SOUTHWESTERN

Today

Fall '09

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- Chapel Streaming & Virtual Tour Launch

Integrity, Service & Excellence

SAGU Alumnus Promoted to Brigadier General
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About Southwestern Today 2009 • Vol 13 Issue 2

Southwestern Today is a publication of Southwestern Assemblies of God University, a nonprofit institution of higher learning.

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Statement of Purpose: The purpose of Southwestern Assemblies of God University is to prepare undergraduate and graduate students spiritually, academically, professionally, and cross-culturally so as to successfully fill evangelistic, missionary and church ministry roles and to provide quality educational and professional Christian service wherever needed throughout the world.

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Integrity, Service & Excellence

ENVISION TALENTED STUDENTS PERFECTING THEIR SKILLS ON STEINWAY PIANOS.

ENVISION THESE PIANOS AT THE HANDS OF WORLD-CLASS ARTISTS.

ENVISION THAT YOU HELPED TO MAKE IT HAPPEN.

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to provide world class pianos for SAGU students.
To give, use the enclosed envelope.
T his fall SAGU celebrates an important milestone—a third straight record enrollment, passing the 2,000 mark for the first time. What would our founders, P.C. Nelson, Raymond Ritchey, and Guy Shields, think of this achievement? I’m confident they’d join former presidents Kendrick, Brummett, Savell, and Guynes saying, “Praise the Lord and don’t stop now!”

Many faithful men and women have served this institution and dreamed of the facilities and innovative programs we are enjoying today. Most importantly, they dreamed of SAGU helping to shape the lives of countless students, who desire to fulfill God’s will for their lives, whatever their career or calling.

Garrison Wellness Center

The entire campus family is excited about the December completion date for the new Wellness Center, a 32,000-square-foot fitness facility, which will be named in honor of Alton and Johanna Garrison. Prospective students expect SAGU to not only have quality academic programs, but also facilities that compare to other leading universities. We are committed to providing excellent facilities, and at the same time, to keep Southwestern financially within reach of as many families as possible.

Our Best Kept Secret—Not Just Bible Degrees

SAGU’s reputation for excellence in ministry preparation is well-known and evidenced by the fact there are more church ministry majors at SAGU than any other Assemblies of God (AG) institution. Yet I am surprised by those unaware of the scope of academic programs offered at SAGU or the fact a majority of our students are majoring in one of 30 undergraduate programs that some would describe as secular or professional in nature. Apparently, some regard Southwestern as only a Bible college producing pastors and missionaries. But we are so much more.

From its inception our founders envisioned an institution that would train servant leaders for both the church and marketplace. Southwestern was the first AG institution to offer a junior college curriculum as early as 1944. Up to the mid-80s thousands of young people, not called to vocational ministry, pursued associates degrees before completing their bachelor’s degrees at other institutions. My former classmates, Brigadier General Michael Miller and Teresa Finch Pritchard (featured in this issue) are examples of alumni who recognized the benefit of an education focused on academic and spiritual preparation.

Through the decades three presidents, Blake Farmer, J. Paul Savell, and Delmer Guynes, were instrumental in leading the campus to achievements in accreditation, enabling students in multiple fields of study to complete their undergraduate and graduate training at SAGU. As a result, more than 20 years ago we expanded baccalaureate programs beyond church ministries to include disciplines such as business, education, and psychology, and for over ten years have offered graduate programming.

Since 2000, the university has added 17 bachelor’s programs and 7 master’s programs. The majority of these have been professional in nature in view of our desire to provide the option for more students to choose Southwestern for their academic training. More parents and prospective students than ever before recognize the benefit of an institution committed to vocational preparation and spiritual formation.

Our administration, faculty, and staff are devoted to the same level of academic excellence in every discipline. Besides training pastoral leaders, it is our desire to see alumni in the halls of Congress, in the educational system, and running conglomerates with potential to do great good for the Kingdom. We desire to produce Christian musicians, writers, counselors, athletes, nursing managers, and public servants who are known for their faith and values, and also for excellence in their field.

Pass It On

I encourage you to take a look at the 40 bachelor’s degrees and 17 masters’ degrees listed on the inside back cover of this magazine. You will likely see some that you did not realize had been added. Then, consider the number of youth who attend your local church. Many of these future leaders won’t realize the opportunities and quality available through SAGU unless a caring mentor provides a nudge.

High school students are allowed excused absences for up to four college visits during their junior and senior years. I am asking you to influence a prospective student to use one of their visits to attend Campus Days at SAGU. Don’t allow our sticker price to cause a prospect to simply conclude there is no way to attend. It doesn’t cost anything to visit and investigate what kind of financial assistance is available. Information about this year’s Campus Days is located on the back cover.

You have likely seen the statistics regarding how many Christian young people walk away from their faith in four years of college at a secular institution. What if those same students had known the value of an institution such as SAGU? Please consider the difference you could make in the life of just one young person. Will you pass it on?
F I N A N C I A L  P L A N N I N G

Protecting Your Estate: Part III

by Craig Rinas, CFP® Planned Giving Director

Since there is no nation-wide reporting standard on financial exploitation of the elderly, no one knows the exact numbers. However, there are a few independent studies that give an estimation of how big this problem has become.

• Consumer Digest suggests that at least 5 million financial exploitations occur each year. (Wasik, John F. 2000. “The Fleecing of America’s Elderly.” Consumer Digest, March/April.)
• Estimates from the National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA), in 1998, showed that financial exploitations accounted for almost 1/3 of all elder abuse cases.
• The NCEA also “estimated that for every one case of elder abuse, neglect, exploitation, or self-neglect reported to authorities, about five more go unreported.” (National Elder Abuse Incidence Study, 1998. Washington, DC: National Center on Elder Abuse at American Public Human Services Association.)
• Telemarketing fraud was reported to be $40 billion by the US Senate Special Committee on Aging in 2000.

It is hard to digest these numbers because we want to believe in a person’s word and handshake. Unfortunately, times have changed. In answering the “why” to elderly financial exploitation, the FBI’s testimony before Congress said:

• Older people have concentrated wealth.
• They are less likely to report fraud.
• People born in the 1930s, 1940s, and 1950s were raised to be polite and trusting, and con men prey on these qualities.

The truly sad fact is that it is not just strangers who commit these financial exploitations against the elderly. The California Department on Aging estimates 90% of all the financial exploitations against the elderly are perpetrated by close family members.

This is not meant to scare you. It is meant to educate you about what is out there. There are two things that you can do to help prevent financial exploitation.

• Get a second opinion. Just as we get second opinions for health issues, we need them for financial issues. If something seems too good to be true, it usually is.
• Give a copy of your will to 2 or more people. Ideally, you should give a copy to each of your beneficiaries. At a minimum, your Executor and Attorney should have one. But under no circumstance should only one person have your will.

If for any reason you need help with either of these preventative measures, please let me know. I am here to help.
Integrity, Service & Excellence

AN INTERVIEW WITH BRIGADIER GENERAL MICHAEL MILLER
On Friday, August 7, 2009, alumnus Michael Miller was promoted to brigadier general in the U.S. Air Force at a special ceremony in Washington, D.C. Miller enrolled at Southwestern in August of 1976, after graduating High School. Since that time, he has reached successive milestones culminating in his promotion and a soon-to-be-completed doctorate in Applied Management and Decision Sciences.

SAGU was honored to conduct a Q&A with Miller about his lifetime achievements.

**Can you describe the feelings associated with your recent promotion to Brigadier General?**

It was a very humbling feeling because I know where promotion comes from and I also realize how much impact former and current teammates had on my effectiveness and performance. Military ceremonies are always stirring—they can make your eyes sweat, if you know what I mean. It was great to have family, friends, and colleagues there from current and previous assignments as well as from my college days at Southwestern and the University of New Orleans. I used my time during the ceremony to express my thanks to everyone who made the promotion possible. It was also a time to honor my family, especially my wife Susie and my dad, for their encouragement, patience and love.

**Please tell us about your military career prior to becoming a Brigadier General.**

I was commissioned as a second lieutenant through Officer Training School in 1984. The first six years of my career were spent in the space and missile career field. I became a Medical Service Corps officer in the Air Force Reserve and re-entered active duty in 1993 as a Medical Services Corps officer. I have served at Headquarters Air Force Materiel Command as the Chief of Financial Management in the Office of the Command Surgeon. I have also served at Headquarters U.S. Air Force as the Chief of Medical Manpower Division as well as the Deputy Assistant Surgeon General for Medical Plans and Programs. My commands include the 314th Medical Support Squadron at Little Rock AFB, Ark.; and the 82nd Medical Support Squadron and 82nd Medical Group at Sheppard AFB, Texas. Prior to my current assignment, I served in the Office of the Surgeon General as the senior executive and Director of Staff. I am board certified and have achieved Fellow status with the American College of Healthcare Executives.

