

SAINT MARY-OF-THE-WOODS COLLEGE

# ONLYX

Spring-Summer 2016



**POMEROY**  
Partnerships



The wonderful signs of spring are rapidly emerging at SMWC.

## Highlights

### Front Cover:

Having an open line of communication with the business community becomes invaluable for The Woods, students and the businesses themselves. *Story on page 2.*

- 2** Pomeroy Partnerships
- 5** Taking Education to a Global Level
- 6** There's HARMONY in the CONNECTION We Make
- 8** Catholic Identity
- 12** "Onyx" Survey
- 14** No Horsin' Around
- 16** Where in the World is \_\_\_\_\_?  
Woods Alums Experience Success
- 19** 12 UNDER 40 – MLD Alums Receive Awards
- 23** Photo Album
- 24** On the Avenue

Don't Miss a Thing! Follow Us on Social Media!

 /smwcollege

 @smwcollege

 @smwc

 /smwc1840

**SAINT MARY-OF-THE-WOODS**  
**COLLEGE**  
NEWS FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

SPRING-SUMMER | Vol. 91 | No. 1

Kristy Fry  
*Director of Publications*  
*Editor*

Betsy Elliott  
*Communications Manager*  
*Assistant Editor*

Sue Weatherwax  
*Associate Director of Publications*  
*Designer*

**Dee Reed '08**  
*Executive Director of College Relations*

Karen Dyer  
*Vice President for Advancement*

**Susan Turner '14G**  
*Senior Director of Advancement and*  
*Alumni Relations*

Heather Newman  
*Assistant Director of Advancement Services*

Contributor:  
Katie Shane

Please send correspondence to:  
Office of Advancement  
P.O. Box 70  
Saint Mary of the Woods, IN 47876-0070  
Phone: (812) 535-5270  
Fax: (812) 535-5245  
E-mail: alumni@smwc.edu

© 2016 by  
Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College  
Printed in the U.S.A.  
All rights reserved.



President Dottie King, Ph.D., shares about Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College at the Higher Education Forum held in Terre Haute. Representatives of all five Terre Haute higher education institutions shared their perspectives on how their institutions support the community in its desire to become a more prosperous place to live, work and play.

**W**hen asked many years ago to describe in one word the most unique and important thing about Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College, I responded with the word “relationships.” I continue to believe that the strength of the relationships formed at The Woods is a unique and defining characteristic of the College. I have witnessed the love and connection between classmates during every Reunion and in every class of current students. I marvel at the connection that is formed so quickly between the alumni of different eras. Perhaps it is our everyday reliance on Providence or the legacy of Mother Theodore and her companions or maybe it is a divine gift, but the bonds formed at and by the College are distinctive.

We have been blessed in the last few years by the formation of new partnerships in Terre Haute and beyond. It is one of my greatest joys to share a golf cart ride with community guests on what I call the Presidential Tour of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College. I love to experience the joy and amazement as they see our distinctive home and feel for themselves how special is the legacy. Many have joined our work in advancing the mission just as they did in 1840 when Mother Theodore reports that local farmers and businessmen assisted her efforts. Our newest relationships are with business owners, bankers, governmental officials, lawyers and many others. New friends continue to embrace our mission and help us as we move toward a stronger future. We are blessed by a heritage of partnership-building, friend-making and reliance on relationships!

Sincerely,

Dottie L. King, Ph.D.  
President  
Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College

# POMEROY PARTNERSHIPS

SMWC Builds Strong Alliance  
with Government, Business Community

BY KATIE SHANE





**F**rom the outside, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College may be a semi-small liberal arts college, but the institution is expanding past what traditionally might come to mind when you think of higher education.

After launching the first phase of a new strategic plan in 2014, the College has begun putting those plans and ideas into action. One major initiative pairs the College with government entities and the business community in an effort to strengthen everyone involved.

“I think it gives us an opportunity to invest differently,” explains **Rachel Leslie '14G**, vice president for external relations. “It makes us look at it and say, ‘How much time can we invest in these organizations so that we can really make a difference in our community?’ I know that sounds a little cliché but when you sit down with a business owner or an organization and say ‘What can Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College do for you to make things better for your employees?’ ... it really does come full circle.”

One of those partnerships is with the Girl Scouts of Central Indiana. Leslie explains SMWC took notice of the Girl Scouts’ strides in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education. With the same goals in mind the two began partnering on numerous female education efforts, including a \$10,000 scholarship. In 2015, the honor was given to an Indiana high school student, who also received the Girl Scouts Gold Award, which is considered the highest honor in Girl Scouts and challenges girls to lead, serve and make a difference in their communities.

“Our organizations are like-minded,” says Deborah Hearn Smith, chief executive officer of Girl Scouts of Central Indiana. “Besides our common desire to help build confident, highly-capable young women, we also share the value of lifelong learning. Our joint focus

---

**Left:** L to R - Dottie King, president, SMWC; Patrick Board, chief executive officer, Union Health System, Inc.; Mary Ann Conroy, chief executive officer, Terre Haute Regional Hospital; and Melvin Burks, chief executive officer, Hamilton Center, Inc.

**Top:** Back L to R - Sally Whitehurst, assistant vice president of marketing, First Financial Bank; Rick Burger, district manager, Duke Energy; and Duke Bennett, mayor of Terre Haute. Front: L to R – Marla Flowers, director of operations, Hulman & Company; Dottie King, president, SMWC; Jeanette Winchester, owner, Simple to Elegant; and Bernice Helman, vice president, Coldwell Banker Troy Helman Realtors.

---



on STEM and leadership development leaves a lasting impact on our communities for generations to come.”

The focus on STEM education is equally important to Duke Energy. Locally, SMWC works closely with Duke and gets support in terms of scholarships, events and camps for middle and high school students.

