

CHADRON STATE MAGAZINE

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Dear Alumni and Friends,

I have always felt that the conclusion of the spring semester is one of the best times on a college campus. I am so honored to have a front row seat to see the various looks of excitement, happiness, relief, and sheer joy of our graduates as they walk across the stage. The commencement speaker for the spring ceremonies was Michael Sandstrom, a CSC alumnus. It was fitting for Mr. Sandstrom to speak at the event because he was an undergraduate student during the first commencement ceremony I presided over. To have him speak during the final ceremony I attended as president was truly a special moment for me. It proved to me again that CSC is such a wonderful starting point for success later in life. Our students get multiple opportunities to be involved, have access to high-quality faculty and staff, and contribute to our region, state, and country.

Mr. Sandstrom's speech covered many topics, but the main points encouraged graduates to be grateful, plan ahead for successful endeavors, be consistent, and persevere. During my time as president, I have tried to hold myself to those same standards. I am grateful I had the opportunity to represent the college to various stakeholders. Through strategic planning efforts at the college and within the Nebraska State College System, Chadron State College is poised to continue and expand upon its rich tradition as an educational leader in western Nebraska. I have always felt that consistency builds credibility and under my leadership, CSC has treated students and employees consistently. Finally, the ability to persevere is important. Anything worth obtaining has obstacles along the way, and when you persist and finally overcome, there isn't a better feeling in the world. I would venture to guess many of our graduates felt that sense of accomplishment this May.

I could not have asked for a better professional situation. It truly has been an honor to serve this wonderful campus, community, and region. It has also been an honor to represent CSC while meeting with our cherished alumni and friends. I have said many times that our alumni's generosity is overwhelming. We have accomplished so much with their support, which directly supports our students and helps to change their lives in a positive way.

As I reflect on my career, I want you to know that serving as CSC's president has been a tremendous opportunity for me and my wife, Ann. We will certainly miss CSC, but I am confident we are leaving this campus in good hands. I'm sure you'll find President Ron K. Patterson an exceptional person and leader who will continue the legacy of CSC.

Thank you for your kindness, support, and your belief in CSC.

Be well,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randy Rhine". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and "R".

President Randy Rhine

Patterson named CSC's 12th President

Dr. Ron K. Patterson will be the 12th president of Chadron State College. Patterson met a standing ovation April 18 at the all-campus meeting for his new role. He will take office July 1.

Announcing Patterson, Nebraska State College System Chancellor Paul Turman explained the selection process and work done by external consultants, the Board of Trustees, and members of the Campus Advisory Search Committee.

Outgoing President Randy Rhine said he is excited Patterson is joining CSC.

"I think he's going to be a wonderful addition to campus. I was impressed with him the first time I met him and the responses he had to my questions and the questions he asked me were very much on point. I think he's very committed to being here and helping move Chadron State College into the future," Rhine said.

Turman said the search began with 63 candidates, which the search advisory committee narrowed to 13 individuals for video conference interviews. Eight candidates traveled to Omaha for in-person interviews, and four finalists visited campus in early April.



Dr. Ron K. Patterson speaks to Chadron State College employees, students, alumni, and media April 18 in the Student Center Ballroom. (Photo by Tena L. Cook)

"We were looking for someone who really understands the institution and has the background and experience that you all were looking for," Turman said before introducing Patterson.

Patterson said he is looking forward to learning more about what CSC means to everyone on campus.

"Today is the start of a new journey that will build upon chapters of long history together as a community. I will visit with each and every one of you eventually. I want to hear your stories and what Chadron State College means to you," Patterson said.

He said he is eager to share CSC traditions and explore how the institution impacts individuals and the region.

"We look forward to exploring and getting involved in the community to build new relationships, to further appreciate the rich heritage that is the High Plains. As we look forward, my vision for Chadron State College is to build upon a strong sense of community and resilience to adversity," he said.

Patterson said he looks forward to establishing new partnerships locally, regionally, nationally, and globally. He plans to continue to embrace and cultivate a campus environment that values diversity and inclusion, and he intends to put students first.

"There's no place I'd rather be. As president, I will demonstrate a deep commitment to students first and foremost," Patterson said.

Patterson's wife, Jenny, a native of Wisconsin, teaches elementary school and coaches soccer. The couple's daughter, Olivia, is a senior who has signed to play soccer at the University of North Alabama. Their son, Braylon, is in the seventh grade.

By Tena L. Cook

PRESIDENT RON K. PATTERSON'S CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- 2023 Named the 12th President of Chadron State College
- 2020 Vice President for Diversity Equity, and Inclusion and Director of Presidential Mentors Academy, University of North Alabama
- 2017 Chief Enrollment Officer and Assistant to the President for Diversity, University of North Alabama
- 2016 Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management, University of North Alabama
- 2014 Vice President for Enrollment Management, Marietta College
- 2012 Director of Admissions and Enrollment Services, University of Central Arkansas
- 2009 Director of Admissions, University of Tennessee Health Science Center
- 2004 Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, University of Tennessee Health Science Center
- 2002 Admissions Counselor and Assistant Director of Admissions, Christian Brothers University

EDUCATION

- Bachelor of Science in Human Services, University of Tennessee-Southern
- Master of Arts in Education, Marietta College
- Doctor of Education in Higher Education Administration and Leadership, Creighton University

Art and Business merge for CSC grad, Whelchel

A degree in art, along with skills learned from a work-study program and an off-campus job, have combined to create a successful and growing business in Rapid City, South Dakota, for Chance Whelchel.

Whelchel, a 2011 CSC graduate, is the owner with his husband, Mike Stanley, of Art House (formerly The Perfect Hanging Gallery), a well-established downtown framing shop they purchased in 2014 and recently expanded with the purchase of a Hot Springs, South Dakota, art gallery.

In addition to custom framing work, the business includes photo restoration, fine art printing, original art, art supplies, and unique gift items.

"Print shops are kind of known to be of an older generation," he said. "We are working on keeping things fresh and bringing in new products."

Originally from Denver, Whelchel was 13 when his family moved to rural Banner County, where he graduated from high school. A desire to attend college in a small town, and his experience visiting Chadron State for school events, led him to enroll in CSC's pre-health professions program, but he soon realized that wasn't the right choice.

"After three semesters I switched. It just didn't develop the relationships with people that I wanted," he said.

Art, a favorite subject in high school, proved more rewarding and the individual attention that instructors, including Nancy Sharps, Laura Bentz, Mary Donahue, Richard Bird, and Don Ruleaux, provided was welcome.

"It was really valuable," he said. "All of the art teachers were really helpful."

Complementing classroom training in oil painting, printmaking, and other artistic disciplines, Whelchel learned from a work-study job with Ken Korte and Loree MacNeill that involved publicizing and setting up college art shows.

"That was one of the things that helped me most in having an art business," he said.

A job in Andrea Rising's framing business and coffee shop added another dimension to Whelchel's knowledge base.

"I would do everything," he said. "It really helped set me up to run a business."

After moving to Rapid City following graduation, Whelchel was working from home and took a part-time job at the frame shop. When the owner mentioned possibly selling the business to someone from out of town, he offered to buy it.

"The only thing I didn't have experience with was managing employees and bookwork and that's where Mike came in," he said.

Running the business has been a good experience, Whelchel said, and he enjoys the variety of projects that come in for framing. While the monetary value of the objects may not be large, the items carry sentimental weight for the customer and are often accompanied by interesting stories.

Although many businesses suffered from restrictions due to the pandemic, the frame shop stayed busy. Whelchel

thinks that was probably because people stuck at home found time to redecorate or discovered items they had long wanted to have framed.

