

Viewpoint

magazine

A Publication of Cottey College:
For Women, By Women, About Women

highlights

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One of the BEST...***AGAIN!***

#7 2018 BEST
REGIONAL COLLEGES

#2 2018 BEST
VALUE SCHOOLS

#2 2018 LOWEST
STUDENT DEBT LOAD AT GRADUATION

#3 2018 LARGEST
PROPORTION OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

RANKED BY **U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT**
AMONG **REGIONAL COLLEGES IN THE MIDWEST**

Letters to the Editor

Dear Mr. Reed,

I attended Cottey College in 1943. I only attended one year because of a desire to attend a co-ed school and I had been accepted at Rice (Institute) University. I graduated from Rice in 1947. I worked as a secretary for Price, Waterhouse until I married in 1950. That year I joined P.E.O. and have been very active ever since. I write this as well as tell you I went to graduate school at 49 and got my master's in family therapy. There were 32 years between my college degrees. I practiced at His Love Christian Counseling Services before I retired after 16 years, age 68. Then I wrote a novel, Fairhope, a historical book about

our area, a plantation before the Civil War. It was published, I received local recognition, but little elsewhere. During the years writing and publishing the book I also worked in spiritual direction.

I write all this, not to brag, but to say I believe all these accomplishments do not measure up to my 25 years as wife, homemaker, and mother and 30 years more as grandmother. In the articles in the last Viewpoint exceptional careers were evident. I believe my most lasting achievement is my role as mother. I have three fine children, all high achievers. I have 4 grandchildren, also high achievers, and I have 7

great grandchildren that are 'darlings.' If I leave any lasting achievement that contributed to the welfare of the U.S. and the world, it will be this legacy. Perhaps in some future Viewpoint you can feature Cottey students like myself, achievers as homemakers.

Sincerely yours,
Emily Butler Osborn

Dear Mrs. Osborn,

Thanks for your letter and congratulations on your many lifetime accomplishments. You have quite a list of achievements to your name of which you are rightfully proud.

The features in the last issue of the Viewpoint were in no way meant to slight anyone who chose a different path in life. Rather, these were women whose careers made the members of our committee say "Wow" when we discussed them.

We at Cottey certainly believe that our alumnae are successful no matter what path they choose because the College gave them the tools and confidence to pursue their dreams.

Thank you for your suggestion for a future issue of the Viewpoint. We hope you keep reading about Cottey.

Sincerely,
Steve Reed

A Message from the EDITOR

Bookending the Season

Welcome to the first digital-only edition of the *Viewpoint*. As we were putting this "bonus" issue together, we noticed we were catching people and events that ended the 2016-17 year and began the 2017-18 academic year. In essence, they were bookends to the summer.

We've put these complimentary articles in chronological order, which highlights their "bookend" qualities. The issue begins with an article about **Tara Stewart '52**, our honored commencement speaker in May. At the back of this issue is an article on Orientation and **Dr. Anne Marie Pendergast '77**, our honored speaker at Opening Convocation in August.

We also have information and photos on events like Vacation College and the Summer Workshops along with a great letter from an alumnae in the Class of 1947. We also feature photos of Cottey students, faculty and staff enjoying the eclipse, which occurred the day before classes officially started this fall.

Our new Cottey College Board of Trustee members are highlighted as are new Cottey faculty members.

Wonderful events and people closed the story on the 2016-17 year (and what a story it told!), but all of us at Cottey are so looking forward to writing the book of 2017-18. We invite you to share the opening pages

of it with us as we scoot that bookend out a little farther to accommodate this new volume.

As always you are encouraged to write me at sreed@cottey.edu.

Sincerely,
Steve Reed, editor





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COVER

On the cover:

Shout it from the mountaintops! Cottey College was ranked #7 in Best Regional Colleges Midwest by U.S. News & World Report. Story on page 21.

President, continued from page 3

■ #3 among Midwest Regional Colleges with the Largest Proportions of International Students. Cottey's proportion of international students was 15%; the top ranking school was only 3% higher! Cottey takes seriously its commitment to educating women to be "contributing members of a global society" (mission statement).

The question then becomes...what do we do with this information? We share it! Alumnae,

friends, P.E.O. sisters... share this information with your friends, your family, your work and social circles, high school girls and their families. Share it on social media- take this opportunity to tell the world about **YOUR** college, Cottey College. I sure will!

Jann R. Weitzel

www.usnews.com/colleges

COTTEY COLLEGE

*A place where
young women*

**IMAGINE
BELIEVE
ACHIEVE**

*If you already
made a gift to
the Annual Fund
— THANK YOU!
If you would like
to participate,
there is still
time. Gifts of any
amount will help
today's Cottey
students become
the leaders of
tomorrow.*

*"I am not the same
unsure girl who came to
Cottey last year; I am now a
confident young lady and can
only imagine what I will become
after my four years here."*

— Kundai Matara

Imagine

*"It wasn't until I
came to Cottey that I
started getting involved
in community service. Now,
I'd like to join the Peace Corps
and do some volunteer work in
Latin America. After that, I plan to go
on to graduate school."*

— Kalina Jurkowski

Believe

*"We have all
experienced times
that challenged us and
encouraged us to stretch
our worldview. Throughout
this, we have been surrounded
by people who were dedicated
to seeing us achieve our greatest
potential."*

— Kirsten Bureman '16

Achieve



message from the PRESIDENT

Share This!

On September 12, 2017, *U.S. News & World Report* released its latest college rankings. Cottey fared well, and I'll share that news in a moment. For now, please consider this question:

Do the rankings really matter?

Yes, for Cottey the rankings are important. U.S. News states that it "uses 50 different types of numerical rankings and lists to help students narrow their college search." Among the data assembled and assessed are first-year retention rates, graduation rates, qualifications of the faculty, class size, student/faculty ratio, and the percentage of faculty members who are fulltime. Also reviewed are per-student spending, average alumni giving, and student selectivity, which considers student test scores, high school ranking, and acceptance rate.

U.S. News further states that "a college education is one of the most important-and one of the most costly-investments that prospective students will ever make. [Thus] U.S. News believes that students and their families should have as much information as possible about the comparative merits of the education programs [offered]."

