Creating a 3D Map of Campus
Assistive technology for the visually impaired
Pages 6-7
Thoreau biography wins Los Angeles Times Book Prize

BY CARRIE GATES, COLLEGE OF ARTS AND LETTERS

Laura Dassow Walls, the William P. and Hazel B. White Professor of English and a leading Thoreau scholar, has won the 2017 Los Angeles Times Book Prize for biography for her latest work, “Henry David Thoreau: A Life,” published by the University of Chicago Press on July 12, 2017, Thoreau's 200th birthday.

“Thoreau: A Life” is the first comprehensive biography of the life of Thoreau since Walter Harding’s “The Days of Henry Thoreau” was published in 1965. Walls, a scholar of American transcendentalism, environmental literature and the intersection of science and literature, received a Guggenheim Fellowship in 2010 to begin work on the book. She was awarded a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities in 2015 to complete the project. The first edition sold out before its official publication date, and the book has been praised in reviews by The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Wall Street Journal and others.

“Thoreau carries a deeper, wider message than many other writers. He is an American icon who stands for so many different things — many of them contra- dictory,” she says. In the biography, Walls combats popular misperceptions about Thoreau — that he lived in the wilderness as a hermit and a misanthrope — that persist in the public imagination but scholars have known to be not true. Previous accounts of Thoreau's life also showed hostility toward the women in Thoreau's family. “Doing research into his family, I discovered that strong, innovative, real leaders the women in his family were — and not just one or two, but really all of them,” Walls says. “And they clearly profoundly inspired and influenced Thoreau, including his abstentionism.” The Thoreau she chronicles has much to say about our own time, too. “In Walden,” she says, he writes of the need to push through the mud and slush of opinion in order to find the solid rocks at the bottom. Thoreau was frustrated with newspapers taking false or loaded stances on events of his day, such as slavery. “This there’s some you’ve got to somehow ground yourself and leave the voices behind for a bit and really think carefully through what the foundation for truth and ethical action would be,” she said. “He says there has to be something deeper and older than this current froth, and he comes away feeling that he has found it — and urges us to pursue a similar kind of quest.”

According to Walls, Thoreau’s legacy endures today in part because “of his ability to seamlessly integrate concern for the nonhuman environment and concern for human rights and social justice.” “Despite his lifelong effort to demonstrate in words and action that these two forms of justice are tightly intertwined, after his lifetime they drifted apart, until today they are too often assumed to be indifferent to each other or even in conflict,” Walls says. “Nothing could be farther from the truth, as Pope Francis makes eloquently clear in his 2015 encyclical Laudato Si, in which he calls for ‘integral ecology.’ I’m fascinated by how many of the pope’s teachings are par- alleled by Thoreau’s life and writings, in ways that suggest a strong conver- gence of spiritual traditions.” Writing “Thoreau: A Life” was “like writing a novel with a cast of hundreds of characters and intertwining events, suspense and crises and res- solutions, and triumphs and tears,” Walls says, “and it’s the most fun I have ever had writing.”

In today’s collaborative environment, file storage requirements have escalated at Notre Dame. The ability to provide more file space, collaborate globally and have reliable access to files on many devices are among the top requests from faculty, staff and students. To be able to provide appropriate support for teaching, learning and research initiatives, a new type of file storage was needed.

Since February, the Office of Information Technologies (OIT) has rolled out a transition plan to relocate your individual files stored in NetFile to Google Drive. You may know NetFile as the “N2” drive or some other drive name.

Now in the final phase of the transition plan, anyone with files remaining in their individual NetFile space will need to relocate them to Google Drive by Tuesday, July 31. The OIT has developed a migration tool designed to help relocate your files quickly and easily. For additional information on the ND file storage transition and the migration tool, go to nd.edu/ netfile.

If you have any questions about this transition, contact your Experimental IT support staff or the OIT Help Desk at 811-8111, oits.help@nd.edu or chat online at help.nd.edu.

Keeping your data private is up to you

The Office of Information Technologies (OIT) recently hosted a lunch and learn focused on social media privacy. Members of OIT’s Information Security team for the session and packed a lot of content in a short time. Key takeaways were:

• Social media’s primary purpose is to sell ads, not to give you a forum for sharing your vacation pictures.
• Social media apps track not just what you click on or who you follow, but where you go, what type of device you are using, what times you log in, what you search for and much more. This helps them sell ads to you.
• The default setting on any social media app is public. If you want to choose who sees your postings, you must change the setting. But even if you mark your posts as visible to only a small group of friends, the app will still collect data from you.
Three of ‘Forty under 40’ class are Notre Dame professionals

BY DEANNA CSOMO MCCOOL AND BRENDAH O’SHAUGHNESSY

A blend of dedication to the community and a joyful work ethic landed three Notre Dame professionals into the 2018 Michiana Forty under 40 class.

The inductees include Regan Jones, director for military and veteran affairs, Nancy Michael, assistant professor of behavioral neuroendocrinology in the Department of Biological Sciences, and Jennifer Prosperi, adjunct assistant professor in the Department of Biological Sciences and member of the Harper Cancer Research Institute, as well as assistant professor of biochemistry and molecular biology, Indiana University School of Medicine—South Bend.

The local Forty under 40 program is in its 12th year, and recognizes the area’s most talented and dedicated young executives, professionals and leaders who demonstrate career success and community engagement.

Regan Jones

The Office of Military and Veteran Affairs (OMVA) at Notre Dame launched in September 2017 with Marine veteran Regan Jones at the helm. Providing strategic direction on behalf of the provost for the University’s veteran and military-related programs, Jones works closely with faculty, administrators and staff.

Simply put, it’s Jones’ job to ratchet up the recruitment of veterans to Notre Dame.

“Before I became a member of the Marine Corps, I played baseball,” said Jones. “I was drafted by the Mariners, but I decided to join the Marine Corps. I served in Iraq near Ramadi, where I was hit by IEDs twice and received a Purple Heart for gunshot wounds in the shoulder.