"And we sold a ton of puzzles during Covid," he said.

The purchase of a photo retouching and restoration business about two years ago, and the addition of equipment for digital scanning and fine art printing, has brought in additional work for the shop, which now has five employees.

"That's why we went to rebranding. The business has changed so much from when we bought it 10 years ago," Whelchel said.

In addition to running the store, Whelchel has been active in Rapid City's growing art community. He served for two years as president of the Dahl Art Center, and was on the city's Business Improvement District.

The broad range of experiences at Chadron State have been valuable for Whelchel.

"I really like Chadron because it was small so you could get a lot of individual attention. The teachers are really accessible," he said.

That was part of a rich educational environment in Chadron that prepared him well for owning a business focused on art.

"Because of the things I learned, I know how to handle the different mediums when they come in for framing, and things like working with artists," he said. "That was awesome."

Story by George Ledbetter

Photo by Daniel Binkard



“I really like Chadron because it was small so you could get a lot of individual attention. The teachers are really accessible.”

— Chance Whelchel

Local educators help develop Smithsonian pilot program



Chadron State College alumni Amy Dolezal, a third-grade teacher for Gordon-Rushville, and Deedee Grant, a Chadron fourth-grade teacher, are two of 10 Nebraska teachers who helped develop five education units being used in a pilot program about history for kindergarten through third grade in Nebraska. The partnership between the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) and the Smithsonian Institution Multicultural Education Initiative is the first of its kind.

Grant graduated from CSC in 1996 with a bachelor's in Elementary Education and Dolezal graduated in 2005 with a bachelor's in Elementary

Education, and in 2010 with a master's in School Counseling.

Dolezal said the goal of this partnership between Nebraska K-3 educators and the Smithsonian was to cover the multicultural standards for social studies in a more meaningful way.

"I knew how exciting social studies can be, but I wasn't sure how to go about revamping that part of our curriculum, so when this project came along, I was excited to apply," Dolezal said.

Participants took a class called Telling a More Equitable Story of History which explored how women and minorities impacted different

parts of history.

"My favorite was the lesson on the seamstresses who made the flight suits for Apollo 11. One day they were sewing pantyhose and the next day they were making suits for astronauts," Dolezal said.

The teachers initially met in Omaha in June 2022 to build their educational units with visiting members from the Smithsonian Institute, and they continued to work on the units via video conference. The units were built on the Smithsonian Learning Lab and will be available for teachers across the state through the NDE's Open Educational Resources Hub.



"Our group decided to take a history point of view so we could cover more of our standards and utilize more of the Smithsonian resources that were being offered to us. We decided to teach how our communities have changed throughout history while focusing on the various groups of people who have impacted those changes," Dolezal said.

The participants met in Washington, D.C., at the National Museum of African American History and Culture, to work out final details in the units.

"Getting to work with people from the Smithsonian was very motivating. They were very passionate and had

endless resources to share," Grant said.

Dolezal worked with the Smithsonian to build *How Communities Change Through Time: A Historian's Look at Our Local Communities*, a unit written for third and fourth graders that she piloted in her classroom.

"The unit is so much more interactive than how we were teaching social studies before, and I believe it will leave much deeper and long-lasting impressions on our students," Dolezal said.

Interactive elements for the students included incorporating see-think-wonder routines into the

lessons, letting them create winter counts, or pictorial calendars, modeled after Native American examples they studied, and looking at existing postage stamps in order to create their own stamps representative of the community.

Grant said her unit engaged her students and encouraged her as a teacher.

"It was a great opportunity to collaborate with the NDE and other teachers across Nebraska. It was a perk that I really needed at this point in my career," Grant said.

*By Abigail Swanson
Contributed Photos*



Nelson Physical Activity Center: A lesson in persistence

Although the Edwin and Avis Nelson Physical Activity Center at Chadron State College has been a significant feature on campus since it opened in 1986, the saga of how it came to be starts much earlier.

At the end of the campus building boom in 1971, college officials were planning for a new physical activity center to meet students' need for better physical education facilities. Details of how the plans became

reality are taken from the college's 75th anniversary commemorative book by Con Marshall.

By 1977, the center was CSC's top capital construction priority. In 1980, State College System Trustees asked the legislature for \$275,000 for architectural designs but received \$20,000 for subsoil testing.

The next year, six CSC students rode bicycles to Lincoln to lobby senators for the project and Gov. Charles Thone

requested funds for the building. Legislators initially rejected all capital construction funding, but at the last-minute approved \$146,000 for planning of what was anticipated to be a \$5.4 million project.

Thone's request to pay for an underground drainage system on the site was cut from the state budget and later in the year Bob Kerrey, an opponent of the project, was elected Governor.



In 1983, funding for the project died in the unicameral's revenue committee. That fall, the State College Board mounted a last-ditch campaign for an even bigger structure. Although one legislator had called the building "Chadron's playpen," a board trustee said most Nebraska high schools had better physical education facilities than the college.

Kerrey was still opposed, so the trustees revised the design and asked for \$4.7 million for a building half the size of the original plan.

In a trip to Chadron in early 1984, Kerrey said he would veto legislation to pay for the project. That led 41 area residents to visit Lincoln and lobby legislators, which won approval of money for construction.

When Kerrey made good on his veto promise, CSC President Nelson, a leader in the long push for the building, led another lobbying effort and garnered an override of Kerrey's veto.

The building's cornerstone was laid in a Masonic ceremony on June 3,

1984. Rapid Construction of Rapid City, South Dakota, soon began preparing the site by removing some 21,600 tons of dirt and siltstone and replacing it with more substantial material. Corner Construction of Rapid City was later awarded a \$2.5 million contract as general contractor. Additional work by other contractors brought the building's total cost to \$4.7 million.

Built on 145 concrete piers, with 120 tons of steel rebar, 260 tons of structural steel, 90,000 concrete blocks
continued to next page



During spring break in 1981, these Chadron State students took an active role in promoting the activity center by riding bicycles 460 miles to Lincoln to discuss the matter with state senators. Front row, from left, Angie Koehler, Neligh; James Stewart, Omaha; Laura Larsen, Wauneta; back row, Casey Frye, Laramie, Wyoming; Gene Mohr, Stratton; and Rhonda Hernandez, Scottsbluff. The balls the students are holding were signed by CSC students and given as petitions supporting the project. (CSC Historical Photo)

in the walls, and 200,000 red bricks for facing, the building was at the time the largest ever constructed on a Nebraska State College campus.

Upon opening in late 1986, the building had 72,500 square feet of floor space; a five-lane, 170-meter track; three combination basketball, volleyball, and tennis courts; 2,400 square feet for gymnastics; five handball/racquetball courts; and classrooms.

There have been only a few changes to the NPAC since it opened, said Dr. Scott Ritzen, former CSC men's wrestling coach and current Professor and Department Chair. Early on, the college wrestling program moved to the building and used two adjoining rooms for practice,

which entailed daily moving of a partition wall and a mat, Ritzen said. Eventually the partition was completely removed.

Some years later, a structural wall between two racquetball courts was taken out and the space was converted to the cardio room, which now has more than two dozen pieces of equipment for cardiovascular workouts and a dozen weight machines for strength training. More recently, a partition wall was removed from the dance room, which is now used for athletics and wrestling.

CSC has used the NPAC to host large indoor track meets, wrestling tournaments, and intramural sports.

In addition, the facility is open to

the public for personal fitness and wellness activities, and now sees some 7,000 patron visits during the academic year, according to NPAC coordinator Jeff Turman. While first priority for the building is academic programs, it has also served the community as a polling place, an entertainment venue, and a space for secondary school sports and wellness events.

