ASU salutes military veterans

Editors reflect on the power of “The Press”

University boosts Arizona’s art scene

ASU: THEN & NOW

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The end of the year seems to lend itself to being a time of reflection. In this issue of ASU Magazine, we have chosen to take an in-depth look at the 130-year history of the institution that has become Arizona State University.

Our cover feature compares ASU’s beginnings as a teacher training school in the Arizona territory with its role today as a model for the New American University. While the university always has been key to the success of the Valley of the Sun and the state itself, the manner in which it has contributed to that success has changed over the years, and this article takes a look at the evolution of ASU into the New American University.

Another topic we’re highlighting in this issue is the success of a select group of our alumni – former editors of our independent student newspaper, The State Press. Our alumni editors have ventured into careers that include journalism, law, educational leadership and more, which demonstrates that their time with the State Press equipped them to become thought leaders in a variety of industry sectors.

We think you’ll also enjoy our sports feature, which asks “where are they now?” of several former student-athletes. Being part of a successful sports team as a student-athlete helps shape disciplined, committed alumni, and we have uncovered the stories of what has happened to these athletes since they left ASU.

One of the reason we chose to do this traditions-themed issue in December is that it comes at the end of a season – autumn – that is steeped in ASU traditions. Over the past few months, the ASU Alumni Association has exercised its role as tradition keeper for the university by hosting tailgates at home and away games; by celebrating the undefeated 1975 football team along with Bob Breunig’s induction into the College Football Hall of Fame at our Legends Luncheon; and by honoring university supporters with our Homecoming Awards. We’ve also invested in the future of the university and its alumni by hosting monthly career networking mixers, welcoming new classes of Legacy Scholars and Medallion Scholars, and by uniting ASU families as part of the Sun Devil Generations group. If you loved your ASU experience, and want to stay connected to the university, become a member of the Alumni Association and you can become part of the university’s ongoing tradition, which is built by every one of the institution’s 400,000 living alumni.
ASU: Then & Now

The first 33 students to enroll at the Arizona Territorial Normal School couldn’t have imagined what the institution, now known as Arizona State University, would grow into. Come along for a jaunt through 130 years of ASU history, learning what’s changed, and which bedrock principles have stayed the same.

Stars & Stripes

ASU has a commitment to serve those who made the commitment to serve their country. The university has been rated as a “military friendly” school by G.I. Jobs Magazine six years in a row, and has opened the Pat Tillman Veterans Center to act as a hub for services to assist veterans, students who are active-duty service members, students considering future military service, and military family members.
1 President’s Letter
Alumni Association President Christine K. Wilkinson discusses the historic theme of this issue, and highlights the importance of tradition in the life of the New American University.

University News
ASU tops U.S. News & World Report’s list of most innovative schools; President Crow wins lifetime achievement award; University launches ASU Deals mobile app.

Sports
What has happened to your favorite Sun Devil players from years gone by? We find out how three former student-athletes are succeeding in life after intercollegiate athletics. Plus: Updates from Sun Devil sports teams and clubs.

38 Arts & Culture
Arizona State University has been nurturing the state’s artists, and its art scene, for decades. Plus, new books by alumni, staff and faculty in Shelf Improvement.

Alumni News
Alumni Association activities promote spirit, pride and tradition; the history of ASU’s collegiate “Sparky” license plate is intertwined with the Alumni Association’s efforts to boost student scholarships.

48 Sun Devil Network
Reports from around the Sun Devil nation.

54 Class Notes
Alumni news, notes and milestones.

64 Sun Devil Snapshot
Meet the “founding fathers” – the two men most responsible for the creation of the institution now known as ASU.

Power of the Press
Whether they’ve become university presidents, law partners, or news directors, ASU alumni who are leaders all have to make fast decisions. A select group of Sun Devils who are former editors of The State Press, the university’s independent student-run newspaper, learned some of their key decision-making skills in late-night/early-morning sessions in the publication’s newsroom.
Arizona State University tops the list of “most innovative schools” in the U.S. News & World Report college rankings for 2016.

“Most innovative” is a new category for the widely touted set of annual rankings by the news magazine, which compares more than 1,500 institutions on a variety of metrics.

ASU topped the list based on a survey of peers. College presidents, provosts and admissions deans around the country nominated up to 10 colleges or universities that are making the most innovative improvements to curriculum, faculty, students, campus life, technology or facilities.

After ASU, the four most innovative universities were Stanford, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, University of Maryland – Baltimore County, and Georgia State University. Half of the 28 universities on the list, like ASU, are public.

ASU has launched several unique programs in the past few years, including several focused on widening access to higher education, which is a mission of President Michael M. Crow.

Last year the school announced the Starbucks College Achievement Plan, a partnership with the corporate giant that offers full tuition reimbursement to Starbucks employees who pursue an online degree through ASU. And this fall saw the debut of ASU’s Global Freshman Academy, in which students can take online classes and decide after completion whether they want to pay for the credits.

ASU also is exploring better ways to teach. Several hundred freshmen are participating in a new project-based learning pilot this year called ProMod. The program combines instruction in general education and students’ focused areas of study while they tackle real life problems. Faculty are researching whether the students are more likely to complete their degrees than students who take classes delivered in the traditional way.

Among the other U.S. News and World Report rankings, ASU was 8th in “best online programs” and 16th for faculty commitment to teaching undergraduates.
Innovative and secure
President Crow receives tech innovation award, appointed to Homeland Security advisory council

ASU President Michael M. Crow was honored on Nov. 12 with the OneNeck IT Solutions People’s Choice Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2015 Governor’s Celebration of Innovation Awards event.

The celebration, which was organized by the Arizona Technology Council in conjunction with the Arizona Commerce Authority, was attended by more than 1,000 Arizona business leaders. President Crow was honored for a commitment throughout his career as an educational administrator to employing science and technology to drive positive social, economic, and environmental outcomes.

“The future of our state and our economy depend on producing the people, ideas and technology needed to solve problems and shape the kind of future that we want for Arizona,” Crow said. “I am grateful for this honor.”

Crow also was recently appointed to the Homeland Security Academic Advisory Council (HSAAC), a group comprised of university presidents and academic leaders, who provide advice to senior U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) leadership on matters related to homeland security and the academic community.

Since HSAAC’s formation in 2012, its members have issued more than 120 recommendations in the areas of academic research and faculty exchange, campus resilience, cybersecurity, international students, DHS academic programs and student and recent graduate recruitment.

In addition to this recent appointment, Crow also serves on the National Security Higher Education Advisory Board, which promotes understanding between the FBI and higher education on issues such as terrorism, counterintelligence and homeland security.

ASU Deals smartphone app connects Sun Devils with businesses in the Valley of the Sun offering discounts to the university community.

The ASU Deals smartphone app provides savings for Sun Devils

The university recently announced the launch of ASU Deals, a smartphone application that offers users the opportunity to enjoy discounts at Valley of the Sun merchants, and new ways to interact with the university. ASU Deals encourages students, faculty, staff, alumni, families and community supporters to engage directly and conveniently with campus-sponsored events and nearby participating businesses.

The app offers the ASU community special deals, and carries interesting campus and community information. The ASU-branded app makes it easy for customers to discover new places and great deals within the metro Phoenix area, while enabling local businesses to capitalize on the benefits of mobile marketing to target new and repeat customers in the area.

The program currently offers discounts at nearly 100 restaurants and retail outlets, and more organizations are enrolling daily. Additional information and links to iOS and Android download platforms can be found at http://www.asudeals.com.
On the job
ASU partners with Rework America Connected to advance future employment

Thanks to advancing technology, including self-piloted cars, there won’t be any taxi drivers in the future. Or limo drivers. Or truck drivers.

“One recent study said that as many as 40 percent of American jobs are subject to disruption of technology,” said Zoe Baird, CEO and president of the New York-based Markle Foundation. “So it’s really our responsibility, and the responsibility of those people who are community leaders, to help people get through this transition and get to the other side.”

Enter Rework America Connected, a joint initiative between Arizona State University, the City of Phoenix, Maricopa Community College System, edX, LinkedIn and Baird’s Markle Foundation that is dedicated to improving how people – particularly “middle-skill” workers – can find jobs and learn new skills. It also will help employers find workers.

The project was announced earlier this year by Baird, ASU President Michael M. Crow and city, state and corporate leaders at a press conference in downtown Phoenix.

Rework America Connected is launching in the Phoenix metropolitan area and the state of Colorado. And while the partnership might sound like another website or app that promises to help people find work, members of the panel underscored that Rework America Connected is not looking to be just a technology solution.

“It’s a whole enterprise where technology can help interweave the pieces,” said Baird.

The fine details of Rework America Connected are still being developed. The players know they want to create a platform that can do everything from helping someone climb the employment ladder to providing better pathways to education to highlighting the future skills educators need to teach their students.

In some ways, it’s already yielding results. Crow said that ASU’s program to help Starbucks employees earn degrees came out of early discussions about Rework America Connected.

“We believe that we can take the negative edge off this economic transition and create economic opportunities,” Crow said.

To learn more about Rework America Connected, visit http://www.markle.org/rework-america.

Bouncing back
ASU-led project changing views of urban infrastructure

In the early morning of Sept. 8, 2014, rain began to fall across the Phoenix metro area. When the skies cleared that afternoon, nearly half of Phoenix’s annual rainfall had been dumped on the city in a matter of hours. Infrastructure built to handle rainwater and runoff – such as retention basins, storm sewers and washes – was overwhelmed.

Historically, infrastructure to mitigate flooding and extreme heat has been designed to be fail-safe, meaning that it is designed to be fail-proof. But recently we have seen that fail-safe can be a dangerous illusion.

“The failing in these extreme weather events was that people built and trained themselves to think that events of this magnitude will never happen,” said Charles Redman, founding director and professor in the School of Sustainability at Arizona State University. “It happens now, and we can expect them to happen more frequently in the future!”

Three ASU researchers from different disciplines have joined together to lead a team of 50 researchers from 15 institutions to face these challenges and to change the way we think about urban infrastructure.

Collectively they are leading the Urban Resilience to Extreme Weather-Related Events Sustainability Research Network (UREx SRN). The National Science Foundation has awarded the network $12 million over five years through its Sustainability Research Networks program, which focuses on urban sustainability. The international UREx SRN includes researchers and partner organizations across nine cities in North and South America.

Redman is working with co-project directors Nancy Grimm, an ecologist and professor in the ASU School of Life Sciences, and Mikhail Chester, an engineer and assistant professor in the ASU School of Sustainable Engineering and the Built Environment. Despite working in different fields, the ASU researchers leading the UREx SRN each saw a need to improve our current approach to infrastructure.

The team members’ holistic approach to urban infrastructure is novel. They will evaluate the social, ecological and technical systems related to infrastructure. This includes recognizing the values of all stakeholders, from city decision makers to the citizens who will use infrastructure; understanding the natural environment; and evaluating available technology. The result will be a suite of tools supporting the assessment and implementation of urban infrastructure that is resilient, safe-to-fail and tailored to a particular city.

To watch a video to learn more about the mission of UREx SRN, visit https://vimeo.com/134010070.
Shane Daley ’00 B.S.
*Medicine - Urologist and clinical assistant professor*

Dr. Shane Daley, who completed his bachelor’s degree in biology at ASU, is a leader in the medical specialty of urology. He is currently an attending urologist at Banner Good Samaritan Medical Center in Phoenix and a clinical assistant professor at the University of Arizona College of Medicine.

Gbemisola Disu ’04 B.S.
*Management - Chief Operating Officer, George Mason University-Korea*

Gbemisola Disu, who earned her bachelor’s degree in economics from ASU, has proven herself an accomplished leader in higher education, beginning with her work as special assistant to the president of the Thunderbird School of Global Management, where she oversaw many aspects of a management school. She now leads a satellite school of her own as Chief Operating Officer of George Mason University-Korea. She currently serves on the board of Think Global Institute, supporting women entrepreneurs around the world.

Beatrice (Babs) Gordon ’87 B.A., ’89 M.A, ’11 M.A.
*Education - Emeritus professor*

Beatrice Gordon used her passion for education to become a significant faculty contributor to the honors community at ASU. She worked closely with former Barrett Dean Ted Humphrey and taught several honors and advanced composition classes. Gordon retired from teaching in the English Department in 2003. She continues to serve her community by teaching writing and literature classes for Mesa Community College, Tempe Connection, and at the McDowell Village Retirement facility. Gordon has three degrees from ASU: a bachelor’s degree in English, and master’s degrees in English and applied ethics.

Philip Mann ’01 B.MUS.
*The Arts - Music director, Arkansas Symphony Orchestra*

Philip Mann, who received his bachelor’s degree in instrumental music from ASU, is a dedicated and passionate musician who has used his many talents to make a dramatic impact on his community. In 2010, he was named music director of the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra. He transformed the orchestra into a first-class ensemble and brought to the organization a commitment to education and community engagement on an unprecedented scale.

Virgilia Pruthi ’07 B.A.
*Management - Senior product manager, Amazon*

Virgilia Pruthi’s career exemplifies innovation and leadership. She’s been named a Small Business Administration Entrepreneur of the Year in Arizona, a Bloomberg Businessweek Fellow, a Susan Schiffer Stautberg Leadership Fellow, and one of the “48 Arizona Women,” an award which sought to recognize the most intriguing women in Arizona. She is the author of “An Immigrant’s Guide To Making It In America,” a book that recently was chosen as the basis for a documentary. Pruthi received her bachelor’s degree in political science at ASU.

Dawn Valdivia ’97 B.A.
*Law – Assistant general counsel, Honeywell International*

Dawn Valdivia is an Arizona native, a successful attorney, and a committed local community member. She is a 2013 Fellow of the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity, was recognized by the “25 Most Influential Hispanic Leaders in Arizona” list produced by AZ Business Magazine and was a “40 Hispanic Leaders Under 40” honoree, in a list produced by Phoenix’s Univision Radio and Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc.

Valdivia has worked with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children by providing pro bono legal services to assist with the return of abducted children, and currently serves on the Make-A-Wish® Arizona board of directors. Valdivia received her bachelor’s degree in religious studies and Spanish from ASU.

For more information about Barrett’s alumni programs, visit https://barrett honors.asu.edu/alumni-friends/alumni, or contact barrettalumni@asu.edu.
Tiny masterpieces
Researcher studies, creates novel DNA structures

DNA, the molecular foundation of life, has new tricks up its sleeve. The four bases from which it is composed snap together like jigsaw pieces and can be manipulated artificially to construct endlessly varied forms in two and three dimensions. The technique, known as DNA origami, promises to bring futuristic microelectronics and biomedical innovations to market.

Hao Yan, a researcher at Arizona State University’s Biodesign Institute, has worked for many years to refine the technique. His aim is to compose new sets of design rules, vastly expanding the range of nanoscale architectures generated by the method. In new research, a variety of innovative nanoforms are described, each displaying unprecedented design control.

Yan is the Milton D. Glick Distinguished Chair of Chemistry and Biochemistry and directs Biodesign’s Center for Molecular Design and Biomimetics.

In the current study, complex nanoforms displaying arbitrary wireframe architectures have been created, using a new set of design rules. Yan has long been fascinated with Nature’s seemingly boundless capacity for design innovation. The new study describes wireframe structures of high complexity and programmability, fabricated through the precise control of branching and curvature, using novel organizational principles for the designs. Wireframes are skeletal three-dimensional models represented purely through lines and vertices.

The basic idea of DNA origami is to use a length of single-stranded DNA as a scaffold for the desired shape. Base-pairing of complementary nucleotides causes the form to fold and self-assemble. The process is guided by the addition of shorter “staple strands,” which act to help fold the scaffold and to hold the resulting structure together. Various imaging technologies are used to observe the tiny structures, including fluorescence-, electron- and atomic force microscopy.

Although DNA origami originally produced nanoarchitectures of purely aesthetic interest, refinements of the technique have opened the door to a range of exciting applications including chemical and biological sensing tools, drug delivery mechanisms, and molecular computing devices.

Power play
National Science Foundation awards ASU its second Engineering Research Center

Arizona State University was awarded its second Engineering Research Center (ERC) from the National Science Foundation in August, making it one of only two universities in the nation to lead two of the prestigious centers.

NSF announced that ASU will lead the $18.5 million Center for Bio-mediated and Bio-inspired Geotechnics (CBBG), which will pioneer advances to solve some of the world’s biggest environmental and infrastructure development problems. For example, the center will aim to strengthen soil surrounding a building so that building foundations can better withstand earthquakes. The center will be led by Edward Kavazanjian, Regents’ Professor and Ira A. Fulton Professor of Geotechnical Engineering.

ASU already leads the Quantum Energy and Sustainable Solar Technologies (QESST) Center, which was awarded in 2011 and recently renewed by the NSF and the Department of Energy. The center focuses on advancing photovoltaic solar cell science, technology and education, essentially improving all aspects of solar energy.

“This recognition and support from the NSF underscores ASU’s rapid rise over the past decade to a leadership position in science and technology at the national level,” said Sethuraman “Panch” Panchanathan, senior vice president for Knowledge Enterprise Development at ASU. “ASU’s New American University model, with its interdisciplinary approach to solving complex challenges, has led to increasing success in pursuing large-scale, highly competitive awards such as the Engineering Research Centers.”

