MORE THAN WORDS

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

- Christmas at SAGU photo recap
- Homecoming photo recap
- SAGU joins Sooner Conference
- SAGU establishes new college
Live Streaming and Video On Demand

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Special Content

As you read, watch for the following icons. They indicate special content available only online.

GET THE NEW ALBUM TODAY!
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Homecoming 2012 in photos

About Today Magazine WINTER 2012 • VOL 16 ISSUE 2

SAGU Today is a publication of Southwestern Assemblies of God University, a non-profit institution of higher learning.

MANAGING EDITOR: Ryan McElhany, Director of Marketing and Public Relations
ASSOCIATE EDITOR: Christina Freeze, Public Relations Coordinator

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS: Christina Freeze, Ryan McElhany, Shannon Hicks, Chantal Jules, Morgan Shaffer, Mark Warde
PHOTOGRAPHY: Landon Perry, Christina Freeze, Jessica Grissom, James Wright, Ryan McElhany

DIGITAL EDITION: Ricky Ramirez, Ryan McElhany

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.
President’s perspective

I trust you have been following the exciting developments at SAGU! I am happy to report we achieved our fourth-consecutive fall enrollment above 2,000 students. In addition to overall student enrollment, we achieved new records in the School of Distance Education and the Harrison School of Graduate Studies. Also, we continue to see strong interest from high school students considering SAGU as their university home. For example, prospective student attendance at the recent Campus Days achieved a new fall record.

World Communication Center Update

As you can see from the photo at the bottom of this page, we are in the middle of a massive building project. This 360-degree panoramic view of the construction site provides a visual of how the new facility sits in relation to surrounding buildings. From your perspective in the dashed box, you are standing in the middle of newly-poured concrete. You are looking across at the courtyard facing the interior of campus. Eventually, that courtyard will face a beautifully landscaped central corridor. If you can imagine pivoting either left or right, you can see how the facility is positioned as you turn to face the Farmer Administration Building, Claxton Athletic Center or Nelson Memorial Library.

Staff and faculty were buzzing the first day a convoy of concrete trucks poured the first half of the foundation. Students were already tweeting their excitement the moment the construction crew began erecting the first wall at the back of the facility. It is great to hear how excited staff, faculty and students are to witness this miracle fulfilled.

More impressively, this photo was taken in mid-November. In just over a month, we now have a two-story steel structure and cinder block walls that would make the view below impossible. See for yourself by visiting www.sagu.edu/wcc for regular updates, photos, this interactive panorama, and a live webcam showing construction progress.

Name Seat in Performance Hall
(See envelope insert)

The largest component of the 80,000-square-foot World Communication Center is a premier performance hall. Alumni at Homecoming launched a project to raise funds to purchase each of the nearly 650 seats in this beautiful venue. With your help and help from alumni and friends across the country we can accomplish this task. Refer to the envelope affixed at the center of the magazine for details about the project. Please consider helping us by purchasing one or more seats and naming them after you or a loved one.

College Expansion

The construction of this facility is part of a much larger plan. You can read on page 14 about the expansion of our college structure. Effective Summer 2013, the current College of Arts and Professions will divide to become the College of Business and Education and the College of Music and Communication Arts.

Each of the next three issues of the SAGU Today will spotlight a key academic college and showcase notable alumni from their respective programs. As you read about alumni accomplishments, please share the news with everyone you know. We rely upon you to help spread the word about the caliber of SAGU Lions providing servant leadership in the public and private workforce.

102nd Commencement

The end of the calendar year brings with it the holiday season and fall commencement.

Endowed Scholarships

Endowed scholarship funds are vital. These funds provide financial aid that enables students of all financial backgrounds to enroll at SAGU.

Additionally, endowed scholarships allow you to honor an individual, while affording the opportunity to designate how the funds will be distributed.

To learn how to setup an endowed scholarship, call Craig Rinas, CFP®, at 1-888-YES-SAGU.

If you prefer to make a simple, one-time gift to SAGU toward scholarships, please call or use the envelope enclosed with this magazine.

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Investing is risky in today's economy. Shrewd businessmen and women seek out financial advisors with years of experience to help them make the best investment possible. Sadly, too many rely on earthly wealth for fulfillment. As Christians, our purpose is to build the Kingdom of God. We weigh fiscal pragmatism with the Word and pray about how we can be good stewards of the money the Lord has entrusted to us.

In just a few short months, God has provided more than $20 million for SAGU’s World Communication Center (WCC) that’s now under construction. Without a doubt, His provision has been nothing short of a miracle.

The WCC was a $21 million building campaign, the largest initiative in the SAGU’s history. As of today, we only need $800,000 to cover the rest of the cost. The WCC will play a vital part in spreading the Gospel throughout the world and building His Kingdom in the last days. Throughout this edition of the SAGU Today you will see opportunities to make an investment. It may be to buy one chair or a whole row in the Sheaffer Center auditorium, or it may be to give a simple monetary donation.

This is your opportunity to invest into your alma mater, but more importantly, into a Christian university that remains dedicated to raising up the next generation of Christian leaders. Don’t miss your chance to be a part of God’s plan for SAGU and for the Church in the coming years.

In the middle of the magazine you will find an envelope to make it easy to give. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.
The newest SAGU student film “Under the Sun” premiered on Nov. 13 at 7:30 p.m. at ShowBiz Cinemas 12 in Waxahachie, Texas. “Under the Sun” is the university’s third summer film and fifth major production in the past five years.

The short film was written by SAGU senior Taylor Johnson and directed by 2012 graduate Krystle Sonmore. The film explores the theme of dealing with life after the unexpected. Johnson says, “I wanted to write about the universal feeling that comes after a traumatic event – when you just question everything. Most people have been through something traumatic, so I wanted to explore the part of life that doesn’t always make sense.”

A deadly shooting spree on a high school campus sets the tone for “Under the Sun.” Jacob, played by student Michael Bell, and his teenage friends struggle to make sense of the violence. Six years later, Jacob reconnects with high school crush Lindsey, played by student Alyssa Whitmire, and a romance is kindled. When tragedy strikes the school again, leaving Lindsey’s father critically wounded, Jacob’s growing love for Lindsey and his quest for meaning in life are put through the ultimate test.

A week after directing the film, Sonmore began her full-time career as a weekend sports anchor/news reporter for KKCO 11 News in Grand Junction, Colo. She says that leading the film crew was a perfect educational send-off from SAGU. “The process of developing vision, rehearsing actors, drawing storyboards, directing a set and editing assisted me in developing more leadership and organizational abilities.”

ShowBiz Cinemas CEO/President Kevin Mitchell was enthusiastic about premiering the SAGU student film. “I was thrilled when SAGU approached me about our theater serving as a venue,” Mitchell said. “It’s a great way for local business and local education to create community here in Waxahachie.”