“We have supported the STEM programs along with The Woods, this partnership gives us an excellent opportunity to promote STEM,” explains Rick Burger, Duke Energy’s district manager. “What I like about it is that it supports a stronger workforce — a much stronger and needed workforce. I like the diversity that they have; The Woods is working to teach students management concepts and the skills that the world needs.”

Having an open line of communication with the business community becomes invaluable for The Woods, students and the businesses themselves. Leslie explains that by understanding what type of employee a business is looking to hire, The Woods faculty and staff can shape curriculum and student expectations along with giving that business capable employees to hire.

“It took us sitting down and saying ‘What can Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College do for you?’ to recognize what they can do for us,” Leslie explains. “You start doing that across the board with all the corporations and all the organizations and you start realizing the partnerships that are not only mutually beneficial but they end up benefitting the greater good.”

One of the major benefits of local partnerships was evident when The Woods launched its Bachelor of Science in Nursing in spring 2015. Approximately a dozen partners donated to the nursing program with supplies, beds, simulated arms, legs, etc. And, with an open line of communication between The Woods and local hospitals, Union and Terre Haute Regional, the overall program was created with specific healthcare industry needs in mind. Leslie explains that without those partnerships and initial information gathering, the program wouldn’t be what it is today.

“When we were in the research phase of beginning a nursing program, the healthcare partners were first beneficial by helping us understand the need for nurses in our region and then advising us on curriculum that is unique to the SMWC experience,” she explains. “Each health care partner noted an emphasis on EQ (the emotional quality of a nurse). We found ourselves uniquely positioned to provide this learning experience matched with intense education due to our faith based practices and beliefs and overall academic rigor.”

Students in the program gain experience through hands-on learning thanks to the Rural Health Innovation Collaborative (RHIC), an initiative simulation center. The mission of the RHIC is to improve and expand education and training of future health care providers. Unique to the Wabash Valley, the simulation center is

nationally recognized and available for all SMWC nursing students.

“The simulation center gives students early hands-on experiences while having the opportunity to collaborate with other health science students from other institutions,” Leslie says. “The students are placed in simulated, real-life situations and are taught and graded on their proactive actions and reactions to certain situations. The RHIC partnership is vital to the success of our nursing program.”

With countless partnerships in the works each becomes vital to the overall success of The Woods. When speaking about the numerous partnerships, Leslie concludes the connections are almost too many to count, which makes the reach of SMWC even bigger than its on campus network or even on a larger scale in the Wabash Valley.

“I think we always used to think of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College as a ‘Terre Haute college,’” Leslie says. “That is absolutely true, and we will always be proud of that and will always give back to this community, but we are more than that today.”

---

Many of the current nursing students attended the ribbon cutting of the new Department of Nursing.  
**Front:** L to R - Alixandra Shank-Mulligan, Katrina Withers, Nichole Willey, SMWC Vice President of Academic Affairs Janet Clark, SMWC President Dottie King, Chairperson of the SMWC Department of Nursing Marcia Miller, Shannon Lueking and Ashley McKee.

**Back:** L to R - Ashley Todd, Brandy Cook, Kendall Fowler, Farrah Johnson, Mattie Varvel, Jessica Wireman, Kylee Orr and Kaci Zimmerman.

---

# TAKING EDUCATION TO A GLOBAL LEVEL

---

## THE WOODS Introduces English Language Institute, Generation Study Abroad

---

BY KATIE SHANE

**W**oods partnerships are growing in the United States as its reach extends across the world, offering students on campus and off, a more global perspective.

In January 2016, the College relaunched the English Language Institute (ELI). The new offering partners with half a dozen sister institutes across the world. According to Brennan Randolph, vice president for enrollment, the goal of ELI is twofold: increase a student's competency in English and enable those students to adjust to the expectations of American higher education.

"We hope to create a pipeline for those who need English as a second language," Randolph explains. "While they are enrolled they will get the education they need and at the same time we want them to fall in love with The Woods."

This pipeline has been set in motion with the College's pilot program already underway. Randolph says he believes 2017 will see a larger enrollment into the program, which is considered a "feeder" into the numerous degree opportunities at The Woods. Randolph says ELI and other international programs are creating a whole world of opportunities for SMWC students.

Another major initiative The Woods is investing in is Generation Study Abroad, a five-year initiative of the Institute of International Education, which works

to double the number of U.S. students studying abroad by the end of the decade. The Woods is one of 500 institutions which have pledged to significantly expand study abroad programs and faculty-led experiences to its offerings.

"This helps us to put additional intention into study abroad programs," explains Faculty Fellow for International

offers unique travel opportunities and additionally makes students more marketable when seeking a career after graduation.

"From a practical standpoint employers love when a student has international experience because it broadens their perspective; whether it's two weeks, a semester or a year, the experience changes

**We hope to create a pipeline for those who need English as a second language. While they are enrolled they will get the education they need and at the same time we want them to fall in love with The Woods.**

— Brennan Randolph

Recruitment and Global Engagement and International Student Advisor, **Tracy Collings Richardson '88, Ph.D.** "We have set concrete goals, which caused us to look at how many students study abroad and then set goals for the next six to seven years to give more students the opportunity; study abroad should be part of a normal college student experience."

By giving students the chance to study abroad, Richardson explains the experience

how a student views the world," she explains. "It will give those students an edge."

These partnerships continue to make The Woods attractive to students. "I think we have people's attention, and they may be looking at us differently from the competitive angle," Randolph says. "I think the community is watching, and I think prospective students are watching."

# There's HARMONY in the CONNECTION we make:

## Music Therapy Grad Gives Current Student UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY

BY BETSY ELLIOTT

**W**hen **Jenny Plume**, Nashville music therapist and 2012 graduate of the Master of Arts in Music Therapy (MAMT) program at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College (SMWC), was presented with an opportunity to work at Barefoot Republic Camp that didn't fit into her schedule, her first instinct was to recommend her intern, current SMWC MAMT student, Dana Kim.

