

THE BULLETIN

A Publication for Alumni & Friends of Valley City State University



VALLEY CITY
STATE UNIVERSITY

Health science program offers preparation for professional and graduate school

Tharaldson book signing ♦ Bergan DSA ♦ Winter & Spring Commencements



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Welcome to the *Bulletin*!

The *Bulletin* is published in spring, summer and fall by the Valley City State University Alumni Association.

Larry Robinson '71.....	701-845-7217
Executive Director for University Advancement	larry.robinson@vcsu.edu
Kim Svenningsen-Hesch '91.....	701-845-7403
Assistant Director for University Advancement	kim.hesch@vcsu.edu
Maggie Heinle.....	701-845-7216
Assistant Director for Annual Giving	margaret.heinle@vcsu.edu
Loree Morehouse '89.....	701-845-7203
Data Processing and Research Coordinator	loree.morehouse@vcsu.edu
Greg Vanney.....	701-845-7227
Director for Marketing and Communications	greg.vanney@vcsu.edu
Pete Smithhisler.....	701-845-7300
Vice President for Student Affairs	pete.smithhisler@vcsu.edu
Jill DeVries.....	701-845-7160
Athletic Director	jill.devries@vcsu.edu
Mark Potts.....	701-845-7228
Director for Sports Information	mark.m.potts@vcsu.edu
Tara Praska '05.....	701-845-7362
Graphic Designer	tara.praska@vcsu.edu
Toll Free.....	800-532-8641 ext. 7203
Alumni/Foundation Website.....	vcsualumni.org

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The VCSU health science program offers preparation for a host of biomedical careers and graduate and professional programs in one major, and its participants have gone on to distinguished careers. Learn about the program and some of its alumni, including Max Kollar '18.

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8 Tharaldson does book signing on campus

Forbes magazine calls alumnus Gary Tharaldson '67 "North Dakota's richest man," and the Tharaldson story is captured in "Open Secrets of Success," his recent biography. He came to campus May 8 to sign copies of the book and spoke about his career to an audience of 100.

12 Ribbon cut on heat plant

VCSU put its new heat plant to good use this winter (which lasted into spring), and on April 3 (with snow still on the ground), dignitaries gathered to celebrate the plant with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

20 VCSU announces fundraising campaign for track and field facilities

The Viking track and field facilities at Lokken Stadium are in dire need of repair, and we need your help in providing the financial resources for a major renovation.

Cover photo credit: Steve Woit





A look at Generation Z

Margaret Dahlberg, Ph.D., Interim President

The *Bulletin* provides a continuing connection to the university for you, our alumni and friends. Generally its content covers what's been happening on campus recently and what you've been doing in your lives. We tend to see Valley City State University through a nostalgic lens, but we all know that the university and its students, faculty and staff are in flux, constantly innovating, adapting and evolving to adjust to an ever-changing world.

Although we would like to think that today's college students are just like we were (regardless of how many years it's been), those who study generational differences tell us that's not the case, and so I'd like to introduce you to the emerging generation our current students represent—Generation Z. As these students graduate high school and enter the workforce or start college, they bring new expectations and behavioral characteristics that the rest of us—the Millennials, GenXers, and Boomers—must adjust to and appreciate.

A recent Forbes article, “5 Differences Between Marketing to Millennials vs. GenZ,” identifies Generation Z as those born after 1995, and therefore currently age 22 and younger.

In her recently published book, “iGen,” Carol Twenge discusses differences in trend data that characterize this new generation. She notes sharp drops in trends in 2008–12, when GenZ was entering high school. She analyzes data from 1976–2015 to demonstrate some important changes nationally: in 2015, one in four 12th graders did not yet have a driver's license, while the average 10th grader had not yet tried alcohol (in 1990, the average 8th grader had already had a first drink). There are similar drops in the number of high school students who date and work for pay.

According to Twenge, they are also more likely to stay home instead of socializing, interacting instead with their online community. Thus they are maturing more slowly, having the key experiences of young adulthood several years later than their Millennial counterparts.

Like their older siblings the Millennials, these young people are digital

natives, but Forbes notes that GenZ is more likely to develop community relationships online, interacting with a group of friends they can carry with them wherever they go. This reliance on a private social world can mean GenZ students are less likely to value face-to-face relationships and not understand how to work collaboratively—big challenges that faculty in high school and college must help them overcome, so they can eventually be productive in the workforce.

Forbes offers some startling characteristics: GenZ has an eight-second attention span and a strong filter for advertisements. They use up to five screens, moving from one device to the next as their engagement lags. Their devices of choice are smartphone, tablet, laptop, desktop, and TV. They are more likely to seek assistance with a problem or homework on YouTube, instead of asking a teacher or tutor for support.

These young people are also shaped by events during their lifetime. In “Generation Z Goes to College,” authors Seemiller and Grace identify a few of these key events, including terrorism in our post 9/11 world, school shootings, and devastating hurricanes and other national disasters. From kindergarten on, they have attended a school system overtly concerned with protection and student safety. Adult concerns for their safety have limited their childhood freedom to roam the neighborhood unsupervised. Even the financial world of their youth is precarious, as they lived through the recession of 2007 and saw people lose their homes, their savings, and their livelihoods. It's no surprise that safety is a defining value for this new generation. They are also growing up during a time of increased hate crimes and bigotry. But according to Forbes, GenZ is open-minded and inclusive (perhaps because the internet places them in contact with a wide variety of people); they believe everyone should get along.

Like the generations before them, GenZ faces challenges shaped by their experiences and environment. It's up to all of us to understand, appreciate, and support this new generation that will become the professionals, the politicians, and the workforce of our future.

Arizona Reunions 2018

VCSU alumni and friends came together for the annual Arizona alumni events in Peoria on Friday, Feb. 2, and in Mesa, Saturday, Feb. 3.

- 1) Mesa attendees: (front l to r) Joe Welder '67, Pat (Hafner) Thomas '59, Deanne (Roseth) Horne '60, Janet (Anderson) Carvell '57, Janice (Anderson) Persinger '57; (back) Don '58 and Jane Lemnus, Bill Thomas '59, Bob Horne '59, Judy Mathias, John Ostlie '60
- 2) Mesa attendees: (front l to r) Dee (Isensee) Hillstrom '69, Micki Isensee, Judy Dosch, Mary Lee (Haugland) Robinson '71, Mary (Kruschwitz) Schroeder '65; (back) Lee Isensee, Dale Hillstrom '69, John Ovrebo '66, Terry Anderson '74, Dan Janisch '69, Ed Pung '75, Al Dosch '55, RaeAnn (Rolshoven) '75 and Jim Vandrovec '74, Kimberly (Pollert) Coffel '87
- 3) Mesa attendees: (front l to r) Coke (Erickson) Aafedt '52, Marge (Nutz) Sogn '61; (back) Larry Robinson '71, Ken Wendt '76, Bob Sogn '61
- 4) Peoria attendees: (front l to r) Mary Lee (Haugland) Robinson '71, Coke (Erickson) Aafedt '52, Pat (Sheldon) Parrish '67, Mary (Kruschwitz) Schroeder '65; (back) Larry Robinson '71, Loren '60 and Judy (Thompson) Koppelman '60, Glen Engle '61, Linda (Olson) '72 and David Koschney '71, Dan Parrish '65, John Ostlie '60



leave a *Legacy* for V-500 at VCSU



The VCSU Foundation Leave a Legacy program is designed to encourage alumni and friends who have supported the university while they were living to continue to have an impact on VCSU after the time of their death. They can do so with a charitable bequest, which can be in the form of cash, stocks, bonds, life insurance, or a percentage of their estate. More often than not, attractive tax benefits are associated with such a bequest.

For further information on the Leave a Legacy program, contact the VCSU Foundation Office at 701-845-7217 or email Larry Robinson, executive director of university advancement, at larry.robinson@vcsu.edu.



Honoring our alumni and supporting your alma mater

Kim Svenningsen-Hesch '91, Assistant Director for University Advancement and Alumni Relations

Do you know a VCSU alumna or alumnus who deserves to be recognized? Why not nominate them to receive a VCSU Alumni Award!

The Valley City State University Alumni Association has four award categories available to recognize alumni. Award recipients are honored during the Alumni Honors Breakfast the Saturday morning of Homecoming. The categories and descriptions are as follows:

Alumni Service Award

The Alumni Service Award was adopted by the VCSU Alumni Association to recognize alumni or university friends who have attained exceptional achievement in their careers and have made significant contributions to the university through dedicated service, promotion, financial support or other efforts.

Certificate of Merit Award

The Certificate of Merit award was adopted by the VCSU Alumni Association to recognize alumni for accomplishments, service or other noteworthy honors.

Distinguished Alumni Award

Recognizes Valley City State University alumni/alumnae who have achieved prominence in their chosen field of endeavor. The nominee must have received national or international recognition and must have been identified as an expert in the individual's chosen field.

Nominees for the Distinguished Alumni Award must be a graduate of Valley City State University. A nomination form (which includes the name and addresses of two additional references) and a résumé must be submitted to the VCSU Alumni Association.

Young Alumni Achievement Award

The Young Alumni Achievement Award was established in 2012 to recognize VCSU's more recent, outstanding alumni as they embark on their chosen paths and strive for greatness. The award is presented to recognize future leaders under the age of 40 based on the following criteria:

- Those who have demonstrated high levels of achievement in one's chosen career or profession
- Those who have demonstrated leadership ability or the potential for leadership and distinction in the long term
- Those who have shown support for Valley City State University
- Those who have shown substantial commitment to the service of others.

Nomination forms are available online at www.vcsualumni.org/awards-recognition/alumni-awards/ or by calling the VCSU Foundation & Alumni office at 701-845-7203.

Thank you for your support of our recognition programs; it's yet another way you can contribute to VCSU. By recognizing the accomplishments of our distinguished alumni, we ensure the tremendous VCSU story stays fresh, alive and prominent, and we share it widely with the world around us.

Remember, if you are in the area during your summer travels, please stop by—the coffee is always on!

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A plea for help...The time is now!

Larry Robinson '71, Executive Director of University Advancement

The mission of the VCSU Foundation is to support Valley City State University by involving alumni and friends of the university in activities and private giving that meet the university's needs and advance its welfare. The foundation supports and coordinates the efforts of the Alumni Association, V-500, Booster Board, and major giving activities.

Today we are asking for your help once again. The university track at Lokken Stadium is in serious need of renovation. We recently received the engineering cost projections for making these improvements. The project is estimated to cost in excess of \$1.2 million. Fortunately, we have generous donors who have already committed \$825,000 toward the project. That leaves us with a total of at least \$375,000 to raise.

We will have the final bid opening in early June 2018, with work to commence shortly thereafter. It is imperative that the track is ready for the 2018 fall semester. Our track program is enjoying great success. Our

athletes have been very competitive, setting 24 school records this season with several athletes qualifying for nationals. We expect to have more than 90 student-athletes participating for the 2018-19 academic year.

Simply put, we need your help to raise the rest of the funds necessary

to complete this important project. Please note that the State of North Dakota does not allow state general fund money to be used for athletic improvements. We must secure private funds for this important project. Time is of the essence. You can contribute online at vcsualumni.org, or call 701-845-7203. Credit cards are accepted. Checks can be sent

Please note that the State of North Dakota does not allow state general fund money to be used for athletic improvements. We must secure private funds for this important project. Time is of the essence. You can contribute online at vcsualumni.org, or call 701-845-7203.

to the VCSU Foundation Track Project at 101 College St., Valley City, ND 58072.

Any questions should be directed to Larry Robinson, executive director of advancement, VCSU Foundation, via phone at 701-845-7203 or email at larry.robinson@vcsu.edu.



THE IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER IS PERMANENT!

IRA Rollover



ARE YOU LOOKING FOR AN EASY WAY TO HELP THE CAUSES YOU CARE THE MOST ABOUT?

Congress has extended the IRA charitable rollover and made it permanent. With the IRA charitable rollover, you can make a gift from your IRA account to help support the work of our organization and benefit. Gifts made from your IRA (up to \$100,000 per year) are not reportable as taxable income. They also qualify for your required minimum distribution (RMD) which can lower your income and taxes.