In addition to its leadership of CBBG and QESST, ASU is involved in two other ERCs. The Nanotechnology Enabled Water Treatment Systems (NEWT) Center, which is based at Rice University in Houston, is focused on developing compact, mobile, off-grid water treatment systems that can provide clean water to millions of people who lack it. ASU’s Paul Westerhoff, professor and vice provost for academic research programming, will be the deputy director of NEWT. And the Future Renewable Electric Energy Delivery Management Systems Engineering Research Center, based at North Carolina State University, pursues advances in renewable electric power.
Herberger Institute to launch cultural leadership education program

Creative thinking at ASU has designed better wheelchairs for people with limited mobility. It’s improved housing in refugee camps. And it has used digital art to create educational games that teach advanced concepts to college students.

Now the faculty and students at the Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts will have more opportunities to consider the way creativity solves social challenges as the institute is launching the Curb Creative Enterprise and Cultural Leadership Program to train cultural strategists, disruptors and catalysts. The program, one of the first of its kind, is a collaboration between the institute and the Mike Curb Family Foundation.

Faculty currently are shaping the program’s curriculum, which initially will be offered in fall 2016. It will include institute-wide courses examining the intersection of business, government and leadership in the creative and cultural industries. In addition, it will engage national leaders who demonstrate the power of bringing together art and leadership for cultural, social and economic progress.

“Unlike most existing programs, we aren’t just trying to prepare students for existing jobs,” said Steven J. Tepper, dean of the Herberger Institute. “We’re giving people tools to innovate and amplify the power of art and design in society.”

ASU’s Krauss elected board chair for Bulletin of Atomic Scientists

The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists recently announced that Lawrence Krauss, an ASU Foundation Professor in the School of Earth and Space Exploration and the Department of Physics, has been elected chair of the organization’s Board of Sponsors. Previously, Krauss and Nobel laureate Leon Lederman had co-chaired the Bulletin’s Board of Sponsors since 2009.

The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists engages science leaders, policy makers and the interested public on topics of nuclear weapons and disarmament, the changing energy landscape, climate change and emerging technologies. It does this through an award-winning journal, the iconic Doomsday Clock, public-access websites and regular meetings.

Members of the Bulletin’s Board of Sponsors are recruited by their peers from among the world’s most accomplished scientific leaders to amplify the gravity and importance of what the Bulletin publishes, and to provide expert counsel on issues of global security, science and survival – particularly for the organization’s annual Doomsday Clock statement.

The board was founded in 1948 by Albert Einstein, and its first chair was J. Robert Oppenheimer. It currently has 35 members, including 16 Nobel laureates. Krauss was appointed to the board in 2006, along with Stephen Hawking.

Krauss is internationally known for his work in theoretical physics and cosmology, and he is a well-known author and science communicator. His research covers science from the beginning of the universe to the end of the universe. His research interests include the interface between elementary particle physics and cosmology, the nature of dark matter, general relativity and neutrino astrophysics.

Herberger Institute Dean Steven J. Tepper says a new cultural leadership degree program will “give people tools to innovate and amplify the power of art and design in society.”
New ASU research highlights interesting side effects of innovation

While technological innovations are typically celebrated as an advance for society, not all impacts from these devices are positive. The unintended side effects of innovation is important to consider as technology marches forward.

ASU professor Kevin DeSouza partnered with David Swindell, an associate professor in the School of Public Affairs, to lead a team of doctoral and post-doctoral students in research that explores how everything from self-driving cars to drones to artificial intelligence will affect society in the very near future. That research was the basis for a May 2015 report published by the Brookings Institution.

DeSouza and Swindell’s team found that in order for advancing technologies to fulfill their intended purposes without negative consequences, preparation is key.

“The public sector will have to increasingly become more proactive when it comes to managing these technologies,” said Kendra Smith, a post-doctoral student in ASU’s College of Public Service and Community Solutions who researched the topic with DeSouza and Swindell.

What that means, DeSouza said, is “being more open and transparent in terms of innovation.”

He points to XPRIZE, an open innovation, prize-based competition that invites non-governmental parties to try their hand at building various technological devices. Another instance where embracing open innovation led to positive results was when healthcare.gov launched. Initially a disaster, the site finally got up and running after a group of techno-enthusiast volunteers in D.C. – who would come to be known as “18F” – offered their services to resolve the issues at a rate that private contractors, who would have traditionally been tasked with the job, wouldn’t have been able to.

Examples like XPRIZE and 18F show how society is capable of handling technological advancements in new ways.

Besides embracing open innovation, DeSouza said thinking ahead about how to manage communities of the future rather than concentrating on how to manage them now, as well as “building a culture of experimentation” are integral to humankind living in harmony with advancing technology.

News anchor Charlie Rose receives 2015 Cronkite Award for Excellence

Charlie Rose, the award-winning anchor of “CBS This Morning” and host of the respected late-night talk show on PBS that bears his name, is the 2015 recipient of the Walter Cronkite Award for Excellence in Journalism. Rose received the 32nd annual award, given by ASU’s Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication, at a luncheon ceremony Oct. 19 at the Sheraton Phoenix Downtown Hotel.

“I treasure this honor the way I cherish the life of Walter Cronkite,” Rose said. “What I loved about his life was his passion for all things in life, including sailing. His journalism went far beyond the headlines to include the same range of curiosity I pursue from politics to people, from science to space, and always the story. Whether he was looking back into history or forward into space, he was the constant connection to our world. The fact that this award comes from one of our best journalism schools makes it even more appreciated.”

Rose, a Peabody and Emmy Award winner, is known for his hard-hitting, one-on-one interviews on CBS and “Charlie Rose,” his daily late-night interview program that has been syndicated on PBS for more than 20 years.

“Charlie Rose” premiered in 1991, becoming a popular venue for in-depth conversations on politics, performing arts, literature, film, science, medicine and business. In 2011, he was named anchor of “CBS This Morning,” helping the program become the fastest-growing morning news broadcast in the United States.

With more than 40 years of broadcasting experience, Rose has interviewed Bill Clinton, Bill Gates, Nelson Mandela, Toni Morrison, Barack Obama, Yitzhak Rabin and Martin Scorsese, among hundreds of other newsmakers, including Walter Cronkite in 1996.

A native of North Carolina, Rose is a graduate of Duke University with a bachelor’s degree in history and a J.D. from Duke’s School of Law.

Previous Cronkite Award recipients include TV anchors Tom Brokaw, Robin Roberts and Diane Sawyer; newspaper journalists Ben Bradlee, Helen Thomas and Bob Woodward; and media executives Katharine Graham, Al Neuharth and Bill Paley. Cronkite personally presented the award during its first quarter-century. The CBS News anchor died in 2009.
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We welcome the following individuals, who joined the ASU Alumni Association at the Gold Devil Life or Life level between June 2 and Sept. 9, 2015.
Life memberships are $500 for an individual/$800 per couple, and is a $150 upgrade from an existing life membership. A Gold Devil Life membership costs $650 using your mobile device! Show your Sun Devil pride for life. Become a life member at alumni.asu.edu, or by calling 1-800-ALUMNUS.

A Gold Devil Life membership costs $650 individual/$800 per couple, and is a $150 upgrade from an existing life membership. Life memberships are $500 for an individual and $650 per couple.
Teeing up for success

Missy Farr-Kaye was looking for “a seamless transition” when she took over the Arizona State women's golf program earlier this year, first as interim coach after former head coach Melissa Luellen departed for Auburn, and then as the permanent coach.

It would seem that such a transition should be seamless, given that she was a Sun Devil golfer herself. Farr-Kaye became associate head coach at ASU in 2006; before that she was an assistant coach, for a combined total of 13 years spent guiding ASU’s women’s golfers.

ASU has won eight Pac-12 championships since 1987, the last coming in 2009. Farr-Kaye said she was looking forward to leading the Sun Devils during this season, which began in September.

“I feel I am well-versed for this job. The biggest change is that I am now the decision-maker;” said Farr-Kaye, who as a player helped ASU win an NCAA title in 1990.

Farr-Kaye’s goal is “to have a team that competes hard, works hard, has a balanced life. You want to play good golf, but being a good student also is very important.”

The Sun Devils were slated to have three new players on this year’s team, including Madison Kerley, Arizona’s reigning Division I champion from Phoenix Xavier College Prep. Farr-Kaye also played at the local golf powerhouse Xavier, along with her sister, the late Heather Farr.

“We’re excited about the team we have, now and for the future,” said Farr-Kaye.

In the saddle

Equestrian club uses their horse sense

Prim and proper, and yet ambitiously competitive, the Arizona State English Equestrian Club team is galloping toward noteworthy achievements this season.

The season began with three events in the first semester and has three more coming up in the second semester, along with regional, zone and national competitions within the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association circuit. Events in which team members compete include flat riding, fences and the walk-trot, in novice, intermediate and open divisions.
Coaching with character
Associate head coach searches for top basketball talent

ASU women’s basketball coach Charli Turner Thorne recruited Amanda Levens to be a part of her program as a player, and the move was beneficial.

Four years ago, Turner Thorne recruited Levens for a second time for a role as an associate head coach, and Levens has brought the same intensity to the role that allowed her to become a two-time All Pac-10 (now Pac-12) selection in 2001 and 2002.

Levens, 36, said her choice to leave the head-coaching position at Southern Illinois-Edwardsville after four seasons “was a tough decision, but a good decision.”

She said she did not come to Tempe “as a next step (to another head-coaching job). I came here to help ASU return to being one of the best programs in the country. I want to help Charli realize her goal of leading a Final Four team and winning a (national) championship game,” she explained.

Levens shares recruiting duties with the Sun Devils’ other associate head coach, Meg Sanders, as well as helping to design workouts and to monitor the academic progress of the team’s players.

On the floor, Levens, a former guard, joins Turner Thorne in guiding the backcourt players, while Sanders and assistant coach Jackie Moore work with the forwards and post players.

When it comes to recruiting to build future winning women’s teams, Levens said her approach was simple.

“We look for players with character, those who work hard … and those who don’t care who gets the credit,” Levens said.

A lot like Levens was when she played.

Champions in life
Emerging Scholars program recognized at the national level

It is becoming more and more evident that over the years, Arizona State student-athletes have become better prepared to handle the workload associated with a demanding academic schedule, as well as the rigors of their particular sport.

A lot of that has to do with the programs operated and staffers directed by Jean Boyd, ASU’s senior associate athletic director for student-athlete development and performance.

During the 2014-15 school year, ASU’s Emerging Scholars Program was given the Model Practices Award by the National Association of Academic Advisors for Athletics, and Boyd was selected to lead the organization for 2015-16.

Potential Sun Devil student-athletes are evaluated for their athletic skills, and, these days, also are analyzed in regard to how they fit in academically and whether they might need assistance in certain areas, instead of waiting to get to Tempe and discovering difficulties.

“We evaluate the packages in their totality,” said Boyd, who played safety for the Sun Devil football team in the early 1990s. “Achievement certainly is important, but this is as much about a systematic approach to doing the work.

“It is a cutting-edge approach, and the NCAA has adopted some of what we do.”

Some athletes will turn professional, but the majority will need to rely on the principles they learn here.

“We look at what’s beyond ASU,” Boyd said. “We want these people to have the confidence to be good at their job, be good in their community, be a good husband or wife, be a good teacher, be a good person … we want them to be a champion in life.”

Sports updates are written by Don Ketchum, a Tempe-based freelance sportswriter.
It takes a unique skill set to compete in a sport at an NCAA Division I school – discipline, drive, sacrifice and a team-first mentality are a few of the requisite traits to succeed as a student-athlete. Old habits die hard, and, in the case of many former Arizona State athletes, the passionate work ethic shown during their collegiate days directly translates to successful professional pursuits. Whether in play beyond their Sun Devil days or a transition away from the field, court or diamond, the foundation created at ASU has reaped long-term rewards in their lives after college.

Outstanding individual performers and members of memorable teams while at ASU, Hillary Bach, Tammy Leibl and Jamelle McMillan not only etched legacies of their own as athletes, but have since taken on new roles in the sports they love to help mentor others. Though their responsibilities have changed, the mentality and approach to every day professional life precisely resembles their days spent as Sun Devil student-athletes.
Tammy Leibl has come full circle as a Sun Devil. A legendary figure in the circles of Arizona State volleyball, she used what she learned at ASU in professional play, then transitioned to coaching and made a return to ASU to finish what she started there.

A First-Team All-American and first-team all-conference selection in both 1985 and 1986, Leibl competed in the 1988, '92 and '96 Olympic Games, winning a bronze medal with the U.S. team in 1992. The first woman ever to play in 400 international volleyball matches, Leibl’s professional passport includes stamps from locales such as Brazil and Italy.

The Pac-10 Player of the Decade for the 1980s, in 1996 she became just the second women’s volleyball player to be inducted to ASU’s Sports Hall of Fame – achievements that likely would have surprised Leibl when she first arrived in Tempe as a young student.

“I think of myself as a late bloomer and I really developed during my time at ASU,” recalls Leibl. “My head coach at Arizona State was a big influence on me and a great role model who taught us to be good people on and off the court.”

Once she retired from professional ranks, Leibl was an assistant coach the University of San Diego. She now resides with her family in the San Diego area where she coaches club volleyball.

And using the determination and grit that made her an illustrious athlete, more than a quarter century after the conclusion of her athletic career at ASU, Leibl put the finishing touches on her Sun Devil status by completing her undergraduate degree in 2011, using ASU Online to earn her bachelor’s degree in liberal studies.

“I went back to ASU and walked in my graduation ceremony, which was a great experience to have my sons watch,” says Leibl. “For them to see me finish something I started years ago and to see the work I put in on the academic side in order to graduate was a great feeling for me.”
Hillary Bach’s academic career illustrated her incredible focus. The softball pitcher finished her undergraduate degree in just three years, then studied with the W. P. Carey School of Business international leadership MBA program while she balanced her final season on the diamond for the Sun Devils.

After earning her graduate degree, Bach completed a graduate assistantship in ASU’s athletic department before embarking on a professional softball career that took her to Japan and Akron, Ohio. From there, the 2012 Pac-12 Conference Woman of the Year returned to the league in which she starred as an athlete, but this time in a role which ultimately turned into a communications fellowship with the Pac-12 in early 2014.

In that position, Bach’s duties included assisting with championship event coordination and scheduling, and serving as a liaison between NCAA and the 12 conference institutions – a multitude of responsibilities, to be sure, but a situation reminiscent of the vast opportunities she experienced while at Arizona State.

“One of my favorite things about ASU is because it is so large there are endless chances to get involved and to dream, to innovate and to get excited about something and find a way to get it done,” she said.

After completing her fellowship this summer, Bach became a partnership manager for the Phoenix chapter of the Positive Coaching Alliance, a non-profit organization that works with youth groups and emphasizes character training to help improve youth experiences in sports. To Bach, the new job represents the ideal opportunity to give back to the communities that helped her reach her career goals.

“ASU was the best college experience I could have ever imagined,” recalls Bach. “The friends and mentors I met during my experience at ASU will always be an important part of my journey, and I’m grateful for the skills I developed in college that I can take moving forward to impact change in the community.”
Even when he was a teenager, Jamelle McMillan, the son of highly respected veteran NBA coach Nate McMillan, seemed destined to follow his father’s footsteps. Utilizing his family pedigree as well as the skill set developed during his collegiate tenure at ASU, McMillan already is well established in basketball’s highest professional level less than five years after graduation.

A key team leader at ASU from 2007-11, McMillan took a different route into sports as a career from his teammates such as James Harden and Jeff Pendergraph (now Ayres), who went on to NBA playing careers. McMillan chose to exercise his talents in a coaching capacity.

Days after his graduation from Arizona State, McMillan was named the director of basketball operations for Drake University. After that job ended, McMillan joined his father in assisting the United States’ men’s basketball team during the 2012 Summer Olympics. In October of that year, he was hired as a coaching intern with the NBA’s New Orleans Hornets (now Pelicans).

A self-proclaimed ‘utility guy’ in his early days with New Orleans, he held diverse responsibilities, which included video work, scouting, player development and attending to other team needs off the court. Now in his fourth season with New Orleans, the former ASU guard has charted his path toward an eventual head coaching position, and is one of several Sun Devils proudly excelling in the NBA.

“It’s an honor to be able to represent the university at this level,” said McMillan. “Between players, coaches and other positions on teams, we have some Sun Devils doing some great things in the NBA, and hopefully ASU is as proud of our work as we are of representing Arizona State.”

From Tempe to Des Moines to New Orleans – with an Olympic detour along the way – McMillan’s quick ascension into coaching is one both made possible and hugely supported by his collegiate foundation at Arizona State University.

“The ASU community is a special thing and it’s nationwide, because we’re everywhere,” said McMillan. “My time as a Sun Devil couldn’t be beat. In addition to my coaches and teammates, the academic advisors, professors, students and athletes of other sports made it an incredible experience for me.”

Joe Healey ’06 B.I.S. is a freelance sportswriter.
When the first students showed up to attend class at the newly opened Arizona Territorial Normal School almost 130 years ago, Tempe was a dusty, rural town of only 400 residents. The students straggled in on horseback, having ridden for miles from Mesa or tiny farming communities even farther away, and once in Tempe, they still had to find lodging with local families willing to rent them a room.