How did you become interested in a military career?

My grandfather was a veteran of both World Wars and my father served for a time in the Navy. I always wanted to serve in the military but thought my eyesight would prohibit me from serving. A few years after finishing my undergraduate degree at the University of New Orleans, I applied and was accepted to Officer’s Training School in the Air Force. Truthfully, at the time, I was interested in getting my Master’s Degree and the Air Force provided me that opportunity. I had no intention of making the Air Force a career. After completing Undergraduate Missile Training, I was assigned as an ICBM Launch Officer at Grand Forks Air Force Base in North Dakota. As part of that assignment, the Air Force paid for and provided the opportunity for me to get an MBA from the University of North Dakota. A few years later, I transferred to the Medical Service Corps as a Health Care Administrator and that’s been my focus for the past 17 years.

**When did you join the Air Force?**

I joined the Air Force in June of 1984. A few years later, my brother Richard went to basic training and was in the Louisiana Air National Guard for several years before moving to Texas. My youngest brother, James, did a stint in the Air Force following high school, so military service is an important part of our family history.

**What are your current responsibilities?**

I am the Assistant Surgeon General, Strategic Medical Plans and Programs, and Chief of the Medical Service Corps, Office of the Surgeon General in Arlington, Va. As the Air Force Medical Service senior programmer, my key responsibilities are integrating, analyzing and defending the Defense Health Program and medical elements of Air Force funding during the Program Objective Memorandum, Program Budget Decision and Program Decision Memorandum. The Medical Service supports the activities of 43,000 personnel serving 1.8 million beneficiaries through 74 medical treatment facilities worldwide with a budget of $5.8 billion. In my dual role as Chief of the Medical Service Corps, I am the senior health care administrator in the Air Force and responsible for accessions, development and management of 1,100 health care administrative professionals in the corps.

**What other major achievements, awards and decorations have you been awarded?**

I have been awarded the Legion of Merit with two oak leaf clusters, Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with two oak leaf clusters, Combat Readiness Medal, and Humanitarian Service Medal with bronze star.

I was 1981 Outstanding political science graduate, University of New Orleans; 1987 Blanchard
Trophy winner, SAC Missile Combat Competition; 1987 Best missile crew and best operations team, SAC Missile Combat Competition; 1988 First in class of 97 squadron graduates and outstanding contributor, Squadron Officer School; 1988 Commandant’s Trophy finalist, Squadron Officer School; 1993 Class Valedictorian, Health Services Administration Course; 2000 Commitment to Service Award, AETC; and 2005 Commitment to Excellence Award, AETC.

Describe your thoughts and feelings when you were awarded the Legion of Merit.

I was presented with the Legion of Merit for my work as the Director of Staff and Senior Executive to the Air Force Surgeon General from January 2007 until April 2009. Although it is an honor to get the recognition, I certainly stand on the shoulders of the men and women of the Air Force Medical Service who were my teammates during that period of time. As you know, we are engaged in two wars. The entire Department of Defense medical team has pulled together to ensure the lowest died-of-wounds rate and the lowest disease-non-battle injury rate in the history of warfare. Additionally, the Aeromedical Evacuation System gets our wounded, ill, and injured to definitive care in an expeditious manner. I can’t take credit for these advances, but I am thankful to be a part of taking care of Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Coast Guardsmen and their families.

What do you consider your most significant achievement?

Military service is a “team sport.” When an Air Force member succeeds, it is because of outstanding training and superb teammates. That is particularly true of my “achievements”—great bosses, exceptional peers, and terrific Airmen and AF civilians—all dedicated to the AF mission to Fly, Fight, and Win in Air, Space, and Cyberspace. I am blessed to have worked for 25 years with our nation’s best. America entrusts us with her sons and daughters, and I’m thankful to be a part of the Air Force team. By the way, without fail during my travels, people come up and thank me for my service. On behalf of military members everywhere, I say “thank you” to all of you for supporting the military.

Can you describe what it is like to be a man of faith within the military environment?

Being a person of faith is not at all incongruent with military service. The Air Force core values are Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence in All We Do. If you think about it, those AF core values are no different from what we expect of ourselves if faith is an important part of who we are. I do have a responsibility, as a senior leader in the Air Force, to show respect for every member of the military, regardless of their faith or belief system and I take that obligation seriously.

What are some lessons you’ve learned about being a Christian in the military?

When you are involved in a certain faith or denomination, you tend to consider those with whom you worship as an integral part of your family. The same is true with service in the military. My fellow Airmen are my brothers and sisters—they are my family. We work, train, play, deploy, laugh, and grieve together—we are family. Our military is reflective of the diversity of our population; we come from all backgrounds, cultural experiences, and demographic strata. My life is enriched through interaction with others who don’t look like me or think like I do. Personally, my faith is strengthened through my military service and interaction with my Air Force family.

How have you negotiated the challenges of church involvement while in a profession that requires a family to pick up and move on a regular basis?

It has not been a challenge at all to get involved in service to our local church. Since we joined the military in 1984, Susie and I have moved 11 times—the last two moves were as empty nesters. When our daughters (Michelle and Megan) were with us, our first priority when we arrived at a new place was to find a church with an active youth program. There was always plenty for Susie and me to do and we tried to roll up our sleeves and serve wherever needed. In the last couple of assignments, the demands of work and travel, as well as my academic pursuits, have kept me from doing as much as I’d like, but we love our church we currently attend and are involved in the hospitality ministry.

Has your upbringing in a preacher’s home impacted your personal commitment to and service in the local church? If so, how?

Absolutely! My upbringing in a pastor’s home gives me a tremendous respect and love for pastors and their families. I identify with the many challenges and personal sacrifices they endure. That said, as one who has a demanding professional life, I also appreciate the challenges of the congregant and appreciate the sacrifices of service. As with any team, it takes everyone pulling together and using their various talents to be effective.
How did you meet your wife, Susie?
Max Docusen attended Southwestern in the mid/late 70s. Max was from New Orleans, so at times we traveled home together for the holidays. In 1978, Max graduated from Southwestern and he and I both headed back to New Orleans. He introduced me to his sister Susie at a football game so I certainly owe it all to Max. Susie did attend Southwestern one semester while I was there but we didn’t meet during her time there.

Next May, Susie and I will celebrate 30 years of marriage. She is an incredible lady, mother, and wife. I definitely out-punted my coverage by marrying her. If we were all as dedicated to our passion and calling as she is, the world would be a much better place. She is my best friend.

Would you tell us a bit about your daughters and their achievements?
Michelle is 26 and married to Brian Anderson. They live and work in Northwest Arkansas. Michelle and Brian attended Master’s Commission. Brian has his Master’s Degree from the University of Arkansas and is very passionate about making a positive impact on the lives of young men in his role as a teacher and football coach. Michelle works at the University of Arkansas and they are very involved in ministry with their church there. Megan is 23 and married to Doug Johns (Doug’s parents, Drs. Greg and Emily Johns, are long-time missionaries to Africa). Doug is in his second year of Law School at Washburn University in Topeka, Kansas, and Megan works full time and is working on her MBA at Washburn. Megan is involved in youth ministries at their church and is currently in a running club training to beat me in a race. I am encouraging the youngsters to “bring it on!”

Susie and I are very blessed to have Michelle, Brian, Megan, and Doug as our children and we are all very close.

Why did you choose to begin your college education at Southwestern?
My high school basketball coach, Doug Lowenberg, encouraged me to go to Southwestern to play basketball. (Doug and his wife Corrine were long-time Assemblies of God missionaries). It just so happened that my brothers, Richard Miller and Bob Taylor, also enrolled at Southwestern that same year. We loaded up our meager belongings in our parents’ van, and they drove us to the campus from New Orleans.

What are your fondest college memories?
There are so many great memories from my two years at Southwestern. We had an excellent basketball team, led by great players like Monte Warcup and Kenny Williams. We were conference champs both years. Some of us worked one afternoon a week at a cattle auction house. I lost a physical encounter with a bull one day and ended up with a broken nose. We often stayed up all night playing cards, telling stories, and plotting practical jokes against guys on another floor or dorm wing.

