Sole Survivor

Dangerous footwear and our deadly dance with beauty
Cover Story

Beauty & Death

Miss hitting the books? In this new occasional feature, your St. Norbert education continues as we profile a course or lecture taught by our own faculty. (And this time, there’s no final!) Join April Beiswenger (Theatre Studies) for Lecture 8 in her History of Clothing & Fashion course.

On our cover: Dangerous footwear and our deadly dance with beauty: sketches by Beiswenger.

Balancing Act

Living a healthy, balanced life means being intellectually stimulated and spiritually nourished. It encompasses stable finances, working at a job you love, and having friends and family who support and engage you. It’s living and exploring in a safe, nurturing environment, following your passions and daring to dream.

According to the Research

Two SNC undergrads are acquiring an understanding of the research landscape that would be the envy of many already well into their grad school careers.

In snowy weather: As the seasons transition, we say farewell for now to winter fun on campus (page 8).

In the teeth of the evidence: A bill named for an undergrad bound for dental school (page 8) makes its way through the Wisconsin Legislature.

In its first season: SNC launches its 12th men’s sport (page 9).

In perspective: Two SNC alums have gone public on their own health stories in order to encourage and educate others (page 20). We spoke with Jenny Scherer ’10 and Molly Schroeder ’13.

In pursuit of fashion: How deadly is your closet? Take our clothing quiz to find out (page 23).

In quest of loveliness: Ready to live on the edge? Check out the class on Beauty & Death taught by April Beiswenger (Theatre Studies): “How humans have tried to kill ourselves and others chasing fashionability” (page 23).

Incoming scholars: We share a video that we sent to our newest Trustee Scholarship awardees after we invited them to campus to honor their achievements (page 34). We think it will make you feel proud, too – and not a little nostalgic!
Between seasons

Spring makes its arrival before winter is ready to release its hold, creating fresh beauty on a campus that doubles as an arboretum for all to enjoy.

Say farewell to winter fun on campus. snc.edu/magazine
Joyfully called to mission

As I pen this letter, I’ve just returned from the Association of Catholic Colleges & Universities annual meeting in Washington, D.C. – a gathering of leaders in Catholic higher education from around the world. I came back with even more enthusiasm and optimism than usual, with an ever more expansive lens on how and why our tripartite mission – unapologetically Catholic, Norbertine and liberal arts – has never been more relevant. Has never, in fact, been more relevant in this world. Has never been more clear and vibrant, radiating into and out of every single thing we do here at SNC.

As I shared at the ACCU conference – in a presentation about mission-centered leadership – we at St. Norbert have intentionally created mission radiance. Our mission, every ancient and ever new, shines splendidly and brightly. It guides our every decision, from curricula to hospitality, from service-learning to athletics, and from care for the whole student to care of our campus. From the smallest acts (knowing our students by name) to the weightiest decisions (creating college policy and crafting strategic direction), we purposefully lean on this profound sense of who we are – who Norbert of Xanten and our founders called us to be.

Colleges that take mission lightly, weaponize it or disingenuously apply it are struggling. They will falter, if they haven’t already. Many will eventually close. Colleges that fully embrace our mission to serve far beyond the college campus, writes President Brian Bruess ’90.

Recognized for its mission to serve

Mission at St. Norbert is fully and formally lived at our nationally recognized St. Norbert Center for Community Service & Learning, recently honored once again with the prestigious Carnegie Community Engagement Classification. The Stuntz Center, says Bruess, supports and advocates for the work of faculty, staff and students as they collectively serve and advance the common good.

Without question, the greatest joy in my daily work is observing how even the most routine aspects of life in every building, every area of campus, and in the good works of our 24,000-plus students, faculty and staff have to offer an increasingly more sophisticated and effective learning experience as well as our steadfast belief in and guiding students with powerful tools that enable students to lift up others as they make a meaningful difference in the world, just as for St. Norbert this means equipping students to learn, grow, and care for all – educationally, spiritually, and Constance A. Jones of Bryn Mawr College.

Campaigning with Bryn Mawr is a beautiful reflection of the deep commitment our faculty and staff have to our students. It’s an increasingly more sophisticated and effective learning experience as well as our steadfast belief in and guiding students.

Bryn Mawr partners on tech

A new partnership with Bryn Mawr College is aimed to continue support of faculty in the classroom and provide more creative opportunities for enhancing innovative, technology-centered teaching techniques. The women’s liberal arts college joins with SNC to offer the respective schools’ teaching conferences on alternating years, starting with Bryn Mawr’s Blending Learning in the Liberal Arts Conference on May 20-21, 2020. St. Norbert’s next T3 (Transformative Teaching & Technology) will follow in May 2021.

The collaboration sprouted from a growing relationship between Krispy Lukens (Academic Technology) and Bryn Mawr’s CIO Gina Siesing and director of libraries Constance A. Jones. The conversation began after Lukens presented at the Pennsylvania school’s Liberal Arts Conference with Red Riggle (Education). Last fall, Lukens approached Siesing with this idea: offer the two conferences in a way that faculty could more easily engage in dialogue and learn from models of well-designed, technology-centric classroom techniques shared by their peers.

“In these conferences, we’re trying to foster community, which is innovative teaching strategies that use technology in some creative way to elevate learning,” Lukens explains. “But with our conferences being back to back, it became difficult for us to participate in theirs and vice versa.”

Siesing stresses that this partnership between two similarly established and well-regarded conferences gives a sustainable path forward. “It means that our conference planning teams are enriched and strengthened by working together each year to shape these programs for our cohorts of national (and sometimes international) conference participants.”

On their off years, both institutions plan to promote the other’s conference and utilize budgets previously reserved for hosting to facilitate faculty presentations. Lukens also sees a future in which both institutions have faculty working together virtually in the classroom: “Sometimes you need that first face-to-face meeting to really connect and see what the possibilities could be over long distance.”

Full Spectrum Learning at SNC, a T3 sponsor, plans to fund up to eight $1,000 travel grants for those presenting at this year’s Blended Learning Conference.