There were 33 of them. They were the very first young men and women to enroll at what is now Arizona State University, a sprawling multi-campus university that enrolls more than 71,000 students and covers more than 1,500 acres in metro Phoenix. Arizona Territory, in 1886, wasn’t necessarily an ideal educational environment. The Pleasant Valley War between competing cattle rustling rings still was raging, and wouldn’t wind down until six years later, with the final fatal gunfight taking place at what is now the intersection of Broadway and Priest. Despite such violence, though, by and large, Phoenix, Tempe and Mesa were quiet little towns populated by honest farmers and ranchers. They were dwarfed in size by Tucson and the mining community of Bisbee. But there was a problem. Arizona Territory had no high schools, but there were at least 28 elementary schools, and teachers desperately were needed to educate the pupils in those classrooms.
A school to civilize the Wild West

Two men, Charles T. Hayden, and John S. Armstrong, put a plan in motion to establish a teacher training school. Both of them are considered founding fathers of ASU.

“Hayden was one of the first white men to come to the Territory, and he set up a ferry at the Salt River,” said Marshall Trimble, a 1961 graduate of ASU and the official Arizona State Historian. “He realized the only way to civilize this place was to bring education and culture, and he set out to make that happen.”

There was an urgency to the plan, Trimble said. Arizona Territory was struggling hard to achieve statehood, but the national press loved to print stories about the area’s lawlessness. The Territory had become notorious back East.

Hayden sold an adobe house to Armstrong and his wife, both educators who had come to the Territory to teach. When Armstrong was elected to the 13th Territorial Assembly in 1885, he was named chairman of the House Committee on Education. His political savvy helped him guide the Territorial Normal School bill through the legislature on March 12, 1885, just a few hours before the creation of the university in Tucson. Hayden, who was active in fundraising to make the teacher training school a reality, also became the first president of the board of education for the Normal School.

After Hayden and other Tempe residents rallied to raise funds and find a location for the school, George Wilson, the town butcher, offered to sell five acres of pastureland for $500, throwing in a 15-acre endowment for the school site. On Feb. 8, 1886, a modest brick school, with four classrooms, a well and outhouses, welcomed its first students.

Hiram Bradford Farmer was both principal and instructor for the first cohort of 33 students. With a monthly salary of $250, Farmer established a two-year curriculum to train teachers and prepare them for examinations. His house served as a dormitory for students who couldn’t find a bedroom in town.

Enrollment grew to 158 in 1896, and 272 by 1906. By the close of the 19th century, the Normal School had produced more than 100 graduates with teaching credentials.
Responding to community needs

But as the school grew, its mission began to expand in response to what the community needed. The original building was supplemented by the 1898 completion of Old Main, a grand three-story building that was the first building in Tempe with electric lighting. The school began to offer vocational training to students who had no plans to become teachers but wanted training in another field. Mechanical art classes increased in popularity and eventually became a department of their own. Residents urged the school to offer coursework on farming, so courses in agriculture and later, husbandry, were added.

By 1913 the school’s course offerings had grown to 90, with 18 academic departments in an array of disciplines. By 1916 enrollment reached 450 students.

“ASU has always been collaborative, with educators and community members working together,” points out Stephanie DeLuse, an Honors Faculty Fellow at Barrett, the Honors College at ASU who is also co-author of “Arizona State University: The Campus History Series.” She wrote the book, which showcases dozens of rare archival photos of life on campus, with the collaboration of Denise Bates, an assistant professor in the College of Letters and Sciences.

“There’s always been a give-and-take between ASU and the community, and that responsiveness has been here from the very beginning,” she said. “ASU and the community are intertwined.”

Becoming a boon to commerce

While the institution always has served the community by responding to its needs, there’s a myopia that has dogged the community’s perception of ASU since its beginning, a comfort level that arose as the institution’s size grew slowly along with that of the town and state. Citizens took for granted the perks of having professors in their midst, of enjoying student recitals and performances, of being able to educate their children.

When enrollment boomed with an influx of veterans following World War II and the arrival of refrigeration (air conditioning) in the Valley, Arizonans still took little notice of the blossoming institution in Tempe. However, large electronics firms in the Midwest did.

“Dan Noble ran the research division for Motorola in Illinois, and he saw the potential for the growing population of Arizona and noted Tempe had a young, growing college,” says Dennis Hoffman, university economist and director of ASU’s William Seidman Research Institute. “There was a synergy with the military vets coming back to live here, who wanted jobs. He decided to relocate.”

In the years that followed, so did Honeywell, AiResearch, Intel, and other electronics manufacturing firms. They reached out to ASU, which embraced the business community. The school – which had become a university by a vote of the people in 1958 – ramped up its colleges of engineering and business. Both now enjoy national reputations, as do many other colleges and schools within the institution.

“ASU was unusual in that respect,” says Hoffman. “It was no ivory tower. The fact that we were a young university meant that we were influenced by business and were embedded with the development of this Valley. There was a lack of elitism, a willingness to do applied research and to work with students to get internships and jobs. The faculty were adaptive. This is not the kind of culture that prevails at all universities.”
The path to becoming a research university

Lattie Coor, president of ASU from 1990 to 2002, says one of the things that struck him upon taking the reins at the university was that the citizens of Arizona had no idea how good the university was. The flow of national spending on defense education had brought hundreds of doctoral researchers and educators into the work force, and ASU had the facilities and the funding to recruit many of them. And since the first externally funded research had come to ASU in 1956, millions of dollars in federal research funding had begun to become available.

“No metropolitan area in America was a better site for a modern, major research university,” says Coor, who is now chairman/CEO of the nonprofit Center for the Future of Arizona. “Phoenix was growing rapidly and didn’t have the infrastructure for a large city yet. And ASU had all the characteristics for a research university that Clark Kerr, president of the University of California, had said would be necessary. He said it would have to be a public institution, in a major growing city in the Sun Belt, filling a place in society that is mutually advantageous to both university and community. It was a blueprint for ASU.”

ASU was named a research university by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching in 1994, a high status that enabled ASU to achieve major support for research projects and for educating future scientists.

The university expanded outside of Tempe when it opened the West campus near 47th Avenue and Thunderbird Road in Phoenix in the late 1980s. Coor himself oversaw the opening of the ASU East (now ASU Polytechnic) campus, the naming of what is now Barrett, the Honors College at ASU, which already had a national reputation, and the expansion of the MARS project, in which ASU professors collaborated with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration on numerous planetary geology projects and missions.

The university had undergone tremendous change in the just more than 40 years since it officially achieved university status. But some of the greatest changes lay ahead in the 21st century.

The New American University comes to life at ASU

A major shift took place when Michael M. Crow became president in 2002 and developed a vision for ASU known as the New American University: a new model for an institution committed to the simultaneous pursuit of excellence, access and impact. ASU would be inclusive, while demonstrating quality and pursuing research that contributes to the public good, Crow insisted. It would, and should, assume major responsibility for the economic, social and cultural vitality of the communities that it served.

It was a radically different way of viewing the mission of a university, but Crow explained that the benefit to letting go of tradition was an increase in the flexibility and adaptability of those who studied at the institution.

“ASU is committed to providing teaching, learning and discovery opportunities across all disciplines and communities to empower ‘master learners’ who can tackle any challenge and make the world better by realizing their dreams,” he said.

Since Crow’s arrival, ASU has set down
even deeper roots in the community, partnering with 22 community colleges, 35 school districts and 22 Native American tribes to improve access to higher education. It has crafted joint educational and research programs with Mayo Clinic and other health organizations, as well as partnerships with surrounding cities and Arizona’s Fortune 500 companies. As part of its commitment to being socially embedded, ASU oversees more than 500 community outreach programs, with students performing 660,000 hours of community service each year. Campuses have opened in Lake Havasu City, Tucson, Yuma and Eastern Arizona, bringing Arizona State University to these areas, and it has expanded dramatically its online educational offerings during his tenure.

“One of the biggest benefits to us (in the community) is that every year new students come to ASU, many of whom want to tackle a problem, and sure enough, some of those problems get solved,” says Dan Miller, exhibit curator at Tempe Historical Museum. “Like Tempe Town Lake. It was one of those out-of-the-box ideas by a group of students and their professor. ASU emphasizes problem-solving education.”

Crow summarized the accomplishments during his tenure this way: “ASU is now the country’s best example of a high-speed, highly adaptive and innovative 21st century university capable of providing quality education to a broad demographic while producing meaningful societal outcomes.”

In 2014, ASU’s economic impact on the state through spending and investments was $4.2 billion, with 66,000 jobs created. And its influence stretches worldwide, as shown by global partnerships with Instituto Tecnológico de Monterrey in Mexico, Sichuan University in China, Dublin City University in Ireland, Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology in Vietnam and others.

And, as in the beginning 130 years ago, ASU still educates teachers, producing more of them than all the other universities in the state combined. ASU’s Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College is ranked as one of the United States’ highest-quality graduate programs in education, and it produces the largest number of undergraduates in the country.
Military veterans flourish at ASU, thanks to innovative programs and support

With comprehensive programs that help service members transition into college and then the workforce, ASU has earned the designation of a “military friendly school,” ranking among the nation’s best for veterans and their families.

For six consecutive years, Arizona State University has held a “military friendly” designation from G.I. Jobs Magazine, and, due to vastly expanded efforts in recent years, the university now ranks second on the “Best College for Veterans” list produced by College Factual.

At the heart of the university’s programming for veterans is the Pat Tillman Veterans Center, which opened in 2011 to fulfill ASU’s commitment to improving and expanding services for veterans, active-duty service members, their families, and students considering future service.

“We don’t just want to make them feel comfortable here, we want to help them fully transition to this environment and become a student. Making that full transition will help them work out some of the other skill sets they’ll need to transition from here to wherever they’re going next,” says Steve Borden, a retired U.S. Navy captain and director of the center. “We’re increasing what we’re doing on the back end in terms of finding internships or job opportunities or mentorship opportunities, making that connection to what will probably be their first nonmilitary work experience.”

When the veterans center opened four years ago, there were just over 2,000 students enrolled at ASU under some aspect of the G.I. Bill. This fall more than 3,500 veterans and dependent spouses or children are using some chapter of the G.I. benefits and ASU’s total community of military students, veterans, dependents and spouses, is more than 5,400 people strong this fall.

But why has ASU intensified its focus on this population? For those who work with them, the answer is obvious: to assist those who have served their country in continuing their life of contribution after they leave the service.

“Veterans represent a huge resource. As a country we’ve already invested a lot in developing their skill sets. We certainly want to leverage that as they transition out of the service,” says Borden. “We have developed a lot of expertise. The veteran has chosen to serve and wants to leave the service and continue being a proud member of society. We need to facilitate that, not only to help them in that transition, but to help ourselves as a community because there are skill sets and a talent pool there we’d be foolish to waste.”
At ASU, the delivery of veteran services starts with the application process. The university has tailored the application to ask whether prospective students are veterans and this allows the center’s relationship to begin before the students even arrive, Borden said.

“The Pat Tillman Veterans Center is structured to encourage student veterans to engage beyond a veteran-only community,” Borden says. “A large dayroom environment can be very helpful for some veterans, but it also provides an environment where some veterans might try to remain secluded and that may not be in their best interest in the long-term. We want to help them connect with others and develop the required transition skill sets and begin to experience a new ‘normal,’ to see and experience operating as a veteran in a non-veteran, non-military-centric community.”

Connecting with military Sun Devils early in the enrollment process and remaining engaged throughout a veteran’s college career is crucial, says Joanna Sweatt, the 2014-15 president of the ASU Alumni Association’s chapter for veterans and a veteran advocate at the veterans center.

When Sweatt arrived at ASU in the fall of 2007, after serving almost 10 years in the Marine Corps, she felt lost and overwhelmed. Among other missing pieces, she said, was the lack of follow-through beyond graduation. Sweatt found her way to an alumni group of mostly older veterans, who’d served during Vietnam and World War II and graduated years or even decades earlier. After joining the group in 2013, she worked diligently on outreach to younger veteran alumni to boost membership and visibility.

“Having a recognized chapter of alumni is critical, but what’s going to make you join the Alumni Association if you weren’t really present as a student? Every year I’ve tried to improve some of our processes and services (at the center) to ensure we’re not another place where veterans just turn in paperwork. We want them to be engaged and have a positive college experience, no matter what age they are,” she says.

“When I was a student, there was no veterans center and it was really difficult for me to navigate ASU at 28 when I didn’t fit in at all. I didn’t make any connections when I was here. When you don’t feel like you fit in with what’s going on around the university, you’re just going to come in for your classes, and that’s not a successful formula for any college student. We’re providing the platform for our students to feel comfortable being actively engaged.”

Beyond engagement, officials at the center and other units across campus have worked on bringing a greater sense of inclusion to veteran students.

“We want to knock barriers down and create an environment where we can bring the experience the veterans have into the classroom in a positive way to enhance the learning,” Borden says.
Engaging the veteran perspective

At the Office of Veteran and Military Academic Engagement, founded in early 2014, veterans and military members are encouraged to share their experiences with others as they translate their skills and knowledge to their careers. Founding Director Mark Von Hagen, a history professor, sought to close the gap between civilians who have never participated in military service or war, and those who have seen combat or served their country in an all-volunteer military.

“I’d been having a lot of veteran students in my classes who really ask interesting questions and very often have interesting things to say in their papers, so I’ve gotten to know them and I came to realize that we have an untapped resource here,” he says. “For faculty who I’ve talked to, they really like working with veteran students. They bring a worldview and experience to the classroom that we can’t bring. To have veteran students in class has really changed the way I can teach and for other students, it’s really enriching to have that experience.”

First Von Hagen started an oral history class focused on veterans, which brought him into contact with others across campus and revealed how he could make stronger connections.

“I realized there were a lot of people doing things around campus, but who didn’t know they were working on similar things,” he says. “As it turned out, one of my most important tasks was to bring as many people together doing things relevant to veterans and to help the veterans themselves connect with people interested in their experiences.”
Another new bridge program – one that links current military officers-in-training and their civilian peers – began this fall. The ASU Public Service Academy is designed with two tracks: the existing Reserve Officer Training Corps programs that enroll about 650 students at ASU and the Next Generation Service Corps, a program for service-oriented students from all majors who want to become civilian service leaders.

“The concept for a Public Service Academy comes out of the idea that we as a nation have lost this link to public service,” says Executive Director Brett Hunt. “It’s something the Greatest Generation was thrust into in World War II, and we all point toward as a positive for our society. It’s something that really binds us together as a nation, and it’s something we’ve lost.”

Unlike, say, Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government, the ASU Public Service Academy won’t strictly prepare students for civil service jobs.

“We want to take the engineer or the social worker or teacher and bind their experience here at ASU to a larger cause they can go on to find a way to impact through their professional career,” Hunt says. “As ASU often does, we took a really exciting lofty idea and quickly turned it into an exciting research project and into a pilot prototype.”

The first freshman cohort of 90 students represents 49 different majors. In addition to seven leadership courses over four years, extracurricular and summer internships will orient the students toward identifying and engaging on a larger social good they want to impact through their careers.

“Whether it’s education in Phoenix or water scarcity in India, they’re going to be able to work across sectors, leveraging private sector resources with nonprofit on-the-ground know how,” Hunt says. “The goal is to build leaders whose first instinct is to collaborate, to look across sectors to figure out how they can impact their goal. That is absolutely core to this, and we see public service as a way to forge those leaders.”

Both halves of the academy, the Next Generation and the ROTC students, will unite for joint field exercises and service projects that expose the two groups to each other in ways that mirror real-life situations.

“It’s an intentional collaboration, bringing those two groups together, so 20 years down the road when that Army officer who graduated from ASU and the U.S. State Department official who is a graduate of the Public Service Academy are on the ground overseas, they’ll understand each other and work effectively together,” Hunt says.

ASU President Michael M. Crow and his wife, Sybil Francis, believe so strongly in the goals of the new academy that they have pledged $1.2 million to fund the directorship of the unit. The gift — composed in part from contributions by private supporters to the Presidential Leadership Chair, a fund established to provide ASU with resources to retain and incentivize university presidents — will permanently establish the Michael M. Crow and Sybil Francis Endowed Directorship for the Public Service Academy.

“This program will build a culture of service and a pipeline of leaders who will work across sectors to undertake humanitarian efforts and to address real-life issues facing our unpredictable world,” said Crow at the time the gift was announced. “Public service is something to which Sybil and I have devoted much of our professional lives. It is fitting that emerging leaders in the field are trained at ASU — a solutions-focused institution committed to the highest level of academic excellence to achieve maximum societal impact.”
In the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law, clinical professor Marcy Karin leads the Work-Life Law and Policy Clinic, in which second- and third-year law students work on behalf of veterans in the community, focusing on unemployment benefits, work leave and flexibility, employment-related discrimination, and civil justice issues for active military and their families.

The fit between work-life issues and military is a natural one when one considers how military-related developments can impact military members and their families. A deployment to a combat area, or a change in assignment, can have a ripple effect in a family’s life. Everything from childcare arrangements to financial/legal arrangements can be impacted, and the changes don’t necessarily end after the deployment or military service does. The clinic helps veterans and military families navigate a maze of legal questions and regain their footing in the world of work.