Our professors were dedicated, fully committed, and very passionate in their calling to teach at Southwestern—that was evident in their daily interaction (and enduring patience) with us. They encouraged us to fully develop to our potential and were great examples through their testimony and leadership.

In what way did Southwestern prepare you for your future?
Southwestern provided a safe haven for those critical and influential years just after high school. At some universities, illicit pressures are profuse and encompassing—they seek you out. In the Southwestern environment, the opposite is true—there is both an atmosphere of strong values and an expectation of conduct that is a higher standard. In my opinion that provides a safety net for most students. My time at Southwestern also helped me to think through my life’s calling. Although it took a few years to sort out the options, my time at Southwestern was influential in shaping my future and my outlook on life.

I understand your are pursuing a doctorate. Would you tell us about that?
I am currently enrolled at Walden University, pursuing a Ph.D. in Applied Management and Decision Sciences, with a specialization in Information Systems Management. I am “neck deep” in the dissertation and hope to graduate in the upcoming spring or summer.
A small girl with pigtails stood at the cash register. “That’ll be $3.38, Sir.” Teresa took the money, counted out his change and handed it to him. Thank you. Have a great day!”

Without realizing, Teresa was learning the basics of business working in her father’s grocery store in Niceville, Florida. She hopped down from the milk crate and gave her dad a quick hug before skipping out the door for a break.

Now Teresa sits in her office on the administration wing of The Women’s Hospital of Texas in Houston. She had spent the last 24 years as the Chief Financial Officer of various hospitals, including Cedars Medical Center, Atlanta Medical System, and Carolinas Hospital System.

In her current role, she is responsible for collecting an average of $27 million each month. She is also involved in strategic planning, obtaining capital funding, and overseeing operating expenses that include a payroll of more than 1,400 employees.

The Woman’s Hospital of Texas will deliver 9,500 babies this year and Teresa is proud to be an administrator of a hospital with such a great reputation. Teresa is CFO of Texas’ premier facility dedicated to the care of women and newborn infants. Only Parkland in Dallas delivers more babies in Texas than The Woman’s Hospital of Texas. Since 2007, Woman’s has ranked in the top 50 hospitals nationwide for gynecologic care as determined by U.S. News & World Report.

From a young age, Teresa knew she wanted to learn a trade in business. She also knew she would need to be well educated to be successful in the business world and accepted as an equal in a male-dominated field. Teresa was accepted at Florida State in 1978, but God had other plans. The journey that began as a child led Teresa to SAGC.

Teresa was a third generation Assemblies of God woman. Her grandma had been a devout Pentecostal since the 1900s. Teresa’s long-time pastors, George and Charlotte (Dean) Skipper, were Southwestern alumni and encouraged the youth in their church to seek higher education. Teresa agreed to attend Southwestern as long as she could earn a business degree. She succeeded.

Teresa’s fondest memories of Southwestern are the friends she made, including her husband, Michael Pritchard. Then there was chapel. The daily chapel services at Southwestern were drastically different from the typical college atmosphere in the 1970s.

The Christian Leadership and Ethics course really made an impact on Teresa’s life. “Southwestern prepared me for the future by instructing me in formal ethics and business courses,” Teresa reflected. “The experience of Southwestern taught me that some of us are called to be Christian leaders in the boardroom.”

She went on to earn a BA in Accounting from the University of West Florida in 1982, and an MBA from Jacksonville University in 1988. Teresa’s desire to enter the business world only grew as she became more accomplished and confident in her studies. She felt blessed that her family, church, and schools built her self-esteem and instilled confidence that she could achieve her dreams.

She began her career as a Staff Accountant for Hospital Corporation of America (HCA), the largest for-profit hospital chain in the world, in
January 1983. In November 1985, Teresa became a CFO at St. Augustine General Hospital in St. Augustine, Florida. Since then, she has served as CFO for eight hospitals and has won a couple of Outstanding CFO awards.

Now, as an administrator, Teresa enjoys interacting with hospital employees, including physicians, housekeepers, and even employees on the night shift on the weeks she is on call. “I have a passion for my work,” Teresa mused. “God gave me that passion. If you love what you do, you never have to work for a living.”

Teresa’s favorite aspect of her job is teaching clinical care givers about the financial side of running a hospital. After all, if they couldn’t collect funds due from the insurers, the government, and the patients, then they couldn’t buy the supplies, provide charity care to the poor, and pay nurses fair wages. There is no mission without a margin.

Teaching Sunday School in the immediate years after graduating from Southwestern prepared Teresa for the teaching role of her current job. Through her church and Southwestern, Teresa also learned that with success and leadership came the responsibility to give back. It had been her desire to give back that caused Teresa to get involved in her community. She has been involved in Big Brothers/Big Sisters, in leadership roles in several communities and ran in a couple marathons to raise money for Leukemia Society.

Despite her successes, Teresa considers one of her greatest accomplishments to be the success of her daughter. Leslie was born in 1985, the same year Teresa completed the HCA CFO Development program. Regardless of the challenges of balancing professional and home lives, Teresa reared a motivated daughter also interested in the business field. Leslie is a graduate of the University of South Florida and works for a marketing firm in Atlanta.

Her faith. Her family. Her career. Teresa owes all her success to God. “If you are sensitive to God’s guidance, He will form the desires of your heart and dreams,” said Teresa. “My parents, grandmother, and pastors were influential in building my foundation of morals and ethics. Every decision I make in my role as CFO is deeply rooted in my ethical upbringing and teachings of the Bible. Corporations need more strong Christian employees in leadership roles. Many institutions today are in financial trouble because leadership did not make ethical decisions.”

Chad Germany Named Director of World Ministries

After serving as SAGU’s Missions Director for four years, Joel Watson is returning to the mission field. Joel and Marie recently accepted a new assignment in a restricted access country in Asia. Missionaries Chad & Angela Germany will now take over as missions directors.

“SAGU has had a long line of distinguished Missions Directors,” said Germany. “We are humbled and honored by this invitation.”

The Germanys are currently serving as missionaries in North India. Chad has spent over 11 years in pioneer church planting across India. They have also ministered in schools, on the streets, in orphanages and youth conferences. Over the last 7 years, the Germanys have focused their efforts in the state of Bihar. During their service to Bihar, the number of A/G churches has grown from 2 to 26.

Chad and Angela are both graduates of SAGU. Chad graduated in 1998 with a bachelor’s degree in Church Ministries with a Specialization in Cross Cultural Communications; Angela earned the same degree in 2001. The two married in 2000 and have two daughters, Mercy (6) and Noelle (4).

For the next four years, Chad will be the Director of World Ministries at SAGU, training and preparing a new generation of missionaries.

According to Germany, “Our hope and prayer is that in this position we can challenge and equip a new generation of missionaries with the need to take the gospel to the unreached peoples of the world. Our passion is and will always be for church-planting. We hope to instill that same passion into SAGU Missions majors in the classroom, and then follow it up with practical on the field church-planting experience.”

A
VOLLEYBALL

SAGU Jumps in NCCAA Rankings

The National Christian College Athletic Association recently published their weekly listing of national leaders in women’s volleyball, and Southwestern is well-represented. Coach Hank Moore’s club is ranked #1 in the Central Region and #3 in NCCAA Division I out of 43 teams.

In team statistics, SAGU is #3 in Attacking Percentage (.256) and #4 in Kills, averaging 12.42 per set. The Lady Lions are 11th in Serving Aces with 70. They are #4 in Blocks, though their total of 63 solo blocks leads the nation. SAGU averages 19.68 digs per set, good for #2 in the country. In Assists (which are set to attackers, who make kills/spikes), Southwestern comes in at #8.

INDIVIDUAL TOP TWENTY-FIVE
Kills Average (per set): #1 in nation, Brittani Toole .403. #4 Kelani (Keeho) Daniels 3.61.
Attacking Percentage: #13 Toole .322. #20 Daniels .256.
Service Aces: #23 Jordan Briggs with 18.
Defensive Digs (per set): #20 Tina Briggs 4.05.
Blocked Shots (per set): #8 Toole 1.05. #24 Krystal Cisneros 0.82.

CONFERENCE and NATIONAL LEADERS

Complete statistics for every Lady Lion are posted at RRAC.org (Red River Athletic Conference). To see how SAGU ranks among hundreds of NAIA teams, visit NAIA.com. In Kills, Toole comes in at #14, with Daniels at #36. R. Brown is #29 in America in Assists.