The cast and crew received “the red carpet treatment” during the premier event. “We’re treating this night like a real Hollywood premiere,” said SAGU senior Britta Johnson, who coordinated the event. “To have our film screened for the first time at ShowBiz is going to make the night that much more authentic for us.”

The team sold out two auditoriums and added a third showing later in the evening to accommodate demand. Executive Producer Rob Price is a faculty member in the Communication Arts department at SAGU. He credits much of the success of SAGU’s award-winning student films to the preparation phase leading up to the production. He explains, “We require the crew to take a three-month course in the spring that is completely dedicated to pre-production. It equates to hundreds of man hours before the two-week shoot.”

Watch the film online at SAGU.tv
SAGU ranked as a national leader preparing Hispanics for ministry

SAGU was recognized in June as a national leader preparing Hispanic students for vocational ministry by “Diverse: Issues in Higher Education.”

SAGU led nationally among all accredited universities for Hispanic ministry graduates at the bachelor’s level for the 2010-2011 academic year. SAGU is followed by other notable universities including Biola University, Southern Adventist University, Southeastern University, Moody Bible Institute and Dallas Baptist University.

Vice President for Enrollment and Retention Eddie Davis says, “This report illustrates the heart of SAGU. We serve and train ministers from a variety of backgrounds to minister to the needs of an ailing world.”

Assistant Dean of Admissions Bryan Brooks adds, “This confirms that we are fulfilling our founding purpose. This is a great achievement, but it’s just the beginning. These graduates reflect the heart of SAGU and its values. I am excited to hear about their future success.”

The magazine has ranked the top 100 for minority students in other academic disciplines for years, but debuted the “religious and ministerial studies and theology” category this year. The report is based on research of Victor Borden at Indiana University Bloomington, using U.S. Department of Education data.

SAGU also remains a top producer of pastors and missionaries within the Assemblies of God.

Alumni Relations ‘mugs’ students during first week

SAGU launched a new tradition Tuesday, August 28. Alumni Relations hosted “Mugged 2012,” a special event to welcome students to campus. Students were each given a SAGU mug to personalize. The mug can be used throughout the year for discounted refills at the Lions Den. The event also provided an opportunity for students to connect with the Alumni Relations office.

Students frequented a photo booth to take “mug shots” with SAGU’s mascot Judah and friends. Alumni Relations also provided a number of props to make the booth an entertaining experience.

According to Alumni Relations Director Devin Ferguson, “Mugged 2012 was a fun way for us to distribute a gift in a personal way, connect alumni volunteers and students, and hopefully help establish a new fall tradition. Having alumni volunteers for this event underscored our message that giving back to our alma mater can be done in many ways.”

Social Studies hosts ‘Unearthed’ archaeology seminar

The SAGU Social Studies department presented the biblical archaeology seminar “Unearthed” Sept. 25-27 in the Barnes Student Center. Eric Welch and Christopher Gornold-Smith were guest presenters for the series.


The three primary lectures will be available as a SAGUtv Special Lecture Series in January.

SAGU NEWS ONLINE

Follow SAGU news weekly on www.sagu.edu/news, SAGU’s Facebook page or Twitter @sagu.
Alumna Sonmore becomes weekend sports anchor

Alumna Krystle Sonmore was hired as a weekend sports anchor/news reporter for KKCO 11 News in Grand Junction, Colo.

Sonmore reports news during the week and anchors sports on weekends. Her sportscast airs on weekends at 5:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. “I love this job,” shared Sonmore. “I get to be myself and film games. I feel really blessed to be doing something that I love.”

Sonmore prepared for a career in broadcasting through experiences in class, reporting for SAGU Sports Live and participating in student films. “My experience with SAGU Sports Live was crucial and played a huge role in being hired as a weekend sports anchor.”

Sonmore directed the SAGU student film “Under the Sun,” which premiered Nov. 13 at Showbiz Cinemas 12 in Waxahachie. Sonmore reflects, “I came into the media program not knowing anything about editing, film work or script writing. I left as the director of a student film. I even started my own business as a freelance wedding videographer.”

Professor Rob Price influenced Sonmore during her time at SAGU. She says, “Price is a fun, relatable and well-respected SAGU professor. His classes are practical and hands-on, and he knows how to make the class and material relevant to the real world.”

“Krystle’s dedication to excellence raised the bar for her peers and our entire department,” Price shared. “She demonstrated the ability to take criticism, internalize it, and leverage what she learned to make her next project exceed expectations.”

He continued, “I am so proud of her accomplishment in landing a job in Grand Junction as a news reporter and sports anchor. Her skills and poise in front of the camera equal her abilities behind the scenes.”

Sonmore appreciates the opportunity for spiritual growth SAGU provided. “While at SAGU, I drew closer to the Lord and received a Christian-based education that is in line with what I believe.” Sonmore especially enjoyed taking Authentic Christianity with Professor Clancy Hayes. She says, “Hayes’s class was especially relevant to everyday life.”

Sonmore, originally from Houston, Texas, graduated from SAGU in April 2012 with a Bachelor of Arts in digital media. Sonmore first became acquainted with KKCO 11 News as an intern during the summer of 2011. She began reporting for KKCO 11 News in May 2012. She attends Canyon View Vineyard Church in Grand Junction, Colo.
SAGU reaches fourth-consecutive 2,000+ fall enrollment

This fall, SAGU achieved its fourth consecutive fall enrollment above 2,000 with 2,030 students. Additionally, SAGU’s Harrison School of Graduate Studies (HSGS) and School of Distance Education (SDE) reached 5-year highs.

This year’s records come on the heels of a number notable university achievements. SAGU was ranked first in the country for preparing Hispanic students for vocational ministry by “Diverse: Issues in Higher Education.” Victory Media named SAGU a Military Friendly School for the 2013 year. Dallas Morning News ranked SAGU 8th in midsize companies in its Top 100 Places to Work for 2011. Additionally, the National Athletic Intercollegiate Association (NAIA) awarded SAGU the Champions of Character Award for 2011-2012.

Vice President for Enrollment and Retention Eddie Davis said, “It is remarkable to see how our School of Distance Education and Harrison School of Graduate Studies continue to grow. The continued growth shows that we are providing a valuable resource to our residential and adult students.”

The Harrison School of Graduate Studies increased enrollment by 12 percent over the past five years.

The School of Distance Education reached record enrollment with a 19 percent increase since 2008. SDE was also recognized by U.S. News and World Report as a top online program in the areas of faculty credentials and training, student services and technology, and student assessment and engagement.

