

Link

THE MAGAZINE OF
HOWARD PAYNE UNIVERSITY
SPRING 2015



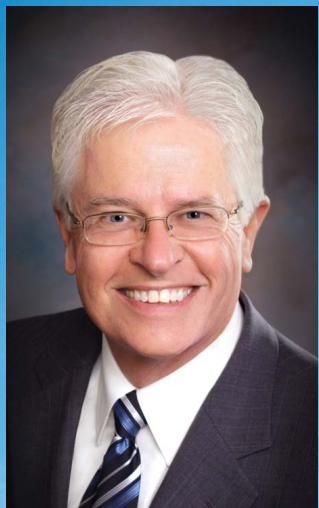
HP
125

CELEBRATING
125 YEARS OF
HOWARD PAYNE
UNIVERSITY

COMMEMORATIVE ISSUE



Greetings from the President



In the late 1800s, Rev. Noah Turner Byars and Dr. John David Robnett championed the creation of a Baptist college in Brownwood. They envisioned an institution of higher learning with Jesus Christ and His teachings as its cornerstones, a plan that came to fulfillment in 1889 when Howard Payne University first opened its doors.

The 2014-2015 academic year marks Howard Payne University's 125th anniversary. Remaining committed to the Christian ideals upon which the university was founded is chief among our many successes to date.

The pages that follow include stories about a few of the people who have made Howard Payne such a special place. As a member of the HPU family, your story is just as precious and important to the university. I consider myself very blessed to be president in this particular era as it has given me the opportunity to know so many of you.

As you read the following tales from the past 125 years, I hope you have faith – as I do – that God will continue to bless HPU for many, many years to come.

I extend my personal thanks and the gratitude of the entire university to each of you for choosing to be a part of this remarkable institution.

Sting 'em,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wm Ellis". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Dr. William Ellis
President

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or

The *Link*

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THAT PIVOTAL YEAR,
1889

**BIRTH OF
HOWARD PAYNE COLLEGE**

**HIGHLIGHTED ERA OF
DRAMATIC BROWNWOOD GROWTH**

*** BY GENE DEASON '72 ***

Brownwood historian Frank Hilton stood under large oak trees shading historic burial sites in Greenleaf Cemetery and set his gaze eastward toward the Pecan Bayou valley. The view overlooks the sprawling campus of Howard Payne University and the vibrant city that through the years has grown to surround it.

It's a scene much different now than what was visible there 125 years ago, when the university was founded and Brownwood was brushing the dust off its "Wild West" origins.

"If you'll think a minute and close your eyes, you can imagine what it was like in those days," Hilton said of the Brownwood that existed in the 1880s. "First of all, Brownwood had no water. There was no electricity, the streets were dirt and there were no automobiles."

Photographs from the era depict a community rising from the prairie, determined to put itself on the map as a hub for commerce and culture. Only three decades earlier, the first pioneers had settled in rugged territory previously populated by several native tribes.

As the decade of the 1880s ended, Brownwood residents had enjoyed freight and passenger railroad service for less than five years. Organized fire protection – provided by the city's volunteer department – had also been in place for less than five years. During the pivotal year of 1889, Howard Payne was established on seven acres of land between the business district and the hills to the west.

Residents lived a rugged existence, especially in comparison to the amenities available today, but a growth spurt in the community allowed leaders to think otherwise. The 11,000 population of Brown County paled in comparison to its 52,000 head of cattle, and only 2,176 people lived in Brownwood, the county seat. Brownwood promoted itself as the largest town west of Fort Worth, and cattle drives frequently roared down its main street, prompting businesses to close their doors until the danger passed.

The city built a municipal water system in 1885 after fire destroyed the courthouse



in 1880, but individual wells were still the primary source for domestic supplies.

"The water was so bad nobody would drink it, not even the horses," Hilton said. However, the system did provide volunteers with the resource needed to adequately fight fires.

According to the 1958 book *Something About Brown* by the late Dr. T.R. Havins, a Howard Payne alumnus and professor, water was hauled from the Pecan Bayou at a cost of 25 cents a barrel, and the existence of a downtown water plant was mentioned in 1890 records.

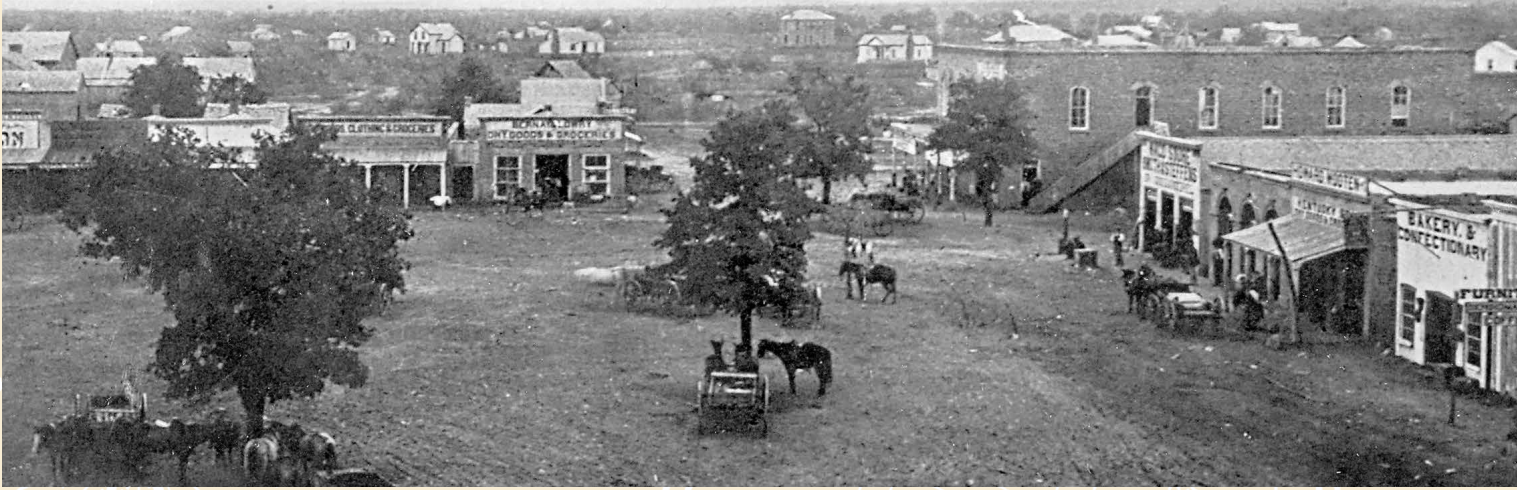
The works of Dr. Havins and other local historians are maintained by the Brown County Historical Commission, the Brown County Historical Society, the Pecan Valley Genealogical Society, the Brown County Museum of History, and the Brownwood Public Library Local History and Genealogical Branch. Those resources provide researchers with a comprehensive picture of what life was like in Brown County 125 years ago.

While residents didn't like how their

Brownwood's courthouse, 1880s (Photo courtesy of the Brownwood Public Library Local History and Genealogical Branch)

Brownwood was brushing the dust off its "Wild West" origins.

1888 MAP COURTESY OF THE BROWNWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY LOCAL HISTORY AND GENEALOGICAL BRANCH



**The square in
Brownwood, 1880
(Photo courtesy of the
Brownwood Public
Library Local History and
Genealogical Branch)**

water tasted, they had no difficulty securing a bottle of liquor. Open saloons were common, and several elections were called as prohibitionists repeatedly tried to block the sale of alcohol. They achieved their goal in the county in 1885 and in Brownwood in 1893.

Public schools were opened and several churches organized during the 1870s and 1880s. By the time the City of Brownwood was incorporated in 1884, the community had two banks, nine general stores, five saloons and two hotels, along with steam, cotton and flour mills.

The 1880s and 1890s brought dramatic growth to Brownwood, Dr. Havins wrote. By 1890, the city had five churches, an opera house, a sanitarium – and two colleges. Its growth had been spurred by the arrival of the railroad, before which moving people and freight had proven tedious. The only options were travel by horseback, by a wagon pulled by mules or oxen, or by stagecoach. Freight shipments from the nearest cities could take two weeks to arrive.

After regular railroad service linking Brownwood and Temple was established in late 1885, commerce began to blossom. Development accelerated after rail service to Fort Worth began in 1894.

By 1889, a handful of newspapers – small

in page-count but large in political bias – were being published to document local events and disseminate political propaganda. Some of these newspapers could count paid subscribers on both hands, so most copies from a press run of perhaps 200 were distributed free by advertisers.

Brownwood was growing into a business and agricultural center in 1889, but memories of the Old West were vivid. It had only been 15 years since the last raid by Indians on settlers was recorded in Brown County in 1874.

The Civil War had not been forgotten either, and veterans – who had served mostly in the Confederacy some 25 years earlier – held periodic reunions. A few of the city's oldest citizens even remembered battles that led to Texas' independence in 1836. Among them was pioneer Baptist preacher Noah T. Byars, who owned the building at Washington-on-the-Brazos where the new republic's declaration was signed.

Byars, who helped organize First Baptist Church in Brownwood in 1876, had the vision of establishing an institution like Howard Payne. Byars died the year before the Pecan Valley Baptist Association made that dream a reality in 1889, but his vision was brought to fulfillment under the leadership of Dr. John D. Robnett, then pastor of Brownwood's First Baptist Church. The university took its name from Edward Howard Payne, its first major benefactor and Dr. Robnett's brother-in-law.

Residents were also recovering from the state's bloody fence-cutting wars of the 1880s, during which \$1 million in

**The Pecan Valley Baptist
Association established
Howard Payne on
June 20, 1889.**

damages were inflicted in Brown County alone. Property owners had extended their fences across land they didn't own, frustrating other cowboys who needed open range for their herds. A special session of the Texas Legislature resolved the issue, but violence persisted in Brown County for several more years. The legal battle ended in a stalemate in 1888 after courts in Brownwood and Belton couldn't agree on jurisdiction.

Social life was important to Brownwood area pioneers, as well.

"Country dances were common and had wide appeal," Dr. Havins wrote in his book. "Young men and women attended the dances, traveling many miles on horseback ... Music for the occasion was furnished by a lone fiddler who received his pay from the men who danced, a small fee being collected from each."

Picnics and barbecues were the chief social attractions in the summer, and practically every resident of the county participated. Such gatherings were marked by presentations by speakers – both educational and political – along with contests on horseback.

As the 1880s came to a close, residents were prepared to address another need – higher education. Local Baptists, possessing abundant faith but considerably less funding, founded Howard Payne College, now celebrating its 125th anniversary. The Pecan Valley Baptist Association, meeting at Indian Creek, established Howard Payne on June 20, 1889.

At nearly the same time, Presbyterian leaders in the community had opened Daniel Baker College in April 1889. The two institutions, about a half-mile apart, conferred academic degrees separately for more than six decades

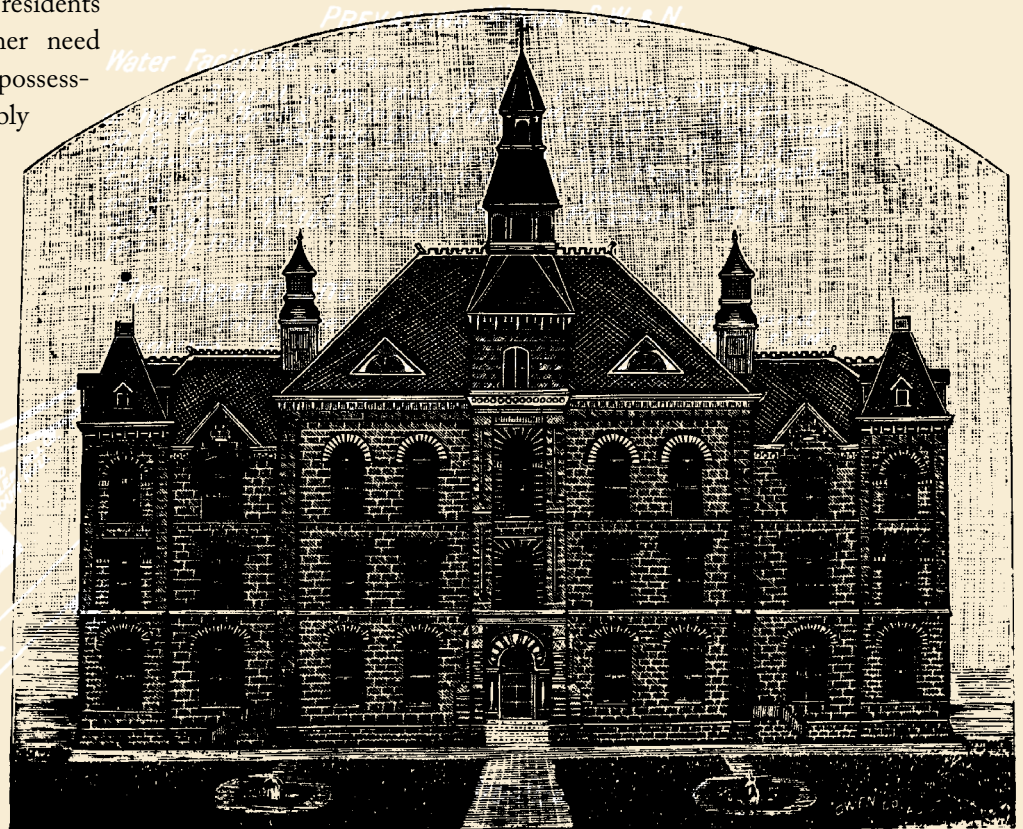
before economic conditions forced Daniel Baker to close in 1953. The Daniel Baker legacy lives on, however, as a campus of Howard Payne. What had been DBC's main building is now HPU's Douglas MacArthur Academy Building, the home of the Guy D. Newman Honors Academy.

Life was not easy, but by 1889 the community was quickly becoming family-friendly. Schools and churches were well established and city government was beginning to provide vital services. Cattle and later cotton production brought prosperity for residents and opportunity for newcomers. It would be 18 more years before the first automobile would arrive in Brownwood, nine years before the first "improved" street was completed and seven years before telephones were available, but the key elements vital for prosperity were in place.

One of those elements, then and now, is Howard Payne University – "high above old bayou's waters, out on Center's heights ..." – a partner in progress with Brownwood for the past 125 years. ■

About the author:

Gene Deason, a 1972 graduate of Howard Payne University, retired as the editor of the *Brownwood Bulletin* in 2012. He is currently the chairman of the Guy D. Newman Honors Academy Board of Directors and the secretary of the HPU Alumni Association Board of Directors. He also chaired the university's centennial celebration activities in 1989.



**Early conceptual image
of Howard Payne's
Old Main, 1890**

*We, the undersigned Agents have carefully examined the new fire map of this town, LINK, SPRING 2015 5
by the Sanborn Map & Publishing Co. Limited, of
New York and finding same correct and
accurate, we would recommend its use to our
companies.*



ANNIVERSARY ACCOLADE

I love working at HPU because of the students. They are such a blessing to me.

- Margie Coker, food service worker, Sodexo Food Service



ANNIVERSARY ACCOLADE

I love teaching at HPU because I'm able to share my passion with students every day. In the process, I learn from them and that greatly enriches my life.

- Carla Hawkins, assistant professor of Spanish



HOWARD PAYNE UNIVERSITY

ARTIFACTS

DATE

1890-1984

TYPE

Old Main

Postcard from
the 1930s

by Dr. Robert Mangrum, professor of history and political science and university historian



Following the selection of Brownwood as the location of the new Baptist college in the fall of 1889, the site selection committee adopted Proposition 7 by F.A. Smith to purchase the Howard and Lee block on Center Avenue and Fisk Street, including the Thurman house, which comprised four acres. The Board of Trustees agreed to pay immediately in cash \$2,500 with the balance payable in

three equal payments paid over the ensuing three years at 8 percent interest for a total of \$3,500 for the property.

At the February 20, 1890, meeting of the board, the trustees reviewed two proposed architectural plans for a building but rejected both. Finally, the trustees adopted plans and specifications of T.E. Smith on March 31, 1890, but, as a cost-cutting measure, with the two proposed wings omitted. Meanwhile, Dr. John D. Robnett bought the lot northeast of the First Baptist Church for \$500 to build a boarding house for college use. The wood frame building with two stories was leased to the college for \$225 per month.

The board received bids and rejected these on April 3, 1890. On April 28, 1890, the board then gave A.R. Watson a contract for the foundation work. Watson often remarked, following the college's financial struggles in 1892-1893, that he "put Howard Payne in the hole, and it has been there ever since." Finally, the board adopted the plans and specifications of a Mr. Larwine of Waco on May 5, 1890, for \$500. At this point Smith's plans, previously adopted, were rejected. The board then accepted the bid of John Chaillet for rock work on Old Main at \$3 per perch.

A contract for furniture was let with Ben Brock while Poole and Staggs of Brownwood were contracted for the

wood, tin and iron work on July 10, 1890, for \$14,005. The contract was subsequently broken on July 21 because no quorum of the board had been present to officially approve said contract. The board gave \$200 to Poole and Staggs and then proceeded to award a new contract to T.E. Smith of Brownwood for the same work but at \$2,060. The board then hired J.F. Jackson to supervise the construction of Old Main. Sandstone for the construction came from a quarry a few miles south of Brownwood.

In February 1904, a committee of the board tried to raise \$12,000 to build the north wing of Old Main. It was not until May 1906 that the bid of John Chaillet was accepted. He was to do the stone and plaster work and was to paint the woodwork of both the new wing and the older section for \$7,036. J.E. Wood received the contract for the interior wood work and all other phases not covered by Chaillet's contract. For this work Wood would be paid \$7,400. Plumbing for the new wing was done by C.B. Cone for \$375. This wing, completed in September 1907, used sandstone from the same quarry as the original building.

In late 1908 fire escapes were installed on Old Main for \$550 by Joe Krischke. The upper portion of the tower at the front of the original portion of Old Main was removed in August 1915 because it was in poor condition and considered dangerous. At the same time repairs of the roof were undertaken by a Mr. Hooper.

Inside, in addition to administrative offices on the ground floor and classrooms on the second floor, Old Main had a chapel on the third floor with a 14-foot ceiling. The first and second floor ceilings also were 14 feet. As a result the structure could automatically cool itself.

(Continued on page 10)

HOWARD PAYNE COLLEGE, BROWNWOOD, TEXAS



71968



Old Main with the "H" Pond



Visitors in an interior hallway



Administration Building
Howard Payne University
"Our 90th Year — 1889-1979"

Commemorative plate

(Continued from page 8)

The chapel served the community for several years as a large meeting hall. Finally, the board authorized a plank fence to be built around the building. Dr. Thomas Taylor, former president of HPC and a student in its early years, fondly remembered climbing over that fence the very first day classes were held to attend the school in the fall of 1890.

The building served the college well and, as time passed, aged gracefully. Then in its 94th year, tragedy struck. At 3:50 a.m. on the morning of Tuesday, May 8, 1984, as the wind gusted to 49 mph, the fire alarm was received by the Brownwood Fire Department. Fire Chief Pete Ferguson later termed the blaze "a nightmare come true." In addition to the Brownwood department, units from Bangs and Early also responded.