So, why are the ranking important? Simply stated, these rankings get Cottey on the map. As we all know, Cottey has tended to be a "best kept secret," but as I stated in my inaugural address, I don't want Cottey to be a secret. I want to shout from the rooftops about the excellent education and opportunities Cottey makes available to her students. But the question continues to be... how can we get the news out? Yes, we attend college fairs; yes, we have the great support of alumnae, members of the P.E.O. Sisterhood, and friends of the College; yes, I take every opportunity to share the good news of Cottey College at P.E.O. conventions, reciprocity meetings, and chapter meetings, as time allows. But is that enough?

By earning these rankings and **SHARING** these ranking, we are "in the system." If a student is looking for a great liberal arts institution and seeks out the rankings of *U.S. News & World Report* (arguably the best known source for such data), Cottey is there-shining brightly!

So, back to the news! On September 12, it was announced that Cottey College received the following four recognitions among Midwest Regional Colleges, defined by U.S. News as institutions that "focus almost entirely on the undergraduate experience and offer a broad range of programs in the liberal arts." Included in the Midwest category are 78 colleges in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

- #7 among the Best Regional Colleges in the Midwest, up from #22 last year! This ranking puts us in the top percentages of regional Midwest colleges!
- #2 among the Best Value Colleges in the Midwest. "The calculation used here takes into account a school's academic quality based on its U.S. News Best Colleges ranking and the 2016-17 net cost of attendance for a student who received the average level of need-based financial aid" (https://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/edupdfs/college/CB2018_value_wm.pdf). Yes, Cottey provides an amazing education at a reasonable price!
- #2 among Regional Colleges with Lowest Student Debt Load at Graduation. This data indicates that 36% of Cottey students had no debt at graduation, while the average amount of debt for the remaining 64% was \$20,287.00. It should be noted that according to Student Loan Hero, the average debt for 2016 graduates was \$37,172.

Please see President on page 1

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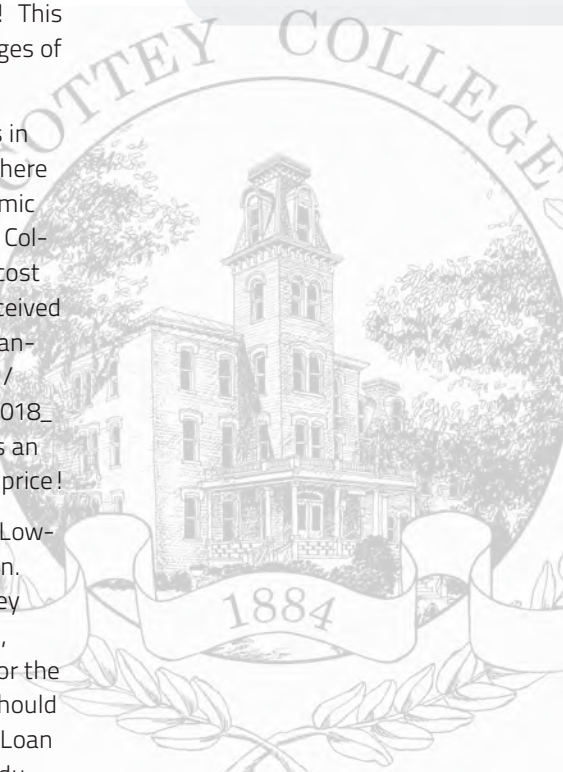
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ADVISORY GROUP
Members of the *Viewpoint* Advisory Group include Steve Reed, Rachel Painter, Carla Farmer, Dr. Chioma Ugochukwu, Dr. Mari Anne Phillips '76, Kristine Anderson Fulton '89, Nancy Kerbs '79, and Dr. Kathy Pivak.



New Members of the Cottey

Cheryl Denslow is the proud fifth generation owner of the Pape family farms in west central Illinois. The 1873 homestead has been the gathering place where many memories have been made and special occasions celebrated including Cheryl and David's third generation Christmas Eve wedding.

With a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Bradley University, Cheryl set out to change the face of classroom music. Along with participation in several ensembles, Cheryl became an active member of Sigma Alpha Iota, professional music fraternity for women. Her association with SAI has continued into two alumnae chapters and her work with college and alumnae chapters as Province Officer.

Cheryl welcomed the opportunity to combine her music skills and her passion for Christian education by changing her emphasis to sacred music. As director of music ministry, her responsibilities encompassed directing children, youth, and adult choirs, and serving as handbell choir director, music librarian, and choir tour manager. She found worship planning and leadership a very exhilarating and rewarding experience.

While watching her two young sons explore every nook and cranny of the Boston Children's Museum, she decided that her next challenge would be to create a children's museum. By partnering with another mother who shared the same dream, a museum came to life. Making the children's museum a success called for a new skill set. Cheryl became proficient at staffing, coordinating volunteers, asking individuals and corporations for funding, grant writing, and exhibit building. The museum became a family project with son Andrew's Eagle Scout project climbing wall, son Todd's carpentry skills, and husband David's PVC pipe organ. The museum now lives in a beautiful new facility dedicated to providing the children of Bloomington-Normal, Illinois, a variety of educational experiences.

P.E.O. made her transition from Illinois to Colorado an easy move. Appointment to a state committee led to the Colorado Executive Board. In '08-'09, Cheryl served the wonderful sisters of Colorado as president. She is currently serving on the Colorado P.E.O. Chapter House Board of Trustees.

Putting their interest in women's education into action, the Denslows participated in Partners in

Peace. They are the "home away from home" for Tijen Tunali from Turkey and were able to participate in the completion of her Ph.D. journey at the University of New Mexico.

The opportunity to participate on the support team for *A Defining Moment* was an exciting way to assist Cottey. David and Cheryl also enjoy participating in Vacation College.

Cheryl and David (retired from Hewlett-Packard and Agilent Technologies) keep their bags ready to go on short notice. Son Andrew (computer interaction designer) and grandson Marcus live in Norway. Son Todd (firefighter and carpenter) and family live in Illinois.

Georgann Douglas was raised in the beautiful Hudson Valley of New York State. She attended Corning Community College where she met her husband Christopher. They have two daughters, Kelley Ann, and Lacey. Kelley is married to Shelton Sykes and they have twin eleven-year-old boys. Matthew and Jackson are entering the sixth grade and are the delight of their grandparents. Lacey lives in Fort Worth where she is communications and events manager for Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County.

Georgann's education is as a medical lab technologist, which she used for several years prior to marrying Chris. Most recent work experience has been in retail management, as a buyer, and sales.