Now in its fifth decade of use, the NPAC has proved its value for Chadron State and the wider community the college serves, and validated the years of persistent pressure by college officials and community members needed to get it built.

By George Ledbetter

NPAC named for former CSC President and wife

In Ed Nelson's nearly 18-year tenure as president of Chadron State College, the college saw ups and downs of enrollment and budgets, tuition increases, an administrative reorganization, national notoriety, and a successful decade-long effort to build a much-needed building for sports and physical education.

That building, the Nelson Physical Activity Center, is named in his honor.

Edwin Clarence Nelson was born on his family's farm near Dallas, South Dakota, on April 22, 1922. His family moved to Newport, Nebraska, in 1933, where he graduated from high school in 1940.

The following year, he married Kearney school teacher Avis Herix, and the couple moved to Omaha, where Nelson worked for Safeway stores. Drafted by the Army in 1943, he fought in the Battle of the Bulge and was in a platoon that endured heavy casualties fighting in Germany.

Upon returning home in 1947, Nelson enrolled at Kearney State College. An exam landed him an emergency teaching certificate and a job teaching math and science in nearby Naponee. While working, Nelson took correspondence courses and summer school classes at Kearney, and earned a bachelor's degree in 1950. After two years as superintendent at Huntley, he found a job in Amarillo, Texas, and completed a master's degree at West Texas State.

Nelson then became superintendent at Wilcox and later Red Cloud, completed his doctorate from the University of Nebraska, and was associate professor of education at Kearney State.

In 1961 former CSC president Clark Elkins invited Nelson to become a dean at Chadron. In 1967, near the end of

a decade-long campus building boom, he succeeded Elkins as president.

In 1973, Nelson was tapped to temporarily become executive secretary for the State College Board of Trustees, but returned to Chadron twenty months later and remained president until retiring in 1986.

"There aren't many who can serve as long as he has and still be so popular," CSC coach Ross Armstrong said when Nelson retired.

After retirement, Nelson's work with a project to revitalize rural communities took him to speak at more than 100 communities and earned regional and statewide honors. He received CSC's Distinguished Service award in 1989.

Nelson's crucial role in the effort to build the Physical Activity Center included mustering legislative support to override Governor Bob Kerrey's veto of funding for the building, but he credited Avis, also an educator at CSC, for supporting him throughout the 10-year effort. In 1996, the couple were present



President Ed Nelson with his wife, Avis, in 1996. (CSC Historical Photo)

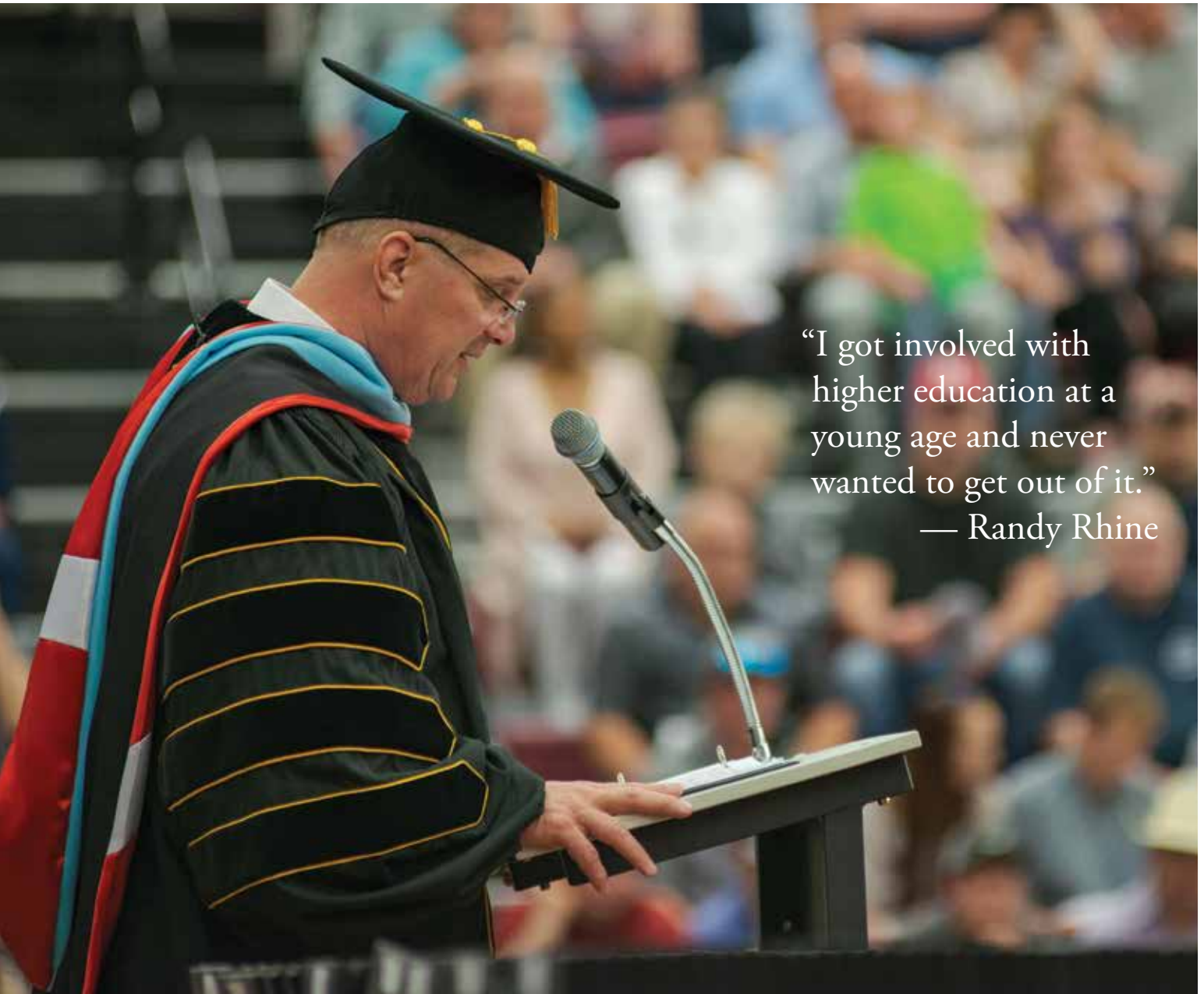
when the building was christened the Edwin and Avis Nelson Physical Activity Center.

Nelson died Sept. 6, 2000, at his home in Chadron and was buried at Greenwood Cemetery. Avis died Oct. 14, 2006, in Chadron and was buried beside her husband.

Acknowledgement: Most of the information for this story was compiled by Con Marshall in his book commemorating Chadron State's 75th anniversary.

By George Ledbetter

Rhine retiring as President of Chadron State



“I got involved with higher education at a young age and never wanted to get out of it.”
— Randy Rhine

Randy Rhine said that he never graduated from higher education. Rhine, who has served as President at Chadron State College since 2013, has worked at a college or university his entire professional career.

“I got involved with higher education at a young age and never wanted to get out of it,” he said. “I have had a rewarding career and to lead CSC the past decade has been an honor. Chadron State is truly a unique institution and a special place. Our alums care deeply about it and our community does, too. The college makes a significant impact in our region and city and it’s been a privilege and honor to have a role in that. It wasn’t a role I set out for in life, but it has been very rewarding on a lot of levels.”

Rhine came to Chadron in 2005 at the behest of then-President Janie Park. He was hired as the Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Services and helped the college reverse its enrollment decline. Rhine remained in that role until he was named Interim President in May 2012. Following a national hiring search, he was officially named the college’s President in January 2013.