"Since I was unable to do it, Dana immediately came to mind. I thought that she would be able to do a great job," stated Plume. "We worked out the curriculum while I was in town, and she very ably carried it out and more!"

Barefoot Republic Camp is an inter-denominational faith-based summer day camp for children in kindergarten through sixth grade. Both children with disabilities and children who are typically developing from diverse racial, cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds participate in a variety of activities from paintball to songwriting.

Famous recording artists, Vince Gill and Amy Grant, hosted the camp at Grant's family farm in Franklin, Tenn., last year. Children participating enjoyed horseback riding, wilderness skills, mountain biking and archery on the 450-acre property — activities the other day camp venues could not provide.

Networking is crucial in the field of music therapy. Plume first met Amy Grant when Grant volunteered her time and talent for Plume's "Everybody Has A Story" recording project for hospitalized children. Kim

interned for Plume at the Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, Tenn., for her music therapy internship.

"I first met Jenny when she gave a presentation about music therapy at Vanderbilt Children's Hospital, and I went on to volunteer with the program prior to pursuing my music therapy certification," said Kim. "Observing Jenny really confirmed my passion for the profession, and I felt very grateful to complete my internship with her in such a special setting. She is the reason I chose to pursue a degree at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College."

Plume used her connections to give Kim a unique and irreplaceable experience with Barefoot Republic Camp.

"I had the opportunity to meet Amy Grant briefly during camp, and she was very gracious and welcoming," stated Kim. "She was very hands-on with the day-to-day operations of the camp and facilitated a variety of camper activities."

For the two-week camp, Kim led songwriting sessions for campers of all ages. For the younger children, they played instruments and utilized simple fill-in-the-blank exercises to create their own original song. For the older children, Kim taught songwriting tips and exercises which led to the creation of their own original song by the end of camp. The older campers were able to make a recording of their song and perform it at the camp showcase.

"I really enjoyed working with all of the children at camp," stated Kim. "I felt fortunate to be able to introduce many

children to their first experiences with songwriting and aid them in creating a final product they were proud of. I hope that this positive experience encourages them to continue songwriting and pursue their musical interests."

The experience changed Kim, re-energizing her passion and inspiring her goodwill. She said, "Seeing the children's excitement and passion for songwriting certainly reignited my own. Also, it was very moving to see the passion Amy, the camp organizers and volunteers had, and it certainly inspires me to continue to give back to my community."

Kim was able to rely on the invaluable knowledge and skills that she gained in the MAMT program at SMWC.

"I felt very fortunate to have the skills of a professional music therapist in order to facilitate these very diverse and often large groups of children," she said. "Not only did I employ all of the musical skills I learned, but my therapeutic skills and knowledge of child development were critical in making these groups successful."

Kim currently works as a music therapist at The Rochelle Center in Nashville, Tenn., a nonprofit for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and will graduate from the MAMT program in 2017.





DANA KIM – Current SMWC Master of Arts in Music Therapy Student

# CATHOLIC IDENTITY

---

WITH STRATEGIC PLAN SMWC  
Makes New Commitment to  
Religious Roots

---

BY KATIE SHANE

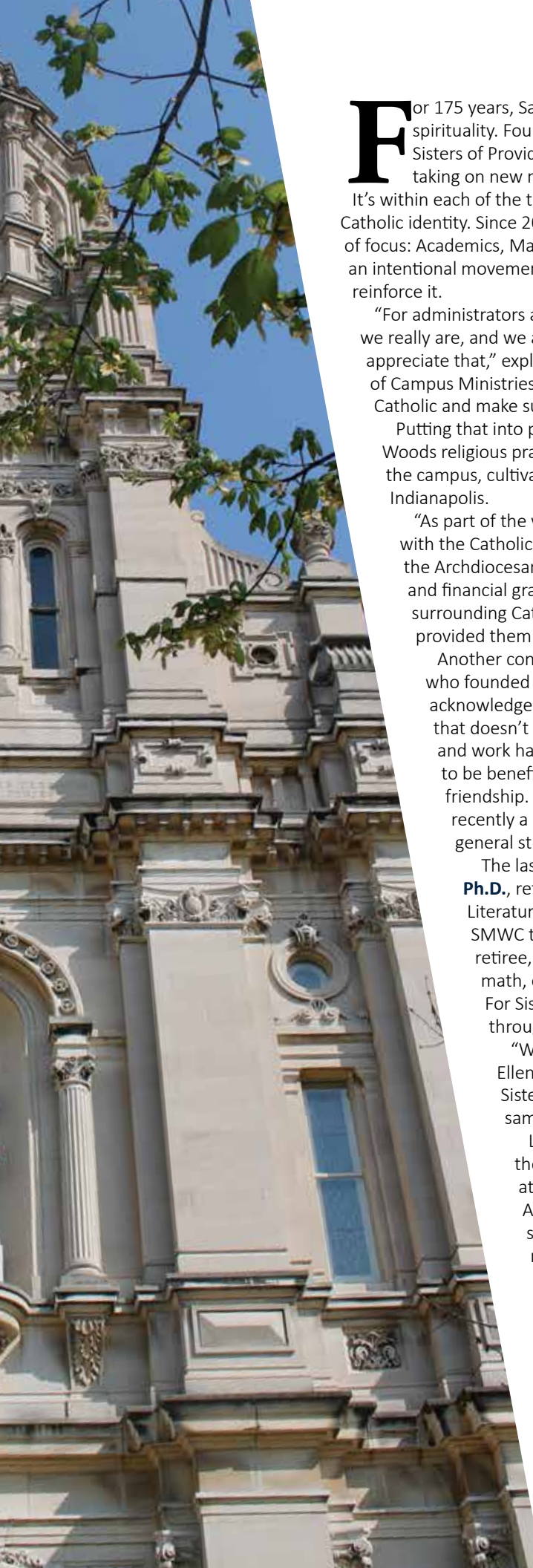


---

L to R: Sister Rosemary Nudd '69 and Sister Ellen Cunningham '61

---





**F**or 175 years, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College has been rooted in a strong sense of spirituality. Founded by Saint Mother Theodore Guerin and sharing a campus with the Sisters of Providence, the Catholic mission of The Woods has always been present but is taking on new meaning with the retirement of the last full-time teaching Sister last year. It's within each of the three pillars outlined in the new strategic plan — strengthening the College's Catholic identity. Since 2014, college administrators and the Board of Trustees identified three topics of focus: Academics, Marketing and Outreach, and Facilities and Environment. Within these plans is an intentional movement to not only continue The Woods identity as a Catholic institution but to reinforce it.