"Since it was the week of final examinations and since students tend to 'let steam off' at that time, it was hoped that this was a prank call," recalled HPU's then-registrar, Don Jackson, when notified that morning. Arriving at the campus, he quickly discovered it was not. By 4:20 a.m., Old Main was totally engulfed, with fire pouring out of all the windows on the south and west sides of the building. The roof on the north and east sides was beginning to ignite. Large pieces of the roof were being blown several blocks away by the high winds. Jackson observed that the Walker Memorial Library and Mims Auditorium were in danger of catching fire as well. Already the major effort of the firefighters had been diverted to saving those buildings.

By 4:30 a.m., Old Main was gutted and one could see portions of the internal structure collapsing inside. In addition, parts of the outer stone walls were also falling. As a result of the high winds, several small fires were started in trees on campus and in the surrounding area as well

as on the football practice field. The decision was made that Old Main was lost; the only thing the firemen and crowd could do was watch. By 6:00 a.m. the fire was finally showing signs of decreasing.

By 6:30 a.m., as the sun rose, the flames were dying but there was still a lot of acrid smoke. As the smoke abated, it could be seen that the records vault had survived the fire so the university would still have its student records and transcripts. (When an inventory was taken in the ensuing days, it was noted that only one student record and transcript were destroyed by the fire!)

By 8:00 a.m. the campus was recovering with temporary offices being assigned: the Office of the Registrar went to the then-Computer Center (now the Office of Admission at 1209 Fisk) while Student Affairs and University Services went to the Art Annex (an old Army barracks, subsequently removed from campus). The School of Education, which had occupied the second floor, moved in with the P.E. Department in Jacket Gym (now the Elliston-Cassle Wellness Center). The English and Modern Languages faculty, located on the third floor, moved into the Art Gallery (also an Army barracks from Camp Bowie). Everyone tried to conduct business as usual although it was hard. Exams were given as scheduled.

The smoke from the ruins would continue to linger; Brownwood smelt of smoke most of the day. A stunned, shocked atmosphere hung over the campus. All conversation was muted as if one was at a funeral. Throughout the day, people gravitated to the site and just stood and looked. The walls that were still standing could fall at any time. Because of smoldering embers, water would continue to be sprayed for most of the following week to prevent reigniting. Jackson reported that the amount of water used caused a drop of 4-6 inches in the level of Lake Brownwood.

The Brownwood Bulletin
from May 8, 1984

Twelve Pages

25 Cents

Volume 84 No. 177

HPU's 'Old Main' destroyed by fire

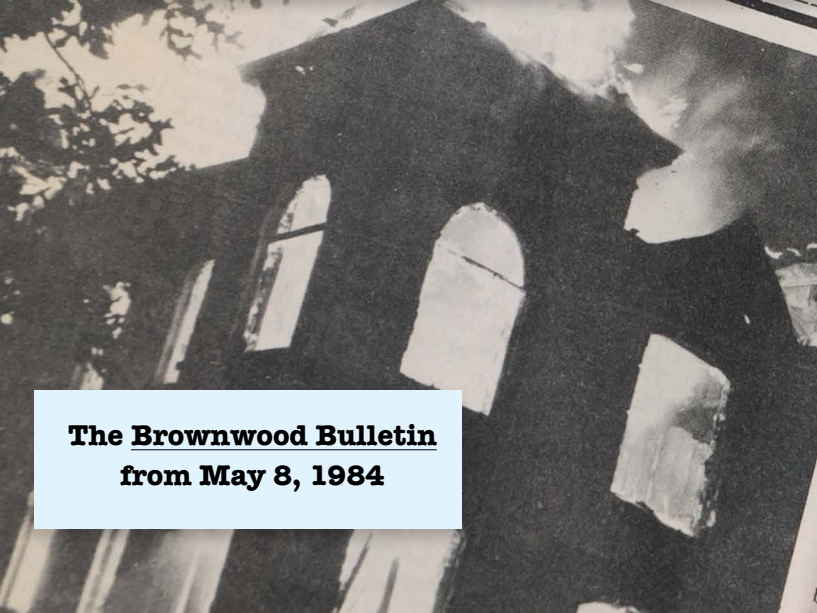
By HARRIETTE GRAVES
Bulletin Staff Writer

"It wasn't just a building, it was something special."

That's the way a former Howard Payne University trustee expressed himself this morning as he stood among the crowd staring at what was left of the administration building that was gutted by flames early this morning.

reports of injuries. Students in nearby dormitory were evacuated and asked to move their cars to a safe place. The fire also interrupted telephone and electrical service to most of the campus.

"However, we believe the Payne University interested citizen help..."



**The copper box from
Old Main's cornerstone**



By midafternoon, the fire marshal gave HPU permission to retrieve the student records from the vault; 35 file cabinets along with everything else in the vault were finally removed by 5:30 that evening with help from 10-15 students.

In the following days, a controversy developed among a small group of people who demanded that Old Main be rebuilt and threatened a lawsuit if the remaining walls were “touched.” As a result, everything came to a standstill and a barbed-wire fence was put up to keep people out. Six structural engineers examined the ruins to determine whether anything could be salvaged. Rumors ranged from \$3 million to \$8 million to rebuild. The community and alumni were split into two camps.

A called meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Saturday, May 12, to decide the matter. After much discussion about the engineer’s reports, the decision was made not to attempt to rebuild. One report indicated that even the foundation itself had buckled from the heat and water. Water had also made the ground around the foundation so soft that, when the walls had collapsed into the basement, the foundation had been pushed out of alignment, making it useless. Of the six engineers making reports, five recommended removing the ruins. Demolition began May 14 and continued through the 15th; the ensuing cleanup took a month. By June 8, 1984, the spot had been cleared, filled and leveled. Before the summer was over, grass had been planted and Old Main was gone.

During the debate and discussion as to what to do about the building, amongst the rubble, in addition to the vitally important student records from the vault, several additional items were retrieved. The most important and interesting was an old, bent, obviously worn copper box. Found near where the cornerstone of the building had stood, the box was at first secured in the vault of RepublicBank Brownwood (now Bank of America). It was unexamined and unopened until Homecoming in November 1984.

At that time, during the Alumni Banquet, held in the old cafeteria on the first floor of Veda Hodge Hall on

Friday, November 2, the box was ceremoniously opened.

Doing the honors was longtime Brownwood resident, businessman and historian W. Lee Watson. His house, in which he lived his entire life, was directly across the street from Mims Auditorium. (The site today is a parking lot.) Watson was a good choice to undertake this important moment as he had started the first grade in HPC’s prep school in Old Main in 1901. He noted that his grandfather, J.C. Weakley, who had been a sheet-metal worker in Brownwood at the time Old Main was built, might have constructed the copper box, but confirmation could not be made.

The copper box, which had been selected all those years before for its primary quality – everlasting protection for the items inside the box – refused at first to yield its contents. As reported in the *Brownwood Bulletin*, it took several people including HPU’s president, Dr. Ralph Phelps, to pry open the box. Watson managed to tear apart the box just enough to allow its contents to be pulled from it.

Much to the disappointment of the crowd, nothing of monetary value was found within the box. This is not surprising when one is aware of the financial condition of the college when Old Main was built. However, several items emerged which gave a glimpse of local as well as state and national history at the time the cornerstone was laid.

The items included a copy of a Sunday School lesson dated May 9, 1886; a copy of the *Texas Baptist Herald* dated April 29, 1886; and an HPC catalog from 1890.

Also found were a small vial of dirt with a label indicating the soil was from the Garden of Gethsemane in the Holy Land and a small piece of white marble with a note that it was from the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem.

Further investigation also revealed a piece of paper with the names of the Brownwood Baptist Ladies Aide Society members.

The present whereabouts of the contents have never been determined; therefore, one must assume that the contents were either lost, given away as souvenirs or destroyed because of the condition of the materials. ■

SEEDS FOR A GOLDEN HARVEST

Walker gave generously during his lifetime; now HPU's library bears his name while home and business are part of university  Story by Gene Deason '72

If James Allen Walker could come back to life for Howard Payne University's 125th anniversary, he might be surprised to find his name attached to two major buildings.

That might make him uncomfortable.

Walker, a Brownwood businessman, civic leader and Howard Payne benefactor in the first half of the 20th century, resisted having his name attached to buildings or monuments recognizing his generosity. But a decade after Walker's death in December 1942, university officials honored his devotion in a big way.

Without the Walker Memorial Library as a fixture on campus since 1952 and the historic Walker House as the presidential home, J.A. Walker and Mary Elizabeth Peacock Walker might be known today only to historians.

The Walkers' financial support proved crucial to Howard Payne's survival in the early 20th century. Walker served on Howard Payne's Board of Trustees for 45 years and as a deacon at First Baptist Church in Brownwood for 42 years. In addition to other gifts, he established an endowment of more than \$1 million – described then as the largest single gift the college had ever received. He also secured a grant that wiped out a major debt load.

After Walker died unexpectedly at his home on Dec. 15, 1942, the *Yellow Jacket* campus newspaper reported that



Clockwise from top left: James Allen Walker, Mary Elizabeth Peacock Walker and the Walker-Smith Wholesale Grocers facility (Building photo courtesy of the Brownwood Public Library Local History and Genealogical Branch)

Howard Payne had lost “the best friend it ever had.”

He was president of Walker-Smith Company, a wholesale grocery supplier that grew to 300 employees and served 16 markets in West Texas and New Mexico. Born in Arkansas in 1862, Walker came to Coryell County, Texas, in 1869 with his mother. His father was killed in the Civil War before he was born. He, his mother and stepfather later moved to Coleman where he worked at a mercantile firm, impressing his bosses with the ability to recite from memory voluminous amounts of inventory data.

In 1894, he formed the company that became Walker-Smith and in 1899 moved its headquarters from Temple to

HPU's Walker Memorial Library



Brownwood. J.L. Smith, his partner, managed the branch office in Amarillo and served as company secretary-treasurer until his death in 1927.

As the business grew, an office and a warehouse were built in 1905 at 1411 Center Ave. Those buildings now house HPU's facilities, grounds and maintenance office and shops.

Mary Elizabeth Peacock Walker was born in 1863 in Daingerfield, Texas. The couple was married in 1886, and their only child was Mrs. Thomas Earl (Mary Elizabeth) Walker Edwards.

Mrs. Walker, active at First Baptist Church of Brownwood along with her husband, was involved in numerous philanthropic endeavors. In 1910, she and her daughter were among 24 charter members of the local Mary Garland Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. When she died in 1936, Mrs. Walker was vice-regent of the Texas Society of DAR. Their daughter moved to New York, but she returned to Brownwood to live from the late 1950s until the mid-1970s.

In 1901, the Walkers built their Colonial Revival style home at 701 Center Ave., and it remained in their family for 75 years. That house, which was purchased and remodeled by former Texas Lt. Gov. Ben Barnes and his wife in 1979, was declared a Texas and National Historic Landmark in 1982. The university acquired it in 1987 as the official residence of the university's president. It's currently the home of HPU President Dr. Bill Ellis and his wife, Dr. Diana Ellis, who frequently entertain university groups there.

For decades, Walker's home and office were Center Avenue bookends on opposite sides of Howard Payne. With a short daily commute that took him past the heart of the university, it's no surprise that his company's historian wrote, "He is greatly interested in Howard Payne College, as he sees in small denominational schools a great future."

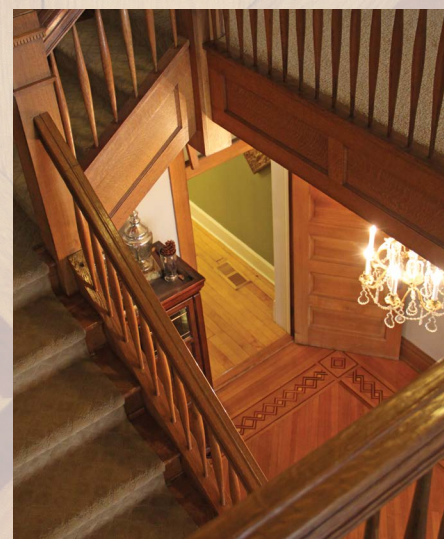
If Walker could return to Brownwood today, he no doubt would be disappointed to find that his company no longer exists. But he certainly would be pleased to see that his life's other work – Howard Payne – is thriving, even if that is his name etched on its library.

"Some seek to perpetuate their names by erecting monuments or buildings which sometimes prove burdensome in the upkeep," Walker-Smith Company's 50th anniversary retrospective said of its president. The hardbound book was published just months after Walker's death. "Mr. Walker ... has erected a monument that will stand long after the shafts of marble and stone have crumbled. Those he helped financially, and encouraged in other ways, are holding high the banner. The seeds were planted by Mr. Walker; certainly the harvest is golden and will continue to be so." ■

The Walker House



The Walker House
is the home of
HPU's 19th
president and first
lady, Drs. Bill and
Diana Ellis.



BURIED TREASURE

STORY BY COBY SAUCE, MBA '14



CLASS RING LOST IN TEXAS LAKE FOR 60 YEARS RETURNED TO HPU ALUMNA

THE TEXAS DROUGHT BROUGHT AN UNEXPECTED BLESSING THIS YEAR WHEN A 1953 HOWARD PAYNE COLLEGE CLASS RING WAS DISCOVERED ALONG THE LOW WATERS OF SAN ANGELO'S LAKE NASWORTHY. ADDIE ELIZABETH (LITTLE) CLARK OF GRANITE FALLS, WASH., A 1953 HPC ALUMNA, WAS REUNITED ON JULY 4 WITH THE RING SHE LOST 60 YEARS AGO.

“MY SON SAID, ‘MOM, IT’S JUST A RING,’” SHE TOLD THE REPORTERS.

“I SAID, ‘IT’S A SPECIAL RING.’ I FELT LIKE I HAD LOST PART OF ME.”



Elizabeth Clark was able to wear her Howard Payne class ring for the first time in 60 years. She is pictured with Stephen Sullivan '11, MBA '14, director of development and alumni relations at the university.

Addie Elizabeth Clark is pictured in the 1953 *Lasso* yearbook.

Clark, 84, found it hard to believe the good fortune by which her ring was returned, and the media coverage that ensued took almost everyone by surprise.

Betsy Blaney, the Lubbock correspondent for the Associated Press, was drawn to the story because of a similar situation that had happened with her father years before. She wrote an article about Clark and submitted it through the AP wire service. More than 400 newspapers, television programs, websites and radio stations around the world latched

onto the feel-good human interest story.

Stephen Sullivan, HPU's director of development and alumni relations, and Lindsay Waddell, the woman who found the ring in the lake, returned the ring to its owner while Clark was in Brownfield, Texas, for a family reunion. Lubbock-area television crews were in attendance as the story of the ring's discovery was recounted.

Waddell was walking her dogs along the low waters of Lake Nasworthy in March when she encountered the ring with the letters "A. E. L." inscribed in the band. She contacted HPU officials who used a 1953 yearbook to find the only graduating senior with those initials – Addie Elizabeth Little. Nathan's Jewelers of Brownwood cleaned the ring for free, restoring it to almost-new conditions.

According to Clark's daughter and 1978 HPU graduate Donna Clark-Love, Clark was delighted to get a phone call from Sullivan letting her know her ring had been found.

"She got on the horn and called everybody," Clark-Love told Blaney.

Clark remembers losing the ring in the lake in 1954 while on a date with her future husband.

"She was devastated because she had worked so hard to make it through college," Clark-Love said.

In addition to HPU representatives and TV reporters, many family members and friends were in attendance as Clark slipped the ring on her finger for the first time in 60 years. The only one of 16 children in her family to graduate college, she fondly remembers her time at Howard Payne.

"My son said, 'Mom, it's just a ring,'" she told the reporters. "I said, 'It's a special ring.' I felt like I had lost part of me."

According to Sullivan, the situation is proof of how God sends blessings even in times of extreme drought.

"If Lindsay hadn't been out there that day we may never have found the ring," he said, adding that Lake Nasworthy has since returned to full capacity. "We're very grateful that she not only returned it to the university but was able to drive to Brownfield to personally present it to Mrs. Clark." ■



ANNIVERSARY ACCOLADE

The best thing about being a student at HPU is having a sense of community throughout the campus.

- Angelica Gray, junior social work major from San Antonio



ANNIVERSARY ACCOLADE

Howard Payne is a great place to work in a friendly Christian environment. The professors are world class, and the small classes allow our professors to work closely with the students to ensure their success.

- Dr. Denny Megarity,
assistant professor of
physical sciences

“Howard Payne

Yellow Jacket teammates

Ken Gray '58 had great success on the football field for Howard Payne University and the National Football League, but he says what he went through at Howard Payne really made him who he is.

Born in San Saba County to a father who was a heavy-equipment operator during World War II, the Gray family moved around central and west Texas before finally settling in the Llano area. There, Gray became an outstanding high school player.

At a basketball practice during his senior year, 1954, Gray was introduced to Jack Brewer, who was an assistant football coach at HPU. Coach Brewer asked if Gray liked to play football and if he would like to play at Howard Payne.

“Yes, sir, I sure would,” Gray remembers replying. “Do you understand I am married and have a child?”

Not only did Brewer understand, HPU had an opportunity for a job for Gray and a home for the young family.

In the fall of 1954, Gray played his first game as a Yellow Jacket. Howard Payne was handily beating the other team and Gray was put in on defense. Coach Brewer did not like the way he was lining up and asked him what he was doing.

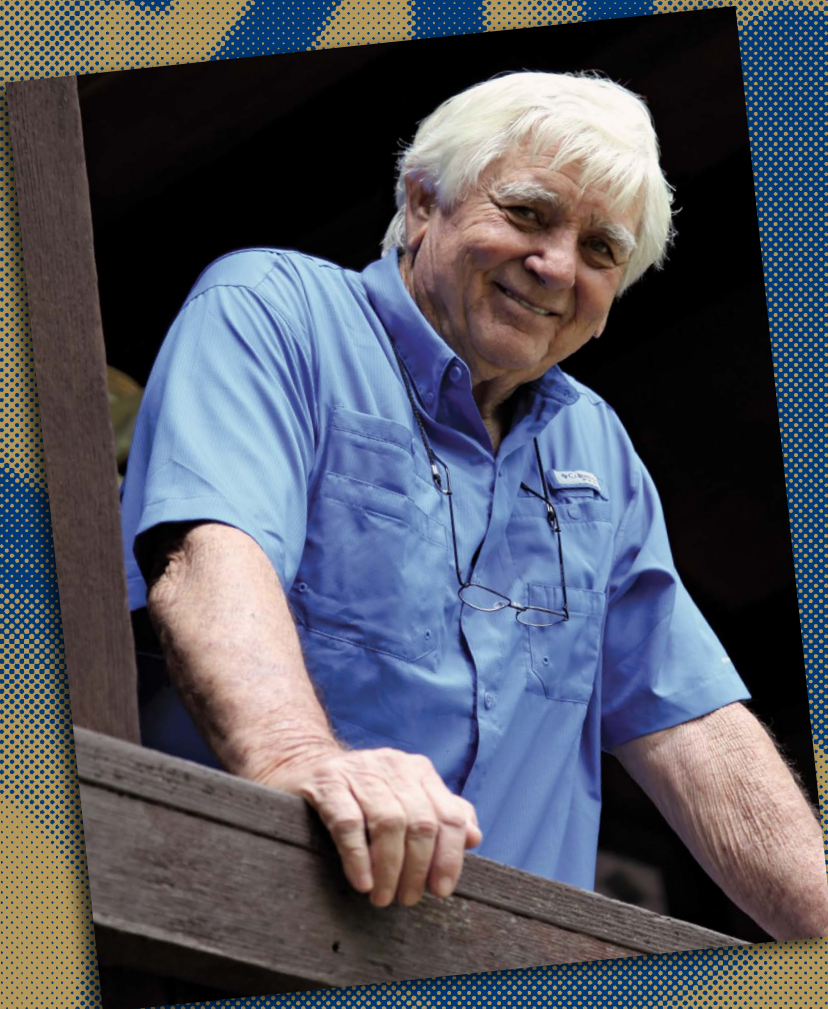
“I guess he thought I was being lazy,” Gray says. “It broke my heart. I thought I would just get on the bus and go back to Llano.”