To learn more about the benefits of making an IRA charitable rollover gift, please contact us at:

(701) 845-7203 or alumni@vcsu.edu



HEALTH SCIENCE PROGRAM OFFERS PREPARATION FOR PROFESSIONAL AND GRADUATE SCHOOL

Max Kollar '18 perhaps has not been the typical VCSU student. He completed three majors—health science, biology and chemistry—at VCSU, and having just walked across the stage at commencement on May 12, he began a Ph.D. program in molecular pathogenesis at North Dakota State University on June 1.

Pretty heady stuff, for sure, but as much as his undergraduate work and future studies might seem a little otherworldly, it's not at all atypical of students who have completed the health science program at VCSU.

The health science program provides all the prerequisites for professional school in biomedical fields such as medicine, dentistry, optometry, pharmacy, chiropractic, physical therapy, occupational therapy, physician assistance, veterinary science, and even mortuary science—or graduate school in fields such as microbiology, organic chemistry, neuroscience, molecular bioscience, protein chemistry, and toxicology.

Often students in the program take multiple majors, and many go on to earn advanced degrees and have high career aspirations—Kollar, for instance, hopes to ultimately work for the emergency response team of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the public health officials who respond to large-scale medical emergencies.

The VCSU health science program dates back to 2004, but the program's roots run a few years deeper than that. It all began when the science department was looking how to best invest some federal grant money. Ostensibly the federal funds were to be used to purchase research equipment to fill a gap that the government recognized in the geographic dispersion of monetary and human resources in the biomedical field—just the type of gap that fits the mission of a public regional university such as VCSU.

Purchasing equipment for a small VCSU science staff, without the strength in numbers or the particular biomedical expertise needed to make good use of the equipment, didn't make a whole lot of sense, however, so the money was repurposed to fund a budget line for a faculty position.

Enter Hilde van Gijssel, who was hired in the spring of 2002 and began work at VCSU later that fall. Van Gijssel came to Valley City with master's and doctoral degrees from Leiden University in her native country, The Nether-

lands, along with postdoctoral experience at the National Cancer Institute (part of the National Institutes of Health) in Bethesda, Md. She was assigned a two-fold task: to create a biomedical-oriented research program and to establish a preprofessional program.

VCSU students previously had gone on to professional school and careers in biomedical fields, typically using a biology major augmented with a chemistry minor, with lots of substitutions depending on the particular target field of professional study and advising through the Career Services Office on campus.

Creating a specific program for health science, and doing advising within the program, created several advantages for VCSU students. The academically rigorous health science program combines all prerequisite courses for a variety of biomedical professional schools in one major; it's the only program like that in the state. The all-inclusive nature of the program also provides flexibility in case a student decides to switch to a different field; a student may explore interests in a variety of biomedical and healthcare careers and can make a change in direction without losing ground.

Research opportunities increased with van Gijssel's creation of a toxicology lab on campus, and those opportunities have been enhanced with the relatively recent renovation of and addition to Rhoades Science Center (which has provided more and better equipment, safer labs, and room for growth) and the establishment of the SOAR (Student Opportunities for Academic Research) program.

A number of research topics are available in the health science program, including synthetic biology (biological engineering), environmental contaminants using a fruit fly model, cancer genetics, computer modeling, water quality, and stress physiology.

Kollar calls the SOAR program "a huge benefit." His research, with van Gijssel serving as faculty mentor, involved creating a bacterial mercury sensor using synthetic biology. "VCSU has so much more to offer than you might think," says Kollar. "My student research in the SOAR program sent me down the path I'm on."

Van Gijssel also was instrumental in founding a community of learning in the health science area with the Pre-Professional Club, a student organization which supports students in the admission process to professional and graduate school, provides opportunities for job shadowing and volunteering, and helps develop leadership skills.

"The Pre-Professional Club was a big help when it came to entrance exams," says Kollar, who served as president of the club his junior year, "and it also helps you learn what grad school will be like."

According to van Gijssel, admission to a professional school program is not something you sit down and take care of on a Sunday



Matthew Axtman '07

- Triple major: health science, chemistry, biology education; athletic coaching minor
- Master's in medicinal chemistry, University of Kansas
- Research associate, Affinergy, Research Triangle Park, N.C.

"While at VCSU I always knew that if I had a question about my career aspirations or what I needed to do to be on the right course for graduation..., I could talk to any of them, and they would take the time and give me 100 percent attention and work to figure out a plan that worked for me."



Fakira (Soumaila) Borkovec '11

- Double major: health science, biology
- Bachelor's in nursing, University of Sioux Falls
- Registered nurse, North Pole, Alaska
- Online student, Doctor of Nursing Practice program, Loyola University New Orleans

"If you start college knowing exactly what you want to do, that is great, but if you are not quite sure what branch of medicine you are interested in, I would say to not worry. ...The beauty about the medical field is that it is so versatile, you can always explore different avenues until you find what it is that makes you happy and fulfilled."



Nick Faure '12

- Triple major: chemistry, biology, health science
- DMD (Doctor of Dental Medicine), Oregon Health and Science University, 2016
- Dentist, Minot (N.D.) Dental Clinic

"...Being taught by the faculty in small classes allowed me to get to know the faculty and the faculty to get to know me... [and] the high academic standards that were imposed... helped to prepare me for the didactic rigors of dental school."



Amy (Field) Haugeberg '13

- Double major: health science, biology
- O.D. (Doctor of Optometry), Oklahoma College of Optometry
- Optometrist, Bonner Eye Clinic, Grand Rapids, Minn.

"As a freshman, I knew I would be pursuing education beyond my undergraduate degree, but I was unsure which area of the medical field was right for me. VCSU helped me find my path. I was able to build a résumé and communication skills that would prepare me for professional school. Through the school, I was able to work two part-time jobs, have access to practice tests for my optometry admissions test, and... take many different types of classes to broaden my education."

afternoon. There are many required components of the application such as volunteer and observation hours, admissions tests, leadership skills, and work experience in a health-care setting. It's recommended that students begin working toward their professional school applications in their freshman year. Fellow members of the Pre-Professional Club help students navigate the process and provide emotional and academic support.

The club provides study material and preparation for taking the admission and competency tests such as the MCAT (medicine), PCAT (pharmacy), GRE (graduate school), DAT (dentistry) and OAT (optometry). Students may also obtain CPR, AED and First Aid training through the Pre-Professional Club. The club also provides volunteer, fundraising and leadership opportunities through its annual benefit meal to support the club and the work of the Hospice of the Red River Valley.

All said and done, the health science major at VCSU today provides the type of education suited for tomorrow's healthcare and biomedical professionals: hands-on, inquiry-based learning using the techniques and technologies used in the field.

The emphasis is on problem-solving, and not necessarily looking for the "right answer" because there's probably only the best answer under the circumstances. The methodology involves formulating a hypothesis, testing it, and learning through trial and error, all in a circular process that refines results but sometimes generates more questions than answers. And that's the key—asking questions.

The health science program is perceived as a growth area at VCSU. Many prospective students express interest in the program each year, and the 2016 addition of another faculty member, Nick Galt, who came to VCSU after doing postdoctoral research at the University of Nebraska—Lincoln, provides van Gijssel with more time for recruiting, advising, and growing the next class of VCSU health science students.

Part of that effort is getting the word out about the program, and van Gijssel has put some health science alumni to work providing testimonials about the program and its benefits. Their career paths also have the potential to inspire current VCSU students, too, and to that end, van Gijssel is creating a wall of framed profiles featuring health science alumni in Rhoades Science Center. A sampling from some of those featured alumni accompanies this piece. They're all bright, talented and hard-working. Note that many, like Kollar, added additional majors and minors to their program of study, and most pursued professional or graduate school after graduation.

It's all smiles for Max Kollar '18 and Professor Hilde van Gijssel after the May 12 commencement.



Jessica Hennings '17

- Double major: health science, medical laboratory science; biology minor
- Lab technologist, hematology, general chemistry, microbiology and blood bank departments, Sanford Health, Fargo

"What I have valued most about attending VCSU is the dedicated staff of the science department who are professors as well as advisors. What I found most helpful was having an advisor who helped tailor my transcript and gave great recommendations on future courses that related to my medical laboratory science major."



Ashley (Gierke) Horner '12

- Triple major: biology, chemistry, health science; psychology minor
- M.D. (Doctor of Medicine), University of North Dakota, 2017
- Family medicine resident, Sanford Health, Fargo

"I was not surprised to see that they have continued to check in on and support me even after graduating from VCSU. Their continued encouragement speaks volumes about this small school. Faculty and staff that are fully vested in their students' goals is what every academic program should strive for. I do and will continue to recommend an education at VCSU to anyone who asks for advice on college placement."



Kayla Jilek '12

- Health science major
- M.S., occupational therapy, University of Mary
- Occupational therapist, Therapy Solutions, Dickinson, N.D.

"VCSU advanced my planning and organizational skills that helped me succeed in my rigorous grad school program where multiple papers and tests were scheduled during a week or even the same day."



Bergan '82 recognized with VCSU Distinguished Service Award



Pictured with Bob Bergan '82 (second from right) are his sons Tommy (left) and Chad, and his wife Joni (Bronaugh) Bergan '83.

Bob Bergan '82, Valley City businessperson and Valley City State University alumnus, received the VCSU Distinguished Service Award from then President Tisa Mason at a reception at City Lights Supper Club on Thursday, Dec. 14.

Family members, friends, and representatives of the VCSU Foundation Board and Booster Board gathered at City Lights for the surprise presentation for Bergan, a 1982 VCSU graduate in business administration. Bergan was

honored for his longtime commitment to VCSU, which he has served as both a member of the Booster Board and the Foundation Board. He is also one of the founders of the Viking Scramble Golf Outing and the Viking Fish Fry, fundraisers that benefit the VCSU athletic program.

Bergan has been a stalwart financial supporter in his own right and also through his Valley City businesses. "My passion for VCSU has always been there," said Bergan. "As a

businessman, I understand what the university means to the community. As a family, we want to help out the university and give back to the community."

A native of Carrington, N.D., Bergan began his business career at Farmers and Merchants Bank (now Dacotah Bank) in Valley City following graduation from VCSU. He and his wife, Joni (Bronaugh) Bergan—a 1983 VCSU graduate—purchased and brought a Taco John's franchise to Valley City in 1985. The Bergans added to their restaurant interests with the purchase of City Lights Supper Club in 2012 and the establishment of the Pizza Ranch franchise in 2014.

Bergan also has interests in rental property; he operates Berkel Properties, which he founded with Wayne Keller. Bergan has also developed the Pinnacle Condominiums in Valley City.

The Bergans' eldest son, Tommy, serves as general manager of all three restaurants in Valley City. Son Chad is a dentist in Fargo, and daughter Jossy works in corporate IT recruitment in Denver, Colo.

The Distinguished Service Award, VCSU's highest honor, is given at the discretion of the president in recognition of exceptional contribution to the university's vision. Bergan is the 26th recipient of the award.

Gjovik '77 named ACTE Region V Teacher Educator of the Year

Peder Gjovik '77, associate professor and chair of the Department of Technology at VCSU, was named ACTE Region V Teacher Educator of the Year at the Association for Career and Technical Education's Region V Conference held in Colorado Springs, Colorado, April 11–14.

The Teacher Educator of the Year award recognizes teacher educators who have demonstrated innovation in teacher education, leadership in improving Career and Technical Education (CTE) and commitment to preparing teachers to deliver high-quality CTE programs.

As a regional Teacher Educator of the Year, Gjovik will participate in a competitive interview process for the national Teacher Educator of the Year award and attend the ACTE CareerTech VISION 2018 conference in San Antonio, Texas, Nov. 28–Dec. 1, 2018.

His recent work includes helping establish accelerated pathways to bachelor's degrees and teaching credentials for graduates of North Dakota two-year colleges who hold technical-specialty degrees. He is currently involved in development of an online course to fulfill student-teaching requirements for distance technical-education candidates.

Gjovik joined VCSU as an adjunct instructor in 2006 and began his full-time teaching career at the university in 2008. He was named department chair in 2014. His previous experience includes teaching in a two-year college graphics program for 21 years, teaching industrial technology for grades 7–12, and owning and operating several printing and graphics businesses.