“Now I’m a Division I athlete, with degrees from the University in Albany-SUNY and Florida State University. Jones is leading the University’s first Storm the Stadium event on Wednesday, July 4 (stormthestadium.nd.edu). The star climbing challenge and walk will be held in Notre Dame Stadium. “It’s a family-fun event with activities for all ability levels and ages. There will even be inflatables on the field for children,” he said. “All proceeds will go to the Notre Dame Veterans Fund, which helps offset tuition and living costs for military-connected students to continue their education at Notre Dame.”

Regan Jones

Nancy Michael

Known in the College of Science for her down-to-earth, unique teaching style, Nancy Michael takes students in her Intro to Neuroscience Lab class for a day of cardiac at the gym, relating what they learned back to science of the brain. “She makes each lesson relevant to the world at large,” said Meredith Hollander ’18, who recently graduated with a degree in neuroscience and behavior.

She also gives freely to the community when called upon to share her knowledge, says Sunny Boyd, professor of behavioral neuroendocrinology in the Department of Biological Sciences. Michael involves undergraduates with the Robinson Community Learning Center, the Juvenile Justice Center and the South Bend Community School Corp., and also holds public “brain awareness” events.

Michael earned her doctorate in just four years from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. The program usually takes five years to complete. She is fascinated by things like how children who grew up in close proximity, with similar family situations, can experience varied degrees of success by their late 20s. “In ‘neuroscience speak,’ it’s about the difference between mo-tivated behavior, habit behavior and decision making—and neural mechanisms that are involved in all those different components.”

New visitor pay stations and guest parking permits

Parking Services has announced more options for visitor parking, including visitor parking pay stations and single-day guest parking permits. All parking permits need to be displayed on the vehicle dashboard or hung from the rearview mirror, so they are visible to parking enforcement staff.

Visitor parking pay stations

In response to feedback about visitor and guest parking, Parking Services has installed two additional visitor pay stations on the southern part of campus. There will be no change to the current visitor parking lot, located near the Walsh Family Hall of Architecture. (See map.) The pay stations will allow visitors to the University to more easily obtain parking passes and park in the Joyce, Compton, Baseball or Walsh Hall parking lots.

• One new pay station is in the Compton Family Ice Arena parking lot near the bus shelter off Holy Cross Drive.

• An additional pay station can also be found in the Joyce Center Lot, just south of the entrance to the Purcell Pavilion.

Single-day guest parking permits

University departments and offices can purchase one-day guest parking permits by completing an online form on the visitor and guest parking page of ndsp.nd.edu. You are encouraged to buy and distribute permits to guests in advance of their visit. The permits are valid for the specific date that is scratched off, so some departments may choose to keep a small inventory on hand. These passes are valid in the following parking lots: Joyce, Compton, Walsh Architecture, Bolla Student, Lake and Dorr Road. Please visit ndsp.nd.edu for more information.

Jenifer Prosperi

A breast cancer researcher, Jennifer Prosperi focuses her work on chemotherapy resistance, particularly in a type of cancer called triple-negative breast cancer. This type of cancer does not respond to hormonal therapies. It is treated by broad-spectrum, conventional chemotherapies that work well initially. Later, however, the cancer develops resistance to those treatments.

“We’re trying to understand why they’re developing resistance. If we can understand why, then hopefully we can target some of those pathways to prevent resistance,” says Prosperi, who earned her doctorate in integrative biomedical science from Ohio State University in 2016.

Emily Arzaretu ’20, a biochemistry and supplemental Spanish major, works in Prosperi’s lab and described her as enthusiastic and encouraging.

“Professor Prosperi inspired me to take on a project by showing me the importance of the work and the potential significance of our findings to help cancer patients,” Arzaretu says. “She showed me that even if the project is unsuccessful, we will be able to learn from it.”

All the inductees expressed gratitude for being selected as one of this year’s Forty under 40 in Michiana. But they’re not letting the honor go to their heads.

“They key is making sure I stay the same person who earned it in the first place,” Michael says.

BEHIND THE SCENES

REUNION 2018

The Notre Dame Alumni Association hosted 3,308 guests for Reunion 2018, including 406 alumni from 1968, the 50-year reunion class, and one unidentified alumnus who brought along a Tyrannosaurus rex costume.
Managing chronic medical conditions

A plan for your daily wellness journey

BY CAROL C. BRADLEY, NDWORKS

Did your annual health screening show elevated blood sugar or cholesterol levels? Are you dealing with a chronic medical condition such as asthma or diabetes? Do you want to stop smoking or lose weight? The Notre Dame Wellness Center offers wellness coaching and assistance with chronic condition management for free of charge to benefit-eligible faculty, staff and their dependents.

And if your primary care physician is not at the Wellness Center, we can coordinate with them,” says Maureen Jamierson, chronic condition management nurse and diettitian. Her job, Jamierson says, is to assist patients on what she views as a “wellness pathway.”

That means creating a plan — a roadmap — for your wellness journey. If you have asthma, what are the triggers? Do you carry an inhaler with you? What do you need to be aware of daily? Is your nutrition optimal?

The goal, Jamierson says, is to set numbers up to be successful every day in managing a chronic medical condition. Conditions for which patients might seek help include high blood pressure, diabetes (both Type I and Type II), elevated blood sugar, obesity, coronary artery disease and dyslipidemia (elevated triglycerides and cholesterol).

In the Wellness Center’s pharmacy, Walgreens pharmacist Vincent Workman is also available for private medication consultations. Make an appointment for a medication well-check — a review of current medications, whether they’re being taken properly, if they’re compatible with each other and whether genetics are available.

“There are many people who would benefit from a medication review, especially those with multiple conditions or medications,” Workman says. “Patients who are diabetic may not realize that their medications for blood sugar control are free when diabetic supplies and medications are filled or refilled on the same day. And whenever anyone gets a new blood glucose monitor, we can walk them through how to use it.”