“We’ve seen significant growth in the business, counseling/psychology, biblical studies and history majors,” said Assistant Dean for Admissions Bryan Brooks. Brooks believes the addition of new programs is a significant contributor to enrollment growth.

Since 2007, SAGU has added bachelor’s degrees in ancient studies, bilingual education, criminal justice, digital media arts, drama, human services, management information systems, physical education, social work and sports management. SAGU has also added master’s degrees in children and family ministries, early education administration, history, human services counseling, Master of Divinity, social studies education, language arts and reading, organizational leadership, principalship and school counseling.

Collins Hall hosts new event ‘Collinstock’

SAGU students from Collins Hall hosted “Collinstock” on Friday, Sept. 28. The event began at 7 p.m. on the lawn.

Collins Hall was vacated in 2006 following the construction of Teeter Hall. Since then, a portion of the building was remodeled to serve the Oaks School of Leadership, a joint effort between SAGU and the Oaks Fellowship in Red Oak, Texas.

Students gathered to watch a variety of performances by peers, including music, spoken word and storytelling. SAGU junior Elissa McConathy says, “It’s cool to see students producing events like Collinstock. It’s such a great way to showcase student talent and get involved.”

The event was organized and produced by Collins Hall residential assistants (RAs). The purpose of the event was to encourage campus connections and community. The Collins RA team invited members from each dorm on campus to perform.

Collins Hall provided popcorn and beverages for the audience and decorated the lawn with lights, a stage and student artwork. Artwork included a painted stage backdrop by Steffi Owen, painted banners by Julia Stubbs, metal art by Gonzalo Gutierrez and chalk graffiti by Collins Dorm residents.

Collins dorm residents set up a makeshift auditorium with couches and armchairs.

Collins Dorm Pastor David Watts says, “We had more than 300 students attend and the majority of them stayed the entire time to listen to live music, spoken word and stories. I would love to see Collinstock become an annual tradition.”
Criminal Justice hosts live K-9 demonstration

Sept. 27, 2012, for breakout chapel. Ellis County Sheriff’s Deputy Michael McCorkle spoke to students about the usefulness of police service dogs (PSDs). He explained the processes of selection and training and provided a live demonstration with his PSD Jax.

Deputy McCorkle and PSD Jax have been a team since 2007. Jax, an 80-pound German shepherd, is a dual-purpose canine trained in narcotics and patrol. In March 2012, McCorkle and Jax placed first in narcotics detection at the United States Police Canine Association Region 20 Trials held in Wylie, Texas. Jax is certified through the United States Police Canine Association (USPCA).

Basic canine training ranges from four to twelve weeks. During this time, canines are trained in obedience, searches, tracking, narcotics, agility, and vehicle pursuits. Canines continue training throughout their service, acquiring at least sixteen hours of training per month.

SDE offers degree in occupational leadership

SAGU’s School of Distance Education (SDE) now offers a Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences (BAAS) in occupational leadership. The objective of the degree is to develop leadership and management skills necessary to serve in professional management roles.

Assistant Registrar Josh Brown says, “It also optimizes transfer eligibility for students with significant vocational/technical credits, expediting the process of completing a 4-year accredited degree.”

Adult learners’ increased interest in returning to college to complete a bachelor’s degree led SAGU to create the BAAS. The degree capitalizes on previously earned vocational, technical, or military credits by incorporating earned hours into an accredited bachelor’s degree. Of the 120 hours required for completion of the degree, 48 hours will focus on career studies incorporating up to 48 vocational credits and 21 hours of leadership studies.

Students must have at least 18 applicable vocational credit hours to apply for the program. SAGU may accept up to 48 vocational hours of credit with Registrar’s approval.

President Bridges presents ‘Voting Your Values’

This fall President Kermit Bridges presented a series on topics related to Christian values and their influence on the election process. Although the 2012 elections are past, the principles are applicable to midterm and 2016 election process. Alumni can view the series in the Special Lecture Series channel on SAGUtv (www.sagu.tv).
SAGU Theatre presents '12 Angry Jurors'

SAGU Theatre performed “12 Angry Jurors” October 18 - 22. “12 Angry Jurors” follows recent performances of other well-know plays including “Over the River and Through the Woods,” “The Boys Next Door,” “1984,” “Pride & Prejudice,” “It’s A Wonderful Life,” and “Arsenic and Old Lace.”

“12 Angry Jurors” focuses on a jury’s deliberations in a capital murder case. The jury deliberates to decide whether a young Spanish-American is guilty or innocent of murdering his father. What begins as an open and shut case of murder soon becomes a mini-drama of each of the jurors’ prejudices and preconceptions about the trial, the accused and each other. Based on the play, all of the action takes place on the stage of the jury room.

SAGU named ‘Military-friendly school’

Victory Media has named SAGU a Military Friendly School®. The 2013 Military Friendly Schools® list honors the top 15 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools doing the most to embrace America’s military service members, veterans, and spouses as students and ensure their success on campus.

“Inclusion on the 2013 list of Military Friendly Schools® shows SAGU’s commitment to providing a supportive environment for military students,” said Sean Collins, Director for G.I. Jobs and Vice President at Victory Media. “As interest in education grows we’re thrilled to provide the military community with transparent, world-class resources to assist in their search for schools,” said Collins.

For veterans and current service men and women, SAGU offers free counseling, academic assistance and accommodations at the learning centers, free gym membership, and waives the application fee. Additionally, SAGU encourages student and staff veteran networking.

Vice President of Enrollment and Retention Eddie Davis shared, “Our veterans are some of our most elite students. We appreciate their leadership and influence on our campus. And, I hope this program will encourage more to enroll at SAGU in the coming years.”

The Military Friendly Schools® media and website, found at www.militaryfriendlyschools.com, features the list, interactive tools and search functionality to help military students find the best schools to suit their unique needs and preferences.
On November 27, 2012, SAGU hosted the fourth-annual Christmas at SAGU. The event featured Christmas snacks and beverages, music from the jazz band and the Harvesters quartet, ornament decorating and photos with Mr. and Mrs. Claus. Students, alumni and friends also gathered on the front lawn to participate in the traditional lighting of the campus sponsored by Southwestern Women’s Auxiliary followed by carols sung by the SAGU chorale.
Mark your calendar for next year.

December 2, 2013
SAGU has announced plans to restructure its two academic colleges, the College of Bible and Church Ministries and the College of Arts and Professions, into three colleges in June 2013. The new colleges will be the College of Music and Communication Arts, College of Bible and Church Ministries, and College of Business and Education.

SAGU Vice President of Academics Paul Brooks says, “Restructuring will provide an even higher quality of attention to students across SAGU’s programs.”