He holds a doctorate in occupational and adult education from North Dakota State University, a master's degree in industrial technology from the University of North Dakota, a bachelor's degree in industrial education from VCSU, and an associate degree in liberal arts from Lake Region State College. Gjovik serves on the North Dakota Technology and Engineering Educators Association Board of Directors.

ACTE, the largest national education association dedicated to the advancement of education that prepares youth and adults for careers, aims to provide educational leadership in developing a competitive workforce. ACTE Region V includes 16 states—Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota,

Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming—along with American Samoa, Guam, and the Philippines.





Alumnus Tharaldson does book signing on campus

Gary Tharaldson, entrepreneur, hotel magnate and a 1967 VCSU graduate, signed copies of his biography, “Open Secrets of Success: The Gary Tharaldson Story,” on Tuesday, May 8, in the W.E. Osmon Fieldhouse on the VCSU campus.

Tharaldson signed and gave away books to an audience of about 100 gathered for the event. He gave remarks and also fielded questions from the audience.

“There’s never a day that I don’t totally enjoy what I’m doing,” said Tharaldson, who believes strongly that “Whatever you can conceive and believe, you can achieve.” When asked when he might retire, his response

was this: “I will never retire. Why would you ever quit doing something you love?”

Described by Forbes magazine as North Dakota’s richest man, Tharaldson majored in business education at VCSU, did high school teaching and sold insurance before getting into the hotel and motel business. He purchased his first hotel, the Super 8 in Valley City, in 1982. By 2005 he had built and bought more than 400. In January 2018, he said he was still building 20 hotels every 15 months.

An avid softball player and sponsor, Tharaldson is a member of the National Softball Hall of Fame.



24th annual Scholarship Auction held April 20

The VCSU Scholarship Auction was held at the VCSU Eagles Club under the Big Top for a circus extravaganza on April 20.

According to Kim Hesch, assistant director of advancement at VCSU, the scholarship auction is the single biggest event in terms of generating scholarship dollars that the VCSU Foundation Office works on each year. “Scholarships are vital to VCSU’s success,” said Hesch, “and all proceeds from the auction go directly to V-500 and Century Club scholarships.”

“On behalf of Valley City State University, thank you to everyone that donated items, purchased tickets, attended the auction and bid on items at our annual spring Scholarship Auction,” said Hesch. “Your support of this annual event is greatly appreciated. Thanks to the support of our many friends and the community we were able to reach our goal of \$80,000! As a result, we will be positioned to continue our support of the V-500 and Century Club Scholarship Programs.”

Third winter commencement held Dec. 14

Valley City State University celebrated its third Winter Commencement in Vangstad Auditorium in the late afternoon of Thursday, Dec. 14, 2017.

Eighty-four VCSU students completed their degree requirements; the following degrees were awarded: 8 Master of Education degrees, 55 Bachelor of Science in Education degrees, 20 Bachelor of Science degrees and 1 Bachelor of University Studies degree. Thirteen undergraduates were recognized as Three-Year Honorees, those who completed their graduation requirement in less than four years.

Those assembled for the ceremony heard from four speakers: outgoing President Mason; alumnus Greg Stemen '88, who serves on the State Board of Higher Education; undergraduate

speaker Janet Gierke, a nontraditional student and accounts receivable specialist in the VCSU Business Office; and Bob Anderson, professor of science.

President Mason, in her final public appearance before leaving for the presidency of Fort Hays State, instructed the graduates to accept the emotion they were feeling on the occasion. "These feelings of nostalgia are important. That means we've etched a place in your heart and mind." She closed with her signature phrase, "It's a great day to be a Viking," and added "We're very proud of you."

Speaking for the SBHE, Stemen told the graduates, "Our most valuable asset is you, our students," and he encouraged them to "Find a

way to give back to the university that has given so much to you."

Gierke, who joined the VCSU staff in 2011 and began taking classes in 2013, graduated summa cum laude. "The nontraditional student has learned how to balance life, work, school and family," she said, and told her fellow graduates "Each of your journeys will be different."

Anderson, the 2017 Faculty Excellence award winner for senior faculty, encouraged the graduates to be lifelong learners and follow their passions. Two pieces of advice from him included "Don't spend your life working in a job you don't like" and "Live your life to the fullest."



1. President Mason poses with graduate and student commencement speaker Janet Gierke.
2. Janet Gierke (center) poses with her Business Office colleagues Becky Sundstrom '13, Erica Buchholz '10, Nicki Brockopp, and Wesley Wintch.
3. Thirteen of the Winter 2017 graduates completed their degrees in less than four years, including the five who posed here.
4. Graduate Tanner Owen Clark hugs his mother, Jackie Owen, a VCSU faculty member.
5. Greg Stemen '88 represented the State Board of Higher Education at the ceremony.
6. A graduate wears a decorated mortarboard with a message.
7. Taylor Lentz of Valley City and President Mason smile for the cameras.

SPRING COMMENCEMENT HELD MAY 12



1

Valley City State University held its 126th spring commencement exercises Saturday morning, May 12, in W.E. Osmon Fieldhouse.

A total of 174 students—155 undergraduates and 19 graduate students—were candidates for degrees in the spring 2018 term. VCSU students were awarded the following degrees: Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.), Master of Education (M.Ed.), Bachelor of Science in Education (B.S.Ed.), Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) and Bachelor of University Studies (B.U.S.). The M.A.T. candidates represent the first graduates of the program, which began in fall 2016.

VCSU Interim President Margaret Dahlberg directed the ceremony. In her remarks, she encouraged the graduates to “let us know if we can help you,” adding, “We’ll be here, and we’ll be ready to do what we can.”

“Today is a day of aspirations and dreams,” said Don Morton, chair of the North Dakota State Board of Higher Education. Morton, former site leader for Microsoft’s Fargo campus, asked the graduates to understand the value of innovation and teamwork, noting that Microsoft employees are evaluated based on the answer to the questions “What have you done to make other people successful? What have you done to make other teams successful?”

Providing the student reflection at the ceremony was Niklas Ernst, a senior from Kiel, Germany. Student Senate president this past year and a four-year member of the Viking track team during his VCSU career, Ernst graduated summa cum laude with a major in social science with a concentration in political science.

Said Ernst of his VCSU years, “I encountered a vibrant student body, faculty who deeply care

about their students’ success, staff taking pride in their work, and a community opening their doors and hearts to students. For all that I will be forever grateful.”

He went on to extoll the virtue of public education: “...I learned the importance of education, especially higher education, and the



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significance of our public education system. It does so much more than educate. It is the foundation of American democracy, society, and economy. That is why I say loud and clearly: If you doubt its value, if you question its contributions to society, if you think it is too expensive to invest in; try ignorance, try bigotry, try illiteracy. Limiting our investment in education won’t save us anything, it will cost us dearly. It will cost our next generation the skills to succeed, it will cost us the ability to move our society forward, and it will cost us our hope for a brighter future.”

“Let us not imagine what could be. Let us get to work. Let us fight for the change we wish to see in the world. Let us not give up power by assuming we don’t have any,” said Ernst. “...And before we act, speak, or tweet, let’s always ask ourselves one fundamental question. Will our words and actions bring people together or will they divide?”

The commencement address was given by Kathryn Woehl, associate professor of social science, who has taught psychology at VCSU since 2010. Woehl, recently selected as Student Senate’s 2018 Teacher of the Year, spoke of her fondness for commencement ceremonies, focusing on the phrase attached to the awarding of degrees: “with all of the rights, privileges and responsibilities pertaining thereto.”

She urged the graduates to accept that responsibility, “the responsibility to courageously question the truth, to use your knowledge and skills to create change, and to persevere,” declaring that a degree is not just a ticket into the workforce.

Video of the commencement ceremony can be viewed online at www.vcsu.edu/news/video-of-spring-commencement-2018.



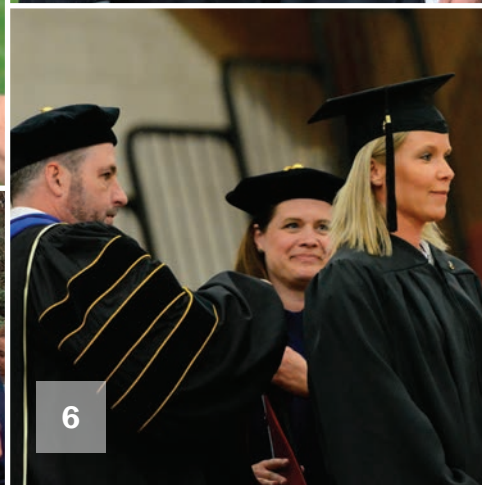
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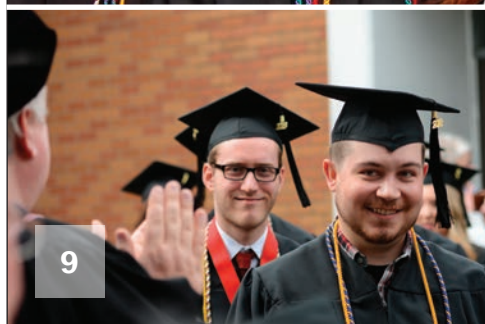


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- 1) Niklas Ernst, outgoing Student Senate president from Kiel, Germany, presents the student reflection at VCSU's commencement ceremony as Margaret Dahlberg, interim president, looks on.
- 2) Among the speakers at VCSU's May 12 commencement exercises was Don Morton, chair of the North Dakota State Board of Higher Education.
- 3) Posing with her family after the commencement ceremony is Leslie Midthun of Cody, Wyoming, who earned a master's degree in education in VCSU's online graduate program.
- 4) VCSU 2018 graduate Jesus Munoz (center) of Rialto, Calif., poses with Viking football coaches Gregg Horner (left) and Dennis McCulloch.
- 5) VCSU graduate Mackenzie Bruce of San Tan Valley, Ariz., poses with family members after the ceremony.
- 6) James Boe, VCSU director of graduate studies, and Heather Kvilvang, assistant professor of education, prepare to place the master's degree hood on Jennifer Kriewald of Valley City.
- 7) Among the smiling faces at VCSU's commencement exercises Saturday, May 12, was Spencer Aune of East Grand Forks, Minn.
- 8) Lining up before VCSU's commencement are North Dakotans (from left) Deborah Haley (Davenport), Heather Gensler (Hankinson), Hannah Gress (Fargo) and Paige Fettig (Bismarck).
- 9) Graduate Austin Berg of Valley City (right) and Niklas Ernst of Kiel, Germany, smile at the applause from VCSU faculty following the commencement ceremony.
- 10) VCSU graduate Jacob Pommerer of Oriska poses with family members after the ceremony.



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VCSU and NDUS personnel cutting the ribbon at heat plant included (l to r) Wesley Wintch, Larry Robinson, Margaret Dahlberg, Phil Wisecup, Ron Pommerer and Pat Horner. The university's original power house was built in 1909 (top right). The new plant was built from the inside out with boilers and other equipment installed before the walls went up (bottom right).

Ribbon-cutting ceremony held for new heat plant on April 3

A ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new VCSU heat plant was held on Tuesday, April 3. Margaret Dahlberg, VCSU interim president, emceed the event, and Phil Wisecup, vice chancellor of strategy and strategic engagement of the North Dakota University System, gave remarks. VCSU's Wesley Wintch, vice president for business affairs, and Larry Robinson, executive director for university advancement, also spoke at the ceremony. Tours of the facility were given after the ribbon-cutting.

In 1909, the North Dakota Legislature provided \$30,000 for a "complete heating, ventilating power, and lighting plant" at the Valley City Normal School. The Normal School's Board of Management moved on the project immediately, but upon opening bids, discovered the allocated funds were inadequate. The board then asked the Emergency Commission permission to use \$10,000 from funds appropriated for a women's dormitory in Valley City to cover the additional costs. The emergency request was approved, and the power plant was constructed on a site northeast of the main building (now McFarland Hall).