Coach Brewer then came over to the bench and put his arm around Gray.

“He said, ‘Ken, I’m sorry. It will never happen again,’” Gray recalls. “From then on, I would die for him. That was my introduction to Howard Payne football.

“Coach Brewer was a great, great man. He got the most out of everybody, he was fair and he made men out of a lot of us. I still tear up when I think about him.”

The Howard Payne coaching staff made practices very tough. At that time, the team included several veterans of the Korean War.



really made me who I am”

and coaches helped equip Ken Gray for life in the NFL and beyond

“So when an 18-year-old went against a 25-, 26- or even a 29-year-old, you had to battle,” he says. “The things I went through at Howard Payne really made me who I am.”

As a husband and father at HPU, Gray did not have time for much beyond family, football and work. However, he found support among the team’s other married players.

“There were other players who were married with families, so there were others going through the same things,” he says. “All the older guys kind of put an arm around you to take care of you and teach you. Jack Browning and Joe James were older players. Harold Garms was a former service guy.”

Gray graduated from Howard Payne in 1958 with a degree in history and education. He finished Howard Payne as a four-year letterman (1954-1957), where he was All-Lone Star Conference and named to the Little All-American team.

He went on to be drafted in the sixth round (as the 62nd overall pick) of the NFL draft by the Green Bay Packers in 1958 before earning a spot with the Chicago Cardinals. The team eventually moved to St. Louis.

Gray is one of 17 players in Howard Payne history to be drafted into the NFL and one of approximately 30 Yellow Jackets to have played in the NFL or Canadian Football League.

“When I went from Howard Payne to Green Bay, I really could not believe it. This is pro football,” he says.

However, after his experiences playing at Howard Payne, he was prepared.

“The practices were not really that hard. I found making that jump was really easy.”

In an NFL career that spanned 13 seasons, Gray was named an NFL Pro Bowl guard for the St. Louis Cardinals seven times. He would be named consensus All-Pro six times (1963, 1965-1969) and was honored as a First-Team selection twice during that time. He finished his professional

career as a Houston Oiler in 1970.

Gray returned to Llano High School as head football coach from 1973 to 1975.

“That turned out to be the most fun I ever had,” he says. “I got to coach my son who turned out to be an All-State player.”

He then spent the 1977-1978 seasons as the Denver Broncos’ offensive line coach. Since then, Gray has become a member of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) and Howard Payne University Sports Halls of Fame.

Gray now lives in Kingsland, Texas, with Shirley, his wife of 62 years. He has fond recollections of his days as a student-athlete at HPU.

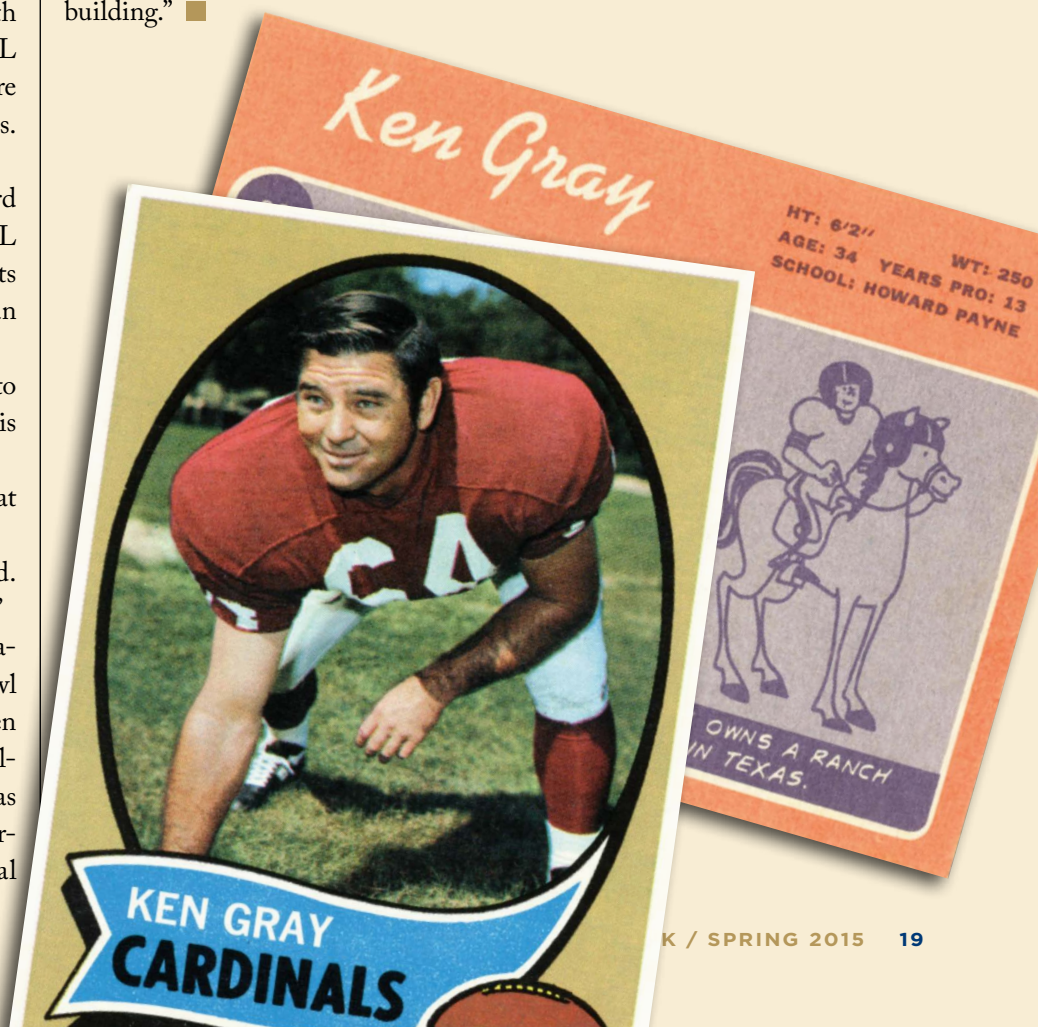
“The memories are not so much of what happened on the field but the relationships I had with all the players,” he says. “Howard Payne is the kind of place where you can get a good education along with a dose of character building.” ■

*By Abram Choate '98,
assistant athletic
director for sports
information and
game administration*

*Pictured far left,
background: Ken Gray as
a football player at HPU*

*Pictured far left,
foreground: Gray at his
home in 2014*

*Pictured below: Gray’s
1970 Topps football card*



Singing Them Like Only She Sings Them



Cynthia Clawson and a Life of Music



Interview by Kyle Mize



“This makes me nervous!”

In a career that spans four decades, Cynthia Clawson '70 has sung to untold millions in concerts and television broadcasts across the United States and around the world. She has recorded 22 albums, won a Grammy and five Dove Awards, been inducted into the Texas Gospel



Cynthia Clawson sings at First Baptist Church of Oklahoma City in 2014. (Photo courtesy of the church)

Music Hall of Fame, received two honorary doctorate degrees (including one from Howard Payne University) and had one of her performances featured in an Oscar-winning motion picture. With all that experience, what could possibly give her stage fright?

Sitting down to an interview.

“This makes me nervous,” she repeats. “Let me just sing it. O-k-a-a-A-y, K-y-y-y-l-e...”

Warm, gracious and funny, she recently took part in a

wide-ranging conversation that touched on topics such as her childhood as the daughter of a minister and his wife, her days as a student at Howard Payne University, her career in Christian music and her marriage to composer/playwright/actor Ragan Courtney.

Along the way, she also shared her perspectives on the creative process, meaningful songs and the retired HPU faculty member who Cynthia says “still sings better than I do.” > > > > > > > > > > > > > > > > >

You grew up as the daughter of a pastor and his wife. How did that help shape your musical life?

We moved a lot, and I think that helped me in everything. I had to make new friends. I had to learn to live among different people and even their styles of music. I learned how to communicate.

What was the process that led you to Howard Payne?

My dad went to a preaching conference there. He said, "I'm going to Howard Payne. Would you like to go up there and check it out?" I had already visited Baylor. I went to Howard Payne and met Mrs. [Sara] Baker. I loved the way Old Main looked. I thought, "This is college." It was just kind of a calling, I guess. I loved it. After I got there, it wasn't as big as Baylor but I felt like every single faculty member cared about me.

You mentioned Sara Baker. How big of an influence did she become during your college years?

I talked to her yesterday on the phone. She's still my voice teacher. She was my substitute mother and was always so wonderful to me. She still sings better than I do.

Were you one of the original Heritage Singers?

Yes, I was. I was an original member of Delta Chi Rho and an original Heritage Singer.

What was the genesis of the Heritage Singers?

Dr. [O.J.] Bryson started that. Dr. [Guy D.] Newman, who was president then, wanted a group that would go around and advertise for Howard Payne. We were like a commercial.

You were one of the first members of Delta Chi Rho, too, you said. How was that organization created?

We put that together in the attic of Veda Hodge. We were always going up there late at night to have jam sessions and talk about stuff. We just said, "Let's start a new club." We also called ourselves "The Terrific Twelve." We did little shenanigans here and there! [Laughs]

The first way we made ourselves known was through a show we did at Friday chapel. Monday was educational, Wednesday was spiritual and Friday was for whatever we wanted to do. We just put together shows. We were like Judy Garland and Mickey Rooney – or the Little Rascals!

While you were a student at HPU, you performed on the Arthur Godfrey Talent Show. What are your memories of that experience?

The Heritage Singers flew to Hollywood to be on it first, and then Arthur Godfrey asked me back because I was red-headed and loud and everything, and he liked the way I sang.

Do you remember what you sang on those shows?

I don't remember what we sang when we went, but when I went later I sang "My Man," because Barbra Streisand had just made the movie *Funny Girl* and, by that time, I had already seen it about 14 times.



So you knew it well!

I ended up seeing the movie about 26 times – once in Hong Kong, in Chinese, and once in India, with Indian subtitles. After my senior year, I went on this tour and saw it in those places. I was going to be Barbra Streisand!

Was she a big influence on your musical taste?

Yeah, I liked all those ballads. When I came to college, I wanted to be Julie Andrews and then, during my sophomore year, I liked Petula Clark.

A few years after I got out of school, a producer said, "Tell me about your singing. Who are you? What do you sing?" I said, "Well, it's according to what kind of song you want. If you want a sort of Barbra Streisand thing, I can sound like Barbra Streisand." I don't think I really tried to sound like her but I could emulate that style. He said, "No.



Clockwise from lower left: Cynthia as a freshman in 1966; standing, third from right, with the original group of Heritage Singers; after receiving the honorary Doctor of Humanities degree from HPU in 2007 and sharing smiles with Sara Baker, retired associate professor of music; and three of Cynthia's 22 albums – *HymnSinger*, *Cynthia In Concert* and *One In The Spirit*

Who are you?" I said, "Well, I don't know," and I started crying. I was just mortified. He said, "You need to go find out who you are." It was the best thing, though.

Around that same time I met George Gagliardi, a songwriter. There were songs that nobody else had ever sung, so I sang them like I sang them.

What is the process of determining who you are and not just trying to imitate people you like?

I really think it has to do with the material. I watch *America's Got Talent* and *The Voice* and people sound so much alike. It's not like in the old days, when everybody had a definite sound. Carole King sounded like Carole King singing

Carole King songs. I think it's when you get original material that nobody else has ever done and you have to craft it and make it your song.

You have the ability to communicate lyrics or hymn text as if you're just sharing your thoughts. It's a very conversational approach to performing. What is your process to engage with material that way?

When I was in fifth or sixth grade, old enough to pick a song to sing in church, my father would ask, "What are you going to be singing?" I'd say such-and-such and he'd say, "Well, darling, I don't think you need to sing that song. You don't know what you're talking about." I'd pick songs about sin and degradation and grace, but I hadn't gotten there yet. He made me be really honest about lyrics.

My friend George Gagliardi came along and he would say, "How are you feeling today?" I'd say, "Oh, kind of depressed," and he would write lyrics for me where I was. Then, of course, I married Ragan, who is a lyricist.

I also find that some of the songs that I sang forever I've discarded because I'm not there anymore. I try to sing from where I am at that point, psychologically and emotionally.

What happens, then, during the course of a concert, when you've got several songs to perform and each one comes from a different emotional place? Is it hard to engage equally in every song?

There are some songs I can't wait to sing, but I may have gone through a thought process even during the concert so that the seventh or eighth song is going to be different than I had planned on it being. I have really wonderful accompanists, though, and they know me so well.

If it's not fresh for me, then it's not going to be fresh for anyone else. It's going to be rote. I've had people say, "That didn't sound like it did on the album." Well, that's because I was in a different spot on the album.

Do you ever get a reaction from someone in the audience that affects your approach in that moment?

Oh yeah, I think probably every single time. My father taught me to look people in the eye when I sing, because that's the way he preached. He had no fear.

After the Godfrey performance, you went back to Hollywood to be on the summer replacement show for *The Carol Burnett Show*, called *CBS Newcomers*. Was it around that time when you made your first album?

I made my first album, which is called *One In The Spirit*, before I went to Los Angeles that first time. It came out during that time, in 1971.

"There were songs that nobody else had ever sung, so I sang them like I sang them."



What was the experience like for you to see a brand-new copy of your first album?

Well, we had a little bit of a tussle over that because I really didn't think it was very good yet, but then I probably would think that about everything. When it came, I was kind of embarrassed. I thought, "Oh, it's not very good," but it was my first.

There have been a lot of technological advances in recording since then, but how is the experience of making an album different now for you as a singer?

Well, on that one, everybody was in the studio at once and that was wonderful. It was that "live" sort of feeling. Now you can go into your bedroom and make an album. It's changed so much. With Auto-Tune and other things, it's almost like singers are just robots now. It's taken the heart out of it.

You can do it so quickly and that's kind of nice. I can take two days and do an album, when before it would have taken longer, but it's kind of slick now. Also, with downloads and things like that, people hear one song and that's what they want. The craft and the angst you'd go through in making an album – "That song will go here," "No, let's put that song down here" – doesn't matter as much anymore.

Earlier, you mentioned your husband. Did you meet during the course of the *Celebrate Life* project?

Yes. Ragan was an actor in New York and was writing it with Buryl Red. I met Buryl while I was living in L.A. I came to Dallas to work with Buryl, who was orchestrating something. He said, "I'm going to do this musical. Would you want to sing some solos?" I went to Nashville and did the solos while Ragan was still in New York.

Then, the following summer, Ragan came down to North Carolina, to Ridgecrest, and I was there to do the premiere and I met him. He asked me to marry him that day.

That day?

We realized we had a whole lot of connections, we liked the same actors and he liked the way I sang and all that. "You know, we'll probably get married." "Yeah, sure."

I called my sister that night and said, "I met this guy and I think I'm going to marry him." She said, "Oh yeah, you've said that before," [laughs] because I had, about several people! I said, "No, no, this is different!"

We got married a few months later. It's been 42 years, so I guess something worked!

Clockwise from left: Cynthia with children Lily and Will in Los Angeles in front of a billboard advertising *The Trip To Bountiful*; showing her Yellow Jacket "Sting 'Em" pride in 2014; *Prayer & Plainsong*, an a capella CD recorded inside Mission San Jose in San Antonio; and an ad clipping promoting Cynthia's albums and celebrating one of her Dove Awards

You sang at a Billy Graham Crusade. What was that experience like?

It was in Nashville in 1979. I was really excited because it was a big deal to get to sing at a Billy Graham Crusade. I went to his Crusade in Houston when I was two years old. Billy Graham was huge in our lives.

I'd also like to discuss your involvement with the Oscar-winning 1985 movie *The Trip To Bountiful*, which featured your version of "Softly and Tenderly." How did that take place?

I went to do a concert at Chuck Swindoll's church, and I sang a whole bunch of hymns. J.A.C. Redford, who did the music for *The Trip To Bountiful*, was in the congregation. I did that on Sunday and on Tuesday he called me and said, "I'm working on this film. It's kind of a personal film." They called it "personal" because they weren't going to pay me much money. [Laughs] He said, "It's called *The Trip To Bountiful* and it's by playwright Horton Foote." I said, "Yeah, okay, alrighty! You got me!" So I went out to Los Angeles and did it.

I've made connections to so many people because of that song. Their grandmother sang it, their mother sang it, they sang it. They remember it from their past. I would sing at



“I don’t think I’d be doing what I am today had I not gone to Howard Payne.”

concerts and people would ask, “Did you sing in a movie?” I’d say, “Yeah.”

What was your experience of seeing that movie for the first time?

A whole bunch of people from my church in Louisville, Kentucky, got together and went to this little theatre and saw it. That character was so much like my daddy’s mother. Then she [actress Geraldine Page] won the Academy Award for that and they played “Softly and Tenderly” when she went up to accept the award. It was a big part of my life.

Speaking of awards, you won a Grammy and five Dove Awards. What were those experiences like?

The Grammy was wonderful because I won it with a whole bunch of people: Andraé Crouch, Reba [Rambo], B.J. Thomas, several of us.

What was the project?

It was called *The Lord’s Prayer*. Dony [McGuire] and Reba [Rambo] had written a musical based on the Lord’s

Prayer. I sang the first song, which is called “Teach Us To Pray.” I walked out there to sing, six months pregnant, and I looked down and saw Streisand, Shirley Caesar, Dionne Warwick, Aretha [Franklin] – the whole front row with all these women singers. It was incredible.

I won some Doves, and that was nice, but that Grammy thing ... Also, that was the first time the Grammys had ever done a gospel presentation. So Delta Chi Rho, Heritage Singers, first Grammy gospel presentation – I’m sort of a pioneer! [Laughs] I’m a sixth-generation Texas woman, so I should be!

You’ve kept a close relationship with HPU through the years. Recently, you accepted a leadership role in HPU’s campaign to become an All-Steinway School. How did you become involved with that project?

Diana and Bill [Ellis] came to see us and she said, “I’ve got this idea.” I really like them a lot. So I said, “Yeah, I’ll do it. Sure.” I didn’t even think about it. It’s been fun to try to raise money for this effort.

How different is the quality of a Steinway piano?

It makes you want to sing better and play better. When I was a student at Howard Payne, I would ask Mrs. Baker if I could go rehearse on the stage in Mims because that’s where the Steinway was located. There was just something about it.

How big of an impact would it have on our music program for HPU to be an All-Steinway School?

Musicians would come because it’s an All-Steinway School. It just says, “We’re special.” We’ve always known we’re special at Howard Payne, “where everybody is somebody,” but having that Steinway stamp...