Wellness coach Martha Vanderheyden, a certified coaching professional who specializes in helping people change behaviors, is also available for consultation. Wellness coaches don’t offer medical advice, but can help you identify issues and make positive changes in your life, whether it’s reducing stress, stopping smoking or just being happier and healthier.

Referrals are not necessary to make an appointment with Jamierson or Vanderheyden, and appointment are free — there are no co-pays or insurance billing. Make an appointment by calling the Wellness Center, 574-631-9355.

Wellness Center hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8 a.m. to noon on Saturdays (on home football weekends, the center is closed Saturday and open Sunday 1 to 5 p.m.).

Walgreens Pharmacy hours in the Wellness Center and at the drive-through window are 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturdays (on home football weekends, the pharmacy is closed Saturday and open Sunday 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.). Call 574-271-5622.

To learn how to schedule a Biometric Health Screening, visit hr.nd.edu/benefits/screenings

Gene Heyse lost 7 percent of his body weight in four months

BY ELEN CROWE FINAN, NDWORKS

After Gene Heyse’s annual health screening in 2015, Notre Dame Wellness Center staff contacted him to discuss his high blood pressure (150/100) and encourage him to consider working with a wellness coach.

With his family history, Heyse decided it was time to get serious about lowering his blood pressure. “Both of my grandfathers died from heart attacks, one in his 40s, and my uncle of my grandfather died from heart problems at a very young age. I was determined it was time to get serious about my blood pressure. “Both of my grandfathers died from heart attacks, one in his 40s, and my uncle of my grandfather died from heart problems at a very young age. I was determined it was time to get serious about my blood pressure.”

Just four months into the plan, he reached his goal of losing 7 percent of his body weight. “I was very encouraged,” says Heyse. “My numbers were better, and I thought, ‘Hey, what Maureen is saying is really working.’”

Three years later he’s still meeting monthly with Jamierson (“She keeps me accountable,” he says). “He’s lost 50 pounds, and his blood pressure is down to 132/80.”

Heyse has always been a runner, but before he began working with Jamierson, he was inconsistent. Now he runs six days a week early in the morning. He has also participated in three Notre Dame recreational cross-country sports events. “When I signed up, I thought it would be a mix of faculty, staff and graduate students,” says Heyse. “In reality it was mostly undergraduates. I was the grandpa in the group.”

The young contestants were slow to warm up to Heyse in the first race, but by the time they ran the third race, they were cheering him on. Out of approximately 150 contestants, Heyse finished about 80th, he says.

Jamierson also encouraged Heyse to “breathe and appreciate” to reduce stress in his life. Now when he’s stuck in traffic, he breathes deeply and thinks about the blooming flowers or people and things he appreciates.

Heyse has a lot of appreciation for Jamierson and for the way he feels today. If he could have a wish, he says, “I’d wish that every person who goes through this program could feel like I do. I feel like a teenager.”

“I’d wish that every person who goes through this program could feel like I do. I feel like a teenager.”

– Gene Heyse

Big improvements — with a little help

“The young contestants were slow to warm up to Heyse in the first race, but by the time they ran the third race, they were cheering him on. Out of approximately 150 contestants, Heyse finished about 80th, he says. Jamierson also encouraged Heyse to “breathe and appreciate” to reduce stress in his life. Now when he’s stuck in traffic, he breathes deeply and thinks about the blooming flowers or people and things he appreciates. Heyse has a lot of appreciation for Jamierson and for the way he feels today. If he could have a wish, he says, “I’d wish that every person who goes through this program could feel like I do. I feel like a teenager.”

– Gene Heyse

Managing chronic medical conditions

A plan for your daily wellness journey

BY CAROL C. BRADLEY, NDWORKS

Did your annual health screening show elevated blood sugar or cholesterol levels? Are you dealing with a chronic medical condition such as asthma or diabetes? Do you want to stop smoking or lose weight? The Notre Dame Wellness Center offers wellness coaching and assistance with chronic condition management for free of charge to benefit-eligible faculty, staff and their dependents.

And if your primary care physician is not at the Wellness Center, we can coordinate with them,” says Maureen Jamierson, chronic condition management nurse and diettitian. Her job, Jamierson says, is to assist patients on what she views as a “wellness pathway.”

That means creating a plan — a roadmap — for your wellness journey. If you have asthma, what are the triggers? Do you carry an inhaler with you? What do you need to be aware of daily? Is your nutrition optimal?

The goal, Jamierson says, is to set numbers up to be successful every day in managing a chronic medical condition. Conditions for which patients might seek help include high blood pressure, diabetes (both Type I and Type II), elevated blood sugar, obesity, coronary artery disease and dyslipidemia (elevated triglycerides and cholesterol).

In the Wellness Center’s pharmacy, Walgreens pharmacist Vincent Workman is also available for private medication consultations. Make an appointment for a medication well-check — a review of current medications, whether they’re being taken properly, if they’re compatible with each other and whether genetics are available.

“There are many people who would benefit from a medication review, especially those with multiple conditions or medications,” Workman says. “Patients who are diabetic may not realize that their medications for blood sugar control are free when diabetic supplies and medications are filled or refilled on the same day. And whenever anyone gets a new blood glucose monitor, we can walk them through how to use it.”

Wellness coach Martha Vanderheyden, a certified coaching professional who specializes in helping people change behaviors, is also available for consultation. Wellness coaches don’t offer medical advice, but can help you identify issues and make positive changes in your life, whether it’s reducing stress, stopping smoking or just being happier and healthier.

Referrals are not necessary to make an appointment with Jamierson or Vanderheyden, and appointment are free — there are no co-pays or insurance billing. Make an appointment by calling the Wellness Center, 574-631-9355.

Wellness Center hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8 a.m. to noon on Saturdays (on home football weekends, the center is closed Saturday and open Sunday 1 to 5 p.m.).

Walgreens Pharmacy hours in the Wellness Center and at the drive-through window are 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturdays (on home football weekends, the pharmacy is closed Saturday and open Sunday 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.). Call 574-271-5622.
When Lauren Carey planned her December 2015 wedding to her fiancé, Tim, she wanted to commemorate the occasion with something that would last through the years. Being quite the planner, Lauren began her search for a special gift about eight months before their big day.