Currently, the College of Bible and Church Ministries contains Bible/theology, practical ministries, music, counseling/psychology, and intercultural studies. The College of Arts and Professions contains business, communication arts, education, English/foreign language, general studies, and social studies.

After restructuring, communication arts, English/foreign language, music, and the staff department of media services will shift to the new College of Music and Communication Arts. The College of Arts and Professions will become the College of Business and Education with four departments: business, education, general studies, and social studies. The College of Bible and Church Ministries will retain its current name and the Bible/theology, practical ministries, counseling/psychology, and intercultural studies programs.

“We have excellent leadership in our academic programs with Dean LeRoy Bartel, Dean Larry Goodrich and Dean Donny Lutrick,” continued Brooks. “We are privileged that Del Guynes will join our team as the new dean to the College of Music and Communication Arts.”

“Dean Guynes has extensive professional experience in communications and music and also holds ministerial credentials. Del is revered by his peers and supervisors and has provided essential input toward the design and purpose of the World Communication Center.”

Guynes shared, “I feel extremely honored and challenged to become dean of the new college. The scale of the opportunity before us is quite sobering. Given the unique and miraculous way in which the new WCC has been funded and
the momentum behind the realignment of the colleges, there’s an even greater awareness of the responsibility to make sure our efforts match the blessings given us.”

He continued, “With the WCC, we have a great opportunity to improve our effectiveness in serving our constituents as we position for expansion in enrollment and in the type of academic programs we can offer. The music department will be able to expand its piano, vocal and instrumental offerings through use of enhanced rehearsal and performance areas; English and foreign language will have newfound access to venues that will allow students to present their written works; and the communication arts department will have two performance spaces for its theatre program, as well as studios and laboratories that will enhance our award-winning digital media arts program.”

SAGU is evaluating new programs in script writing (biblically-based themes for stage and cinema), broadcasting, and animation. Guynes shared, “There’s a terrific team here that will provide the faculty and staff framework for us to expand our offering of relevant academic programs.”

Rev. Del Guynes spent the majority of his career integrating the disciplines of communications, music and technology in ministry and professional settings. In addition to being an ordained minister in the Assemblies of God for over thirty years, he spent most of that time as a bi-vocational minister, working as a business executive in the media and communications industry.

As a university student, Guynes produced and directed television programming for churches and educational institutions. Upon completion of graduate school, he joined a large media conglomerate based in Denver, Colorado, and spent approximately twenty years leading business development efforts in competitive telecommunications, business and operations support system software, and Internet-based education. In this role, Guynes led efforts to establish international sales, distribution and technical support channels for education and media and communication ventures offshore. During this time, he concurrently served as minister of music at Aurora First Assembly of God in Aurora, Colorado.

In 2004, Rev. Guynes and his wife Christi came to SAGU from Colorado to lead SAGU’s traveling music ministry teams and coordinate chapel worship teams. Rev. Guynes also continued as a technology consultant in support of media and communication companies. In the fall of 2011, he accepted a full-time role as department chair of the communication arts department at SAGU.

Rev. Guynes holds a Bachelor of Arts in communications from Evangel University and a Master of Science in telecommunications from the University of Colorado. He is enrolled in the Ph.D. program in arts and technology at the University of Texas at Dallas.

Del Guynes, Dean
College of Music and Communication Arts

“The scale of the opportunity before us is quite sobering. Given the unique and miraculous way in which the new WCC has been funded and the momentum behind the realignment of the colleges, there’s an even greater awareness of the responsibility to make sure our efforts match the blessings given us.”
What is the state of ethics and leadership in the United States – particularly relating to business and education? If one was to survey the public relations messages from universities around the country, they would find that most schools tout the quality of their curriculum in business and education – SAGU included.

SAGU is proud of a continued track record of placing business students in reputed corporations, small businesses, and service roles throughout the world. Meanwhile, SAGU’s education program, with a 100% passage rate for certification, is second to none. However, there is a core distinction between SAGU’s business and education programs versus those at most state and private institutions – a central focus on a Christian worldview.
The state of business ethics

When alumni set foot in the public sector, they learn quickly that the pressures in the public workplace require a solid core of values, ethics and faith that is uniquely nurtured at an institution like SAGU.

According to the 2011 National Business Ethics Survey by the Ethics Resource Center, released in January 2012, there is both good and bad news regarding the ethical landscape in American business.

The good news is that “misconduct has reached an historic low and observers of wrongdoing are more willing to report than ever.”

The bad news is that “ethics cultures are eroding and employees’ perceptions of their leaders’ ethics are slipping. Additionally, pressure from employers to compromise standards is at an all-time high and retaliation has reached an alarming rate.”

“ORGANIZATIONAL ETHICS ARE OFTEN A RESULT OF ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE. ETHICS – GOOD OR BAD – ORIGINATE FROM THE LEADERS WHO SET THE STRATEGY, DRIVE THE PACE AND ESTABLISH THE MORAL TONE OF BUSINESS.”

Forty-five percent of employees said that they witnessed misconduct at work, and 65 percent said they reported the misconduct they saw.

Meanwhile, 13 percent felt pressured to compromise standards in order to do their jobs. And 42 percent described the ethical culture of their company as “weak.”

Americans are familiar with a number of high-profile ethics breaches. Enron, Bernie Madoff, and the Merrill Lynch bonus bust are remembered infamously. Ethics abuses continue to create a distrust of the public and private sectors, and there is an apparent gap between proclaimed versus practiced business values.

Organizational ethics are often a result of organizational culture. Ethics – good or bad – originate from the leaders who set the strategy, drive the pace and establish the moral tone of business.

Understandably, a Christian worldview can play a significant role in the ethical path many choose to follow. This is where schools like SAGU serve a critical purpose. Christian universities build not only upon the business principles required to succeed, but upon Christian ethics.

Educators’ growing influence on American students

Over the last couple of decades, education has remained a prominent topic of conversation in politics and civic discourse.

In addition to the added public attention, parents are becoming increasingly more concerned about their children’s education – evaluating the quality of their local public schools, making the fiscal sacrifice to pay for private education or even competing for charter school placement.

The American student spends an average of seven hours per day and 180 days per year in school. Over the course of their primary and secondary education, a child will spend more than 15,000 hours in the classroom.

Public policy discussions now include considerations to increase how much time students spend in school, increasing it further – particularly in low-income districts. Many states are contemplating extending the school day by two hours. With the change, students would spend the same amount of time in school with their teachers and administrators as parents spend at work.

Teachers not only mold children’s minds, but they have become some of the most influential people in their lives. As a result, many parents are intent upon seeking the best teachers for their students.

Most adults can remember a favorite teacher – the teacher who knew how to keep their attention (often in a subject they disliked), made them excited to learn or taught them to think outside the box. They were the heroes who told them they could be anything they wanted and pushed them to exceed their own expectations.