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**Music**

Slovakian jazz trumpeter Jura Bartoš performs March 28 at the Wisconsin Trumpet Guild Conference, held at UW-Green Bay’s Weidner Center for the Performing Arts.

**Jamie Karp Waroff** (Music), collaborated with UWGB’s Adam Ganes to host the conference, which will feature a day’s worth of trumpet master classes, recitals by Wisconsin-based performers, an evening concert and exhibits.

Bartoš is hosted through the two schools’ joint International Visiting Scholar initiative.

**Executive development**


**Chemistry**


**Business ethics**

“When Vanily Is Dangerous,” by Grant Rozeboom (Business Administration), was recently published in “Philosophy & Public Affairs.”

**Physics**

The Journal of Molecular Liquids has published a paper co-authored by undergraduates Caden Stippich ’21 and Cullen Voss ’21 with Nick Mauro (Physics) and research partners from North Central College. The paper is titled “X-ray Scattering Investigation of Ion Aggregation in Indolizinium-Based Ionic Liquids Upon Doping with Lithium, Sodium, Potassium, Rubidium and Cesium Salts.”

**Honors**

SNC honorees 101 students partner-ed with Definitly De Pere, the City of De Pere and On Broadway to study three community issues, the development of public art, the feasibility and desirability of creating multi-dwelling family housing in a home plus guest house on one lot; and possible uses and programming for Green Bay’s Shipyard Project, a vacant brownfield in the midst of transformation into a tourist and recreational area. Some current ideas for the latter include creating赛季表的管理 programming for the property and outfitting old shipping containers for use by microbusinesses. The students researched the issues, conducted site visits and studied project plans before presenting their findings – plus new ideas of their own – to the groups. Typically, Honors 151 involves research into local businesses. This year’s program branched out into community development. The group had pretty good feedback from everybody involved, said Joel Mauro (Philosophy), director of the honors program.

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**Noted / An Ongoing Tradition of Leadership**

**Bailey’s Bill gets teeth**

A bill providing scholarships to Wisconsin dentistry grad students who promise to work in underserved rural areas has been nicknamed “Bailey’s Bill” because Miller is a constituent of his. Bailey was a constituent of his.

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Brig. Gen. Jill A. (Beaudoin) Lanman ‘85 is to be the 2020 Commencement speaker. Lanman is the 13th SNC woman to earn her star. Lanman is the 13th SNC woman to earn her star.

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Risk, reward in the balance sheet of life

Risk lover, risk-neutral or risk-averse – economists often characterize people in these ways. Ask most of my friends which category I fall into and, nine times out of 10, you’ll get a laugh. Yet here I am, embarking on hazardous waters as I plan to take you on this one-page journey from economics to kayaking and back again. I’ve found that whenever I’ve chosen to embrace danger, notoriously risk-averse though I am, the payoffs have been life-changing.

My riskiest professional venture to date started with a call from a friend at another school on a Saturday morning – a call that would steer this economist, trained in the fields of international trade, macroeconomics and econometrics, toward the study of religious identity formation. I had recently been granted tenure, and my research focus was primarily related to issues of international trade and foreign direct investment. My friend was calling to pitch a new idea. He had a data set that asked questions related to immigration. He thought that, since we were able to publish papers on the ways religion affects attitudes towards globalization, along with macroeconomics and econometrics, toward the study of religious identity formation. I had recently been granted tenure, and my research focus was primarily related to issues of international trade and foreign direct investment.

We both knew this to be a risky project. Interdisciplinary work is notoriously difficult to publish. But it sounded intriguing, and taking chances is a part of the freedom that tenure allows. We found a great group of scholars who shared similar interests, combining the tools of economics and other disciplines to offer a better understanding of religious behavior. These scholars became our intellectual pack. Defying the odds, we were able to publish papers on the ways religion affects attitudes towards globalization, along with how it affects trust in others – more on trust later. We published on the strategies that megachurches have employed to be successful, and most recently, on how religious identity is established. We were able to host Nobel Laureate Gary Becker for a talk at SNC. We launched in fog, but the sun burned it off within 20 minutes. After about 30 minutes of paddling, we were in warm sunlight enjoying the incredible views that Nature was offering us. Some risks are worth taking.

A wise Irish saying goes something along the lines, ‘A man who is not afraid of the sea will soon be drowned for he will be going out on a day he shouldn’t. But we do be afraid of the sea and we do only be drowned now and again.’ When my family vacationed on Lake Superior – notoriously fickle in changing conditions – we tempered the risks by hiring an outfitter when we set out to tour the sea caves at the Apostle Islands. It was one of the best days of my life.

In memoriam mentor and friend Joe Daniels (1959-2020), economics in both the undergraduate and MBA programs. To be good at what we do, it is important to nurture passions related to work and passions unrelated to work. That balance makes us better able to relate to others. And when risk attends personal growth as well as work. That balance makes us better able to relate to others.

Religion Divides and Unites Us.” I get to do this work with a great friend, initially a professor and mentor of mine. More, it has forever changed my thinking. It taught me that taking some risks will lead to some of the most rewarding experiences life has to offer, and this is what I want to pay forward to my students. Leaving the hard-to-navigate waters of interdisciplinary research for the moment, let’s go paddle somewhere we can actually get wet. Labor Day weekend of 2010, my wife, Jenny, and I were introducing two recent graduates (Chris Zaczyk and Andrea Osgood, now Andrea Zaczyk) to our hobby of big-water kayaking. The weather had turned.

Andrea Zaczyk is one of my own heroes, Robert Putnam, Religion Divides and Unites Us.” I get to do this work with a great friend, initially a professor and mentor of mine. More, it has forever changed my thinking. It taught me that taking some risks will lead to some of the most rewarding experiences life has to offer, and this is what I want to pay forward to my students. Leaving the hard-to-navigate waters of interdisciplinary research for the moment, let’s go paddle somewhere we can actually get wet. Labor Day weekend of 2010, my wife, Jenny, and I were introducing two recent graduates (Chris Zaczyk and Andrea Osgood, now Andrea Zaczyk) to our hobby of big-water kayaking. The weather had turned.