What do you see as the key qualities that have made HPU special through the years?

The faculty members cherish every student. Also, when I look back now, I realize how safe it was. I went to school during the Vietnam War and the world was on fire. I would get to the outskirts of Brownwood, coming into town, and it was a haven. We knew people cared about us. I don’t think I’d be doing what I am today had I not gone to Howard Payne, because I got that freedom to express myself. There’s even more freedom now than there was when we were there. You can wear shorts! ■

To learn more about HPU’s All-Steinway School campaign, please contact the Office of Institutional Advancement at development@hputx.edu or 800-950-8465.

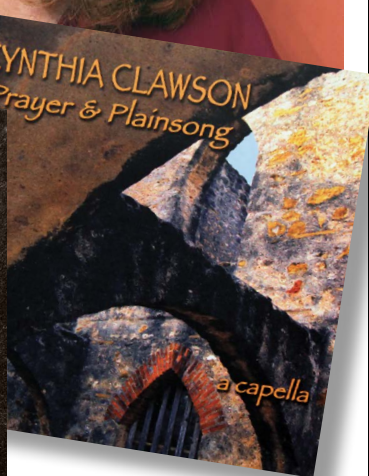


NOBODY SINGS THEM LIKE... Cynthia

The daughter of a country Southern Baptist preacher, today a winner of the 1980 Dove Award. Cynthia has developed a voice so dynamic that old favorites come alive again and new songs have a depth of expression as never experienced. As her producer Buryl Red says, “Cynthia sings from her soul; she will cause you to hear from your heart.”

1980 DOVE AWARD
Female Gospel Vocalist of the Year

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Look for Cynthia’s albums at your Baptist Bookstore





ANNIVERSARY ACCOLADE

I love Howard Payne because the professors' care for their students extends beyond the classroom. They don't simply teach us material for a test but how to apply what we learn to our daily lives.

- Clarissa Toler, senior Bible major from Duncanville



ANNIVERSARY ACCOLADE

The professors and Christ-centered community at Howard Payne encourage and push me to grow both spiritually and academically. They are equipping me to love well and become an efficient minister.

- Daniel Palacios, sophomore practical theology major from Kaufman



PHOTOS BY MATTHEW LESTER

DO WHAT
YOU
Love,
Love WHAT
YOU DO

BY COBY SAUCE, MBA '14

HPU STAFF MEMBERS CELEBRATE MORE THAN 40 YEARS OF SERVICE

Lana Wagner '97, Howard Payne University registrar,
and Bobbie Price, certification coordinator and
graduation assistant, have a simple piece of advice
for graduating seniors entering the workforce: Do
what you love. Wagner and Price, who have each
served the university for more than 40 years, have
certainly followed their own advice. >>>



“ I’VE GROWN FROM THE RELATIONSHIPS I’VE FORMED WITH ALL OF MY COWORKERS THROUGHOUT THE YEARS, BUT THE BIGGEST REWARD IS HELPING STUDENTS ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS.”

- BOBBIE PRICE, LEFT

“ WE’VE HAD OUR UPS AND DOWNS, BUT GOD HAS ALWAYS BLESSED HOWARD PAYNE. IN THE DOWN TIMES, WE’VE ALWAYS COME BACK.”

- LANA WAGNER, RIGHT

“The atmosphere and the people with whom I work are the biggest factors,” said Wagner, describing the reasons she’s stayed with the university for so long.

Wagner has worked at Howard Payne since January 1972, taking two years off when her daughter was born.

“There are very few places of employment where you can live your faith and be open about it,” she said. “Those are the things that have always been a draw for me.”

Price, who started at the university in October of the same year, agrees.

“I’ve grown from the relationships I’ve formed with all of my coworkers throughout the years,” she said, “but the biggest reward is helping students achieve their goals.”

Students have many opportunities throughout their college careers to interact with the Office of the Registrar, as the staff members perform essential tasks from the students’ admittance until the time they cross the stage at Commencement. Among many other roles, Wagner and Price and the rest of the registrar staff assist students with registration, maintain student records, prepare transcripts and play a large part in the university’s Commencement services twice each year.

Wagner and Price take pride in seeing students earn their degrees.

“It’s especially rewarding to see students finish who have struggled along the way,” said Wagner.

Not only have they seen many students come and go since they started in 1972, the staff members have also seen major changes to the university itself.

MORE THAN FORTY YEARS

Lana Wagner and Bobbie Price are the HPU employees with the longest tenure. They’ve each served the university for more than 40 years, during which time 8,483 students graduated from the university (May 1973-December 2014).

“In fact, we were here when Howard Payne became a university,” said Price, noting the date in October 1974 when Howard Payne was upgraded from college to university status.

Price initially worked as an administrative assistant in enrollment services and the registrar’s office, while Wagner began as a loan collection officer in financial aid before moving into her current role.

Since 1972, Howard Payne has seen seven presidents as well as a variety of campus improvements, construction and reorganization. The university has also seen its dark times, such as when Old Main, HPU’s original campus structure, burned in the spring of 1984.

Price’s office was located in Old Main. The late Don Jackson served as university registrar at the time.

“Mr. Jackson called in the wee hours of the morning to tell me Old Main was burning,” she said. “I could look out my kitchen window from my home near Camp Bowie and see the brightness in the sky. Later in the morning we all went to campus and had to regroup ourselves.”

According to Price, the registrar’s files at the time were kept in a vault-like area of the building. Out of all of the many student records kept by the office, only one was left out of the vault that evening and destroyed by the fire. The staff was later able to reconstruct the file.

“We’ve had our ups and downs, but God has always blessed Howard Payne,” said Wagner. “In the down times, we’ve always come back.”

Both ladies say they have grown and changed during their years at HPU.

“I used to be very shy,” said Price. “I was scared of my own shadow. Getting to talk to so many people throughout the day has brought me out of that.”

Price and Wagner both sent their children to HPU and Wagner completed her own degree from the university in 1997 before earning a master’s degree from Tarleton State University.

“Getting my degree here helped me to grow as a person,” said Wagner. “As a student, I was able to interact with the faculty in a new way. It was just an excellent experience for me.”

Wagner and Price are now helping to enroll the children, and maybe even grandchildren, of students who graduated when they first started at Howard Payne. Wagner said the reward for working so many years with the same institution is not solely in the paycheck.

“There are so many other positives of working at Howard Payne,” she said. “We are valued.”

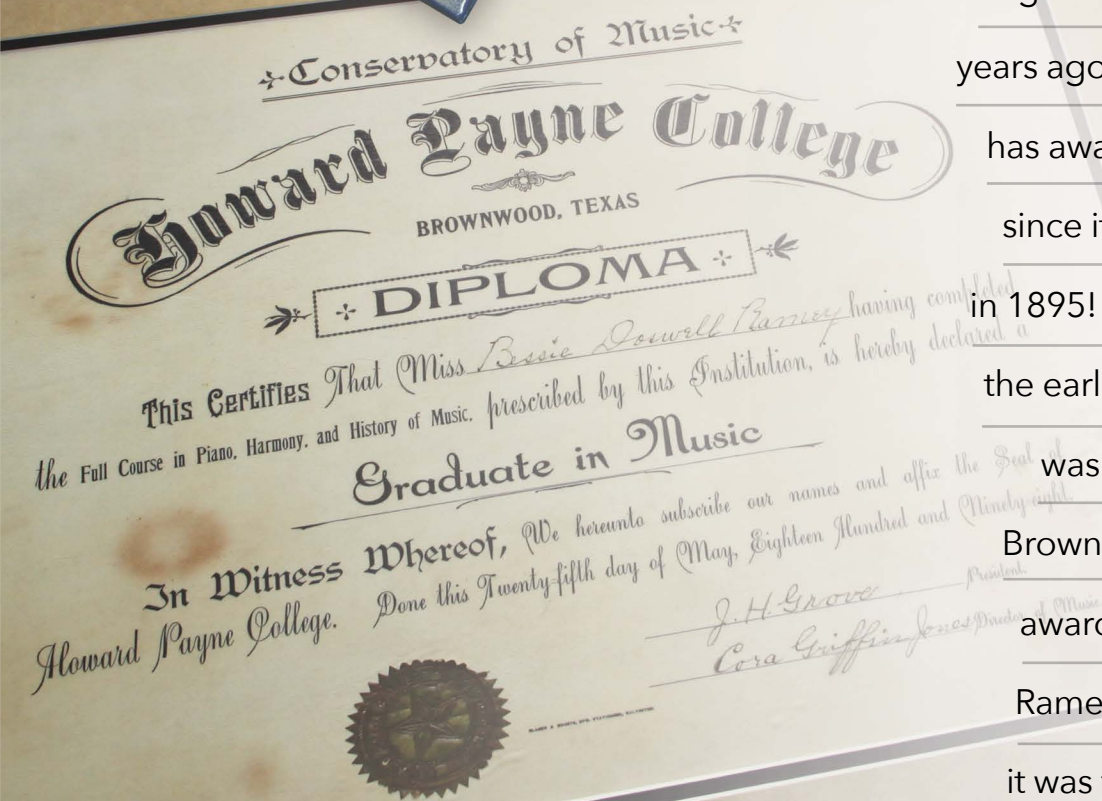
Price said she stays at HPU because she likes working with students.

“I like to try to help them,” she said. “It’s really a blessing to help them earn their degrees.” ■



117- YEAR-OLD TREASURE

The registrar's office has awarded more than 8,000 diplomas since Lana Wagner and Bobbie Price began working at HPU just over 40 years ago. Of course, Howard Payne has awarded many more than that since it graduated its first student in 1895! Amazingly, in 2014, one of the earliest Howard Payne artifacts was discovered in the attic of a Brownwood home. This diploma, awarded to Miss Bessie Doswell Ramey, is dated 1898 - meaning it was from one of Howard Payne College's first graduating classes. HPU would like to thank Derek Kirbo who found the diploma and donated it to the university.





ANNIVERSARY ACCOLADE

I believe Howard Payne University is special because of the extraordinary faculty who provide an educational opportunity that is second to none. Furthermore, I personally am blessed to work alongside the finest group of academic deans that any university anywhere could ever recruit.

- Dr. W. Mark Tew, provost and chief academic officer; professor of New Testament

PHOTO BY MATTHEW LESTER

CELEBRATING 125 YEARS OF HOWARD PAYNE UNIVERSITY

As Howard Payne University celebrates this milestone anniversary, we take a look back at 125 years of “our noble Alma Mater.” The pages that follow are a brief overview of numerous events in HPU’s history and the many people who have formed HPU as we know it.



01



HOMECOMING SNAPSHOTS

Approximately 1,000 visitors made the trek to campus in October to celebrate **Homecoming 2014** and 125 years of HPU. More than 40 events held throughout the weekend paid tribute to HPU's history while also looking forward to great things to come.

02



03



01 Alumni celebrate with former classmates at the Decades Breakfast. Pictured left to right are Leslie (Bailey) Yeakley '83; Randy Yeakley '83, HPU's vice president for development; Lee Rushing '80; and Dale Mize '84. **02** Caitlin Wood, junior (left), and Katie Rose Bonner, senior (right), are crowned Homecoming Princess and Queen, respectively. They are pictured with Robin Scofield '14, 2013 Homecoming Queen. **03** Drs. Bill and Diana Ellis, HPU president and first lady, cheer with the crowd during the Homecoming Parade. **04** Isaac Howell, junior (standing), and Bryce McWhirter, sophomore, entertain audiences during HPU's production of *Suite Surrender*. **05** Gladys Murray '80, NeLexia Galloway '11 and Tomeka Smith stop for a photo during the African-American Alumni Social. **06** Pamela (Caldwell) Kang '98 and son Jason display their HPU spirit. **07** Students and Sodexo staff serve at Cobbler on the Campus. **08** Courtney (Wallace) Schisler '98 embraces Sara Baker, former music faculty member. **09** Jill (Jackson) Landon and Ray Hildebrand - also known as Paul and Paula - perform their hit "Hey Paula" and other songs during Cobbler on the Campus. **10** The Yellow Jacket Marching Band performs during the Homecoming Parade. Pictured in the foreground is Dustin Rollings, senior. **11** Dr. Juan Andrade Jr. '70 (right) presents the Dr. José Rivas Distinguished Service Award to Dr. Manuel Urbina II '62. **12** A large crowd gathers to watch the football game versus Hardin-Simmons University. **13** Dr. Ray '50 and Nancy '48 Ellis serve as Grand Marshals for the Homecoming Parade.

PHOTOS BY THE OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS AND MIKE SCHISLER



04



05



07



06



08



09



10



11



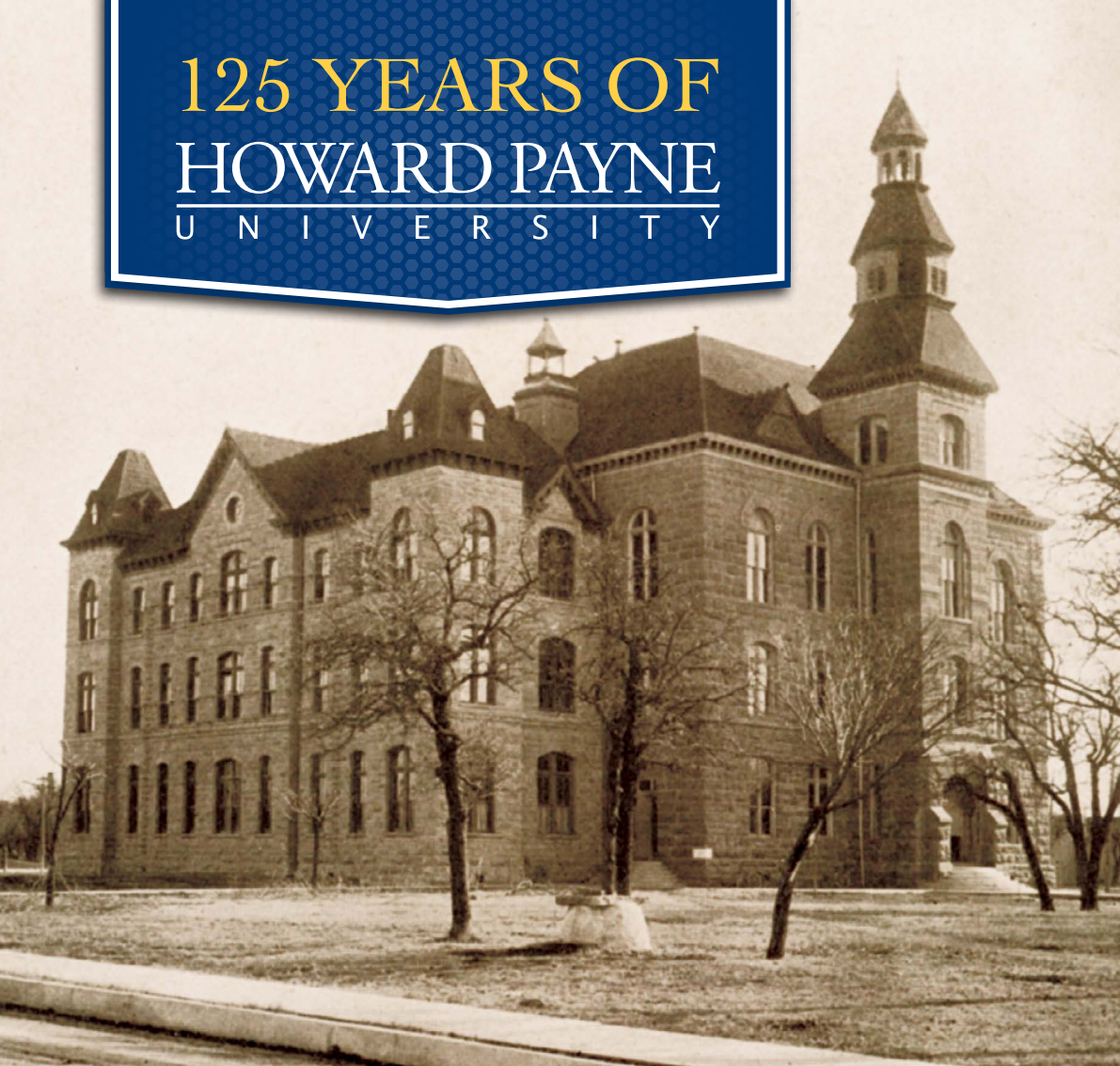
12



13

MARK YOUR CALENDARS
HOMECOMING 2015
OCTOBER 16-18

125 YEARS OF HOWARD PAYNE UNIVERSITY



- First classes held; tuition \$22.50, room and board \$2.50 per week; first classroom/boarding house, Robnett Hall, built (1890)
- First classes held in Old Main (1892), pictured at left
- HPC grants first degree to J.D. Robnett Jr., pictured above, top left, with family in an earlier photo (1895)

1889

The 2014-2015 academic year marks the 125th anniversary of the founding of Howard Payne College. To celebrate, we've compiled a look back at some of the events in HPU and world history.



As you might imagine, space does not permit the inclusion of every person or event in Howard Payne history. We've included a variety of topics and hope you enjoy this overview of 125 years of excellence at Howard Payne University.

1890s

- Italian physicist Guglielmo Marconi develops radio (1895)
- Spanish-American War fought (1898)

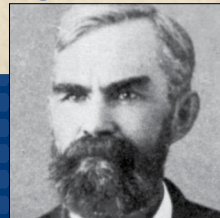
PRESIDENTS

Here is a list of Howard Payne presidents together with their terms.

