

To the women of Wesleyan,

On a warm summer day in June of 1888, Dakota Wesleyan University graduated its first class of four students, three of whom were women: Emily Rogers Tipton, May Skinner and Beulah Windle Scallin.

One year later, **Carlota Moyer** earned her Bachelor of Science degree, the first degree obtained by a woman in the scientific collegiate program. In an era, when few women had the opportunity to pursue higher education, Dakota Wesleyan University actively recruited women to become professional leaders for the Dakota Territory. Katherine Williams Howard '36

Over the years, as countless schools maintained a maleonly entrance policy, Dakota Wesleyan believed women **belonged in higher education.** At the turn of the 20th century, Wesleyan women received regional recognition for their oration skills. In 1911, before the university even had a men's basketball team, the women of Wesleyan started playing basketball!

In 1916, one of the first female chemistry graduates in the region, Gladys Trevithick HD'45, took her DWU confidence and knowledge east, pursuing graduate work and research at the University of Chicago and Columbia University in New York. DWU's 1910 graduate, Vera Cahalan Bushfield, became a U.S. Senator in 1948.

In 1917, Wesleyan graduated Leona Burr who went to China for mission work. Juanita Kingdon '33 earned honors in economics before joining the American Red Cross during World War II. She served tours in Vietnam as

> well. At the age of 84, Juanita became a day trader, and before her death at age 102, she could still compute stock trades in her head.

Bernice Smith Beckerman '36 became the director of the national advertising program at Nationwide Income Tax Service. Katherine Williams Howard '36 earned her master's degree from Chicago Teachers College in 1942 and taught for 38 years in the Chicago public school system. Ardith Miller '50 HD '18 served tours of duty in 14 international countries as a leader in the foreign service. V. Hale Starr '58, '64, HD'94 became an internationally recognized jury witness consultant and pioneer of jury and trial consulting.

Carol Nogle Lucas '61, after acquiring her master's degree in mathematics and Ph.D. in biomedical engineering and mathematics, has held several research and teaching positions at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, including being the first chairperson of the department of biomedical engineering from 1989 to 2001.

V. Hale Starr '58, '64, HD'94





Tona DeRoos Rozum '67 serves as senior vice president for a financial services business and recently completed her 12th year as a leader in the S.D. House of Representatives.

Dr. Alison R. Gantvoort Tendler '97 is an eye surgeon and business entrepreneur who recently blazed a new path and opened ART Vision and ARTisan Skin and Laser Center in Sioux Falls, S.D. For over eight years, she graced our television screens as the national spokesperson for Restasis® – a medication for ocular surface disease that paved the way to recognize and understand the importance of treating the complex symptoms of dry eye disease.

Dr. Carla J. Berg '01 completed her residency training at Harvard Medical School and has been awarded multiple national honors in research, including awards from the American Psychological Association and the American Association for Cancer Research. Katie Johnson '15 is an up-and-coming young CPA for a top-four accounting firm.

Dakota Wesleyan University, in the true pioneer spirit, has always been a **traiblazer**



Alison Tendler '97

Wesleyan continues to inspire bold leadership no matter where women feel called to serve. Trailblazing has shaped us into business leaders, scientists, scholars, ministers, congresswomen, doctors, nurses, grandmothers, mothers, daughters, sisters and humanitarians driven with the faith to make the world better.

As a woman, I believe our efforts are never for ourselves alone, but for the continual opening of doors for those who come after us.

Today Dakota Wesleyan's business, English, biochemistry and psychology departments are all chaired by women faculty. Our women's basketball team earned the university's first national team championship title. The list of women alumni mentioned here is but a small list of Wesleyan women who have left and continued to leave their mark on this world. When I became our first female president in 2013, I did so with a commitment to recognizing the countless women whose courage and leadership paved the way for the generation we now educate. All of us are beneficiaries of these women's zeal to break through barriers and create opportunities where few existed.



2018 NAIA Basketball National Champions

To honor the women of Wesleyan's past and to encourage the women of Wesleyan's future, I am inviting you to join me in giving to the new **DWU School of Business Innovation and Leadership,** in which the lobby will be dedicated to women in leadership roles across all disciplines. I am pledging an initial gift to launch our effort to raise **\$250,000** that will motivate the next generation of female leaders to embrace innovative learning, bold leadership, and an authentic commitment to service for our communities and our world.

Join me, as we philanthropically pioneer a new chapter for the future women of Wesleyan.

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