Teachers are in a unique position to reach out to students in a compassionate way. They are also uniquely positioned to share that compassion with parents of the students they teach.

With teachers playing such a valuable and influential role, SAGU recently realigned her colleges – and introduced the College of Business and Education. SAGU has long placed a priority on producing quality teachers – implementing standards that have led to 100 percent of students passing the state certification exam and approximately 95 percent of graduates being hired upon graduation.

SAGU educators advance student achievement, increase retention, promote citizenship, persist in the profession, and most importantly, practice in an ethical manner. SAGU’s education program gives students the skills to teach content knowledge and critical thinking. Core curriculum focuses on continuous assessment of student learning and how to use data to make instructional decisions. Additionally, students gain real world experience through 100 required classroom observations hours and student teaching for one semester before graduation.

SAGU’s missions emphasis for public, private or missions settings sets it apart from other education programs. Despite regulations that restrict a teacher’s religious speech in the classroom, SAGU students learn actions and a Christian worldview that can often speak louder than words.

Alumni are acquiring places of employment in major companies and making a difference in education – climbing the ranks of influence within their organizations. Consistent with her core values, SAGU strengthens students through a solid core of academic rigor, and equally as important, spiritual fervor. As students graduate and leave their marks on the world, they illustrate that what many colleges use as a talking point, SAGU makes an effort to make more than words.
Breedlove is an auditor for PricewaterhouseCoopers, one of the Big Four accounting firms that serves the largest companies in the world, in Houston, Texas. Breedlove explains: “SAGU makes you know that you are held to a higher standard that extends beyond ethics and morals, but to the standards of God’s Word. Most importantly, SAGU ingrained in me the importance of making God a part of every part of my life.”

Recalling his time as a student, Breedlove states, “SAGU makes sure that you are held to a higher standard that extends beyond ethics and morals, but to the standards of God’s Word. Most importantly, SAGU ingrained in me the importance of making God a part of every part of my life.”

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Matthew W. Horton, B.S. in business, 2008
IT Financial Analyst, Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES), Dallas, Texas
Matthew is an IT Financial Analyst. He credits SAGU with giving him the opportunity to work and providing the knowledge he needed to succeed in business. He has received a number of awards: the 2010 Excellence Award, 2011 Thanks for Contributing Award, and 2012 HQ Outstanding Associate with a Disability Award.

Tabitha Gonzalez, B.A. in business administration, 2005
Events Coordinator, Empowerment Community Center, Houston, Texas
The Empowerment Community Center is a diverse community service complex specializing in personal, economic and social development programs. The center is a home for self development and programs focused on helping families and individuals maintain a sense of empowerment to reach their personal and professional goals. Gonzalez also worked as an events intern with The London Chamber of Commerce in London, England, and as a project analyst with TELACU/FuturoNow in Los Angeles, Calif.

Veronika Joseph, B.S. in accounting, 2011; M.S. in accounting, Ball State University
Junior Level Tax Consultant, Deloitte Tax LLP, Indianapolis, Indiana
Veronika serves clients through tax preparation. She explains, “I love what I do – serving clients by preparing tax returns, researching various issues and finding answers, and processing financial data.

Christalyn Ko, B.A. in business administration, 2011
Medical Biller/Coder at Hawaii Pacific Neuroscience Clinic
Ko handles Accounts Receivables and Accounts Payable from insurers and patients for Hawaii Pacific physicians. She also develops and networks relationships with pharmaceutical representatives and corporate representatives.
Kelly Hartman, B.A. in education, 2002; M.Ed. in curriculum development, 2007
Instructional Coach, Red Oak Elementary, Red Oak, Texas
Hartman has worked at Red Oak for 11 years, first as a teacher to 2nd and 3rd graders then as an instructional coach. She helps peers meet professional, district and campus goals; align teachers’ instruction with state objectives; implements new technology and research-based teaching methods; and analyzes data to drive instruction.

Stephanie Mayfield Graham, B.A. in elementary education, 2008
5th grade reading teacher, Life School, Lancaster, Texas
Stephanie teaches at Life School, a Texas charter school. She received “Teacher of the Year” in 2010. She considers her classroom to be her mission field and says, “My classes as well as my experiences at SAGU help me to navigate situations that come up on a daily basis. Having the opportunity to strengthen my relationship with Christ at the same time that I was preparing to be a teacher helped me to see the classroom as my mission field.”

Ginger Freeze, A.A. in elementary education, 1971; B.A. in elementary education, College of Southwest, 1974; M.A. in educational instructional technology, Texas Tech University, 1988
Professional Development Specialist, Mary Branch Elementary, Bryan, Texas
Ginger is a lifelong learner who enjoyed passing a passion for education on to others. She taught for a total of 45 years, and recently retired as a professional development specialist from Mary Branch Elementary in Bryan, Texas. As a breast cancer survivor of 13 years, she now volunteers with the American Cancer Society as a Hero of Hope.

Ginger has a number of career awards: 2004 New Jersey Writing Project in Texas as part of a Target Grant; 1990 grant from Brazos Valley Cooperative Teacher Education Center; 2011 BISD Professional Specialist of the Year; 2011, 2005, 2001, and 1999 Mary Branch Elementary Professional Specialist of the Year; 1994 Mary Branch Elementary Teacher of the Year; 2008, 2005, and 2004 grants from Bryan ISD Education Foundation; 1993 authored article published in Arithmetic Teacher.

Gerald Magin, M.Ed. in principalship, 2009
Assistant Principal, Dunbar High School, Fort Worth, Texas
As an assistant principal, Gerald is helping revitalize a 5B school. The school has been given two years to fix issues including academics, attendance and graduation. About the challenges before him, Gerald explains, “My master’s degree in principalship prepared me for all state mandated tests, and I felt very confident I was ready for any challenge that was coming my way. I feel confident that I can be a part of getting Dunbar to where it needs to be.”

Ryan Puffer, B.A. in elementary education, 2009
Third Grade Teacher, Science and Social Studies, Vista Academy of Hickory Creek, Hickory Creek, Texas
Ryan teaches at Vista Academy, part of the Responsive Education Systems network (the largest charter school system in the Texas). He provides training on software, web-based tools for teachers and students, and helps research and integrate technology.