She was given the gift of P.E.O. forty-two years ago by a sweet friend and neighbor, Janet Secor. Chapter BI, New York, welcomed her even though they knew she would soon move to Houston, Texas. What a gift. As a new mother living far from home, P.E.O. sisters were a lifesaver. She soon became a member of Chapter DG, Texas. Another



Clockwise from above:
Cheryl Denslow, Georgann Douglas,
Brenda Atchison

College Board of Trustees



move in 1981 brought her to Fort Worth, Texas, and her P.E.O. home for the last 35 years, Chapter DE, Fort Worth.

Georgann's P.E.O. experience started with serving in her local chapter. Chapter DE has a history of Past State Presidents. So with encouragement, support and gentle nudges the journey began: Fort Worth Area P.E.O. Council; state committees; seven years on the Executive Board; Texas State Chapter; Chairman 2013 Convention of International Chapter; P.E.O.

Advisory Committee for Cottey College Promotion; and chairman of the Cherish Cathy Fund.

Georgann feels that chairing the 2013 Texas Convention was by far the greatest P.E.O. experience she has had. Having the opportunity to meet and work with sisters from across Texas was a great joy. The biggest eye opener and learning experience has been serving on the Advisory Committee. "I thought I knew about Cottey. Oh boy, was I wrong. When you step on campus, speak to students, and experience Cottey you fully realize how important it is to preserve Cottey for future generations. My wish for every P.E.O. is to come and see for yourself."

Currently a member of Chapter TE, Grass Valley, California, **Brenda Atchison** was initiated into Chapter AI, Twin Falls, Idaho, in 1974. She has also been a member of Chapter B, Blackfoot, Idaho, and

both Chapter RI, San Anselmo and Chapter QS, Antioch, California. Brenda was General Chairman of the 1994 convention of California State Chapter and was elected to the state executive board at that convention, serving in all seven offices. She was president of California State Chapter in 2000-2001.

Brenda was appointed to the Board of Trustees for the P.E.O. International Peace Scholarship Fund in 2001 and served as chairman of the board in the 2005-2007 biennium. She served as General Chairman of the Convention Planning Board for the 2009 Convention of International Chapter held in San Diego, California. She is currently serving as Second Vice President of International Chapter.

Brenda and her husband, Jim, have two daughters, Sarah and Katy, both of whom are Cottey College alums, members of Chapter RI, California and fifth-generation P.E.O.s. Brenda's mother, Betty Bonnett was a past president of Idaho State Chapter.

Graduating summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Music in vocal music education from the University of Idaho in Moscow, Brenda graduated from Dominican University of California with a Master of Business Administration in strategic leadership. She owns a personnel firm with an emphasis on recruiting healthcare and medical information management technology professionals nationwide.

Jim and Brenda lived in San Rafael, California, until 1985; moved to the Atchison family home in Pittsburg, California; in 2011; and relocated in November 2015 to Nevada City, California. For 12 years, Jim served on the Planning Commission for the City of San Rafael and a Citizen's Advisory Commission for the City of Pittsburg. He is a Past District Governor of Lions International. Jim is an artist and potter by profession, selling his work nationwide.

Jim and Brenda have had a life-long love of music. Jim loves Irish music, is active in a local Irish ceili and plays the button-box accordion, bodhran drum and tenor guitar.

Summers are spent with family, good books, fishing rods, knitting projects and their Brittany spaniel and Golden retriever at the family cabin outside of West Yellowstone, Montana.

I am Proud to be an Alumna!

by B. Louise McNelley '47

I have wanted to write you for some time, and something always interfered! Now I feel I MUST write you and let you know how much Cottey College has meant to me for over 70+ years! So here goes, and I hope I don't forget anything!

My mother and older sister were P.E.O.s from about 1942 or 1943 in Bloomfield, Iowa (16 miles from the Missouri/Iowa border). Sometime in my junior year of high school a representative from Cottey (I believe her name was Louise Maiken) came to see me and my family. I pretty much decided then I wanted to attend Cottey. I was fortunate to receive an Iowa State P.E.O. Scholarship, so with some ration coupons and letters from my "Big Sis," I began the Cottey experience in the autumn of 1945. I was only 16 years old! I had a single room in one of the four suites in Rosemary Hall. I "loved" the suite arrangement and my suite and the one across the hall were close friends. I formed friendships there that have lasted throughout my life and I am now 88 years old!

Sometime before the 50th reunion of the Class of 1947, I was asked to be Class Agent for my class. I was back for the 50th reunion in 1997 along with my husband. I continued to be Class Agent and we returned for the 60th reunion in 2007. (Our class was still losing classmates.) Staying in close contact with remaining classmates and still Class Agent, I hoped to return for the 70th reunion. Sadly, my husband had open heart surgery in 2009 which led me to the conclusion that I could not attend reunion number 70! However, three of my remaining classmates and daughters did attend [see photo on page 7] and gave me "round-the-clock" reports of happenings at this special 70th reunion! I truly wanted to be there, but my husband, at age 91, needed me more.

I was shocked/surprised to receive the Alumna Service Award. I was also honored at the Michigan State Convention as the only 70-year P.E.O. in attendance and they made special note of my two years at Cottey.

Other events that occurred during my Cottey years – in 1946, the Cottey Choir and Flute Choir (I was a

member of both) were a part of the program at the International Rotary Convention in Kansas City. Harry Truman was the U.S. President, and he invited the Cottey girls to his hotel suite for a private reception.

Also in our honeymoon year of 1950, I wanted George to see the college that had meant so much to me. We did visit and were invited to tea at the home of Miss Floella Farley, my piano teacher, and Dr. Orpha Stockard, my English professor. A special time!

At Cottey, all classmates were close, and the rapport between faculty and the student body made the Cottey experience SPECIAL! You must remember at this time, only 150 girls represented the student body. Now it is more, and also, more girls are going the four years.

It was truly a unique experience and means even more now after 70+ years! I do remember taking laundry to Mrs. Henry, and wearing hats/gloves to town, and no jeans except at distinct times. The best of all were the Kansas City bus trips for symphony concerts, musicals, and special events.

At Cottey it was SPECIAL and the College has been very lucky in its choice of presidents! And the good fortune of Virginia Alice Cottey in giving her College to the P.E.O. Sisterhood. It has endured and is now one of the very best colleges in the Midwest and the world! I am proud to be an alumna!

Sincerely,

B. Louise (McMains) McNelly

P.S. I was so pleased when Dr. Jann Weitzel assumed the Cottey presidency! She and I share being native Iowans, P.E.O., and graduates of her first college experience at Northern Iowa University. (My B.A. degree was from there.)