“It allows the (law) students to understand there is power in being a lawyer and power in helping people who have fallen down for whatever reason,” Karin says. “It’s really a wonderful opportunity for our students, both those who have served and those who haven’t, to see how the law interacts with all these other things and how lawyers can play a role in helping people get back on track.”
Music to their ears

Not all the support ASU offers veterans is aimed purely at vocational adjustment. Some programs improve a veteran’s ability shift gears mentally and emotionally as they return to civilian life.

Under a unique partnership with the local chapter of Guitars for Vets, ASU’s Music Therapy Clinic works with veterans during 12-week blocks of sessions of lessons and therapy. As they build musical skills, the veterans also discover new ways to cope with stress and improve their quality of life after military service.

“I got really excited about collaborating with Guitars for Vets and putting the music therapy support with it,” says Robin Rio, an associate professor of music. “We have a clinic where we already see patients from the community and we already have engagement programs using evidence-based music therapy techniques. This is a support group that uses music and guitar learning as the main way to bring people together.”

Since the program began three years ago, it’s expanded from members in the Phoenix-area community to include a second group just for veterans who are current ASU students.

“At ASU, we have this nice buy-in from the community,” Rio says. “We want to see our veteran students at ASU, regardless of major, have access to this therapeutic creative arts process and experience a safe, supportive environment to develop positive relationships.”

Celebrating success

The commitment to veterans, which now starts at the time of first contact, extends all the way through graduation. Since the opening of the veterans center, graduating veteran students have been offered regalia to signify their service. At first, the vets were presented with red, white and blue cords; this spring, stoles representing each student’s branch of service were introduced. Hundreds now attend the Veterans Graduation Reception, which provides one last on-campus gathering for vets to reflect on their ASU experience.

Another event introduced in 2011 was Salute to Service, which typically happens during the fall. Originally held in November to coincide with Veterans Day, the event started with just a ceremony during halftime of an ASU home football game, but now the event spans two weeks and highlights ASU’s outreach to veterans and the institution’s involvement with the military, as well as the contributions of veterans to society, Borden says. It’s all part of a holistic view that unites ASU’s mission as The New American University with a deep commitment to those who have chosen national service.

“What we desire to do is really to set the benchmark with regards to helping service members through their complete transition,” Borden says.

Eric Swedlund is a freelance writer based in Prescott, Ariz.
THE POWER OF ‘THE PRESS’

ASU’S STUDENT-RUN NEWSPAPER HAS LAUNCHED LEADERS IN MANY INDUSTRIES

By Brian Hudgins

Whether they’ve become university presidents, law partners or news directors, ASU alumni who are leaders all have to make fast decisions. A select group of Sun Devils who are former editors of The State Press, the university’s independent student-run newspaper, learned some of their decision-making skills in those late-night and early-morning sessions in the publication’s newsroom.

While the publication has undergone a number of changes during its nearly 80-year history, including going to an all-digital format in 2014, one thing has remained the same – its tradition of training future professionals to think on their feet and produce a quality product with every edition.

“For decades The State Press has been a cultural touchstone at ASU,” said Jason Manning, the director of ASU Student Media. “In years past, it had a natural dominance in that the student newspaper was one of a handful of mass media products aimed at students. Now there is an unbelievable amount of messaging and information coming at students. Now, more than ever before, The State Press has had to make a unique connection with students. Our young journalists do an amazing job with relevant and valuable content for their fellow Sun Devils.”

ASU Magazine asked several former editors of The State Press to reflect on how leading the newspaper has impacted their careers.
Jay Heiler ‘83 B.S., ‘86 J.D. is the chair of the Arizona Board of Regents, the founder and board president for the charter school management organization Great Hearts Academies, and was chief of staff for former Gov. Fife Symington. Heiler can recall one high-stakes moment he faced during his college days, which came even before he started writing for The State Press.

“You had to be able to type 30 words a minute to be admitted to the ASU journalism program and this was in the days of the typewriter,” Heiler said. “The process for crossing that threshold was a five-minute block of typing. You got credit for any word that you had begun typing. I had literally stroked the first key of the 150th word. By the narrowest of margins, I was able to major in journalism at ASU.”

That memory makes Heiler laugh, but the joint effect that the journalism program and serving as editor at The State Press had on Heiler’s career was more serious. He has worked in education and politics, and has been an Amateur Athletic Union high school and youth basketball coach for 20 years.

“A quality journalism program is good preparation for many other things,” Heiler said. “My journalism experience has always been valuable. I love working with kids and teaching them about basketball. As my professional life has turned out, I find myself at the intersection of many things. Journalism was the best preparation for me to lead that kind of life.”
The career of Len Munsil ’85 B.S., ’88 J.D. in the fields of education and nonprofit advocacy led him to the presidency of Arizona Christian University. Whereas Heiler has impacted youngsters through coaching and overseeing the state’s public university system, Munsil helps young adults navigate the college experience as a communicator and an administrator. “The most rewarding aspect is seeing the transformative effect of a small Christian university education on the lives of students,” Munsil said.

When Munsil was in those students’ collective shoes as a 20-year-old editing The State Press, he learned a big lesson: Decision makers will not be able to please everyone. Criticism comes no matter what decision is made.

“Criticism of leaders is often based on rumor, assumptions, ideology or a lack of information about the real choices in front of (them),” Munsil said. “That made me much less critical of other leaders, because I realize I don’t have all the information in front of me that they do when making decisions.” For Munsil and his family, journalism has been a common interest that developed at various times within the family. Munsil’s wife, Tracy Munsil ’83 B.S., ’89 M.A., ’11 Ph.D., also served as a State Press editor, and went on to garner three degrees at ASU, including a 2011 doctoral degree in political science. Their daughter, Leigh Munsil ’10 B.A., is also an ASU graduate. She earned a bachelor’s degree in 2010 and she covered government and the state legislature in addition to serving as an editor at The State Press. She now covers the defense industry for POLITICO.

“I became interested in defense and other policy areas, and I moved into full-time defense (reporting),” she said.

Leigh’s interest in journalism developed independently of her parents’ experiences. When she was growing up, she saw them handling different occupational duties.

“I didn’t know them as journalists,” Leigh said. “My dad was an attorney and my mom was a freelance writer. My family had a big role in my understanding of political processes. There was a high level of political discussion at home. That informed my interest.”

While at ASU, Leigh nurtured her interests in the political process while making her way through a packed morning schedule at ASU. Early classes, a downtown gym workout and a dash to the newsroom were all part of the process.

Leigh said, “The State Press was the best possible crash course in journalism. You run a staff of hundreds, you are managing a budget and daily editorial meetings. You’re responsible for the newspaper that covers an entire university community, and you are running it as a rag-tag group of students.”
“For (high school) students, you are highlighting what needs to be changed for their learning,” she said. “It’s not going to be published. In journalism, you are writing to tell a story. With the academic writing, you are not.”

Blodgett is thankful that her dad encouraged her to consider applying at The State Press as a part of her ASU experience. “I needed that,” she said. “I needed something different from education. That was journalism for me. You walk away with a different knowledge than what you get (strictly) in education.”

Tom and Amy’s daughter, Carly Blodgett ’15 B.A.E., recently experienced her first academic quarter as an English teacher at McClintock High School in Tempe. She served as a copy editor for a year at The State Press before being in charge of the copy desk during the next several years. The differences between evaluating academic work and journalistic writing have become apparent to Carly Blodgett quickly.

“For (high school) students, you are highlighting what needs to be changed for their learning,” she said. “It’s not going to be published. In journalism, you are writing to tell
The intensity of the daily newspaper routine stoked many Sun Devils’ desire to stay in journalism, even as the field has undergone a sea change in recent years. **Ted Williamson ’75 B.S.**, executive director for integrated publishing systems for the New York Times, settled into the field after a switch from a musical track to journalism.

“I went to ASU as a piano major and music was all I cared about,” Williamson said. “I saw an ad for The State Press. I was doing it for fun.”

That fun atmosphere included working as a reporter, city editor, managing editor and editor at various points. The diverse workload helped Williamson later in his career as he worked at The Arizona Republic and then the Detroit Free Press. He switched over to working as a technology specialist during his final few months in Detroit, which set the stage for a move to New York. As websites grew to include additional multimedia platforms, Williamson has stayed on top of the tools of the trade and the corresponding workflow within the newsroom. It is a journey that began in Arizona.

“The State Press taught me things that have been valuable in life,” Williamson said. “It was a grind getting out the paper every day. One of the big lessons I learned is you always show up, ready to give it all you have, because if one of you fails, you all fail.”
Nicole (Carroll) Hartman ’91 B.A., is the executive editor of The Arizona Republic and azcentral.com. Decision making and dealing with sensitive stories are a couple of items on her daily to-do list. As she communicates with staff members to help them clear obstacles they are facing, the process is reminiscent in some ways of what she experienced as managing editor in the basement of the Matthews Center as part of the staff that worked under the guidance of former State Press advisor Bruce Itule. Marked up copies of that Monday through Friday print edition were called ‘the blue copy’ because of the amount of blue ink all over the pages.

“We were expected to produce professional work and Bruce held us to that standard,” she said. “We had to do all this while balancing classes, homework and outside jobs. It was intense and prepared us well for challenging jobs ahead.”

Patricia Nolan ’74 B.S., ’84 J.D. took the newspaper’s lesson about the value of a group effort with her to Texas. She operates her law practice in Dallas; it is a venture she started in 2004 after she was a partner in the trial department of a law firm with offices in Dallas and Houston. That move for the Arizona native presented her with new challenges within her career. “I was sent to answer hard questions and I got to branch out and handle cases more,” Nolan said.

Nolan’s efforts in business litigation led to her being chosen for the 2012 Texas Super Lawyer list. The majority of her practice involves business litigation with the remainder made up of alternative dispute resolution and intellectual property litigation.

Although she runs her own practice, there is a team element built both at ASU and in Texas, she said.

“My journalism experience at ASU taught me how to depend on other members of a team and appreciate the skills of those around me. It also gave me writing and editing skills. Teamwork was a tremendous gift I learned at ASU.”

Brian Hudgins is a freelance writer based in Lafayette, La.
A work in progress

ASU influential in boosting Arizona’s expanding art scene

By Oriana Parker

Artists have been flocking to the Southwestern United States, and what is now Arizona, for a very long time. The extraordinary light and unparalleled landscape captivated Englishman Thomas Moran (1837-1926), who immortalized the Grand Canyon in works he created during the late 1800s that now hang in the Smithsonian’s American Art Museum, as well as Germany’s Max Ernst (1925-1991), who painted in Sedona during the late 1940s.

However, despite its reputation as a great place to make art, the state has historically been less well known than some other locations in the United States as a place to sell one’s art, or to be a part of an arts community.

“The state never has had an art community like the art colonies at Taos and Santa Fe, New Mexico,” said Betsy Fahlman, professor of art history and author of a number of books on Arizona’s art history. “Nor did we have museums or collectors or art schools. The first art show in the state was at the State Fair in 1915 – you could see a work of art and then see the champion pig!”

Fortunately, the current art scene in Arizona has taken a step up since the state fair days of 100 years ago. And Arizona State University has played a significant role in the creation of a fertile artistic environment in the Valley of the Sun and across the state.
Joshua Roffler, senior curator at the Tempe History Museum.

Enlarging the “Big Picture”

One of the major influences on Arizona’s evolving art scene in the 20th century was the work of ASU professors, many of whom were recognized artists in their own right. Professor Thomas Harter (1905-1981), who taught at ASU from 1934 to 1975, often taught painting classes at Petersen House, a 1892 Victorian house on the corner of Southern Avenue and Priest Drive, where he and family lived for almost two decades. Harter’s own paintings reflected his struggle to accept the growth of the area surrounding the university; during the time his family lived in Peterson House, Tempe’s population grew from 8,000 in 1951 to more than 60,000 in 1968, an increase of more than 700 percent.

“His art expresses both a joyful celebration of nature, as well as his fury over its destruction in the wake of urban development,” said Joshua Roffler ’04 M.A., senior curator at the Tempe History Museum, who oversaw a 2010 exhibit entitled “Tom Harter: Picturing Change in Tempe.”

Many of Harter’s students went on to become important artists and influential art educators. One of the most well known was the African American painter J. Eugene Grisby, Jr. (1918-2013), whose work was shown at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Library of Congress, as well as being the subject of 65-year retrospective at the Phoenix Art Museum. After studying with Harter at ASU, Grisby himself became a professor of art at ASU in 1966 and taught at the university for more than two decades.

Jerry Peart ’70 B.F.A., the creator of almost 40 large-scale public artworks throughout the United States, is represented on the Tempe campus by his brightly colored sculpture installation, “Celebration.” Peart created the sculpture in 1984 and ended up teaching at the university during the spring semester of that year, filling in after one of his mentors, Professor Ben Goo, retired.

“I was greatly influenced by Goo,” Peart recalled. “Though I started off in architecture, I switched to fine art by taking one of his courses. The course involved taking something made with parts, reassembling it and adding color. I used an old transmission! This inspired me to become a sculptor.”

As an undergraduate, Peart was also profoundly impacted by Professor Rudy Turk’s classes. “I considered him (Turk) a second father,” he said.

Other ASU faculty also spurred the artistic development of today’s artists. Jerry Peart ’70 B.F.A., the creator of almost 40 large-scale public artworks throughout the United States, is represented on the Tempe campus by his brightly colored sculpture installation, “Celebration.” Peart created the sculpture in 1984 and ended up teaching at the university during the spring semester of that year, filling in after one of his mentors, Professor Ben Goo, retired.

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Picturing the Arizona art scene of tomorrow

While the state has an admirable past and an intriguing present functioning as an incubator for working artists, what measures can be taken to continue increasing Arizona’s stature in the art world?

Recent alumna Claire A. Warden, a 2010 graduate with degrees in photography and art history, said the key was to continue to build an infrastructure within the community that makes it possible to be a homegrown creator.

“We need to create an environment that encourages artists to stay in Arizona instead of leaving for Los Angeles or New York,” said Warden, who has exhibited around the nation, as well as in Spain, France and Israel. “Museum support programs have already initiated a dialogue encouraging more individual art collectors in Arizona and this is certainly something we should continue to nurture, because it directly supports the artist and art organizations.”

ASU’s Mark Klett, a master of the photographic discipline known as rephotography, has continued to bring attention to Arizona environments through his work throughout his career. Klett, a Regents’ Professor of photography in the School of Art within the Herberger Institute of Design and the Arts, is the author of many books, including the popular collaborative work with Byron Wolfe entitled “Reconstructing the View: The Grand Canyon Photographs,” which took historical photographs of the canyon from a variety of sources and placed them into artistic dialog with their own photographs.

Painting with an updated palette

Today, Arizona and Phoenix in particular are regularly honored by inclusion in the influential “Year in Review” public art recognition program administered by the Americans for the Arts Public Art Network. Some of the attention springs from the Valley of the Sun’s continued population growth, and the infrastructure that was created to accommodate them, according to Fahlman.

In 1986, the Phoenix City Council passed an ordinance that allocates one percent of the Phoenix Capital Improvement Program to enhancing the design of public buildings, infrastructure and spaces. More than 180 projects, ranging from new parks, community centers and canal trails, to bridges, streetscapes, overpasses, transit centers, recycling centers and other key infrastructure, have been part of the beautification initiative.

“Because Phoenix is a ‘young’ city, percent-for-art programs have flourished, inspired in part by the wonderful infrastructure projects,” said Fahlman. Phoenix’s Sky Harbor has one of the best airport art programs in the country, she adds, due in part to financing from the percent-for-art program.

Individual artists have also enhanced Arizona’s stature in the art world, especially lately. James Turrell, creator of the 2012 artwork “Air Apparent” that has been installed near the Biodesign Institute on the Tempe campus, also is in the process of constructing an elegant naked-eye observatory complex at Roden Crater, a natural cinder-cone crater located outside Flagstaff. Designed for the viewing of celestial phenomena and designed in the spirit of place such as Machu Picchu in Peru and the pyramids in Egypt, the ongoing project has helped focus attention on the state as an artistic center.

ASU’s Mark Klett, a master of the photographic discipline known as rephotography, has continued to bring attention to Arizona environments through his work throughout his career. Klett, a Regents’ Professor of photography in the School of Art within the Herberger Institute of Design and the Arts, is the author of many books, including the popular collaborative work with Byron Wolfe entitled “Reconstructing the View: The Grand Canyon Photographs,” which took historical photographs of the canyon from a variety of sources and placed them into artistic dialog with their own photographs.

“Air Apparent,” which was installed near the Biodesign Institute on the Tempe campus in 2012, was the work of nationally known artist James Turrell.
2010s
Samyak Shertok ’14 M.F.A., a native of Nepal, published in the Nepal-based La.Lit magazine the poem “Aftershocks” following earthquakes there last spring. The magazine is an English-language literary journal. He also read the poem at a vigil held by ASU’s Nepalese Student Association. In Nepal, Shertok launched his “Healing Through Poetry” project last summer as a way to assist the country’s people in their recovery from the earthquake.

Adrienne Celt ’12 M.F.A. announced the release by W.W. Norton of her debut novel, “The Daughters: A Novel,” about music, motherhood and ancestral lore that binds several generations of one family’s women.