Volleyball Begins the Season 10-1

Coach Hank Moore’s Lady Lions volleyball team, showing no ill-effects after suffering their first loss a week before, resumed their winning ways with a weekend sweep of two solid teams in Oklahoma Wesleyan and the University of St. Thomas. Southwestern ups their won-lost mark to 10-1, possibly the best start in school history.

“We played against a really good team,” Moore said of OWU. “Our team responded very well. The Eagles were bigger than us too. But our ladies played outstanding defense, and it kept us in the match.” SAGU won the best-of-five match, 3 sets to zero; 25-20, 25-17 and 25-17. They have now swept seven of the eleven teams they have faced, taking 31 of 38 sets this year.

MEN’S B-BALL

SAGU Signs NCAA D-I All-State Guard, Matt Allbritton

S AGU announced the signing of Matt Allbritton, a 6’5” guard from George Washington University, an NCAA Division I school.

Allbritton was a First Team All-State player at Class 4A Garland Christian two years ago. He cited his desire to be closer to home as well as desire to enter the ministry as reasons to transfer from GWU, who play in the Atlantic-10 conference. Also, his sister April recently played basketball at SAGU and had a very positive experience.

Described as a versatile 2-3 guard by SAGU head basketball coach and Athletic Director, Dr. Jerry Boone, Allbritton brings his much sought-after game to Waxahachie. He was recruited by 27 D-I programs once he made it public he would be leaving the “Colonials” program. He took several recruiting visits in response to over 100 phone calls from different coaches.

SAGU Signs 2nd NCAA D-I Player, Ronald Horne

W hen opportunity knocks, it’s best to open the door. For highly-touted basketball player Ronald Horne, he was waiting for a green light instead. On August 26 he pressed the accelerator. “I got the green light,” an obviously pleased Horne said moments after signing his Letter of Intent to attend Southwestern Assemblies of God University. He becomes the second athlete to transfer from an NCAA Division I school to play hoops at SAGU, a growing NAIA Division I program. The combo guard played for the North Texas Mean Green and led them in 3-point shooting percentage during limited playing time.
A group of Lady Lions basketball players went to Baton Rouge, Louisiana, this summer to serve the community through outreach and community development. The team partnered with Healing Place Church.

While in Baton Rouge, they passed out 2,750 bottles of water, 550 Capri Sun drinks, and 650 bags of groceries. They fed and clothed the homeless, cooked meals, mowed yards and washed cars. The team also served through other activities, such as basketball clinics, a nursing home service, cleaning, painting, a youth service, and an outreach to prostitutes.

“There is a lost and dying world that you are reaching out and touching,” Kim Braud from the Servolution Global Team told the Lady Lions. “This summer, you made an eternal impact not only here in the Baton Rouge area, but in the Kingdom of God.”

“Most of all you served,” said Braud. “You served each other, your leaders; you served the church. You served the homeless, helpless and broken. You have indeed reached the world by serving one.”

According to Coach Arlon Beadles, “It was a great experience for our ladies. God used them in a great way to help the poor and needy.”

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**Visit the New Athletic Website**

 Bookmark the SAGU Athletics web page for up-to-date rosters, photos, game stats, and the ability to subscribe to weekly e-letters with the latest sports news.

www.sagu.edu/athletics.

ACCESS SCORES, ARTICLES, AND SCHEDULES IN REAL-TIME.
SAGU Students Spanned the Globe on Contact trips This Summer

Approximately 90 SAGU students spanned the globe this summer on eleven Contact trips. As part of Southwestern Assembly of God University's focus on missions, Southwestern Missions Association (SMA) orchestrates several missions trips every year. These "Contact" trips take place in the summer to allow students to spend more time in the field. Student leaders prepare for the summer trips through a training trip during Spring Break. This year, there were eleven Contact teams.

Life-changing experience

"I learned how blessed we are to have a church at every corner," said Sara Garcia. "I learned how to give everything without receiving. It was a humbling experience. What I learned most is how I am absolutely nothing and God is absolutely everything."

Blake Patterson commented, "I gained a lot of wisdom in leadership—understanding what it means to be a true leader. I became more sensitive to the Holy Spirit than I think I’ve ever been. I didn’t want to move or speak until He did. It’s just as Jesus told it. I don’t do anything until the Father pretty much tells me to. That’s what I learned in leading and will continue to live out all the days of my life. After trips like this my heart just continues to burn more and more for the nations, our world, and our generation. Let’s go save the world."

Dominican Republic

Twelve SAGU students in the Dominican Republic participated in youth ministry through outreaches and camps.

Nicaragua

A thirteen-member team in Nicaragua was involved in community outreaches, construction and orphanage work. They reached more than 6,000 people with the gospel through 32 children and youth evangelistic crusades.

"The heart for outreach there is overwhelming," said Blake Patterson, "from the missionaries, to national staff, to pastors, and to churches. Their heartbeat is for the lost people of Nicaragua."

According to Elizabeth Arreguin, "It was wonderful to see the way God moved, and it blew our minds away. We held a service at a church and almost the whole church got filled with the Holy Spirit. We kept having divine appointments. We would run into people in the street and bring them to church and they would get filled with the Holy Spirit."

North Africa

A team of students went to North Africa to minister through education, prayer walks and believer encouragement.

Republic of Georgia

A team of six students went to the Republic of Georgia to work among refugee populations in humanitarian assistance. The group also painted murals of Bible story scenes and provided a needy family with kitchen and home supplies. According to Joshua Rodriguez, "We learned that whether you can speak the language or not, there are so many ways to share the love of Christ."
Kenya

The seven-member Kenya team was involved in outreach and school programs. The team also planted crops to feed the local school children. According to Jesse Eggman, “The crops would have been impossible except for a solar pump which had been donated for the purpose of getting water from the nearby river to the village.” Most of the school children were Muslim.

Thailand

The ten-member Thailand team ministered through English camps, evangelism, and local church outreaches. Student Sara Garcia was amazed at how dedicated the Thai Buddhists were to serving a god who couldn’t help them. “It broke my heart to see them bowing to and worshipping so desperately a god who has no power,” Garcia commented.

According to Axa Darra Davila, “This trip was an eye opener. What stood out the most was seeing women of God taking up a big responsibility to take care of Thai children that don’t have a way to go to school. It was outstanding and it was proof that God can use everybody to be a blessing for His people.”

Argentina

A four-member team in Argentina worked in evangelism and church growth. Student leader Priscilla Trevino was struck by the people’s openness to hear the gospel and hunger to feel His presence. The team went into local neighborhoods to invite people to children crusades. “My heart ached and still aches today as I saw the homes of these families,” said Trevino. “It was wintertime, so the nights were extremely cold, but they did not have heaters. Many children attended our crusades barefoot. Some were homeless. Some didn’t have parents to care for them. Some had been sexually abused. Conviction set in, because it is so easy for us to forget how blessed we are.”

Southeast Asia

The team in Southeast Asia was involved in prayer walks and personal evangelism.

Ghana

The team in Ghana ministered through village outreach and distribution of the Book of Hope. Team leader Isaac Lewis was impressed with the freedom they had to share Book of Hope in private, public, and Islamic institutions. Combined with a team of five Ghanaians, SAGU students distributed over 40,000 copies.

Bangladesh

Another group of students went to Bangladesh to serve the local church in media production and creative arts and help in a children’s home. According to Benjamin Liu, “It was just amazing to see people young and old, of whom I have completely contrasting cultural backgrounds with, worshipping the same God, the same way, and with the same heart. It was definitely an intriguing, inspiring, and encouraging sight.”
I moved to Midlothian, Texas, a year and a half ago with my family. I grew up in Washington, just north of Seattle. Long before we moved to Texas, however, I knew I wanted to attend SAGU. I was prepared to come all the way from Washington because SAGU is the best possible choice for me.

Since I was eight years old, I have felt God tugging at my heart to go into ministry. At first, I thought it would be as a missionary. But, gradually I realized that the call was one of ministry in general.

A pastor’s daughter, I grew up in the same church and town my entire life. I’ve always been actively involved in church. I have played keyboard for the youth worship band, taught Sunday School and gone on missions trips. I also participated in student leadership, mentor groups, drama, and Fine Arts. In Fine Arts, I participated in song writing, drama, human video, short sermon, and worship band.

I love to travel, jet-ski, or anything outdoors. I absolutely love being around people, all the time, and having fun. I also love sports and have been involved in school athletics for many years.