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Josh Koleske ‘20 says the pressures he felt as the Green Knights’ last line of defense made his rigorous coursework not as stressful. The four-year soccer team standout packaged his success athletically and academically into a first-team CoSIDA Academic All-America selection as a senior.

“Rather than academics helping me play soccer, it has been the other way around,” the biology major says. “Being in high-pressure situations on the soccer fields helped prepare me for high-pressure situations in the classroom. When I have to take a big exam or give an important presentation, I am more relaxed because of the pressure I face in soccer.”

Koleske finishes a stellar career at St. Norbert with a 41-6-0 mark and holds the school record with 17 shutouts. He also kept a “clean sheet” in the classroom, posting a perfect 4.0 grade-point average. He earned three Midwest Conference Elite 20 Awards and was a first-team All-MWC selection as a senior.

“Being an Academic All-American is an incredible honor,” says Koleske, who will be attending medical school following graduation from St. Norbert. “Coming in as a freshman, it was my goal to be part of the second team as a junior. But also to be part of the second team as a senior, but also to be part of the second team as a junior”

The first-team Academic All-America honor capped off a season that also saw the Green Knights capture the Midwest Conference Tournament championship and advance to the second round of the 64-team NCAA Division III Tournament.

“Being an Academic All-American is an incredible honor,” Koleske played a key role in St. Norbert moving on in the national tournament, as the Green Knights advanced past Ohio Northern University in a penalty-kick shootout after their Nov. 15 match advanced past Ohio Northern University on a penalty-kick shootout after their Nov. 15 match.

The NCAA Tournament experience came on the heels of another big victory, with St. Norbert tipping archival Knox College 2-1 in double overtime in the championship of the Midwest Conference Tournament. The victory came on the Prairie Fire’s home field, turning the tables after Knox did the same to the Green Knights a year earlier at Schneider Stadium.

“Knox has been a tough conference rival for the four years I have been at St. Norbert,” Koleske says. “Each year we have met in the conference tournament and always been a great match. We have been extremely competitive with each other.”

Among many firsts, Staehling ‘20 made history on the gridiron made history. He shattered the previous school record in the indoor pole vault with a 16-foot, 10 1/2-inch jump, which is nearly 10 inches higher than any vault the Green Knights has ever been a part of, so being able to advance with my team to the next round was exhilarating.”

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“Knox has been a tough conference rival for the four years I have been at St. Norbert, so beating them is always special to our team,” Koleske says. “It was a hard-fought game throughout as it always is, and in the end I am glad we were able to be the more resilient team.”

That resiliency is an especially important trait during the soccer season. Playing a 20-game regular-season schedule in two months while battling the onerous Midwest Conference travel, plus staying on top of academic work, can tax even the most organized person.

“It was difficult to achieve in both of these areas because each requires an enormous commitment in terms of time and dedication,” Koleske says. “It was most challenging during the fall semester when I had up to four classes, including extra lab sessions, and had to go to soccer practices, workouts and games.

“However, spending time doing these things rarely felt like a burden because I was studying biology and psychology, both subjects that I enjoy, and playing soccer, a sport that I have been a part of almost my entire life.”
True to you in good times and in bad.

A wedding day in prospect. Sad news. A rapid change of plans. A marriage begins. A grievous loss. Finals to take. Life has a lot to throw at pharmacy grad student Sarah (Parhs) LeMay '18 since she and Andrew LeMay '18 became engaged. And not all of the events came along in the usual order. This January day, for instance, the couple are meeting with the Rev. Andrew Ciferni '94 for premarital counseling. It’s six weeks after their Dec. 7 wedding.

Sarah and Andrew were on course for a big wedding that should not even have taken place until this summer. They had asked Andrew to marry them at Old St. Joe’s. Although Sarah’s father (another Andrew) was struggling with illness, the outcome was hopeful. That would all change with a new prognosis just before Thanksgiving; his doctors did not expect him to live till Christmas.

“When they told us, I just knew,” says Sarah. “He had to be there.”

While the young couple started making phone calls to friends and family, Ciferni, board chair at SNC, reached out to fellow tutor the Rev. Dan Felton. Felton, vicar general of the Diocese of Green Bay, put the Norbertine in touch with the Twelve Sisters of St. Joseph. “I had never done this,” says Dan Felton. But he was right on top of it.

A couple of days later, Andrew picked Sarah up after school. They applied for their license and got their wedding bands, then Sarah started asking friends about vendors. Her roommate, Paulina (Puska) Fotie ’17, had just gotten married quite close to the Pubs family parish, where the church of St. Columbkille offered wheelchair access. She could recommend florist, musicians, photographer – “Oh, we had the whole thing!” says Andrew.

Sarah’s veil had come in, but her dress had not. She ordered a substitute online and wore it with a pearl necklace that her father had given her mother. “Literally the day before the wedding, Andrew FaceTimed me from a DSW shoe outlet. He picked out my shoes!”

The night before the wedding, Sarah and her mother practiced with a wheelchair in the kitchen so both parents could walk her down the aisle together. Mr. Parhs would die on his 55th birthday, Dec. 11, just two days after he saw his daughter wed. Yes, the couple will complete their premarital counseling – a Church-stipulated condition of their “grant wedding” and an assurance of the best possible start, and support, for life’s race together.

And the August celebration? That’s still happening. Andrew says, “We had initially planned for about 250, 260 people and we had about 50 at their wedding, so there’s a lot of people we still want to be able to share that kind of day with.” And Sarah will wear the dress, now delivered: the one to which she first said yes.

A passion for improving lives takes students to work at Caravel Autism Health, where their work to help kids and families falls right in line with the Green Bay center’s mission.

Jessica Pompilion ’20 is one of several SNC students on staff. While she’s studying math with plans for graduate school and government agency work, it’s clear her time with Caravel has been extraordinarily beneficial.