“For administrators and the overall College, right now it's very important to embrace who we really are, and we are a Catholic liberal arts institution. We want to bring people here that appreciate that,” explains Andrea Beyke, executive director of mission effectiveness, of the Office of Campus Ministries. “We need to put ourselves out there in an authentic way — say we are Catholic and make sure we practice that.”

Putting that into practice, Beyke works closely with the Office of Admission to promote The Woods religious practices to prospective and admitted students. She also reaches out beyond the campus, cultivating a relationship with the Catholic community including the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

“As part of the working strategic plan, it is the College's goal to expand our connections with the Catholic entities that surround us,” she explains. “Campus Ministry is active within the Archdiocesan Campus Ministry and Young Adult office, which provides events, support and financial grants for our students. We hope the many alumni who are active within the surrounding Catholic communities will see our presence and feel pride in the institution that provided them with the values they continue to hold true.”

Another connection to The Woods' Catholic roots is through the Sisters of Providence, who founded the College along with Saint Mother Theodore Guerin in 1840. Beyke acknowledged that the absence of the Sisters in the classroom creates a void but says that doesn't mean they aren't actively involved. The Sisters and College share a campus and work hand-in-hand. The longstanding Student/Sister Companion Program continues to be beneficial. Sisters are partnered with students to offer spiritual guidance and friendship. They also participate in various activities including Bingo, Prayer Services and recently a bonfire. Additionally, many Sisters serve as guest lecturers for many of the general studies courses.

The last remaining Sister of Providence faculty member, **Rosemary Nudd, SP, '69, Ph.D.**, retired in 2015 as the associate professor of the Department of Languages and Literature after 34 years. Nudd currently shares her knowledge of the Sisters and SMWC through the many tour groups that visit Saint Mary-of-the-Woods. A recent retiree, **Ellen Cunningham, SP, '61**, who retired in 2014 as a full-time faculty in math, continues to work and volunteer on campus in the Office of Advancement. For Sister Ellen, the connection between the Sisters and the College continues through many different channels.

“We may not be on the faculty at this time but are very much involved,” Sister Ellen explains. “I think there is a caring and a friendship and partnership that the Sisters care very much about the College and take a great interest, and I think the same is true for the College administration and students.”

Living the Catholic mission is shared by everyone on the Saint Mary-of-the-Woods campus: the Sisters, faculty, staff and students. During their time at The Woods, each student puts that mission into action by volunteering: Alternative Spring Break, mission trips and student run prayer services. Beyke says through service work students are able to appreciate the Catholic faith, regardless of their religion.

“I think that's the beauty of the Catholic church. We are able to live out our faith,” Beyke explains. “I think it's important for students to have the opportunity to see the amount of diversity of the Catholic church. Maybe one thing doesn't fit but another does, maybe mission trips are not up their alley, but they enjoy participating in music at liturgy. It shows the Catholic church is expansive and how beautiful it can be. Students learn how they can use those values to make an impact in today's society.”





*We want to hear  
from you!*

## ONYX SURVEY



We are asking you to take just a few moments of your time to share your opinions and suggestions so *Onyx* can best serve your interests. Your participation in this survey is entirely voluntary and confidential. We want to make *Onyx* a quality alumni magazine that you enjoy and are proud to receive. Thank you for your time!

[www.smwc.edu/onyxsurvey](http://www.smwc.edu/onyxsurvey)

## WE LOVE TO RECEIVE PHOTOS FROM YOU!

Provide identification of people, place, event, and date of occasion, also your contact information. Categories: awards and recognition, births, marriages, gatherings and SMWC family photos. We use photos as space permits.

- **Email:** 300 dpi for digital photos; send to: [alumni@smwc.edu](mailto:alumni@smwc.edu)
  - **Mail:** Provide a duplicate of an original (hard copy) photo. We retain the photo. Send to: Office of Advancement, P.O. Box 70, Saint Mary of the Woods, IN 47876-0070.
- Note:** A signed, copy-protected release form must accompany commercial/studio photos.



WHITE VIOLET CENTER FOR ECO-JUSTICE

### Organic gardening & animal husbandry Internships

- Work in a USDA Certified Organic garden producing for a 100 share summer and 30 share fall Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program, farmers' market and Sisters of Providence food service

- Work with a herd of fiber animals — alpacas
- Includes room and board, plus a \$100 monthly stipend
- 10 minutes outside Terre Haute



Apply online today at [Internships.WhiteViolet.org](https://Internships.WhiteViolet.org)

*Transform yourself... Transform your world*

**WhiteVioletCenter**  
for Eco-Justice  
*A ministry of the Sisters of Providence  
of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods*



# NO HORSIN' AROUND

## Equine Studies Develop Serious Connection to National Industry

BY KATIE SHANE

It's a big industry with a small network. The horse industry in Indiana and across the nation is so specialized, but so vast that only a small handful of colleges even cover the subject. Although small in size, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College (SMWC) is making a big impact in the industry.