That original facility, with modifications and additions, served what became Valley City State University for more than 100 years. In 2015, recognizing that the power plant was on its last legs, facing more than \$12 million in deferred maintenance and limping along on two boilers more than 50 years old, VCSU and the North Dakota University System approached the 64th Assembly of the North Dakota Legislature with a proposal for a new heating plant.

The legislature recognized that the old power

plant threatened VCSU campus safety and security, and the proposal received the requested \$14.3 million in funding. After reductions from the budget allotments, a new \$13.9 million heat plant was constructed.

The VCSU heat plant was designed by JLG Architects, with Obermiller Nelson Engineering serving as the engineering firm and McGough Construction serving as construction manager. The old power plant was demolished in June 2017, and the new heat plant came on line for the 2017-18 heating season.

The heat plant features two energy-efficient boilers capable of utilizing natural gas, coal,

and fuel oil. The facility was designed with room for another boiler to provide redundancy and ensure continuity; that boiler was added in May 2018. With expanded capacity to accommodate future campus growth, the new plant requires less maintenance and labor, and operates significantly more efficiently, than its predecessor.

The heat plant was also designed with the potential for an exciting addition—an environmentally friendly activated carbon plant. The innovative carbon plant would generate revenue and also provide for student/faculty research opportunities.



Viking Club Tennis named USTA National Team of the Year



Members of the Viking Club Tennis team honored as the USTA National Team of the Year include (l to r) Katie Clark (Valley City), Paige Fettig (Bismarck), Brandon Miller (Valley City), Dalton Ondracek (Valley City), Dustin Miller (Valley City), Clarissa Olson (Valley City) and Caitlyn Hunter (Williston).

The VCSU Viking Club Tennis team has been named the National United States Tennis Association (USTA) Tennis On Campus Team of the Year. The team previously had been named USTA Northern Section Team of the Year at the 2018 Sectional Championships March 3–4.

The award recognizes the team's involvement in its USTA On Campus section, youth tennis, high school programs and adult leagues in the community which promote the lifelong sport of tennis. The award also recognized the team's ability to raise funds, host tournaments and grow membership from season to season.

"I am incredibly proud of this team!" said Viking Club Tennis coach/advisor Erik Kringlie '92. "They work hard in practice, in matches and most importantly, off the court, to not only improve the team but have a positive effect on their university and their community."

The team will accept the award at the USTA Semiannual Meeting/ U.S. Open in New York from Sept. 1–2, 2018. This is the second time the Viking Club team has been awarded the USTA Northern Section Team of the Year award but its first winning the national award.

Engelhard selected for chemistry research experience in Prague



VCSU junior Casey Engelhard of Valley City has been selected for an eight-week chemistry research experience this summer in Prague, the capital of the Czech Republic.

Engelhard will participate in a University of North Dakota program, "International Research Experience for Students: Interdisciplinary Environmental and Green Applications in Chemistry."

His research will be mentored by Dr. Tomáš Brányik of the University of Chemical Technology in Prague and Dr. Evgenii Kozliak from UND.

The research project is aimed at developing a comprehensive understanding and description of adsorption mechanisms of microalgal biosorption. The study of adsorption of specific organic molecules to microalgal biomass will then enable effective application in environmental biotechnologies.

Engelhard's research award includes a stipend, housing and travel expenses.

NDUS launches search for next VCSU president

The North Dakota University System (NDUS) has launched its search for the next president of Valley City State University.

The search has been prompted by the departure of former president Tisa Mason, who left VCSU in December 2017 for the presidency of Fort Hays State University in Hays, Kan.

Margaret Dahlberg, Ph.D., VCSU vice president for academic affairs, has been serving as VCSU interim president since Dec. 16, 2017. She served in that same capacity from July–December 2014, between the departure of former president Steve Shirley to Minot State University and the arrival of Mason.

The VCSU Presidential Search Committee is led by co-chairs Greg Stemen '88, member of the State Board of Higher Education and VCSU alumni, and Wesley Wintch, VCSU vice president of business affairs. NDUS has retained the services of James McCormick and Janice Fitzgerald from AGB Search, a national higher education leadership search firm, to assist in the process.

Search committee members include:

- Anthony Dutton '96, VCSU associate professor of history
- Jody Henjum, VCSU administrative assistant, academic affairs
- Paige Meyer, VCSU undergraduate student
- Jerry Migler, dean, Dakota College of Bottineau (North Dakota University System representative)
- Phil Mueller '68, member, VCSU Foundation Board; former North Dakota state representative
- Mike Nix '96, VCSU director for technology service desk
- Steve Rindfleisch, VCSU graduate student and assistant volleyball coach
- Larry Robinson '71, executive director of advancement, VCSU Foundation; North Dakota state senator
- Charlene Stenson '83, VCSU director for enrollment services
- Jamie Wirth, VCSU assistant professor and director of Great Plains STEM Education Center

More information about the search can be found at www.vcsu.edu/presidentialsearch. Nominations and applications for the VCSU presidency should be sent electronically to valleycitypresident@agbsearch.com. Application deadline for best consideration is July 12, 2018.

VCSU online programs recognized in U.S. News rankings

U.S. News and World Report has recognized the online graduate education and bachelor's degree programs at Valley City State University in its 2018 Best Online Programs rankings.

The online graduate programs at VCSU are ranked 62nd among the listed programs from 309 universities nationwide. The rankings are based on measures of student engagement, faculty credentials and training, student services and technology, admissions selectivity, and a survey of peers at other institutions.

"We're proud to see the recognition given by U.S. News and World Report to our online graduate programs," said Sheri Okland, associate professor and dean of the School of Education and Graduate Studies. "We know that our M.Ed. and M.A.T. programs are serving our students well, and to have our programs recognized among the best in the country is gratifying. It speaks to the good work being done by our students, faculty and staff."

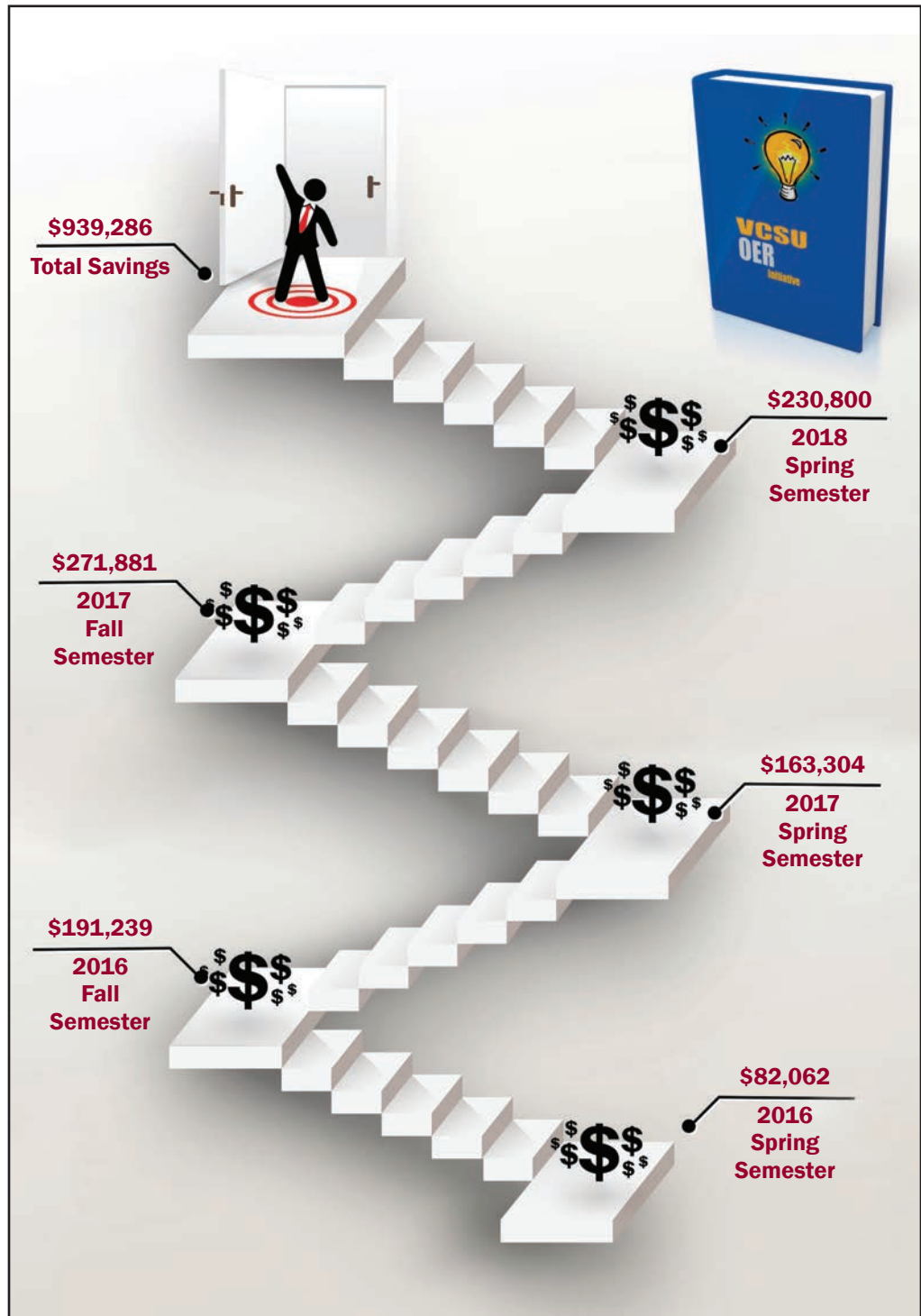
VCSU offers two graduate programs—the Master of Education (M.Ed.) and the Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.). Both programs are taught entirely online to allow working professionals to earn graduate degrees at their convenience.

The M.A.T. program is geared for those with non-teaching bachelor's degrees who want to add teaching credentials to their portfolios, while the M.Ed. program is designed for practicing teachers with undergraduate education degrees who wish to augment their teaching credentials.

The M.Ed. program offers six concentrations: elementary education, English education, library and information technologies, teaching English language learners, teaching and technology, and technology education.

In the online bachelor's rankings, VCSU programs ranked 138th among programs from 357 colleges and universities. Here the rankings formula relied on measures of student engagement, faculty credentials and training, student services and technology, and a peer survey.

Online bachelor's degree programs at VCSU include business education, business process integration management, career and technical education, communication, English education, history education, music, and technology education.



VCSU student textbook savings via OER

OER save VCSU students \$230,000 this semester

The use of Open Educational Resources (OER) at Valley City State University has saved students more than \$230,000 in textbook costs in spring semester 2018.

The use of OER, free course resources used instead of textbooks, has been emphasized at VCSU since spring semester 2016. Total savings calculated since then total \$939,286.

In addition to the dollar savings, OER has additional benefits: increased access and equality of access for students, the use of multimedia to accommodate a variety of learning styles, and an increase in student and faculty engagement are significant.

VCSU will continue its emphasis on use of OER, and next semester the aggregate savings to students will cross the \$1 million threshold.



ATHLETIC DIRECTOR'S CORNER JILL DEVRIES



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We talk a lot about success in athletics. What it is. How to achieve it. How to maintain it.

Merriam-Webster defines it as “getting or achieving wealth, respect or fame,” but that seems incomplete.

Legendary basketball coach John Wooden said, “Success is peace of mind, which is a direct result of self-satisfaction in knowing you did your best to become the best you are capable of becoming.”

Some believe that Maya Angelou’s take on success is among the best: “Success is liking yourself, liking what you do, and liking how you do it.”

“Success is going from failure to failure without losing enthusiasm,” said Winston Churchill.

Thomas Edison believed that success is a grind: “Success is one percent inspiration, 99 percent perspiration,” said Edison.

How we define it is important to finding it. At Valley City State University, we are committed to creating an environment that encourages our student-athletes to raise the bar higher. Our mission—“to engage, educate, and elevate”—centers around providing a wonderful experience for the student-athletes and making sure they reach their full potential, both on the field of competition and in the classroom.

We had tremendous success in the classroom during the fall of 2017 with our 281 student-athletes at VCSU. Eight teams had cumulative team GPAs over 3.0. Individually, 103 student-athletes made the honor rolls including 45 on the President’s Honor Roll with 4.0 semester GPAs and 52 on the Dean’s Honor Roll with GPAs between 3.5–3.99. Thirty-nine of our fall student-athletes were named NSAA Scholar Athletes for maintaining a 3.25 or better cumulative GPA.