“When my first year at SNC, I’ve been babysitting a little boy with autism who was in therapy at Caravel,” she says. “His mom mentioned that the center was hiring. I was nervous because I had never really worked with children, let alone children with autism, but it’s honestly one of the best decisions I’ve ever made.”

Pompilion collaborates with other behavior specialists to create individualized plans for each client. The specialists are able to update families daily on achievements, some of their life-changing: a client saying their first words, perhaps, or riding a bike for the first time. Jessica DeMeuse ’15 (above, left), a senior therapist at the center since 2016, says it’s the day-to-day work and positive environment that makes the difference for each and every child who comes to Caravel. She hopes to have a small impact on a client’s life each time she works with them. In reality, though, she says, they are the ones impacting her life and teaching her so much.

Children who receive treatment earlier tend to make the greatest breakthroughs later on. A focus on the one-on-one partnership is a significant part of the process, too.

“When I first started, I didn’t know what to expect, but I discovered my true passion,” says Danica Wenderl ’20 (center). “Working with these kiddos is the most rewarding thing I have ever done. Even though some days are tough, seeing the smile of a client you helped makes it all worth it!”

Valerie Rivas ’21 (right) says seeing her clients succeed and sharing those personal triumphs with their loved ones is what she appreciates most. “I think my favorite moments are working with several different kids and seeing them try their hardest and succeed in their work while they are there.”

Pompilion says that while the children, and their families, experience an incredible amount of change at Caravel, her time at the center has pushed her to grow personally and professionally. “I’ve learned how to approach negative behavior in a constructive way, (how to) be flexible – and probably a million new nursery rhymes with motions,” she says. “But most importantly I learned about patience.”

Working to change lives

Norbertine Now / Who/Why magazine
Find a natural equilibrium

Contemplation – deep, reflective thought – is an integral part of the Norbertine tradition. It’s also key to emotional health. So a group of staff and faculty are working to incorporate more contemplative practices into the St. Norbert experience.

The group – among them Becky Lahti ’00 (Emmaus Center), Bruce Robertson (CAPS), Lisa Burke (CAPS), Laurie MacDiarmid (English), and Chrystal Woller (Health Services) – transformed a room in the Campus Center into a contemplative space (pictured), complete with floor cushions and a water feature. They are using the space to offer the campus community a variety of contemplative practices, from yoga to meditation.

“We want to incorporate contemplation across the board. We’d like it in the classroom, we’d like it in the residence halls,” Robertson says. “And then, really, our hope is that with Wellness by Design, it will kind of move across campus.”

They’re finding students not only receptive to meditative practices, but asking for them. Burke introduced meditation to her Gateway students; on the last day of class, when they were given the opportunity to choose any activity, they asked for time to meditate.

“Practices like meditation have been proven to reduce stress and anxiety and help with focus,” Lahti says. “There are so many benefits, and I think people are seeing that more and more and wanting to be a part of it.”

Burke recently returned from Cambodia, where she received training as a meditation teacher. She plans to bring what she learned to her students and others interested in incorporating the practices into their own lives. Here, she offers three tips for beginners:

• Slow down. “Slowing down your breathing helps take your stress way down.”

• Tune in to your body. “Focus on the rise and fall of your stomach, feeling your breath. … Relax all your muscles … and enjoy the relaxation.”

• Take meditation with you. “Meditation doesn’t have to be where you just sit in silence. It can be practiced when you’re walking. It can be practiced when you’re standing in line. … You always have your breath with you.”
Sierra Peters ’19 is a grad student in social psychology at Florida State University. Her research involves the forming and dissolution of romantic relationships. The not-so-rosy news: Marital satisfaction declines over the course of one’s marriage, possibly because of over-optimism and naivety as newlyweds. The good news: You can still have a very happy and fulfilling union by communicating thoughtfully, enjoying novel experiences together and supporting each other’s goals.

But whether you’re married or single, Peters says developing close friendships is critical to your health and well-being. “And it’s not about quantity, but more about quality,” she says. So try to foster a few close friendships rather than making a lot of superficial acquaintances. Because as time goes on, you will need people in your life who can support you in overcoming life’s various difficulties – people who really know how to make you feel better.

Peters adds that one of our core needs is belonging. So surrounding yourself with people who accept you just the way you are automatically helps you feel better.

Juggle friendships

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Neither Trish (Brick) Byron ‘82 nor Wendy (Coursolle) Reiss ’91 was particularly athletic as a child or while at St. Norbert. But by the time they reached middle age, things had changed. Byron started running as a younger woman, then got into triathlons in her 40s. She immediately showed talent in the sport, hired a coach and worked her way up from short “super-sprint” distances to full Ironman triathlons. That’s swimming 2.4 miles, biking 112 miles and then running a marathon, or 26.2 miles. Eventually, she won the women’s 55-59 age group at the Ironman Ironman in 2016, which was the setting for the South American Ironman Championship and which qualified her to race at the World Championship in Kona, Hawaii. In both 2016 and 2018, Byron ranked in the top 10 percent of female professional triathletes worldwide in her age group.

Reiss, a vice president of sales and national accounts for a New Jersey wholesaler, was an active runner after college, competing in road races, trail runs and mud runs. She also participated in triathlons. But when she was nearing 50, a friend persuaded her to climb Mount Kilimanjaro with her. The dormant volcano stretches roughly 19,300 feet skyward and is the world’s highest free-standing mountain. And so she did, signing on with a guide who also helped them explore the local culture.

What Reiss wants you to know
• Health is everything. It really comes first because without it, you have nothing. So you need to be good to your body.
• Wellness is mental as well as physical. • We’re always on the move here in the U.S., but that means we pass a lot. And life is short. So remember that things should be done deliberately and slowly, and you should expect things to happen. Live and enjoy the moments.

What Byron wants you to know
• The more you train, the more you can push your body and do things you never thought you’d be able to do.
• There were years when I didn’t do well. But I still continued racing because I always get a good feeling of accomplishment every time I cross the finish line.
• Anything is possible. That’s the thing. You don’t think you can do it, but if you take baby steps toward something, you’re going to accomplish it.
• Age is just a number. I feel so much younger than what my number is, and I’ll be able to do more and enjoy life more because I keep on moving.