2000s

Natalya Shkoda ’01 M.M., ’06 D.M.A., associate professor of music at California State University, Chico, announced the release by Centaur Records of the final CD recording in her three-volume “Kosenko Recording Project.” The project introduces the piano music of Ukrainian composer, pianist and teacher Viktor Kosenko. The third volume includes the world premiere recordings of his “Eleven Études” and “Twenty-Four Children’s Pieces.”

1990s


♦ Scott W. Bowman ’92 B.A., ’96 B.S., ’02 M.S., ’07 Ph.D., associate professor in the School of Criminal Justice at Texas State University, announced the release by Praeger of the book he edited, “Color behind Bars: Racism in the U.S. Prison System.” Contributors to the book included Professor Pat Lauderdale and Associate Professor Vera Lopez, both in ASU’s School of Social Transformation.

1980s
♦ Uta Monique Behrens ’85 B.A. announced the publication of her fifth book, “Journeys into Foreign Lands.” The work, a collection of 26 travel stories set in 13 countries, is the third book in Behrens’ Journeys series and is available through CreateSpace/Amazon.

Fred Krakowiak ’82 B.S. announced the release of his business memoir, “Tracking Your Inner Maverick: Career Transition for Trailblazers, Risk Takers & Rule Breakers,” that is published by Maverick Brush Strokes. The book is based on Krakowiak’s 30 year-career as a financial planner, from which he retired to become a nature and wildlife artist and guide.

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• Set my sights on being a doctor of oncology.

— Michael Pineda, scholarship recipient at Barrett, The Honors College at ASU and triathlete

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1970s

Joe Gilliland ’79 Ph.D., who taught for more than 50 years, announced the release by iUniverse/True Directions of his book, “A Teacher’s Tale: A Memoir,” that begins with his own early schooling in 1932 and concludes in 1955 as he completes preparation to become a teacher himself. The narrative presents a philosophy of higher education based on the importance of arts and humanities in today’s world.

Brian Hill ’77 B.S., ’79 M.B.A. and Dee Power ’76 B.S., ’77 M.B.A. announced the release by Black Rose Writing of their new novel, “Treasure in the Moonlight,” that is the a tale of pirate ancestry and a race to find hidden treasure.

Maria Segal ’77 M.S.W. published her memoir, “Maria’s Story - Childhood Memories of the Holocaust.” The book is available on Amazon.

Marty Schupak ’77 M.S., president of Youth Sports Club Inc., announced the publication of his eighth book, “Baseball Chronicles 2: Articles on Youth Coaching.” It is available on Amazon.com.

Valerie Stapleton Foster ’74 B.A.E., who worked as a teacher in the Phoenix area for more than 30 years, announced the release by Albion-Andalus Books of her first book, “The Risk of Sorrow: Conversations with Holocaust Survivor, Helen Handler.” The work was accepted by the U.S. Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C. and is the basis of a documentary by TIKI Films USA.

♦ Robert Nisbet ’72 Ph.D., an instructor in the predictive analytics certification program at the University of California-Irvine, announced the release by Academic Press of “Practical Predictive Analytics and Decisioning Systems in Medicine,” which he coauthored.

1960s

Everett Errol Murdock ’65 B.S., an emeritus professor at California State University-Long Beach, announced the release by HOT Press Publishing of his sixth novel, “The Pain Artist: An American Hikikomori.”


Faculty and Staff

Gregory Castle, professor of English, announced the release by Palgrave Macmillan of his book, “Reading the Modernist Bildungsroman.” The work is the first major study of the historical context of the English and Irish Bildungsroman genre and pays particular attention to self-development and identity in the modernist era.


Attention Sun Devil authors:

ASU Magazine seeks news of books published by degreed alumni, students, and faculty/staff members of Arizona State University for our Just Published section. Include the author’s full name, class year(s)/degree(s), email address and phone number. Email notices to alumni@asu.edu.

The magazine also reviews a select number of books each year in its Shelf Improvement section. Self-published books will not be considered for review. To be considered for inclusion, mail a complimentary copy of the book (which should have been published in the past 12 months) to Book Review Editor, ASU Alumni Association, Old Main, 400 E. Tyler Mall, 2nd Floor, Tempe, AZ 85281.

The Bat Book: Afraid of a Bat? What’s Up with That?!
By Conrad Storad ’83 M.M.C., Bobolink Media, 2015.

Little Boy Bat, L.B. for short, lives with about a million family members in a well-known colony under the Congress Avenue Bridge in Austin, Texas. He is saddened to hear a group of human children say that they are afraid of bats. Worse yet, the children are misinformed about what bats might do. This makes L.B. angry enough to set the record straight. With the help of award-winning author Conrad Storad, the young bat has produced this informative book for children. In addition to dispelling prevalent myths about bats, the book provides some intriguing facts about these mammals and directs readers to authoritative sources for more information. L.B. suggests some additional questions and encourages further research. Simple illustrations, bright colors and instructions for drawing a bat invite young researchers to pursue their own questions and share their findings.
Pachacuti: World Overturned

Pachacuti, a Quichua word from Andean regions in South America, means “world turning.” It refers to the belief that the world begins anew at irregular intervals in cyclical time. Through this turning, injustices are righted and new directions become possible. This historical novel by Lori Eshleman, an instructor of interdisciplinary humanities and communication for ASU’s College of Letters and Sciences at the Polytechnic campus, illustrates not only the close weaving of the concept in the daily living of a people but also the nearly impenetrable barriers between Pachacuti and the equally closely woven worldviews that accompanied the Spanish conquest of the region in the 16th century. Set in the late 1700s, this work investigates the subtleties and consequences in three lives as a Jesuit priest, who grew up close to the beliefs of Pachacuti; a Native American, who was raised alongside of the priest and became a medicine man; and a fiery young Spanish woman each gain insight into and sympathy for the alternate belief systems. Themes of racial tensions, gender inequality, religious conflicts, revolution, and deep connections to place and to nature are illustrated and developed layer by layer in this book. These themes make the novel relevant in today’s world and their careful development elucidates the complexities of cross-cultural understanding. It is an engaging read solidly grounded in historical authenticity and animated by expert storytelling.

Picker’s Pocket Guide: Baseball Memorabilia

Shows such as “American Pickers,” “Antiques Roadshow,” and “Pawn Stars” have raised interest in collecting all manner of things, and this guide by Figler, who himself specializes in collecting sports, political and presidential memorabilia, is an authoritative introduction to the valuation of almost everything related to America’s favorite pastime. After an introductory chapter that explains how the worth of collectibles is established (including reasons why one signed baseball is worth $30 and another one could be worth $33,000), Figler systematically discusses all the more common baseball treasures, including cards, balls, bats, uniforms, gloves and other playing equipment. He also devotes chapters to more esoteric baseball-related goodies such as jewelry, board games, bobble-head dolls (which have been around for more than 50 years, by the way), photos, and posters from baseball-themed movies.

If you’re a Major League Baseball fan, or a budding collector, this book is a must. It’s a well-written book with lots of interesting stories about the memorabilia itself, and fans of American popular culture also will find this slim volume a compelling read.

Frank Kush: The Incredible Life Story of A Coaching Legend in His Own Words

Most Valley residents over the age of 30 have some familiarity with ASU’s legendary football coach Frank Kush and his monumental impact on the development of Arizona State’s football program. Those who were alive during the 1960s and 1970s often have vivid memories of the successful program and Kush’s tough, take-no-prisoners approach to creating disciplined, savvy athletes.

This book, which Kush writes in the first person, lays out his take on the significant milestones in his life – from his humble beginnings as one of 15 children of a Polish immigrant coal miner in western Pennsylvania to his rise as a football player and later, a coach. His recollections overflow with the salty, pithy candor for which he has become famous, but his viewpoint often is tempered by the perspective of additional years and experiences, as well. He writes about the good times, including the glory years when ASU came to dominate three different athletic conferences, as well as sharing his side of the events that led to his departure from ASU.

Through it all, ASU football fans and supporters of the university in general will appreciate hearing first-hand stories from one of the giants of Sun Devil history. Readers also will appreciate several extras included with this edition of the book, including a Q-and-A interview with former Sun Devil quarterback Danny White.
Spirit, pride, and tradition
Alumni activities reflect the best aspects of Sun Devil living
By Liz Massey

Many fall events, including ASU football games, call forth Sun Devil spirit, pride and tradition.

While every day is a good day to be a Sun Devil alum, and the Arizona State University Alumni Association hosts a number of captivating events in the spring, if one had to name a single season which most completely represents “the alumni experience” for graduates of ASU, it would have to be autumn.

This fall, ASU alumni were able to experience the full gamut of what the university has to offer those who return to its community – the chance to cheer on current and past sports champions, the opportunity to advance their careers through a variety of career programs, and the option to introduce the next generation to the awesomeness of the ASU family.

Here’s a quick recap of events hosted by the Alumni Association during the past several months.

Celebrating ASU’s champions, past and present

The Alumni Association’s school-year calendar got off to a rousing start with the first of three away-game Sparky’s Touchdown Tailgates being held before the ASU-Texas A&M game in Houston on Sept. 5. More than 1,200 Sun Devil fans made their voices heard! Sun Devils also gathered for high-energy tailgates before the Oct. 3 game against UCLA in Pasadena and the Oct. 17 game against Utah in Salt Lake City. The association also hosted three home-game tailgates on Old Main Lawn; these events attracted hundreds of fans per game and featured fun, food and a sea of revelers dressed in maroon and gold!

As the 2015 Sun Devil football team made their way through the season, the Alumni Association paused on Nov. 13 during its Legends Luncheon event to celebrate the accomplishments of the undefeated 1975 team. More than 700 Sun Devil fans were on hand to pay tribute to one of ASU’s finest athletic teams, and linebacker Bob Breunig, who was recently inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame, was acknowledged for his amazing career. The luncheon was part of the Alumni Association’s Homecoming week slate of activities, which also included participation in the Homecoming Block Party on Nov. 14 before the Sun Devils took on the University of Washington Huskies. During halftime of the Homecoming game, the association honored Christine Devine with the Alumni Service Award, and Win Holden with the Alumni Appreciation Award.
Getting down to business at career networking events

Over the summer, the ASU Alumni Association learned it had earned top honors in the Phoenix Business Journal’s “Top Networking Organizations” list for a second year in a row. To demonstrate the power of the alumni network, the organization held three mixers during the fall, with the Maroon and Gold Professionals meeting during September and October, at MidFirst Bank in the Biltmore area of central Phoenix and at Salut Kitchen Bar in Tempe. The Women in Business group met at The Handlebar in Tempe in November. The mixers formed a key portion of the newly revamped ASU Alumni Career Services program at the Alumni Association, along with an exciting lunch seminar about creating online videos held on Oct. 6 at The Graduate Hotel in Tempe. These gatherings are part of alumni-focused career programming aimed at helping Sun Devils connect with each other, enhance each other’s professional endeavors, and educate alumni about the latest workplace trends.

Families munch, brunch and stretch with Sun Devil Generations activities

ASU families had an active social calendar this fall, kicking off on Sept. 12 with the annual Grandparents’ Day Brunch. Youngsters and their parents and grandparents enjoyed a pancake meal and bonding time with Sparky.

On Oct. 24, Sun Devil Generations families met at Singh Farms in Scottsdale to learn about the fall harvest, tour the gardens, fireplaces, and teepee and purchase fresh vegetables grown on the property. As temperatures began to drop in the Valley of the Sun, members of the group were able to learn more about Arizona’s unique agricultural seasons and offerings. Dozens of family members played together in the outdoor setting.

The Generations crew returned to ASU’s Tempe campus on Nov. 7 for Sparky’s Sprint. More than 75 children and adults stretched with Sparky before heading out on the mile-plus course through the campus.

Finally, more than 150 children of all ages met at Old Main on Dec. 5 for Storytime with Sparky, a holiday-themed affair that has become one of the group’s most anticipated activities. Everyone enjoyed the stories, hot chocolate, cookies and special holiday photo opportunities with ASU’s beloved mascot.

Additional events

In addition to all of the above events, the Young Alumni chapter of the Alumni Association held several game-watching celebrations during football season, including one at Alice Coopertown in downtown Phoenix before the Sept. 5 game against Texas A&M. Many young alumni cheered for the maroon and gold before the team’s annual non-conference game.

This fall, Alumni Association President Christine K. Wilkinson participated in the ribbon-cutting ceremony of Chicago-based Groupon’s Valley office located at ASU’s SkySong. The company made the decision to open a West Coast office there based upon networking connections with members of the Chicago alumni chapter. Later that same month, ASU Career Services and the ASU Alumni Association hosted the first Immersion Excursion at Groupon’s new SkySong location, during which Phoenix area Sun Devils were able to see how the company structures its business, take a peek at its daily operations, and enjoy a networking mixer.

Liz Massey is managing editor of ASU Magazine.
Scholarship in motion
Sparky license plate program fuels academic success
By Jan Stanley

What did the late U.S President Ronald Reagan have in common with today’s more than 17,000 alumni and friends of ASU? A Sparky license plate.

On March 29, 1989, during the year that Sparky vehicle license plates first became available, Reagan served as keynote speaker at ASU’s “Insuring Tomorrow” student leadership conference. He was presented with a Sparky plate as a memento of the event.

The Sparky plate program, known more officially as ASU’s collegiate license plate program, was initiated by Don Dotts ’58 B.A. during his term as executive director of the ASU Alumni Association to fund the Medallion of Merit Scholarship. Of the $25 charged by the state of Arizona annually for each plate, $17 goes directly to the scholarship program.

Just as the license plate itself has undergone several makeovers in its history (most recently in 2010 when an all-gold plate design debuted), the scholarship program also has been upgraded.

The Medallion of Merit Scholarship was reconstituted in 2006 as the Medallion Scholarship Program, a comprehensive scholarship program that incorporates components of leadership, scholarship and service. Medallion Scholars receive four-year renewable scholarships of $3,000 annually.

The support and mentorship that the scholarship recipients receive resulted in a 100 percent graduation rate for the cohort that began their undergraduate career in 2011; all 29 students that started together graduated in the spring of 2015. During this current academic year, the program is serving 114 scholars. To continue their engagement with ASU, the Medallion alumni have formed an official alumni club.

Medallion scholars, during their four-year college journey, volunteer extensively for the Alumni Association and other organizations in the community. A core group of scholars work with the Association to implement ideas that increase awareness of the Sparky license plates. From creating videos that share how this scholarship has helped them, to getting out on the streets and delivering written thank-you notes to those who have the license plates on their vehicles on and near ASU’s campuses, scholars remain engaged with the license plate that funds their scholarship. During other parts of the year, Medallion scholars volunteer at ASU Alumni Association signature events and participate in other service activities.

So, now that you’ve learned about the students who benefit from the Sparky plate program, you might be wondering how plateholders benefit? Robin Hengl ’75 B.S., executive director of parent programs at the ASU Foundation For A New American University and a proud Sparky license plate holder, identified several ways in which the plates help those who carry them on their vehicles. She said she gets “a lot of mileage” out of her Sparky plates and has had numerous conversations with parents, alumni, students and prospective students in mall and grocery store parking lots. According to Hengl, “Sparky plates are a guaranteed conversation starter.”

She also said having the plate had made her a more confident driver.

“Now, when people honk at me on the freeway, I assume they’re saying ‘Go Devils’ and that it has nothing to do with my driving,” she laughed.

To purchase a Sparky license plate, visit www.sparkyplates.com. Additional information about the Medallion Scholarship Program is available at https://alumni.asu.edu/services/student-scholarships/medallion-scholarship.
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Austin

Austin Sun Devils cooled off in the Texas heat this summer – first by hosting our largest Sun Devil Send-Off to date, and then by heading off to find some of the tastiest beer in central Texas at our summer brewery tour in July.

As summer morphed into fall, we went to Houston for the ASU-Texas A&M football season opener. It was a fabulous way to start the season! Regular game watches at our favorite Austin haunt (Rattle Inn) and our signature event (river cruise on Lake Austin), complete with fabulous fajitas and an open bar, rounded out our busy fall.

Join us in the spring for Pat’s Run, our annual golf tournament, wine tasting, and our ASU Cares event.

Catholic Newman Center

Our first semester of events and meetings after our club’s founding were a great success. Thank you to all the Sun Devils who attended our tailgates during the football season! We’ve just launched a scholarship program and look forward to awarding it to our first student late in the spring. This January, we will be celebrating Heritage week with our church.

Chengdu, China

Chengdu is the fifth-largest city in China, with more than 16 million residents and offices for more than 260 Fortune 500 companies. This summer, for the first time ever, it became a location for a Sun Devil Send-Off for new incoming international ASU students.

Atop one of the tallest buildings in downtown Chengdu, new ASU freshmen, study-abroad students, parents, friends, and Sun Devil alumni, met with International Alumni Ambassador Mark Rentz to share ASU experiences, hopes, dreams, and ambitions.

Students asked questions about how to survive at ASU during their first semester and heard about many great ASU traditions and opportunities to connect and thrive at their new university.

Chicago

Another Sun Devil Football season is now in the books, and it was great to see so many new faces at game-watching events here in Chicago. We started the fall traveling to see the ASU hockey team play in Madison, Wisc. Chicago alumni also have enjoyed a myriad of Pac-12 events this year, including beach volleyball to end the summer and a happy hour event in September.