Tim was a student in Mendoza’s Executive MBA program and would be graduating in May 2016. He would be the 25th person in his family to graduate from Notre Dame, and she knew the significant role the University has played in his family history and development.

When she heard about the University’s tree and bench program, something clicked: a tree. How perfect! “Myself being Jewish,” she says, “trees play a really important role in the Jewish religion as a symbol of life and fruitfulness, and the planting of a tree represents a gift for mankind and our relationship with respect for the natural environment. Combine that with the tree being placed in the most meaningful place to my husband and his Irish Catholic heritage, I felt I had a winning idea. It wasn’t just for Tim, but for us as an interfath, newlywed couple together.”

Every year, up to 10 memorial trees are planted on campus to celebrate an event in honor of a loved one.

The wedding tree

Working with Teri Vitale, a lead coordinator in Special Events and Trimming and maintenance keep trees healthy. At right, campus trees are planted in the fall. Landscapes Services, Lauren gave Tim a handmade booklet with photos and captions, like this one, explaining her gift: “On our first trip to Notre Dame together, you walked me around the beautiful grounds telling me about the history of the school, your family, the people and so on. Your aura lights up when you speak of this incredible place.”

The gift meant more to Tim than any other, and when their family comes to campus it’s the first place they visit.

It is the story of just one tree cataloged among 7,156 trees at Notre Dame. If that number seems strangely specific, you may not know that a planting census was recently completed over 97 percent of campus.

Trees are part of Notre Dame’s story

In November 1842, Rev. Edward Sorin, C.S.C., first laid eyes on the 524 acres bequeathed to the Congregation of Holy Cross to build a Catholic university. He must have appreciated the ash trees, oaks, hickories and maples that surrounded St. Mary’s and St. Joseph’s lakes.

Sorin also knew what new trees could do for the landscape. The double-maple-lined paths leading from Notre Dame Avenue to the Main Building represent his idea of a lush, green "grand avenue" linking South Bend to campus.

All these years later, the flora on campus remains integral to its beauty — so much so that a couple of biologists were inspired to conduct a census of plantings to commemorate the 175th anniversary of the University’s founding.

It would be the second time that Barbara and Ron Hentzel, both biological sciences faculty, would conduct such research. In 1993, to celebrate the University’s sesquicentennial, their work was published in the book “Trees, Shrubs and Vines on the University of Notre Dame Campus.”

This would be the second time that Barbara and Ron Hentzel, both biological sciences faculty, would conduct such research. In 1993, their work was published in the book “Trees, Shrubs and Vines on the University of Notre Dame Campus.”

About two years before the 175th anniversary, campus leaders caught wind of the Hellenthal’s project and considered how it could be expanded to also catalog the condition of each planting as well as the locations of donor memorial tree plaques, among other things.

A gift to Landscape Services from Tim and Lucy Kordt for campus beautification got things started by covering the cost for the undergraduates researchers who worked with Barbara and Ron. The expanded project would make data work harder for the University and is a shining example of synergy between academic and administrative offices.

“Notre Dame is among the first universities to develop a project of this magnitude. It’s one of the most comprehensive surveys of trees and plants on any campus,” Ron proudly notes.

A tree census expands

Jessica Woolley, who managed the Work Control Center, where all campus maintenance requests are submitted, is among those who provided vision for the project. She saw the opportunity to utilize the data visualization and analysis tools of the University’s dataND program to make the tree survey information accessible to the campus community.

This would enable Landscape Services to electronically track and assess the condition of trees from one comer of campus to the other. Development would be able to pinpoint locations of benefactor trees and the corresponding memorial plaques. Facilities Design and Operations could use the visual tool to reference trees while managing the planning, design and construction of buildings. Meanwhile, the Office of Sustainability would use it to maintain a healthy green footprint on campus.

“Proper care of the University’s trees not only enhances the experience of students, alumni and visitors, but it also helps in our efforts to keep our campus green in every way,” says Carol Mullaney, senior director of the Department of Sustainability and Continuous Improvement.

The timing was perfect. The Office of Information Technologies (OIT) had begun to centralize data storage across campus through dataND to allow for better analysis of information for key decision-making. While dataND focuses on four core areas — faculty, staff, students and space (e.g., buildings, land) — the campus tree project aligned directly with the mission of dataND.

Dana Schraer, an OIT business intelligence analyst, partnered with Woolley on this part of the project.

Putting that tree data to work

After the Hellenthals and the students recorded each tree, plant and vine, they entered all the information into a database. With the help of OIT’s Campus Admin Solutions, the Work Control Center then manipulated the data into the format and fields used in AiM, the University’s work-order system.

Utilizing Tableau’s mapping capabilities and the GIS coordinates collected from the tree study, a campus map was created displaying the tree location and tree details such as its species, measurements and overall health. The next step was to transform the map into the interactive, informative dashboard that shows users the abundance of campus’ natural beauty in its trees and shrubs.

Pat McCauldin, superintendent of Landscape Services, values the tree inventory database. “It will aid our staff arborists and tree crews to protect and preserve the diversity of tree species on campus. Many of the trees were planted years ago by Holy Cross priests and brothers. Our team is dedicated to ensuring they remain healthy and vibrant for years to come.”

Campus trees are treasured in Notre Dame’s history, and even in the histories of Notre Dame families.

When Lauren thinks back about her gift of a tree, she says, “It remains the best gift I’ve ever given anyone, and quite frankly, I don’t have any intention of trying to top it. It holds such incredible and meaningful significance for each of us.”

To read more about this project, visit nd.edu/features/campus-trees.
Architecture Library creates tactile map of campus to assist those with visual challenges

By Ellen Crowe Finan, for NDWorks

As rising junior Madeline Link prepared to attend Notre Dame as a freshman, her father helped her learn the lay of the land. He built a cardboard model of campus for Madeline, who has visual challenges.