At the national level, we had a school-record 40 Daktronics–NAIA Scholar-Athletes this season, which recognizes juniors and seniors who have maintained a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher throughout their college careers.

On the court, we celebrated a conference tournament championship this winter as our women’s basketball team defeated rival University of Jamestown in the NSAA Postseason Tournament title game. The women finished the season with a school-record 25 wins and advanced to the national tournament for the fifth time in program history.

Our men’s basketball team had a lot of late-season success, winning their final six games in order to make the NSAA Tournament. That run included thrilling last-second victories against Bellevue University and the University of Jamestown.

In track and field, the resurgence of our program became even more apparent as our men’s and women’s teams both placed in the Top 3 at both the NSAA Indoor and Outdoor Track & Field Championships. Our student-athletes won eight individual conference titles and had 40 All-Conference performances, nine qualifiers for nationals, and two All-Americans. The track and field program set 24 new school records this season.

On the diamond, the VCSU softball team finished the season 39-12 and was ranked No. 25 in the final Top 25 Coaches’ Poll—the first time in history that the program has been ranked in the Top 25.

For the latest in Viking news, and all the details on our spring semester sports, visit vcsuivikings.com.



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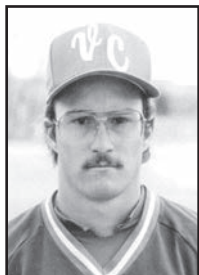
AVAILABLE FOR ANDROID AND IOS. SEARCH **VCSU ATHLETICS**

2018 Hall of Fame to induct 4 individuals

Valley City State University will induct four individuals into the Viking Athletic Hall of Fame during Homecoming Weekend in October.

Former Viking football players Jed Klein and Jeff Volk will be inducted as part of the 2018 class, along with baseball alumnus Stacy Fitterer and softball standout Tracy (Baily) McGillis.

The 2018 Hall of Fame Class will be honored at an induction ceremony during Homecoming Weekend, scheduled for Oct. 12–14. Tickets for the induction ceremony may be purchased by calling the VCSU Foundation Office (701-845-7203).



STACY FITTERER '90

Baseball • 1986–89 • Mandan, N.D.

Stacy Fitterer was named All-Conference and All-District each of his four seasons on the baseball diamond for Valley City. The native of Mandan, N.D., still holds three school records. He batted a school-record .485 during the 1988 season and then hit a record 14 home runs during the 1989 season. He finished his career with 40 home runs, also a school record.

In 1987, he helped the Vikings to the regular season NDCAC Championship, the NDCAC Tournament Championship, and the NAIA District Championship. The Vikings went on to place third that year at the NAIA Regional.

Fitterer was also named an NAIA Scholar-Athlete in 1989.



TRACY (BAILY) MCGILLIS '97

Softball/Volleyball • 1993–97 • Oak River, Manitoba

Tracy (Baily) McGillis starred on the softball diamond for Valley City during the mid-'90s. A native of Oak River, Manitoba, Tracy was named All-Conference and All-Section each of her last three seasons, excelling as both a pitcher and hitter at Valley City from 1993–97.

Tracy was named Team MVP in 1996 and capped her career with the conference's Most Valuable

Graduating Senior award in 1997. She also played two years of volleyball for Valley City.



JED KLEIN '85

Football/Baseball • 1980–83 • Thompson, N.D.

Jed Klein competed in two sports while at Valley City, including his top sport of football. A menacing defensive lineman, Klein earned All-Conference, All-District and Honorable Mention All-American honors during his senior season of 1983. He racked up 91 tackles and four sacks as a senior, and finished his career with 171 total tackles and 7.5 sacks.

As a junior, Klein was named Honorable Mention All-Conference after tallying 60 tackles and 3.5 sacks.

Klein played a part in five conference championships at Valley City. He won titles with Viking Football in 1980, 1982 and 1983, and also won conference championships with Viking Baseball in 1981 and 1982.



JEFF VOLK

Football/Track & Field • 1981–85 • Rugby, N.D.

Jeff Volk was a four-year contributor to the Viking Football team, excelling as a defensive back. The native of Rugby, N.D., totaled 173 tackles, five interceptions and 22 passes broken up throughout his career.

Volk earned All-Conference, All-District and Honorable Mention All-American during his junior season of 1983. He had his best statistical year as

a senior, totaling 71 tackles and breaking up six passes en route to Honorable Mention All-Conference in 1984. Volk helped the Vikings win three straight conference titles from 1982–84.

Also competing in track and field for three seasons at VCSU, he was named the team's Most Improved in 1983 and Team Captain in 1985.



SAVE THE DATE

HOMECOMING

OCTOBER 12–14, 2018

Record-breaking season for track & field

The VCSU track and field team set new school records in 24 different events this year as the Vikings completed successful indoor and outdoor seasons.

Head coach Chris Johnson and his squad also had their best conference finishes since the program was reinstated in 2010, placing in the Top 3 in both men's and women's at the indoor and outdoor championships. The Vikings also had a pair of All-Americans; it was the first time since 1992 that two different athletes have earned All-American honors in the same season.

The Vikings set 18 school records during the indoor season, had three conference champions and turned in 18 All-Conference performances. During the outdoor season, the squad had two All-Americans, broke six school records, won five individual conference titles and had 22 All-Conference performances (Top 3 finish at conference meet).

"I cannot express how proud I am of the athletes and the manner in which they responded this season," said Johnson. "This year continued to show how far the program has come over the past two and a half years, and I could not be happier with the entire team."

Outdoor season recap

Valley City State took third place at the NSAA Outdoor Championships in both men's and women's track and field.

The Viking women had 11 All-Conference performances and racked up 120 team points at the two-day meet hosted by Dakota State University. Megan Johnson doubled up on titles, winning both the long jump and triple jump. Allyssa Weitkum (800 meters) and Bryeann Robertson (shot put) also won conference titles for the Vikings.

The Viking men scored 121 team points with one conference champion and 11 All-Conference performances. Freshman Kyle Odegard took home a conference title in the javelin. Odegard won the javelin in all five meets in which he competed during the season.

Valley City State had seven athletes qualify for the NAIA National Championships and five who competed at the meet in Gulf Shores, Ala. Megan Johnson (women's triple jump) and Kyle Odegard (men's javelin) both placed seventh in their events to earn All-American. Odegard set a school record at nationals with his javelin throw of 61.45 meters (201 feet, 7 inches). Johnson also placed 19th in long jump, while Sayge McKrill took 11th in women's discus. Mackenzie Huber placed 19th in women's discus, and Garret Roemmich took 16th in men's javelin.

Indoor season recap

Valley City State University's indoor track and field season was highlighted by a pair of strong team performances at the North Star Athletic Association Indoor Track & Field Championships.

VCSU's men placed second and the Viking women finished third at the NSAA meet, continuing a resurgence of the VCSU track and field program. Along with the strong team finishes, the Vikings took home three individual conference titles and had 18 All-Conference performances at the North Star meet in Brookings, S.D.

Valley City State's strong performance was headlined by a trio of conference champions. Senior Lenzel Koskela took home the title in the men's 400 meter dash, junior Roy Allen won the men's weight throw, and freshman Bryeann Robertson lived up to her top seed in the women's shot put to earn a conference title.

VCSU's women totaled eight All-Conference performances, while the Viking men racked up 10 All-Conference awards.

Valley City State University had two athletes qualify for the NAIA Indoor National Championships. Robertson competed in the women's shot put and placed 27th at nationals. Senior jumper Megan Johnson qualified for nationals in the long jump and placed 24th during the national meet.



Lenzel Koskela



Bryeann Robertson



Megan Johnson



Allyssa Weitkum (right)



Roy Allen

Women's basketball enjoys record-breaking year, national tourney berth



The 2017–18 season was a record-breaking year for the Valley City State University women's basketball team.

First-year head coach Vanessa Keeler-Johnson and her squad set a dozen school records as they won the North Star Athletic Association Conference Tournament Championship and advanced to the NAIA National Tournament for the second straight season.

VCSU finished the season with a 25-5 overall record and finished second in the NSAA regular season standings to the University of Jamestown. The Vikings made a run to the conference tournament championship though, defeating Jamestown in the championship game. That contest was also their final meeting as conference foes because Jamestown will be moving to the GPAC next season.

The Vikings were ranked as high as No. 14 in

the NAIA Top 25 Poll and drew the University of St. Francis (Ill.) in the first round of the national tournament in Sioux City, Iowa. After falling behind early, the Vikings battled to within one possession several times in the second half but could not complete a comeback as their season ended with a 56-47 loss.

The season's 25 wins is a new school record, as is the .833 winning percentage. The Vikings boasted the most prolific offense in program history, setting new school records for points per game (76.5), field goal percentage (46.3 percent) and free throw percentage (76.9 percent). Valley City State used a balanced approach at the top of their lineup with four players averaging 10 or more points per game, led by senior Lexi Lennon's 17.6 points per contest.

Lennon (West Fargo, N.D.) was named 1st Team All-Conference and Honorable Mention

All-American for the second straight season. She finishes her career as the third-leading scorer in Viking history with 1,519 points and is ranked Top 10 in school history in most categories. Lennon holds the school record for career 3-point percentage (39.1 percent) and also set a new single-game record with 18 free throws made during a November win against Warner University.

Junior forward Alli Vandal (Rolla, N.D.) was named 2nd Team All-Conference after averaging 10 points and six rebounds per game. Vandal shot a school-record 60.9 percent from the field. Sophomore center Mackenzie Huber (Clark, S.D.) earned Honorable Mention All-Conference. Huber had the third best shooting percentage in school history (58.2 percent) and averaged 11 points and six rebounds per game. Junior center Kaitlin Connor set a new school record with 36 blocks during the season.

The Vikings graduate three seniors from this year's squad: Lennon, Kennedy Henningsgard (Buxton, N.D.) and Paige Meyer (Fairmount, N.D.).

VCSU won a school-record 10 straight games to start the season, and had a nine-game winning streak later in the season. The national tournament appearance was the fifth in history for the VCSU women's basketball program, all of which have come since 2011. The conference tournament championship was the first for the Vikings since 2011.

Men's basketball makes late-season run

The Valley City State University men's basketball team made a memorable late-season run during the 2017–18 season, but in the end couldn't overcome the North Star's top seed in the conference tournament.

Late in the season the Vikings were 8-15 overall and 2-9 in conference play, looking like a lock to miss out on the eight-team NSAA Tournament. The Vikings turned things around, though, as they ended the season with a six-game winning streak, highlighted by tight wins and late-game heroics.

The streak included a double-overtime win against Dickinson State and thrilling one-point victories in the final seconds against the top two teams in the conference: Bellevue University and the University of Jamestown. Alex Quist made the game-winning shot against Bellevue with six seconds remaining, while Justyn Galloway scored the game-winner against Jamestown with less than a second to go.

The Vikings late winning streak allowed them to qualify for the NSAA Tournament as the No. 8 seed. VCSU traveled to face Bellevue in the first round but couldn't defeat the Bruins on the

road, ending the year with a 64-60 loss to the tournament's top seed.

It marked the final collegiate game for six VCSU seniors who had memorable careers: Galloway, Chase Carpenter, Rashad Satahoo, Jayden Ferguson, Quist and Austin Dunbar. All but Dunbar were members of the 2015–16 squad that was just the second team in program history to win a national tournament game.

Ferguson and Satahoo both end their careers high on the all-time scoring list. Ferguson ranks second in school history with 2,128 career points, and Satahoo ranks 12th with 1,220 career points.

Ferguson was named 1st Team All-Conference and Honorable Mention All-American for the third straight season. He averaged more than 16 points per game as a senior and is one of just three Vikings in school history to score more than 2,000 career points. Satahoo was named Honorable Mention All-Conference after averaging 14 points per game and making 73 3-pointers.

Valley City State University finished the season with a 14-16 overall record.



Jayden Ferguson

Softball ends season with first-ever Top 25 ranking

The VCSU softball team ended the 2018 season ranked in the Top 25 for the first time in program history.

