, which is growing at nearly five percent annually.

“I think this new major is a very viable one that has great value in the sports marketplace,” said USD alumnus John Gillis, ’77 B.S., ’85 M.A., associate director of development for the National Federation of State High School Associations.

Michelle Van Maanen, chair of USD’s Department of Media & Journalism, said the program is unique to the region, and the university expects to graduate up to 15 sport marketing students each year. Students in the major can pursue either a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree. Classes will be taught through four existing majors: kinesiology and sport science, media and journalism, communication studies and marketing. The major will prepare students for careers in event and facility management, advertising and public relations, sports news, scoreboard creation and leadership and finance.

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Lee Ann Roripaugh Named South Dakota Poet Laureate

Lee Ann Roripaugh

South Dakota Gov. Dennis Daugaard appointed USD English Professor Lee Ann Roripaugh to a four-year term as South Dakota’s poet laureate, effective July 1. Roripaugh has taught creative writing in the USD English department since 2000 and serves as editor-in-chief of the national journal South Dakota Review. She is also the author of four volumes of poetry and has received various awards and recognitions.

Roripaugh said she envisions working as poet laureate to foster “a love for and participation in the arts.”

Through poetry readings and workshops throughout the state, Roripaugh said she will serve as an advocate for poetry in South Dakota. “As I see it, the poet laureate position is really about building a literary community,” she said.

Her first major event in her new position will take place at the South Dakota Festival of Books in Deadwood and Rapid City this September. There, she plans to read from her latest book, Dandarians, which was released last year, and to present some new pieces that focus on the Fukushima nuclear disaster in Japan. In addition to these recent works, Roripaugh’s previous books include On the Cusp of a Dangerous Year, Year of the Snake, and Beyond Heart Mountain.

A committee from the South Dakota State Poetry Society selected Roripaugh from a pool of candidates. Throughout her term, Roripaugh will work with the society and the South Dakota Arts Council to facilitate events and readings.

The designation of a poet laureate in South Dakota was established in 1937 and Roripaugh is only the fourth poet to hold the position. A law passed this year limits each term to four years.

“It’s a tremendous privilege,” Roripaugh said of her new title. “I’m really honored and thrilled and excited.”
A recent article in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* poked a little fun at higher education by stringing together 88 college taglines, all arranged as a poem. The author’s humorous message was that “colleges are built on words...millions and millions of words.”

They are indeed, but great universities are built even more on quiet deeds.

It is that time of year when the dean’s office assembles the roster of faculty who are teaching in the coming year, and glancing down that list, one is struck by how many faculty in the College of Arts & Sciences routinely perform quiet deeds.

Faculty in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, for instance, assist clients with hearing and speech problems, many of them children. Psychology faculty have traveled around the world to deliver mental health services at the site of disasters, from the World Trade Center in New York to tsunamis in Asia.

Locally, political science faculty help communities with economic development and conflict mediation, while anthropology and criminal justice faculty have quietly lent their expertise to police trying to solve cold criminal cases.

Other examples abound, such as biology faculty studying the health of species and rivers, offering advice about the Missouri River to state agencies. Or take the case of mathematics and history, whose faculty have lent their expertise to discussions of state standards in K-12 schools.

These quiet deeds of service in the College of Arts & Sciences are one reason why alumni should be proud of their alma mater.

Matthew C. Moen, Ph.D.
Dean, College of Arts & Sciences
Lohre Distinguished Professor

**History Professor Wins Doyle Teaching Award**

David Burrow, Ph.D., associate professor in the Department of History, is the 2015 recipient of the Monsignor James Doyle Humanities Teaching Award, presented by the College of Arts & Sciences.

Burrow, who joined USD in 2006, teaches courses on Russian History, the Holocaust, Nazi Germany and the enlightenment. In all of his classes, Burrow said he emphasizes the importance of researching and interpreting primary sources, such as letters and diaries, when attempting to understand a historical period.

“By reading primary sources, students can work on interpretation and get at the complexities of a topic,” Burrow said. “They’re not just absorbing my view.”

This spring, students in Burrow’s upper-division Holocaust class worked with primary sources not available to the general public. As part of a Holocaust digital education project that Burrow helped develop with the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C., history students researched translated diaries and oral histories in which survivors documented their experience.

While the Holocaust class offers rewarding teaching experiences, Burrow said his favorite courses are those that focus on Imperial Russia, which is his area of research.

“Students who take that class say I don’t need notes to remember what to say. I need notes to remember to stop talking,” Burrow said.

Kurt Hackemer, professor and chair of the Department of History, said students see only the tip of the iceberg when it comes to Burrow’s classroom activities.

“Our students know that Professor Burrow is a great teacher, but they have no idea how much time and energy he invests in preparing and delivering his courses,” Hackemer said. “He creates interactive and innovative experiences for them every semester, and it is a privilege to have him in our department.”

The Doyle award is made possible thanks to a gift from Monsignor James Michael Doyle, former chair of religious studies at USD and a prominent theologian inducted into the South Dakota Hall of Fame. The award is presented annually to an outstanding teacher in the Humanities Division of the College of Arts & Sciences.
Next March, the University of South Dakota’s National Music Museum will host First Folio! The Book That Gave Us Shakespeare, as part of a national tour from the Folger Shakespeare Library in commemoration of the 400th anniversary of William Shakespeare’s death. Chair and Associate Professor of English Darlene Farabee, Ph.D., wrote the proposal to bring the book to USD and serves as the local exhibit’s project director.