Not stopping there, her dad contacted the University architects’ office about the availability of a tactile campus map to help Madeline navigate campus. Craig Tiller, senior director of project management at Notre Dame, connected the family with the Architecture Library.

Adam Heet, digital projects specialist at the Center for Digital Scholarship at the Architecture Library, met with Madeline and her family. Heet began to think about creating a topographic model of the campus that is useful for people with disabilities. He knew that he and architecture students could make models of campus buildings because they had been doing 3D modeling for a number of years. The challenge was finding a way to depict sidewalks, paths and curbs in the map board.

“Our initial concepts were made using scissors and X-acto knives to create the detail in the map and were a bit chunky,” Heet says. When he realized they could have access to the computer-assisted design files for the campus, he knew he could use the laser printer to cut very precise details in the map board that were faithful to the actual layout of campus. “It was fantastic,” he says.

The map is a combination of 25 square tiles, each representing a section of campus, that fit together to make the large tactile campus map. It breaks the information down in smaller increments for students to digest more easily. “They might first learn the campus areas around their dorms,” Jennifer Parker, head of the Architecture Library, says. “And later, they can focus on another section of campus like the areas where they attend classes or the library.”

To complement the large tactile campus map, Heet also created smaller portable campus map tiles that fit in a student’s backpack. “The two tactile maps are meant to be used in tandem,” says Heet. “Students can easily take four to five segments of the portable map and add carry them around while they learn them.”

The timeline for completing the project extended beyond the date Madeline started classes her freshman year. Nevertheless, she’s served as a valuable consultant on the project throughout its development. “Madeline has been our inspiration,” he says. “We started working on ideas before she came to campus. It’s turned into a project to help other students and Maddie’s been our go-to person.”

Madeline enjoys her work with Heet and the architecture students. As the project consultant, she ensures buildings are to scale, and someone without sight can follow the sidewalks and feel the textural difference between sidewalks, parking lots and streets.

“I think it’s incredible,” says Madeline. “Notre Dame is the first institution to create a tactile campus map like this. It’s a wonderful way to use technology to make the campus more accessible for everyone.” It’s been a fun project for the architecture students, too. “It not only teaches students how to make 3D models of buildings,” says Heet, “but it also teaches them to think about how the campus can be presented. Students and faculty who have been on campus for years are still surprised by the scale and relationship between buildings they use every day.”

Madeline, Heet and Notre Dame architecture students have especially enjoyed working on a project that is doing good for the campus. “It’s been like designing and creating the game of LIFE,” Heet says, “but it’s the Notre Dame campus.” Heet is delighted to use the library’s 3D technology to create something that makes campus more accessible for Madeline and others with similar challenges, which may include faculty and staff.

When completed, the map will be donated to the Sara Bea Learning Center for Students with Disabilities on campus.

“The smallest details, such as the Basilica’s cross and the Virgin Mary atop the Main Building, can’t be printed at this scale,” left, Maddie Link.

The map will not only be helpful to Madeline and others with similar challenges, it also teaches students how to make 3D models of buildings, teaches students how to make 3D models of buildings, architecture students, too. “It not only teaches students how to make 3D models of buildings,” says Heet, “but it also teaches them to think about how the campus can be presented. Students and faculty who have been on campus for years are still surprised by the scale and relationship between buildings they use every day.”

Madeline, Heet and Notre Dame architecture students have especially enjoyed working on a project that is doing good for the campus. “It’s been like designing and creating the game of LIFE,” Heet says, “but it’s the Notre Dame campus.” Heet is delighted to use the library’s 3D technology to create something that makes campus more accessible for Madeline and others with similar challenges, which may include faculty and staff.

When completed, the map will be donated to the Sara Bea Learning Center for Students with Disabilities on campus.

Madeline’s mother, Kathy Link, adds, “I cannot say enough about the people in the architecture library. Adam and Jennifer were wonderful. The map will not only be helpful to Madeline, but also to other students who have trouble getting the lay of the land.”
Assuring equal access to the Notre Dame experience

Need for accommodations has grown

BY ELLEN CROWE FINAN, FOR NDWORKS

Facilitating accommodations for all students has equal access to the Notre Dame academic experience is the core mission of Sara Bea Disability Services. A formal process to provide accommodations for students with impairments began in 1995 when Scott Howland was hired to create a centralized office of disability services. The first offices were housed in Badin Hall.

A generous gift from Javon and Vita Bea in 2008, in memory of their daughter, Sara, made it possible to renovate the building where the Sara Bea Learning Center for Students with Disabilities is today, just north of the Main Building. “We went from just a couple of offices in Badin Hall to a facility that could accommodate all our needs,” says Howland.

Over the years, the need for accommodations has grown. Today, the center serves 8 percent of the Notre Dame undergraduate and graduate student population. “We are serving a lot more students who have mental health and chronic medical conditions,” says Howland. “In turn, we have developed strong relationships with key campus partners.”

In addition to Howland, the Sara Bea Center is staffed by Mandie Waling, technical director, who oversees testing accommodations and ancillary aids such as providing note-takers or converting textbooks into electronic formats that sync with special adaptive software.

In addition, the center’s staff facilitates academic adjustments for students who may need an accommodation, such as short extensions for completing coursework or a modification of an attendance policy. They also work with physically disabled students to provide housing accommodations when needed.

Students seeking accommodations must provide medical documentation that the center’s staff uses in the determination process. In addition, the staff meets with each student to discuss the academic or physical accommodations they believe they need. “We collaborate closely with the Counseling Center and Health Services to determine the impact the diagnosis has on the student’s ability to perform a task or skill that will qualify him or her for an accommodation,” says Howland.

The next step in the process is for Howland or Waling to talk with the course instructor to gather information about the standards and requirements of the course to determine if the accommodation a student is requesting is reasonable.

Howland works closely with his campus partners. “I collaborate with deans’ offices across campus to provide accommodations for students,” he says. Howland emphasizes that the accommodations cannot interfere with the essential nature of the class.