Please join us at the Pac-the-Stockings event in December as we raise money for Toys for Tots and recap the football season with other Pac-12 alumni.

Colorado

It’s been a great fall here in Colorado. We joined our friends in Northern Colorado for their signature weekend camping event, then we hit the links for our first golf tournament to raise money for the Colorado Scholarship Endowment. Our kickball team continued their dominance on the field every Thursday night, and we held our first women’s-only networking event. Of course we frequented the home of ASU Colorado, the Blake Street Tavern, every week for amazing watch parties and were able to celebrate another fantastic Sun Devil football season.

Next month, on Jan. 30, we are looking forward to our signature event, Ski and Board Day, up in beautiful Breckenridge, Colo. Let us know if you make a trip out to Colorado, we would love to show you around!
Dallas/Fort Worth

This summer and fall flew by. We gathered and gave the freshman from the Dallas-Fort Worth area a great start to their ASU career at our Sun Devil Send-Off. We held an end-of-summer networking mixer at Nine Bands Brewery, traveled to Houston for ASU’s first game of the season against Texas A&M, supported the ride/walk for the TC Chillemi ASU Fund in September, and watched some incredible Sun Devil football.

As we look forward to the spring, please join us for our ASU Cares project and Pat’s Run.

Doran Community Scholars

The Doran Community Scholars alumni club hosted their third annual open house for parents of the scholars on July 25. This event focused on providing information to the parents of the Doran Community Scholarship Program recipients and incoming ASU freshmen. Parents learned about the academic expectations of their child, as well as best practices on how to support and motivate their student while in school. They also learned more about resources ASU offers to students and their families, such as The Sun Devil Family Association and The American Dream Academy.

Devil’s Horns

Our group would like to issue a big “thank you” to everyone who participated in the 100th Anniversary of the Sun Devil Marching Band event at Homecoming! It was a magnificent time for all, and we enjoyed meeting current student Marching Band members and playing together as a group. We also enjoyed the gathering the day after Homecoming, which was highlighted by a presentation about the history of the band!

El Diablito (Yuma)

Join our chapter in Somerton for the Somerton Tamale Festival on Dec. 19! ASU’s “El Diablito” chapter is the driving force behind this event. Last year, more than 30,000 attendees purchased close to 100,000 tamales from more than 40 different vendors. The festival features the very best entertainment with international renowned artists, regional bands, mariachis, and folkloric dancers. Admission is free. One of the largest food festivals in the Southwest, the Somerton Tamale Festival benefits a Yuma County scholarship fund for ASU students. Visit the somertontamalefestival.com site for more information and important updates.

Flagstaff

Fall has been a very good season for the burgeoning Flagstaff alumni club! We had a wonderful time sending off our local Sun Devils down to the Valley of the Sun in August at a Send-Off, and had a fantastic showing at our football viewing parties at the Southside Tavern, an establishment owned and operated by an ASU alumnus.

We look forward to hosting mixers and Pat’s Run shadow run festivities in the spring, and hope to see lots of Flagstaff locals and Phoenix visitors at our future events. Go Devils!

Georgia

Our chapter had an extremely busy summer and fall schedule this year. Some of our events included a local speaker series that featured ASU alums working for CNN, the Weather Channel, and as independent reporters; a Sun Devil Send-Off that included a visit from ASU...
Alumni Association President Christine K. Wilkinson; a ‘Sun Devil Huddle’ event with Vice President for University Athletics Ray Anderson and Dr. Wilkinson at the College Football Hall of Fame; monthly “foodie” gatherings that showcased the exploding food scene in Atlanta; and awesome football game-watching events at the Taco Mac Lindbergh Station.

Thanks to everyone who has come out to an event or supported our chapter this fall. Join us this spring for more excitement!

**Hispanic Business Alumni**

What a busy year! Our chapter celebrated its annual signature event, the Noche de Lotería, on April 17. The widely popular event sold out and drew more than 350 guests! More than half of the net proceeds from the event benefitted the ASU HBA Latino Partnership Scholarship Fund.

HBA awarded 19 scholarships for the current academic year, totaling $180,000. This fall, we celebrated our Bud Shoot-out golf tournament at the renowned Whirlwind Golf Course. We thank our sponsors and community for the continuous support.

**Hong Kong**

After meeting regularly the last couple of years, members of the alumni connection group in Hong Kong agreed that it would be good to welcome new ASU students from the area by hosting a Sun Devil Send-Off.

At the event, each alum shared with the students his or her favorite ASU experiences and essential survival advice. Our favorite was the alum who asserted that there was one place every student needs to eat once they arrive – The Chuckbox. Attendees mentioned the enjoyment of mingling with fellow alumni and reminiscing about their own student days as one of the biggest highlights of the Send-Off.

**Houston**

It was a busy start to the football season as the Sun Devils traveled to Houston on Sept. 5 to take on Texas A&M in the Texas Advocare Kickoff at NRG Stadium. The festivities got started Thursday night when we hosted a pre-tailgate party at Cottonwood’s. The Friday Night Inferno followed, as we hosted more than 1,000 Sun Devils at Little Woodrow’s in downtown Houston. The venue had a great atmosphere, and we received media coverage from Phoenix and sports shows.

On game day, we partnered with the ASU Alumni Association to produce Sparky’s Touchdown Tailgate sponsored by NRG inside the Houston Texans Methodist Training Center. More than 1,200 Sun Devils came to the tailgate and showed their maroon and gold pride. Fans from across the country enjoyed live music, games, drinks, drawings, and local Texas barbecue from Killen’s. Special appearances were also made by ASU Athletic Director Ray Anderson, ASU Alumni Association President Dr. Christine K. Wilkinson, and Sun Devil legends Curley Culp and Jeff van Raaphorst.

We enjoyed hosting all of these events and meeting new Sun Devils. Our chapter T-shirts sold out, and we were able to auction off homemade cornhole game sets benefitting our chapter. Thank you, Sun Devil nation!

**Iranian-American Alumni**

Our club held its first service-oriented event at Feed My Starving Children in Mesa this fall. Close to 50 participants from all age groups gathered on Sept. 19, and worked together to hand-pack more than 1,000 nutrition-filled meals that were sent to different parts of the world to feed hungry children.

The event was a success in promoting the spirit of ASU in younger participants as well as their parents. Participants were invited to a nearby yogurt shop after the event for social gathering and networking. Thanks to all who attended!

**Las Vegas**

Our club had a great turn out for the 2015 Sun Devil Send-Off. This was the inaugural year of the our alumni club’s scholarship for a local ASU student. Thank you all who attended and made the Send-Off a success.

We continued having our football watching events at Buffalo Wild Wings this fall, and again participated in Eat Wings, Raise Money™. The funds we raised will be used to fund our club’s 2016 scholarship for a local Nevada student attending ASU. Our fall network mixer showed that there are certainly talented alumni here in the Las Vegas area. If you are not from Las Vegas and will be traveling here, we love tourists and you are always invited to our events!

**Leadership Scholarship Program**

On Aug. 15, LSP alumni gathered at Marnie Green’s house to celebrate the summer with the annual LSP Alumni Summer Mixer. Members had the opportunity to mingle with fellow alumni and reminisce about their favorite LSP memories.

The fun continued with the annual LSP Homecoming Reception on Nov. 13, which raised thousands of dollars for scholarships in a unique new venue overlooking the Lantern Walk. It was revealed at that event that the LSP alumni would be pursuing a cross-disciplinary year of leadership and service in commemoration of its 40th Anniversary, beginning in fall 2017. Planning for that effort has begun; contact us to get involved. We hope to see you in the new year at LSP Career Night (Feb. 2) or the annual LSP Wine Tasting event!
**Los Diablos**

Our chapter hosted a fall semester kickoff at the beginning of ASU’s academic year to welcome new and returning scholars. During the kickoff, students and parents attended workshops on financial aid, personal development, internships and study abroad programs, and a session on health and wellness.

Los Diablos scholars are assigned to a chapter board member who serves as a mentor, advocate and university liaison for the academic year. The Los Diablos Puente Mentoring Program is dedicated to promoting the continued enrichment and success of Los Diablos scholars through academic and professional guidance, moral support, and community involvement.

**Los Angeles**

This fall, our chapter held game-watching events each weekend that ASU played and had a great crowd to cheer on the Devils inside the Rose Bowl during the game against USC. We had another great tailgate before the game, as well as our first Friday Night Inferno maroon and gold gathering in downtown Pasadena.

We also hosted an MBA networking event in Hollywood with our new partners from ASU Thunderbird. Alums also had the chance to attend an LA Galaxy soccer game, a networking event with ASU Career Services in Santa Monica, or our annual bowling tournament “Duel in the Desert” against the U of A Wildcats in LA.

Join us this winter as we welcome the men’s basketball team, led by new head coach Bobby Hurley, to LA to take on the Bruins and Trojans in early January. Look out for another ‘LA Stories: Alumni in Media and Entertainment’ event early in 2016 as well.

**National Capital**

This past year, our chapter celebrated its most successful alumni softball season in history, achieving a record of 12-2 and a No. 10 ranking in the Capital Alumni Network league. We’ll be starting up our 2016 campaign in late March and are always looking for new players; let us know if you’re interested in joining the team!

This fall, we also hosted game-watching gatherings, volunteer events, Fall Festival Day at Cox Farms and a variety of other social and networking events. On Dec. 12, we will volunteer at Arlington National Cemetery for Wreaths Across America, where a holiday wreath is placed at every headstone. We look forward to seeing everyone at chapter events in 2016!

**Native American**

Congratulations to all of our chapter’s officers for the 2015-2016 academic year: Lei-Lani White, president; Justin Honge-va, president-elect; Rose Soza, secretary; Nicolet Deschine, treasurer/public relations. We also want to welcome our board of directors for this year: Melissa Cody, Suzette Johnson, Cheryl Begay-Mizell, Sharon Tom, and Ernest Tom.

Thank you to everyone who came to our 21st Annual Josiah N. Moore Memorial Scholarship Benefit Dinner on Nov. 7, which featured Lattie F. Coor, the former ASU President, as the keynote speaker. The benefit dinner helped us raise money for future Native American Sun Devils and was a big success.

**New York**

The New York Sun Devils had a great summer, with a picnic in Central Park and our annual Sun Devil Send-Off where we welcomed incoming students to the Sun Devil family and awarded one student a $250 scholarship.

It also has been a great season of football game-watching events at our new bars, John Sullivan’s and Jack Doyle’s, both of which are located in midtown right by Penn Station. We also enjoyed our annual signature event, a trip up to Bear Mountain for Oktoberfest, where we had custom drinking steins made and enjoyed some catered Mexican food.

During the week of Thanksgiving, the men’s ASU basketball team came to town to play in the 2015 Legends Classic. It was amazing to enjoy the rare opportunity to see Sun Devils playing on the east coast.

We are gearing up for an exciting March when the NCAA wrestling championships will be held at Madison Square Garden. We are looking forward to hosting the ASU wrestling team, staff, and traveling fans for a weekend at their Sun Devil home away from home in New York City.
Northern Colorado Club
Moving into our third year as a club, we celebrated the joys of summer in the mountains at our inaugural camping weekend event at Jack’s Gulch. The event was a smashing success, and we plan on doing it again next August.

We have a new home for game watches and community events at Mulligan’s Pub and Sports Club.

Old Pueblo
Our chapter had another successful Send-Off this year. We bid farewell to 15 students as they embarked on the next chapter of their lives as Arizona State Sun Devils. We also had a great showing of alumni and family members for the event and look forward to another exciting and productive year in the “Old Pueblo.”

Many events are already being planned for the spring.

Orange County
This summer was a very busy time for our chapter. In early July, we hosted a wine-tasting event in partnership with One Hope Wine. The event was wildly successful, and alumni enjoyed tasting several different wines while networking with other Sun Devils.

In late July, we hosted a Sun Devil Send-Off for all local incoming freshmen and parents. It was the largest Send-Off in Orange County history, with more than 40 incoming students in attendance. In August, we hosted a pub crawl in Newport Beach where alumni were able to mingle while trying out several local establishments.

The Orange County Chapter returned to American Junkie in Newport Beach this fall for all the football game-watching events. All the games were very exciting, and the ASU football team was cheered on by a record number of Sun Devils.

In late December, we will be hosting our signature event, the Newport Beach Boat Parade Viewing Dinner at the Newport Landing Restaurant. It will be an evening filled with holiday cheer, beautifully decorated boats and Sun Devil pride!

Taipei, Taiwan
More than 1,750 international students have come to ASU from Taiwan over the years, but this summer was the first time ever that a Sun Devil Send-Off was held to welcome new ASU students. Nearly 50 parents, students and alumni attended the festivities. Parents loved talking with the alumni who had been to ASU 20 and 30 years ago. New students enjoyed hearing fresh stories from recent grads, who proudly shared their Sun Devil experiences. Others attended the event to learn more about ASU’s graduate and undergraduate programs. Everyone got ASU information, souvenirs and took group photos with old friends.

Twin Cities
The Twin Cities chapter had a great summer, with the highlight being our annual boat cruise on Lake Minnetonka. We toured the lake, enjoyed a full dinner and checked out the beautiful homes and sights along the lakeside.

We were back at Runyon’s, in downtown Minneapolis this fall to cheer on our Sun Devil football team this fall. Other fall events included our Welcome Happy Hour for recent grads and our annual Family Fun Day at Sever’s Corn Maze.

We are busy planning for our Fork & Bottle wine-tasting gathering this February, as well as other 2016 events. We’d love to see you at our events!

Utah
Thank you to all the Sun Devils who joined us for our Sun Devil Send-Off. We all enjoyed the experience and connected with our newest Sun Devils before they headed to Tempe. Also, thank you to all the Sun Devils who attended Sparky’s Touchdown Tailgate when ASU came to play the Utes!

We’d love to have you come out to our events in early 2016, including a Ski & Snowboard Day at Brighton Ski Resort in February. Join us for Sun Devil fun and fellowship!

Veterans
During the week of Spring Commencement, our chapter honored military veterans graduating from ASU. At an award ceremony and reception in Old Main, vets who had served in the Army, Navy, Marine, Air Force, and Coast Guard were presented with beautiful stoles, which matched the colors and insignias of their services, to wear over their graduation gowns. They were very visible to the public when the grads marched in the graduation procession.

We had a total of 231 stoles awarded, and 10 more were presented to members of the Class of 1965 at their Golden Reunion event. Feedback from the grads was extremely positive. This recognition keeps ASU in the forefront of universities supporting veterans. Our chapter will continue this tradition in December. Go Devils!

White Mountain
Our chapter had a great summer and fall. We attended the Blue Ridge High School awards assembly in Pinetop-Lakeside and presented five students with scholarship certificates to ASU. Our annual Steak Fry/Golf Tournament in June was a great success. We gathered at Pinetop Lakes Golf and Country Club in Pinetop, Ariz. The “horse race” tournament had 54 entries and it came down to the ninth hole before a winner was declared. Our Heritage Night party was attended by more than 250 people and the Saturday golf tournament had 170 players. The Saturday night steak fry topped off the weekend with more than 450 guests. Alumni had a chance to mix with ASU sports legends such as Ray Anderson, Todd Graham, Greg Powers, Charli Turner-Thorne, Zeke Jones, Randall McDaniel, Andrew Waters, Taylor Kelly, Jeff Van Raaphorst, as well as ASU Alumni Association President Christine K. Wilkinson. Along with the scholarship funds raised at this event, we were able to give $25,000 to the Sun Devil Club to help with scholarships.
Young Alumni chapter events in 2015 have included a pool party, networking mixers, game-watching events, and a “Paint the Pitchforks” night at Brush Bar.

Young Alumni

This past year, our chapter was busy hosting a variety of exciting events. In February, we held a “Pitchforks and Paint” night at Brush Bar in Old Town Scottsdale that sold out. In April, the popular “Dinner with Devils” event took place at Mother Bunch Brewing in downtown Phoenix. In May, young alumni networked with their peers at our networking mixer at Aunt Chilada’s in central Phoenix. In June, warmer temperatures brought more than 300 young alumni to Talking Stick Resort in Scottsdale to enjoy our annual summer pool party. This fall, when our Sun Devils hit the road for the Texas A&M game, we hosted a game watching party at Alice Cooperstown.

This spring promises to be fun, engaging and full of events tailored specifically for Phoenix-area alums between the ages of 21 and 35. Join us!

Want to get involved?

See a chapter or club that represents your geographic area, your academic program, or a special interest? Find contact information, social media links, and more photos and information on upcoming activities for all ASU Alumni Association alumni chapters, clubs, connections and affiliates by visiting alumni.asu.edu/groups.
Gen. Philip Breedlove, an ASU alumnus and U.S. Air Force officer, has the high-ranking title of Supreme Allied Commander, Europe for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) – a title first held by then-General, and later President, Dwight Eisenhower. In this role, Breedlove serves as NATO’s military commander and spends much of his time meeting with officials from each of the 28 nations in the alliance.

Breedlove’s connection to Arizona began on his first military assignment after receiving his bachelor’s degree from Georgia Tech – fighter pilot training at Williams Air Force Base, which is now part of the ASU Polytechnic campus.