During Rhine’s time as president, CSC benefited from more than \$70 million in capital improvements, including the Coffee Agriculture Pavilion, the Rangeland Complex, the Chicoine Center, the Eagle Ridge housing units, the renovated Elliott Field at Beebe Stadium, an outdoor track and field facility, and the Math Science Center of



Innovative Learning addition and renovation.

Rhine was also an advocate for CSC supporting rural components of its mission and during his tenure the Rural Business Leadership Initiative and the Rural Law Opportunities Program were created. Despite being based in different academic disciplines, both programs encourage their students to assume leadership roles and work in rural communities.

Rhine was born in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and grew up in Oklahoma and Arkansas. He earned all three of his degrees from the University of Arkansas, where he met his wife, Ann. Following his graduation, Rhine was a member of the Division of Continuing Education for 12 years, serving as Director of Non-Credit and Credit Studies, Assistant Dean, and Associate Dean.

Following his time at Arkansas, Rhine became the Dean of the College of Professional Studies and Lifelong Learning at Montana State University at Billings for nine years before coming to CSC.

In retirement, the Rhines will live in Montana. They are looking forward to spending time with their children and grandchildren and enjoying the outdoors.

Story by Alex Helmbrecht

Photos by Conor Casey, Tena L. Cook, and Dewayne Gimeson

PRESIDENT RHINE TIMELINE AT CHADRON STATE COLLEGE

- 2005 Rhine starts work at CSC in Enrollment Management and Student Services
- 2012 Named Interim President following retirement of President Janie Park
- 2013 Named President by NSCS Board of Trustees
NSCS approves Eagle Rate, bringing out-of-state tuition down to in-state rate plus \$1 per credit hour
First The Big Event community engagement day at CSC
Winter Storm Atlas damages 90% of campus trees
- 2014 Aging Nebraska Champion Colorado blue spruce felled at Dean's Green
Several students and faculty members travel to Cuba for capstone course
- 2015 CSC dedicates Rangeland Complex and Chicoine Center
- 2016 Stachia Reuwsaat becomes first female student-athlete to earn individual NCAA championship
- 2017 Women's track and field team finishes third at national championships
CSC receives reaffirmation from Higher Learning Commission
Groundbreaking ceremony for CSC Sports Complex
Seven students selected to first Rural Law Opportunities Program cohort
Post Playhouse celebrates 50 years
- 2018 Sports Complex dedicated, with renovated football field and press box
- 2019 Rural Business Leadership Initiative established
CSC host site for Bike Ride Across Nebraska
- 2020 COVID-19 pandemic; CSC goes remote for remainder of spring semester
First-ever virtual commencement
Renovated Math Science Center of Innovative Learning officially named
CSC resumes face-to-face classes
CSC and WNCC establish Panhandle Advantage, providing unique opportunities and scholarships to WNCC transfer students
Career Scholarships program begins
Labyrinth built in hills behind campus
- 2021 CSC creates partnership with Nebraska Methodist College
NSCS expands tuition guarantee to include out-of-state students
Outdoor track and field press box dedicated
- 2022 Math Science Center of Innovative Learning dedicated
President Rhine announces retirement



Second-generation RHOP student pursues a family medicine career

Alexis Kramer, a second-generation Rural Health Opportunities Program (RHOP) student from Saint Paul, Nebraska, has been enamored with the CSC campus for some time.

“My (visit) experience was the best. I think lots of people say their favorite thing about Chadron is the people, and that’s true. Chadron is a good community. They support you and you support them,” Kramer said.

RHOP requires students to spend at least six hours shadowing professionals to learn about their work. Kramer has exceeded that, with 20 hours completed.

She said she has formed valuable connections setting up her shadowing appointments. Some clinics require Kramer to take a brief online class in advance, she is held to the same HIPAA standard as the professional, and the patient opts in to her presence.

“I like shadowing. It ignites a passion for my future career. It helps me stay focused on the reason I’m doing this. It’s a mental reset reminding me the hard work is worth it. At home, I’ve shadowed some specialists in fields like rheumatology, internal medicine, and anesthesiology. But I keep coming back to family medicine. I think that’s the one,” Kramer said.

She has discussed family medicine with her father, who has a family medicine practice.

“I like the generality of it. You work with kids, their parents, their siblings, and you really get to know your patients. You’ll be working with someone maybe from the time they’re an infant to the time they’re leaving for college,” she said.

Her parents are CSC alumni. Her father, Jared, was in the RHOP program and graduated in 1999. Her mother, Darcey, graduated in 1998 and is a physician assistant.

Kramer said she had a demanding spring semester schedule with physics, organic chemistry, and genetics.

“They’re tough classes, especially when you think of 12 more years of school. I’m lucky I’ve always loved school. There are times when I wish I could go outside but I know I need to do homework instead. It’s challenging but rewarding and very worthwhile,” she said. “When courses feel overwhelming, I can always talk to my professors.”

In addition to coursework, Kramer is involved in the Health Professions Club, the Sports Medicine Club, the biological honor society Beta Beta Beta, and the Spanish club, Familia.

“I am enjoying the ride. The friends I’ve made at Chadron are a built-in support system,” Kramer said.

*Story by Tena L. Cook
Photo by Daniel Binkard*

Kronhofman rebounds and leans into a future promoting conservation

A Rangeland Management major with an option in wildlife management feels like she can see the end in sight. Kortney Kronhofman went through a rough patch with her studies early in her undergraduate career. Thanks to caring faculty and staff, graduation is attainable.

Kronhofman grew up on a ranch south of Valentine and graduated from Ainsworth. She was a 4.0 student and scored well on the ACT, two factors that provided her with many scholarships when she enrolled at CSC as a freshman to pursue a degree in English education. However, when she changed her major to Rangeland, she lost most of her scholarships. She also decided to move off campus.

“Working almost full time and going to school full time does not work out well,” she said. “It’s very hard for an 18-year-old to figure out how to manage money and school and live on their own. I kind of lost my passion for school and started caring less about my grades, and then COVID hit,” she said.

Dropping out of school created financial obligations that Kronhofman needed to satisfy with loans. During the summers of 2021 and 2022, she went to Seward, Alaska, to find work. The first year, she was a housekeeper at a bed and breakfast, and the second summer she worked for Iditarod racer Travis Beals at his Turning Heads Kennel.

“Eventually, I decided I still had a passion for wildlife. So I got a hold of Teresa Frink to see if she could help me come back. She contacted the START Office and they finally got me back in. All the Range professors have been a huge help trying to find scholarships. I have a few to help with books, which is great,” Kronhofman said. “I’ve repaired my GPA and feel pretty good now that I only have two semesters left until I graduate.”

Frink, a Rangeland Management professor, said Kronhofman’s story is similar to the rising of a phoenix.

“It would have been easy for her to walk away after her academic suspension, but she thought long term, came back, and is succeeding,” Frink said.

When Kronhofman returned to CSC, she was determined to participate in the Society for Range Management, Wildlife Society meetings, and the Wildlife Club.

“Since I’m an older student, I always tell the younger kids that it’s good to go to things like the Kearney Wildlife Conference to meet people you might work with someday,” Kronhofman said. “My plans, for now, are to do seasonal work to get experience. My ultimate career goal is to present educational programs for school kids about conservation.”

*Story by Tena L. Cook
Photo by Daniel Binkard*



Campbell ends junior season as a wrestling All-American

Chadron State junior Quentreveion Campbell, a native of Tifton, Georgia, achieved national runner-up status after finishing second in the 133-pound bracket at the NCAA Division II Wrestling National Championships in March 2023. Campbell, who finished the season with a 21-2 record, has had a long road with multiple stops on his way to being a national runner-up at Chadron State.