Students are able to get the exact education they need for a successful career, but starting that career can be tricky. **Tara Lane '13**, the employer relations coordinator in the Career Development Center at SMWC, explains that the equine industry is made up of thousands of small operations, businesses and companies. For students interested in continuing a career with horses, breaking in is sometimes easier said than done.

"A lot of people don't realize the horse industry is very entrepreneurial," Lane says. "It is not like a business that has a human resources person, a payroll person, marketing person; so much of the industry is whether it's the top tier or a 'mom and pop' racing group. They depend on word of mouth and a lot of jobs and opportunities are not listed in the newspaper."

Luckily for Woods students, the faculty, staff and alumni network recognized that graduating students will need more than just a top notch education to make it in the business. For decades the Equine Studies Department has built relationships within the horse industry to benefit the students.

One of the strongest partners is just a few short miles from the SMWC campus. As part of the Mari Hulman George Thoroughbred Adoption program, former thoroughbred horses are given a new home and new purpose. The horses, who come from Mari Hulman George's Circle S Ranch on the east side of Terre

Haute, Ind., are trained and cared for by SMWC students before being adopted to interested buyers.

"Our students work with the horses for six to eight weeks. The students are exposing them to as many things as they can," explains **Angela McMillin '13**, equine facilities manager. "Another great part of this partnership is that all of the money made from the adoptions is donated back to the College. It helps us a lot, but more than anything it's the experience the students get."

Experience for students is the number one priority of faculty and staff. Described as a "hands-on" degree, McMillin says employers are looking for a future employee that can demonstrate knowledge and skill.

"That's the thing with our degree, hands-on is the most important, that's what the future employers are looking for, that's what they need in the real world," she says. "We want to give them the most experiences as they can have."

One of those experiences is working and partnering with the Indiana Horse Council. The nonprofit corporation works as an advocacy for the horse industry, along with providing education, legislation and promotion.

The Council and The Woods team up for the annual Mane Event, which has turned into a main event amongst horse professionals. The one-day outing, which just completed its seventh year, includes panel discussion, networking and a job fair. Each year the event has grown in size; becoming an event for not only students to attend, but professionals within the horse industry.

SMWC has also sponsored the Hoosier Horse Fair for 10 years, which is an

event of the Indiana Horse Council. The Hoosier Horse Fair & Expo, a 3-day event held at the Indiana State Fairgrounds in Indianapolis, Ind., celebrates and promotes the equine industry by providing clinics, workshops, a trade show and entertainment.

The Expo, which attracts approximately 40,000 visitors in one weekend, provides SMWC students the opportunity to work side-by-side with nationally renowned clinicians and industry leaders, assist with the operations of the event, as well as provide and present educational workshops. SMWC students use their leadership skills and the hands-on lessons learned at The Woods in this professional, equine setting.

"The Hoosier Horse Fair & Expo represents all things equine in Indiana. The participation of our students provides opportunities to see classroom concepts applied by accomplished professionals, the development of career-focused relationships, as well as cultivating hands-on situations that lead up to full-time jobs," stated Lane.

---

**Top:** L to R - SMWC Department Chair of Equine Studies, **Sara Schulz '98, '09G** with Mari Hulman George and SMWC Equine Facilities Manager **Angela McMillin '13** at the Thoroughbred Adoption.

**Middle:** Student Sarah Kenderdine with one of the horses she worked with to prepare for the Mari Hulman George Thoroughbred Adoption.

**Bottom:** L to R - Assistant Professor of Equine Studies, Debra Powell; Indiana Horse Council President and 2006 SMWC Graduate, **Jennifer Wilson Reagan**; and SMWC students Frances Garrett and Vivian Hansen attended the Mane Event.

---





# WHERE IN THE WORLD IS \_\_\_\_\_ ? (fill in the blank)



**Name:** Krysten McDaniel '13

**Location:** Front cover of "North American Whitetail" magazine

**Status:** Record-setting Hunter and Under Armour Women's Athlete

A native of Terre Haute, Ind., and a 2013 Woods Online graduate, **Krysten McDaniel '13** is a professional hunter and television personality. McDaniel's record-breaking kill in November 2014 landed her on the cover of the "North American Whitetail 2015 DIY Special."

In 2013, McDaniel graduated from Woods Online with a degree in marketing. She says the flexible program and understanding faculty and staff of SMWC made the degree a target she nailed.

"The Woods Online program made it possible for me to pursue my dreams while earning my degree," she explains. "It made it possible for me travel across the country and even the world including Africa, New Zealand and Canada, without sacrificing my education."

In 2015, McDaniel hit another bull's-eye, announcing she was selected as an Under Armour Hunt Women's Athlete.

The magazine cover and Under Armour deal continue to generate press, attention and new opportunities. With her degree in marketing from SMWC, McDaniel says she dreams of combining her two passions into a career in the hunting industry.

**Krysten McDaniel '13** proudly holds the "2015 DIY Special" issue of *North American Whitetail* magazine that features her record-breaking kill.



**Name:** Teresa Eddy '16

**Location:** Fashion Institute of Technology

**Status:** Administrative Assistant at the School of Art and Design

Terre Haute, Ind., native, **Teresa Eddy '16** knew exactly where her dream job was – the Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT). When those at FIT told her that they would hire her if she obtained her degree, she knew exactly where she needed to go.

"Everything hinged on a degree at SMWC," she said.

Eddy had taken some courses through the WED program (now Woods Online) at SMWC in the late 1970s. But life got in the way, and she put that dream to the side while she raised her son and put him through college. She started classes again through Woods Online in fall 2011, and relocated to New York City in 2013. Eddy graduated with a bachelor's degree in business administration in January 2016.

Now, as administrative assistant at FIT's School of Art and Design, Eddy attributes her success to SMWC.

**Teresa Eddy '16**, administrative assistant at Fashion Institute of Technology, graduated from Woods Online with her bachelor's in business administration.