Founder's Day 2017

The spring/summer print edition featured a few photos from Founder's Day, but not enough for Cottey alumnae! Below are a few more from a fantastic weekend. Clockwise from upper left: Members of the Class of 2002 performed a unique skit where Cottey songs were sung in the style of popular recording artists. A group of young alumnae sing and take selfies. Current students staffed the registration and course for the Imagine, Believe, Achieve 5K race on Sunday morning. Four members of the Class of 1947 celebrated their 70th year reunion!



Norma Spiller de Jong, the late Betty Taff Harris, Mary Steele Mastain, and Barbara Miller McCoy came to celebrate the Class of 1947's 70th reunion! B. Louise McNelly from the Class of 1947 was recognized with the Alumna Service Award, but was unable to attend. She wrote the letter on page 6, however, to express her pride in being a Cottey graduate.

2017 Founder's Day

Friend of the College

Greg Hoffman

Mr. Hoffman received his undergraduate degree from the University of Central Missouri and a master's degree from Pittsburg State University. While teaching marketing and economics at the Nevada Regional Technical Center, Mr. Hoffman earned his securities registrations and became an investment advisor representative. He has been with LPL Financial since 1992. Mr. Hoffman is a member of LPL Financial's Chairman's Club and PEAK Quest for Excellence, which is a consulting organization for top wealth advisors whose firm has met standards of excellence. Mr. Hoffman has earned several professional designations including Wealth Management Specialist (WMS), Chartered Retirement Planning Counselor (CRPS), and Accredited Investment Fiduciary (AIF®).

Mr. Hoffman is very involved with the Nevada community. He is an active member of several organizations including the Lion's Club, Salvation Army, and the Nevada/Vernon County Chamber of Commerce. In 2005, Mr. Hoffman was honored with the Rotary Citizen of the Year Award and in 2007 he was given the Wayne Neal Impact Award. He served on the Cottey College Board of Trustees for seven years and he also serves on the Investment Committee at the University of Central Missouri Foundation Board. He is an adoring father of three children: Bailey, Anthony, and Derek.

Alumna Service Award

B. Louise McNelly '47

A native of Iowa, Mrs. McNelly received her degree from the University of Northern Iowa, when it was called Iowa State Teachers College. Mrs. McNelly got her first teaching job at age 19 on a war emergency certificate in 1948. She taught music while her husband George completed his Ph.D., and during his nearly 40-year tenure at Purdue University, Mrs. McNelly did volunteer work with international students, drove for Meals on Wheels, and raised their two children, among other activities. Upon her husband's retirement, they moved to Michigan and are living on a small lake where they enjoy the beauty, the fruit orchards, and the countryside. Mrs. McNelly has traveled all over the world, met Harry S. Truman, and remembers being at Cottey College with Virginia Alice Cottey Stockard. Known to her friends as "Squee," Mrs. McNelly is a continuing supporter of the

Ross Memorial Library and has served as the 1947 Class Agent for many years.

B. Louise McNelly was unable to attend founder's Day. Read her wonderful letter on page 6.

Honorary Alumna

Award

Joan Maupin

Dr. Maupin is a native of Bloomfield, Missouri, and she received her undergraduate degree from Lindenwood College, her master's degree from the University of Arkansas, and her doctorate from the University of Georgia. Dr. Maupin served for nine years as an associate professor of family economics at Murray State University in Murray, Kentucky. In 1987, she joined The Consulting Group of Titan Value Equities Group in Nashville, Tennessee. After six years with The Consulting Group, she founded Maupin Financial Services where she served her clients in the securities and insurance industry in Nashville and Fort Myers for over 20 years. Dr. Maupin retired as a Registered Securities Representative in 2014.

An active community member, Dr. Maupin has belonged to numerous organizations including Belmont United Methodist Church and its Trust Fund Board; Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce; West Area Business Council; Better Business Bureau of Nashville and Middle Tennessee; West Area Business Council Board;



Greg Hoffman



Joan Maupin

Award Winners

Alive Hospice Development Committee; CABLE and YWCA of Nashville and Middle Tennessee; American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences. She has also been a member of the Foundation Investment Committee; Kappa Omicron Phi, a National Home Economics Honor Society; and The American Association of University Women. She is a member of the Faith United Methodist Church, the Church Finance Committee, and the Hospitality Committee. Dr. Maupin has been a volunteer for Hope Hospice and is a supporter and fund raiser for the American Heart Association of Lee County Heart Walk since 2006.

Dr. Maupin is currently a member of P.E.O. Chapter FV in Sanibel, Florida. She has served appointments of all P.E.O. offices and has been Chapter President of two chapters in Murray, Kentucky, and Sanibel, Florida. She was also a member of *A Defining Moment*: The Campaign for Cottey College Individual Gifts and Awareness Committee and the Florida State Chapter Finance Committee during 2012-2014, and she served as chair of the committee in 2015.

Distinguished Alumna Award

Dr. Ann Marie Pendergast '77

Dr. Pendergast is currently the Anthony R. Means Cancer Biology Professor and Vice Chair of the Department



Dr. Ann Marie Pendergast

of Pharmacology and Cancer Biology at Duke University School of Medicine. She is also the director of graduate studies in Molecular Cancer Biology at Duke University and co-leader of the Cancer Biology Program at the Duke Cancer Institute, an NCI-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center. Dr. Pendergast has received numerous grants

and her scientific contributions have been recognized with many awards including the First Whitehead Scholar Award (1992-1997), Scholar of the Leukemia

Society of America (1994-1999), the Gertrude Elion Cancer Research Award (1996-1997), the Frank Rose Memorial Lecture Award from the British and Irish Associations for Cancer Research (1998), the Stohlman Scholar Award (1999), and the AACR-Sidney Kimmel Symposium for Cancer Research Scholar Award (2002). She received her degree at the University of California at Riverside.

Dr. Pendergast was the honored speaker at Opening Convocation. Read more on page 17.

Outstanding Young Alumna Award

Betsy Núñez

Ms. Núñez is the creative director and co-founder of Sword & Plough, a quadruple bottom line fashion company that works with veteran-owned and -operated manufacturers in the USA to repurpose thousands of pounds of military surplus into stylish bags and accessories. She led Sword & Plough's Kickstarter campaign in 2013, achieving one of that year's most successful crowd funding campaigns for a fashion brand. The company donates 10% of profits to organizations that support veterans and bridges the civil-military gap by raising awareness of veteran issues through marketing, social media, independent research publication, and speaking engagements. Since its launch, the company has sourced more than 30,000 pounds of military surplus materials such as tents, sleeping bag covers and camouflage canvas to be repurposed into fashionable bags, packs and apparel.