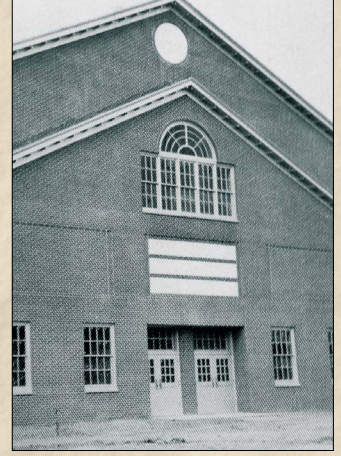
Howard Payne Acting/Interim Presidents and CEO

- John Strother Humphreys (Acting President) **1908-1910**
- Charles A. Stewart (Chief Executive Officer) **1979-1980**
- Russell Dilday (Interim President) **2002-2003**

101



Andrew Jackson Emerson
1890-1893



- HPC produces first student publication, *HP Monthly*; Robnett Hall destroyed by fire (1902)
- HPC begins intercollegiate athletics (1903); pictured is 1907 football team
- New wing on Old Main erected (1907)

- Women's residence Howard Payne Hall, pictured, opens; HPC publishes first *Lasso* yearbook (1912)
- Howard Payne returns from a junior college to a senior college (1914)
- Carrie Camp submits winning entry in contest, establishing "Yellow Jackets" as official HPC nickname (1915)

- Mims Auditorium opens; "H" Pond built; HPC hosts first Baptist Student Union convention (1920)
- HPC defeats Texas A&M on Kyle Field (1922)
- HPC forms Woman's Athletic Association; sports include tennis, horseback riding (pictured) hiking and swimming (1926)

- Campus organizations include Red Heads, composed of redheaded students (1932)
- The *Lasso* staff dedicates annual to Dr. O.E. Winebrenner, dean of men, "a man whose thoughts are ever for the future success of this beloved institution" (1934)
- Jacket Gymnasium, pictured, opens (1939)

1900s

1910s

1920s

1930s

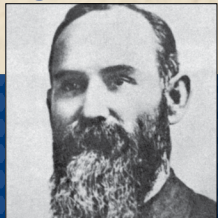
- Devastating hurricane and flood sweep into Galveston (1900)
- Texas sees first significant oil strike at Spindletop (1901)

- *Titanic* sinks into icy North Atlantic (1912)
- Frontiersman/showman William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody dies (1917)
- U.S. fights in World War I (1917-18)

- Charles Lindbergh makes first transatlantic flight (1927)
- Alexander Fleming discovers penicillin (1928)
- Stock market crashes; Great Depression begins (1929)

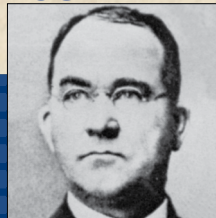
- FDR begins New Deal (1933)
- Congress passes Social Security Act (1935)
- *Gone With The Wind* wins Oscar for Best Picture (1939)

| 02



John D. Robnett
1893-1896

| 03



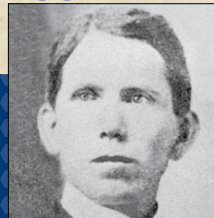
James Harvey Grove
1896-1908

| 04



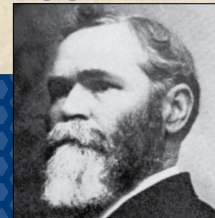
Robert H. Hamilton
1910-1911

| 05



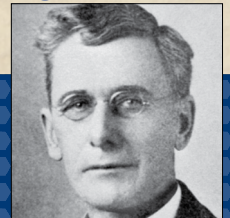
John Strother Humphreys
1911-1913

| 06



James Milton Carroll
1913-1914

| 07



Anderson E. Baten
1915-1917
Vice President and Acting President



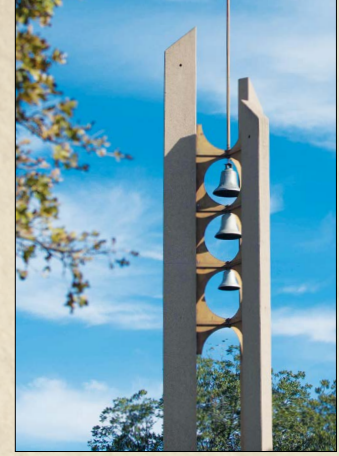
- HPC temporarily halts athletics due to World War II (1943)
- Taylor Hall opens; HPC begins intramural competition with, among others, bowling, ping pong and touch football (1947)
- HPC organizes first boxing team, pictured, five members of which earn titles at regional Golden Gloves tournament in Brownwood (1949)



- Walker Memorial Library opens; Daniel Baker College consolidates with HPC (1953)
- Veda Hodge Hall opens; President Dr. Thomas Taylor retires after 48 years of service; Dr. O.E. Winebrenner retires after 42 years of service (1955)
- HPC awards honorary doctor of laws degree, as pictured, to Lyndon Baines Johnson (1957)



- HPC twirling team Liberty Belles begins first year (1960)
- Winebrenner Hall opens (1962)
- Jennings Hall opens; Paul and Paula (students Ray Hildebrand and Jill Jackson Landon, pictured), on strength of #1 hit "Hey Paula," bump up-and-coming Beatles from live BBC broadcast (1963)



- Heritage Singers brave sub-zero temperatures to sing for U.S. troops near Arctic Circle (1973)
- HPC becomes HPU (1974)
- Newman Hall opens (1976)
- Bell Towers, pictured, dedicated (1978)

1940s

- U.S. fights in World War II (1941-45)
- Jackie Robinson integrates Major League Baseball by becoming first African-American player in modern era (1947)

1950s

- Rosa Parks refuses to move to back of bus in Montgomery, Ala., galvanizing Civil Rights Movement (1955)
- Elvis Presley has first #1 hit with "Heartbreak Hotel" (1956)

1960s

- Green Bay defeats Kansas City in first Super Bowl (1966)
- Neil Armstrong sets foot on moon (1969)

1970s

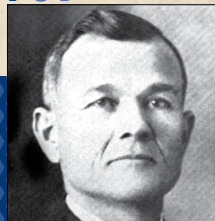
- Twenty-sixth Amendment lowers voting age to 18 (1971)
- Nixon resigns; Hank Aaron breaks Babe Ruth's all-time home run record (1974)

108



Judson
Allen Tolman
1917-1919

109



Lee
Johnston Mims
1919-1922

110



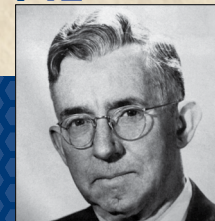
William R.
Hornburg
1922-1923
Vice President and
Acting President

111



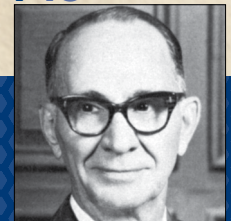
Edgar
Godbold
1923-1929

112

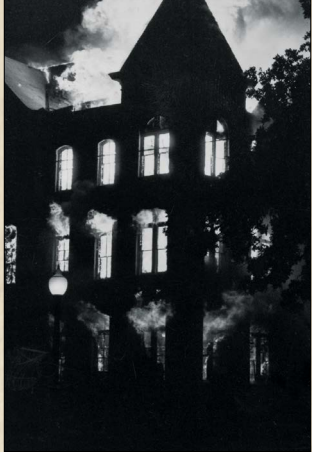


Thomas H.
Taylor
1929-1955

113



Guy D.
Newman
1955-1973



- Jeff Sudderth becomes 10,000th graduate (1981)
- Basketball standout Peggy Taylor becomes HPU's first female All-American (1983)
- Old Main burns, pictured (1984)
- Sid Richardson Hall closes and men move into Jennings Hall, former women's residence hall (1985)

- HPU receives \$1 million grant from Mabee Foundation (1991)
- HPU unveils new mascot Buzzsaw, pictured (1996)
- Dale Meinecke and Christy Crawford receive first Nat Tracy Servant Leadership Awards. Today, both Dr. Dale and Christy (Crawford) Meinecke are HPU staff members (1998)

- Old Main Tower erected in memory of Old Main (2001)
- Women's basketball team (pictured, photo by Derrick Stuckly/*Brownwood Bulletin*) wins NCAA Division III Women's Basketball Championship; HPU launches Currie-Strickland Distinguished Lectures in Christian Ethics (2008)

- HPU hosts "Celebration Week," with inauguration of 19th president, Dr. Bill Ellis, and dedications of renovated Mims Auditorium and Paul and Jane Meyer Faith and Life Leadership Center (2010)
- HPU welcomes largest number of new students, some of whom are pictured, in more than three decades (2013)

1980s

1990s

2000s

2010-

- Post-It Notes and CNN debut (1980)
- EPCOT Center opens at Walt Disney World (1982)
- Berlin Wall torn down (1989)

- Bomb is detonated outside Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, killing 168 people (1995)
- Mother Teresa dies in Calcutta; Princess Diana dies in Paris (1997)

- More than 3,000 people killed in September 11 terrorist attacks (2001)
- Social networking website Facebook launches (2004)

- Apple debuts iPad (2010)
- Space Shuttle *Atlantis* lands at Kennedy Space Center, marking end of space shuttle program (2011)

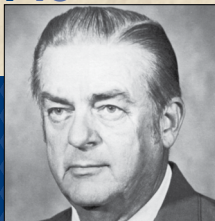
14



Roger L. Brooks

1973-1979

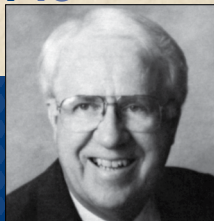
15



Ralph A. Phelps, Jr.

1980-1985

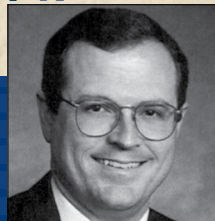
16



Don Newbury

1985-1997

17



Rick Gregory

1997-2002

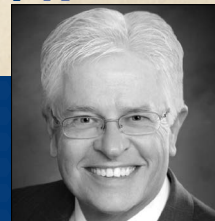
18



Lanny Hall

2003-2009

19



William N. Ellis

2009-

MABEE UNIVERSITY CENTER RENOVATIONS

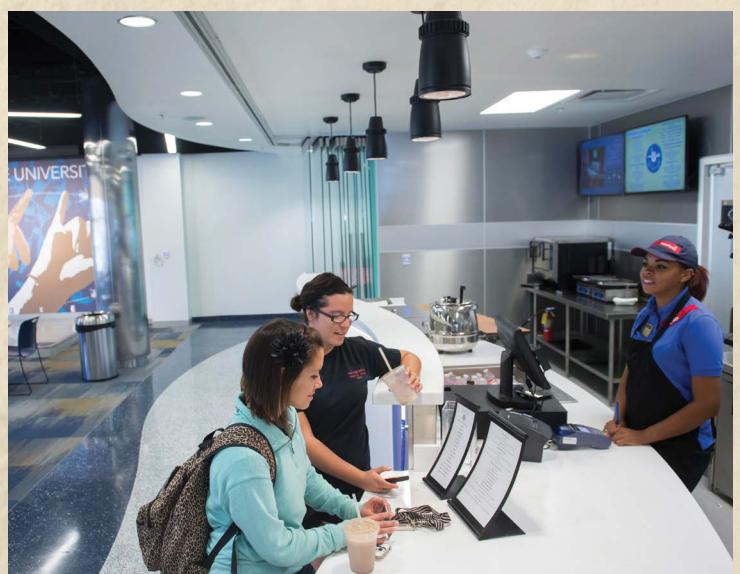


Renovated facility a hub for student activity

A ribbon-cutting ceremony for the newly renovated Mabee University Center was held during Homecoming 2014. Drs. Bill and Diana Ellis (above center), HPU's president and first lady, were joined by representatives of HPU and various businesses involved with the renovations.

SmithGroupJJR of Dallas, one of the nation's largest architecture and engineering firms, was in charge of the re-design. Brownwood's Waldrop Construction handled the building projects. Numerous other vendors provided valuable services.

The HPU community and guests continue to express pleasure with the refreshed spaces. The extensive project included a renovated dining hall, study lounge, social spaces (top right and middle), large eatery and coffee bar (bottom right), enhanced technology, new office suites, expanded campus store, additional conference rooms and improved event rooms.



INTERIOR FACILITY PHOTOS BY MATTHEW LESTER



ANNIVERSARY ACCOLADE

I love how I am not just a number. The support we get from the professors and classmates makes this experience worth every penny.

- Blake Arbogast,
senior exercise and
sport science major
from Burkburnett

Suited to

By Kyle Mize

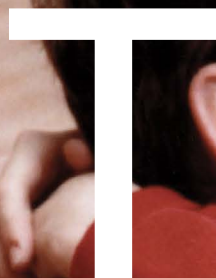
Will '89 and Tracey (Russell) '88 Carrier with their original screen-printing press on display in the Willie's T's showroom

Above right: Will and Tracey as HPU students in the mid-1980s

PHOTO BY MATTHEW LESTER




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T



AT HPU, WILL AND TRACEY CARRIER FOUND A PERFECT MATCH



When Will Carrier and Tracey Russell chose Howard Payne University as students in the mid-1980s, even more than a college education awaited them. They soon found each other. They also forged friendships that would be instrumental in the creation of a business that is now celebrating its 25th anniversary.

In 1985, Will was a freshman from Mission, Texas. Tracey was a sophomore from Bismarck, North Dakota. She noticed his attention in the algebra class they shared. Their friendship grew and, a few months later, they went on their first date together.

“I was head over heels,” Will says. “She wasn’t. I chased her until she finally got tired and gave up.”

“I’m glad I did,” Tracey adds, laughing. “It’s been good.”

Tracey finished work for her degree in December 1988 and the two then married. Will completed his coursework the next semester and, in May 1989, they crossed the stage at HPU’s Commencement.

After graduating, they decided to make the local area their home. Tracey worked at a doctor’s office and Will directed a church activity program. The need for screen-printed t-shirts for an event gave the entrepreneurially minded Will a vision for the future. After producing a batch of t-shirts using a one-color screen in his church’s activity center and seeing a ready, local market for this type of enterprise, Will decided to start his own business.

In February 1990, Will and two HPU friends – Joe Baucom ’93 and Brad Wardlow ’92 – used Brad’s 1981 Honda Accord as collateral for a \$1,500 loan, bought a four-color, manual screen-printing press and established Willie’s T’s. The company’s original location was the second bedroom in Will and Tracey’s first house. HPU’s Delta Chi Rho was their first customer.

“That first order was a nightmare,” Will says, recalling the challenges they faced as novices in printing what was then a complex design.

“I folded them all!” Tracey remembers. “There were probably 60! You don’t fold them all, you pack them in twelves, but we didn’t know that.”

Though Joe and Brad left the company for other career opportunities, Will and Tracey continued. Additional early support came from investments by Will’s parents and his brother. Through the years, Willie’s T’s has grown steadily from one location to the next, recently expanding its current facility to 15,000 square feet. As services grew from screen-printing to embroidery, signs and vehicle wraps, more and more orders have been received from across the U.S. The company now has 5,100 active customers, with one as far away as Germany.

Though they ship products in every direction, the Carriers are glad to still call the Brownwood and Early area their home. Here is where they’ve raised their two children, Hunter and Beth, and here is where they’ve seen the Lord grow their marriage as well as their business, one step at a time.

The Carriers also look back fondly at their days as HPU students. They enjoyed the sense of community and continue to keep in contact with many of their friends from those days.

HPU named the Carriers the Outstanding Young Graduates at HPU’s Homecoming in 1996. Will and Tracey have supported HPU through the years and attribute much of their success to their alma mater.

“Howard Payne shaped us to do this,” Tracey says. “It shaped us to be good marriage partners.”

“You ask about Howard Payne,” Will says. “To me, it’s integrity, character and caring for people.” ■



GOOD SPORT

Sportsmanship

is central

to Samantha

Guerrero's

success



“My favorite parts of playing tennis for Howard Payne University were the memories I made and the people I met,” said Samantha Guerrero, a December 2014 graduate from Big Lake.

In exchange for the many experiences that helped shape who she is as a person, Guerrero leaves her own legacy at HPU. She made school history in June 2014 when she was named HPU’s first female student-athlete to receive the American Southwest Conference’s Fred Jacoby Sportsmanship Award.

According to the ASC, the award honors a male and a female student-athlete from the conference who best display the attributes of sportsmanship, leadership, citizenship and academic integrity in athletic, academic and life pursuits.

Guerrero said that good sportsmanship is the only part of a sport that a player can really control.

“You have wins and losses, but I honestly believe people will remember who you were as a person more than they will remember your record,” she said. “I

am a Christian competitor and a firm believer that each time I play I should take full advantage of the abilities with which God has blessed me, remember with each point for Whom I am playing and, in the end, whether I win or lose, show good sportsmanship and integrity so that all the glory can be given to Him.”

Several favorite HPU memories stand out in Guerrero’s mind, including traveling to a tournament in Orlando, Fla., in 2012 and winning an intense match the same year against Hardin-Simmons University. In the last match of the day, Guerrero defeated an HSU player to clinch the 5-4 victory for HPU and secure their spot in the ASC tournament. It marked the Lady Jackets’ first win over HSU in more than 15 years.

Guerrero graduated in December with a degree in English and a minor in biology. Sally Brown, HPU’s head tennis coach, said it was an honor to coach her the past four years.

“Samantha was always one of the players who gave 110 percent anytime she was on the court, whether it was in practice or in competition,” Brown said. “She always displayed the attitude and actions you expect from a player. She was always competitive and also very respectful of her opponents on the court. She always had a smile on

her face and is just a great all-around girl. She is very deserving of this award.”

Guerrero was lauded for a number of additional athletic and academic achievements during her time at HPU. In 2013, she was an honorable mention All-West Division honoree and second-team All-West Division honoree in 2012. She was also a three-time Academic All-Conference honoree.

“I am an extremely competitive and dedicated athlete and I loved having coaches who encouraged that and brought out more and more in me each day at practice,” said Guerrero.

Tennis has been a part of her life for many years.

“I officially started playing in seventh grade, but my dad played as well so I pretty much grew up with a racket in my hand,” she said. “I heard about HPU through a friend and was really interested in being able to play tennis collegiately and become an HPU cheerleader.”

At HPU, she found many opportunities for spiritual growth and community outreach. She was a member of the Delta Chi Rho sorority and mentored at the juvenile detention center in Brownwood. She also served as director of student

intramurals at HPU and taught dance/cheer classes at Brownwood’s Boys & Girls Club three times each week.

Guerrero plans to teach and coach at the high school level before becoming a college professor. She would also like to use her minor in biology to obtain an internship with a zoo and work her way into that field in a few years.

No matter where life takes her, she will always remember the people at HPU.

“I absolutely love the athletes and coaching staff at HPU,” said Guerrero. “Everyone gives their all and pushes each other to be better. Each sport is so supportive of one another. I have never been a part of a bigger or better family than this team of HPU athletes and coaches.” ●

“She always displayed the attitude and actions you expect from a player.”

- Sally Brown



By Coby Sauce,
MBA '14, with
reporting by
Abram Choate '98

a call to
SEND

HPU's capital campaign
to construct the first
new buildings on
campus in more than a
decade and strengthen
endowment

CAMPAIGN GRAPHICS BY PETERSON RAY & COMPANY • ARCHITECTURAL RENDERINGS BY SMITHGROUPJJR

A CALL TO SEND – A CAMPAIGN FOR NEW FACILITIES AND ENDOWMENT

Since 1889, the history of Howard Payne University has followed the theme of “*A Call to Send*.” Howard Payne was first established by Baptist church leaders who felt the need to educate young men and women in the Heart of Texas and to send them into the world. We help students as they seek quality education and strengthen their faith so that they may serve their communities, lead lives based on faith and follow their Christian compass. We send students into the world to serve with a quality education and a lifelong compass for Christian living.

– Dr. William Ellis, president

The Howard Payne University Board of Trustees embarked on the *A Call to Send* campaign after extensive research and prayerful discussion. A Donor Assessment Study, determining the feasibility of a campaign at this time, was completed in June 2011 by 1-2-1 Philanthropic Services of Las Vegas, Nevada, a fundraising consulting firm.

Interviewees, representing alumni, friends and faculty/staff overwhelmingly believe that the time is now for Howard Payne University to move ahead with this campaign as it fulfills both the university’s long-range plan and short-term needs.

RAISING \$18 MILLION TO BUILD STATE-OF-THE-ART FACILITIES AND STRENGTHEN THE UNIVERSITY’S ENDOWMENT

Welcome Center with Guy D. Newman Honors Academy wing (\$9.8 million):

HPU’s Welcome Center will provide an inviting “entry-way” to campus from Austin Avenue and Center Avenue, located on the site where the beloved original Old Main building once stood. This facility will serve as a focal point of the campus where visitors, alumni, prospective students and parents are greeted. This building, totaling 26,964 square feet, will house offices for admissions and enrollment services, the Guy D. Newman Honors Academy wing with classrooms and offices, the president’s office suite, a gallery to exhibit historic memorabilia and artifacts, a mini-theater for group orientations, development offices, and meeting rooms for special events and receptions.