“Williams was our very first assignment for pilot training and then we stayed on to be an instructor pilot so it will always have a special place in our heart as the place where the Breedlove family began,” he said.

Breedlove earned a master’s degree in aeronautical technology at ASU in 1987. The university was willing to accommodate Breedlove while he was reassigned overseas, and let him finish his degree remotely, a real feat in an age before the Internet, he said. His wife Cindy is also an ASU graduate.

“My time with ASU came at a formative time in my career when I was a mid-grade officer. The discipline required to complete my degree while working full time, coupled with how the courses challenged me to think, helped form the habits that made me successful as a senior officer and that I still use today,” he said.

Breedlove has had numerous operational, command and staff assignments and completed nine overseas tours. He returned to Arizona in 2002 to command the Thunderbolts of the 56th Fighter Wing at Luke Air Force Base.

Breedlove has seen many changes in the past three-and-a-half decades, including the technology that his branch of the service uses to defend the nation’s borders and interests.

“When I arrived in Arizona in 1978, computers, cyber space and remotely piloted aircraft were the things of science fiction. Today they are center stage in our Air Force,” he said.

Despite the amount of time he spends connecting with dignitaries and officials, he asserts that, “By far my favorite days are when I’m able to shake the hands of our young men and women in uniform and thank them for their service. The time I spend with our young military members convinces me more than ever that our future is in good hands.”
2010s

♦ Karl Blasco '15 B.S.E. is now the plan ops engineer at IM Flash Technologies.

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Molly Michael '14 B.A. and Laurie Enright ‘90 B.A., a mother-daughter team, departed from Lot 59 at ASU’s Tempe campus in May for a 10,000-mile cross-country motorcycle trip to benefit Boulder Crest Retreat for Military and Veterans Wellness. The trip, named The Long Ride Home, included visits to veterans centers, hospitals and military-supporting communities from Tempe to Warrenton, Va., including a stop in Anchorage, Alaska. Enright is a combat veteran.

Chelsey Davis ‘13 B.A. has joined KTVT-TV in Dallas, where she is a multimedia journalist and traffic reporter. Previously, she worked for KPHO-TV in Phoenix.

♦ Michael Vantusko ‘13 M.B.A. works at Morgan Stanley as a financial advisor and is managing multiple financial portfolios of successful entrepreneurs and business owners in the Valley. He is also spearheading endeavors to give clients the opportunity to work with sustainable investments.

♦ David Rodriguez ’13 M.Ed., ’14 M.P.A. recently was recognized with a Comcast NBCUniversal Leadership Award. He is co-founder and coordinator of DREAMzone at ASU and was honored for his commitment to building inclusive communities as an active citizen, student, teacher, and campus community leader.

Jose Garcia ’13 B.A. recently was featured on Valley Metro’s online site in a story about his daily use of public transportation to help him graduate from ASU. He used his long commute as a time to study and stay up to date on work.

Anna Groff ’13 M.P.A. has been named executive director of Dove’s Nest, a nonprofit organization that works with faith communities to keep children and youth safe.

Richie Ressel ’12 M.Ed. and Chris Reina ’09 M.A.L.M., ’15 Ph.D. have started an innovative venture called HEROES for Students, which uses a web-based tool to connect professionals in the community with K-12 teachers looking for a speaker on a specific topic.

♦ Kishonna Gray ‘11 Ph.D. is the founder and director of the Critical Gaming Lab, a research laboratory dedicated to the investigation of console games and their associated immersive virtual environments, which is housed in the School of Justice Studies on Eastern Kentucky University’s campus.

Laura Waugh ’11 M.A., ’13 Ph.D. is now the director of marketing at Health Choice.

Heather Horrocks ’11 J.D. joined Ballard Spahr in Phoenix as an associate in the litigation department, where she advises clients in complex corporate and commercial litigation matters.

Justin Hoffman ’11 B.S., ’14 J.D. is now the business analyst for continuous improvement at Epiq Systems.

Laura Palmisano ’11 B.A. was selected as a 2015 fellow for the Institute for Justice & Journalism and is a senior reporter at KVNF Community Radio in western Colorado.

Ian Danley ’11 M.P.P., governing board member of the Phoenix Union High School District and program director at Neighborhood Ministries, participated in the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society’s Man and Woman of the Year fundraising campaign to benefit blood cancer research.
Justin Tettenborn ‘11 B.S. has been certified as a registrant by the National Registry of Certified Microbiologists (NRCM). The NRCM, founded in 1958, certifies microbiologists in food, pharmaceutical and medical device, and biological safety microbiology at the baccalaureate, master’s, and doctoral levels.

Andrew Moe ‘07 B.A. accepted a new position as senior assistant dean of admissions and director of access and programming at Swarthmore College.

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Mario Esquer ‘06 B.S.D. is the president of Avadium Design, a product design and development company that works with companies to develop new brands and products. He recently was named one of Arizona’s “Top 35 Entrepreneurs under 35” by the Arizona Republic.

Tiffany Tavee ‘06 B.S. recently became an ASU assistant women’s golf coach. She is also a former Sun Devil women’s golf student-athlete.

Alicia Gonzales ‘05 B.S., a certified therapeutic recreation specialist at Phoenix Adult Day Health Services, was presented with a RISE Award for Innovation from Mercy Maricopa Integrated Care earlier this year.

Bill Konigsberg ‘05 M.F.A. drove 4,800 miles this fall, stopping in 17 venues in 13 different states in the South and Midwest, to meet with LGBT teens and talk to them about being young and gay. Funds raised will go to TrevorSpace, a social networking community for LGBT youth ages 13 through 24 and their friends and allies. He hoped to raise more than $25,000 for TrevorSpace.

Shannon Sowby ‘05 B.A., a seasoned communications professional with more than 10 years of experience in the field, will build the public relations department at Park&Co, a full-service marketing and communications agency.

Sarah Hock ‘04 B.F.A., ‘10 M.Np. S., who was executive director of the Humane Society of Central Arizona, for five years, stepped down from that role to work with PetSmart Charities in Phoenix.

Jill Harrison ‘04 B.A., previously director of communications at the Oklahoma Energy Resources Board, accepted a position as executive director of the Down Syndrome Association of Central Oklahoma.

Justin Rohner ‘04 B.I.S. is CEO and founder of MyAgriscapePro. He recently launched a crowdfunding campaign to develop the new garden planning app, which shows anyone what to plant, when to plant it, and how to care for it, in a way that is custom fit to the user’s land.

Lawdan Shojaee ‘04 B.S., CEO of Axosoft, a local software company, has been making international waves with a new social media campaign called “It Was
Never a Dress,” which challenges viewers to re-imagine the traditional visual symbol for women as wearing a cape, instead of a dress or skirt. The campaign included the sale of T-shirts and other merchandise that will fund a scholarship in ASU’s Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts for a need-based student entering a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) field.

Kendall Smith ’04 B.S.E. received his Ph.D. in chemical engineering from Rice University. He now works for Micron Technology in Boise, Idaho, doing photolithography work.

Mary Carla Flood ’03 B.A., ’06 M.S.W. was accepted into the SOME (So Others Might Eat) Volunteer Corps in Washington, D.C., for a year of service that began in August 2015.

Scott Kaufmann ’03 B.S., ’09 M.S.R.E. has been named one of the Phoenix Business Journal’s Class of 2015 “40 Under 40” award recipients.

Damon Grandy ’03 B.S. was promoted to the position of director of physical therapy at the Center for Physical Excellence Outpatient Therapy Centers in Prescott and Prescott Valley, Ariz.

Joshua Berndt ’02 B.A. recently was named the director of communications for Thanksgiving Point in Lehi, Utah. In this role, he handles all media and public relations, acts as a spokesman for the company and is the executive editor for the quarterly magazine the Thanksgiving Point Gazette.

Monica Ballesteros ’02 B.A. is now the social media manager at the Enterprise Marketing Hub for Arizona State University.

Philip Howard ’02 B.S., ’03 M.A.I.S. was promoted to partner at Ernst & Young LLP in the Bay Area life sciences audit practice area in Northern California.

Mary Carla Flood ’03 B.A., ’06 M.S.W.

Melissa Ho ’01 B.A., ’01 B.S., a shareholder of the national law firm Polsinelli, was recently selected as Up and Coming by Chambers USA in the category of White-Collar Crime & Government Investigations. Melissa was also selected as a 2015 Southwest Super Lawyers Rising Star in the category of Criminal Defense: White Collar.

Chris Ludwig ’01 B.S. is a designer on Kahler Slater’s higher education team. His designs have received recognition for excellence by the American Institute of Architects and several higher education industry publications. He serves as a design champion for the firm, leading design critiques, enhancing tools and sharing his extensive industry knowledge.

Scott Kaufmann ’03 B.S., ’09 M.S.R.E.

Todd Bazin ’00 B.S. has been promoted to partner in the assurance practice of Ernst & Young LLP’s Houston office. He has 15 years of experience specializing in serving large, complex companies that operate on a global scale in the energy and manufacturing industries.

Jennifer Mellor ’00 B.S. is now vice president of economic development at the Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce, where she will spearhead the chamber’s efforts to build and grow existing Arizona companies.

Anthony Siela ’00 B.S. and Ryan Diepenbrock ’00 B.S., ’01 M.A.I.S. own PSW Real Estate in Austin, Texas, an urban infill real estate development team. They manage the development of more than 300 homes in Austin, San Antonio, and Dallas that are in the process of being built.

Wenona Baldenegro ’00 B.A. has been appointed executive director of the Office of the Navajo-Hopi Land Commission. She most recently served as the assistant attorney general for the Pascua Yaqui Tribe near Tucson, Ariz.

1990s

Judy Keane ’99 B.I.S. is now the director of media relations and strategic communications for ASU.
Phil Guttilla '95 J.D., '99 M.T.A.X., a shareholder of the national law firm Polsinelli, was selected for ranking in Chambers USA in the category of Corporate/Mergers & Acquisitions. Guttilla's legal practice focuses on mergers, acquisitions and divestitures, securities and corporate finance, private equity and hedge fund formation, and business transactions.

Nicole Norona '99 B.S. founded The Norona Effect, a nonprofit organization with a mission of building pediatric ambulatory infusion centers in rural areas so that children with life-threatening diseases might be able to receive treatment near home while surrounded by loved ones.

Matt Ellsworth '98 B.A. has been promoted to vice president of communications at the Flinn Foundation.

Timothy Vasquez '98 B.A. is the owner of Someburros, a family-owned and operated restaurant that has served the Valley for almost 40 years. This fall, the restaurant opened a branch inside of the newly renovated Sun Devil Stadium.

Cara Christ '97 B.S., '00 M.S., previously deputy director for public health, was appointed director for the state Department of Health Services by Arizona Gov. Doug Ducey.

Christopher Burmood '98 B.S. recently obtained his Gold Seal Flight Instructor certificate, and is presently employed in the flight training department at Central Flying Service in Little Rock, Ark.

Greg Korbel '98 B.S., a construction and real estate partner of Miller, Norton, Caillat & Nevis, LLP, has been appointed to the board of directors of Christmas in the Park, San Jose, Calif.'s annual holiday celebration.

Tania Katan '97 B.A., who works as the "curator of code" for Axosoft, a local software company, has been making international waves as co-creator of a new social media campaign called "It Was Never a Dress," which challenges viewers to re-imagine the traditional visual symbol for women as wearing a cape, instead of a dress or skirt. The campaign included the sale of T-shirts and other merchandise that will fund a scholarship in ASU’s Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) field.

Ruben O. Saenz '97 M.S.W. is the recipient of the 2015 NISOD Award of Excellence. NISOD is a membership organization committed to promoting and celebrating excellence in teaching, learning, and leadership at community and technical colleges.

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Jessie Whitesides '95 B.S.D., an architect with A² Studios in Santa Rosa, Calif., designed the tasting room for Mending Wall Winery in St. Helena, Calif.

Scott Freeman '94 J.D., a shareholder at Fennemore Craig in Phoenix, has been elected president of the Arizona Association of Defense Counsel. He represents clients in complex commercial and products liability litigation.

Christopher Bissonnette '93 B.S. has joined MassMutual San Diego as the director of agency development for Southern California.

George Canellis '92 B.A., assistant state attorney in the Illinois, received a Distinguished Service Award from The John Marshall Law School Alumni Association in recognition of his career achievements, adherence to the values of the law school and providing assistance to the students, alumni, faculty and staff of the school.

Brandon Bridwell '90 B.S. was promoted to director from associate director at Ernst & Young LLP (EY). He is a member of EY’S Business Development practice and has extensive experience building executive stakeholder relationships.
1980s

Eliot Kaplan ‘89 J.D., previously a partner with Squire Patton Boggs, joined Perkins Coie law firm’s corporate practice as a partner in the Phoenix office.

♦ Manjula Vaz ’89 B.A., ’99 J.D., an attorney with Gammage & Burnham in Phoenix, has joined the Tempe Community Action Agency’s board of directors. The agency offers supportive services to individuals and families striving for greater economic stability and self-sufficiency.

Mark Brnovich ’88 B.S., Arizona Attorney General, will serve as the second vice chair for the Conference of Western Attorneys General for 2015-2016. CWAG is a bipartisan group comprised of the attorneys general of 15 western states and three Pacific territories that addresses emerging legal topics along with focusing on common areas of interest to the West: water, fish and wildlife, public lands, minerals, environmental protection and Indian law.

John Kerkorian ‘88 J.D. has assumed the role of managing partner of Ballard Spahr in Phoenix.

Andrew Hughes ’86 B.A., currently director of admissions and records at Truckee Meadows Community College in Reno, Nev., was selected as a 2015 NISOD Excellence Award recipient. NISOD is a membership organization committed to promoting and celebrating excellence in teaching, learning, and leadership at community and technical colleges.

Melanie Sturgeon ‘86 B.A., ’92 M.A., ’01 Ph.D., received the Conference of Inter-Mountain Archivists 2015 Lifetime Achievement Award. The honor is given to individuals who have demonstrated considerable service and leadership in the inter-mountain west region, and who have made significant contributions to the Conference of Inter-Mountain Archivists organization and/or the archival profession.

Alisa Gray ’85 B.S., ’92 J.D. was selected as one of the 2015 Most Influential Women in Arizona Business by AZ Business magazine. Her law practice is concentrated in the area of probate and trust litigation, estate administration, elder law and mediation.

Dru Ann (Deger) Hickman ‘85 M.S. has accepted a position as a senior account manager with Firmenich Flavors and Fragrances, the largest privately-owned flavor and fragrance company in the world.

Brig. Gen. Daniel Yoo ‘84 B.S. is the newly named commandant for the U.S. Marine Corps’ Camp Pendleton.

Carolyn Sechler ’84 B.S. recently was honored by the Arizona Society of CPAs as a lifetime member for her service to the CPA profession for the past 30 years. She is founder and CEO of Sechler CPA PC, a firm specializing in accounting for nonprofit organizations.

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During her 20 years as executive director of the Arizona State Board of Nursing, Jo. E. Ridenour has watched closely how ASU has prepared nurses for their careers. But amidst all the dramatic and sweeping changes the nursing profession has experienced since Ridenour earned her bachelor’s degree in 1969, one thing never changes, she asserted.

“Nurses always will go into the program because they feel they can be of service to others,” she said. “I think what draws a lot of the students today is the challenge of understanding the complexity of nursing and how that understanding helps patients get better.”

Ridenour says the best lesson she learned from the exceptional faculty at ASU was “to always want to know more than what you’re given and always understand completely why you’re doing what you’re doing.”

After graduating, Ridenour took her first nursing job at Tucson Medical Center. After her husband finished law school, she returned to Phoenix for a position at St. Luke’s Medical Center and then spent 25 years working at Maricopa Medical Center. In 1984, she was first appointed to the State Board of Nursing and in 1995 she began serving as executive director.

It is from that perspective that Ridenour has watched as ASU’s College of Nursing and Health Innovation has evolved to become one of the country’s top-ranked programs.

“The variety of roles in nursing today is more than I think anybody ever understood there would be for nursing, and ASU’s program has been able to see down the road and what the projected needs will be and prepare,” Ridenour says. “The deans were able to recruit people based on where they knew they needed more in-depth faculty knowledge. They keep their finger on the pulse of how health care is evolving and find people to fill in expertise the current faculty doesn’t have. They’re doing an amazing job preparing students on exit.”

Having taken joy in her profession from the start, Ridenour says one of the best decisions of her life was to settle on ASU’s nursing program for her education.

“When you hear the words lifelong learner, it means different things to different people, but I believe in the nursing profession because it’s changing so dramatically, sometimes even month to month, the learning journey will never end,” Ridenour says.

By Eric Swedlund, a freelance writer based in Prescott, Ariz.
Cynthia Stock ’73 B.S.N. received the Frist Humanitarian Employee Award for 2015 from Medical City Hospital in Dallas. The award recognizes employees for their contributions both within the facility and in the community.

Mark Donato ’72 B.A.E. is now proprietor of the Sconset Market in Nantucket, Mass.

Patrick A. Riley, Sr. ’71 B.A.E., ’72 M.A.E. announced his retirement from Crane School District #13 in Yuma, Ariz. He served the district for 25 years as a teacher and 18 years as a school administrator.