Keep a sense of scale!

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Top, Wendy (Coursolle) Reiss ’91 stands on the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania. Above, Trish (Brick) Byron ’82 crosses the finish line at the Ironman World Championships in Kona, Hawaii.

Strong emotional intelligence is short. So remember that things should be done deliberately and slowly, and you should expect things to happen. Live and enjoy the moments.

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Seek work–life balance
Much of our lives are spent at work, so pursuing the proper vocation appears essential to a fulfilling and balanced life. But Mike Schmitz ’05, says whether or not you’ve landed that ideal job, you can still find much happiness in the office. Schmitz is head of The Conover Company, which produces an online career assessment and skill-building system to help employees with career discernment and soft-skills improvement. He says employees can flourish wherever they are if they have strong soft skills, namely good communication skills and strong emotional intelligence.

Emotional intelligence, a hot topic today, is the ability to be aware of, and control, your emotions, plus be empathetic and fair in your interpersonal relationships. Work on your emotional intelligence and communication skills, and you’ll be better able to roll with the punches and overcome obstacles. "Instead of complaining about things at work that cause you pain, look at them as opportunities for growth," Schmitz says. "Flip that script!"

Then, you’ll thrive no matter what job you’re holding. And doors will open to future possibilities.

Reflect on what tips the balance
Students grappling with their studies in vocation tapped deep into painful experiences—a career and others—as they wrote a series of outstanding papers for Paul Wudell (Theology & RS) in last year’s senior capstone class.

In “Discerning Vocation and Calling Following Experiences of Trauma,” Annika Osell ’19 wrote:

How do we have a realistic conversation regarding vocation with people who have been traumatized or have challenging life circumstances? Too often American society disregards these individuals and their needs are forgotten because they are messier and much more complicated to stand alongside them in solidarity. . . . If vocation is to be meaningful, it is necessary that conversations regarding vocation be extended to people who have been broken, traumatized and wounded.

A traditional understanding of vocation leads one to expect that everything within one’s life will fall into place nicely once one “knows” one’s call, but that may not be true for people who have endured trauma.

Osell concludes that the past can be drawn upon to inform one’s future: “For Christians, our best interest is a relationship with God that will bring us to heaven and will draw us into just and living relationships while living our lives in the present moment.”

Eight ways to wellness
With help by Designs, a college-wide initiative intended to foster a supportive, vibrant and active St. Norbert College community, focuses on the whole person. Well-being depends on a reasonable balance between eight dimensions of wellness in everyday life: physical, environmental, social, spiritual, emotional, intellectual, occupational and financial.

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• Age is just a number. I feel so much younger than what my number is, and I’ll be able to do more and enjoy life more because I keep on moving.
Miss hitting the books? In this new occasional feature, your St. Norbert education continues as we profile a course or lecture taught by our own faculty. (And this time, there’s no final!)

**Beauty & Death**

The Course Description

**THEA 237 History of Clothing & Fashion.** This survey of the history of clothing and its relationship to culture and society familiarizes the student with period styles from pre-history to modern times. We look at historical, cultural, and societal reasons behind dress, and endeavor to always treat the people we study with respect. *Lecture 8: Beauty & Death.*

The Classroom

**Virtual.** History of Clothing & Fashion is offered online as a 1-semester course. “There’s pressure to perform in the classroom that you don’t feel online. It’s challenging, because you don’t get to see the students face-to-face.”

The Prof

April Beiswenger, associate professor of theatre arts, teaches theatrical design and technology. She earned an M.F.A. in theatrical design from West Virginia University and an M.A. in theatre arts from Villanova University. Beyond her theatre work, Beiswenger is a frequent exhibitor in the Godschalk Gallery on campus, where she explores the theatricality of art, as well as the joy of craft and communal making.

The Reading List

**EXCITING HISTORY:**

“Corsets and Codpieces: A History of Outrageous Fashion, from Roman Times to the Modern Era”

Bowman, Karen (2015)

**EQUAL PARTS FAB AND FRIGHTENING:**

“Killer Style: How Fashion Has Injured, Maimed, and Murdered Throughout History”

Matthews David, Alison and McMahon, Sarah-Marie (2019)

**QUICK READ ON CORSETS:**

“A Second Look at the Big Squeeze”

Ruark, Jennifer in Chronicle of Higher Education (2001)

The Assignment

Choose one of the following and research how it is processed:

- Leather
- Cotton
- Botox
- Mascara
- Tattoo ink

Look through your closet and list everything you own.

For Extra Credit

Ready to live on the edge? Take our clothing quiz at snc.edu/magazine.

**For extra credit:** Ready to live on the edge? Check out the class on Beauty & Death taught by April Beiswenger. “How humans have tried to kill ourselves and others using fashionably,” at snc.edu/magazine.

**Chemicals of Doom**

**White lead**

*used for:* an even, opaque whiteness

*effects:* fatigue, anemia, weight loss, lead palsy, headaches, blindness, hallucinations

*fact:* used throughout history and into the present day

**Arsenic**

*used for:* an intense green dye for clothes, wreaths, gloves, wallpaper

*effects:* sores, colic, vomiting, diarrhea, anemia, death

*fact:* more dangerous to the maker than the wearer

**Mercury**

*used for:* processing fur felted hats

*effects:* Pink’s disease, comedions, trembles, psychological problems

*fact:* explains the Mad Hatter in “Alice in Wonderland”

**Belladonna**

*used for:* dilating pupils; as a muscle relaxant

*effects:* quickening of the pulse, confusion, seizures, hallucinations, death

*fact:* used in Roman times and in medicine

**Making Up Is Hard to Do**

**IN YOUR MAKEUP BAG, IN TRACE AMOUNTS:**

- Phthalates, disruptive to the endocrine system
- Lead, dangerous to the female reproductive system
- Formaldehyde, known as a carcinogen
- Polyethylene glycol, known as a carcinogen
- Butylated compounds, disruptive to the endocrine system and toxic to the organ system
- Parabens, known as carcinogens

**The assignment**

Choose one of the following and research how it is processed:

- Leather
- Cotton
- Botox
- Mascara
- Tattoo ink

Look through your closet and list everything you own.