The First Folio is the first complete collected edition of Shakespeare’s plays, published in 1623, seven years after his death. Compiled by two of Shakespeare’s fellow actors, John Heminge and Henry Condell, the book preserves 36 of Shakespeare’s plays. Without it, we would not have 18 of those plays, including Macbeth, Julius Caesar, Twelfth Night, The Tempest, and Antony and Cleopatra.

One of the most valuable printed books in the world, a First Folio sold for $6.2 million in 2001 at Christie’s and another for $5.2 million in 2006 in London. It originally sold for one British pound (20 shillings)—about $200 today. There are 233 known copies in the world today, with 82 copies held by the Folger Shakespeare Library. In 2016, multiple copies of the original book will travel to all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

“We’re so excited to announce that the city of Vermillion, the state of South Dakota, and the whole Siouxland region can now plan to experience first-hand the wonder and rarity of the First Folio,” said Farabee. “From Shakespeare fans to students studying his plays for the first time, this exhibit is a rare opportunity for people to experience one of the most influential books in history.”

The First Folio will be on display in the National Music Museum. Farabee said the location is an ideal site for the exhibit. “The Folio as a material object will integrate well with the outstanding sixteenth- and seventeenth-century instruments on display at the National Music Museum,” she added.

Events and programming at USD will focus on three main areas: The Art of Shakespeare, Shakespeare and Performance, and Shakespeare and South Dakota. Farabee said the month-long exhibit will include research presentations, theatrical performances, public discussions, school tours and other educational events. “South Dakota has a rich history engaged with Shakespeare from early white settlements bringing traveling Shakespeare groups to South Dakota, to the significant Native American populations’ engagement with Shakespeare in tribal colleges, to the recent development of the South Dakota Shakespeare Festival,” Farabee said.

USD will host the traveling exhibit from March 7–April 3, 2016.
Ken Green, an instructor in the Department of English, has been named the 2015 recipient of the Outstanding Instructor Award presented by the College of Arts & Sciences.

Green joined USD in 2005 and currently serves as an English instructor and coordinator of business writing classes. He has also filled administrative roles as acting director of the USD Writing Center as well as the USD Writing Program.

He teaches a variety of courses, including Business Writing; Professional, Technical, and Grant Writing; and English Grammar. As faculty advisor for USD’s Golden Key International Honour Society, Green helps student members uphold the organization’s standards of academics, leadership and service.

“I really enjoy my job,” said Green, who also strives to spread his positive attitude to his classes and students. “Learning is supposed to be enjoyable.”

That’s not to say Green’s classes aren’t demanding. He said his students tell him that he has challenged them to think differently about issues and made them better researchers and writers. Teaching and mentoring students, he said, is “something really special. It can be a really authentic experience.”

The Outstanding Instructor Award is given annually to a faculty member in the College of Arts & Sciences who demonstrates outstanding classroom teaching and mentoring of students. The winner receives a cash prize, made possible through an annual gift of the Johnson family. Mary Elizabeth Johnson, ’75 B.A., is a USD graduate in mass communication who served as chaplain at the Mayo Clinic for more than three decades.

Elizabeth (Liz) Hanson, Ph.D., associate professor of communication sciences and disorders, is the 2015 recipient of the Blair and Linda Tremere Faculty Service Award, which is presented annually to a member of the College of Arts & Sciences faculty who demonstrates outstanding public service to the local community or to the state of South Dakota.

Hanson said one primary goal guides her professional activities as a speech-language pathologist.

“It’s important to me to improve the lives of people with disabilities,” she said. “That’s been my professional mission statement since I started working as a speech-language pathologist.”

To fulfill that mission, Hanson performs research in communication sciences and disorders and teaches undergraduate and graduate classes in Augmentative and Alternative Communications, Advanced Communication Science, Theories and Methods of Graduate Study and Research and Neuromotor Speech Disorders. Over the past year, she worked to further her education and professional development in her field by serving as president of the South Dakota Speech-Language-Hearing Association. In this position, she led the group in planning and running continuing education offerings for speech-language pathologists and audiologists in the state so that they could help their clients with speech, language, swallowing, hearing, balance and processing disorders. Hanson also participates in a coalition of professionals who work with the South Dakota Department of Education to ensure all children in the state who need augmentative or alternative communication systems have one in place before they start school.

“It’s been extremely gratifying to fulfill my professional mission in this way,” Hanson said.

Hanson joined the USD faculty in 2005. She earned her master’s degree at the University of Wisconsin–Madison and her doctorate at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln.

The Blair and Linda (Schuller) Tremere Faculty Service Award was established in 2011 by Blair and Linda Tremere of Golden Valley, Minn., to encourage and recognize the valuable role that Arts & Sciences faculty play in the lives of their communities and state. Linda (Schuller) Tremere is a 1970 alumna from the USD School of Business (B.S., accounting) and a native of Amherst, South Dakota. Blair Tremere, a Sioux Falls native, is a 1968 alumnus from the USD College of Arts & Sciences (B.A., government/journalism) and also received his M.A. in Public Administration from USD in 1971.
Three Professors Honored with Cutler Award

Three USD professors are the 2015 winners of the Richard and Sharon Cutler Faculty Awards in Liberal Arts—Jacob Kerby, Ph.D., Department of Biology; Darlene Farabee, Ph.D., Department of English; and Timothy Schorn, Ph.D., Department of Political Science.