Ms. Núñez holds a Bachelor of Science in nutrition and dietetics from West Chester University; she is a 2013 Bold Academy Fellow and was recognized in Forbes' 2015 "30 Under 30" list of social entrepreneurs. Sword & Plough was named one of the Business Insider's 20 Most Inspiring Companies of 2014 and one of The 50 Coolest New Businesses in America in 2015. It has been featured on "Good Morning America," "The Today Show," "Fox & Friends," "Fox Business News," "CNBC Business," "ABC Second Tour," "AOL Funded," and "USA Network Commercial." The company had numerous press mentions and articles including *The Skimm*, *Esquire*, *Oprah Magazine*, *Harper's Bazaar*, *Inc.*, *Bloomberg Business Week*, *Forbes*, PBS and others.

Ms. Núñez was unable to attend Founder's Day.



President Weitzel and Dr. Tara Stuart '52 pose by Cottey's Peace Pole.

Tara Stuart '52: Advocate for Peace

By Steve Reed

The 2017 commencement ceremony at Cottey included a special presentation. Every graduate received a unique gift from honored commencement speaker Dr. Tara Stuart, Class of 1952. Dr. Stuart, as a member of the World Peace and Prayer Society, presented each graduate with a miniature Peace Pole to "carry on her journey as living, loving global citizens." The pole carries the message "May Peace Prevail on Earth" in four different languages.

"What is deeply appreciated by me is that I was invited back to a small, outstanding women's college in Nevada, Missouri, to give a short speech," said Dr. Stuart. "I think that is incredible because I don't have the credentials. I'm not the secretary of... I'm not the president of... I've had a few of those in the past. I don't have any great whatever. I'm just a woman."

Dr. Stuart is a bit modest in downplaying her credentials. She is a world traveler and an advocate for peace. Her personal journey has included living and working in many countries including New Zealand, South Africa, Mexico, India, Turkey, Tibet, Switzerland and Great Britain. Dr. Stuart has a diverse professional background as an educator, speaker, author, illustrator, and CEO of her own business. In cooperation with the School for International Training, Dr. Stuart and associates were instrumental in establishing an international education program for gifted high school students in five nations. Dr. Stuart will soon be commissioned as Justice of the Peace in New Hampshire.

In her commencement address, Dr. Stuart told of when she first became globally aware. "Global awareness started for me when I was nine years old when I bought a Rand McNally geography book," she said. "I wanted to travel, meet, and live with the people of the Great Silk Road."



Dr. Stuart then shared stories of some of her experiences from traveling the world with the graduates and their families. What had she learned from those travels? "Relationship is everything, and everything is relationship," she said.

"Each of you journeyed to Cottey College and this journey inspired or demanded of each of you to grow and to be an agent of change as global citizens," she explained. "We are global citizens living and working, loving and being into the future working with that culture of peace."

"Dr. Stuart brings a message about the importance of living in right relationships as global citizens," said Dr. Jann Weitzel, president of Cottey College. "It is a charge to our graduates as they move forward in their lives to take personal responsibility for creating the world in which they choose to live."

"Cottey is a college that welcomes international students as well as faculty with international backgrounds," said Dr. Stuart. "My challenge to Cottey graduates is to take the spirit of peace that they have absorbed through their Cottey education into the world."

In presenting the Peace Poles to Cottey graduates, Dr. Stuart stated, "It is my pleasure to give each of you a miniature peace pole to carry on your own journey."

According to Dr. Stuart, this presentation is the first time in the history of the World Peace Prayer Society, a nonprofit, non-denominational organization dating back to 1955, that it has been asked to craft Peace Poles for a college commencement ceremony. Today, there are more than

"Each of you journeyed to Cottey College and this journey inspired or demanded of each of you to grow and to be an agent of change as global citizens."

Tara Stuart '52

200,000 Peace Poles in 180 countries. In 2008, Cottey College acquired its own Peace Pole, which is symbolic of humanity's long-ing and active service in conflict resolution, creating right human relations, and the foundations of peace.

Dr. Stuart presently serves as a board member of the United Nations Caucus on Spirituality. She is described as a global citizen by her colleague Deborah Moldow, a representative to the United Nations for the World Peace Prayer Society. "Tara is the vehicle for encouraging these young women to go out and make a difference in the world. Cottey graduates are being offered the opportunity to fly like Tara."

To view all of Dr. Stuart's commencement address, visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sloanoKkQvw>.

Wish You Were Here!

Dear children,
We had a great time at Cottey's Vacation College in May. Who knew it would be so much fun or that the week would go so quickly? Apparently, many other people did! Vacation College 2017 was a record-breaker with 147 people in attendance. Of those, 70 were first-time participants, like I was. The other 77 were repeat attendees who came back because they knew what fun this week truly was.

Every day began with opportunities for fitness and an energizing breakfast in Raney Dining Room. Early morning classes began at 6:30 a.m. and lasted for an hour, and morning classes began at 8:30 a.m. and lasted for two hours. Faculty, administration, and staff joined the guests for lunches, which were followed by afternoon classes. When the afternoon classes were over, we enjoyed free time, swimming in the pool, exercising at the fitness center, or visiting the Bookstore. (I have t-shirts for everyone!)

On Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, a shuttle to the Nevada square was available. I shopped in some

locally owned businesses, visited a civil war era museum, and got a better sense of Cottey's hometown of Nevada, Missouri.

What do you love about Vacation College?

"Learning new things, discovering what an incredible college Cottey is with its caliber of teachers.

Learning more about this fascinating world, learning more about my sisters."

A delicious dinner was served each evening at 6 p.m. In the afternoons and evenings, there were optional programs for us.

On Wednesday evening, we had an ice cream social at the Helen and George Washburn Center for Women's Leadership. Cottey administration and staff joined us for sundaes and conversation. Faculty and staff members supervised tables at an information fair set up along the driveway to display information on various aspects of life at Cottey. We saw displays on international trips, the theater program, the athletic programs, educational excursions, admission, and the history and traditions of the College. Back at Robertson Hall at 8:30, many of us gathered for Robbie Lobby Hobby Night and participated in various crafting activities including 'Bling your own Bag.'