For example, if a student’s impairment makes it difficult to satisfy a participation requirement, Howland works with the faculty member to determine if there is alternative way to satisfy the requirement. “If it’s a seminar class, where in-class discussion and participation is an essential component, there may not be a reasonable accommodation we can provide,” he says. “We have to balance the need for an accommodation with the purpose of the class.”

Howland is proud of the way the center’s services have evolved and become better over the course of his tenure. For example, in the early 2000s the University used a remote captioning service in California to provide a real-time transcript of class discussions for hearing-impaired students.

“We had problems with the microphones not picking up all the discussion going on in class,” he says. “When we hired local court reporters to come to the class and provide real-time transcripts, the students were able to fully participate in class discussions.”

The center also has arranged accommodations so students can participate in study abroad experiences in locations such as London, Jerusalem and Rome.

The center recently developed a new strategic plan to improve how it serves students. “One of the goals was to be fully inclusive for all students on campus,” says Howland. “We want to provide more formal educational programming regarding the accommodation process across campus.”

Howland and Waling get a lot of personal satisfaction from watching the students they serve gain the ability to take full advantage of their Notre Dame academic experience. “It’s great to see their progress in their day-to-day academic lives,” says Howland, “and see them go on to their future careers.”

Grassroots initiative to improve accessibility of campus websites

BY ELLEN CROWE FINAN, FOR NDWORKS

“It’s the right thing to do.”

That’s what Kate Russell, senior experience analyst with Hesburgh Libraries, says about the Campus-Wide Website Accessibility Initiative started last fall. The campus grassroots effort will make the University’s more than 600 websites more accessible for the blind, deaf, physically challenged, cognitively challenged and others.

The initiative is led by Russell and Erik Runyon, technical director, Marketing Communications, and includes 25 other employees. When Hesburgh Libraries re-launched its website in the fall of 2017, Russell decided to look deeper into improving the accessibility of all campus websites. “I always cared about the issue,” she says, “but I never really had a real chance to pursue it beyond sharing some pointers in Conductor training sessions.”

She knew Runyon, her former colleague, would be a good advocate as well. “Kate and I had been talking about campus website accessibility for five years,” says Runyon. “In the fall, we made it a more personal goal.”

Russell met with Executive Vice President John Affleck-Graves to discuss the goals of the initiative. He referred Russell to Vice President of Public Affairs and Communications Paul Browne and the since-retired vice president for information technology and chief information digital officer, Ron Kramer. “They have been very supportive of our grassroots movement, and offered to help us as we could,” says Russell.

The goals of the Campus-Wide Website Accessibility Initiative are to increase awareness of the need for website accessibility, educate website content providers to ensure accessibility of content and strive toward full accessibility of all University websites.

Making the web accessible to the disabled is a federal and even global effort. The Notre Dame group reviewed the World Wide Web Consortium’s (www.w3.org/WAI) standards for web accessibility and developed a list of 13 guidelines that each campus website should follow. Guidelines include:

- Providing appropriate alternative text for images
- Captioning or providing transcripts for videos
- Formatting headings, lists and other structural elements to aid keyboard navigation
- Ensuring users can complete and submit all forms

Accessibility will improve the user experience for all who visit campus websites, Russell notes. The group has developed a website (accessibility.nd.edu) that offers resources, guidelines and pertinent information to help content providers and web developers make the University’s websites more accessible. They also plan to increase awareness through workshops and special events. To learn more or get involved with the initiative, visit the website or contact Russell, krussell@nd.edu.
Robinson Center sends Shakespeare performer to nationals

BY ERIN BLASKO, MEDIA RELATIONS

When Tiana Mudzimurema joined the Robinson Shakespeare Company at the Notre Dame Robinson Community Learning Center in 2010, she knew very little about William Shakespeare or his work — she was just following in her older sister’s footsteps.

“My mom was always pushing us to try new things,” Tiana says. “And one of the things she saw my sister do was Shakespeare, and I thought, ‘Well, if she can do it, I can do it.’

But as Shakespeare himself wrote, ‘It is not in the stars to hold our destiny but in ourselves.’

And so, determined to blaze her own path, Tiana traveled to New York in April to compete in the National Shakespeare Competition at iconic Lincoln Center Theater in Manhattan. There she finished as a semifinalist.

Hosted annually by the English-Speaking Union of the United States, the National Shakespeare Competition helps students in grades 9-12 develop communicative skills and an appreciation of the power of language and literature through the study of English language arts and literature. Shakespeare.

Tiana, who graduated in June from South Bend’s John Adams High School, advanced to nationals after winning the Indianapolis Shakespeare Competition at Butler University in February. There she performed a monologue from “Romeo and Juliet” and Shakespeare’s Sonnet 118 — “Where art thou, Muse, that thou forget’st so long to speak of that which gives thee all thy might?”

“It was beautiful and heartbreaking and strong,” Christine Burgess, Shakespeare Company actor to win state. She prepared for nationals with Scott Jackson, executive director of the Robinson Community Learning Center, says of Tiana’s performance. “And when she took the stage... she was a presence in the room and she looked fearless.”

Tiana’s success reflects her growth as a student and performer of Shakespeare over the past eight years, during which time she has portrayed a number of the bard’s most iconic characters — the alternately vile and sympathetic Richard III is her favorite — and developed a deep appreciation for his mastery of rhythm and language.

“He’s so intentional about what he writes and how he writes it,” she says of Shakespeare.

Tiana is the second Robinson Shakespeare Company actor to win state. She prepared for nationals with Scott Jackson, executive director of the Robinson Shakespeare Company at Notre Dame and Burgess’ husband, by studying from a book of more than 80 monologues. She needed to be ready to perform a monologue at random if she made it to the final. According to Burgess, Tiana’s skill as an actor stems from her “openness on stage,” her ability to “really share with the audience, to be vulnerable and be present and take the audience on that journey.”

And Tiana’s success is not limited to the stage. She recently placed second in the Innovation WithIt 2018 Pitch Competition, a statewide business competition, with an idea for an Uber-like peer-to-peer tutoring app called NetWork.