A 2016 graduate and two-time state placer at Tift County High School in Georgia, Campbell enrolled at Brewton-Parker College, an NAIA school in Mount Vernon, Georgia. It was at Brewton-Parker when Campbell earned his first bid to a national tournament while wrestling at 141 pounds.

Entering the NAIA national tournament unranked, he went 5-3 in the tournament and earned All-American honors with a sixth-place finish. After his first All-American season, Campbell decided he wanted to start working and travel the country so he decided not to continue his college career.

"After being an All-American, Brewton-Parker was unable to financially support me so I decided to start working and make some money," Campbell said.

During two years of work, Campbell's love of wrestling was often in the back of his mind. In 2019, he reached out to multiple schools and heard back from Ellsworth Community College in Iowa Falls, Iowa. Since he competed at Brewton-Parker, Ellsworth decided to redshirt Campbell, keeping him from competing.

After spending a year redshirting and training, Campbell found a new school, North Iowa Area Community College in nearby Mason City, Iowa. Mason City became home to Campbell for two years, where he earned two NJCAA National Tournament trips.

His first season with the Trojans ended with disappointment. In the heartbreak round of the national tournament, Jacob Mitchell of Pratt pinned Campbell, ending his season one win away from All-American honors.

During the 2021-22 season, Campbell continued to wrestle at 141 pounds and returned to the national tournament. This time around, he went 4-2 and finished fifth, earning his second All-American honor of his career. He finished the year with a 14-3 record.

Chadron State Head Wrestling Coach Brett Hunter watched Campbell wrestle at the national tournament and started recruiting him right away. In April 2022, Campbell decided to continue his career at Chadron State.

"Quen had the attributes that coaches like," Hunter said. "He could do things that you don't see many wrestlers being able to do."

Upon his arrival in Chadron, Campbell started dropping weight so he could compete at 133-pounds. He finished his first season at CSC with one regular season loss. Kyle Burwick, a two-time NCAA DI National Qualifier of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, defeated Campbell in the championship match at the Younes Hospitality Open in Kearney.

With one loss, Campbell rose to the number one ranked 133-pounder in Division II. After winning the Super Region 6 Championship, Campbell was named the number one seed in the national tournament, becoming the first Chadron State wrestler to receive the honor.

Campbell made his way to the national championship with two decisions and a major decision. He earned a 9-3 decision over Byron Daubert of Pitt-Johnstown in the opening round of the national tourney. In the quarterfinals, Campbell earned a 5-3 victory with a takedown over Dylan Lucas of Central Oklahoma in the final seconds.

A matchup against the No. 5 ranked 133-pounder in the nation was up next for Campbell in the semifinals. He scored 13 points in the final four minutes to earn a 15-5 major decision. In the championship match, Gavin Quiocho of Glenville State, the No. 3 ranked 133-pounder, was Campbell's opponent.

As time expired in the third period, Quiocho had over a minute of riding time, giving him a 4-3 victory. Quiocho, who finished his season with a 42-5 record, was the first All-American and first National Champion in Glenville State wrestling history.

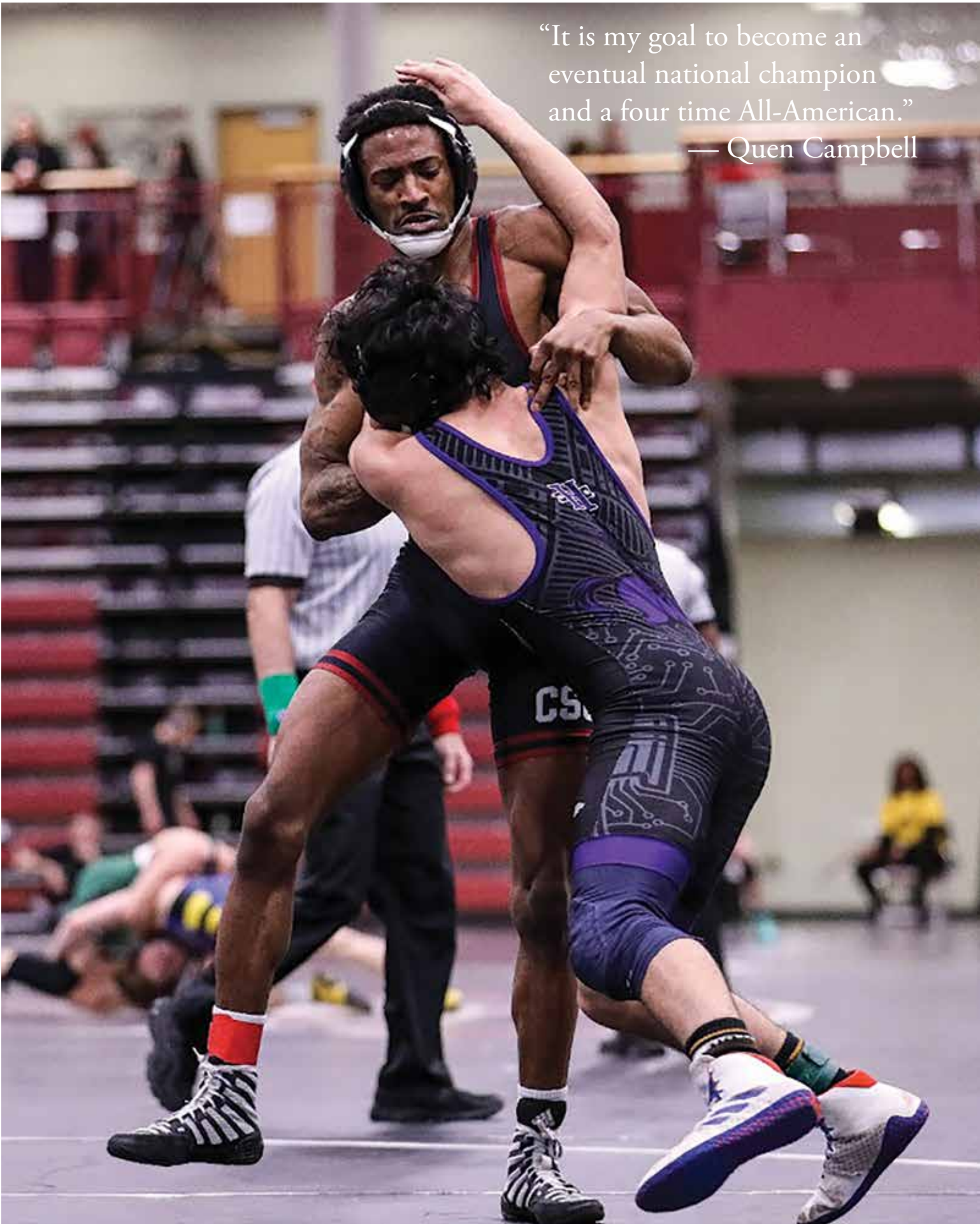
Campbell finished his first year in an Eagle uniform with "perhaps the best season in CSC wrestling history without winning a national championship," Hunter said.

Campbell has decided to return to Chadron for one more year, hoping to bring a national championship back during his final year of eligibility.

"I want to finish what I started with Coach Hunter," Campbell said. "It is my goal to become an eventual national champion and a four time All-American."

*Story by John Murphy
Photo by Noelle Meagher*

“It is my goal to become an
eventual national champion
and a four time All-American.”
— Quen Campbell



Sandstrom shares advice with graduates at spring commencement

Michael Sandstrom, a Chadron High School teacher and Chadron State College alumnus, was the commencement speaker May 6. CSC conferred degrees to 217 undergraduate candidates and 58 graduate candidates. Winter 2022 graduates also participated since the December event was canceled because of a snowstorm.