Renee Sena, B.A. in secondary education, 2005; M.S. in principalship, 2011
Assistant Principal, Mesquite High School, Mesquite, Texas
Sena has worked for Mesquite ISD for seven years, first as a instructional leader and now as the assistant principal. She explains, “My education and English classes at SAGU influenced my success as an English teacher, and the leadership abilities acquired transformed me from a teacher-leader into an assistant principal in the largest high school in Mesquite.” She has also received the Mesquite Leadership Award, 2010, and has become a District Staff Development Presenter for TILT (Teacher Instructional Leadership Training).
Additional photos available at www.sagu.edu/homecoming-gallery

Join us next year!
October 24-26, 2013
Andrea McKenna
Young Alumnus Award for Marketplace Ministry

Jim McCorkle, D.Min.
Distinguished Faculty Award

Irby McKnight
Distinguished Alumnus Service Award

Jay Trewern
Honorary Alumnus Award

Nick Stuva
Young Alumnus Award for Vocational Ministry
(received on Nick’s behalf by wife Kimbra and children Ethan and Lexi)
SAGU announced it will join the Sooner Athletic conference (SAC) and begin competing in 2013-2014. SAC is a member conference of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA).

“The long-standing reputation of the Sooner Athletic Conference within the NAIA will provide unique opportunities for SAGU to achieve recognition at the regional and national level,” said SAGU President Kermit Bridges. Bridges added, “This decision was not an easy one given the positive relationships we share with the member institutions of the Red River Athletic Conference.”

SAGU Athletic Director Jesse Godding emphasized, “We are particularly motivated by the potential to reach a greater number of Assemblies of God students in Oklahoma and Arkansas.”

SAGU competes in football, men’s and women’s soccer, volleyball, men’s and women’s basketball, baseball and softball. Texas Wesleyan University and Northwood University will join SAGU in the Sooner Athletic Conference. Dr. Bridges explained, “Joining the SAC with Texas Wesleyan and Northwood allows us to maintain positive rivalries we share with these institutions in a conference setting.”

“These are exciting times in the conference,” said SAC Commissioner John Hudson. “Expansion into the Metroplex area is great for the Sooner Athletic Conference and brings SAGU, Texas Wesleyan and Northwood into what we believe is one of the premier leagues in the NAIA.”

The three schools join Southwestern Christian University, located in Bethany, Oklahoma, as new members for 2013-14 and increase the number of member institutions to eleven.

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SAGU receives consecutive Champions of Character Award

The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) named SAGU a recipient of the Champions of Character Five-Star Award for the 2011-12 school year. This is the second consecutive year that SAGU has received this award.

Athletic Director Jesse Godding shared, “This program is a natural extension of the mission of SAGU. We are pleased that our athletes and coaches embrace the Champions of Character program and have secured this award for the second consecutive year.”

SAGU received the award based on a demonstrated commitment to Champions of Character and earned points in each of the following categories: character training, conduct in competition, academic focus, character recognition and character promotion. The Lions also earned points based on exceptional student-athlete GPAs.

Institutions are measured using the NAIA scorecard and based on the NAIA’s flagship program Champions of Character, which emphasizes the five core values of integrity, respect, responsibility, sportsmanship and servant leadership. To receive this award, institutions must score at least 60 out of 100 possible points.
Twelve SAGU football players rank nationally

SAGU football players are making their mark on national rankings.

Reid Golson (Grandview, Texas/Howard Payne Univ., Grandview HS), the club’s junior quarterback, shows up in three categories, all in the top fifty. His 260.2 yards per game in total offense places him at #17 nationally, a list with over 530 active players. He leads the Lions in rushing with 454, averaging 75.5 yards per game, earning a #46 rank.

Through the air, Golson comes in at #35, completing 69 of 146 throws, with ten interceptions. His 1,107 yards translates to 184.5 per contest.

Sophomore running back Cade Leuschner (Waco, Texas/Robinson HS) comes in with 222 yards, 3.3 per carry and three scores.

Sophomore wide receiver Jeremy McDonald (San Antonio, Texas/Cornerstone Christian) also ranks. His team-record 231 receiving yards against Texas Lutheran University rates as #3 in the NAIA’s stellar list of outstanding games this season. McDonald has 25 catches (4.3 per game), ranking #57. He gains 19.3 per reception.

Emerging later in the category is Trevor McKinley (Arlington, Texas/Seguin HS), with 17 (3.4 per game) and 9.3 yards per catch.

Special teams have four players listed among the leaders. Kicker James Gish (Waxahachie, Texas/Waxahachie HS) is #17 in scoring, with 42 points. He has converted all 15 point-after kicks and has drilled 9 of 10 field goals. His 90 percent success rate on field goals is #10 while his 100 percent on PATs is #1. His longest field goal is 50 yards.

Steven Stewart (Magnolia, Texas/Magnolia HS) averaged 29.1 yards per punt.

Two players are seen on the leader board for returning kickoffs; McDonald is #6 at 29.8 and McKinley at 18.6.

On defense, Cornerback Nick Ekanem (Richmond, Texas/Arkansas State Univ., B.F. Terry HS), who had six interceptions and 13 pass break-ups as, earned #2 on the list.

Across from him is freshman corner Shakeem Taylor (Mesquite, Texas/Poteet HS). He has swiped four passes, ranking #5. Taylor returned one for a 100-yard touchdown.

In passes defensed, Ekanem is #5 with 10 (five breakups and five picks).

Junior safety Brad Heathcock (Frisco, Texas/Wakeland HS) leads the way in tackles, averaging 9.0 per game. His 54 tackles (35 solo, 19 assisted) rank #38 in the NAIA.

Dalton Snyder (Ennis, Texas/Ennis HS), a freshman linebacker, is averaging 7.5 stops per contest. When it comes to making tackles for losses, Snyder comes in at #55 with eight that produced 69 yards in losses.

Sophomore ‘backer Rockie Davis (Santa Fe, Texas/Santa Fe HS) averaged 5.2, while junior LB Kendal Evers (Danbury, Texas/Danbury HS) registered 5.0 per outing.

Ekanem chosen for USE Holiday Bowl

SAGU’s Nick Ekanem has been invited to participate in the USA Football Holiday Bowl in December. The nationally televised event will be played in Virginia Beach, Virginia, on Monday, December 17.

The Holiday Bowl teams will be comprised of senior standouts and all-stars from the National Christian College Athletic Association (NAIA) and the United States Collegiate Athletic Association.

Ekanem was a pre-season NCCAA All-American selection. He garnered All-American honors two years ago with “The Sporting News.” Ekanem led the NAIA in passes defensed as a freshman. He had 19 that season, including 6 interceptions.

James Gish receives Fred Mitchell Award

SAGU football kicker James Gish received the Fred Mitchell Award for his perfect kicking during the month of September and for his civic involvement. He volunteers with football and soccer camps that allow low-income children to attend sports camps.

Of the 31 kickers who were chosen, Gish was one of only two in the NAIA, which has approximately 300 member schools. He has made 65 of 68 career extra points, and completed 19 of his 31 career attempts. His longest kick was a 50-yarder last year against Northwestern Oklahoma State University.