After posting a 39-12 overall record this season, the Vikings were ranked No. 25 in the final NAIA Top 25 Coaches' Poll. It is the first time the Vikings have ever been nationally ranked since the poll began in 2000.

Despite that momentous achievement, the season had a bittersweet end as VCSU was the first team left out of the NAIA National Tournament. After losing out in the semifinals of the North Star Athletic Association conference tournament, the Vikings had hoped to earn an at-large bid to nationals. When the final selections were released VCSU was the highest-ranked team not to receive an at-large bid—just missing the national tournament for the second time in three seasons.

The 39 wins is the second-most in program history, just behind the 2016 team that won 40 games. The Vikings went 20-5 in NSAA conference games and placed second in the NSAA standings behind the University of Jamestown (22-3). VCSU had the 16th-best winning percent-

age in the nation (.765) and the 39 wins ranked 23rd among all NAIA teams.

The Vikings set five new school records during the season and had a whopping nine players earn All-Conference honors. Kelli Moore and Emily Smith each had 19 doubles, breaking the old single-season record of 18 held by Cyndi Figol. VCSU racked up 101 doubles as a team, shattering the old record of 79 set in 2016. The Vikings also had 17 triples which broke the record of 16 set back in 1982.

Freshman shortstop Joelle Aiello was named the NSAA Newcomer of the Year and 1st Team All-Conference after leading the NSAA in hits (79) and batting average (.441). Aiello was also honored with a Gold Glove award for her defense. Senior first baseman Kelli Moore hit .432 with five home runs and a team-high 45 RBIs as she was named 1st Team All-Conference. Other 1st Team All-Conference honors went to senior pitcher Haley Butterfield (19-5 record/2.43 ERA/132 IP), senior outfielder Kelsey Hamade (.386 AVG/41 runs/23 RBIs), and sophomore catcher Jayme Menard (.322 AVG/32 runs/24 RBIs).

Four Vikings earned 2nd Team All-Conference: junior outfielder Tatum Lundin (.333 AVG/5 HR/37 RBIs), junior infielder Voni Culp (.390 AVG/37 RUNS/18 SB), freshman pitcher Nichole Reed (6-0 record/1.78 ERA/63 IP) and sophomore pitcher/infielder Emily Smith (.355 AVG/35 RBIs/11-3 record/2.55 ERA). Valley City State played 23 of its games inside the Presentation College Dome as cold spring weather forced numerous schedule changes, including two home series that had to be moved to the dome in Aberdeen, S.D.



Joelle Aiello



Kelli Moore

Baseball battles to 15-30 record

The Valley City State University baseball team posted a 15-30 overall record this year as the Vikings battled to play games in uncooperative spring weather.

The cold and wintery spring wreaked havoc on most collegiate baseball schedules across the Midwest, and VCSU was not immune to it, spending hours on the road to find playable field conditions. The Vikings had to move two scheduled home series to Nebraska and at one point played four straight weekends in Iowa and

Nebraska in order to find playable weather and fields.

The Vikings posted a 7-15 record in the North Star Athletic Association and entered the conference tournament as the No. 7 seed. VCSU took No. 2 seed Bellevue University—the eventual conference champion—to extra innings before falling in the conference opener. In game two of the tournament, the Vikings had their most memorable moment of the season as they rallied from a three-run deficit in the 10th inning to win 17-13 on a walk-off grand slam by Aiden Brook. The VCSU season eventually came to an end in the next round against the University of Jamestown.

VCSU junior Grant Wehseler had the Vikings' top season at the plate and was named 2nd Team All-Conference. The first baseman batted .375 and led the team in batting average, doubles (13), home runs (6), RBIs (36) and slugging percentage (.604).

VCSU junior Brady Smith and senior Max Koprek were named Honorable Mention All-Conference. Smith, who split time between infield and outfield, batted .313 and scored a team-high 32 runs. Koprek, a right-handed pitcher, was dominant throughout much of the season and finished with a 3-5 record, three saves and a 4.10 ERA in 41 innings pitched.



Grant Wehseler

Golfers fight weather



Jared Lentz

Four Valley City State University golfers were named Honorable Mention All-Conference during the 2017-18 season, which wrapped up May 1 in Waverly, Iowa.

Poor spring weather forced several cancellations and meant the Vikings were only able to play three total

rounds during an abbreviated spring season. Two of those rounds came at the NSAA Tournament in Iowa, where Viking men Jared Lentz, Jeremie Pasitney, Cameron Rall and Kyle Wiebe all placed in the Top 14 to earn Honorable Mention All-Conference.

Lentz placed eighth as the top Viking at the 72-hole NSAA Tournament, which was spread out between 36 holes in the fall and 36 holes in the spring. The Viking men placed third as a team, while the VCSU women took sixth.

VCSU was able to play five tournaments during the fall portion of the season. The Viking men had two titles in the fall, winning the Dickinson State Invite and the Minnesota-Morris Cougar Invite. Lentz had VCSU's top individual finish during the season, winning medalist honors at the Dickinson State Invite.

VCSU ANNOUNCES FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN FOR TRACK AND FIELD FACILITIES



GIVING LEVELS

GOLD	\$15,000 AND UP
SILVER	\$5,000-\$14,999
BRONZE	\$1,000-\$4,999
VIKING RELAY	\$300-\$999
VIKING STARTERS	UP TO \$299

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

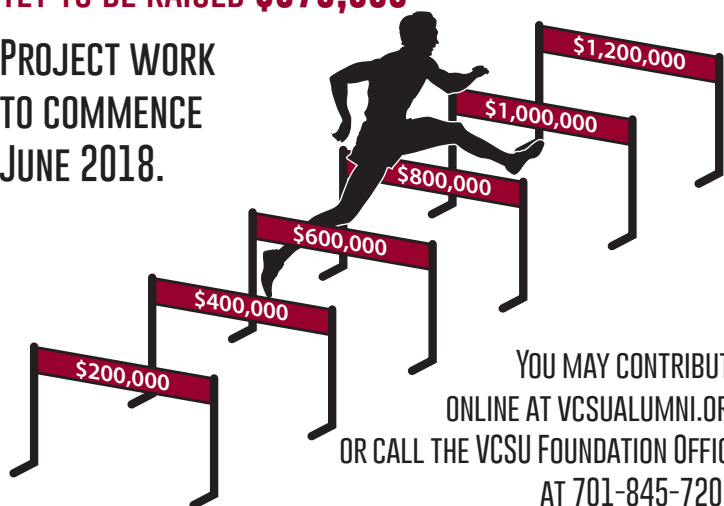
SUPPORT VCSU'S TRACK RENOVATION PROJECT

TOTAL PROJECT COST **\$1,200,000**

RAISED TO DATE **\$825,000**

YET TO BE RAISED **\$375,000**

PROJECT WORK
TO COMMENCE
JUNE 2018.



YOU MAY CONTRIBUTE
ONLINE AT VCSUALUMNI.ORG
OR CALL THE VCSU FOUNDATION OFFICE
AT 701-845-7203.
CREDIT CARDS ARE WELCOME.

The Valley City State University Foundation has announced a fundraising campaign to secure resources for a major renovation of the track and field facilities at Lokken Stadium on the university campus.

According to Larry Robinson, executive director of the VCSU Foundation, "We are experiencing both surface and sub-surface issues with the track. Although short-term repairs have been made in recent years, we intend to do a complete makeover beginning in the summer of 2018."

The North Dakota State Board of Higher Education has authorized the foundation to conduct the campaign to cover the costs of the renovation, estimated at \$1.2 million.

Robinson reports that donors have committed \$825,000 to the project, with fundraising efforts to cover the remaining balance already underway.

The VCSU track and field program has experienced significant growth in recent years, with about 90 student-athletes currently participating in the Viking program, said Jill DeVries, VCSU athletic director.

"With the growth of the VCSU track and field program, we believe it is in the best interests of key stakeholders, including our student-athletes, to upgrade the track at Lokken Stadium on the VCSU campus," said DeVries. "Recruiting prospective student-athletes to Valley City is very competitive and challenging. Improving our facilities will help us build on the momentum and success that Coach Chris Johnson and his staff have achieved."

The 400-meter track at Lokken Stadium will be rebuilt and resurfaced. Also included in the project are throwing cages for field events, runways and pits for the jump events, and a steeplechase barrier and pit.

KLJ Engineering has been awarded the architectural and engineering bid for the project; construction bid letting will follow.

For more information about the track renovation project, contact the VCSU Foundation Office at 701-845-7203.

Heinle joins foundation staff



Maggie Heinle joined the VCSU Foundation Office as assistant director of annual giving in December 2017.

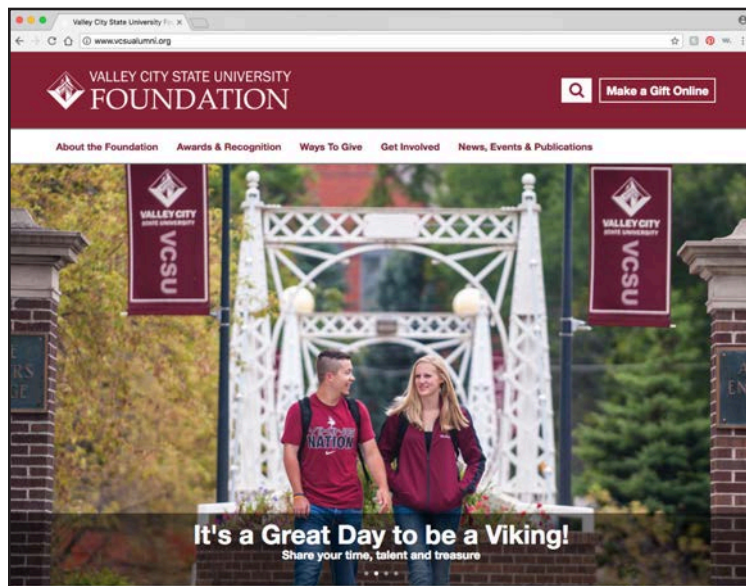
Heinle will organize and implement annual fundraising campaigns for the V-500 Scholarship program, working closely with the V-500 Board.

Prior to joining VCSU, Heinle worked as a software development business analyst. She previously worked at Bobcat headquarters in West Fargo with the global sales and marketing teams on pricing

and ordering, and at Tri-College University in Fargo as the assistant to the provost.

She has been active in fundraising for the United Way for two decades, and 4LuvofDog Rescue for five years; she's also been involved with Giving Hearts Day.

Heinle and her husband, Lyle, live on a farmstead north of Tower City. The couple has three adult children and two grandchildren.



New website for alumni, donors and friends

Alumni, donors and friends are encouraged to use the new VCSU Foundation website at www.vcsualumni.org.

The new, user-friendly site, launched at the end of 2017, includes news, events, recognition and giving information.



Scholarship established to honor Holcomb

A memorial scholarship in honor of the late Linda (Sundstrom) Holcomb '66, professor emerita of education, has been established with the VCSU Foundation Office. The scholarship will be named the Linda and Lynn Holcomb Scholarship Fund.

Holcomb started her teaching career as a kindergarten teacher in the Valley City Public Schools before she began her long career in teaching in elementary education at VCSU in 1974. She retired in 2005 from VCSU but continued supervising student teachers for many years.

The scholarship will be awarded to a student in elementary education. Preference will be given to students minoring in early childhood education. Those interested in contributing to the scholarship fund should contact the VCSU Foundation Office.

What Kind of a Legacy Will You Leave?

We all have a desire for significance. For many of us, significance comes through creating a legacy during our lives – something for which we will be remembered in the future. A bequest is perhaps the easiest and most tangible way to leave a lasting legacy to the people and charitable organizations that mean the most to us.

A bequest is a gift made through your will or trust.

There are several ways to make a bequest:

- ♦ *Specific dollar amount*
- ♦ *Specific asset*
- ♦ *Percentage of your estate*
- ♦ *Residue of your estate*

For more information on how to create a lasting legacy at VCSU through a bequest, please contact us at 701-845-7203 or visit <http://vcsugift.org>.

We look forward to helping you!