Education Building (\$5 million):

Howard Payne has a strong heritage of preparing teachers who serve as Christian role models in both public and accredited private schools. Additionally, HPU’s Master of Education in Instructional Leadership program prepares students to become certified principals in Texas.

The new Education Building will centralize the School of Education faculty and students, currently located in Newman Hall, back on the main campus and better prepare the students to use the modern teaching tools that they will encounter in their future classrooms.

Consisting of 14,842 square feet, this building will be located along Main Street in the northwestern part of campus on the south side of the Thompson Academic Complex. It will house classrooms, a technology/computer lab, a model elementary classroom, a tutoring center and offices.

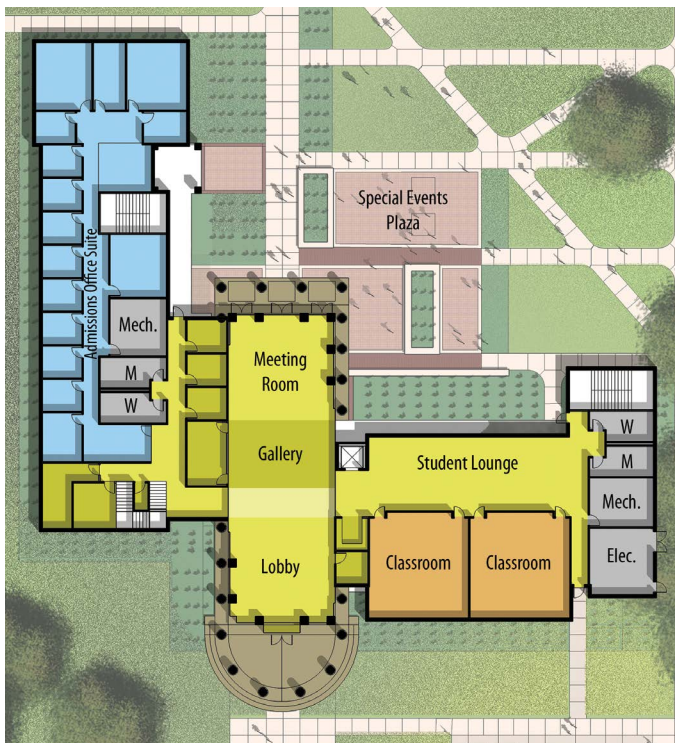
Endowment and Scholarships (\$3.2 million):

A strong endowment at Howard Payne University is necessary to provide a financial base that will sustain the university’s mission for generations to come. The university will raise \$3.2 million to grow the current endowment to more than \$50 million.

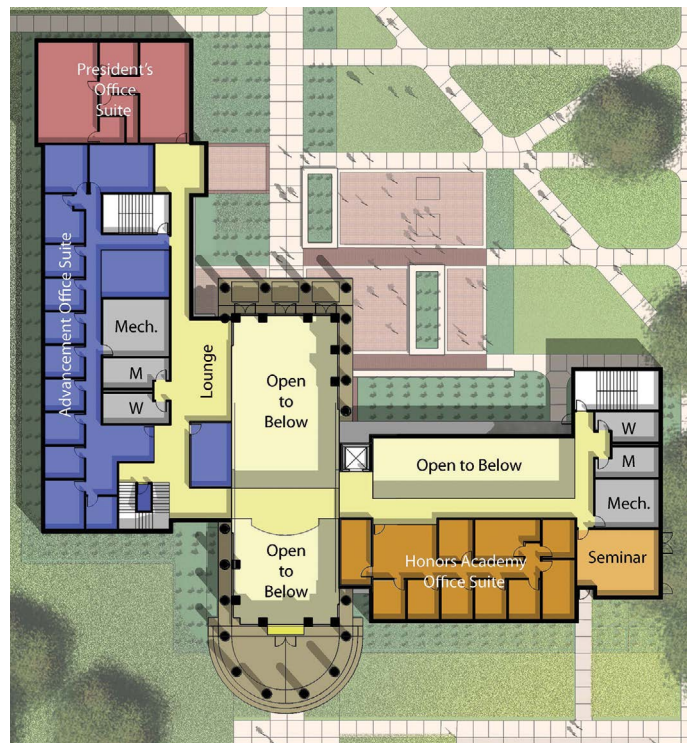
WELCOME CENTER WITH GUY D. NEWMAN HONORS ACADEMY WING



Architectural rendering of the view from the corner of Austin and Center Avenues, with Mims Auditorium and the Paul and Jane Meyer Faith and Life Leadership Center to the right



Plan for the first floor

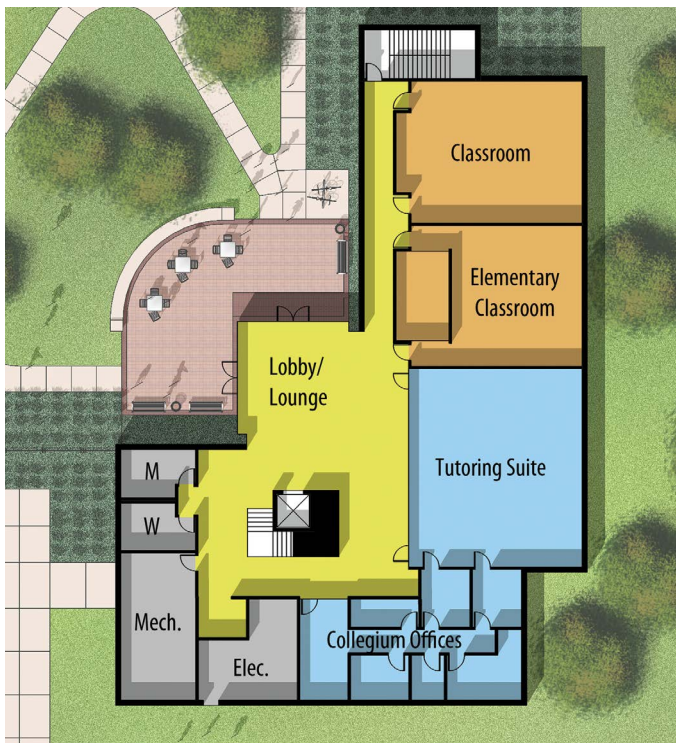


Plan for the second floor

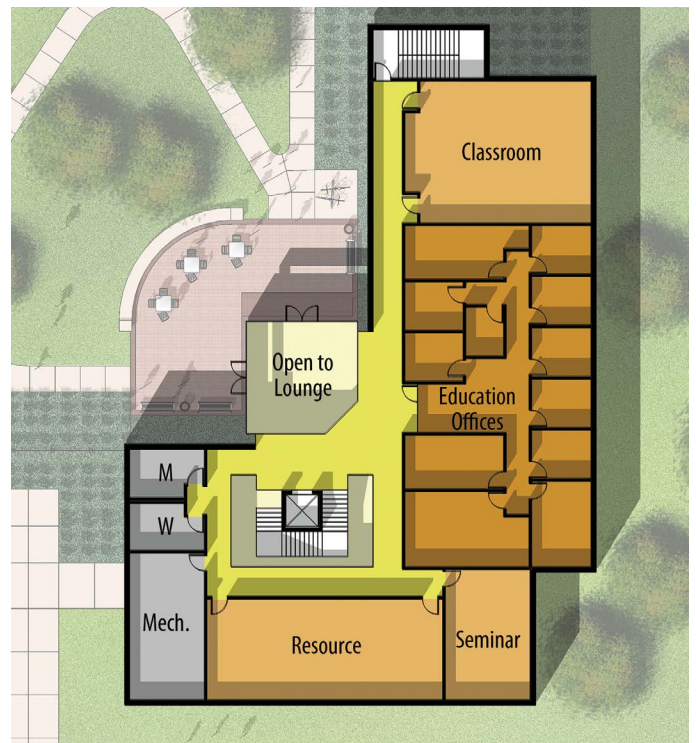
EDUCATION BUILDING



Architectural rendering of the view from the drive between the Wilson Walkway and Clark Street, with the Thompson Academic Complex to the right



Plan for the first floor



Plan for the second floor

ENDOWMENT

Key areas that need philanthropic support through our endowment include:

- school endowments;
- departmental endowments;
- deans' chairs;
- faculty chairs;
- professorships;
- speaker series;
- professional development programs;
- student/faculty travel programs;
- student academic support programs;
- honors programs; and
- scholarships and other financial aid.

WAYS TO GIVE

Donor naming opportunities are available in each building. Contributions may be made to Howard Payne University for the *A Call to Send* campaign with cash, credit cards, securities, personal property, retirement fund distributions, life insurance or bequests. Gifts can be "one time" or given regularly for a period of time. The table below shows the impact of relatively small gifts given regularly over time:

MONTHLY DONATIONS	ANNUAL DONATION	YEARS	TOTAL FOR 3 YEARS
\$25	\$300	3	\$900
\$50	\$600	3	\$1,800
\$100	\$1,200	3	\$3,600
\$150	\$1,800	3	\$5,400

COMMENTS FROM THE CAMPAIGN CO-CHAIRS

Growing up in Brownwood, I've seen firsthand what Howard Payne has meant to our community. Whether it be the economic impact, wonderful music and theatre, athletics or the sheer joy of being around the students, there is no doubt our lives are richer as a result of HPU. It has been my privilege to see how this special place has enriched the lives of so many. I am grateful to be a part of a community that has a university that sends young people, transformed by their time at Howard Payne, into the world to make it better.

– Dr. Leonard Underwood

The future of Howard Payne grows brighter by the year as graduates are sent out into Texas, the nation and the world to pursue their goals. With a very solid foundation in Christian principles, alumni leave Howard Payne to practice in medicine, law, ministry, teaching, administration and business. High acceptance rates in first-choice, first-rate graduate schools and professional schools enable our alumni to continue to develop their leadership skills to lead Christ-centered lives. Each of their individual ministries will be meaningful in changing the world for the better.

– Dr. Walter C. "Dub" Wilson



a call to
SEND

FOR MORE INFORMATION

*To learn more about the campaign and how you can take part,
please contact:*

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If you are interested in making a gift to **HPU's Annual Fund** or other initiatives,
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For your convenience, an envelope with a reply form is enclosed in this magazine.



ANNIVERSARY ACCOLADE

Not only is HPU one of the best universities for students to receive a quality education with a Christian influence, it offers graduates a pathway of opportunities for success throughout their entire lives. Once a Jacket, always a Jacket. Sting 'em!

- Carter Sharpe,
Smith and Sharpe
Agencies and
first vice chair of HPU's
Board of Trustees





ANNIVERSARY ACCOLADE

My association with this wonderful university spanned 26 years as a staff member. During that time I finished my education by attending night school and was mentored by many, including retirees. My days were filled with great excitement for the vision of HPU, and that enthusiasm has not diminished with retirement.

- Betty Broome '95, retired executive assistant to the president (emeritus), secretary of the Retired Employees Association and volunteer coordinator of the HPU Food Pantry

Like **One Big** Family

STORY BY COBY SAUCE, MBA '14

**Bertha Valle '09
helps HPU El Paso
students feel at home**

**Bertha Valle
with Alma
Veronica
Castañeda,
a student
pursuing a
degree in
business
administration**

After nearly two decades with Howard Payne University's El Paso Center, Bertha Valle says she remembers every student who has graduated from the center since she joined the HPU family.

"Give me a name and I can tell you if he or she was a student here," says Valle, who serves as the center's office manager.

This is no small task. As of May 2014, 182 students have graduated from the El Paso Center.

"I could go through the names and tell you a little about each student," she says. "They are all like my children!"

In fact, according to Valle the entire El Paso Center is like a close-knit family.

"We even know the families of many of our students," she says. "I have made good friends with some students and still keep in touch with many graduates."

Valle has many administrative duties as office manager and has assisted in a number of operations for the center including academic advising, enrollment, financial aid counseling and event coordinating. Within the past two years, Erick Jimenez, admission counselor, and Dr. Adrian Gil, El Paso Center director and associate professor of business, have joined Valle and the center's faculty.

Together, they work hard to fight the center's image of being the "best-kept secret in El Paso."

"We became members of the Chamber of Commerce which has given us the opportunity to make connections within the community," says Valle.

The center was also recently invited to offer courses on post at Fort Bliss.

"I am excited about this new challenge," Valle says. "We are so blessed to be the only Christian university on post."

Though not all students are Christians when they arrive on campus, Valle says she is confident in the work the center is doing in their lives.

"All HPU students must take Introduction to the Old Testament and Introduction to the New Testament," she says. "I have seen students enjoy reading the Bible for the first time in their lives."

Not only does Valle extol the virtues of HPU's El Paso Center to others, she received her own degree from the university in 2009.

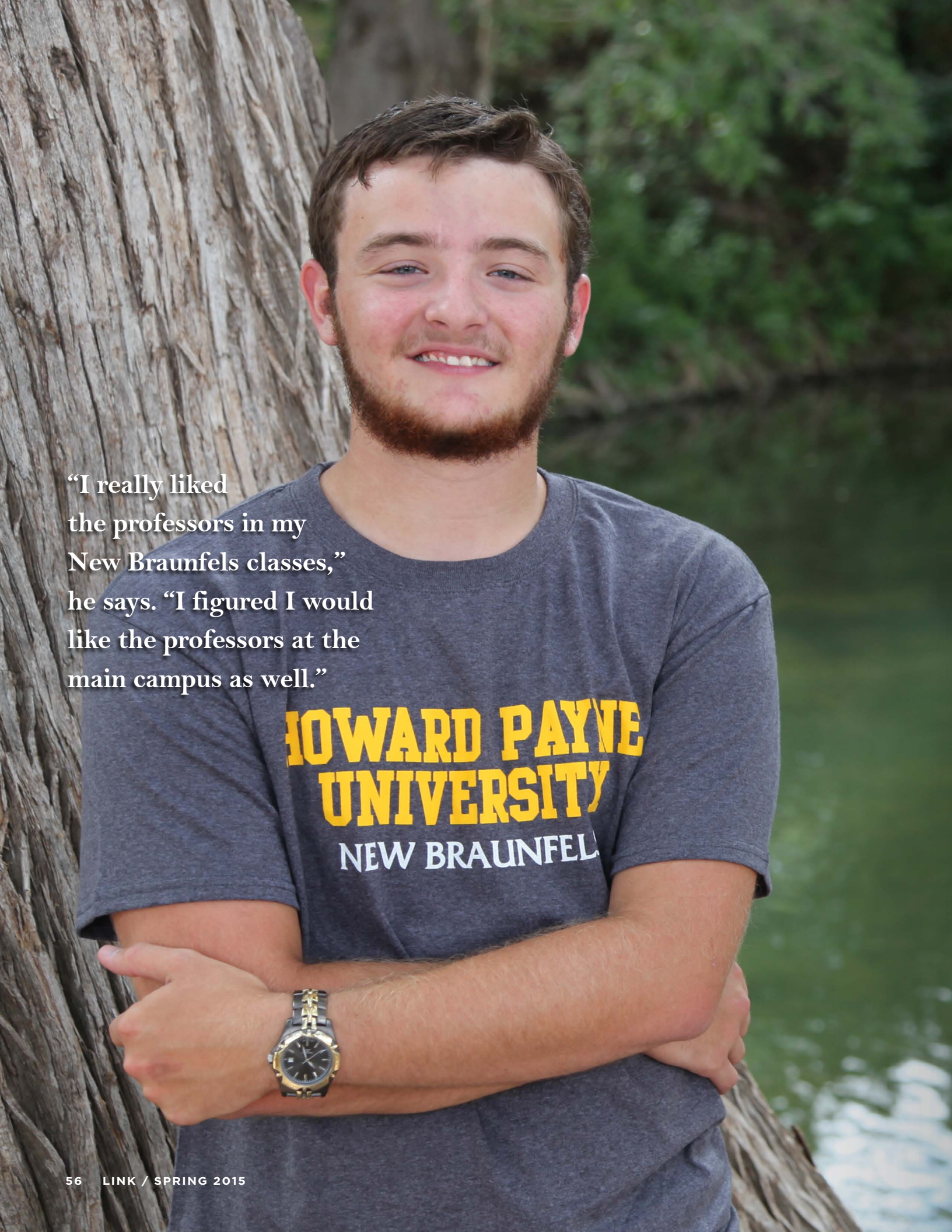
"I was already working at HPU when I decided to pursue a degree," she said. "I was motivated by seeing other adults coming back to school. At that time, I only had six credits to transfer from a community college. It took me eight years to finish a Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences degree in business management. At the same time, I pursued and transferred a minor from The University of Texas at El Paso in translation and interpretation studies."

A native of Juarez, Mexico, Valle has been married for 37 years. She and her husband, Eduardo, have two married daughters – Ana and Martha – and three grandsons. Ana, her oldest daughter, is a 2000 HPU graduate.

Throughout her studies and her career, Valle says God has been good to HPU's El Paso Center.

"Many times, we have students who come to us requesting that we pray for them when they are facing difficult times," she says. "We pray with them and help them feel like they are not alone. I strongly believe HPU's El Paso Center is making a difference in the lives of many students." ■

"I could go through the names and tell you a little about each student," she says. "They are all like my children!"



“I really liked the professors in my New Braunfels classes,” he says. “I figured I would like the professors at the main campus as well.”

Slightly More Familiar

STORY BY JACLYN BONNER,
HPU SOPHOMORE

HPU New Braunfels student enjoying transition to main campus

Each year, Howard Payne University welcomes a few hundred new faces. Many of these new Yellow Jackets will participate in a weeklong orientation called Jacket Journey, during which they will walk through the Wilson Gate as new members of the HPU community, learn the alma mater for the first time and raise their “stinger” fingers high as new students of Howard Payne. However, this fall the university welcomed a student slightly more familiar with the HPU way of life.

Ryan Weeks, a native of Kyle, is a freshman double-majoring in psychology and the Guy D. Newman Honors Academy. In addition to his homeschool education, Weeks attended HPU’s New Braunfels Center as a dual-credit student both semesters of his senior year of high school.

Weeks says he greatly benefited from the faculty at the New Braunfels Center and enjoyed classes in which he enrolled during his senior year. He specifically loved his U.S. History to 1865 course, as the professor, Dr. Charles Grear, enlivened the historical accounts with vibrant stories.

He reflects on his experiences as a HPU student thus far, remarking, “Howard Payne is a great school, the faculty are wonderful and they really seem to care about the students and their academic and non-academic progress.”

Weeks’ positive experience at the New Braunfels extension center motivated him to explore the main campus in Brownwood.

“I really liked the professors in my New Braunfels classes,” he says. “I figured I would like the professors at the main campus as well.”

Weeks’ admiration for the faculty at the New Braunfels Center is returned. Dr. Dale Meinecke ’98, assistant vice president for external affairs, shares his impression of Weeks.

“Ryan is an outstanding young man and very bright,” he says. “We were thrilled to have Ryan and his younger brother, Collin, take dual-credit classes with us at the New Braunfels Center. Ryan and Collin are from a great family who love and serve the Lord. It was very exciting when Ryan told us he wanted to visit the main campus. He is a great fit with HPU and we pray the best for his success as a student.”

Weeks was enamored with the main campus when he visited HPU during Yellow Jacket Monday, a preview event for prospective students. He toured the campus, discovering he was comfortable with the size, satisfied with the friendly environment fostered by students and faculty and pleased with the Christian background and foundational principles of the university.