Each received a $4,000 cash prize through the University of South Dakota Foundation. Thanks to the generosity of Richard, ’63 B.A., ’65 J.D., ’97 D.H.L., and Sharon Cutler of Sioux Falls, these cash awards acknowledge professors whose work over a three-year span advances liberal arts education through teaching and research. Awards are made in each of the three divisions of the College of Arts & Sciences.

Jacob Kerby was honored in the Mathematics/Natural Sciences Division of the College of Arts & Sciences. An associate professor of biology and member of the USD faculty since 2008, Kerby also received the Belbas-Larson Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2014. His classes include Introductory Biology, Ecology, Ecotoxicology and Disease Ecology as well as Foundations of Ecology and Proposal Writing graduate seminars.

Kerby's research focuses on the conservation of amphibian species. He is the lead coordinator of the Great Plains Chapter of FrogWatch USA, which trains citizens to recognize frog calls in order to identify species.

Darlene Farabee, chair and associate professor of English, received the Cutler award in the Humanities Division. She has taught courses on British Literature, Shakespeare and Drama at USD since joining the faculty in 2008. Her research interests include early modern drama, early modern narratives of travel, and theories of movement and perception. Farabee has organized and participated in the Scholars’ Roundtable at the South Dakota Shakespeare Festival in Vermillion since the festival’s inception four years ago.

The award in the Social Sciences Division went to Timothy Schorn, associate professor of political science. Schorn joined the USD faculty 20 years ago and directs the International Studies Program. He teaches Governments of the World, World Politics, Genocide in the Modern Era, Middle Eastern Politics and International Law. Schorn has also led 14 study trips with students to locations including Cuba, Israel and Turkey.

New Award Named for Political Science Alumnus

The Midwest Political Science Association has named a new award in honor of Kenneth J. Meier, who received his bachelor's degree in political science from USD in 1972 and holds the title of distinguished professor of political science at Texas A&M University. The annual award recognizes outstanding scholarship in politics, public administration and public policy.

In addition to serving as the Charles H. Gregory Chair in Liberal Arts at Texas A&M University, Meier also directs the Project for Equity, Representation, and Governance, the Texas Educational Excellence Project, and the Carlos Cantu Hispanic Education and Opportunity Endowment. Meier is considered a leading authority in two areas of research—the role of public organizations in public policy and race and politics.

Complementing his record of scholarship, Meier has influenced countless members of the discipline and continues to mentor graduate and undergraduate students while maintaining a highly productive research agenda. He has served as a chair or member on more than 60 dissertation committees and more than 30 M.A. committees. The award, proposed and initially funded by Meier's current and former students in the Department of Political Science at Texas A&M, was first announced at this year’s “Meierpalooza,” an annual celebration held during the MPSA conference.
Students Awarded Fulbright Scholarships, Chemistry Internship

**Zackary Schulte**
**Hometown:** Sioux Falls, South Dakota  
**Internship:** Society of Chemical Industry Scholar  
**Details:** Chemistry senior Zackary Schulte is one of 28 undergraduate students in the country chosen to receive a paid, 10-week summer internship in the chemical industry. This summer, Schulte performed analytical testing on petroleum additives at the Naugatuck, Conn., offices of Chemtura, a specialty chemicals company.

**Internship bonus:** As part of his award, Schulte was able to present $1,000 to a high school chemistry teacher of his choice. The recipient: Michael Amolins, '14 Ed.D., chemistry teacher at Harrisburg High School in Harrisburg, South Dakota. “He’s a very inspirational teacher and one of the main reasons I got into chemistry,” Schulte said.

**Breanna Helland, '15 B.A.**
**Hometown:** Frederick, South Dakota  
**Scholarship:** Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship  
**Details:** The recent graduate with a degree in criminal justice/political science and a Spanish minor will teach English at a high school in South Korea for one year. “I had worked with South Korean students at USD’s Writing Center and they were so interested in learning and excited to learn,” Helland said.

**The benefits of travel:** “When you go to another country, it teaches you about yourself and what you are capable of doing,” she said. “It helps you grow as a person.”

**Holly Baker, ’15 Ph.D.**
**Hometown:** West Lafayette, Indiana  
**Scholarship:** Fulbright Study/Research Grant  
**Details:** Holly Baker, who graduated with an English Ph.D. in 2015, will spend eight months beginning in October in Bucharest, Romania, researching life in the former communist country. Her work will allow her to finish her novel, *Steal Them Away,* which follows two families who adopt children from Romanian orphanages after the country’s revolution in 1989.

**Inspiration for the project:** A TED talk on the poor state of Romanian orphanages even decades after the fall of the oppressive dictatorship of Nicolae Ceausescu spurred Baker’s interest. “The more I learned about it, the more I felt compelled to write about it,” she said.

**Lucia Carlson, ’12 B.A., ’15 M.A.**
**Hometown:** Rio Ricos, Arizona  
**Scholarship:** Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship  
**Details:** Carlson, who graduated in May with a master’s degree in political science, will teach English to high school students in Hamburg, Germany, starting this fall. Last summer, she interned at the U.S. Embassy in Madrid, Spain, where she helped process visa and passport applications.

**Learning a foreign language:** Carlson comes from a bilingual family and speaks Spanish and English at home, but knows little German. “I want to work in the Foreign Service, so learning languages is important,” she said. “There is no better way to learn a language than go to the country and become immersed in it.”