**Sole Survivor**

**Lotus**

c. 950-1950

For feet deformed by Chinese footbinding.

**Chopines**

c. 1400-1700

“Stilts” to keep you out of the mud.

**Extreme High Heels, Women**

16th century

Catherine de Medicis first appropriated the look for women.

**Extreme High Heels, Men**

18th century...

... until the French Revolution. This posh fashion was a step too close to the guillotine!

**Platform Shoes**

1970s-90s

Heavy, clunky trip-hazards.

**Ballet Boots**

2010

By Alexander McQueen, British fashion designer.

**Prepare for Murder?**

A detachable stiff collar fashionable in the 1800s.

GERMAN, literally patricide

VATERMORDER WEARERS BEWARE: This accessory could cut off blood to the carotid artery or cause suffocation.
Two SNC undergrads are acquiring an understanding of the research landscape that would be the envy of many already well into their grad school careers.

By Dan Flannery

They’re still early in their undergraduate careers, but Luke Johnson ’21 and Ruthie Tucker ’22 are setting about creating tomorrow’s knowledge through original research – learning research methodology as they go, probing data, asking questions, collecting and collating and analyzing results, and, sometimes, reaching new conclusions about old quandaries.

Their learning environments are quite different, but both Tucker and Johnson are having extraordinary experiences – and making hay with the rich opportunities they’ve embraced. For Tucker, it’s been making hay with the rich opportunities of a professional context. He says, “I was able to start this position beginning of my sophomore year. It’s a mixture of a job and getting to do a lot of research and learn a lot of the techniques that, similarly, for the job aspect of this, are directly applicable to research. A lot of the things I’m learning are in SPSS [Statistical Packages for Social Sciences].” He’s also mastering Tableau, a software platform that creates visualizations of data projects. “I can imagine that we get a lot of those opportunities maybe a little earlier at St. Norbert just because it is a smaller environment and you have such a close relationship [with faculty],” Johnson says.

Johnson’s OIE work serves the full campus, “whether that’s a faculty member that’s doing some program review for one of their courses, or an outsider or parent looking at St. Norbert, trying to learn something.” It’s useful to him, too. His OIE role is a job, yes, Johnson says, but it’s one that matches well with his experiences in the classroom. For instance, he took a stats course early in his undergrad career. When he went back to take an advanced stats course, he found that because of his work in OIE, he was already ahead of the curve. “I can imagine that we get a lot of those opportunities maybe a little earlier at St. Norbert just because it is a smaller environment and you have such a close relationship [with faculty],” Johnson says. He says, “I was able to start this position beginning of my sophomore year. It’s a mixture of a job and getting to do a lot of research and learn a lot of the techniques that, similarly, for the job aspect of this, are directly applicable to research. A lot of the things I’m learning are in SPSS [Statistical Packages for Social Sciences].” He’s also mastering Tableau, a software platform that creates visualizations of data projects. “I can imagine that we get a lot of those opportunities maybe a little earlier at St. Norbert just because it is a smaller environment and you have such a close relationship [with faculty],” Johnson says.

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RUTHIE TUCKER ’22
Before you can start, you have to get started

Learning to be a researcher isn’t easy,
says Ruthie Tucker.

“I don’t think I’m excellent at it,” Tucker says, “but I think I’m improving how to do it. That’s what I think the research fellowship is, for us to learn how to do research. And that’s what the SURF [Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship] program is … learning what research entails.” Tucker’s work as a research fellow with SNC’s SURF program – operating with a student-and-mentor model – will study the relationship between ethnicity and education, a matter close to her. She began her work in summer 2019 and hopes to get approval to continue this summer, with mentorship from Alex Trumpy (Sociology).

Among multiple lessons in research protocol that Tucker’s learned, the process for Institutional Review Board approval is a most important one.

“You have to get approved to work with human subjects before you even do the research,” Tucker says. “I wanted to research high school students, and they are typically under 18 years old. I wanted to work with schools, and that’s a whole other thing. And then I wanted to work with minors. And I needed to report and then interview them. It was all these different documents and hoops I had to jump through.”

As a member of the Menominee Nation, Tucker’s experience in schools with mostly white populations raised questions for her about students in that setting.

“Does that affect their education because they’re surrounded by peers of the race or peers that aren’t of the race?” she says. “I wanted to know if that affects education, because it’s a personal question for me.”

After two weeks of considering options, she found her project’s focus: “SURF allowed me time to develop a question, how I wanted to go about the research process and just learn about the research process in the first place,” she says. “I just sat down and did a lot of thinking about it, like by the river over there. I felt like I was just thinking about my experience. That’s when I realized I always had that question [about the peer population surrounding Native students] and that I could research that sort of thing just by talking to the students.”

At the end of the eight-week program, Tucker was scheduled to present her findings. Without completed research yet, she was nonetheless able to educate many in her audience by chronicling the necessary legislative and other hurdles that have to be surmounted to reach even the first steps toward what non-academics assume research looks like. “I just presented what I did for eight weeks, and what I was working on that for the last part,” she says. She held her audience.

“I can’t wait until I can sit down with students, collect what they tell me, and present it to the school board or a tribal government,” she says.

A snapshot taken on the St. Norbert campus has led to an annual tradition, seeing Kristen (Broten) Dummer ’05 and her family (pictured) through five years – and a few baby additions.

Kristen and her husband, Steve, along with their three children, visited the SNC campus in 2015, and they captured the trip with a photo of the kids on the grounds of Krueger Hall. The Dummers welcomed their fourth child soon after, they made sure to update the family photo when they visited SNC the following year.

Since then, the Dummers have returned to campus each summer – oftentimes with one more younger in tow. Their last two trips included their six children: Finley (8), Declan (7), Harper (6), Lachlan (4), McAllister (3) and Torryn (1).”