David L. Case ’70 B.S., ’73 J.D., a shareholder in the law firm of Tiffany & Bosco in Phoenix, received the 2014-15 Eleanor ter Horst Distinguished Service Award from the State Bar of Arizona’s probate and trust section.

1960s
Keith Merrell ’69 B.S. accepted the position of chief financial officer at u-Med Plus, Inc., a medical device company that explores and develops applications for new technologies in the medical field.

Neil Shapiro ’78 B.S. has retired after 25 years as a licensed massage therapist.

Deborah Hull ’76 B.S., ’91 M.Ed., ’04 Ph.D. is the director of academic advising at Mesa Community College.

Bruce Sedlak ’75 B.S. recently became vice president of strategic accounts at InsideSales.com.

Bradley Holcomb ’74 B.S.E., ’75 M.S.E., former senior vice president and senior procurement officer for Dean Foods and current chair of the ISM Manufacturing Business Survey Committee, has been named the 2015 J. Shipman Gold Medal Award recipient. The award is presented annually to an individual who has performed distinguished service for the cause and advancement of the supply management profession.

Daniel O’Hanlon ’73 J.D. was accepted into membership of the 2015 class of fellows with the West Virginia Bar Foundation. He currently serves as vice chancellor for technology for the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission and director of the West Virginia Network for Education Telecomputing.

Margaret Krahn ’64 B.A.E., an American Red Cross volunteer in the Phoenix area, received the Randi Knappenberger Exceptional Volunteer of the Year Award from the organization at this year’s volunteer recognition breakfast.

Ron Ellenson ’63 B.S., a member of of Al Kader Shriners in Wilsonville, Ore., was named Shriner of the Month in May.

Submitting a class note to ASU Magazine

ASU Magazine welcomes Class Notes about significant milestones in the lives of ASU alumni. Here are a few guidelines for submission.

1. Class Notes should be submitted by the alumnus/a himself or herself, or an official representative of an organization with which the alumnus/a is associated.

2. Class Notes submitted by a private third-party (such as family member) will be verified with the alumnus/a before publication.

3. Photos submitted for inclusion in Class Notes must be 500 KB to 1 MB in file size and a JPG or TIFF file.

4. All Class Notes will run in all platforms for ASU Magazine – including the print magazine and our online/mobile applications.

5. If submitting a Class Note via the U.S. Post Office, please do not send the originals of any materials you include.

How to submit a Class Note

Online: alumni.asu.edu/classnotes

Email: alumni@asu.edu

Mail: ASU Alumni Association, Attn: Class Notes, P.O. Box 873702, Tempe, AZ 85287-3702.
Despite their best efforts, the nation’s universities and colleges aren’t always able to fully provide all students the skills needed to succeed in the real world. While a new degree is still a personal triumph worthy of celebration, increasingly, many graduates find the transition into the modern workforce difficult.

“When you start college, overall there are a lot of people that don’t know what they want to do,” said Shaila Ittycheria, who graduated in 2004 from the W. P. Carey School of Business. “There is a huge disconnect with what’s happening in the classroom and what’s happening in the real world.”

With that in mind, Ittycheria founded the nonprofit organization Enstitute in 2010, after working for Microsoft and Dow Jones, and receiving her M.B.A. from Harvard Business School. She quickly went to work helping college students to fulfill that experience gap by providing them the crucial experience needed to become a working professional.

Enstitute has offices in New York, Washington, D.C., and Miami, and provides students with one-year paid, full-time apprenticeships at high growth start-ups, small businesses and corporations around the country to prepare them for the workforce and accelerate their career trajectory.

“For me, that’s the most valuable thing any young person can do – expose themselves, get experience and really learn what they are confident at,” Ittycheria said.

Having that confidence herself was something instilled in her during her time at ASU, where, in addition to receiving a solid education, graduates benefit from hands-on experience and networking with future and potential employers. She’s given back to the university by sharing her expertise with alumni and current students, as she did when she was part of a forum last year on entrepreneurship and education held at the ASU California Center.

“I truly believe that ASU is one of the few universities that actively and routinely looks at the market to keep a pulse on what’s happening in the real world,” she said.

By Nathan Gonzalez, a Phoenix-based freelance writer.
**Births**

Beckham Crew Montierth was born to Brandon Montierth '14 B.S. and Mandy Montierth on March 26, 2015.


Piper Asia Elliott was born to Amanda Wolfe '08 B.A. on Feb. 16, 2015, in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

Antonio Felipe Baez was born to Myrna Renovato Baez '04 B.A. and Francisco Baez on Nov. 25, 2014, and joined big sister Camila at home in Tempe.

Thomas Michael Romero was born to Brittany (Denney) Romero '09 B.A. and Sean Romero on Aug. 9, 2014.

Oliver Dore Gibney was born to David Gibney '04 B.I.S. and Katie Gibney on April 1, 2015, and joins big brother Nicolas Lee Gibney.

Joshua Randall Smith was born to Kendall Allen Smith '04 B.S.E. and Christine Michelle Bernot Smith '04 B.S. on Sept. 16, 2014.

Nathaniel John Grandy was born to Damon Grandy '03 B.S. and Tiffany Jernigan Grandy on Jan. 20, 2015 in Prescott Valley, Ariz.

Brooks Mitchell Dotson was born to Tyler Dotson '06 B.S. and Stephani Dotson '09 B.S.N., '09 B.S. on Dec. 16, 2013.

Kennedy Lynn Ellinwood was born on Feb. 17, 2015, to Todd Ellinwood '08 B.S. and Ashley Ellinwood '09 B.S., '11 M.Ed.

Kiera Finley Hayes was born to Elisha (Elder) Hayes '04 B.S., and Kevin Hayes on March 26, 2015, in Salt Lake City, Utah. She joins big sister Quinn Ireland.

**Marriages**

Marc Dranchak '04 B.S. and Gwendolyn (Sibly) Dranchak '06 B.S. were married on March 28, 2015, at the Hotel Valley Ho in Scottsdale.

Lori Flowers '99 M.M.C. and O.J. Flowers '97 B.S. were married on May 16, 2015, in Atlanta.


Genny L. Brezina '03 M.C. married Justin Brezina on May 23, 2015, at the Orange Tree Resort in Scottsdale.

James Frater '95 B.S.E. and Johnnie Frater '94 B.S.E. celebrated their 20th wedding anniversary on July 1, 2015. The couple and their two children now reside in Southern California.
Founding fathers

Every institution has a creation story, and Arizona State University is no different. Two of the men most responsible for bringing this educational opportunity to life more than 130 years ago were John Samuel Armstrong and Charles Trumbull Hayden.

In 1885, discussions were in the works at Arizona’s Thirteenth Territorial Legislature to establish a territorial normal school. At 28, John S. Armstrong (left photo) was the second-youngest representative in the Legislature, a Democrat in his first term representing predominantly Republican Maricopa County. He was appointed to the House Educational Committee, and he built a coalition to bring the normal school to Tempe in exchange for supporting a public school reform bill and locating the mental health facility in Phoenix.

Charles Hayden (right photo), who is generally credited as the founder of Tempe, ran a cable-operated ferry across the Salt River, and opened a flour mill in the area in 1874. He used his influence as a businessman and as a federal district judge to encourage the Legislature to choose Tempe as the site for the Territorial Normal School, and helped raise money to acquire and donate property to start the school. Hayden was the father of Carl T. Hayden, a member of the normal school’s class of 1896, who served as a U.S. Representative and U.S. Senator for the state of Arizona for 56 years.

*Photos courtesy of University Archives, Arizona State University Libraries.*
SPECIAL SECTION

transforming American higher education
To meet the needs of our students and to support aspirations for Arizona’s future, Arizona State University has evolved at an accelerated pace over the past decade.

People are starting to notice. The success of our model as a New American University is being recognized across the nation and around the globe.

But now we must take a bold step forward if we are going to meet the goals enshrined in our university charter:

“ASU is a comprehensive public research university, measured not by whom it excludes but by whom it includes and how they succeed; advancing research and discovery of public value; and assuming fundamental responsibility for the economic, social, cultural and overall health of the communities it serves.”

We press on knowing that state support for public higher education has been steadily diminishing but that these goals for our institution and the role that it plays in our society are not conditional upon state funding. We believe that investing in higher education is the single most effective way to improve an individual’s opportunities and advance the economic well being of the region. Our individual donors agree, as they have increased their investments in ASU. So have our nonprofit partners and our corporate supporters.

We are committed to the values of access, excellence and impact. Any qualified student deserves the opportunity to study at a public research institution that is committed to the economic, cultural and civic success of the place where it operates. We are pursuing a mission that is larger and more complex – and more important – than a traditional public university.

The next steps in ASU’s evolution will require us to be even more innovative and entrepreneurial. We must move resolutely toward a model that will allow us to operate as a globally engaged knowledge enterprise – a complex entity whose capabilities and capacities exceed those of a state agency or a traditional university.

The future needs of Arizona and its people require moving beyond the scope of a conventional university, which we have done. Simply put, if our mission and drive extend beyond the structures within which we historically have operated, then those frameworks, too, must advance and change.

ASU already behaves as an enterprise that takes responsibility for its own future, seeking new sources of revenue and operating efficiencies that allow it to provide excellence in research and teaching and learning while remaining affordable to the families of Arizona. But there are legacy governance and design structures in place that limit our ability to maximize our institution’s ability to serve our students and our state.

In the coming year, we intend to pursue the regulatory relief and to implement the design changes necessary to allow ASU to operate more fully as the knowledge enterprise of the future. These advancements will allow us to increase focus on our charter goals and expend fewer resources on nonproductive activity dictated by the current structure.

We will propose a new covenant with the state enhancing our current model into a Public Enterprise University, permitting us to serve as an even more valuable asset to the State of Arizona and its people.

Michael M. Crow
President, Arizona State University

For more information on ASU’s ongoing transformation as the standard-bearer for the New American University model, visit https://newamericanuniversity.asu.edu.
The mission etched into ASU’s charter includes “advancing research and discovery of public value.” That means the innovations and entrepreneurship percolating in the labs and workshops across campus must move beyond those walls to power plants, hospital rooms and store shelves.

Technology transfer – the commercialization of university research – benefits society when a new idea or product is put to use. That move from workbench to home office or hospital bedside also generates companies and jobs along the way and, with proper resources and funding, entire new industries. Through Arizona Technology Enterprise (AzTE), the technology transfer organization for ASU, faculty, investors and industry partners team up to bring ASU innovations into widespread use.

The Startup Mill at SkySong, the ASU Scottsdale Innovation Center, links high-potential entrepreneurs with accelerated venture capital.

ASU’s discoveries increasingly are drawing investors outside of the Grand Canyon State. In 2013, the university established the Santa Monica-based ASU California Center, providing a physical location where ASU researchers and entrepreneurs can connect with prospective students, engage alumni and strengthen connections within the Southern California innovation ecosystem. Since the center opened, more than 25 licensing agreements with California businesses and organizations have been signed and connections have been made with key venture association partners and more than 60 investors, primarily from Silicon Valley.

The university’s technology transfer capacity is extending and strengthening ASU’s global reach through recent venture connections with Tecnológico de Monterrey in Mexico, Dublin City University in Ireland, Tsinghua University in China and Industrial Technology Research Institute (ITRI)-Taiwan.

ASU is committed to helping talented researchers and entrepreneurs see their work through to its enormous public value by providing the resources and support to move from research to startup to success.

To learn more about AzTE and ASU-based technology transfers, visit: www.azte.com.

To learn more about ASU’s Startup Mill visit: entrepreneurship.asu.edu/startup-mill.

Take a video tour of SkySong! Visit vimeo.com/128213833.
NASA awarded ASU the contract to design, build and operate CubeSat, a small satellite that will orbit the moon and search for water.

The National Science Foundation made ASU one of only two institutions in the nation to lead two Engineering Research Centers – technology hubs designed to help solve some of the world’s biggest problems.

An ASU researcher led the development of a successful Ebola treatment that saved two American doctors.

The world’s first white laser, the next step beyond LED lighting, just emerged from an ASU lab.

A jaw found by ASU anthropologists fundamentally changed the scientific understanding of the earliest origins of man.

The university was one of only about a half-dozen institutions trusted to build sensitive instruments for NASA’s space probes.

IN THE PAST YEAR ALONE:

IN THE DESERT

ASU didn’t become a university until 1958 and didn’t swing in the big leagues of Tier One research universities until 1994. Chronologically, it’s a youngster as an institution, compared to its peers. In the past decade, however, what was once the little Tempe Normal School has roared out of the desert as a research powerhouse.

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Over the past decade, ASU’s research enterprise has tripled, to more than $425 million, and moved its line of scientific inquiry in new and exciting directions, resulting in the development of products such as a protein analysis tool that could lead to more effective drugs and computer screens that can be folded or rolled up.

ASU’s culture is to break out of conventional maps for study and research and collaborate across disciplines, providing a mix of expertise that leads to groundbreaking innovation. That flexibility has generated new ideas but also turned ASU into a destination for researchers who see the expanded possibilities for their work.

Faculty members who exemplify the institution’s approach to research include Ed Kavazanjian, director of the new $18.5 million Center for Bio-mediated and Bio-inspired Geotechnics (CBBG) awarded by the NSF. The center will pioneer advances to solve some of the world’s biggest environmental and infrastructure development problems, including how to help make building foundations more resistant to earthquake damage.

One of the first researchers drawn to ASU’s new approach was Charlie Arntzen, founding director of the Biodesign Institute. He long thought that plants could play a valuable role in new drug development, a hunch proven right on the world’s stage in the fight against a spreading Ebola epidemic. One of his projects focused on using tobacco plants as a way to make the experimental Ebola ZMapp serum.

When two American aid workers contracted the disease and began to show signs of succumbing to it, the experimental ZMapp serum was pressed into service. Both workers survived.

“It’s astonishing and rewarding as a biologist,” Arntzen said, “to see a straight line from a technology to the saving of two lives.”

Learn more about ASU’s research and knowledge enterprise development at http://researchmatters.asu.edu.
When Arizona State University began to expand access to education more than a decade ago, the skeptics’ reflexive response was that quality – of students and of the programs in which they studied – would tumble as the numbers grew. What happened instead was the opposite. Access brought in larger numbers of talented and motivated students. The diversity of backgrounds, strengths and interests led to ASU’s culture of creating micro-universes of learning across all of its campuses and locations. That environment, combined with ASU’s dramatic rise in world-changing research, strengthens the academic programs, attracts the brightest students and is creating future-defining impact locally and globally.

**THE NUMBERS SPEAK**

Amazing possibilities are created by expanding access to education. ASU attracts top students from across Arizona, America, and the globe who seek the opportunities of a world-class research institution.

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ASU isn’t just recruiting the brightest thinkers, but also producing some of the sharpest minds in the United States. In 2013 and 2014, only Harvard produced more Fulbright Scholars than ASU. In the past 13 years, ASU can count six Truman scholars and seven Marshall Scholars among its graduates.
Before the Arizona Legislature opens its 2016 session, now is a good time to build relationships and share information about ASU’s mission to transform American higher education. You can help tell ASU’s story.

- Contact your elected representatives in the Legislature and express your support for higher education and ASU.

- Join ASU’s advocacy organization, the Sun Devil Advocacy Network, and encourage other ASU alumni and supporters to do the same. Visit www.sundeviladvocates.org to get started.

- When you read stories in the media about higher education funding, use information from our Resources and ASU Facts pages on the Sun Devil Advocacy Network website to help you craft compelling, fact-based responses.

- Learn more about effective legislative advocacy and more ways to become involved on the network’s “Get Involved” web page.
QUALITY ACROSS CAMPUSES

One element that separates ASU from other top-tier research institutions is the university’s ability to create a broad spectrum of learning environments that match the diversity of interests among the student body.

Barrett, the Honors College at ASU exemplifies these customized academic communities. Barrett provides 7,200 academically gifted students with a rigorous curriculum built around the liberal arts and sciences while still offering students the full resources of a large research university. The New York Times recently declared Barrett the “gold standard” for honors programs at public universities.

ASU creates personalized communities that reflect the university’s commitment to providing all students with a quality education tailored to their needs. Students learn across disciplines and from each other—engineering students working with English literature and business majors to solve problems. The scale of the university creates the options and opportunities that allow students to find their own academic pathway.

Barrett provides 7,200 students with a rigorous curriculum built around the liberal arts and sciences.

Many schools ranked among the top 25 in their fields.

Those paths cross through places like the W. P. Carey School of Business, the Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts, and the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication—all of which have been recognized nationally for their academic strength, many ranked among the top 25 in their fields. U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan lauded ASU’s Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College as “raising the bar” for all other teacher preparation programs in the nation.

Recognition earned by ASU’s colleges and schools highlights the success of the university in expanding access, not just to education, but to the quality learning and success of a world-class research institution.

Want to learn more about ASU’s pursuit and achievement of across-the-board excellence? Visit http://yourfuture.asu.edu/rankings.

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY ALSO FAR OUTPACES ITS ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS-DESIGNATED PEER INSTITUTIONS, HAVING PRODUCED 120 FULBRIGHT GRANT RECIPIENTS IN THE PAST SIX COMPETITION CYCLES:

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asu.edu/give