Athletic Director Jesse Godding shared, “The capacity to have consistent performance in our kicking game is a tremendous advantage for our team.”

View other athletic feature content at sagu.edu/athletics

Weekly scores and statistics

Streaming and video on demand
1950s

1. Nancy (Welz) Aldrich (1957) attended Southwestern Bible Institute and earned her high school diploma. She has flown all over the world as an airline pilot and is now retired.

1960s

Joel (1969) and Linda (Hines) Parker (1967) now have eight grandchildren. They range from 13 years old to 18 months old. Joel and Linda were married Dec. 24, 1966.

Billy Riddle (1974) married Edith Vick in 1966. He served in the U.S. Military from 1968 to 1970 as Spec 5 Medic in Vietnam. Riddle received an Associate of Arts from HCJC in 1972, a Bachelor of Arts from Southwestern College of Bible in 1974, and a Master of Arts from Assemblies of God Theological Seminary in 1988. He was credentialed as an Assemblies of God minister in 1964, ordained in 1980, and served as a pastor in Texas. Billy and Edith have three sons: Billy Jr., Richard and James. James is with the Lord now. They have also been blessed with three grandsons.

2. Bob (1976) and Debbye (Jackson) Edington (1974) recently moved from Enid, Okla., to Brenham, Texas. Bob was a Dallas police officer after graduation from SAGU and joined the Air Force in 1979. He retired from the Air Force in 1999 and currently flies for Delta Airlines. Debbye graduated from Texas Tech as the number one graduate in the College of Education. She graduated from Northwestern Oklahoma State University as a registered nurse and recently as a nurse practitioner from Oklahoma University. They have two children, Rebecca and Russell, and two grandchildren.

1970s

Robby Lindsay (1989) became dean of the School of Liberal Arts and director of humanities at Louisiana Delta Community College in Aug. 2012, after having served as director of developmental education at Frank Phillips College in Borger, Texas.

1980s

3. Rev. R. Daniel Enriquez (1999) serves as executive pastor at First Assembly of God in Dallas, Texas. He is married to Karina, and they have two daughters: April (8) and Karina Elizabeth (1).

2000s

4. Ricky (2001) and Amy (Warehime) Van Pay (2000) have two boys and one little girl on the way: Camden (7), Cale (5) and Ainsley, who is expected to arrive in November 2012.

5. Karissa Ross (2006) moved to Concord, N.C., in Aug. 2012, to be with her family. She works at First Assembly Christian School as the dean of women, assistant guidance counselor, fine arts department head, and theater arts teacher for grades 5-12.

6. John Mason (2008), a former college football coach, is now in full-time ministry as football team chaplain at the University of North Carolina.

Celebrations

7. Doris Ann (Baldrige) Harris (1937) graduated from Shield of Faith High School in Fort Worth, Texas, in 1937. She was honored Sept. 9, 2012, by a large group of friends who presented her with many awards. Awards included a letter from SAGU honoring her as an early alumna, a medallion honoring those who attended SAGU more than 50 years ago, and a copy of a certificate for one share of capital stock of Shield of Faith dated May 28, 1937. The group included many SAGU alumni from the 1950s and 1960s.

8. Doris Marie (Green) Dunlap (1939) celebrated her 90th birthday on Aug. 23, 2012. She was the wife of the late Lee B. Dunlap (1938). Their two children Patricia (Dunlap) Polvado (1964) and Don Dunlap (1971) attended Southwestern Junior College.

In Memoriam

Olan Jean Andrews, age 87, passed away on Mon., July 30, 2012, in Allen, Texas. Olan was born to Joel and Ida Andrews on Aug. 30, 1924, in Campbell, Texas. He married Billye Dean Austin on Nov. 29, 1944, and they had five children: Linda, Billy, Janice, Joel and Jessica. Olan began his public ministry at the House of Prayer Church in Greenville, Texas, in 1962. He went on to pastor several Assemblies of God.
churches in North Texas for over forty years.

**Sally Mae Ladd** was born on Jan. 5, 1923, and passed away on Mon., June 11, 2012. She was a resident of Little Rock, Ark., at the time of her passing. She was preceded in death by her husband Henry.

**Frances Youngblood** died at home on Aug. 5, 2012, at age 84. A native of Alabama, she was a homemaker and had lived in Mississippi since 1962. She is survived by her children Derek Youngblood and Regina Richardson, her five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

**Anne Marie (Pfefferle) Burgard** passed away at her family home on Oct. 25, 2012, at age 60, after a two-year battle against breast cancer. She was born in New Orleans, La., and attended Dominican High School and the University of New Orleans. She received a Bachelor of Science in education and spent her entire career teaching. She is survived by her husband Paul Burgard; her children, Kimberly Walsh and Danny Burgard; and her six grandchildren.

**Tom Egerton (1938)** passed away on Thursday morning, Sept. 6, 2012, at age 92. Tom was born July 24, 1920, in Childress, Texas. He met Jewel Kimbell at the Assembly of God Seminary in Fort Worth, and they married on June 10, 1939. They were married for 67 years until her death in 2006. Tom was a sergeant in the Army during World War II and returned to Fort Worth to manage a couple of Bob-O-Link gasoline stations. He was superintendent at Mount Olivet Cemetery for several years until he began work in the life insurance business. Tom earned his CLU designation and many awards. He was president of the Fort Worth Life Insurance Association from 1980 to 1981.

**Rev. Dr. Eddie Ray Schulz (1940)** passed away July 22, 2012, at the age 93. He was born May 7, 1919, in Hereford, Texas. Schulz was a minister of the Assemblies of God and pastored churches in...
Texas, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida. He served as executive secretary of the Peninsular Florida District of the Assemblies of God from 1966 to 1988. Ray is survived by five children, thirteen grandchildren, 31 great-grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren.

Catherine Largent Kressley (1946) passed away Oct. 19, 2012. She was born Oct. 3, 1924, and was the first person to register at Southwestern Bible Institute when it moved to Waxahachie, Texas. A few years ago, she was honored by President Bridges as being the first to register. Catherine enrolled at Southwestern Bible Institute in 1943 and graduated in 1946.

Loretta Irene (Lebsack) Blauvelt (1949) went to be with the Lord on July 27, 2012. She was born to Fred and Rosella Lebsack and grew up on a farm near Loveland County. After graduating from Southwestern Bible College, she served as a Nebraska District Sunday school director and Kid’s Kamp leader. She later became the child evangelism coordinator for the General Council of the Assemblies of God. Loretta was preceded in death by her parents, brother and husband Eldon Blauvelt.