Weeks is academically gifted and had the ability to be accepted into numerous institutions. However, he states that he only felt compelled to apply to the university where God directed him – Howard Payne. Although he is attending HPU on a full-tuition academic scholarship, God and the validation he received from Him were the necessary confirmations for his attendance.

In addition to a history of academic success, Weeks also values campus life and extracurricular involvement. Christy (Crawford) Meinecke ’98, graduate admission counselor and office manager for the New Braunfels Center, happily notes his involvement at the New Braunfels Center.

“After enrolling in classes as a dual-credit student at HPU’s New Braunfels Center in the fall of 2013,” she says, “Ryan was always willing to serve the university by assisting with preview events and even helped represent the center at the Comal County Fair Parade.”

After achieving his degrees in psychology and the Guy D. Newman Honors Academy, he plans to become a U.S. senator. After praying and seeking God for his career path, Weeks says he was inspired to become involved with the U.S. government at the federal level. Weeks has a vision of mediating between parties and fostering communication in Congress. Although he is unsure of the road between graduation and his senatorial run, Weeks is confident HPU is a viable avenue toward meeting his goals.

Though only a freshman, this Howard Payne student has been a success already, thriving in the HPU environment and excelling wonderfully.

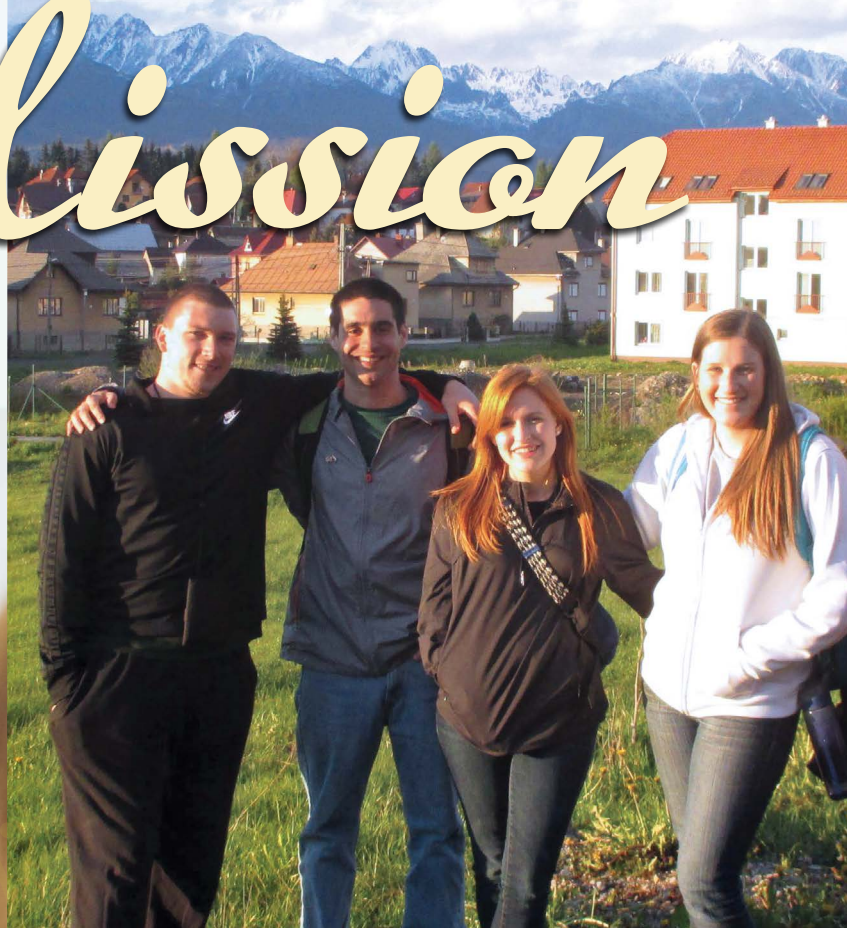
As Christy Meinecke states, “From his character and love for the Lord to his commitment to academic excellence, Ryan is the kind of student who makes HPU proud!” ■

JOINING GOD'S

BY CHANDLER CONDRA,
HPU SENIOR

Dr. Melody Maxwell's applied teaching style leads students to new frontiers

Mission



"I love getting students involved in learning," says Dr. Melody Maxwell, assistant professor of Christian studies at Howard Payne University. "Discussion, role play, case studies, technology, music, art – you'll find all these in my courses because I believe strongly that the more students personally interact with the subject matter, the greater their learning will be."

Dr. Maxwell's belief in bringing a fun and interactive learning environment with hands-on assignments has been impacting her classrooms since her arrival at HPU in August 2013.

"That summer I learned about the faculty position available at HPU, and I was excited to discover that the job description aligned closely with my training and strengths," she says.

After graduating from Union University in Jackson, Tenn., with a bachelor's degree in Christian studies,

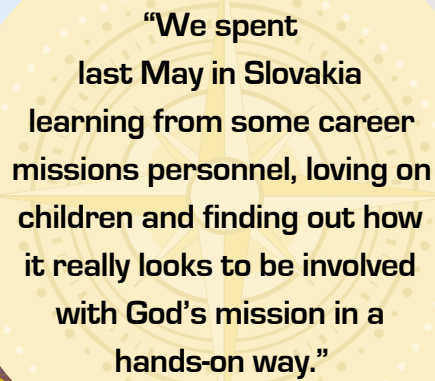
Dr. Maxwell went on to earn a Master of Divinity degree from Beeson Divinity School in Birmingham, Ala., and a doctoral degree from the International Baptist Theological Seminary in the Czech Republic. She has gained classroom or field experience in more than 35 countries around the world but says she could not be more excited to be where she is now.

"I earned a Christian studies degree from a university that is similar to Howard Payne," says Dr. Maxwell.

"I am excited to be able to teach in a similar environment with the possibility of giving back even a small portion of what my professors invested in me."

Dr. Maxwell teaches courses in cross-cultural studies as well as introductory-level New Testament and Old Testament classes.

"It's so much fun to get to explore cross-cultural principles with students and then put them into practice each spring through a trip with our International Missions Practicum



“We spent last May in Slovakia learning from some career missions personnel, loving on children and finding out how it really looks to be involved with God’s mission in a hands-on way.”



course,” she says. “I also enjoy getting to know a wide range of HPU students, not just Christian studies majors, in my introductory classes.”

In the cross-cultural studies program, students are encouraged to grow in all facets of life from spiritual to academic. Dr. Maxwell puts personal and professional emphasis on the need to have students “doing” as well as watching and learning. The program also requires unique involvement in service opportunities around the world.

“She makes us think outside of the box,” says Kelsan Wolverton, a junior cross-cultural studies major at HPU. “Dr. Maxwell brings real-world experience to expose us to our misconceived assumptions about other cultures.”

HPU makes available to students a variety of cross-cultural experiences. Students may serve and learn in locations from Texas cities to countries around the world. Dr. Maxwell led one such trip in 2014.

“We spent last May in Slovakia learning from some career missions personnel, loving on children and finding out how it really looks to be involved with God’s mission in a hands-on way,” she says. “The students come back transformed because of what God is doing around the world.”

Although she is one of HPU’s newest faculty members, Dr. Maxwell has already made a powerful impact locally with her colleagues.

“In a short year and a half, Dr.

Maxwell has become a very significant part of the Christian studies team,” says Dr. Donnie Auvenshine ’75, dean of the School of Christian Studies. “She is part of a wide network of people committed to and involved in cross-cultural ministry worldwide. We are very grateful that the Lord brought Dr. Maxwell to HPU.”

Despite her successes academically and professionally, Dr. Maxwell keeps her eyes on the true goal. She sees her and her students’ opportunities to share the Gospel as a God-given blessing.

“We’re not going out to be amazing heroes who save the world,” she says. “God is on a mission and we are honored to have the privilege of joining that mission.” ■



Serving GOD by Serving Others

Xavier McFalls leads ministry to athletes

BY COBY SAUCE, MBA '14

During his freshman year at Howard Payne University, Xavier McFalls stood before his football teammates and told them something that perhaps few young men have the courage to say to one another.

“I told them I love them and God loves them,” he said. “It was definitely intimidating. My knees were shaking, but I think it was important for them to hear that.”

McFalls was a fairly new Christian at the time but felt God encouraging him to speak out about his new-found faith. Now a junior, he continues to answer the call by leading the athlete discipleship ministry through HPU’s Baptist Student Ministry.

McFalls gets to know student-athletes from all sports and helps them get involved in Bible studies, worship services and other various events on campus. He also leads devotionals and helps disciple younger players to become spiritual leaders on their teams.

“I help them learn how to play as Christian athletes and how to ask themselves if they’re glorifying God through their actions,” McFalls said.

Discipleship is important to McFalls, as he spent a lot of time around godly mentors in his hometown of Amarillo. These individuals helped him see the importance of surrounding himself with good Christian influences.

“I wanted to know more and more about God and I wanted to go to a Christian university,” he said.

He learned about HPU through recruiting letters from the football program and scheduled a campus visit.

“It felt like home,” he said. “I knew that I belonged here.”

He entered the university in the fall of 2012 as an exercise and sport science major. That semester, through the

encouragement of Christian influences at HPU, he made a public profession of faith in Jesus Christ during Encounter Week, the university’s fall revival.

He sought new ways to grow in his service to Christ. At HPU, McFalls is involved with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and is an intern with the college ministry at Brownwood’s Coggin Avenue Baptist Church. He also regularly hosts a Bible study in his apartment on campus.

McFalls has had the opportunity to participate in several mission trips during his time at HPU. For the past two years during Spring Break, he has traveled with a team from HPU to take part in the annual Beach Reach ministry at South Padre Island. He has also participated in two mission trips through Texas Baptists’ Go Now Missions and recently traveled to Alaska for a mission experience with his church.

Keith Platte, director of HPU’s BSM, has known McFalls for two years.

“Xavier is one of the leading examples on campus of how to be a follower of Jesus,” Platte said. “He has a fervor for service, a burden for those who do not have faith in Jesus Christ and a willing attitude.”

Though the idea of being so outspoken among his peers was originally daunt-

ing, McFalls said he’s had a good response.

“They respect me because I understand them,” he said. “I spend time with them, live life with them and love them where they are in their lives.”

Platte said that McFalls is a good example to other believers because of his authenticity and faithfulness.

“When he is asked to share his faith, he makes no excuses,” Platte said. “He does it because he sees the need, and because God calls him to obedience in that.” ■

“Xavier is one of the leading examples on campus of how to be a follower of Jesus. He has a fervor for service, a burden for those who do not have faith in Jesus Christ and a willing attitude.”

Kingdom BUSINESS

Howard Payne University graduate
applies business principles to the mission field

Due to security issues involved with his work, the graduate's name has been changed.

By Coby Sauce, MBA '14

John was, by all appearances, an average college student during his time at Howard Payne University. He studied political science in the university's Guy D. Newman Honors Academy and minored in business. He competed on academic teams and made good grades. Upon receiving his undergraduate degree, he even enrolled in HPU's Master of Business Administration program. >>>

Illustrations by Fernando Hernandez



“ The best business principles are founded upon Christian values,” said Dr. Les Plagens, dean of HPU’s School of Business. ”



He never really felt at home in the Western world, however.

"I'm just a bit more suited to the jungle," John said, laughing.

The young missionary works in several countries around the world, using the concepts he learned during his undergraduate and graduate careers at HPU combined with an intense love for God and His people.

An advanced degree in business, it turns out, is quite useful in preaching the Gospel to the nations.

"The best business principles are founded upon Christian values," said Dr. Les Plagens, dean of HPU's School of Business. "All organizations, including businesses and ministries, strive to grow by increasing their reach and service to others."

Like John, several graduates from the university have used their business skills as an entryway into some of the most impoverished regions of the world.

"If you take the principles of business and merge them with Christian values, you can go into developing countries and really bring lasting change," John said.

When he was 16, John went on his first mission trip to Africa. He traveled back several times throughout high school, interspersed with trips to Asia and Mexico.

"When I graduated from high school, I immediately went into South Sudan to help plant a church," he said. "I really witnessed the power of the Lord and saw Him do amazing things."

At that point, John said, he knew he was called to a life

of serving God and others through missions.

“My plan was to move straight to Sudan and keep planting churches, but when I came back to America to visit my family, I knew I needed to go back to school,” he said. “I really didn’t want to do that. I didn’t feel like my place was in the Western world. But I knew I needed to continue my education.”

After receiving scholarships to several different universities, John chose to attend HPU where he was able to connect with faculty, staff and other students who have a vision for ministry and for preaching the Gospel.

Through HPU’s School of Business, John bonded with Dr. Lois Patton, professor of business administration, and the late Dr. Mark Patton, who also served as professor of business administration. Dr. Lois Patton directs HPU’s MBA program.

Thanks to a supportive dean and administration, she said, HPU crafted an MBA degree unlike any other in the area.

“Our program encourages students to use their God-given gifts and apply them to their research,” she said.

John was inspired by the Pattons to pursue the best that he could for the Kingdom and to take the principles he was learning in business classes and apply them in his work for the Lord.

The Pattons, he said, gave freely of their time and of themselves.

“HPU has something that bigger universities do not,” John said. “It has something I’ve never encountered anywhere else in the world. And it’s because of people like the Pattons. HPU was built by people like them.”

John and his wife recently moved to Mexico, where they plan to continue planting churches and training missionaries.

“We will give Americans and other internationals in the country an intensive three-month immersion into Latin American culture,” he said. “They will learn the language and what it really means to be missionaries.”

John said he admires and respects the men and women of

God – such as the faculty at HPU – who teach the Word and prepare students with sound theology and doctrine.

“I feel like my part in equipping the body is to give people field training and launch them into the mission field,” he said.

In addition to training foreign missionaries in Mexico, John will help prepare Mexican missionaries for their work in other countries.

“There has been a great revival in Mexico and it’s time for them to be sent out to the nations,” he said. “Mexico is not a rich country and out of that situation will come missionaries who are not afraid to suffer for the Gospel. They’ve already been poor, so they’re not afraid to give up everything for the Lord. There is an amazing zeal and passion for God that I have not encountered in very many other countries.”

John has found that an MBA degree has made other nations – even those which often oppress Christians – more receptive to him and his work.

“The purpose in getting the MBA was to give me credentials to use in the secular world,” he said. “I’ve started businesses in Africa and the Middle East to provide jobs for Christians in these areas. The goal in these countries is to help create businesses that employ Christians – not just to give them money, but to give them a livelihood.”

After a year in Mexico, John plans to travel back to Africa and the Middle East to work with partners there.

“In Christianity, it’s always ‘we,’” he said. “In true Kingdom work, there’s always more than one person. At minimum, it’s the Lord and you. And from there, you go with your brothers and sisters and try to work with people who have the same vision.”

Regardless of where he lives, John plans to continue his work for the Lord.

“People who do great things for God aren’t anyone special,” he said. “They’re just people who’ve caught on and said ‘I’m hungry for God.’ It doesn’t matter who you are or where you live. If you ask God to use you, He will.” ■

“ If you take the principles of business and merge them with Christian values, you can go into developing countries and really bring lasting change. ”



GUY D. NEWMAN HONORS ACADEMY

HOWARD PAYNE UNIVERSITY

In April 2015, Howard Payne University's Guy D. Newman Honors Academy: The Program for Civic Leadership and Public Policy will celebrate

THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS FIRST GRADUATING CLASS

with a ceremony featuring

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER JIM ANGLE



Former chief national correspondent
for FOX News Channel

Saturday, April 25, 2015

5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Mims Auditorium

A VIP banquet will follow at 7:30 p.m. in HPU's
Beadel Dining Hall

Since its first cohort of students graduated in May 1965, the multidisciplinary honors program has prepared young people to be leaders in a variety of fields. Previously the Douglas MacArthur Academy of Freedom, the program was founded in 1962 under the leadership of Dr. Newman, who served as president of the university from 1955 to 1973. Today, more than 50 years later, the Academy remains committed to the ideals upon which it was founded – General MacArthur's unwavering loyalty to America and Dr. Newman's love for Howard Payne and its students.

More details, including ticket information for the VIP banquet, will be announced in the following weeks at www.hputx.edu/academy. The Guy D. Newman Honors Academy may be reached by phone at (325) 649-8700 or by e-mail at academy@hputx.edu.



ANNIVERSARY ACCOLADE

Being alumni of Howard Payne means that we have great pride in the university. Next to Christ and our family, Howard Payne is the most important part of our lives.

- Leo '50 and Jane '52 Lacey, Alumni Association members for more than 30 years

Join the HPU Alumni Association today! Visit alumni.hputx.edu or call HPU's Office of Institutional Advancement at 325-649-8006 or 800-950-8465.



Class Acts

Class Acts were submitted from November 15, 2013, to February 2, 2015, and include career announcements, births and other individual updates. To submit a Class Act for a future issue of the *Link*, visit www.hputx.edu/classacts or send an e-mail to link@hputx.edu.

1950s

Maurice Smith '53 observed the 65th anniversary of his ordination to the ministry in January 2015. He was ordained by the Whon Baptist Church (now disbanded) in Coleman County while a student at Howard Payne College. He went on to receive Master of Divinity and Doctor of Philosophy degrees from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary before serving as a pastor, missionary and educator. He and his wife, **Evelyn '59**, live in New Braunfels.

Ernest Bailey '59 has served as senior adult pastor at Hillcrest Baptist Church in Enterprise, Ala., since January 1, 2012.

1960s

Dr. Robert Lamar Feuge '63 published *The Life and Times of a German Methodist Circuit Rider on the Frontier of Texas*, now available for purchase on Amazon.

Lena (Nelson) Dooley '64, a multi-published author of Christian fiction, was awarded the North Texas Romance Writers of America Readers Choice Award for Inspirational Novel for her latest book, *Catherine's Pursuit*. This book is also one of the three

finalists in the Christian Authors Network Golden Scroll Award contest for Novel of the Year. Also, the Book Club Network announced in the February 2014 *Book Fun Magazine* that her blog "A Christian Writer's World" was voted TBCN Readers Choice Award for 2013 Blog of the Year. Recently, she was the only interviewee on a two-hour show on Bring IT Radio. The free podcast is available on iTunes and Google Play.

Dr. John Taylor '64 and his wife, Patricia, celebrated 50 years of marriage on May 2, 2014. Dr. Taylor, a cardiologist in Amarillo, is the co-developer of the TP-109 Hyperbaric Oxygen Chamber. The Thomas Taylor Hall residence hall at HPU is named after his grandfather and former HPU president, Dr. Thomas H. Taylor.

Jim R. Sibley '68 accepted the position of professor of biblical studies at Israel College of the Bible in Netanya, Israel.

Cecil '69 and Joye '69 Deadman have retired after 12 years of ministry with the Baptist General Convention of Texas. Cecil served churches in Texas and Oklahoma as pastor

for more than 30 years. The Deadmans have three children, James (who attended HPU), Christine Moers '94 and Jonathan. The Deadmans have retired to the Gonzales area where Cecil continues to do pulpit supply work and works with churches doing church administration workshops.