When I was a sophomore in high school, I was diagnosed with Graves’ disease. Graves’ is an autoimmune disease that affects the thyroid. One symptom is muscle weakness. I had no energy. I had to pull out of sports and a major part of my life was taken away. I became too weak to even go to school, so I had to pull out of that as well.
Finally, I decided to give it to God (partially). I got better for a while, but then relapsed my senior year. In February, I gave it fully to God and was miraculously healed!

Now that my life is completely in God’s hands, I’m turning my focus to God’s call for my life. God has called me into ministry, particularly to preach and to work with youth. I would love to be a traveling evangelist and be able to combine my love for travel and passion for ministry.

Since I plan on going into the ministry, I was excited to learn that SAGU produces the most ministers and missionaries out of any A/G school. It doesn’t hurt that I live 15 minutes away from SAGU. But, even before I moved to Texas a year and a half ago, SAGU was my first choice because of the spiritual atmosphere.

As I enter my freshman year at SAGU, there are three things in particular that I’m looking forward to: 1) spiritual atmosphere, 2) classes that will help me prepare for life and ministry, and 3) Christian fun and relationships.

I am now a Bridges Hall resident and looking forward to campus life. I love to have fun, be crazy and random, and possibly pull some non-damaging pranks—nothing permanent. The way I see it, as long as it washes off, it’s all good.

On a more serious note, I expect practical but intense opportunities for ministry, practical guidance, and teacher mentors who live out godly examples of spiritual leadership. I want to go on missions trips and check out other opportunities that are available.

I want to be in a college where the Spirit and power of God resides and where the moving of the Holy Spirit takes precedence over everything else that is going on around campus. These opportunities could change my whole spiritual life.

I’m looking forward to making lifelong friends and gaining mentors. I’m also looking forward to the spiritual environment and the ministry opportunities I’ll have.

I plan to earn a degree in youth ministries and possibly double major in education or business. I may become a youth pastor, but I don’t know for sure what I’ll do after graduation. I hope that God gives me more specific direction during my time at Southwestern.

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**Top 3 Short Sermon Finalists Choose SAGU**

All three finalists in this year’s National Fine Arts Festival short sermon category will attend SAGU. Paul Ferguson & Christina White became students this fall. Merit winner Dylan Johnston will join them next year after he graduates high school. The trio also held the top three spots in the North Texas District Fine Arts Festival.

Dylan Johnston is from Temple, Texas. He has been involved in Fine Arts for a number of years. Last year Dylan won North Texas district merit in both large human video group and short sermon. Dylan has visited SAGU numerous times and loves the campus. According to Johnston, “I’ve heard from various people that some of the classes they took at SAGU have really changed their life and pushed them to a deeper relationship with God.”

Dylan plans on entering the Pastoral Ministries program.

A native of Washington, Christina White moved to North Texas just a year and a half ago. Christina is also this year’s top Ashcroft scholarship recipient. Christina plans on getting a degree in youth ministries and possibly double majoring in either education or business.

Paul Ferguson is from Cedar Hill, Texas. Ferguson graduated from Trinity Christian School, where he was part of the state championship basketball team and participated in various other activities. Paul has been heavily involved in Junior Bible Quiz, Fine Arts and his youth group. He participated in eight categories of national Fine Arts this year and received merit in digital photography. According to Paul, “Southwestern offers the best opportunities for me.” He is entering the Pastoral Ministries program.

SAGU offers a variety of grants and scholarships, including the Fine Arts scholarship. Fine Arts scholarships range from $600 to one-year full tuition. Students may earn scholarships for up to four years of their Fine Arts participation.

For more information regarding the Fine Arts scholarship, or any other financial aid, visit www.sagu.edu/financialaid/ or contact the Financial Aid office at 972-825-4730.
Assemblies of God Leaders Anchor
“Pentecostal Leadership in the 21st Century”

The School of Distance Education hosted “Pentecostal Leadership in the 21st Century” September 14-15. The seminar was part of the James K. Bridges Distinguished Chair of Pentecostal Theology series. Guest speakers included Dr. George Wood, Alton Garrison, Dr. James Bradford, and Douglas Clay.

“Providing quality leadership is one of the most difficult issues to wrestle with in the church today,” commented Joseph Hartman, Assistant Dean of SAGU’s School of Distance Education. “Many ministers struggle to effectively deal with areas that relate to the role of Pentecostal leadership in the 21st century.”

Two-hundred-eighty people attended the event. Attendees included pastors, lay leaders, district officials, and graduate and undergraduate SAGU students. Seminar participants had the option of earning college credit.

“The response was tremendous,” said George Taylor, Asst. Director of Distance Education. “I personally received comments from people describing the conference as ‘mind-blowing,’ ‘revolutionizing,’ and ‘transforming.’ One gentleman reported that he found the direction he was looking for. Many described the seminar as a once in a lifetime opportunity, with an opportunity to speak, interact, and pose questions to our fellowship’s highly regarded leadership team. Indeed, we were very blessed to have the honor of hosting all four executive officers at one time.”

A special dinner provided an additional question and answer session with the special guests.

On Monday, the team addressed the topics of vision, values, mission, and Biblical examples of leadership. Tuesday Dr. Wood spoke on “What I Learned the First Two Years of Pastoring and Superintending,” Garrison spoke on “Anointed Leadership,” Clay covered the topic “Leading Relationally,” and Dr. Bradford spoke on “Leading through Communication: Speaking and Writing.”

“The leadership team’s humility, approachability and genuine desire to see the Kingdom of God be advanced through developing quality leaders was impressive and inspiring,” Hartman commented. “All who attended came away with practical ways that they can improve their own leadership abilities.”

According to SAGU student Ron Fortenberry, “I traveled to the Fly-In with great expectations. I had no idea how my life would be enriched, but also how my ministry would be energized with new vision, determination and direction. I don’t believe I have ever been more profoundly touched, challenged and affirmed in ministry than I was these two days.”

Music Professor Selected as Judge for All-State Jazz Ensemble

SAGU faculty member Joel Griffin has been selected as one of the judges for the 2010 Texas All-State Jazz Ensemble. Griffin will be part of a panel judging high school musicians from across the state. The judging will take place November 7-8 in Houston, Texas.

Judges were selected from members of the Texas Jazz Educators Association. There is a panel of six judges for each instrument, with a total of thirty-six judges for the ensemble. Griffin is one of the six saxophone judges.

The Texas All-State Ensemble is a twenty-piece jazz ensemble comprised of the best high school jazz musicians from across the state of Texas. The ensemble will be performing during an evening concert at the Texas Music Educators Association’s annual conference in San Antonio, Texas, February 10-13.

“I’m really looking forward to the experience,” said Griffin. “It’s not only a chance to see the best and brightest young jazz musicians in the state of Texas, but it is also an inside chance to hear and connect with possible future students.”

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On Tuesday, June 23, Steinway Hall Dallas delivered the first two of 25 Steinway pianos to the SAGU Music Department. As SAGU continues to grow and expand curriculum, the Music Department's goal is to provide students with the best musical instruments available. By investing in Steinways, SAGU is demonstrating, in the words of Steinway & Sons, “A commitment to excellence by providing their students and faculty with the best equipment possible for the study of music.”

SAGU will become the first Assemblies of God institution to achieve the All-Steinway School status. The university will also join an elite class of institutions exclusively using Steinway pianos. This class includes The Juilliard School in New York, Yale School of Music, and Carnegie-Mellon University School of Music.

For over 150 years, Steinway & Sons has been dedicated to the ideal of making the finest pianos in the world. Steinway & Sons remains committed to individual craftsmanship, each year producing a limited number of handmade pianos, considered by many to be the finest in the world. Over 1,300 prominent concert artists and ensembles choose to bear the title Steinway Artist.

“As a University, we are very thankful for our enrollment this fall,” commented Vice President for Enrollment & Retention Eddie Davis. “Given the instability of the economy, we feel that God has richly blessed SAGU with a positive enrollment. We are thankful for each and every student God has called to SAGU this year.”

An Emphasis on Academic Excellence
SAGU has added 18 new programs in just three years. Many of these programs align under SAGU’s College of Arts & Professions, which oversees the University’s liberal arts degrees. SAGU now offers 52 undergraduate degrees and 18 graduate degrees.

A Continued Emphasis on Affordability
SAGU continues to manage tuition costs to remain competitive among other private and public universities. Additionally, 86% of SAGU students receive some form of financial aid such as scholarships, grants and federal assistance.

An Emphasis on Campus Development
As can be seen in a self-guided tour of the campus (www.sagu.edu/guests), SAGU has added impressive new dormitories and is constructing a new Wellness Center. Teeter Hall and Bridges Hall opened in 2006 and 2007 respectively. Each four-story dorm is approximately 70,000 square feet and houses 236 students.