2018 Annual Phone-A-Thon

The VCSU Alumni Association's annual Phone-A-Thon, one of our major activities each academic year, allows our alumni to show their Viking Pride in supporting our university. Donations allow us to stay in touch with alumni in several important ways, including publication of *The Bulletin*, hosting socials and reunions, sponsoring alumni award programs and supporting programs on the campus of Valley City State University. The Phone-A-Thon also provides scholarship support to our current students attending VCSU. By supporting the annual Phone-A-Thon, you can help VCSU achieve the strategic initiatives underway that move VCSU forward.

Thank you to everyone who has supported the 2018 Alumni Phone-A-Thon. The following list includes cash donations and payment on pledges received as of May 31, 2018.

If you haven't made your donation, there is still time! Send your contribution today. Or find us on the web at www.vcsualumni.org. and click on the "Make a Gift Online" button. We accept Visa, Discover and MasterCard. Or if you prefer, call the VCSU Foundation Office at 701-845-7203.

Thank you for your continued support!

♥ Indicates the donor(s) gave on Giving Hearts Day

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♥David & Beverly Melgaard
♥Ryan & Erin Metcalf
Mary Ann Metcalf
Steven S. Meyer
Kathy B. Michael
Kathryn H. Mikwold
Lorraine E. Milford

Brenda R. Mitzel
Patricia A. Moore
Verna V. Moos
Shirley M. Moulton-Bachini
Curry G. Mund
Robert G. Nielsen
Duane A. Noeske
Anne M. Nyberg
♥Melinda Olauson
Rod & Judy Olin
♥Roger D. Olson
Kaye M. Omdahl
Jack & Bonita Paulson
Susan K. Paulson
Franz D. Pedersen
♥Larry & Connie Pederson
Jean M. Peterson
Jane M. Pettit-Castor
Jean M. Piper Burton
♥Mark & Cora Potts
♥Marcia L. Pritchert
Jane T. Radig
♥Scott & Lynn Rerick
John & Genevieve
Richardson
♥Amy & Andrew Richter
♥Dave & Patti Rickford
♥Clarilyn O. Riedinger
Brian T. Ringdahl
Walter & Jayne Robinson
Vernon Rohde
Lisa A. Ruter
Shirley D. Ruud
♥Scott & Traci Sand
Doris A. Sanden
Sharon S. Scharberg
Donna J. Scherr
♥Mitchell J. Scheer
Tim & Janet Schilling
Leo & JoAnn Schmidt
♥Jody Schnaidt
Gary & Vicki Schnell
♥Terry A. Schock
Becky & Darrell Schroeder
Fred & Dorothy Schroeder
Russell L. Schuldheisz
Donald H. Schuler
Betty & Alvin Schumacher
Darlene J. A. Short
Wayne C. Shustrom
Janet Simon
♥Pat Smith
Shirley L. Sobolik
JoAnn D. Spickler
David A. Steele
♥Jonathan M. Stenslie
♥Dean & Charlene Stenson

Carlyn A. Stevens
Thomas S. Stingl
Barbara A. Stockstad
Amy V. Strasser
♥Teather Sundstrom
Boyd & Kathy Sussex
Elaine K. Theisen
Herbert A. Tillapaugh
Delores C. Tracy
Matthew Trapp
Otto & Linda Uhde
Jessie B. Urlaub
Carolyn Utke
♥Tyler & Angela Van
Bruggen
Irene R. Visby
Walter & Judith Vollmers
Pamela J. Walcker
Janis & Brent Wallender
Thomas D. Walsh
Alice L. Walz
Kathryn J. Warren
Beverly A. Weigel
Jeff D. Weigel
♥Molly M. Welstad
Kenneth P. Weshnevski
Gary L. Whiteman
Mary L. Wiens
Theodore W. Wieser
♥Netty M. Willis
♥Wesley & Natalie Wintch
Cathy M. Wollitz
Danielle L. Woodward
♥David & Rhondalyn Wyum
Stuart E. Wyum
♥Megan R. Zarbano
♥Timothy J. Ziemba
Delmar & Deloris
Zimmerman

These donors gave on Giving Hearts Day to other VCSU funds:

♥Nathan & Nicole Johnson
♥Kenneth Lettenmaier
♥Dan & Katherine
McRoberts
♥Issac & Katie Olson
♥Carl & Evelyn Peter
♥Elizabeth Quick Berge
♥Laurie Zacher
♥Charles & Colleen Zick



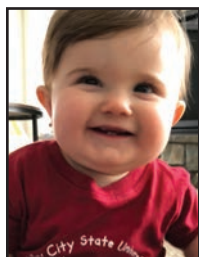
1. **Cori Greenstein '01** and Josh Reichenberg were married June 10, 2017. The couple resides in Hazen with their puppy, Lily.
2. **Trista Leach '05, '11 M.ED.** and **Justin Briscoe '02** were married on July 29, 2017. The couple lives in Fargo with Justin's two sons.
3. Chelsea Hageman and **Trent Kosel '11** were married December 8, 2017. Trent teaches math and is a head football and assistant track coach at Northern Cass. Chelsea teaches math at Fargo South.
4. **Angie Johnson '13** married Robert Nagle on November 11, 2017. They live in Underwood, N.D., with their golden retriever Henry. Angie is the K-12 library media specialist at Turtle Lake-Mercer School, and Robert works as an operator at the Garrison Dam.
5. **Ashley Hinrichs '14** and **Kyle Ketterling '15** were married August 5, 2017. They live and work in Harvey, N.D.



Lil' Vikings

Have you had an addition to your family within the last six months? We want to know!

Contact Kim Hesch at kim.hesch@vcsu.edu to receive a free t-shirt for your new Lil' Viking. Please be sure to tell us your baby's name and birthdate. After you have received your baby's Lil' Viking shirt, send us your baby's photo so we can include it in the next issue of *The Bulletin*. Email the photo to kim.hesch@vcsu.edu.



Camilla LaRene Albrecht

May 30, 2017
6 pounds 6 ounces
Alyssa (Sorensen) '07 and Travis Albrecht



Cadence Marie Reardon

Sept. 3, 2017
7 pounds 9 ounces, 21 inches
Joins brother Carter and sister Harper
Jodi (Barnick) M.Ed. '13 and Shannon Reardon



Thomas James Fries

November 22, 2017
8 pounds 4 1/2 ounces, 21 1/2 inches
Joined sisters Maria (6) and Lily (4)
Kimberly (Wanner) '10 and James Fries '10



Ella Marlene Buttke

May 31, 2017
7 pounds 15 ounces
Joins brother Christian (3)
Randi (Tompt) '06 and Matt Buttke



Jensen William Carlblom

May 22, 2017
8 pounds 6 ounces, 20 1/2 inches
Taylor (Pickar) '18 and Cody Carlblom



Skylar Judith Grabowska

October 12, 2017
8 pounds 7 ounces, 20 inches
Joins brother Brooks (6) and sister Jade (3)
Jenna and Dustin Grabowska '07



Maudie Mae Johnson

August 31, 2017
8 pounds 12 ounces, 22 3/4 inches
Ashley M.Ed '15 and Clay Johnson '10



Rooney Lane Rowe

August 2, 2017
7 pounds 8 ounces, 19 inches
Melanie (Pitcher) and David Rowe '05



Benjamin Arthur Swenson (left)

March 24, 2017
4 pounds 6 ounces 18 1/4 inches

Owen Christopher Swenson (right)

March 24, 2017
5 pounds 3 ounces, 19 inches
Join sister Maggie (3)
Michelle (Meckle) '07 and Sean Swenson '09



Olivia Lettenmaier

October 12, 2017
8 pounds 10 ounces, 21 inches
Joins sisters Jocelynn (4) and Clara (2)
Lacey (Anderson) '08 and Brandon Lettenmaier



John Bartholomew O'Day V

August 4, 2017
9 pounds 8 ounces, 20 1/2 inches
Jessica (Trautman) '09 and John O'Day IV

Vikings on the Move

1950s

Roger Rasmusson '58 and his wife, Dolores, are now living in a senior living facility after being in their own place for 67 years of marriage! They both remember their good days in Valley City and are thankful for the life provided by the education they received at VCSU.

1960s

Irene (Langdahl) Visby '60 moved to Fargo due to health problems. She enjoys reading but misses attending her grandchildren's activities.

Kathleen (Sheldon) Boe '61 has lived in many different states—North Dakota, Michigan, Montana, Nebraska, Wisconsin and Virginia—and has enjoyed all areas. She retired to the Shenandoah Valley in Virginia over 20 years ago. She enjoys traveling and seeing her two children and three grandchildren.

Karen (Berge) Baeth '62 and '81 and her husband, Ken, still live in Marion, N.D. Karen is now retired and very busy. She and Ken have attended all six of her grandchildren's activities. They had two grandchildren graduate from North Dakota State College of Science this spring and one graduate from Minot High School. Karen plans on staying busy with baseball games and graduation.

Dorothy (Wentz) March '63 received her bachelor of science degree in education from VCSU in 1963. It has been a great asset to her through graduate school and 32 hours of postgrad work, mostly in reading. Her teaching career spanned 36 years, which included teaching in American schools in Germany while her husband was stationed there. She now lives in Illinois and has five grandchildren, with two in college and two others to be there in two years.

Deloris (Boschee) '64 and Delmar Zimmerman '62 taught in rural and consolidated schools four years before moving to Wishek and working in the public school system teaching and in administration.

They enjoyed their 43 years in education and have enjoyed their 23 years of retirement spending time with their families, keeping up with hobbies, traveling and spending some summer time at a Minnesota lake with their family and some winter time in Sun City West, Ariz.

Verna (Triebold) '66 and John Manstrom '66 reside in Roswell, Ga. John is retired from serving in the Navy and working in the airline industry. Verna is retired from teaching and many other endeavors. Their daughter, son-in-law and three grandkids keep them busy and young.

Bill Coghlan '67 and his wife have both been retired since 2013. They now live in south Fargo. They both keep busy doing things they enjoy. Bill collects coins, fishes in the summer, does daily workouts and goes to as many of grandkids' events as possible. Cate enjoys bridge club, the gym, fine arts and fulfilling her travel bucket list.

Linda Jordre '69 has been retired for seven years. She enjoys walking with friends and still does some volunteer work at the state spelling bee and at the pumpkin patch.

1970s

Jan (Hins) '72 and Bill Mimnaugh '72 are looking forward to retirement and spending more time with their four grandchildren. Bill taught 34 years in Breckenridge Elementary and 43 in the migrant summer school. Jan has taught for 47 years and retired this spring from special education in Breckenridge.

Sandy (Skolness) '71 and Kirby Brier '71 reside in Ankeny, Iowa. Three years ago Sandy retired from the Des Moines Public Schools as a middle school instructor. She substitutes and watches the grandkids whenever the opportunity arises.

David Katzenmeyer '78 is enjoying his second year of retirement after 38 years of teaching. He had a great time last fall reuniting with teammates from the 1977 undefeated football team and reconnecting with good friends. It was also great to see the 2017 team soundly defeat the Jimmies! Go Vikings!

1980s

Sheila (Lindeman) '80 and Davy Zinke '80 reside in Valley City. Sheila was recently named the 2018 North Dakota Choral Director of the Year by the North Dakota chapter of the American Choral Directors Association.

Deanne (Schell) Fedje '83 is the human resources/payroll manager for Envision in Rugby, N.D. She has been with Envision since April of 2015. Previously, Deanne worked for Pierce County for over 30 years. She is married to Andy, and they have two adult sons. Deanne and Andy own and operate a grain farm and enjoy gardening, camping, baking, motorcycling and traveling whenever possible.

2000s



▲ **Eliza (Brown) Bullock '02, M.Ed. '10**, and husband, Eli, live and teach in Bismarck, N.D. They love chasing after their two children, Hudson (3) and Jaxton (18 months).

2010s

Jane Pettit-Castor '12 changed employment in June 2017 and is now a financial representative for Northwestern Mutual.

Dillan Ostrom '13 lives in Los Angeles, Calif. He is a theatrical and commercial actor; he also teaches boxing and serves as a personal trainer at Barry's Bootcamp.