She will attend Northeastern University in Boston in the fall as one of 12 full-fledged Torch Scholars — diverse, talented first-generation college students from across the U.S. Upward Bound, a Notre Dame TRiO Program that equips local high school students to enter and succeed in higher education, recommended Tiana for the scholarship, which includes a full summer immersion program, intensive academic planning and assessments, in-depth peer and professional mentoring and a wide array of social events that foster group identity and camaraderie.

Tiana plans to major in international business, minor in the arts and act outside of the classroom at Northeastern. Ultimately, she says, she would like to travel and engage with other peoples and cultures as part of any future career. She credits the Robinson Community Learning Center and Robinson Shakespeare Company, in addition to her family, friends and educators, for her development as a student and a performer over these past eight years.

“Being a part of Shakespeare has allowed me to find who I am with the people that I love, because it’s so safe and I’ve been part of it since I was a young age,” she says. “Being around such loving people allowed me to develop my loving personality, my fearlessness.”

To be (together) or not to be?
It was a short-lived question...
A career in reverse order

BY CAROL C. BRADLEY, NDWORKS

"When it comes to career strategy, you probably shouldn't come to me," says Alan Hamlet, assistant professor in Civil and Environmental Engineering and Earth Sciences (CEEES). He likes to say that his career trajectory has run more or less backward.

Hamlet, who joined the faculty in 2013, directs the Land Surface Hydrology and Water Resources Management Laboratory in CEEES, with a concurrent appointment in biological sciences.

His career path has been circuitous.

Hamlet graduated from the University of Rochester in Monroe County, New York, with a degree in math, routed out and predicting at the time he’d never go back to school. He’d been very involved in theater in high school and college, and decided after graduation to pack up, move to Seattle and pursue a career as a professional actor.

Seattle was familiar territory to him — he’d moved there as a child with his parents, who were both Ph.D. students at the University of Washington. “We drove across the country in our VW Microbus, my 3-week-old sister sleeping in a cardboard box. I was 5. Dad was in computer science at a very early time — in addition to being a Ph.D. student in math, he also worked as the system administrator for the university’s mainframe, which at that time was as big as a basketball court,” he says. “After a few years taking care of kids, Mom joined the Ph.D. program in speech science.”

After they graduated both parents found jobs at the University of Maryland and the family moved when he was 12 — he stayed on the east coast until he finished his first degree at the University of Rochester.

Seattle, where he moved back in 1983, had a very fertile art, theater and music scene. “There was a lot of fringe theater there at that time,” he says. “I did pretty well, and over time I got a lot of good roles and worked with some great actors and directors. I did quite a few new plays and wrote some too. Although I was pretty successful, the money was just terrible. So like most artists, I had to have a day job to survive.”

For a while he did odd jobs, including working at a bike shop, and doing singing strip-programs (down to a red speedo) for a singing telegram company. Eventually, however, he migrated towards car repair. In college, he’d had a summer job at an Austin-Healy restoration shop (Hamphills Healy Haven), and in Seattle he developed those skills further, first as a mobile mechanic working in the street, and later as a Volvo mechanic in an independent specialty shop.

“There was good money in repairing cars, and every day the work was piecemeal,” he says. “I could take three weeks off for a production and come back.”

In 1984 he met his wife and fellow actor/director Carys Kresny in a production of “The Memorandum,” a black comedy that parodies bureaucracy and conformity, written by Vaclav Havel (who later served as president of Czechoslovakia and subsequently the Czech Republic).

After Hamlet and Kresny got married in 1988 (this year marks their 30th anniversary), he notes he found himself working more and more at the Volvo shop and doing less and less theater. Ironically, he says, that was about the time people started calling him for more serious parts.

“I had a very small role in the Robert Altman movie ‘The Caine Mutiny Court Martial’ based on the play of the court martial of Captain Queeg. I made more money doing that one movie than in my entire stage career. I had a chance at a role on ‘Northern Exposure’ as the younger version of an older actor, but they wanted me to take three days off work and travel in two river basins, the Alabama-Coosa-Tallapoosa and the Apalachee-Chattahoochee Flint. He completed a master’s degree in 1996.

In a moment of pure serendipity, Prof. Dennis Lettenmaier (director of the Department of Earth Surface Hydrology Research Group at UW), “needed someone to do the kind of work I’d done for my master’s degree,” Hamlet says. “He had money from the Climate Impacts Group (CIG), and was way behind schedule. He just grabbed me as I was walking down the hall. And it proved to be a great opportunity. The CIG, led by Prof. Ed Miles, was the first Regional Integrated Scientific Assessment (RISA) team funded by NOAA (the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration). The group did a lot of cutting edge research on climate and natural resources management.”

Hamlet worked with the CIG for 16 years, finishing his Ph.D. in 2006, and served as a research faculty member for another five years. When the funding for the CIG changed, he applied for the job at Notre Dame. “It was a great fit,” he says. “So I got a master’s, did the equivalent of a postdoc and published extensively, then finished my Ph.D., was promoted to associate research faculty, moved here in 2013 and became an assistant professor. I basically did it all backward.”

His wife Carys is a theater director who teaches acting, directing and script analysis and directs productions for the Department of Film, Television and Theatre (most recently “Bliss Knot”). They have two children, Anya Kresny, who this fall will study dance at the University of Illinois, and Rhys Hamlet, a senior at Case Western Reserve University studying mechanical engineering.

At Notre Dame, Hamlet’s lab focuses on the complex relationships between climate, land surface hydrology (the movement, distribution and quality of water on Earth) and water resources management in both the built and natural environment. He teaches environmental hydrology, required for environmental engineering juniors, and an advanced graduate course on hydrologic modeling and analysis.

Regarding his acting career, Hamlet says, “It was a great thing to do in my 20s, and I don’t regret any of it. I took the time to follow a dream. When I left school the first time, my prediction was that I’d never go back — and I was in school off and on for 17 years afterwards. Become a professor! I didn’t have a clue.

