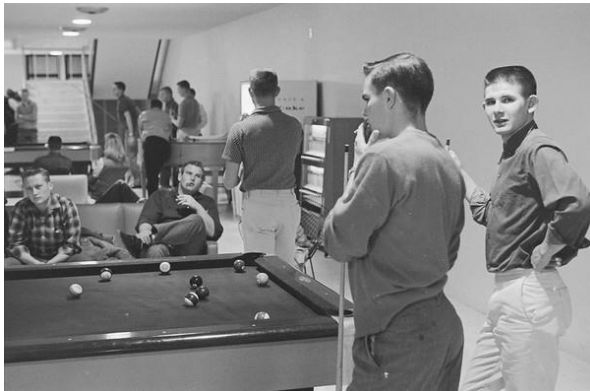




The Chadron State Foundation Today

April, 2021

From the desk of:
Ben Watson
Chief Executive Officer



Progress During the Pandemic

Progress at Chadron State College continued through 2020 and the current 2021 semester despite numerous challenges. This year CSC unveiled three new focus areas of the MBA program (healthcare management, digital marketing, and accounting). CSC announced the formation of a new certificate program in unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) or drones in agriculture, preparing students for the FAA piloting exam. Students pursuing a career in athletic training can now complete their

master's degree in the field. While many resources have been pushed into operational management during the past year, Chadron State College has strived to progress despite the pandemic.

As a supporter of Chadron State College, I want to thank you for continuing to support the life of Chadron State College.

Spring Break Jinx... Once again, students were delayed from returning to classes following spring break in March, although the delay was not nearly as significant in 2021. A late winter storm on Sunday prevented students return to Chadron for two days so classes resumed on Wednesday, March 17.

Retention and Mentoring... CSC has taken specific steps through its Strategic Enrollment Management Team (SEMT) to improve student retention resulting in an overall first-year retention rate of 69% for the Fall 2019 term. A Peer Mentorship Program established in Fall 2019 with 180 pilot students resulted in a 77% retention rate for participants.



Planetarium Goes Digital... When the Math Science Center of Innovative Learning (MS COIL) opens, a state-of-the-art planetarium will premier. The Dr. Lois Veath Podobnik Planetarium will be on the ground floor of MS COIL and will seat 39 people with an additional wheelchair area. The planetarium will feature digital projection, compared to the mechanical system used in the past.

A Return to Normal... As Chadron State faculty, staff, and students have become eligible and received vaccines provided through campus, everyone is hopeful that Fall 2021 will return a sense of normalcy to CSC. Fall events, including homecoming, are being planned. Events and plans have changed quickly during the pandemic so stay tuned for updates as to how events will look on campus.

Promoting Rural Sustainability... The Rural Health Professions and Rural Law Opportunities Programs completed interviews and announced the names of incoming students. RHOP announced the names of thirty-three students selected for the program and RLOP announced five incoming freshmen and one current student will begin the program this fall.

Commencement 2021... The graduating classes of 2020 and 2021 will be welcomed to the Chicoine Center for commencement ceremonies on May 8. Graduates will receive a ticket allotment and all attendees will be required to properly wear masks.

Remembering Dr. Gene Hughes... One of Chadron State College's most prominent graduates, Dr. Eugene Hughes, died on March 10, in Flagstaff, Arizona. Chadron State presented Hughes with the Distinguished Service Award in 1982 and conferred an Honorary Doctorate Degree in 2003. Dr. Hughes' impact as a math professor inspired many of his former students to pursue successful careers. Dr. Hughes' professional career included terms as president of Wichita State University and Northern Arizona University.

In Their Words

Scholarships make education attainable and allow recipients to focus on their studies at Chadron State College. *In Their Words* demonstrates the impact scholarships make in students' lives.

Hailey Hallstead was the recipient of the Joe and Dorothy Blundell Endowed Scholarship for students from Chadron. Mr. and Mrs. Blundell were longtime residents and business owners in Chadron. They were dedicated supporters of public education in Chadron and all five of their children were graduates of Chadron High School.



"Thank you so much for this scholarship! I am very grateful. Without scholarships, I would not be able to pay for college. I will be using this scholarship to pursue my dream of becoming a NICU nurse."

Giving to the Chadron State Foundation creates opportunities and positive outcomes wherever they may be. As new students come to campus hundreds of opportunities enable CSC attendees to broaden their horizons. Your gifts help to support the entire educational experience.

A Bit of History: 1981... Chadron State was cited by the American Association of Teacher Educators for having a "distinguished program in teacher education." Todd McIntyre also placed second in the nation in saddle bronc riding.

Eagle Athletics... For all the latest on Chadron State athletics go to chadron eagles.com

Math Science Center of Innovative Learning

Chadron State College and the Foundation are committed to ensuring the Math Science project can meet the requirements for STEM education at CSC. This \$32.1 million renovation and new construction will drastically change the landscape of not only the Chadron State campus but for generations of future Eagles. The fifty-year-old facility has also been renamed the **Math Science Center of Innovative Learning** as part of



its transformation. A major component of funding comes from the state of Nebraska however private support is required to make this project a reality. Thank you to Dr. Regg and Danielle Hagge, Chuck Hoffman and Dr. Rachel Forster, Sharon Payne, Barbara Blyth, Jeff Wood, and Kay Ashelford for your support and leadership. For information on how you can help move this project forward contact the Foundation at 308-432-6366.

Say That Again



Say That Again, Stories Told by Speakers at Chadron State College is a recent publication by CSC news reporter Con Marshall. The 45-page publication is a summary of over 30 presentations across 35 years. If you are interested in obtaining a full copy of the work or the story please contact Con at 308-432-6478. The Chadron State Foundation Today will include snippets from the full publication.

Dr. James C. Olson was the keynote speaker at the Mari Sandoz Society dinner in June 1997. Olson is a former history department chairman and vice chancellor for graduate studies at the University of Nebraska and former president of the University of Missouri system. Dr. Olson praised Mari Sandoz and her literary contributions.

"Olson called Sandoz a "literary historian of the first rank." He said she combined meticulous research with a writing style that could alternately sear the reader's soul or send it flying to the far horizon. He said she also gave a good deal of practical information to aspiring writers, telling them to write down any incident, piece of dialogue, characterization, or description that comes to mind, eventually string the story together rapidly to get as much movement as possible and "revise, revise, revise" before submitting the final product. To be sure, she wrote about the West and she thought of herself first and foremost as a Westerner," Olson said. "Her basic themes, however, are not regional. They are universal."



The 1911 Fund

Honoring the year in which CSC first held classes, the 1911 Fund supports Chadron State College through annual giving. This impactful approach allows you to make contributions to create opportunities at CSC. Since 1911, alumni, families, and friends have given to create a vibrant campus and meet the needs of students. Annual giving is essential to support the ongoing life of Chadron State College.

When you direct your giving through the unified family of funds in the 1911 Fund, you help us do more for more students. By focusing on these priority areas, you make the biggest impact at Chadron State College and make dreams come true for deserving students. For more information go to <https://www.csc.edu/foundation/1911fund/>



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