Jace Demeranville, a 2022 bachelor's degree recipient from Gering, Nebraska, and Jaqueline Buhr, a 2023 master's degree recipient from Chadron, offered moments of reflection. ROTC cadet Chase Mestas of Colorado Springs, Colorado, was commissioned into the Army during the ceremony.

Sandstrom, a Chadron native, has earned bachelor's and master's degrees from CSC. He also has a master's degree in American History from Pace University. He shared advice he said he hoped would help improve the graduates' relationships and chances for success.

First, he urged the audience to practice gratitude.

"Love and appreciate the people and things in your life that make it rich and rewarding. We all have things big and small that we can show gratitude for," he said.

In July 2011, after surviving an automobile accident with minor injuries, Sandstrom recalled a moment of intense gratitude during his summer job about a week later.

"I remember listening to a song on an 80-plus degree day and feeling intense gratitude that I still had some work to do on this Earth," Sandstrom said. "Taking an active look at your life and the people in it will give you a profound sense of peace and calm. That will provide you with the ability to not only enjoy your life more but find more success in your future."

Second, Sandstrom urged graduates

to take an active role in planning and envisioning their success, including keeping a daily journal with goals.

"You need to be actively moving your life in the direction you want. It is important to remain flexible because life will throw you curveballs and setbacks, but your life will be what you make of it. If you are searching for a specific opportunity, then it is important for you to know the skills, knowledge, and preparation you need to make that dream a reality," Sandstrom said.

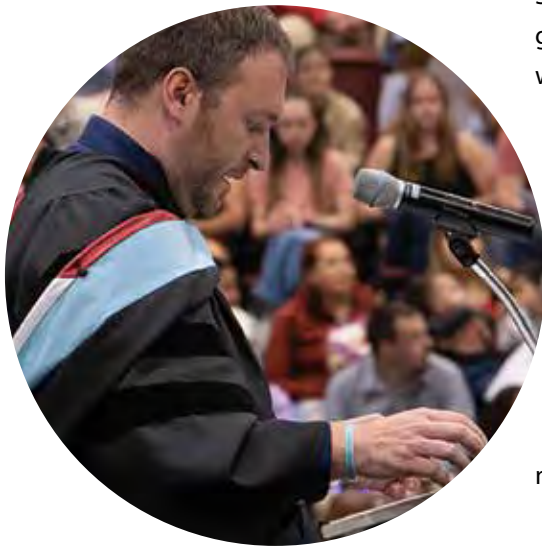
His third point was to find a way to be consistent.

"My high school P.E. teacher told me, 'You should always go the extra mile because that road is never very busy,'" Sandstrom said. "People can be great in short bursts, but few people are willing to consistently perform for years and decades. There is greatness in being able to consistently perform on the little things. Discipline equals freedom."

Sandstrom's final point was for the graduates to have faith in themselves.

"Success is generally not immediate. Genuine belief in your own abilities and potential will allow you to persevere through hard times," he said.

By Tena L. Cook



Ivy Day celebrates students' achievements

Chadron State College seniors received honors during the annual tradition of Ivy Day in Memorial Hall May 5.

Ivy Day Royalty consists of Blue Key and Cardinal Key members, chosen by votes from CSC students. The King is Phillip Soto of Scottsbluff and the Queen is Abigail Tidball of Edgemont, South Dakota. Attendants included Treyvin Schlueter of Ainsworth, Kelli Schoch of Columbus, Joshua Kruse of Gurley,

Micaiah Vrbka of Brainard, Sage Konicek of Burwell, Lydia Connell of Arnold, Ian Papenfus of Scottsbluff, and Jadelyn Beyer of North Platte.

Winners of the Platinum Eagle, a prestigious award for seniors, were Olivia Bryant of Anselmo and Konicek. Runners up were Kelsey Crock of Cheyenne, Wyoming, and Sullivan Jones of Papillion.

Dr. Kurt Kinbacher, Professor of History,



Olivia Bryant, left, and Sage Konicek pose for a photo after being named the 2023 Platinum Eagle Award winners May 5 during Ivy Day at Chadron State College. (Photo by Tena L. Cook)

was the faculty greeter. The Blue Key and Cardinal Key orators were Konicek and Vrbka.

Be inspiring, be inspired

Second-annual fundraiser will give Chadron State supporters the chance to inspire student success.

Inspire: One Day for CSC asks alumni two questions - what inspires you, and who will you inspire?

This October, Inspire: One Day for CSC, our 24-hour virtual day of giving, will once again challenge you to inspire greatness at CSC by supporting the initiative or program that aligns with how you want to impact our world.

Everyone has a cause that's near and dear to them: It could be helping to solve poverty or hunger issues; providing quality healthcare and education to rural communities; educating the next generation of conservationists with the knowledge to preserve our



natural world; or giving farmers, ranchers, and rural business leaders the expertise to strengthen our agricultural roots.

Whatever causes you connect with, you can find a way to further your impact through supporting programs and initiatives at CSC that align with what you value. Not only do we hope you'll be inspired to give, your gift will inspire students to go forth in life and positively impact our communities.

Please consider a gift to Chadron State this October during **Inspire: One Day for CSC**.

Connect with the CSC community

Like many before you, you walked the halls of Chadron State College, just like many more will continue to walk the same halls. No matter when you went to CSC, you're a part of our community - our family.

ConnectCSC - Chadron State's exclusive online platform - can connect you with fellow alumni, faculty and students in more meaningful ways than ever. You join groups of others with similar interests, the same majors, campus activities, or career paths. Alumni looking to make a move or job change can get guidance from those already where they'd like to be, or even search job openings posted by other alum.

ConnectCSC isn't just for connecting alumni to each other, it's also for connecting you to current Chadron State students. With **ConnectCSC**, you can post job opportunities, or internships at your organization for CSC students. And you can volunteer to be a mentor

CONNECT CSC

to students looking for guidance or career advice. A formal mentoring program leverages the platform's various communication tools to foster relationships regardless of geography.

Eagle Alumni have spread their wings across the globe. **ConnectCSC** is your chance to share your experiences and assist current Eagles who are starting their journey

All you need to do is visit csc.edu/connect today to complete a profile and experience a closer connection with your CSC family.

Chadron State College honors recent retirees

Melvin Ainslie, Custodian

Mel Ainslie started at CSC in 1993. He spent a number of years working in the Student Center.



"I like working in the Student Center. All the kids come through here," he said.

Ainslie assisted with room setup and teardown and troubleshooting with the sound system, in addition to cleaning the building and shoveling snow from the north entrance.

He met Linn, his wife of 18 years, in the Student Center Pit. Linn earned her teaching degree from CSC. Her daughter, Catherine, graduated from CSC with a criminal justice degree.

The Ainslies have been involved with international students for at least 15 years.

"We got started with the host parent program for incoming freshmen. When it ended, we switched over to hosting international students. We've learned a lot about their countries and hopefully, they've learned a little bit about ours from us," Ainslie said.

Several years ago, the couple arranged to meet six of their former international host students for a reunion in Paris.

"They came in from Germany, Jordan, and other countries. A lot of them have gone on and got their doctorates. Some of them keep in touch as they get married and have children. One of our host kids went back to Libya and we still hear from him every now and then. He's married with two kids. It's really amazing how much some of them have touched

our lives and we have touched their lives," Ainslie said.

In his retirement, Ainslie looks forward to having more time for his hobby, collecting rocks and fossils.

Dr. Ronald Bolze, Professor

Ten years spent teaching in the Rangeland Management department at Chadron State College have been



among the most fulfilling aspects of an agriculture career that has included working on a family farm, positions as a beef specialist at two universities,

and several leadership roles in national beef cattle organizations for Dr. Ron Bolze, professor in the Agriculture and Rangeland Management program.