On Thursday, we all received a postcard and pen to write greetings. (Did you get my card?) In the afternoon, we had the option to Try ZUMBA with a certified instructor in the new Fine Arts building and attend a meet and greet tea in Robertson Hall with local author Tracy Comstock. At 7:30 p.m. in Raney, the Sweet Suite Cake Decorating Contest began (our suite finished second), followed by an exciting Dance Party led by Christi Ellis in Hinkhouse. The decorated cakes were taken to teachers in the Nevada school district to thank them for their service and help celebrate the last day of school.



The Faculty Showcase was at 7:30 in the Center for the Arts. A stargazing evening on the softball field was scheduled, but because of cloudy skies, Dr. Peter Hyland, assistant professor of physics and astronomy, hosted the next best thing: a stargazing discussion in the basement of Robertson. To end the day, star-shaped cookies were taken to each suite to celebrate the star-filled evening of activity.

On Saturday morning, a shuttle took those of us who were interested to a local farmer's market. A few others decided to sleep in on this late-start morning. After a fun-filled day of classes, many of us watched the Preakness Stakes in the afternoon. As expected, the farewell buffet dinner was amazing. The tables were decorated by the Event Planning with Pinterest class and we all received a s'more treat bag featuring home-made marshmallows. Yum! Everyone also received a Cottey frame with a thank you note and a Cottey button. After dinner and a short, fun awards

ceremony, we attended a Vespers service in the Chapel.

I really hope you'll come with me next year. Mark your calendar; Vacation College is scheduled for May 15 – 20, 2018. Registration will begin on January 15 at 12 p.m.

I should mention that Cottey is changing the registration time to noon CST, so that we won't have to stay up until the wee, early morning hours to get our registrations posted for our favorite classes. Class information will be posted on the Cottey website beginning in late December.

Love,
Mom

Photo page 12: Participants in the golf class get a putting lesson from Cottey's golf coach, Mark Cole. Photo below: Members of the photography class were always smiling.



Summertime, and

Approximately 20 years ago, Cottey began its first summer camp for girls. Originally focused on science, that week, titled Science Encounters of the First Kind, was open for girls from junior high through high school. Over the years, Cottey raised the age limit from junior high to incoming juniors and seniors and focused the camp on the liberal arts and the college experience as a whole. The name was changed to Summer Workshops. One thing that hasn't changed is that the Summer Workshops have been a proven recruitment tool for the College.

This week-long summit offers high school juniors and seniors an opportunity to build knowledge, develop leadership, acquire skills, and make new friends from around the country. While on campus, students take courses taught by professors and get a taste of college life while living in the suites, enjoying meals in Raney Dining Room, and engaging in a variety of fun activi-

ties. Best of all, students who complete the Summer Workshop are eligible for a \$3,000 annual scholarship to attend Cottey as a baccalaureate student, totaling \$12,000 over four years.

The impact on Cottey's enrollment is obvious. Nationwide, only two percent of high school senior girls will consider attending a women's college. Over the last three years, however, 31 percent of girls who attended the workshops and subsequently reached college age enrolled at Cottey.

This year, 133 students from 30 states arrived for the Summer Workshop. If the trend holds and a third of those students enroll at Cottey, it is easy to see the impact this week has.

May Semple is a freshman at Cottey this fall who attended the Summer Workshop in June 2016. After her summer experience at Cottey she wrote, "The second I

Two New Admission Representatives Begin Recruiting

The Office of Enrollment Management is pleased to welcome two new enrollment counselors to its ranks for the new academic year:



Priscilla Barrios graduated with a degree in liberal arts from Cottey College in 2016. She has years of leadership experience stemming from involvement with the Moss House, UpWard Bound, and the Tumbleweed Center for Youth Development in Arizona. Her recruitment territory includes Alaska, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah and Wyoming.



Mikayla McGoldrick is a 2017 graduate of Rogers State University in Oklahoma, with a degree in sports management and internship experience in marketing. She will be working with students from the Dakotas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, Ohio and the eastern seaboard states.

the Learnin' is Easy



Megyn Kinder (left in both photos) and Rylee Williams were awarded scholarships to attend Cottey's Summer Workshops at the 2016 FCCLA national convention when they were named STAR Events top scorers. This summer, 2017, both attended the Summer Workshops (above).

"I had an AMAZING week at the Cottey Summer Workshop. I loved every minute of attending a variety of college classes taught by great professors and making new friends from all across the nation...I had such a good time that I am considering coming to the 'C' for Yourself! in October."

-Rylee Williams



got there, I was amazed with the positive energy that surrounded me. Being in that environment made me excited about school and academics."

Summer Workshop participants, like Cottey students, receive support from P.E.O. Many states offer scholarships to enroll and provide funds for travel to and from the campus. In some cases, individual chapters or members help defray the costs for students and their families. This summer, 24 students were sponsored for travel and/or registration by a P.E.O. travel fund.

The 2018 Summer Workshop will be held June 17-22. Registration will be open from January 1-May 31. Tuition is \$400 and will include class workbooks, t-shirt, labs, field trips, all meals, five overnight stays on campus, airport shuttle to/from campus, and all materials for the week. More information is

available online at cottey.edu/workshop, by emailing workshop@cottey.edu or by calling 417-448-1490. The registration form will be available online beginning January 1.

COTTEY

Sharing Cottey

Whether you are an alumna or friend and supporter of the College, now is the time to share Cottey with a young woman in your life. Use our Refer a Student Form at www.cottey.edu or simply give the Office of Enrollment Management a phone call at 888-526-8839. Cottey is busy planning recruitment events, and who knows? We may be in your area! Start making your plans to change a young woman's life today.

Cottey Celebrates 134th Opening

Nevada residents noticed the opening of school when the freshmen arrived on Friday, August 25, but the activity really began before that day. Almost two weeks in advance, the volleyball team, the Resident Assistants (RAs), and hall staff all arrived for training. For the volleyball team that meant three-a-day workouts; for the hall staff and RAs, it meant training in first aid/CPR, conflict resolution, and the regulations for living on campus.

Just a few days later peer listeners and Orientation Leaders arrived. The peer listeners are second, third, or fourth year students who are volunteers and have been trained as a member of the Peer Empowerment Program (PEP). They have received extensive training prior to the beginning of school by the counselors. They are trained in issues including communication, conflict resolution, listening skills, mental health issues, stress management, diversity, and other issues. Peer listeners are available in each residence hall.

Of course, food service staff had returned and were busy restocking the shelves, organizing the

kitchen and preparing the food for which Raney Dining Room is famous. (The first baked potato soup day of the academic year was highly anticipated by staff and returning students.)