“We just started using the college as a backdrop, I guess,” Kristen says. “I see us going there every year because it’s such a gorgeous campus, and there’s so many places to take interesting pictures.”

It’s also a way to connect her past with her present; she adds, “I love that when we have these pictures hanging in our home it’s something too from my past that I love, so it’s the best of everything. It’s my family and then it’s that history that I have there.”

The Dummers travel from their home in Hartford, Wis., to visit the campus for SNC Day and the annual Track & Field and Cross Country Alumni Reunion, which includes a kids’ run in which many of the Dummer children participate.

“One of our favorite things, and how we get them to kind of do well for the pictures – because it’s a lot of people to get to look at a camera and even smile – they love the center of campus in front of Main Hall, the cement benches there that kind of form a circle. And they just love playing and running across the top of those. … We always kind of save it for last and let them just go crazy there,” Kristen says.

Alumni OF ST. NORBERT COLLEGE
That’s one more for the scrapbook

Picture perfect
As the St. Norbert campus has grown over the years, so too have the photo opportunities. The Kurekil Meditation Garden and “The Conversion,” a 16-foot sculpture depicting Norbert of Xanten’s conversion, are recent campus installments that offer unique backdrops.

But many families – of alumni, current students and prospective students – often are found taking their photos in front of iconic mainstays like the SNC Arch and Main Hall. And, depending on the weather and the time of day, the Fox River provides a peaceful setting for photos, says SNC staff photographer John Devroy.

“I think it’s a great spot of photos for the campus itself. “The water can be as calm as a pane of glass in the evening, so there will be some brilliant reflections of the campus buildings in the water.”

cnc.edu/magazine

Planning a visit? The Kress Inn offers discounted hotel stays to St. Norbert College alumni. kressinn.com
When Sally (Hart) Serie ‘07 shared an insight about her family’s devotion to St. Norbert College, I was primarily interested in hearing how many SNC alumni have kept in touch through social media. Schmelzer says, “It’s always fascinating to see how people maintain connections and how they build bridges to new people.”

SNC alumni from around the country have used Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, and LinkedIn to connect with classmates. They’ve shared advice,内存 and stories, and they’ve built bridges to new people. This is an example of how social media can be used to maintain connections and build bridges to new people.

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SNC reunions: the 19th annual Alumni Basketball Reunion. Former teammates from both the men’s and women’s basketball programs commemorated their Green Knight basketball careers. The event included a tour of facilities and a physical therapy assistant tour. Scott Yager of the Department’s Bureau of Public Debt. He served as a director in Parkersburg and Norwalk, Ohio, and later the Tazewell County (Ill.) Health Department, serving as director for many years. He worked as an environmental instructor, teaching auto mechanics and professing his vows in 1948. She served congregations throughout Wisconsin. She is survived by nieces and nephews.

1929 Harry McPherson, Jr., of McKinney, Tex., and Niagara Falls, N.Y. He later worked for FMP Co., He is survived by his wife, Rosemary, and five children.

1931 John Kovarik, of Parkersburg, W.Va., died June 12, 2019, at the age of 82. He took over his father’s cleaning business, The Burgmeier Co. He is survived by his wife, Rosemary, and five children.

1935 Louis VandenBerg, of East Peoria, Ill., died May 13, 2019, at the age of 77. He worked at the Chicago & NorthWestern Railroad and the Wisconsin Department of Corrections. He was a crossing guard for many years. He served two terms as alderman for Inverness, Ill., and as president of the Palatine Village Fire Protection District in Inverness for many years. He is survived by his daughters.

1971 Jean (Martin) Bell, of Ogden, Utah, died Aug. 7, 2019, at the age of 72. She was an educator in many ways as a professional musician and published author. She is survived by her children, including Thomas Frijole.

1972 Michael Cornelius, of Honolulu, died Dec. 26, 2019, at the age of 68. He worked in advertising and media sales before beginning a career with The Pita Club-Clifton & Residences. He is survived by his wife, Victoria, and a son.

1973 Patrick Foley, of Green Bay, died Aug. 29, 2019, at the age of 68. He worked for many years as an electronics engineer at real estate industry. He also worked as an electronics engineer at Wisconsin and Total Services for the John A. O. Smith. He is survived by his wife, Jean (Martin), and four children.

1977 Charles Kranawetz, of Egg Harbor, Wis., died Oct. 7, 2019, at the age of 67. He worked in insurance and financial services for the John Kranzusch Bell, of Ozaukee County, Wis., Health Department as an environmental health inspector before serving as director for the Fulton County (Ind.) Health Department and later the Tazewell Community Health Department. He is survived by his wife, Bonnie ‘44, and three children, including Brett ‘94.

1978 James Thomas, of Crown Point, Ind., died Nov. 12, 2017, at the age of 89. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II before starting a career at A. O. Smith. He is survived by his wife, Alice, and three children.

1985 Robert DeBois, of Green Bay, died June 9, 2019, at the age of 90. He served as an electrical engineer in the U.S. Army, completing a tour of duty in Anchorage, Alaska. He is survived by 10 brothers and sisters.

1995 John Skibba, of Little Chute, Wis., died July 5, 2019, at the age of 72. He began his career as a manager for Bausch & Lomb. He served two terms as village trustee for Inverness, Ill., and as president of the Palatine Village Fire Protection District in Inverness for many years. He is survived by his daughters.

2014 Andrew M. ‘74, of Honolulu, died Oct. 10, 2019, at the age of 67. She worked as a crossing guard for the City of West Bend and as a musician in the River City Municipal. She is survived by her husband, Andrew ‘74, and four children.

2019 Bonnie ‘64, of Brookfield, Wis., died Sept. 8, 2019, at the age of 82. He took over his father’s cleaning business, The Burgmeier Co. He is survived by his wife, Rosemary, and five children.

2019 Michael A. O. ‘74, of Honolulu, died June 4, 2019, at the age of 79. She served as an executive assistant at MACB (Milwaukee Area Community Board). She is survived by two sons.