Michael Gillespie '69 serves as adjunct professor of fine art at Dallas Baptist University. He has won several awards for his paintings in the Dallas area and was one of 10 finalists in an international competition for a scholarship to an art academy in Florence, Italy. He also spent August 2014 as Artist-in-Residence at Borgo Santo Pietro in Tuscany, where he painted, taught lessons, visited museums and attended a portrait class at the Charles H. Cecil Academy of Art in Florence.

1970s

Dr. Juan Andrade Jr. '70, president of the United States Hispanic Leadership Institute, was named a Chicagoan of the Year (2014) by *Chicago Magazine*.

Randy Johnson '71, who recently retired as youth minister at First Baptist Church Richardson, teaches

Survey of Youth Education as an adjunct instructor in HPU's School of Christian Studies. He also taught youth ministry in Baptist seminaries in Cuba in 2013, serves on the board of the Valley Missions Education Center in Harlingen and is a member of HPU's Graduate Program Advisory Council in Christian Studies.

Dr. Bob '73 and Karen (Johnston) '74 Cavin were honored by Mimosa Lane Baptist Church in Mesquite in 2014 for 20 years of service. Bob serves as executive pastor and Karen serves as minister of childhood education.

Dwight Davis '75 has served as mission pastor at Houston Northwest Church since March 1996. In addition, he serves as vice president of World Hope Ministries International, mobilizing individuals to experience the Great Commission and training pastors around the world through the World Hope Bible Institute.

Dr. Ronnie Floyd '78 was named the 60th president of the Southern Baptist Convention at the SBC annual meeting in June.

1980s

Randy Bell '81 was appointed the Williamson County parks and recreation director. He has more than 30 years of experience in the field.

Terry (Rice) Proffer '82 received her Bachelor of

Science in Nursing degree from The University of Texas at Tyler Longview in August 2012. She has written an e-book about her first year in nursing called *Nursing Home Sketches: My First Year as a Nurse*. It is available on Amazon and Kindle Books.

Daryl Worley '89 recently published a college textbook titled *Theatre Through the Ages: An Introduction to Theatre*, published by Kendall Hunt and available on Amazon. The textbook includes an original play written by Worley and three scenes from his other plays. He teaches theatre

for Navarro College and Texas A&M University Commerce and is pursuing his doctorate at Liberty University.

1990s

Melinda Roberts '92



adopted a 16-month-old son, Kasey Kasaye, from Ethiopia in October 2014.

Tony Grubaugh '94 and his wife, Dorcas, announce the adoption of their daughter, Abigail B.

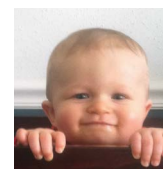
Grubaugh. She was adopted on August 19, 2013, from Bulgaria at the age of 12.

Jeffrey Jackson '97 accepted a new position as director of academic programs at The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio – School of Medicine.

Mark Johnson '99 began working with Oak Hills Church in San Antonio as campus life director, directing multisite operations, in May 2013. He and his wife also announce the birth of their son, Aaron Johnson, born in October 2013.

2000s

Dr. Katie (Littlejohn)



Atkins '03 and husband Lt. Jacob Atkins announce the

birth of their son, Sean Arthur Atkins, on June 26, 2013.

Ben Hoover '03 was elected as a Fellow to the Texas Bar Foundation. Fellows are selected for outstanding professional achievements and demonstrated commitment to the improvement of the justice system throughout the state of Texas. Ben was also named Outstanding Young Graduate at HPU's Homecoming 2014.

In Memoriam

Howard Payne University is saddened by the loss of the following alumni and other members of the HPU and DBC families between the dates of November 15, 2013, and February 2, 2015.

HOWARD PAYNE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI

Patrocinio Z. Aldaz '70,

Sept. 8, 2014

Robert E. Alexander '54, Feb. 12, 2014

Billie Ruth Whitaker Fletcher Alford, July 17, 2014

Frances Ellis Allen, Dec. 30, 2014

Leonda Hawkins Allgood, July 13, 2014

C.F. Allison, April 2, 2014

James E. Anderson Sr. '84, Dec. 17, 2013

Mary Shrader Armstrong '54, Nov. 17, 2014

Katherine Helene "Lanie" Badger '07, Sept. 18, 2014

Janelle Bell Bailey '54, May 28, 2014

Royce Belt '64, Jan. 2, 2014

Nancy Griffin Bennett, Dec. 28, 2013

Bryanna "Yanna" Berniard, Dec. 19, 2013

Connie Ynostrosa Bosquez, Jan. 23, 2014

Rev. Ivan Lee Brock '47, Nov. 30, 2014

Ellis J. Brown '66, June 13, 2014

Mayesie Mathews Burke '51, Jan. 7, 2014

Reba Tucker Burkes '58, Sept. 1, 2014

Rev. Lee M. Burnett '48, March 4, 2014

Mary Ellen Smith Burt '49, Jan. 1, 2014

Hon. Ernest Cadenhead, Jan. 26, 2014

Erwin J. Cadenhead, July 24, 2014

June Wright Carley '52, Sept. 18, 2014

Bobbie Fae Baucom Carter, June 9, 2014

Philip E. Carter '66, Aug. 16, 2014

Glen W. Cavitt, March 3, 2014

Gary L. Chamberlain '68, March 3, 2014

Richard G. Champ '57, April 19, 2014

Jessie Edwards

Chappell, Jan. 1, 2015

Margaret Anne Lees

Chesser '79, Dec. 3, 2014

Garland F. Clemons, May 6, 2014

Linda Rampy Clowdus, Feb. 20, 2014

Erma Lee Keeney Cole '39, Dec. 28, 2014

Charles Cook '67, March 28, 2014

Marie Seamans Corbett, Feb. 2, 2014

Janell Corley '79, March 24, 2014

Janette Kennedy

Cornelius, Jan. 26, 2014

Israel Cortez '64, Oct. 12, 2014

Kerri McClure Coursey, April 10, 2014

Edwin D. Cox '60, Aug. 21, 2014

(Continued on page 70)

- Elizabeth Scott Cox '51**, Aug. 30, 2014
- Patsy Ridgaway Crawford '61**, Oct. 24, 2014
- Mary Fitzhugh Croft**, Jan. 5, 2014
- Roberta Lambert Davis**, Dec. 18, 2013
- Judy Shell Day**, Aug. 8, 2014 (Former member of Alumni Association Board of Directors)
- Virginia Oakley Day**, Jan. 18, 2015
- Truett Dennis '44**, May 22, 2014
- Ann Parks Dewitt '51**, May 10, 2014
- A.J. Dickerson '61**, June 9, 2014
- Jack Paul Dillingham '64**, Nov. 30, 2013
- Dr. James Ray Dixon '50**, Jan. 10, 2015
- Billie Laverne Teston Drews '51**, May 5, 2014
- Louis R. Duck '72**, Jan. 3, 2014
- Rev. Clinton L. Eastman '46**, Feb. 11, 2014
- Frank Escobedo '72**, April 2, 2014
- Linda Heath Evans '54**, June 18, 2014
- Timothy E. Farrar**, May 11, 2014
- Rita Carroll Faulkner '77**, June 2, 2014
- Carolyn "Skipper" Harbour Fields**, May 14, 2014
- Hubert Fisher**, April 3, 2014
- Margaret Tubbs Fisher '42**, Jan. 24, 2014
- Geraldine "Jerry" Lindsey Foust '61**, March 19, 2014
- Raymond H. Franklin '54**, Feb. 27, 2014
- Shirley McCoy Gamblin**, Nov. 8, 2014
- Charles Richard "Dick" Gibbs**, April 8, 2014
- Kenneth W. Gober**, Dec. 13, 2013
- James "Jimmy" Hamilton '63**, March 3, 2014
- William B. Hardin '85**, Aug. 15, 2014
- Rev. Thomas H. Harding '51**, Feb. 25, 2014
- Wanda Patterson Harding '49**, July 28, 2014
- Nelda I. Harkness**, Dec. 26, 2014
- James C. Harris**, March 30, 2014
- Lemuel Hatfield '54**, Feb. 6, 2014
- James H. Hatten '69**, July 24, 2014
- Helen Albertson Havins '42**, June 13, 2014
- Dana B. Henderson, Jr. '62**, Feb. 18, 2014
- Mary Scott Hillman '56**, Nov. 1, 2014
- Dr. Doyle Holmes '55**, May 6, 2014 (Honorary Doctorate)
- Mary McFarland Horne**, May 15, 2014
- Alvin Howell '58**, June 30, 2014
- James Huffman**, Jan. 10, 2014
- Vernie McNeely Huffman**, April 3, 2014
- Carrol D. Hutson**, Dec. 5, 2013
- Paul J. Isbell '47**, June 1, 2014
- Virginia Stephens James '61**, Dec. 19, 2014
- Billy F. Jay '52**, Nov. 16, 2014
- Heather Jeffery**, July 13, 2014
- William A. Johnson '51**, May 17, 2014
- Zane "Bud" Jones '94**, March 13, 2014
- Miriam L. Jordan '59**, July 2, 2014
- Maurice Keezer**, July 10, 2014
- Jerry R. Kemplay '66**, July 7, 2014
- John N. King '68**, Nov. 20, 2013
- Belvin R. Lary '51**, Nov. 3, 2014
- William G. Leach, Jr. '69**, Jan. 14, 2014
- Maritia Shaw Leath '44**, May 25, 2014 (Coming Home Queen)
- Edward F. Lewis '49**, Nov. 20, 2013
- Richard D. Long '74**, Aug. 9, 2014
- Marshall Louder**, Feb. 19, 2014
- Mae Luper '74**, June 21, 2014
- Dora Ellis Majors '51**, April 20, 2014
- Rev. Marion E. Martin**, Nov. 1, 2014
- Mary Manasco Martin**, April 1, 2014
- Dawn Perry Mayers**, Jan. 18, 2014
- Karen Jackson McCown '98**, Oct. 4, 2014
- Marion McDaniel '49**, Nov. 7, 2014
- Cameron C. McHan '50**, Sept. 26, 2014
- Doreen Ray McMinn**, Dec. 15, 2014
- Iris Lee McNutt**, Feb. 18, 2014
- Thomas H. McPherson, Jr. '57**, Feb. 8, 2014
- Cheryl Giles McWilliams '70**, Aug. 24, 2014
- Shirley Lewellen Merryman**, Feb. 12, 2014
- Arminta Wright Miller '43**, May 19, 2014
- Jodie Miller**, June 3, 2014
- Billie Williams Mircheff '51**, March 20, 2014
- Mildred McGowan Mitchell '46**, June 6, 2014
- Linda Funderburg Money**, April 26, 2014
- Diane Maysak Moore '58**, Nov. 16, 2014
- Rev. Don Murray '53**, Oct. 5, 2014
- Bobby R. Newman, Jr. '74**, April 28, 2014
- Glenard I. Norris '58**, April 6, 2014
- Frank O'Banion '57**, Oct. 6, 2014
- Rev. Ray T. Pate '52**, May 1, 2014
- William Pate**, July 4, 2014
- Thomas L. Petross**, Nov. 21, 2013
- Jimmye Avinger Pickle '45**, Dec. 11, 2014
- Dr. George C. Pittman**, Jan. 1, 2014 (Former professor of English)
- Dolores Cox Pluckhahn**, Jan. 8, 2014
- Dan W. Proctor '54**, Oct. 5, 2014
- Betty James Qualls '61**, Sept. 9, 2014
- Grover Reat**, Feb. 17, 2014
- William Reddell**, Jan. 3, 2015
- Juanita Fay Lowe Reed**, Jan. 25, 2015
- Edward Reyes**, June 30, 2014
- Robert M. Rocha '57**, Oct. 28, 2014
- Charles K. Root**, Jan. 8, 2014
- Donna Gray Rosson '77**, Nov. 26, 2013
- Anita Blacklock Russell '41**, June 7, 2014
- Jane Hullinger Russell '48**, Oct. 24, 2014
- Daniel A. Saiz '72**, June 18, 2014
- Glendon D. Schoen '71**, June 17, 2014
- Juanita Newman Seier '58**, Nov. 13, 2014
- Dorothy White Shaw '50**, June 13, 2014
- Juana Lawson Simmons**, Sept. 6, 2014
- Cedonia Geer Simons '50**, Nov. 3, 2014
- James Skiles**, Feb. 25, 2014
- Alvin R. Smith**, April 5, 2014
- Marquita Smith**, March 31, 2014
- Tommy D. Snipes '72**, Nov. 22, 2013

Dorothy Wilson Springall '37, May 17, 2014 (HPU and DBC alumna)

Wynogene Elliott Stanke '40, Nov. 22, 2013

James F. Stanley, Jr. '42, Jan. 25, 2014

Flora Mae Stovall, Jan. 7, 2015

John D. Tackett, Sept. 11, 2014

Darrell J. Tapley '50, April 26, 2014

Ben Taylor, Nov. 28, 2013

Harry L. Taylor, Dec. 27, 2014

Mary E. Taylor '78, July 28, 2014

A.L. Teague, Jr. '53, April 28, 2014

Dixie Stoneman Tharp '54, Oct. 29, 2014

Frances McBroom Thompson, April 23, 2014

Dr. Philip N. Tilden, Nov. 24, 2014

Irene Little Tolston '53, May 21, 2014

Alvin B. Tonne, Jan. 14, 2014

Nelda Long Towery '51, Feb. 8, 2014 (Medal of Service recipient)

Kenneth White, Nov. 18, 2014

William W. Willis '72, Dec. 1, 2014

Marguerite Christian Wilson, Jan. 23, 2014

Bertie Forbes Woods '41, Dec. 6, 2013

Gladys Dupriest Wright '46, April 22, 2014

Jonathan Wright '11, July 4, 2014

HOWARD PAYNE UNIVERSITY STUDENT

Kellee Greenwood, Feb. 2, 2015 (Senior management major)

DANIEL BAKER COLLEGE ALUMNI

Cleo Alderson Conger '39, Aug. 24, 2014

Zane Ellett '50, Aug. 23, 2014

Mary Nell McClendon Engstrom '33, July 11, 2014

Robert G. W. Girling III, Dec. 14, 2013 (Former member of President's Development Council)

Martha Frances Hoffman '52, Sept. 25, 2014

Doris Goosby Hutton, May 2, 2014

Mary Curry Ogle '40, Dec. 5, 2014

Bobby R. Reagan '48, May 18, 2014

Bette Shults Reid '49, March 27, 2014 (Coming Home Queen, DBC)

Horace Smith, Sept. 22, 2014

Liston F. Todd, Jan. 16, 2015

Lucille Kilgore Yeager '41, March 23, 2014

ADDITIONAL HPU FACULTY, STAFF, BOARD MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

John W. Adams, Dec. 17, 2013 (Friend)

Robbie Robb Autrey, June 16, 2014 (Friend)

Charles Barr, Aug. 15, 2014 (Former grounds supervisor, friend)

Jackie Emerson Barron, Jan. 5, 2014 (Former member of Board of Trustees, friend)

William W. Bell, March 6, 2014 (Former member of Guy D. Newman Honors Academy Board, friend)

Ruth Beyers, Dec. 23, 2014 (Friend)

James F. Boeke, Sept. 26, 2014 (Friend)

Leroy Bolton, June 1, 2014 (Friend)

Danny Butler, Feb. 22, 2014 (Friend)

Stuart Coleman, June 2, 2014 (Friend)

Daniel Costilla, July 25, 2014 (Friend)

Sam Coursey, May 6, 2014 (Friend)

Eli Justion Crabb, April 22, 2014 (Friend)

Layne Crosthwaite, March 28, 2014 (Friend)

Kenneth Day, Jan. 18, 2015 (Friend)

Mike Day, June 2, 2014 (Friend)

Alfred C. Ellington, Aug. 10, 2014 (Friend)

Courtney Polaski Elmore, Feb. 11, 2014 (Friend)

Wayne Fisher, April 3, 2014 (Friend)

Doil Hammons, July 31, 2014 (Friend)

Jesse Hardie, Nov. 25, 2013 (Friend)

R. Dale Hawkins, Aug. 5, 2014 (Former member of President's Development Council, friend)

Myra Jane Hickey, Dec. 13, 2014 (Friend)

Roberta Howard, Feb. 23, 2014 (Friend)

Don Johnson, March 18, 2014 (Former member of Board of Trustees, former member of President's Development Council, friend)

Josephine Buttaro Lakich, Sept. 14, 2014 (Friend)

Anthony J. Latino, Dec. 21, 2013 (Friend)

Vera Webster Lewallen, Jan. 2, 2014 (Friend)

William B. Lusk, Feb. 11, 2014 (Former member of Guy D. Newman Honors Academy Board, friend)

Eugene Martin, Aug. 25, 2014 (Friend)

Grace Ballard McCray, Nov. 6, 2014 (Friend)

Jesse L. Mills, Sr., Jan. 15, 2015 (Friend)

Betty Rutherford Nicholas, March 9, 2014 (Friend)

Bernard M. Orloff, March 16, 2014 (Friend)

Dr. Mark A. Patton, April 6, 2014 (Professor of business administration, friend)

Beverly Robertson, Feb. 17, 2014 (Friend)

Charles "Bud" Ross, Jan. 6, 2014 (Friend)

David Skinner, Jan. 16, 2014 (Friend)

Jack N. Smith, Jan. 3, 2014 (Friend)

Phillip Marion "Phil" Smith, April 23, 2014 (Friend)

Dr. Robert L. Smith, Sr., Sept. 29, 2014 (Former faculty member and dean of School of Christian Studies, Medal of Service and Honorary Doctorate recipient, friend)

Sybil Strickland, April 29, 2014 (Friend)

Billy J. Swindler, March 13, 2014 (Friend)

Austin Taylor, Oct. 27, 2014 (Former member of Board of Trustees, friend)

Myrtle Urquhart, Feb. 1, 2014 (Friend)

Livona Vermilion, May 11, 2014 (Friend)

Virginia Strickland Wade, Aug. 16, 2014 (Friend)

Emory C. Walton, June 7, 2014 (Former member of Guy D. Newman Honors Academy Board, friend)

Jenneane Watson, Oct. 1, 2014 (Friend)

Lucene Baldree Westmoreland, Dec. 11, 2014 (Friend)

Don Williamson, Sept. 14, 2014 (Friend)

Charles O. Winfrey, Jan. 5, 2014 (Friend)

Federico Yanez, Jan. 7, 2015 (Friend)

Alma Mater



Photo by Rachel Ellington, a senior psychology major from Garland, Texas

*High above old Bayou's waters, out on Center's heights
Stands our noble Alma Mater, towering in her might
Keep her colors ever floating, sing her praises due
Hail to thee our Alma Mater, hail the Gold and Blue*

Looking Ahead

As we celebrate HPU's 125th year, we also look forward to the generations of students still to come.

May God continue to richly bless this institution and the HPU family as He has since 1889.

Riker Levy Stippick,
HPU Class of 2036

Son of David '14 and
Hillary (Shelton) '13 Stippick



PHOTO BY MATTHEW LESTER

Do you know a high school student who would be a great fit for HPU? We'd love to introduce him or her to the HPU experience! **Sign up for a campus visit at www.hputx.edu/visit or call 325-649-8020.**



Office of University Marketing and Communications
1000 Fisk Street
Brownwood, Texas 76801

STUDENT PERSPECTIVE

Photo by Christy Ash,
a junior computer
information systems
major from Brownwood