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Like Us on Facebook

Like our “College of Arts & Sciences of the University of South Dakota” Facebook page to get the latest information on college events, faculty and student awards, and alumni news.
With ramped up recruitment efforts, such as a robotic programming competition for high school students, the Department of Computer Science has seen a substantial increase in applicants at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

According to Professor and Chair QuocNam Tran, Ph.D., 92 students applied to the department’s undergraduate program this year, a 28 percent increase over 2014. The graduate program applicants numbered 63, which is 80 percent more than the previous year. One of the reasons for the increased interest is enhanced efforts to attract students, such as the USD High School Robotic Programming Contest held in April.

At the competition, high school students from South Dakota, Iowa, Nebraska and Minnesota traveled to USD to pit their programmed robot against teams from 21 high schools from across the region.

About 96 students participated in the challenge, spending months before the event building and programming their small, wheeled robot. Rules mandated that each robot be self-contained and not controlled with a joy-stick. The goal was to navigate the small robot through a 3-feet-by-6-feet wooden maze the farthest distance.

Finding its way through the maze on its own proved challenging to many of the programmed robots. In one of the early heats, team members from Dakota Valley High School in South Dakota verbally cheered on their robot, which stubbornly refused to travel more than a few feet into the maze. Kyle Bingaman, a sophomore, said that their robot’s challenges were more mechanical than related to the team’s programming skills. In addition to a sensor that fell from the robot’s frame, its batteries repeatedly popped out. “I just think we needed more duct tape,” he said.

This was the first year that the annual competition has featured robotics. “We want to make the event more attractive to high school students so that they can come here and get exposed to campus life at USD,” said Tran.

Modern Languages & Linguistics Professor and Chair Laura Vidler authored Performance Reconstruction and Spanish Golden Age Drama: Reviving and Revising the Comedia (Palgrave Macmillan). Vidler joined the USD faculty in 2014.


English Associate Professor and Chair Darlene Farabee wrote Shakespeare’s Staged Spaces and Playgoers’ Perceptions, published by Palgrave Macmillan. She also co-edited and contributed to a volume of essays, Early Modern Drama in Performance (University of Delaware Press).
Anthropology and Psychology Faculty Retire

After 36 years at USD, Larry Bradley, Ph.D., retired from the anthropology and sociology department. Bradley served as chair of the department and taught courses in computer science and geography as well as anthropology. He also served as director of the W. H. Over Museum and was awarded multiple and single-year National Science Foundation grants. Bradley has headed numerous state and federal grants and contracts for archaeological research in the Plains region that involved students in research and publication.

Dona Davis, Ph.D., also from the Department of Anthropology and Sociology, retired this year after 35 years of service. Davis developed the cultural anthropology curriculum in the department and taught more than 10 different courses, including medical anthropology and anthropology of sport. She directed numerous theses and dissertations and published two single-author books and more than 80 peer-reviewed papers.

Having joined the Department of Psychology in 1984, Barb Yutrzenka, Ph.D., retired after serving as a faculty member for 31 years. She spent 27 of those years as director of clinical training in the Doctoral Training Program in Psychology, shaping the careers of more than 200 clinical psychologists. Yutrzenka directed more than 60 master’s theses and doctoral dissertations during her tenure in the department, published and presented more than 100 articles and conference papers, and served as chair of the Campus Diversity Enhancement Group and of the Arts & Sciences Diversity Task Force and Diversity Committee.

Three Students Win Scholarships in Native American Essay Competition

Three students won prizes awarded as scholarship funds through the 23rd annual Native American Essay Competition this spring. Tamee Livermont, a biology major from Martin, S.D., was awarded the first prize of $2,000. Logan Bullard, a secondary education major with a history focus from St. Albans, Vt., won the second prize award of $1,500, and the third prize award of $1,000 went to Lottie Grimshaw, a medical biology major from Mission, S.D. The annual competition, sponsored this year by the Native Studies Program and Department of English, is made possible by an anonymous gift to the USD Foundation.

This year’s competition asked students to address one of three topics in their essay responses: the controversy over the use and abolishment of “Redskins” and other sports mascots, the recent federal court decision regarding the Indian Child Welfare Act that reaffirmed the tribal sovereignty of the Rosebud and Oglala Sioux tribes, or the resistance to the building of the Keystone Pipeline in South Dakota.

Livermont’s first-place essay addressed The Indian Child Welfare Act. “It is an issue I can relate to,” said the member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe. “The Indian Child Welfare Act is something that plays a big part in many people’s lives and needs to be fit to the best interest of those people that it affects.”

Bullard, a member of the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe, said he participated in the essay competition to help raise awareness of Native concerns. “These issues are important to me because as a member of Tiospaye, the Native Student Council, here on campus, our main goal is to promote the image of Natives,” he said. “So often I’ve found that the key problem is people have very little knowledge about Native history and beliefs.”

Writing about the XL Pipeline allowed Grimshaw to explore an issue that would affect her personally. “I chose the XL Pipeline topic, because if it were to be approved, the pipeline would go through the Rosebud Reservation, which is where I live, and I have a lot of friends and family—people I really care about—from there, and I think it is a big issue that needs to be addressed,” she said.
For years, a small plastic box sat tucked away in a secure storage facility on the U.C. Berkeley campus with a yellowing label identifying its contents as “First sample of Pu weighed. 2.7 μg.” If the label was correct, the tiny piece of metal inside was the first sample of the element plutonium large enough to be weighed and the product of experiments in the 1941 laboratory of physicist Glenn Seaborg, who would become a member of the Manhattan Project. The element’s discovery led to the development of the first atomic bomb.