Oneida (Barton) Elmore (1949) passed away on Mon., March 5, 2012, in Hebron, Neb., at the age of 83. Services were under the direction of the Relyea Funeral Chapel.

Robert Lee Leeder (1949) went to be with the Lord on Jan. 21, 2012, at age 92. He was born on Sept. 17, 1919, to Asa and Ruby Leeder in Pauls Valley, Okla. From Nov. 1940 to Aug. 1942, Robert served in the U.S. Army during World War II. On Feb. 11, 1953, he married Lillie Marie Chapman in Tarrant County, Texas. He served as an ordained minister of the Assemblies of God for almost 60 years.

Mary Alice (Knox) Lowry (1958) passed away Aug. 23, 2012, in Enid, Okla. She was born on Nov. 10, 1938, to David and Ida Alice Knox. In addition to degrees earned from Southwestern Bible College, Mary graduated from Northeastern University in 1973. She married Lester Lowry on June 18, 1960, in New Braunfels, Texas. Mary traveled with her family to 27 states, holding revivals and singing. The Lowrys pastored Evangel Assembly of God Church for more than 23 years. Mary is survived by her husband, children and eleven grandchildren.

SAGU bids farewell to Vice President Jay Trewern

As SAGU’s VP for Business and Finance he has provided administrative oversight to the following units: budgeting, finance, accounting, student financial aid, human resources, information technology, physical facilities, SAGU bookstore, food services and risk management.

In his oversight of capital construction, Jay served as project manager for the construction of four new buildings. During his tenure as chair of the Campus Master Planning Committee, the square footage of the SAGU campus has doubled. Trewern has also negotiated highly favorable financing terms and conditions for the university. During his tenure, two rounds of SACS regional re-accreditation were completed with a high level of success in areas related to finance.

Previous to his current position, Trewern served for seven years as assistant town manager and later as the town manager for Clarkdale, Arizona, where he was responsible for all facets of municipal government, including finance, budgeting, grant writing, police, fire, buildings, streets, sewer systems, trash, zoning, boards, commissions, and Town Council functions.

Jay Trewern served nearly 13 years as Vice President for Business and Finance at SAGU. On November 1, 2012, he began serving as Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary’s new Vice President for Finance and Operations/CFO.

Jamie Norton Lund Scholarship Fund

Jamie graduated from SAGU in 1998 and pursued further studies in linguistics from the University of Texas in Arlington. She began teaching English to college students in Northeast Asia in 2000. In 2009, she returned to the United States to undergo medical treatment for a rare blood disease. In 2011, she was diagnosed with breast cancer and after surgery in Beijing, she returned to undergo further treatment. On November 17, 2012, at age 36, she went to be with the Lord.

An endowment fund has been established in her honor. Please consider helping build the endowment for The Jamie Norton Lund Scholarship. Contribute online or make checks payable to SAGU Foundation, 1200 Sycamore St., Waxahachie, TX, 75165. Write “Jamie Norton Lund Scholarship” in the memo line of the check.
Jeanette (Gendron) Franks (1963), of Albuquerque, N.M., passed away Aug. 17, 2012, of metastatic breast cancer. She was married to Rev. E. Dale Franks, Sr. in July 2003 and was active in ministry with him until a few weeks prior to her death. She attended Southwestern Bible College from 1961-1963 and was an active member of student government and a cheerleader. She is survived by her husband; brother Johnny Hays (Southwestern Bible College, 1958-1963); son Charles Youngblood of Tulsa, Okla.; and grandson Morgan Youngblood, also of Tulsa, Okla.

Julian Alvin West (1970), of Scranton, Ark., died Wednesday, Jan. 25, 2012, at age 76. He was born Jan. 23, 1936, in Essex, Mo. He was a mechanic, ordained minister of the Gospel and missionary and member of Hagarville Baptist Church and American Bible Society. Julian is survived by his wife; daughter Melody Miller and Sheila West, and a brother, Bill West.

Mary Ann (White) Willis (1984) passed away on Sept. 28, 2012, at the age of 79. She was born May 27, 1933, in Santa Rosa, Texas, as one of 8 children to Thomas and Mary White. She married William Calvin “Jack” Willis on June 18, 1949. In addition to her time at the Southwestern College of Bible, Mary attended the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary and worked as an insurance accountant. Mary is survived by her husband Jack Willis, daughter Dyanne Wibanks, brother Billy White, and by 7 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.


Monica Lynn (Evans) Sitzler (2004), age 30, of Clarksville, Tenn., died on Mon., Nov. 5, 2012, at Gateway Medical Center. She was born on May 25, 1982, to Philip and Patricia Evans. She was accompanied in death by son Jude Alexander Sitzler. Mary was a teacher at West Creek High School. She had a Master of Arts in teaching. She is survived by her husband Jamie Sitzler, parents, brother Christopher (Kelsie) Evans, and mother-in-law Sandi Sitzler.
Quick Facts

Enrollment ......................................... 2,030
Student/Teacher Ratio ....................... 19:1
Cost Per Year ...................................... $19,320
Cost Per Hour (SDE, HSGS)
Undergraduate ...................................... $525
Graduate ................................................ $540
Financial Aid ......................................... 92% awarded financial aid
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About the School of Distance Education
Most SAGU programs are also available completely online. Graduate students have the additional option to attend night or weekend classes.

Accreditation
Southwestern Assemblies of God University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award the Master, Bachelor and Associate degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Southwestern Assemblies of God University.

Academic Programs

Master's
- Counseling Psychology
  Counseling Psychology (Clinical) 2
- Human Services Counseling (Non-Clinical) 2
Education 1
- Curriculum Development
- Christian School Administration
- Early Childhood/Elementary Education
- Early Education Administration
- Middle & Secondary Education
- Principalship
- School Counseling
History 3
- Education Track
- Thesis Track
- Non-thesis Track
Master of Divinity 1
Organizational Leadership 2
Theological Studies 1
- Bible & Theology
- Children & Family Ministries 3
- Intercultural Studies 1
- Practical Theology

Bachelor's
- Accounting 2
- Ancient Studies 1
- Biblical Studies 1
- Business Administration 1
- Children & Family Ministries 1
- Church Ministries 1
- Church Planting & Revitalization 1
- Communication 2
- Counseling 1
- Counseling Ministries 1
- Criminal Justice 1
- Digital Media Arts 2
- Drama 2
- Education 1
  - Bilingual Education 2
  - Elementary Education 1

Associate
- Bible 1
- Business Administration 1
- Early Childhood Education 1
- Education 1
- English 1
- Foreign Language 2
- General Business 1
- General Studies 1
- Media 2
- Music 3
- Psychology 1
- Social Studies 1

1 Fully offered online.
2 Partially offered online. Some on-campus coursework required.
3 Exclusively offered online.

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