2019 Sandra ‘Wilma’ Dachelet, of Rosine, Fla., died June 5, 2019, at the age of 78. She was an environmental scientist at MACB (Milwaukee Area Community Board). She is survived by two sons.

2019 Dorothy ‘Kris’ Brown, of Racine City (Wis.) High School and Southern Illinois University, died June 21, 2019, at the age of 82. She was an educator in many ways as a professional musician and published author. She is survived by her children, including Thomas Frijole.

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2019 Alberta Baer, of Manitowoc, Wis., died June 21, 2019, at the age of 75. She professed vows as a member of the Holy Cross in 1946. She served congregations throughout Wisconsin. She is survived by two sons.

2019 Sister Angela Pape, of Oconomowoc, Wis., died June 21, 2019, at the age of 75. She professed vows as a member of the Holy Cross in 1946. She served congregations throughout Wisconsin. She is survived by two sons.

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Devin Thomas ’12 takes the role of Ely in the High School Musical episode “On Broadway.”

Green Knights share an ‘Encore!’

A “High School Musical” reunion turned into an encore for Devin Thomas ’12, who attended St. Norbert College as a music education major. The story was featured by several media outlets including the Herald Times Reporter.

St. Norbert College Magazine | Spring 2020

Noted

Alumni Lives

1982 Thomas Delboy was named the first vice president and chief financial officer and treasurer of Starbase International Corp., a business he helped create.

1983 Debra Waid became the first woman to hold this position at Starbase International Corp.

1986 Brian Crum was named assistant professor of biology at University of Chicago.

1988 William Conner was named associate professor of sociology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

1998 Nathan Perry became the first woman to hold this position at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

2003 Thomas Delboy was named professor emeritus of chemistry at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

2010 Christine (Krejci) Lehenbauer became the first woman to hold this position at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

2018 Seth Baumann was named assistant professor of psychology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

2020 Joseph Strother was named assistant professor of accounting at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Class Notes

1970 John Schmidt has shared his experience of meeting of his idol, playwright Edward Albee, at age 16. He later worked as the Head basketball coach for the boys’ “varsity” team and will work as an associate director at Columbia University.

1982 Joseph (Becker) Allen has been named a marketing coordinator at the Wisconsin Humane Society’s Green Bay shelter.

1990 Karina Wilkins has completed a Ph.D. in communication from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

2001 Beth (Baumann) Koehn is a master’s degree in communication studies from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

2003 Nick Lincese has accepted a position as assistant professor at the Community College of Milwaukee.

2004 Ryan Pink has founded Ryan Pink Vacations, providing comprehensive travel planning, operational services, special interests, and other leisure travel.

2005 Lindsey (Ponente) Methard has founded an independent creative director of College Painters, Inc. She has continued to serve as the college’s chief admissions officer.

2010 Kenji Yamanaka has a position at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

2011 Devin Thomas ’12, Callie Zipple ’19 and Amanda Mengel ’19 have graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

2012 Karina Wilkins has been appointed assistant professor of communication at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

2013 Kristy (Colvin) Simon has been appointed as the assistant dean of student life at Loyola Marymount University.

2014 Curtis (Zoellner) Benoit has been appointed as assistant professor of communication at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

2015 Mary Jo Grabner ’94 has joined the staff of the Pennsylvania Humane Society.

2016 Victor Newberg has been appointed as the first woman to hold this position at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

2017 alumno tomatoes has been awarded the Reddit Community Award for the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

2018 Robert Zoellner has been appointed as the first woman to hold this position at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

2020 Kristy (Colvin) Simon has been appointed as the first woman to hold this position at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

In your opinion

We ask, you answer – and that goes double for the latest magazine survey. For the first time, we went online with our survey and debuted in summer 2019. We wanted to know how alumni have made a difference at St. Norbert College and what they have recommended your school to others.

We asked, you answered. And here’s how the magazine’s readership responded. For the first time, you helped shape the direction of the magazine.

You’re invited to go to bat for your college, and we thank you for that! Actions like this, meaningful in their own right, are also reported at notably above the national average for similar schools.

• 34.5 percent have recommended your alma mater to a potential student.
• 36 percent have made a donation to SNC.
• 49 percent have attended a college event.

We gratefully acknowledge all those who have responded, including the students who have provided us with email addresses provided for drawings for $100 Barnes & Noble gift cards, and the lucky winners were Sarah Piepenbrink ’15 and Bob Brotherly ’71.
Friend’s loss, shared loss

We’re all connected to one another in more ways than we can imagine. Marquette University’s sorrow at the loss of its business dean became higher education’s too, and the more so at St. Norbert through the enduring scholarly friendship of Dean Joe Daniels with our own Marc von der Ruhr (“Personally Speaking”).

It’s a known thing about Marc over the years, it is that he set a high value on his mentor and research partner, a touchstone friend a step or two ahead of him in the academic journey: a man, revered name to me, whom he held in the very highest regard. So when Marc and I began talking about a topic for his “Personally Speaking” column, it was no surprise that this ongoing, formative and transformative friendship would weave its way into the place.

As we wrapped up the final edit for this issue’s page 10, the tragic news broke of a senior administra
tor who had been knocked down and killed on the Marquette campus. It was a desperately sad news. Friends of Marc and I became very close friends,” he said. “When I told Joe that I could not repay him for all his help, his response was simply, ‘You don’t need to, but you want to pay it forward.’”

Marc and I began talking about the relationship research can, literally, change your life!”

I’m not a therapist,” Bruess says. “Yes, this is my area of research and teaching, and I love exploring how to better engage in difficult conversations. It’s a time-honored tradition, and this year it was the turn of the Class of 2020 to enjoy the annual Senior Wine Tasting. The seniors and their alumni hosts enjoyed an elegant dinner paired with carefully selected wines. As they sampled an array of vintages, visiting wine enthusiasts John Sullivan ’68 offered pointers to help further educate their palates.

Recommended viewing: Impressive, special and at home at SNC

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Parting Shot / Hitting the Slopes

"Men do not quit playing because they grow old; they grow old because they quit playing." – Oliver Wendell Holmes Sr.