The historical significance of the box’s contents caught the interest of the Smithsonian Institute, which requested additional proof that the tiny sample was indeed from Seaborg’s lab. The job fell to the researchers at the Department of Nuclear Engineering at U.C. Berkeley, where Keenan Thomas, who earned a bachelor’s degree in physics from USD in 2009 and a master’s degree in 2011, works as a specialist.

“We specialize in gamma spectroscopy and we have a detector that’s particularly well-suited for low-energy gamma rays, which is useful for analysis of plutonium,” Thomas said.

To preserve the sample, the team performed non-destructive tests to measure x-rays and gamma rays emitted as plutonium naturally decays to uranium. The team’s measurements showed the piece of metal was indeed plutonium and had a mass in the range of that listed on the box label. Was it Seaborg’s plutonium? “We’re certainly satisfied,” Thomas said. He and his colleagues wrote a paper on their findings, which was accepted for publication in the American Journal of Physics. Scientific American published a story on the research earlier this year.

His team’s work on the sample prompted Thomas to research Seaborg’s original lab notebook, now published online, and provided insight into an era of momentous scientific inquiry. “It’s fantastic to see what they were able to do with very limited tools,” he said of the first nuclear scientists. “They didn’t have what we have now in terms of equipment and it was amazing what they were able to do without any of the modern-day tools we almost take for granted.”

Thomas, a native of Rapid City, South Dakota, said working at Berkeley brings him in daily contact with USD and his home state. His research activities regularly take him to the Lawrence Berkeley National Lab, named for Nobel Prize winner Ernest Lawrence, a 1922 graduate of USD. And he periodically travels to the Sanford Underground Research Facility in Lead to help maintain equipment for the Berkeley Low Background Facility.
Scholarship Spotlight: Shreves Family Honors Mother by Establishing Fund for English Students

One Christmas years ago, each of Elizabeth Adams Shreves’ 11 children received a framed copy of “Libby’s Literary Lessons,” an explanation of the correct grammatical use of the words “lay” and “lie.” An ardent reader and writer, and a former editor at *Encyclopedia Britannica*, Elizabeth Shreves instilled her love of the English language with her children, said daughter Margaret Shreves.

“She always corrected our papers and was a stickler on grammar,” Margaret said. “Mother was an avid reader and writer.”

In honor of her mother, who graduated from USD with a degree in English in 1936, Margaret, with her 10 brothers and sisters, established the Elizabeth Adams Shreves Memorial Scholarship Endowment in 1992. The scholarship supports students majoring in English, with a preference given to women.

Margaret, who also graduated from USD with an M.B.A. in 1977, said the scholarship focuses on female scholars due to Elizabeth’s interest in feminism and women’s issues. In addition to her passion for reading—her daughter recalls her devouring Carl Sandburg’s multivolume series on Abraham Lincoln and lengthy books on the Plantagenet kings and queens of England—Elizabeth worked throughout her life to advance opportunities for women.

Born and raised in Sioux Falls, Elizabeth met her future husband, Howard Shreves, ’36 M.D., while he was a student at the USD School of Medicine. It was during Howard’s surgical residency in Chicago that newlywed Elizabeth worked at *Encyclopedia Britannica*. After his residency, the couple returned to South Dakota and began raising a family in Sioux Falls. Out of their 11 children, 10 attended USD.

John Shreves, ’73 B.S., ’82 J.D., is the middle child in the family. He counts 18 undergraduate and graduate degrees earned from USD by his parents and his siblings. Paying in-state tuition may have influenced his parents’ desire for their numerous children to attend the state’s flagship institution, John said, but so did their affection for the place where Howard and Elizabeth met and fell in love.

John joins his sister in recalling his mother, who died in 1991, as an enthusiastic reader. He remembers one lofty literary goal: “When she was about 50, she said, ‘This summer, I am going to read as many Russian writers as I can.’”

Elizabeth also served on community organization boards, worked on the presidential campaign for George McGovern and made a run for a state senate seat—all while raising 11 children.

Tales from her busy life remain in letters Elizabeth wrote to her children over the years. “She wrote wonderful letters to all of us,” said Margaret, who plans to gather these communications to create a compilation for her siblings. “They were so humorous and so delightful.”

Alexis Olson, a senior from Mitchell, South Dakota, was one of the recipients of the scholarship this year.

“I’m extremely proud to have been selected for this scholarship. Elizabeth’s example is an inspiration to young women pursuing a degree in English,” she said. “I’d like to say thank you to her family for their generosity and for continuing to inspire young women in their education.”
Department Reintroduces Russian Language Instruction

The U.S. Department of State has designated Russian as a critical language—a language with significant importance to the country’s international relations but with few proficient speakers in this country. The Department of Modern Languages & Linguistics at USD is doing its part to train more Russian speakers by offering introductory Russian language classes.

“Russia and the Russian language are obviously of tremendous strategic, historical, political, economic and cultural importance,” said Professor and Chair of Modern Languages & Linguistics Laura Vidler. “The designation as a critical language also means that individuals that study Russian have more opportunities for government-sponsored study-abroad programs and internships with non-profit organizations and other institutions.”

New Head of Women and Gender Studies Program

The Department of History is the new home for USD’s interdisciplinary Women and Gender Studies Program, which this spring welcomed Sara Lampert, Ph.D., assistant professor of history, as the new program coordinator.