The Wellness Center is scheduled for completion in December 2009 and should be open in time for the Spring 2010 semester. The 31,650 square-foot facility will be furnished with top of the line weight and aerobic equipment, an elevated walking/jogging track, racquetball courts, multipurpose gymnasium, Olympic-style swimming pool, sauna, lockers and showers.

If you are interested in contributing to the fundraising effort, contact Linda Robins, Music Department Chair, at lrobins@sagu.edu or 972-825-4793. Online giving is available through the SAGU website (www.sagu.edu).
Dr. Kermit S. Bridges Elected to 4th Term as SAGU President

The SAGU Board of Regents has elected Dr. Kermit S. Bridges to his fourth three-year term as president. Bridges became president in May 2000 after Dr. Delmer R. Guynes retired.

Prior to becoming president, Bridges served as Vice President for University Advancement. During that time, he directed Southwestern’s most effective capital campaign in the history of the institution. He also provided oversight to a student recruitment strategy, which produced record enrollments during each of those years.

President Bridges’ doctoral program at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, Calif., focused on church leadership and management. His passion is to see Southwestern become a training center for the development of Christ-like leaders who will influence the world through their unique callings and careers.

Under Bridges’ leadership, SAGU has hit a number of milestones. SAGU has added 24 academic programs since 2000. More academic programs are in development.

Last fall, SAGU reached record enrollment with 1,891 students, followed by a record spring semester. Those records gave way to a new record this fall with more than 2,000 students.

The university has expanded its property holdings and has built two state-of-the-art residence halls. A new 31,650 square foot wellness center is currently underway.
Southwesterners Return from London History Study Tour

The locations of the Lord and His ministry were inspirational. “This tour helped me to visualize the locations found in the biblical texts,” said Joel De Waard. “With this teaching, I am able to explain clearly where specific locations are in reference to adjacent areas. I am able to clearly describe what life was like when Jesus walked through the wilderness.” “It made the Scriptures come alive,” added French. “Future readings of God’s Word will be looked at more in depth because of this experience.”

According to Dr. Darren Daugherty, “Every aspect of the trip was beyond my expectations and revolutionary to my understanding of the Bible. I have an increased hunger to devour God’s Word. As I was blessed on this trip, my own children will be blessed, my students will be blessed, and only God knows the others who will be blessed as result of what I experienced.”

According to Dr. Gary Royer, “It was amazing to stand in the reconstructed ruins of so many biblical sites and trace the history of such personages as Abraham, Isaac, David, Ahab, and Old Testament prophets as well as the places where so much New Testament history took place. Hiking over 150 miles through deserts, mountains, and historic city archeological digs brought deeper life to well-known biblical events.”

Southwesterners Participate in Holy Land Study Tour

Four Southwesterners participated in “The Holy Lands Study Tour 2009,” sponsored by the Assemblies of God Alliance for Higher Education. Scholars traveled and studied through Jordan and Israel from May 11 to June 5.

The group consisted of six professors and 29 students from eight Assemblies of God colleges and universities. SAGU was represented by professors Dr. Darren Daugherty and Dr. Gary Royer as well as graduate students Joel De Waard and Glenn French.

The trip included mapping, journaling, and three examinations as the team visited more than 50 major biblical sites. Steve Lancaster, Ph.D. Hebrew and Semitic Languages, was the main instructor and Dr. Deborah Gill from AGTS was the group leader.

According to Glenn French, “Old City of Jerusalem was by far the highlight of the trip, and the Sea of Galilee a close second. Both locations were greatly influential in my spiritual edification.”

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SAGU recently introduced a new bachelor's program in Ancient Studies, which will include a hands-on archeology project. The program was approved by the Board of Regents in May 2009. SAGU is the only A/G school to offer such a degree.

The Ancient Studies program provides specialized, biblically integrated education and prepares students to engage in advanced study concerning the ancient biblical world. Graduates of the program will be qualified to work in marketplace and professional employment in government, museums and historic sites, and research and culture-related fields, as well as being qualified for graduate study in law school or various master's programs in fields such as history, Church history, archeology, or Bible.

With 15 hours for a minor, plus 9 hours in electives, Ancient Studies students have the opportunity to choose a 24-hour focus in another area to give them even broader academic preparation.

According to Dr. Loyd Uglow, Social Studies Department Chair, “For those interested in pastoral ministries or theological academic positions, for example, it offers a tremendous potential for producing high quality Old Testament preachers and teachers, who will have not only extensive biblical training, but also strong academic background in the historical and archeological context of the ancient world. That kind of well-rounded minister will be equipped to defend and advance the Gospel in this world of increasing attacks on the veracity of Scripture and the intellectual underpinnings of Christianity.”

Several archeology courses are being added to SAGU’s current curriculum to provide for the new program. Courses include Introduction to Archeology, Archeological Methodology, Preclassical Mediterranean, Ancient Ships and Harbors, and a hands-on Field Project.

Dr. Ralph Pedersen will lead the Ancient Studies program. Pedersen earned his master's and doctoral degrees in Nautical Archeology from Texas A&M.
SAGU Dedicates New Music Lab

On Friday, April 3, SAGU held official ribbon cutting ceremonies for the newly furnished music lab and computer classroom. The 27-station music lab was donated by C. Lawrence and Alletha Barnett. Christian Fidelity donated the 27-station computer classroom.

Lawrence Barnett is on SAGU’s Board of Regents, serving under the Commission on Finance and Development. He is also on the Board for Christian Fidelity.

The music lab is equipped with computers and interactive keyboards at each station. Additionally, each computer is equipped with Finale (music writing software) and Sonar (audio mixing and recording software).

The lab is equipped with a state-of-the-art audio system. It has a microphone for the professor and control center for the lights, screens, etc.

The computer classroom, furnished by Christian Fidelity, features workstations with modern computer desks and a teacher podium with control center and smart board.

While available as an overflow computer lab, the room’s main function is as a classroom. According to Academic Services Dean Donny Lutrick, “We are excited about the capabilities of the room. It offers great flexibility.” Its widescreen smart board allows teachers to interact with the page that is being projected as well as to record sessions.

The room was utilized in Spring 2009. Applied computer courses and Statistics are currently being taught in the room. In the future, classes such as Composition and Web Design are expected to take advantage of the technology.

Academic Services is in the process of updating SAGU’s classrooms campus-wide. This past summer all of the classrooms were updated with new computers, and new projectors were installed in a number of the rooms. Additionally, eleven classrooms received new seating.

Campus-wide Wi-Fi Now Available, Follows Major Email Initiative

This summer the Information Technology office at SAGU undertook a major initiative. Thanks to a contribution made by Aaramark, the university was able to install wireless internet access across campus.

The first stage of implementation covered all internal access points. The second stage will include wi-fi access points outdoors as well.

The new system features two wireless configurations. The first is an open connection that permits any campus visitor to access free wireless. The second is restricted to staff and faculty to assist them with their daily activities. Despite these newly available hotspots, the IT office still maintains content control that aligns with the values of the University.

According to Director of Information Technology David Bush, “We are undertaking several major initiatives to improve the campus technology experience for our students. We also want to provide additional services for alumni and campus visitors to enjoy when they visit the campus for special events.”

This new initiative follows on the heels of another major project—moving student email accounts to GMail. The move, which occurred this summer, added a suite of project-management tools for students to use. Additionally, it significantly increased the amount of email space available to students while freeing up campus resources for other purposes.
The Campus Connection

Dave Roever to Speak at SAGU January 15, 2010

Dave Roever grew up in a loving, committed family in South Texas. The last thing on his mind was going to war. At the height of the Vietnam War, he received his draft notice. Having no desire to serve in the infantry, he joined the Navy and served as a river boat gunner in the elite Brown Water Black Beret in Vietnam.

Eight months into his tour of duty in Vietnam, Roever was burned beyond recognition when a phosphorous grenade he was poised to throw exploded in his hand. The ordeal left him hospitalized for fourteen months, where he underwent numerous major surgeries. His survival and life are miraculous.

Today, with his humorous style, Dave Roever is enthusiastically received both nationally and internationally as a public speaker. He is a gifted communicator and speaks in a variety of settings including public schools; military installations; business, men’s and youth conventions; and churches. Dave is a frequent guest on national television talk shows. He established compassionate, ongoing mission work in Vietnam and is involved in other nations.