# Woods Alums Experience Success

BY BETSY ELLIOTT

**Name: Erin Mason Flynn '93**  
**Location: "Vogue JAPAN"**  
**Status: Jewelry Designer**

**Erin Flynn '93** began her own Etsy jewelry business in 2009. She calls it her funky jewelry, art and accessory store. An artist and art teacher, of Cleveland, Ohio, Flynn says she is inspired by everyday objects transformed, tattoos, toys, pop culture and contemporary art. To her delight, her work also inspired the editor of "Vogue JAPAN," whose assistant contacted her late 2014 about her jewelry.

Flynn's jewelry isn't what you would call "typical." Many of the items in her store are fashioned from Barbie doll shoes and accessories, Army men figures and other small toys. Her quirky style and design aesthetic was more than enough to catch the attention of "Vogue JAPAN" editor. She sent them several pieces, hoping to see them featured in the magazine.

"I had no idea they would use them, but they did for the March and April 2015 issues," said Flynn. "It's been very exciting."

An image in the magazine shows a model clutching a purse with a Barbie shoe bracelet on her wrist – the bracelet came from Chippy Flynn Jewelry, Flynn's Etsy store.

Flynn graduated from the WED program (now Woods Online) program in 1993 with a bachelor's degree in art.



**Erin Mason Flynn '93's** jewelry piece, the Barbie doll shoe bracelet, from her Etsy store, Chippy Flynn Jewelry, was featured in this image in the March 2015 issue of "Vogue JAPAN."

**Name: Cindy Leak Ely '08**  
**Location: "Chicken Soup for the Soul" Publications**  
**Status: Author**

After nearly three decades of working in education, this Greenwood, Ind., native had an essay – her first official work as a professional writer – included in the newest edition of "Chicken Soup for the Soul: Time to Thrive."

**Cindy Ely '08's** piece in the book, "Boost to My Confidence," is about achieving her goal of obtaining her college degree. She began college after graduating high school in 1969, but dropped out when she got married and started her family. Ely made a promise to herself and her late father that she would go back. It took nearly four decades, but in 2008, Ely graduated with honors with a degree in professional writing from SMWC.

After graduation, Ely put her new skills to good use, writing numerous essays she submitted to "Chicken Soup for the Soul." Success came for Ely yet again, when her Christmas story "Christmas at the Creek," was published in "Chicken Soup for the Soul: Merry Christmas."

She attributes much of her newfound success to her time at The Woods, not only as material to put into her work, but for giving her the confidence to follow her dreams. Ely says without SMWC she may have never realized her true potential.

"Even though I have had people say that I am pretty good at writing," she says, "I'm not sure if I would have taken the chance. None of this would have happened without Saint Mary-of-the-Woods."



**Cindy Leak Ely '08** on the bench that is part of her story about her family's Christmas adventures at McCormick's Creek Canyon Inn. Her children purchased this bench last Christmas to honor Cindy and her husband.

# Woods Alums Experience Success

*Name: Jayson Boyers '09G*  
*Location: Cleary University*  
*Status: President*

Since completing the Master of Leadership Development (MLD) program in 2009, **Jayson Boyers** has had three career advancements. Most recently, Boyers was named the president of Cleary University in Ann Arbor, Mich. Boyers became the tenth president in Cleary University's 132-year history on October 1, 2015.

Boyers was already interested in organizational leadership when he came to The Woods. In fact, it's the reason he chose the MLD program.

"I was really fascinated with leadership, and I had the long term goal of leading an organization," said Boyers. "It gave me valuable, marketable skills because it wasn't just about understanding business but about creating leadership capacity within an organization."

With over 13 years of experience in higher education, Boyers has achieved ambitious goals. While attending SMWC, Boyers was regional president of the Chef's Academy of Harrison College in Indianapolis, Ind. For his final MLD project, he created a market expansion model, which Harrison College implemented to open a location in Raleigh, N.C. Boyers became the national division president of the Chef's Academy and moved to North Carolina.

His next career move took him to Vermont where he was the vice president and managing director of Champlain College's Division of Continuing Professional Studies (National Online Division). In this role, his efforts successfully expanded the division's footprint on a national level through development of an online, ecommerce model.

"I have used the competencies that I gained in the program to help me understand the journey to solve the problem not just to try to get an easy answer to the problem," he stated. "I had some really outstanding professors. Working and getting to know people in my cohort was really encouraging."



**Jayson Boyers '09G**, MLD graduate, became the tenth president in Cleary University's 132-year history on October 1, 2015.

A promotional banner for Homecoming 2016. On the left, four students (three women and one man) are smiling and wearing dark blue t-shirts with "HOME" printed on them. On the right, the text "SAVE THE DATE! HOMECOMING 2016 SATURDAY, OCT. 1ST" is displayed in large, bold, blue and white letters against a white background with blue horizontal stripes.

# 12



**Brandon Halleck '11G, Stephanie Miller Pence '13G, SMWC President Dottie King, Ph.D., Rachel Leslie '14G, Susan Snider Turner '14G** at the 12 Under 40 award ceremony.

# UNDER

**T**he Master of Leadership Development (MLD) program at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College (SMWC) develops confident leaders who graduate ready to make an impact in their communities. It was no surprise, then, that when the Terre Haute Chamber of Commerce announced the honorees of the inaugural 12 Under 40 awards, four of them were MLD alums: **Brandon Halleck '11G, Rachel Leslie '14G, Stephanie Miller Pence '13G** and **Susan Snider Turner '14G**. These young leaders in the Wabash Valley were recognized for leading by example and making a difference in their current positions.

“We always love to hear about the successes that our MLD grads experience after completing the program,” stated Susan Decker, director of the MLD program. “The MLD program is a results-driven program that encourages students to lead with integrity. Learning to identify and overcome obstacles in a classroom setting allows our graduates to inspire and motivate others in the workplace.”