“I think Notre Dame students need to hear this message,” he says. “Life is not over when you finish your degree and graduate. The choices you make as an undergraduate are not set in stone, and life is not predetermined when you’re 22. You can try new things, pursue your dreams (even if they may not be all that practical in the end), and you can change your mind.”

Professional Company
The Tragedy of Othello, the Moor of Venice
August 14-26

Touring Company
The Merchant of Venice
July 15-August 20

Community Company
Shakespeare After Hours
July 13

ShakesScenes
July 14

“It think Notre Dame students need to hear this message,” he says. “Life is not over when you finish your degree and graduate. The choices you make as an undergraduate are not set in stone, and life is not predetermined when you’re 22.” –Alan Hamlet

And the final — and obvious — question for a (former) actor named Hamlet? “Out of the 30 or so shows I did in Seattle, maybe six were Shakespeare, including one full production of Hamlet,” he says. “But I played Horatio, not Hamlet.”

Tours July 14-August 20
RecSports and athletics will share space

BY MAGGIE ROGERS ’18

The North Dome of the Joyce Center has a whole new look. The University completed the renovation in January of this year, just in time for the spring semester and the Walk the Walk Week luncheon. Facilities project manager Jamie LaCourt led the project, which began in August 2017.

Sixty-eight thousand square feet of new, durable, multipurpose athletic flooring (26,000 square feet of wood court floor and 42,000 square feet of athletic sport flooring) now covers the floor in the fieldhouse, also known as the North Dome. Additionally, electrical service has also improved to meet the needs of the wide range of groups that use the fieldhouse.

The RecSports facilities can be accessed through Gate 3. This area, utilized by University faculty, staff and students, includes three basketball courts divided by a retractable netting system to allow for flexible use of the space. Convertible volleyball and badminton courts are available as well as three pingpong tables. While faculty, staff and students have the opportunity to enjoy pickup basketball games throughout the day, basketball and volleyball recreational leagues are often scheduled in the evenings. RecSports shares the space with Athletic Department users. The fieldhouse is also home to the Cusick Family Fencing Center, and varsity volleyball uses one of the wood courts as its practice venue. In the summer, various summer camps are scheduled in that space.

“We pride ourselves on having the best fencing facility in the country, if not the world,” said fencing program head coach Gia Kvarantadze. “The installation of the new sport floor in the Joyce Center fieldhouse makes our facility almost perfect. It provides an optimal surface for practice and competition, enabling our student-athletes to train and compete in safety and comfort. It humbles us that our athletic department has made such an impressive investment in, and given a fantastic endorsement of, our program.”

More information about the hours of availability of the courts in the North Dome can be found at recsports.nd.edu.
Successfully leaders, like artists, begin with a vision. Like Father Sorin who saw in the piles of smoldering bricks not the ruin of decades of work but an even greater University. That clarity of vision and mission is also evident in the continued transformation taking place at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center.

“IT’s a process of discovery,” said Ted Barron, executive director of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. “Working within Notre Dame, we have access to experts all over campus. When we find ways to connect with those interests, I think we better realize the mission of the university.”

Striking examples in the 2018–2019 Presenting Series season Barron cited include Monterey Jazz Festival on Tour and guest organists co-curated by Larry Dreyer, Director of Jazz Studies, and Craig Cramer, Professor of Organ. Jazz legend Arturo Sandoval headlines an album release concert featuring the Notre Dame Children’s Choir under the direction of Mark Dierkes, Associate Professor of the Practice of Conducting. Aquila Theatre contributes to the campus-wide celebration of Operation Frankenstein, and Phillip Glass’s highly anticipated engagement includes a rare screening of the Qatsi Trilogy plus a concert honoring Glass organized by the Department of Music.

“Yes, our goal is to provide an enjoyable evening, but it’s also to use the powerfully emotional shared experience of the performing and cinematic arts to bridge divides between artist and audience, the world of the arts and the world of the academy, and campus and community.”

Let the artists lead the way.

---

**Announcing the 2018–2019 Presenting Series Season**

**IMPORTANT DATES**

**Monday, July 30**
Season Tickets On Sale

**Saturday, August 11**
Arts Night Out

**Monday, August 20**
Single Tickets On Sale

Come and See What’s Next at performingarts.nd.edu.

- Todd Rundgren’s Play Like a Champion Concert: Students Play the ‘80s | Sep 7
- Kristen Chenoweth | Sep 21
- Nathan Laube, Guest Organist | Sep 23
- Christmas with Arturo Sandoval and the Notre Dame Children’s Choir: Album Release Concert | Sep 28
- Aquila Theatre’s Frankenstein by Mary Shelley | Oct 4-5
- Clive Greensmith, cello and John Blacklow, piano | Oct 7
- Callisto Quartet | Oct 28
- Irish Theatre of Chicago presents My Brilliant Divorce by Geraldine Aron | Nov 1-3
- Justin Roberts & the Not Ready for Naptime Players | Nov 17
- John Schwandt, Guest Organist | Nov 18
- Raid Midon | Jan 26
- Michael Emmerich, Guest Organist | Jan 27
- Trike Theatre presents Go, Dog. Go! | Feb 2
- Postmodern Jukebox | Feb 3
- Christopher Marks, Guest Organist | Feb 10
- The Crossing | Feb 10
- Irish Theatre of Chicago presents Majo Mickybo by Owen McCafferty | Feb 15-16
- Rende Ellis Goldberry | Feb 23
- Czech National Symphony Orchestra with Isabel Leonard | Mar 5
- An Evening of Chamber Music: Philip Glass, Tim Fain, and Third Coast Percussion | Mar 30
- Irish Theatre of Chicago presents The Weir by Conor McPherson | Apr 4-6
- Monterey Jazz Festival on Tour starring Cécile McLorin Salvant | Apr 13
- American Ballet Theatre Studio Company | May 2-4
Shuttles will run continuously from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

**Route 1:** Library, Grace/Flanner, Stadium

**Route 2:** Center for Culinary Excellence, Mason, South Quad

#NDProud
#NDStaff
#workatND