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HISTORY

Beneficence . . . Ball State University Heritage

When the Indiana General Assembly passed legislation in 1917 permitting a state educational institution to accept private gifts, the future of Ball State University began. The Ball brothers, who earlier that year had purchased the land and buildings of a troubled Muncie National Institute, contributed 64.6 acres and two buildings to the state. After six months of negotiations, the school in Muncie became the Eastern Division of the Indiana State Normal School in Terre Haute, a branch of Indiana State Normal School, with careful specifications that only those who intended to teach in Indiana schools were eligible to attend.

But, the school began to grow as a separate institution the day it opened and, surviving influenza the first fall, conducted its first commencement Friday, June 13, 1919, one of the hottest days recorded in Muncie history.

The only fee for resident students in 1918 was a yearly library fee of \$7.50. It was doubled in 1920 and by 1922, a contingent fee and student service fee had replaced the library fee which was \$45.00 for the three quarters.

For its first five years, the Indiana State Normal School had only the original two buildings. But in 1923, the Science Hall, which had been on the drawing board since 1920 and had gone through two state appropriations, was opened for classes though the facility was not quite complete. Housing the departments of business administration, English, math, and science, Science Hall on the east side of campus was anchored by Ball Gym on the west, the latter built from additional money from the Ball brothers.

In May 1922, in recognition of the generosity of the Ball Family to the Muncie Branch of the State Normal School, the state legislature officially changed the title to Ball Teachers College, Eastern Division, Indiana State Normal School. In 1929, the school shed its earlier name to become Ball State Teachers College.

The dedication of the statue Beneficence as "a civic testimonial to the beneficence of the Ball brothers and their families," highlighted the 1930's. The last major work by the sculptor, Daniel Chester French, Beneficence was unveiled in a public ceremony in 1937. With renewed splendor the statue, which through the decades has come to represent the heart and soul of Ball State, was rededicated in 1987.

We're Growing!

Expansion has been the key to Ball State's success and was particularly evident beginning in the mid-40's when President John R. Emens started to implement a long-range plan, directing the purchase of property, obtaining resources, and constructing new facilities, while strengthening the offerings of the budding institution.

By 1952 enrollment was just under 3,000 and over the next 14 years it had increased to 13,000. Expanding from 14 departments and limited professional offerings beyond teacher education to five colleges and 29 departments and divisions, offering 21 curricula, 18 of them leading to the bachelor's degree, helped account for the growth.

Since becoming a university in 1965, Ball State has reached even greater heights. In 1995, the university included six colleges, but formed the seventh college in July 1996. The seven colleges are - Applied Sciences and Technology; Architecture and Planning;

Business; Communication, Information, and Media; Fine Arts; Sciences and Humanities; and Teachers College. There are approximately 3,700 full-time faculty, staff, and service employees to provide Ball State's 19,000 students some of the premier learning opportunities in the country.

Building A Legacy... Ball State University Alumni Association

Ball State's Alumni Association was founded when the first class of the fledgling normal school graduated in 1919. This group functioned until 1926 when a more formal organization, with R. Nelson Snider, '22, as its president, was established. To date, there have been 72 presidents/chairmen serving the Association as well as five executive directors/presidents.

Edwin D. Shipley, '68MA71, retired in June 2011 and served as executive director since 1980, while Robert E. Linson, '47MA48, was in charge from 1955-1980. Other full-time executive directors served between 1947 and 1955 and included David Hartley, '33; Leroy Hull, '48; and Reese Williams, '48. Currently, there is a search for a new executive director.

The Association evolved from its informal beginning to a dues-paying organization in 1939, to its current structure, which since 1954 has effectively incorporated an annual alumni fund into its structure, replacing the dues-paying system.

Money has been raised for various academic and athletic areas through alumnidesignated gifts. The Alumni Council spearheaded the drive for scholarships for outstanding students by establishing the Alumni Merit, Ralph E. Whitinger, John R. Emens, Ray Ashley, Oliver C. Bumb, Robert E. Linson, Legacy, and other departmental scholarships.

Recognizing the need for a strong athletic booster club, in 1962 the Alumni Council formed the Cardinal Varsity Club that now is a separate entity in support of Ball State's intercollegiate athletics program.

One of the visible ways of projecting a good alumni image has been the establishment of a varied awards program for outstanding alumni. The premier award, established by the Alumni Council, is the Distinguished Alumni Award, begun in 1959. Many alumni have been recognized for their major contributions to society and to their alma mater through this honor.

Other alumni recognition include Benny Awards, for exemplary service to Ball State or the Alumni Association; G.O.L.D. Awards, recognizing the outstanding accomplishments of recent graduates; and Coach of the Year Awards, given annually to Indiana high school coaches in all IHSAA sports who have state championship seasons.