In every setting, Mr. Roever’s message is one of hope. Using his life as an example, he addresses issues relevant to his audience and presents concrete solutions to life’s problems. Often drawing upon his war experiences of loneliness, peer pressure, disfigurement and pain, as well as life’s triumphs, Dave weaves a message of courage, commitment and survival that touches and transforms those who hear him. The foundation of his hope is his faith, supported by the wholesome relationships with his parents, wife, children and grandchildren.

Thirty-four years after his injuries, the Department of the Navy corrected its oversight by awarding Dave his Purple Heart, along with several other service medals. Because of his war-time experience of service, injury and recovery, he is uniquely qualified to speak to the needs of military personnel. He is called upon regularly to address troops on domestic military bases as well as those deployed in Iraq and other locations around the globe.

In May 2005, Dave was awarded an honorary doctor degree in recognition of his remarkable life and service.

Dave Roever is founder, chairman, and president of two non-profit corporations: Roever Evangelistic Association (REA) and Roever Educational Assistance Programs (REAP) based in Fort Worth, Texas. Dave and his wife, Brenda, are co-founders of Eagles Summit Ranch near Westcliffe, Colorado, where Dave, Brenda, and team train wounded warriors, others from the U.S. military, and talented young leaders in areas of specific focus such as public speaking, and marital and emotional recovery after devastating injury, helping them to fulfill their destinies.

For more information, please mail the no-obligation coupon, or call Craig Rinas, Planned Giving Director, at 972-825-4662 for a confidential personal benefits profile.

Receive Income for Life while supporting the work of SAGU!

The Southwestern Foundation is excited to announce the start of a Charitable Gift Annuity program. With this new program, you can both give and receive! Charitable Gift Annuities have become the most popular gifting vehicles in today’s volatile market.

Lifetime Income that is Fixed and Secure

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The Charitable Gift Annuity with SAGU Foundation is **fixed for life**. Your lifetime payment amount is **unaffected by economic downturns** – it's a payment that you can depend on. Establish a Charitable Gift Annuity with SAGU for yourself, or anyone you choose, with a charitable donation of $10,000 or more. You may choose either a Single Life or a Joint and Survivor Annuity. You may also choose to defer payments for a higher annuity rate.

A portion of your charitable donation is eligible for an immediate income tax charitable deduction, and a part of the annuity payments may be tax-free. Plus, you can reduce and defer capital gains tax by donating appreciated securities.

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This is not legal advice. Any prospective donor should seek the advice of a qualified estate and/or tax professional to determine the consequences of his/her gift.
1940s

Bonnie R. Cadwell (48-50) and husband Billy live in Conroe, Texas. They have two children and four grandchildren.

1950s

Travis Wallace (50-53) and his wife Ruth Ellen (Page) Wallace have been married for 57 years and currently reside in Grand Prairie, Texas. They are members of The Oaks Fellowship in Red Oak, Texas, and own a furniture business in Grand Prairie. Travis and Ruth have 3 daughters, Marilyn Lynch, Phylis Mourning and LeAnn Jones; and 9 grandchildren, Jackie Mourning, Shellie Lynch, Andrea Brooks (04), Lisa Conaster, Grant Lynch, Cameron Lynch, Kendall Lynch, Natalie Jones and Mallory Jones.

W. Loyd Nail (50-55) and Wanda (Cossey, 50-52) have traveled around the world and visited over 60 countries. Loyd is Associate Pastor at Elm Grove Assembly of God. They host a home group “The Senior Connection” every other week to pray and encourage people that come from different backgrounds. They have one daughter, Beth (86), who married Ted Henderson (82-85). They have 2 grandchildren, Spencer, 17, and Aela, 13.

Dalphna (Boatright) Barnes (53-56) resides in Florence, Texas. She served in the Navy as hospital corps WAVE from 1957-1959. She was stationed in Maryland and Washington State. As R.N. and hospital chaplain, she facilitated weekly cancer support groups at Houston Northwest Medical Center for 28 years. She is now retired.

Nancy (Carraway, 53-56) married Bill Gunter June 26, 1959, at First Assembly of God in Pascagoula, Mississippi. Nancy traveled in ministry for awhile before she met Bill. They have two children, Todd and Rhonda, and two grandsons, Drew and Matthew.

Bill Newby Lees (55-57) and his wife Eunice continue as lead pastors of Crown Pointe Church in Lee’s Summit, Missouri. They have two daughters, Pam Kline lives in Lee’s Summit with her family and works at Crown Pointe. She has two children, Lauren, 14, and Brandon, 11. Their daughter Christy Poppen lives with her family in a western suburb of Minneapolis. She has four children, Natalie, 14, Andrew, 12, Nathan, 10, and Avery, 7.

Calvin H. Brannon (57-59) and his wife reside in Norman, Okla., where he serves as Minister of Administration at McFarlin Memorial United Methodist Church. Calvin graduated from high school at Southwestern in 1959; he then attended Junior College until 1961. Calvin continued to the University of Tulsa to receive a BA in 1965. In 1999 Calvin earned his Master of Divinity from Phillips Theological Seminary. He has two sons and five grandchildren.

Dorothy (59-60) and Jesse Mills (59-60) married in 1960. They have four daughters and eight grandchildren. Jesse retired from civil service in 1997, and Dorothy retired from management in 2006. They plan on taking this time to travel. They have lived in Marion, Texas, for 32 years.

Billy Jene Wheeler (59-63) and his wife Andrea have been pastors for 40 years, missionaries for 4 years, and now pastor River of Life in Amarillo, Texas. Billy graduated with a B.A. from SAGU in missions, a B.S. in Education from Midwestern University, M.Ed. from NEOSU, and Ed.D. from Oklahoma State University. He served as a school superintendent for 10 years. They have 5 children and 12 grandchildren.

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CONTINUED NEXT PAGE
1960s

Rev. Douglas Rose (61-65) and his wife Esther (Dolly) reside in Grand Prairie, Texas. They are proud to welcome their newest grandchild. Marlie Beth Rose is daughter of Richard and Wendi Rose who reside in the St.Louis area. Their second daughter, Aimee (96) and husband Rev. Barry Hosford are the Music and Youth Pastors at First Assembly in Valparaiso, Florida. Their children are Avaro Rose, 8, and Brennan Alan, 5.

Gordan W. Barnett (61-66) of Cyprus, Texas, lives in Nicosia, Cyprus, and serves as Member Care Pastor for Central Eurasia with AGWM.

David L. Rogers (62-65) married Jeannene (Doyle, 63-65) while students at SAGC in 1965. Over the years they have served together as pastoral associates at 6 churches in 3 states. David served as State Royal Ranger Commander in Oklahoma and N. Missouri districts. David has received two honorary Doctorate Degrees for his work in Christian Ed. and Home Group Ministries. He is presently working in the insurance industry. They have two daughters, Tonya and Tami who both teach in public schools, and one grandson, David. David and Jeannene reside in Plano, Texas.

Dianne (Harvey) Duck (62-66) resides in Irving, Texas, and is retired from Brookhaven College in Farmers Branch, Texas, where she taught for 11 years. Dianne continues to work part time in the Continuing Education division, and is the Program Manager for the online courses. Dianne is very active in the Dallas Indian United Methodist Church, where she and her husband, Lloyd Duck, attend regularly. She has been actively involved in the DFW area American Indian community for over 30 years.

1970s

Dennis W. Whaley (70-72) resides in Springfield, Missouri, and has been married to his SAGU sweetheart for 35 years. Dennis has served as the Director of University Relations at Evangel University for the past 8 years. His recent ministry at Evangel has afforded him the opportunity to work with the Springfield Chamber of Commerce in developing relationships with foreign cities and through the Rotary foundation in helping 3rd world countries and students to obtain scholarships.

Gilbert Daniel Olivarez (76 –77) has been a full-time pastor since 1981, the last 14 years in Fort Collins, Colo. He has been newly elected as Assistant Superintendent of the Central District of the Assemblies of God.

1980s

Rhonda (Griffin) Barta (84-87) and husband James reside in West Columbia, Texas. Their oldest daughter Camille graduated from high school as valedictorian and daughter Courtney has been inducted into the national honors society.

Kevin L. Davis (87-88) graduated with a BCA Degree in 1988. He and his wife Melissa live in Nixa, Missouri, with their three daughters, Rebekah, 14, Hannah, 12, and Sarah, 9. They pastored in Oregon and Washington from 1993-2007 at two Assembly of God churches. Kevin is currently...
enrolled in his second year at the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary pursuing a Master of Divinity degree.