Lampert, whose research focuses on women’s relationship with popular entertainment in the early 19th century, said she plans to enhance the program’s presence on campus. “I think the program can serve the university community by offering programming, events and conversations about topics such as sexuality and gender identity outside of the classroom,” she said. “We can offer roundtables, talks and films throughout the school year.”

Undergraduate students can earn a minor in women and gender studies by taking courses in a variety of disciplines. With the goal of providing students with a foundation in the study of gender and sexuality, the program includes classes in departments including history, art, philosophy, English, media & journalism and psychology, as well as an introductory course specific to the minor, now offered every year. Lampert said she hopes to streamline the program’s course offerings and make it easier for students to find classes that meet the requirements of the minor.

The interdisciplinary approach appeals to Lampert, who has been involved with the program since coming to USD two years ago.

“There is something really exciting about talking with students who are in other majors and saying, ‘How are these questions about gender, about power, about identity, appearing in what you’re working on?’” Lampert said. “I learn something. The students learn something. Making these connections is what any interdisciplinary program is interested in doing.”

Taught by Instructor Ilmira Dulyanova, the introductory courses last year exposed students not only to the Russian language, but also to information about Russian culture. Dulyanova held weekly Russian conversation tables in the Muenster University Center and hosted regular cultural events for her students. Three students in the Introductory Russian classes—Nathanial Steinlicht, Blaze Giroux and Patrick Morrison—all received State Department internships this summer.

Vidler emphasizes that language instruction goes beyond learning grammar and syntax.

“We require language study as part of a liberal arts education, not only to improve language proficiency, but also to develop students’ critical thinking and cultural competence,” she said.
To help USD students gain a better understanding of how Earth science and sustainability issues affect their daily lives, faculty throughout the university will incorporate science and social issues related to the Missouri River into their classes this year.

Supporting the effort is a one-year grant, “Sustainable Rivers: Integrating Earth Science & Sustainability Across the Curriculum,” from the InTeGrate project, a National Science Foundation program that aims to educate the public on geoscience and its relation to societal issues. The Missouri River will serve as the focus of the material taught at USD, said Associate Professor of Earth Science Mark Sweeney, Ph.D., a co-principal investigator of the grant with Meghann Jarchow, Ph.D., assistant professor of biology and coordinator of USD’s Sustainability Program.

“The Missouri River is the spine of South Dakota and most of the students at USD are native South Dakotans,” Sweeney said. “They probably have some connection to the river, be it recreation, fishing or living next to the river and using the river’s resources.”

With the river as a common theme, faculty in the natural sciences, the humanities and social sciences will use educational modules developed through the InTeGrate project to incorporate into their classes such information as the hydrologic cycle, flood hazards and risks, surface and groundwater contamination and environmental justice. A solid grounding in these issues can help students make informed decisions about the river, Sweeney said.

Focusing on the Missouri River takes advantage of the students’ physical connection to the topic—a concept described as “place-based learning.”

“A field trip along the Missouri River was part of a May workshop for 13 faculty members who will incorporate information about the river into their courses.

“When you are trying to effect change and make the world a better place, it’s important to ground sustainability issues for students in a place where they live, in a place that they know,” Jarchow said.

Academic departments and programs taking part in the project are anthropology, biology, communication studies, Earth sciences, economics, English, native studies, history and sustainability in the College of Arts & Sciences and the Division of Curriculum and Instruction in the School of Education. USD’s Missouri River Institute, a consortium of faculty who conduct research on issues related to the river, will provide resources to support the initiative. Faculty participants met this spring at a workshop to review materials provided by the InTeGrate program and to plan their courses, which will take place over this academic year.

A&S Faculty Sweep University Research Awards

Three Arts & Sciences faculty members earned the annual President’s Award for Research Excellence and the President’s Award for Research Innovation & Entrepreneurship this past year. These university-wide awards honor outstanding research at the institution through a highly competitive process with both university and external reviewers. For the President’s Award for Research Excellence, Haoran Sun, Ph.D., assistant professor of chemistry, received the award in the early–mid career category. Sun’s research focuses on energy conversion and drug development using organofluorine compounds. In the established faculty category, Dongming Mei, Ph.D., earned the honor. Mei, associate professor of physics, researches underground nuclear and particle physics processes. The President’s Award for Research Innovation & Entrepreneurship award went to Stanley May, Ph.D., professor of chemistry, whose research has found commercial application in the area of security printing, which is used to assist in the authentication of documents, certificates, banknotes, product labels, and various forms of identification.
The National Science Foundation has appointed USD Professor Paula Mabee, Ph.D., to its leadership team as director of the Division of Environmental Biology, which supports fundamental research on populations, species, communities and ecosystems.

“I am a very strong believer in the National Science Foundation’s mission, which is to promote fundamental science,” Mabee said. “As someone whose research has been funded by NSF and who has served previously on a number of panels, I am interested in helping shape the vision in the Division of Environmental Biology.”

Mabee will join NSF in August for an assignment that will last from one to four years. The position falls under the Intergovernmental Personnel Act, which allows individuals from colleges, universities and other organizations to hold temporary positions in the federal government. She will continue her research program at USD while serving in the NSF position.

“These temporary ‘rotator’ positions bring in fresh vision from scientists who are active in their fields,” said Mabee, whose research focuses on connecting data on organism phenotypes, such as anatomy, to genes in order to enhance knowledge of development and evolution. “My research is pretty broad and has touched on core pieces in the division—evolutionary biology, developmental biology, and databases. I bring in a cross disciplinary perspective.”