▲ **Philip Reuer '14** accepted a full-time assistant strength and conditioning position at American

University in Washington, D.C., in July 2017. American University is a NCAA Division I institution that competes in the Patriot League Conference. Philip is responsible for training for wrestling, women's soccer, women's lacrosse, and swimming and diving.

Tom Walsh '16 began teaching at the high school level at Ortonville Public School as the industrial technology instructor in fall 2016.

Allyson (Suhr) Dockter '16 has finished her last leg of schooling, graduating with a Master's Degree in Counseling for school counseling in May 2018. She also recently secured a position through the Sheyenne Valley Area Career and Technical Center. This opportunity has allowed her to be a contracted full-time school counselor in two different school districts as a part of her final internship. Her twin girls, Olivia and Piper, turned two years old in November, and Allyson celebrated her first year of marriage with her husband, Drew, on Sept. 24, 2017.

Ivy Restemayer '16 is a second-year teacher at Bakken Elementary in Williston, N.D. She recently attended ExxonMobil's Teachers Academy (in partnership with the National Science Teacher Association) and met Barbara Morgen, the first teacher in space. Ivy says, "Thank you ExxonMobil, NSTA, and VCSU for giving me the tools and resources for being an effective teacher. Thank you, Ms. Morgen, for giving me inspiration to continue to achieve my dreams!"

Mark Zinke '16 moved from Mandan to Arizona in August and is a physical education teacher at South Valley Junior High in Gilbert, Ariz. He also coaches football and basketball at Campo Verde High School, a 5A high school in Gilbert.

In Remembrance

Fern (Freeman) Anderson '40, Breckenridge, Minn.

Stella (Wright) Mueller '41, Valley City

Irene (Sad) Becker '43, Indiana, Pa.

Kay (Faust) Mattison '45, Apply Valley, Minn.

Eleanor (Nierenberg) Haugen '46, Fridley, Minn.

Dolores (Hennings) Garcia '48, Lidgerwood, N.D.

Phyllis (Walter) Emery '49, Breckenridge, Minn.

Charles Petersen '50, Coon Rapids, Minn.

Anna (Paulson) Amundson '54, East Grand Forks, Minn.

Keith Dennis '54, Torrington, Wyo.

Kaare Berge '58, Brush Prairie, Wash.

Josephine (Gussman) Hegstad '58, West Fargo, N.D.

Donald Muhs '58, Detroit Lakes, Minn.

Karol (Schrader) Schlenker '59, Montpelier, N.D.

Delphine (Lentzen) Cooper '61, Hudson, Wis.

Paul Wawers '62, Wahpeton, N.D.

Sandra (Holden) Hutton '63, Valley City

Barbara (Kraemer) Litsey '63, Ashley, N.D.

Lloyd Redmond '64, Hot Springs, Mont.

Randy Stites '64, West Fargo, N.D.

Laura (Lockwood) Rohde '65, Anchorage, Alaska

Ronald Hartvikson '69, Thompson, N.D.

Shirley (Sandness) Johnson '69, Apple Valley, Minn.

Victor Wolter '69, Fargo, N.D.

Gerald "Jiggs" Bryn '70, Devils Lake, N.D.

Leona (Gums) Daede '70, Jamestown, N.D.

Ellrene (Berntson) Sortland '70, Valley City

John Gisi '71, Scottsdale, Ariz.

Elaine (Erickson) Schultz '71, Austin, Texas

Karen (Elliott) Lawson '72, Fargo, N.D.

Mary Ann (Graven) Eveonson '73, Fargo, N.D.

Patricia Lawrence '73, Jamestown, N.D.

Daniel Johnson '85, Valley City

Teresa (Dooher) Nathan '03, Valley City

Katherine (Sabbia) Volk '05, West Fargo, N.D.

Richard Hand '14, Moorhead, Minn.

Charlotte (Didier) Burchill, Valley City

Clarice (Miller) Cink, Valley City

Ivan Gjerding, Marion, N.D.

Marlys (Pranke) Johnson, Omaha, Neb.

Sandra LaVake, Fargo, N.D.

Grace (Winge) Lippert, Bismarck, N.D.

David Nelson, Valley City

Bob King '55, age 84, died April 25, 2018. Born in Hastings, N.D., Bob attended school in Valley City until his senior year, when he moved to Enderlin, where he graduated high school. He graduated from Valley City State College in 1955 with a degree in physical education and social science, along with 13 letters in basketball, football, baseball and golf. Bob then began a teaching and coaching career which included stops in Pelican Rapids, Minn.; Milnor, N.D.; New Rockford, N.D.; and finally Valley City. He earned a master's degree from NDSU in 1970. In 1979, Bob left his role as athletic director and head football coach at Valley City High School to become the assistant to the executive secretary at the North Dakota High School Activities Association. In 1988 he became executive secretary at NDHSAA, where he served until his 1999 retirement. Bob was an integral part of sports in the state of North Dakota for more than 50 years as an athlete, coach, referee and administrator; he was inducted into eight halls of fame, including the VCSU Athletic Hall of Fame (1991). He received the VCSU Distinguished Alumni Award in 1999. In retirement, Bob enjoyed golf and following the activities of his grandchildren. Bob is survived by his wife, Nancy; children Darcy (King) Schauer '83 and Darin King '86; and their families, which include his four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

VCSU loses 4 former faculty and staff

Lorrell Brovold, age 95, of Valley City, died Wednesday, Nov. 29, 2017. Born on the family farm near Verona, N.D., Gladys Lorrell Pritchard grew up and attended school in the Verona area. She married Warren Brovold in 1942, and the couple lived in Verona for a time before moving to Valley City in 1943. Warren died in 1952. Lorrell worked in hospitals in Harvey, N.D., and Austin, Minn.; she returned to Valley City to work at Mercy Hospital. She also worked at the Valley City Credit Bureau and the Motor Vehicle Office in Valley City. Lorrell served as a custodian at VCSU from 1978–92. Extremely proud of her family, she was a caregiver to many people. Lorrell enjoyed baking, gardening, walking, sewing, embroidery and visiting with friends and family. She is survived by her four children, Patricia Weir, Bob Brovold, Gary Brovold, and Ron Brovold; their spouses; seven grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and a brother.

Diane (Starr) Hill '73, age 66, of Valley City died on Dec. 13, 2017, after battling ovarian cancer for more than three years. Born in Rollette, N.D., and raised on a farm near Bisbee, N.D., she graduated from Bisbee High School and attended Devils Lake Junior College (now Lake Region State College) for two years. She transferred to Valley City State College and graduated in spring 1973. She married John Hill, also a 1973 VCSC graduate, in May 1973. Diane worked two years in Rapid City, S.D., before she and John moved back to Valley City. She worked at Empire Home Furnishings for a while before taking a position at VCSU, where she worked in the Student Center from 1978–2012. Diane retired as assistant housing director. Students were fond of her, and she enjoyed following VCSU sports and student-athletes. An avid reader, Diane loved to work in her flower gardens; she also enjoyed sewing, golf, fishing and boating. She is survived by her husband, John, and their son, Phillip, as well as three sisters.

Linda (Sundstrom) Holcomb '66, age 73, of Valley City died Jan. 7, 2018. Born in Valley City, Linda graduated from Valley City High School and obtained her bachelor's degree in elementary education from Valley City State University and a master's degree from the University of North Dakota. She was a kindergarten teacher in the Valley City Public Schools before she began teaching in the elementary education program at VCSU in 1974. Linda retired in 2005 from VCSU but continued supervising student teachers for many years. She had a special place in her heart for teachers and her students, and she shared her love of children's literature. Linda and her husband, Lynn, raised their two children on their family farm north of Valley City and wintered in Fort Myers, Fla. She liked to read, cook, sew, do crafts and attend her grandchildren's activities. Her grandchildren were her pride and joy. Linda is survived by her husband, Lynn; a daughter, Layne; a son, Laren; and six grandchildren. Survivors also include a brother, Jim Sundstrom, and a sister, Jan Stowman, along with many nieces and nephews.

Kevin McDonough, age 64, of Page, N.D., died March 8, 2018. Born in Queens, N.Y., he attended St. John's University in New York before heading west to pursue his dream of becoming a cowboy. He spent time in Montana, Colorado and Oregon before eventually settling in North Dakota. Kevin was employed with Facilities Services at VCSU from 2008–14. He enjoyed his early morning coffee and the outdoors, and he took great pleasure in the company of animals, primarily dogs and horses. Kevin is survived by his wife, Phyllis; two children, Kasey and Megan; a brother, Gerry; and a sister, Carol.



Lindgrens visit with Costa in Brazil

Members of the **Jason Lindgren '92** family of Valley City traveled to Sao Paulo, Brazil, in December 2017 to visit **Paulo Costa '91**, a great friend and track teammate of Jason's during their days at VCSU. Pictured (l to r) are **Jason, Dustin Lindgren** (a current VCSU student), Paulo Costa's mother and **Paulo**. Not pictured but present was **Misty (Ross) Lindgren '91**.

HELP US LOCATE THESE LOST ALUMNI

If you know the address of any of these individuals, please contact the VCSU Foundation Office at 1-800-532-8641 ext. 37203 or email alumni@vcsu.edu.

1971

William Albert
Phyllis (Hanson)
Christianson
Ruth (Anderson) Goll
Larry Hehr
Laura Jacobson
Kathryn Jones
Astrid Mills
Glende Olson
M. Pederson
Richard Pederson
Albert Ruckaber
Marland Sarles
Mari Shaw
Jane Thoemke
Linda Thompson
Glenn Van Enk
Jane Vander Voste
Daniel Welander

1972

Linda (Evanson)
Blasczyrk
Doris Dahl
Susan Ferguson
James Friskop
Phyllis Gaspers
George Hanna
Steven Hoffer
Rene (Rivinius) Kalin
Muriel King
Sandra Kutz
Susan (Roller) Lausch
Bill Martell
Sandra Olson
Marlys Palmer
Larry Schaefer
Linda Senne
Marilyn (Sims)
Sudbeck
Richard Wright

1973

Lane Bergman
Debra (Scoular)
Broome
Rayanne (Doyle) Dahl
Hidemasa Ioka
Nancy (Raveling)
Persons
Verna Weber
Nancy Wolhart

1974

Robert Becker
Gail Bopp
Rachel Koehn
Eileen Mack
Gerald Nagel
Phillip Schmidt
Russ Vogel
Thomas Weinmann
Marcia (O'Brien)
Weisser

1975

Larry Hanson
Edna Olson

1976

Cynthia Abraham
Vernon Engblom
Helen (Feist)
Gassmann
Lynda (Carlson) Goggin
Judith Kaiser
David Lloyd
Koreen Schlecht
John Thomas
Adeline Thorne
David Tischer

1977

Kathryn (Eng)
Eng-Eidsmoe
Tatsuya Saji

1978

Nancy (Bodiford) Smith

1979

Faye Anderson
Noel Light
Debbie (Erdmann)
Smith
Tom Stevenson

1980

James Brewer
Jon Gilbertson
Lois (Franklund)
Hanson
Roy Ottinger

1981

Martin Dahl
Kim (Monson)
Oberlander
Sandra (Offner) Walser
Kimberly (Buchholz)
Werlinger

1982

Julie Bassingthwaite
Lisa (Ham) Beckman

Francine (Netzer)
Harter
Robin (Orr) Kohler
Patricia Kouba
Cindy (Kautzman)
Norberg
Rick Reding
Massoud Safiri
Daniel Stephan

1983

Jane Habiger
John Kirkeby
Sherri (Frederikson)
Knutson
Brooke Lilly
Thomas Peterson
Diane (Obenchain)
Trevino
Darcy (Hanson)
Worster
Pauline (Gault) Wuori

RECOMMEND A FUTURE VIKING!

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO WOULD BE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING VALLEY CITY STATE UNIVERSITY?

Student Name _____
First Middle Last

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Graduation Year _____ School _____

Your Information: Name _____

VCSU Class Year _____ Relationship to Student _____

MAIL COMPLETED FORM TO: VCSU ALUMNI OFFICE, 101 COLLEGE ST. SW, VALLEY CITY, ND 58072





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