# 40

# MLD ALUMS RECEIVE . . .

## Brandon Halleck '11G

chief operating officer of  
Chances and Services  
for Youth

Halleck, 2011 MLD graduate, created the successful Dancing with the Terre Haute Stars fundraiser and has organized the event for the past nine years to raise money for Chances and Services for Youth (CASY). A professional ballroom dancer himself, Halleck is also the owner of The Dance Studio in Terre Haute. Halleck focused on not-for-profit leadership in the MLD program.

"The MLD program not only allowed me to grow professionally but personally as well. The educational experiences, networking with those in your field and further developing the necessary skills to become true servant leaders, were all brought to fruition with the MLD program," Halleck said. "The experiences I gained from this program allowed me to better observe and listen to those around me, to collaborate with those seeking a common goal and to provide a voice for those unable to speak for themselves - the children we serve every day. These are all qualities we seek to become servant leaders... all qualities that are firmly rooted in the principles of the MLD program at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods."



## Stephanie Pence '13G

course manager for  
Police Technical

Pence graduated from the MLD program in 2013 and is known throughout the Wabash Valley as owner of Hallie Hound Barkery, which she founded to provide homemade natural dog treats. She has been involved with many organizations such as Terre Haute Young Leaders, Terre Haute Humane Society, Downtown Terre Haute and Junior Achievement. Pence also serves on the torch committee for the Terre Haute Bicentennial Celebration and volunteers with the Sugar Creek and Honey Creek fire departments to teach fire prevention and safety to children.

"Being honored with the 12 Under 40 award as a young small business owner means a lot. There was a lot of blood, sweat and tears in the foundation of Hallie Hound Barkery, and I know that without the MLD program it would not be where it is today. The MLD program gave me the blue print to build on the foundation I had started with the business," said Pence. "The degree also gives me skills I use every day at Police Technical to help land large contracts and work with personnel all over the U.S. Dealing with Federal agencies such as the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) or the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is a lot different than when you deal with State and local law enforcement."



**To learn more about the MLD program, visit [www.smwc.edu/mld](http://www.smwc.edu/mld).  
For more information about the award, visit [www.12under40.com](http://www.12under40.com).**

*Photos courtesy of Terre Haute Chamber of Commerce and Joe Garza, Tribune-Star*

## Rachel Leslie '14G vice president for external relations at SMWC

Leslie created a corporate giving program at the College and helped launch the \$11 million Pomeroy Pride Campaign to build the Jeanne Knoerle Sports and Recreation Center. Additionally, Leslie worked as the executive vice president at the Terre Haute Chamber of Commerce and served as a founding member of Terre Haute Young Leaders. She currently serves on several boards including the Terre Haute International Airport Authority, United Way and Vigo County Education Foundation.

"There are many reasons why I find myself recommending the MLD program," said Leslie. "However, my favorite attribute is the confidence-building that takes place during the life of the program. You are in constant contact with other professionals aspiring to excel and grow professionally and personally, and learning how to serve your community better. The encouragement offered to one another motivates a new level of confidence."



## Susan Turner '14G senior director of advancement and alumni relations at SMWC

Before bringing her expertise to The Woods, Turner worked in marketing and public relations for Union Associated Physicians (UAP) Clinic and Vermillion Rise Mega Park. Additionally, she has volunteered her time and talent to Downtown Terre Haute, Junior Achievement, Terre Haute Young Leaders, The Essence of Red and United Way. At SMWC, she provides leadership to the department of advancement, works closely with alumni, leads the SMWC Alumni Association and is the coordinator of the Wabash Valley Leadership Institute (WVLI), which is holding its fourth cohort this spring.

"I can honestly say the MLD program changed my professional life. I learned more about myself in that 12 months than I had in a long time. I not only learned about my leadership style, but I also learned a lot about who I am as a person and what is important to me," stated Turner. "Having the opportunity to collaborate on the Wabash Valley Leadership Institute feasibility study, and ultimately implementing the program, was the icing on the cake. I'm so proud of this program and all the good it is doing in our region."

Leslie and Turner, both 2014 MLD grads, are co-creators of the WVLI.







# PHOTO ALBUM



- 1 **Barbara Thier Morris '65** is surrounded by her six grandsons on Cape Cod during a family fun gathering.
- 2 **Stephanie Miller Pence '13G** and husband Nathan found a creative way to announce they are expecting!
- 3 **Jeanette Eichmuller Livingston '97** welcomed Morgan Elizabeth on Sept. 21, 2015. Proud big sisters and brothers Madison, Maelin, Malcom and Mason are very excited and wonderful mommy helpers.
- 4 **Nora Dalipi '13** and **Heather Ennis '14** in Salsburg, Austria.
- 5 **Mary Wade Kiscaden '81, Kathy Burke-McCaskey '81** and **Sherry Flanagan Adams '81** at Kathy's wedding in July 2015.
- 6 **Barbara Reder, SP, '64, Rachel Eberle Ambrose '64** and **Marcia Reder Schmidt '72** aboard the "Freedom of the Seas" in the Virgin Islands in January 2016.
- 7 **Susan Maxheim Carter '64**, left, is pictured with her husband, Peter, at their 50th wedding anniversary party on Jan. 10, 2016. Her sister, **Leas Maxheim Kamieniecki '69**, is on the right at the festive event in Garden Grove, Calif.
- 8 Scarlett Anne and Sadie Maureen Feigel born May 22, 2015, to **Sarah Flak, '09G**. They are granddaughters of **Anne Franklin '78**, great granddaughters of **Joan Birchler Franklin '53**, and grandnieces of **Kathleen Franklin Peterson '81**.
- 9 Friends and family of **Michele Mostes Hawley '78** gathered on Aug. 15, 2015. They met for Michele's birthday and the Feast of the Assumption to celebrate Michele's life at the St. Mother Theodore Guerin Chapel at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Ft. Wayne, Ind. L to R: **Ellen Murphy '79, Cathy Nolan Balay '78, Kim Alexander '78, Ann Hartman Stolte '79, Anne Walsh Walton '78, Susan Carroll Finley '78**, and **Nancy Hunter Miller '79**. Father Peter Deede, associate pastor, celebrated the Memorial Mass.
- 10 Olivia June must be dreaming of her Woods Ring Day! She is the daughter of **Laura Pair O'Neal '00**.
- 11 **Maureen Phillips '66, Pat Pratka Womack '65** and **Mary "Bobbie" Barrett '65**, are at the Grand Canyon.