Mabee’s position will include directing the activities of the Division of Environmental Biology and developing breakthrough opportunities for scientific advancements in the field. She will supervise program officers who review about 3,000 grant proposals per year.

“Our nation depends on the science that’s done at the National Science Foundation,” Mabee said. “And my division will deal with some of the critical issues facing society, such as climate change.”

Mabee said she sees her new position as a way to give back to her professional field.

“This position is federal service and also serves science,” Mabee said of her assignment. “I’m especially excited about developing new opportunities for scientists in the Division of Environmental Biology.”

USD Forensics Takes First Place at South Dakota/North Dakota States Tournament

The USD Speech and Debate Team earned first place in overall sweepstakes at the South Dakota/North Dakota States Tournament this year, the first time the team won this tournament since 2006. The team is hosted in the Department of Communication Studies.

“We competed in parliamentary debate on Friday and debated against other schools and we also competed in our favorite individual events the second day,” said Rebecca Froehlich, team president. “It was so exciting to watch my teammates receive their awards one by one. Receiving the big trophy as interstate champions was the icing on the cake of a fun weekend. After a season of hard work, it was satisfying to be rewarded as a team.”

Head coach Jesse Mohling, communication studies graduate student, said the young team evolved into a major competitor over the year.

“It really has been a remarkable year,” Mohling said. “At the beginning of the season, the team only had two active competitors and that number is now up to 10. The fact that these students can come together and compete at this level is inspiring. I cannot underestimate the work ethic and determination of our competitors. They put the hours in to make sure they perform to the best of their abilities at every single tournament. What is even more amazing is that the team has had this much success with mostly freshmen and sophomores. I am very optimistic about the future of the program and cannot wait to see it flourish for years to come.”

Five members of the team—Bailey Quanbeck, Desiree Rohrbach, Rebecca Froehlich, Olivia Mann and Annika Hindbjorgen—represented the University of South Dakota at the National Forensics Association National Tournament in April.
Anthropology: Silvana Rosenfeld, Ph.D., assistant professor, presented “Zooarchaeological Inferences and Analogical Reasoning at Chavin de Huantar (Peru)” at the 80th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology this spring.

Five anthropology students were chosen to receive the South Dakota State Historical Society Award for student service. Students Alec Anton, Aaron Mayer, Zach Nelson, Bridget Wilds and Jesse Van Maanen were selected for their volunteer work at state archaeological sites.

Biology: Dan Soluk, Ph.D., has received funding in support of the captive rearing program for the Hine’s emerald dragonfly. This federally-listed endangered species survives in only a few localities in the Midwestern United States, primarily in Illinois, Wisconsin and Michigan. It is on the edge of extinction in Illinois, where it is threatened by urban development in the Chicago area. The Illinois Department of Natural Resources and the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority have provided funding for Soluk’s research.

Erica Mize, ’15 Ph.D., was selected as the 2015 South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society Outstanding Ph.D. Wildlife Student of the Year after a state-wide nominating process. Mize studies Black-Tailed Prairie Dog colonies.

The department’s medical biology major continues to grow. The number of majors in the program, which prepares students for admission to medical school or other health care professional programs, increased 30 percent in 2014–15 from the previous academic year.

Chemistry: Collaborating with a Vermillion dentist, Gregory Sereda, Ph.D., professor of chemistry, is researching the use of nanoparticles to reduce sensitivity and increase remineralization of teeth.

Chemistry doctoral candidates participated in a renewable energy symposium in October through The South Dakota Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship—a program coordinating opportunities for graduate students in South Dakota who have research interests in solar energy. As part of the event, the students held an education outreach activity for youth at the Kirby Science Discovery Center in Sioux Falls that drew more than 200 participants.

Communication Sciences & Disorders: Professor and Chair Teri Bellis, Ph.D., delivered a seven-hour invited workshop at the Oklahoma Speech-Language-Hearing Association annual meeting on “Central Auditory Processing Disorders: Neurobiological Bases, Diagnosis, and Intervention.” She also presented the keynote address entitled “Insights from the Inside: Living with TBI,” which detailed her 25-year experience sustaining and recovering from traumatic brain injury.

Communication Studies: Sioux Falls native Lena Tran received a $3,000 Gilman Scholarship sponsored by the Department of State and the Institute of International Education for the spring 2015 term. The scholarship supports international study and internships abroad. Tran spent the spring semester at the University of Pau in France through USD’s Study Abroad program.

Computer Science: A new computer laboratory upgraded hardware and software to provide undergraduate and graduate students improved ability to study computer networking and computer hardware and architecture.

Earth Sciences: Professor and Chair Tim Heaton, Ph.D., coauthored the chapter “Evidence of Maritime Adaptation and Coastal Migration from Southeast Alaska” in the book *Kennewick Man: The Scientific Investigation of an Ancient American Skeleton*.

English: The department acquired Astrophil Press, a small literary press founded by Lecturer Duncan Barlow, Ph.D. Under Barlow’s direction, undergraduate and graduate students will manage all aspects of the business, from soliciting manuscripts to marketing published works.

Chris Jenks, Ph.D., assistant professor, co-edited two books this year, one on classroom interaction and the other on the discourse of identities in transnational contexts. A book chapter on English as a lingua franca will appear later this year, as well as a co-authored article on the translingual dispositions of...
multilingual writers in *College Composition and Communication*, the leading journal for writing studies.