Darrell D. Myers (87-89) resides in Bellville, Texas, with his wife Marie (Hoff, 90). Marie graduated with a degree in Elementary Education and Darrell graduated with an A.A. in Communications. Marie works part time at Christian City Fellowship in Sealy and is involved in Covenant Hearts Women’s Ministries, Champion Kids Children’s Church every other month, and WOW children’s ministries. Darrell works at BAE Systems on the night shift building military vehicles on an assembly line.

Darrell is involved in Champion Kids children’s church every other month and ushering. They volunteered as Children’s Pastors at Sealy Assembly Word and Christian City Fellowship from 1992-2004. Darrell is still involved in taking kids to Kids Camp every summer and working VBS. They have 2 children, Bonnie and Zain. Bonnie is in 8th grade and Zain is in 6th grade.

**Vicki L. (Jackson) Finn** (94-97) graduated from the University of Texas at Dallas in May of 2009 with a Ph.D. in Public Affairs. Vicki married Jeremi Finn in June of 2005 and has been serving in the Texas public education arena since graduation from SAGU in 1997.

**Edgar** (98-02) and **Stephanie (Graves) Ayala** (01-03) live in Humble, Texas, with their two children, Gabrielle, 10, and Jaden, 7.

**Justin Mack** (98-01) married Tara September 2, 2006. They live in Apple Valley, Minn. Justin serves as Missions/Small Group Pastor at River Valley Church and is working on a Master of Arts in Global Leadership through Fuller Seminary. Tara serves as the youngest elected Legislator in the Minnesota House of Representatives. Over the past couple of years they have had the great opportunity to lead missions teams to India, Thailand, Belize, Italy, and Swaziland.

**Jesse Landis** (01-03) of Harrisburg, Penn., is a missionary working with Calvary International and Camp Sonshine International.

Mathew and **Katherine (Beene) Janssens** (01-04) reside in Conroe, Texas, with their three children, Hailey, 4, Noah, 2 1/2, and Ethan, 4 months. Mathew finished his MBA from Sam Houston State University this July, and works as a Sales Tax

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**1990s**

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Accountant for a geosynthetics manufacturing plant outside of Houston. Mathew and his wife have also become the associate pastors of a church plant in Conroe. They are trying to transition into full time ministry.

Jimmy Wright III (02-03) and Cassi (McCauley) Wright (99-02) are expecting their first child in November 2009. Jimmy is a worship leader and Cassi is the Pastor of Missions at ConnectLife Church in Waxahachie.

Esther (Brooking) Moore (03-07) graduated with a B.S. in Cross-Cultural Missions. Joshua and Esther were married on July 11, 2009. They now reside in Poughkeepsie, New York, where Josh attends the prestigious Culinary Institute of America, and Esther teaches and coordinates an after-school program in an inner city school.

Clarence (48-49) and Lorene (Clifton) Lambert (47-49) of Owasso, Okla., celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on June 11, 2009. They are actively involved in ministry.

Hermes Broadhead (48) of Meridian, Miss., celebrated his 82nd birthday and his 58th wedding anniversary with his wife Joyce. Their first great-grandchild, Lincoln Joshua Broadhead, was born on May 22. Their grandchildren are pictured.

Luther O. Foster, JR. (51-57) and Betty J. Foster (55) were recently honored by their son, Gary, (71-73) and daughter-in-law, Marsha, with a surprise 60th wedding anniversary reception, April 17-19, 2009 in San Antonio and Bandera, Texas. They were married April 17, 1949, in Amarillo, Texas, by the late Rev. E.R. Foster. They have 3 sons, 5 grandchildren, and 2 great-grandchildren. Luther and Betty are retired US MAPS home missionaries and reside in Lakehills, Texas.

Ed and Dawn Anna Bradford (54-57) celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 2007. Ed retired in April 2009 as District Treasurer of the Arizona District. He pastored 17 years at First Assembly of God in Casa Grande, Ariz. Prior to ministry, he worked in advertising media at the NBC and CBS affiliate in Phoenix. Dawn Anna received a B.S. from Grand Canyon University and directed childcare/preschools in Casa Grande and Surprize, Ariz. Ed and Dawn Anna have 3 children, 10 grandchildren, and 3 great-grandchildren.

John R. Swint (55) and Alice (Taylor) Swint (53-55) celebrated their 40th anniversary as pastors of Miamisburg Assembly of God on August 30, 2009.

Betty (Trahan) Tillery (56-57) celebrated 50 years with her husband J.W. on October 9, 2008. They reside in Spring, Texas, and attend North Central church. They have 3 children, 12 grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Louise (Willard) Derrick (69-74) and husband Stan celebrated their 13th wedding anniversary. Stan and Louise live in DeSoto, Texas, where Louise continues to serve with the Dave Roever Evangelistic Association, and Stan works in the business world. Louise’s mother Ovie Parker Willard was a graduate of Southwestern Bible Institute in Enid, Okla., and was a licensed Assemblies of God minister.

Jack R. Bryan (94) and his wife Bonnie moved from Michigan to Arizona in 2001. They work in evangelism to Arizona and Mexico. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary September 12, 2009.


Josh E. Blanchard (00-04) and his wife Amanda celebrated 8 years of marriage on May 18, 2009. They reside in Sallisaw, Okla.

Carmen A. (Roebuck) Lovelace (98-02) and husband Josh welcomed Emma Claire into their family on June 28, 2008. She measured 7 pounds, 12 ounces and was 22 inches long. They reside in Springfield, Missouri.

Mrs. Thelma Goodwin (33-35) went to be with her Lord and Savior on Wednesday, January 14, 2009, in Austin, Texas, at the age of 95. While still a teenager, Thelma was a member of a gospel quartet with a Sunday morning radio program. Thelma and Homer were married on August 20, 1932. They attended Shield of Faith Bible Institute in Amarillo, Texas. Immediately after graduation, they entered full-time ministry. They received appointment for missionary service and in January 1937 sailed on a freighter from New York for the Gold Coast, West Africa, now called Ghana, where they spent many years as pastors, evangelists, and
Bible Institute teachers. Homer and Thelma continued to serve as missionaries and pastors until their 80s. She is survived by her children and their spouses, her grandchildren and her great grandchildren.

Rev. Dorothy Davis (45-50) of DeSoto, Texas, passed from this life May 2, 2009. Rev. Davis was recently honored for 59 years of service as a missionary of the Assembly of God to the Native American Indians across the southwest. She and her husband Rev. L.E. Davis, Sr. founded the Dallas Indian Revival Center in 1964. Her love for American Indians and devout faith began the foundation for the “Seeds” Bible School, raising up the next generation of Indian ministers. Rev Davis is survived by her son Jimmy Davis, daughter Rebecca Rogers, 17 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren, and 6 great-great grandchildren.

Rev. Darrell Lee Foster (50), youngest son of late reverend E.R. Foster and late reverend Jo Ellen Foster, went to be with the Lord on Aug. 27, 2008. He was 70. Darrell graduated SAGU with a B.S. degree and was a member of the Harvester choir. He was survived by his wife, Sherye Foster, three children, and several grandchildren, great grandchildren, step-children, nieces and nephews.

Truitt E. Ford (53-55; faculty 61-63) went to be with the Lord on Dec. 19, 2008. His devotion and love for God was obvious to all, and was poured daily on all who came in contact with him. Truitt’s faith was the foundation of his family life. He loved his wife and fervently cared for and watched over her. He worked with Haven of Rest radio broadcast for 35 years, sharing the love of God with millions through song and counsel. Truitt is survived by his beloved wife of forty-four years, Shirley, his sons, Brent Ford and Todd Ford, his five grandchildren, Nicholas, Melissa, Lucas, Jonah and Boden, and his brothers, Donald E. Ford and J. David Ford. Truitt and his wife Shirley resided in Valencia, Cal.

Rev. Glynn Freeman (56) was promoted to his heavenly home on July 14, 2009, at the age of 76 after a lengthy illness. He was the ninth of 10 children born to Rev. M.L. Freeman and Estella Sanders-Freeman in Green County, Miss. He graduated from Southwestern Assemblies of God College in 1956 with a BA in Theology. He was in the ministry for 55 years, pastoring several churches in Texas. He was a loving husband and father and is survived by his beloved wife of 54 years, Aquila. He is also survived by daughters Dawn Anna Ojemann, Michelle Zerbe, and son Rick Freeman and their spouses, along with his brother, Aaron and sister, Alva Wilder, six grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.
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