Finally, the day for which all these preparations were made arrived and new students begin moving into the residence halls. It was milder weather than usual for late August in Missouri, and parents lugging boxes up stairs and into rooms were most grateful it wasn't a typical August weekend. On Sunday, the returning students arrived and began claiming their rooms and making acquaintance with their new suitemates. It may have been the 134th time the academic year opened at Cottey, but in many ways it feels new every fall.

Clockwise from right: A new Cottey student gets help from her family as she moves into the residence hall. Daisy Chavez and Helen Greer are proud to be Cottey legacies. Peer listeners take a break from their training to pose for a photo.



2017 Opening Convocation

Cottey was fortunate to have Dr. Ann Marie Pendergast '77 as the honored speaker at Opening Convocation. Her accomplishments as a cancer researcher are impressive (see page 9). And yet, she credits Cottey College with encouraging her interest in science and helping her hone the skills she would use later in her career.

"No place after Cottey provided the same kind of nurturing environment," she said. In particular, she noted that qualities of learning to write well and communicating ideas were strengthened here.

In her address, Dr. Pendergast listed five traits she believes that students need to develop in order to succeed in college and beyond.

"First is focus," she explained. "You will need to focus

on those most important short-term goals. Second is enthusiasm and passion." It is difficult to accomplish goals if one doesn't have enthusiasm or passion for them.

Her third point was resilience and persistence. Her fourth point was initiative. "You can have all kinds of knowledge," she noted, "but you won't do much without initiative."

The final trait Dr. Pendergast believes is essential to success is compassion and respect for others.

"Students who have these traits, along with a positive attitude, tend to do better," she said. "Without this input on your own part, it will be very difficult to succeed." In her final remark, she encouraged students to "embrace life-long learning."

Following Dr. Pendergast's address, students participated in one of the oldest traditions on campus, Signing of the Cottey Book. Signing of the Cottey Book originated with the Class of 1935. Their signatures, along with those of every other entering class since then, are on the pages of that book. Signing of the Cottey Book is a symbolic pledge to uphold the Honor Code.

After students sign the book, they receive a daisy to signify membership in the Cottey community.

Left: Students sign the Cottey Book. Below: Dr. Ann Marie Pendergast (center) poses with the current members of Texas Suite. When these students heard her mention she was a resident of Texas Suite, they insisted that she pose for a picture with them.



New Faculty

Cottey College is pleased to welcome a number of new faculty and academic staff members to its ranks for the 2017-2018 academic year, as well as to the larger Nevada community. Dr. Jann Weitzel, President of Cottey College, stated "We are pleased to welcome the new faculty members to an already outstanding team. We look forward to what the future has in store for our four new degree programs and all of our baccalaureate and associate degrees at Cottey."

Included among the faculty and academic staff are Dr. Sandra Chaney, associate professor of history; Dr. Carol Clyde Gallagher, assistant professor of organizational leadership; Dr. Tammy Ogren, assistant professor of business-management; Dr. Elizabeth Verklan, assistant professor of women, gender, and sexuality studies; Dr. Jill Compton, assistant dean for academic affairs; and Dr. James Horton, coordinator of secondary education.

Dr. Sandra Chaney holds a B.A. in history and German from the University of Montana at Missoula and an M.A. and Ph.D. in modern European history from the University of North Carolina at

Chapel Hill. She comes to Cottey from South Carolina where she served as a professor of history at Erskine College since 1995. In addition to teaching courses in history, Dr. Chaney will also serve as the coordinator for the liberal arts major at Cottey.

"I'm grateful to be joining the Cottey community and very much look forward to working with its welcoming faculty, staff and students. I'm also looking forward to spotlighting liberal arts as a major that is dynamic, flexible and practical," commented Chaney.

Dr. Carol Clyde Gallagher is no stranger to Cottey, having come to the campus in 2014 as the director of the Serenbetz Institute for Women's Leadership, Social Responsibility, and Global Awareness. Having previously split her time between teaching and administrative responsibilities, Dr. Clyde Gallagher will now focus on full-time teaching and directing Cottey's new Bachelor of Arts degree in organizational leadership.

Clyde Gallagher stated, "Being part of developing and now implementing a new major is one of the most exciting opportunities I've had in more than

20 years of working in higher education. I've been so impressed with the women in my courses and can't wait to see our new major in organizational leadership grow to better meet the needs of Cottey and women leaders that our college impacts!"

Clyde Gallagher holds a B.S. in corporate and professional speech communications from Radford University; an M.A. in dispute resolution from Southern Methodist University; an M.Ed. in educational policy planning and leadership/higher education administration from The College of William and Mary; and an Ed.D. in educational leadership/higher education administration from Florida Atlantic University.

Dr. Tammy Ogren comes to Cottey having previously served as an adjunct faculty member at MidAmerica Nazarene University in Olathe, Kansas, as well as bringing her extensive experience from the business world. She looks forward to bringing her real-world experience into the classroom.

"I immediately felt a strong connection to the mission of Cottey in my on-campus interview," remarked Ogren.



Dr. Sandra Chaney



Dr. Carol Clyde Gallagher



Dr. Tammy Ogren

for New Degrees

"Honestly, it wasn't until after I applied to Cottey that I gave real thought to how much my personal purpose connected to this mission to support, educate, and empower young women to find their own voice in the world. My own life story of leadership in a male-dominated business world correlates directly to that mission. I knew immediately that being part of these young women's journey to empowerment and leadership was going to be exciting," she added.

Dr. Ogren holds a B.A. in business administration/marketing from the University of Northwestern Ohio; a B.A. in management and human relations and an M.B.A. from MidAmerica Nazarene University; and a Ph.D. in business administration from Northcentral University in Arizona.

Dr. Elizabeth Verklan comes to Cottey to spearhead one of the new four-degree programs, a Bachelor of Arts degree in women, gender, and sexuality studies. Dr. Verklan holds a B.A. in philosophy and gender & women's studies from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and an M.A. and Ph.D. in gender & women's studies from the University of Arizona. Verklan remarked that she

chose Cottey because she wanted to work at a "student-centered school" and is very excited to develop this new program at the College.

The College also welcomed **Dr. James Horton** as coordinator of secondary education, a new baccalaureate degree at Cottey which will offer certifications in biology, chemistry, business, English, social science, and speech and theatre. Dr. Horton holds a B.S. and M.S. in education and a Specialist's Degree in school administration from Missouri State University and an Ed.D. from the University of Missouri at Columbia. He has served as a teacher, principal, and superintendent in several Missouri school districts; as an adjunct professor at William Woods and Lindenwood University; and as executive director of the Southwest Center in Webb City, Missouri.