**History:** Professor Steve Bucklin, Ph.D., organized the 49th Annual Northern Great Plains History Conference in Sioux Falls, hosted by USD. The largest conference of its kind on the northern plains, the program featured several department faculty and graduate students presenting their research.

**Mathematics:** At the Emerging Researchers National Conference in STEM in January, Matthew Buhr, ‘15 B.S., won first place for his oral presentation on mathematics and statistics. Buhr was also part of USD’s team that placed in the top third at the annual Mathematical Association of America Contest–North Central Section this year. Associate Professor Catalin Georgescu, Ph.D., and Assistant Professor Gabriel Picioroaga, Ph.D., coached the team, which included students Corina Larson and Peter Petrasko.

**Media & Journalism:** Kathleen Serie, a senior media & journalism major, is one of 13 students nationwide to win an electronic media scholarship from the Broadcast Education Association for 2015–16. Her scholarship was sponsored by the Nielsen Company. Serie has worked with Coyote News’ weekly live newscast and has interned with South Dakota Public Broadcasting and KELOLAND News.

Chuck Lubbers, Ph.D., professor of media & journalism, was named the editor of the new academic journal, *Journal of Public Relations Education*. This online publication of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication published its first issue this summer.

**Modern Languages & Linguistics:** This spring, seven advanced Spanish students volunteered their translation services as part of the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program to Spanish-speaking residents of Sioux City, Iowa. At the event, held at a local community center, the students greeted clients and translated some tax forms not readily available in Spanish.

**Military Science:** The department welcomed Lt. Col. Michelle Bunkers as the new professor and chair of military science in August. Bunkers graduated from USD in 1993 with a B.A. in English and a minor in military science.

As a recruitment tool, the Reserve Officer Training Program this fall began offering partial housing scholarships to USD students who participated in the same training and classes as ROTC cadets.

**Philosophy:** Joseph Tinguely, Ph.D., assistant professor of philosophy, presented “Kant and the Aesthetic Norms of Political Persuasion” at the American Political Science Association annual conference in Washington, D.C.

**Physics:** USD hosted the second ever workshop on Germanium-based Detectors and Technology in the fall, welcoming more than 100 participants from across the world to discuss dark matter, neutrino-less double-beta decay, low-energy neutrino physics, crystal growth and germanium detectors.

The department was recently recognized by the American Physical Society as being a Top Producer for having females earn a large fraction of master’s degrees awarded during the time period 2010–2012, which ranked USD’s department in the top five nationally for all master’s producing institutions.

**Political Science:** The Government Research Bureau, directed by Shane Nordyke, Ph.D., associate professor of political science, completed a community assessment survey for Pierre, South Dakota, this spring. More than 1,000 residents of the community responded to questions relating to their observations about living in Pierre and their opinions on specific policy options facing the community.

As part of USD’s College of Arts & Sciences and International Studies Program’s Global Issues Series, Associate Professor Eric Jepsen spoke on “The Reluctant Tiger: The Rise of India and Implications for U.S. Foreign Policy” in Sioux Falls this spring.

**Psychology:** Professors Raluca Simons, Ph.D., and Randy Quevillon, Ph.D., published “Parents Do Matter, But Why? Examining Two Mediators of the Association Between Parental Approval and Negative Consequences of Alcohol Use,” in the *Journal of Substance Use*. One of the study’s coauthors was psychology student Erick Messler.

Professor Jerry Jacobs, Ph.D., director of USD’s Disaster Mental Health Institute, contributed to an American Psychological Association Help Center fact sheet on the fear of Ebola.

**Sociology:** Jack Niemonen, Ph.D., professor of sociology, published “Whither the White Working Class? A Comment on Khanna and Harris’s ‘Discussing Race in a ‘Post-Racial’ World: Teaching Race through Primetime Television’” in the journal *Teaching Sociology*. Niemonen also reinstated the USD Beta Chapter of Pi Gamma Mu, the oldest honor society in the social sciences.

**Sustainability:** Sustainability program majors are participating in community programs related to their studies. Activities include planting butterfly gardens on campus and at Spirit Mound Historic Prairie, and helping to organize the annual Earth (Every) Day week-long event in April. The program, which formed in 2012, now has eight alumni, including Michelle Corio, ’15 B.A., who works as a legislative correspondent in the U.S. Senate, and Kyle Moret, ’14 B.S., an environmental technician at the Institute for Environmental Assessment in Mankato, Minn.
In conjunction with the Pardee Laboratory Building’s 100th birthday and the centennial anniversary of Dakota Days in October of last year, the chemistry department rededicated the building with a new name, the Pardee Estee Laboratory. The designation honors the mentor-mentee relationship between Arthur Pardee, Ph.D., and Charles Estee, Ph.D. Pardee worked at USD from 1920 to 1952 and served as department chair, director of the Graduate School, and dean of the College of Arts & Sciences. Estee was chair of the chemistry department for 32 years and served as interim dean of the College of Arts & Sciences in 1987–1988. Speaking at the rededication ceremony, Professor and Chair Andrew Sykes, Ph.D., praised the two men and the department’s legacy. “Fantastic graduates and tremendous science have been produced in this building,” Sykes said.

Andrew Sykes, professor and chair of the Department of Chemistry, speaks at the rededication of the Pardee Estee Laboratory.