Bolze retired at the end of the spring semester. His teaching assignments in a decade at CSC included a variety of courses related to beef production, animal genetics, physiology and nutrition, and farm and ranch management.

Bolze grew up on a family-oriented dairy farm in Pennsylvania, and earned an undergraduate degree from Pennsylvania State University. After graduation, he farmed before earning a doctorate at Kansas State University.

Bolze spent more than a decade at Ohio State University and later at Kansas State University, then spent time working on the commercial side of the industry.

Extensive experience in beef cattle husbandry fit well with the Rangeland

Management program at CSC, which Bolze said has seen increasing demand.

Among the best parts of working at CSC has been the ability to align students with internships and job opportunities, he said. Other highlights include interaction with the Bill and Virginia Coffee Family Foundation, involvement with the Practitioner in Residence program, the Nebraska Grazing Lands Coalition road show, and the ruminant production travel study tour.

Bolze and his wife, Becky, who works as an office assistant at CSC, have six children and five grandchildren. In retirement, they plan to join daughter Sadie in working on their longstanding registered Angus cowherd. Bolze plans to continue gardening, focus on physical fitness, and travel to visit family.

Michael D. Kennedy, Instructor

Looking back on 17 years as a journalism instructor, Mike Kennedy is most proud of the achievements, awards,



and recognition garnered by The Eagle, CSC's student newspaper, and its staff members while he was adviser. Since 2010, The Eagle

earned the Northern Plains Collegiate Media Association's (NPCMA) Best Overall Newspaper award every year.

Kennedy started at CSC in 2006, and has taught journalism, publication design courses, and oral communications. He served as executive director of the Nebraska Collegiate

Media Association (now the NPCMA) for seven years.

Born into a military family, Kennedy lived in France, Texas, and Pennsylvania. He attended Marshall University, worked at various newspapers, and earned a bachelor's degree at California University of Pennsylvania. Kennedy completed a master's degree in journalism at Marshall. He then spent three summers riding his horse, Major, across the country.

Kennedy taught at Oklahoma Panhandle State University, Pittsburg State University, and Zayed University in Dubai. He also worked two years for the Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association in Colorado Springs.

In his classes, Kennedy said he has tried to teach students to think for themselves, seek truth, be accurate, fair, and ethical in reporting, and focus on serving readers.

"I'm quite proud of the success they achieved while they were here and afterward," he said. "It was a privilege to work with them."

In retirement Kennedy hopes to continue traveling and explore his affinity for culture by visiting Spain.

Karen Pope, Director of Alumni and Development



Karen Pope retired after a 30-year career for the Chadron State Foundation. Pope grew up in Bridgeport, a short drive from Chadron, but said CSC was not in her college plans.

"I never wanted to go to CSC because my brother and brother-in-law were

here," Pope said. "My brother, George (Watson), had just taken a teaching job here, but I'm so glad I made the decision to attend CSC. And, having my family members here wasn't that bad — in fact, it benefited me. George was my advisor and he got me done a semester early."

Pope graduated from CSC with a degree in social sciences. Later, Pope became an office assistant in the Alumni and Foundation Office. She became the Director of Alumni and Development in the early 2000s.

One of Pope's longtime colleagues was former Alumni and Foundation CEO Connie Rasmussen.

"She is one of the most creative people I ever worked with," Rasmussen said. "There isn't anything she can't do. She really brought the Foundation to the next level with the professional look of our publications. Her relationship with alums was genuine. She took an interest and loved working with them. They felt that and they loved working with her."

Pope said she always understood her job was centered around people, something she enjoyed.

In her retirement, she plans to spend more time with her family, as well as travel more with her husband, Andy.

Dr. Wendy Waugh, Dean

Dr. Wendy Waugh was employed at Chadron State College for 30 years before retiring in 2022. Waugh worked as a resident hall director, taught in the Business Academy, served as the department chair, and finished her career at CSC as dean of the School



of Business, Math and Science, and Graduate Program. She received the Teaching Excellence Award in 2009.

Waugh has bachelor's degrees from Wayne State College, a master's degree from the University of Nebraska-Kearney, an MBA from CSC, and a doctorate from Capella University in Organization and Management.

Throughout her years at CSC, Waugh experienced a number of changes.

"The evolution of teaching from primarily lecture-based, on-campus courses to increasingly student-centered and active learning focused courses, with the addition of quality online course options, served to energize faculty, and offered students more ways to interact with content, peers, and their professors," Waugh said.

Her articles were published in national journals and she made national presentations including one in 2022 about cultivating and maintaining positive working relationships between faculty and administration at the National Academic Chairpersons Conference with colleagues Dr. Shaunda French-Collins and Dr. James Koehn.

Under Waugh's leadership, the Rural Business Leadership Initiative was established to support business majors desiring to become professionals in rural areas. Accounting, Digital Marketing, and Healthcare Management focus areas were added to the MBA program during Waugh's tenure.

"Hands down, the most rewarding part of being at Chadron State was working with so many amazing students, faculty and staff. I developed friendships that will stay with me throughout my life," Waugh said.



CLASS NOTES

'70s

Mike Vahrenkamp '78, Rapid City, South Dakota, retired in 2021 after teaching math/science in Nebraska, Wyoming, and South Dakota. He also taught driver's education in Rapid City.

'80s

Kimberly Hanisch '88, Anchorage, Alaska, is superintendent of the Unalaska Consolidated School District.

'90s

Ramona (Akers) Pedregon '92, Pine Ridge, South Dakota, was highlighted as an Inspiring Woman during Winyan's History Month by the Oglala Sioux Tribe for her involvement in education in the Pine Ridge community.

'00s

Caleb Deyo '01, Summerset, South Dakota, is a captain with the Meade County Sheriff Office.

Josh Wisniewski '02, Green River, Wyoming, was named 3A wrestling coach of the year by the Wyoming Coaches Association.

Dr. Melissa (Crunk) Soester '03, Louisville, presented on fracture management at the Nebraska Academy of PAs meeting.

Austin Forney '04, Leadville, Colorado, finished ninth at the Pedigree Stage Stop Race with his sled dog team.

Crystal (Neitzel) Aldrich '06, Windham, Maine, is the project coordinator for Be The Influence, an organization committed to providing youth with positive role models.

Chris Wagner '07, Gothenburg, is the president and CEO of Country Partners Cooperative.

Lacey Swayne '08, Gordon, runs Wild Lace Beadwork, a business creating handmade leather and beaded purses.

'10s

Jay Meduna '10, North Platte, is an investigator in the North Platte Police Department.

Dr. Jacob Zitterkopf '11, Colorado Springs, Colorado, served as a judge for the Conrad Challenge at the NASA Space Center Houston.

Kyle Shepherd '12, North Platte, was elected vice president of the Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District.

Kristina (Harter) Reeves BA '13 MS '16, Chadron, is Production Agent at FNIC Trusted Insurance Advisors.

Adam Neumann BS '13 MA '17, Fort Calhoun, is a geologist at AECOM.

Michael Sandstrom '13, Chadron, was the commencement speaker at CSC in May.

Leo Caires MBA '14, Kula, Hawaii, is chief of staff for the mayor of Maui.

Jake Murphy '15, Rapid City, South Dakota, is senior manager for paid support at Zapier.

Shaun Wicen '15, Lafayette, Colorado, is a recruiting coordinator and assistant coach for the Colorado Buffalos cross country and track and field programs.

Damon Barrett MBA '16, Loxahatchee, Florida, is chief operating officer for HCA Florida JFK Hospital.