"There is no more important work you can do than preparing future teachers. I appreciate the opportunity and accept the challenges to come to Cottey and contribute to the efforts to begin a teacher education program. I look forward to teaching the first cohort group at Cottey who will be our future teachers," remarked Horton.

Finally, Cottey also welcomed **Dr. Jill Compton** as the new assistant dean for academic affairs, a role that will find her overseeing the leadership programming of the Serenbetz Institute, as well various other administrative duties in support of academic affairs. Dr. Compton holds a B.A. in psychology and liberal studies from Maryville University and a Ph.D. in experimental psychology from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. Since February 2012, she has served as senior fellow for undergraduate education, transfer, and student success at the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education. Prior to that, she was coordinator of college assessment and department head for the psychology department at Culver-Stockton College in Canton, Missouri.

Compton remarked, "I decided to join Cottey because it is like no other college or university that I've worked with over the years. Cottey's focus on developing women leaders, its small size combined with an impressive level of diversity, and the support the College receives from the P.E.O. Sisterhood - these elements made Cottey stand out to me."



Dr. Elizabeth Verklan



Dr. James Horton



Dr. Jill Compton

Black Hole Sun

Why this was the best eclipse in 100 years

Orientation had an added bonus this year: an eclipse. On the final day before classes began, Nevada, Missouri, ex-



Dr. Peter Hyland

To view a short video on the eclopse at Cottey visiti
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zzisNk6jINA&t=1s>

perienced a solar eclipse that was approximately 97 percent of totality. Not as good as what the folks in St. Joseph or Columbia, Missouri, saw, but still a really awesome sight.

At 12:30 on August 21, Dr. Peter Hyland, assistant professor of physics and astronomy, gave an address titled "Why this is the best eclipse in 100 years." The short answer to that question? "Because it's the one you can see," answered Dr. Hyland.

Dr. Hyland explained how the eclipse occurs and why we all don't see totality and gave a few safety tips. Then, students, faculty and staff in attendance received solar viewing glasses provided by the College and went out to watch the big show.

Afterwards, student life provided treats for all present: Capri Sun drink pouches and Sun Chips.



We're Moving Up!

U.S. News & World Report announced that Cottey College is nationally ranked #7 among its 2018 Best Regional Colleges placing it in the top 10% of regional Midwest colleges.

In addition, Cottey received three new rankings in the Midwest region from *U.S. News & World Report*. Cottey is ranked #2 among Best Value Schools and Lowest Student Debt Load at Graduation and #3 for Schools with Most Proportion of International Students.

Rankings by respected organizations such as *U.S. News & World Report* can provide college-bound students and their parents valuable information to compare merits of different education programs. *U.S. News & World Report* uses 50 different types of numerical rankings and lists to help students narrow their college search, according to their website.

Colleges ranked in the Best Regional College category focus almost entirely on the undergraduate experience and offer a broad range of programs in the liberal arts in fields such as business, nursing and education.

The *U.S. News & World Report* rankings, which focus on academic excellence, evaluate more than 1,800 institutions. Only 80 standout colleges and universities, less than 5% of schools evaluated, increased ten or more spots – including Cottey College.

Colleges ranked in the Best Value College category take into account a college's academic quality based on its U.S. News Best Colleges ranking and the 2016-17 net cost of attendance for a student who received the average level of need-based financial aid.

The Lowest Student Debt Load at Graduation ranking indicates that 36% of Cottey students had no debt at graduation while the average amount of debt for the remaining students was \$20,287. According to Student Loan Hero, this is almost \$17,000 less than the average debt of \$37,172.

Finally, Cottey's proportion of international students (15%) earned the college a number three ranking as College with the Largest Proportion of International Students.

"We are elated to receive these rankings from such a trusted organization as *U.S. News & World Report*. Especially noteworthy is that Cottey moved from a #22 ranking among Best Regional Colleges in the Midwest in 2017 to #7 in 2018," said Dr. Jann Weitzel, president of Cottey College.

"Cottey stresses the importance of retention rates, graduation rates, maintaining small class sizes, a low student/faculty ratio, and the percentage of faculty who are full time. In addition, 90% of Cottey's faculty members hold the highest degree in their fields. These are critical markers in the decision process for a student and her family in choosing a college that will be a good fit," added Dr. Weitzel.

Cottey is one of only five schools in Missouri to be ranked as a Best Regional College and the only women's college included in the Midwest rankings. In total, 78 colleges were ranked from twelve states comprising the Midwest region.

Among the criteria on which U.S. News & World Report bases its rankings are the following: retention, assessment by peers and counselors, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources, graduation rate performance, and alumni giving rate.

"While rankings are helpful to prospective students and parents, the best way to make that final decision is to visit campus and see if that college or university is the right fit. We hope these rankings will encourage more young women to visit Cottey and see for themselves what we have to offer as they make their post-secondary educational choices," said Dr. Weitzel.

The rankings are available online at www.usnews.com/colleges.

COTTEY

Inquiries and information should be addressed to:

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Cottery College
1000 W. Austin
Nevada, MO 64772

Digital vs. Print

Although Cottery has posted many publications online, this was Cottery's first digital-only publication. What did you think? Did you like the digital delivery, or are you a strictly print kind of reader? That's what we'd love to know as we move forward. Your winter edition will go back to a print and mail magazine (which will also be posted online).

What's the difference between the two (beyond the obvious delivery system)? Combining an occasional digital edition with two annual print copies means we can provide you with more indepth information about people and happenings on campus. To remain faithful to our publication budget, the print version of the *Viewpoint* is limited to 28 pages plus cover mailed twice a year. A digital-only magazine has no such limits. We can print one as often (and as large) as we have the time and staff to create. The one disadvantage to digital-only delivery is that Cottery has more street addresses than email addresses. We know there are going to be some alumnae who don't receive this digital link from Cottery. We're counting on Class Agents and friends to pass the link along to other alumnae and friends who might not be on your lists, but not ours.

Give us some honest feedback here. We really want to know if you'd like to continue seeing one or two issues a year in a digital-only format. Tell us if

- you want to receive only digital copies
- you want to receive only print copies
- you want to receive a mix of both print and digital versions of the Viewpoint.

- you really don't have a strong opinion either way.

Email us at marketingdepartment@cottery.edu and put **Viewpoint Delivery** in the subject line.