Publications sent to alumni began with a quarterly *Ball State Alumnus* magazine in April 1937 that went out to dues-paying members only. This circulation continued until 1956 when college president, John R. Emens, provided for an infusion of budget support that enabled a more frequent distribution of the magazine and directed copies to all Ball State alumni. Current circulation of the *Ball State Alumnus*, produced six times annually, (printed/and/or electronically) is more than 141,000. In addition, alumni receive specialized mailings that provide information on alumni activities and programs.

The Alumni Association began playing a greater role in the admissions process for students in 1985. What originally started as Prospective Student Receptions in Indiana, has extended to other states where alumni serve as welcoming ambassadors for the university.

The Alumni Association has been a national leader in its involvement with student campus leaders. With a strong history of Homecoming undergraduate participation, the Association has successfully sponsored Homecomings to include an array of activities that annually involves over 400 student volunteers. In 1965, the Association sponsored the founding of the Ball State Student Foundation and in 1985 organized the Student Alumni Relations Team (St.A.R.T.).

The Student Alumni Relations Team acts as a liaison between the university's student body and the Alumni Association. The primary goal of St.A.R.T. is to acquaint students with the programs, services, and facilities of the Alumni Association prior to their graduation. A secondary goal is to provide active support to the Alumni Association for all types of alumni programming and since its inception, the organization has initiated, planned, and sponsored numerous educational and social programs.

BALL STATE PRESIDENTS

1918 - 1921	William Wood Parsons
1921 - 1924	Linnaeus N. Hines
1924 - 1927	Benjamin J. Burris
1927	Linnaeus N. Hines (Acting)
1927 - 1942	Lemuel A. Pittenger
1943 - 1945	W.E. Wagoner (Acting)
1945 - 1968	John R. Emens
1968 - 1978	John J. Pruis
1978 - 1979	Richard W. Burkhardt (Acting)
1979 - 1981	Jerry M. Anderson
1981 - 1984	Robert P. Bell
1984 - 2000	John E. Worthen
2000 - 2004	Blaine A. Brownell
2004-	Jo Ann M. Gora

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESIDENTS/CHAIRMAN

1926 1927-1930	R. Nelson Snider Karl V. Ammerman	1984 1985	Steven F. Rathka Thomas L. DeWeese
1931	Forest A. Jack	1986	John P. Brunso
1932-1933	Don C. Ward	1987	Sally S. Mauck
1934-1935	Arthur C. Campbell	1988	Hollis E. Hughes, Jr.
1936	Mabel M. Fortney	1989-1990	Don L. Park
1937	Wilbur D. Shirey	1991	Lucy H. Atkinson
1938-1939	Lloyd T. Heller	1992-1993	Ned S. Emshwiller
1940-1941	Herbert H. Hamilton	1994	Jan P. Abbs
1942	Homer B. Smith	1995	Paul H. Linder
1943-1944	Anna Marie Bull	1996	Gilbert L. McKean
1945-1946	Ernest C. Ebrite	1997	J. Robert Browning
1947	James L. Zedekar	1998	Allen L. Williams
1948	Ercie S. Castor	1999	Mary A. Link
1949	Dean W. Detweiler	2000	Anthony L. Schneider
1950	Ben Ervin	2001	Robert C. Woods
1951-1952	James L. Walker	2002	Lori K. Wean
1953-1954	Bernard K. McKenzie	2003	Cathey A. Boggs
1955	Ervin E. Smith	2004	R. Wayne Estopinal
1956	Fred M. Hinshaw	2005	Julie C. Bradshaw
1957	Vernon B. Craig	2006	Mark A. Ervin
1958	Tom H. Armstrong	2007	Charles E. Green
1959	Riley K. McGraw	2008	Thomas L. Farris
1960	Jack Peckinpaugh	2009	Jo Ann Johnston
1961	S. Glenn Fidler	2010	Douglas W. Reddington
1962	Amy S. Dye	2011	Terry R. Coleman
1963	Dean A. Cross	2012	Kimberley A. Stout
1964	Thomas Thomas, Jr.		•
1965-1966	Leigh E. Morris		
1967	Wayne L. Campbell		
1968	Harrold Wallace II		
1969	A. Dean Speicher		
1970	Donald T. Nelson		
1971	Donita Stobaugh Gross		
1972	William D. Marohn		
1973	Dale E. Harris		
1974	Edward O. Langas		
1975	Paula W. Carter		
1976	Richard W. Hutson		
1977	Charles E. Hefley		
1978	Michael L. Cox		
1979	James R. Hatcher		
1980	Ronald P. Herzig		
1981	D. Fred Powell		
1982	Marilyn S. Skinner		
1983	Alexis Olson Brandt		