Jillian Flores Bennett MS '16, Council Bluffs, Iowa, is head coach of the Augustana women's basketball team.

Tristin "TD" Stein '19, Alliance, is head football coach at Alliance High School.

Timmi (Keisel) Lewis '19, Rapid City, South Dakota, is varsity volleyball coach at Sturgis Brown High School.

Dawson Brunswick '19, Columbus, is president of the Columbus Area Chamber of Commerce.

'20s

Rachel Mitchell '20, Riverton, Wyoming, is director of adult education at Western Nebraska Community College.

Calder Forcella '20, Thermopolis, Wyoming, is a social studies teacher at Hot Springs County Schools in Thermopolis.

Jacqueline "Jacki" Dailey '20, Chadron, with the U.S. Forest Service in Chadron, presented at the Nebraska Chapter of the Wildlife Society in Kearney in March.

Brady Delimont '21, Atkinson, is a personal banker at Tri-County Bank in Stuart.

Jacob Norris '21, Fort Morgan, Colorado, is the ninth grade counselor at Fort Morgan High School and coaches football and baseball.

Rebecca (French) Dubs BSE '13 MA '19, Chadron, is the recipient of the 2023 Nebraska Middle School Mental Health Champion award for her dedication and commitment to making student mental health a priority.

Allyson (Malzahn) Benzel '09, Sidney, and her sister worked to help create an inclusive playground for children of all abilities in their community.

MARRIAGES

'10s

Justy (Bullington) Gortemaker '14, Lincoln, married Jeremy Feb. 25.

Alex Sleep '16, Gordon, married Tianna Saez Oct. 3, 2020.

Truett Box '17, Cheyenne Wells, Colorado, married Brooke April 18, 2020.

Gabriela Perez BA '18 MS '21 and **Tanner Patterson '21**, Sterling, Colorado, married Dec. 29, 2022.

Brandon Fullerton '19, Billings, Montana, married Kenisha July 25, 2020.

Micah Scherbarth '19, Alliance, married Carly Rushman June 20, 2020.

Madison (Webb) Singleton '19, Loveland, Colorado, married Nick June 11, 2021.

FUTURE EAGLES

'10s

Hazel Marie to **Ashley (Bargen) BSE '13 ME '17** and **Cody Roes '14**, Lincoln, Feb. 18.

Porter Jerome to **Gatlin BA '14 BSE '21** and **Crea (Carpenter) Mack BA '16 MS '20**, Gordon, Feb. 25.

Zander to **Brittany (Senecal) Kearney '14** and Nathan, Aurora, Colorado, June 17, 2022.

Clementine Thorne to **Zach '17** and **Nicky (Applegarth) Banzahf '18**, Chadron, Feb. 15.

Noah Jase to **Brandon Fullerton '19** and Kenisha, Billings, Montana, Aug. 5, 2021.

Isla Rae to **Micah Scherbarth '19** and Carly, Alliance, Feb. 9.

OBITUARIES

Friends

Judene Beguin, Rushville, died April 12.

Steve Erwin, Lincoln, died Feb. 19.

Ron Hull, Lincoln, died April 20.

Francis Moul, Lincoln, died March 4.

Dr. Robert "Ras" Rasmussen, Rapid City, South Dakota, died April 4.

'40s

Lynn Bilyeu '42, Chadron, died Dec. 25, 2022.

'50s

John Alberta '56, Billings, Montana, died April 1.

Barbara (Riggs) Eitemiller '57, Chadron, died April 21.

Don Larsen '57, Seward, died May 12, 2022.

James Weber '58, Grand Island, died Jan. 26.

Larry Hagemeyer '58, Rochester, New York, died April 29.

Leo Chubb '58, Valentine, died March 20.

'60s

Michael Varney '60, Torrington, Wyoming, died May 3.

Eugene Thompson BS '60 MS '63 SE '75, Lander, Wyoming, died Dec. 18, 2022.

Roberta (Gardiner) Cozad '61, Las Vegas, died Feb. 3.

Carol Mueller '61, Torrington, Wyoming, died April 25.

Larry Wrasse '61, Lincoln, died Jan. 21.

Helene (Gregson) Braden '62, Aurora, Colorado, died Jan. 9.

Charles Durnin '66, Sun City West, Arizona, died April 16.

Clarence "Clancy" Cunningham '68, Grand Island, died Dec. 7, 2022.

Clell Riesen '68, Minatare, died Dec. 29, 2022.

David Starkweather '69, Longbranch, Washington, died March 10.

'70s

Ross Perry '71, North Platte, died Feb. 4.

Vona (Swisher) Koch '72, North Platte, died March 4.

Mary (Ellis) Shaughnessy '72, Surprise, Arizona, died Feb. 26.

Ronnie Dyer '72, Crawford, died Feb. 25.

Melvin Rawlings att. '72, Opal, Wyoming, died July 30, 2022.

Carole (Coon) Dishong '73, Neligh, died March 19.

David Bellis '74, Worland, Wyoming, died April 13.

Rev. Jerry Sprock '74, Salem, Missouri, died April 3.

Donald Gehrig att. '75, Sidney, died March 10.

Mary (Frederick) Beckley BSE '75 MS '90, Eagle Rock, Missouri, died Dec. 17, 2021.

Don Sjostrom '76, Alliance, died Dec. 14, 2022.

Wilma (Wolfe) Sherrill '78, Chadron, died May 3.

John Bonsell '79 MS '80, Omaha, died Jan. 3.

'80s

Bill Beck '80, Cleveland, Tennessee, died Jan. 16.

Shirley (Larsen) Steffe '82, Hot Springs, South Dakota, died April 29.

Mark Iocca '82, Springfield, Illinois, died April 6.

Sue Kandel MS '82, Dalton, died Feb. 28.

Gary Letchworth '84, Thermopolis, Wyoming, died March 24.

Monna "Sis" Patton '84, Chandler, Arizona, died Jan. 10.

Gail (Dryden) Eberle '85, Oelrichs, South Dakota, died May 10.

Debra (Johns) Ainslie '85, Chadron, died Jan. 8.

LaDonna (Lessman) Jung '87, Sidney, died Aug. 16, 2022.

Lisa (Boots) Nelson att. '89, Gering, died Jan. 19.

'90s

James Ruffing '90, North Platte, died March 3.

Scott Meyer '93, Lincoln, died Dec. 25, 2022.

Laura (Iwan) DeVries '98, Ogallala, died Feb. 10.

'00s

Nicholas Grubham '02, Rapid City, South Dakota, died March 1.

'10s

Michelle Gudeta '16, Custer, South Dakota, died March 8.

Bryony Trump '19, Sterling, Colorado, died Dec. 20, 2022.

The Chadron State Magazine is published twice per year by the Alumni Office.

Contributors for Jan. 2023 Edition

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Dewayne Gimeson	Ben Watson
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ALUMNI REUNION

WEEKEND

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JOIN THE CELEBRATION

Chadron State College is excited to invite all alumni to be part of the historic 2023 All Alumni Reunion during Homecoming this October. This extraordinary event aims to bring together graduates from all classes, but we extend a special invitation to those celebrating their 5th, 10th, 25th, and 50th year class reunions.

The All Alumni Reunion will be a weekend filled with cherished memories, exciting activities, and opportunities to reconnect with old friends. Attendees will have the chance to reminisce and create new memories while rediscovering the vibrant campus that shaped their lives.

Whether it's been five years or 60 years, be part of the 2023 All Alumni Reunion during Homecoming this October at CSC.

*For info and to register go to
csc.edu/alumni/events
or call (308)432-6366*