### #WoodsGivingDay

SMWC held its inaugural WoodsGivingDay on Giving Tuesday, December 1, 2015, and raised \$48,712 in 24 hours. A phonathon, social media hashtag campaign and on-campus activities all contributed to the success of the day.

**\$48,712**  
**24**  
**HOURS**

SMWC set a goal of 175 unique donors in honor of the College's 175th anniversary and surpassed that goal with 265 unique donors in 24 hours. The breakdown of those unique donors was as follows: 200 alums, 25 faculty/staff, 32 friends and 8 students. Young alums and students were encouraged to give \$18.40 in honor of the founding year of the College; thirty-six gifts of that amount were donated.

### Ethics Bowl

The Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College Ethics Bowl team finished in ninth place at the Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl, an initiative of the Association for Practical and Professional Ethics (APPE), on February 21, 2016. The Woods was one of 36 final teams advancing out of ten regional competitions from across the United States. SMWC tied for ninth place, missing advancement to the finals by only ten points.

SMWC's Team I qualified to compete at Nationals and consisted of Jacqueline Peterschmidt, Dagny Gargas and Lacey Humphrey. SMWC's Team II, Casey Dust, Madison Summerlot, Macy Dorman and Ashleigh Pflum, helped prepare the team and travelled to the competition. The teams are required to dialog about and defend their moral assessment of cases prepared by APPE faculty, professionals and researchers.

### VITA Site

For the seventh year, SMWC participated in the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program to help low- to moderate-income people prepare their tax returns. Through VITA, which is a national program, certified volunteers sponsored by various organizations receive training to help prepare basic tax returns in communities

across the country. SMWC is the only VITA site in Vigo County.

In 2015, fourteen SMWC students received extensive training and successfully completed a 15-20 hours advanced certification test. These students volunteered to assist citizens and residents with their federal and state income tax returns. Last year, they prepared 495 returns throughout tax season.

### Legislative Luncheon

Lieutenant Governor Sue Ellspermann hosted a legislative luncheon for Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College and state legislators on February 11, 2016, at the Indiana Statehouse to help state representatives and senators learn more about the College's initiatives. SMWC President Dottie King, Ph.D., addressed the group to raise awareness about The Woods.

### Student Lobby Day

On Tuesday, February 16, 2016, six students participated in SMWC Student Lobby Day. The students learned, networked and enjoyed quality time with state elected officials including Governor Mike Pence, Lt. Governor Sue Ellspermann, Secretary of State Connie Lawson, Representative Bob Heaton, Representative Alan Morrison, Senator Jon Ford, Representative Bruce Borders, and Barnes and Thornburg lobbyists, Michael O'Brien and Bill Moreau.



L to R – Rachel Leslie '14G, SMWC vice president of external relations, Christina Pifer, Mari Bennett, Casey Dust, Whitney Wienke, Indiana Lt. Governor Sue Ellspermann, Kalea Ellis, Karah Ellis, Becky Buse, advocacy volunteer.



# ANNUAL FUND & ENDOWMENT

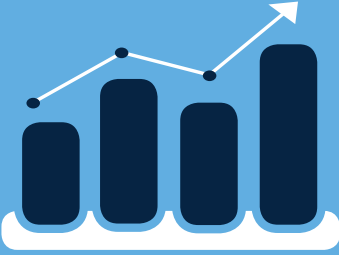


## What's the difference?

The Woods Fund supports today's needs. An endowment is a long-term investment that provides for future financial benefit. Think of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College as an investment, like buying a home. The owner needs to buy groceries for the family (Woods Fund), but also makes payments on the mortgage (Endowment).

The tuition our students pay to attend SMWC does not cover the full amount of "operating the house."

It's wonderful alumni and friends, like you, who support the Woods Fund that ensures each student the opportunity of a true Woods experience and education.

ANNUAL FUND		
	Checking Account	
	<i>Operations Not Covered by Tuition</i>	
<b>EVERY YEAR</b>	Immediate Needs	
Available to Use	<i>Small Gifts Making Large Impacts</i>	
	<b>Accessible</b>	
	<i>Unrestricted</i>	
<b>Goal: \$950,000</b>		<i>Short Term</i>

ENDOWMENT			
Savings Account		<i>Needs to Increase with School Growth and Inflation</i>	
			
Investment			
LONG TERM	<i>Stability during Time of Recession</i>		
	<b>LARGE INVESTMENT</b>		
	SOLID FOUNDATION FOR FUTURE GROWTH		
	<i>Restricted</i>		

Please consider a gift to the Woods Fund and make a difference today!

[giving.smwc.edu](http://giving.smwc.edu)



**SAINT MARY-OF-THE-WOODS COLLEGE**  
Office of Advancement  
1 St Mary of Woods Coll  
Saint Mary of the Woods, IN 47876

Non-profit Organization  
U.S. Postage **PAID**  
Saint Mary of the Woods,  
IN 47876  
Permit No. 3

# *Many Paths* **ONE WOODS**

**REUNION 2016**

Come home to The Woods the weekend of  
June 17 - 19, 2016.

We would love to see you again!

**Register today. [www.smwc.edu/reunion2016](http://www.smwc.edu/reunion2016)**

