DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

2022 | A YEAR IN REVIEW



COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

NEWSLETTER



YEAR IN REVIEW
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A Message from the Dean

For the Arts and Sciences, 2022 was a fantastic year. Our students continue to make us proud, our faculty were engaged in exciting research, and alumni were generous in sharing their time and expertise. Read on for many great examples of the important work we are doing.

We continue to attract the best and brightest students from South Dakota and beyond. For instance, Kaya Colwill, a freshman computer game design student, joined DSU with a \$10,000 scholarship from Gen.G Foundation, a global esports organization with professional teams dedicated to developing talented young gamers. We are proud of Kaya and all our students with such promising potential.

Our faculty excel as instructors, researchers, and artists. In 2022 we welcomed two new faculty to our ranks. Kayla Nunnery, Director of Music, and Kellie MacLeod, Director of Theater will strengthen our course offerings while enriching the cultural climate for all members of our community. We also launched the hiring process for eight new faculty and one lab director, all of whom will start in fall 2023. Much of this growth is in support of the Rising II initiative, designed to dramatically increase the number of DSU students over the next five years.

One of the highlights of the year was the inaugural Tri Beta speaker series, with Dr. Chad Kurtenbach delivering the address. Dr. Kurtenbach, an orthopedic surgeon, is the team physician for SDSU and a DSU biology graduate. During his visit to campus Dr. Kurtenbach spoke very highly of his time at DSU while encouraging our current students to set lofty goals for themselves.

In many ways, the College of Arts and Sciences represents the academic heart and soul of the university. Offering the bulk of the General Education courses, our faculty get the opportunity to work with students from every college and every major. It is vitally important that all DSU students learn to identify intractable problems, conduct extensive research, find creative solutions, and persuasively communicate to larger audiences. These are the just some of the valuable skills we emphasize in the College of Arts and Sciences.

We look forward to continuing this important work in 2023 and invite you to join us.



Go Trojans!

Dr. David Kenley
Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences

DAKOTA STATE

Student News



TriBeta provided community outreach

Dakota State's TriBeta Biology Honor Society provided community outreach on November 7 and 8 in Madison. Last year, TriBeta held their first outreach activity with St. Thomas. They performed shark dissections for the kids, taught them about sharks, let them touch the sharks, and answered questions.

"Because last year's event went so well and our TriBeta program has been growing in membership, we wanted to expand our outreach activities with the Madison Public Library, in addition to St. Thomas," Aslesen said.

This year, TriBeta did a DNA extraction activity in which students learned how to extract DNA and saw what DNA looks like. These events were planned and led by club leaders Elsie Aslesen, Travis Rebstock, Christine Vogel, '21 and Abigail Grabowska.

In addition to the DNA activity at the Madison Public Library, they taught the kids about dinosaurs and entertained them with some dino trivia, as part of the library's DINovember event.

"It's important to expose children to these lab activities to give them a taste of how much fun science can be," Aslesen said. "TriBeta students love science and are so excited for the chance to show the children why science can be so exciting." She added, "Science isn't just about reading from a textbook, it's also about engaging in hands-on activities and discovering answers to some of the questions that we've always wondered about."

Student highlight: Christofer McClelland

Chris is currently enrolled in the Cyber Leadership and Intelligence program (CLI) with a concentration in Digital Forensics. As an online student, Chris lives in San Antonio, Texas, where he is a reservist in the US Air Force working as a cyber analyst. In this role, he conducts advanced analysis of open-source data to ensure target continuity, profiles targets and their activities, and develops techniques to gain more information regarding selected targets. Chris supports offensive cyber operations under the authorities of USCYBERCOM.

Not surprisingly, Chris has to juggle his multiple responsibilities to keep up on his homework.

"To succeed within the program," he said, "students must take the time and effort to learn the material and demonstrate a solid ability to absorb a large amount of data, process it, draw conclusions, and ultimately disseminate it back to an audience."

For Chris, "the CLI lectures are excellent and very relevant to my career field. I appreciate the detail and context on several topics surrounding national security law," Chris wrote. In particular, he appreciates understanding the full scope of Congressional actions, court cases, and inappropriate practices that have influenced the scope and scale of digital collection practices.

In fact, "I have not found a single course within the CLI program that isn't relevant to my profession. I have been able to apply the knowledge gained to my everyday work. I have and will continue to be an advocate for this program," he said.

Chris is happy to share his experiences with others. He recently gave a presentation to his flight about education opportunities, "and highlighted the value of the Cyber Leadership & Intelligence degree plan offered by DSU. "I have also had many conversations with other aspiring students relating to the quality of the education supplied at DSU."



Film students find experiences outside the classroom

Last spring, juniors and seniors in the Dakota State's film program gained experience outside the classroom, touring news stations, assisting with the production of a late-night television show, and participating in film competitions. Students toured Sioux Falls businesses including KELOLAND, Epicosity, and Lawrence & Schiller.

Additionally, film students were able to participate in the filming of a live entertainment show, Late Night Boomin in Sioux Falls. Late Night Boomin is a high-energy late-night show hosted by Jack Unruh and Zach Dresch.

Filmed at the Washington Pavilion, the group of film students arrived at 3 p.m. for a practice run. After filming the live show and cleaning up post-show they left around 10 p.m., according to Tate Mohlenkamp, '22. Students were able to operate cameras, work as production assistants, film behind the scenes, and more as part of the production.

In addition to these experiences, the students in the Lights, Camera, Action Film Club participated in the Prairie Grass Film Challenge. Hosted by Dordt University, this is a 48-hour challenge where participants receive a prompt and spend the next 48 hours writing, shooting, and editing their film.

The film they created, A Killer Performance, is a comedy that takes place on a filming set. The students' prompt included a character's name, a couple of props that had to be used, the genre, and a certain phrase that needed to be in the dialogue of the film.

The eight-minute film is available to watch on the Prairie Grass Film Challenge website. The students received second place in the college division.

New student game on Steam

A team of five students developed Knights of the Kitchen Table, which they describe as an action, adventure, hack, and slash game. It is a fully functional game available for purchase on the gaming platform STEAM for \$4.99.

"The idea is that you need to go around and slay giant food monsters that threaten the kingdom," explained team member Alex Maxey, '22.

The other team members were Spencer Sexton, Zachary Boyle, '22, William Ko, and Kristopher Wagner-Tubbs.

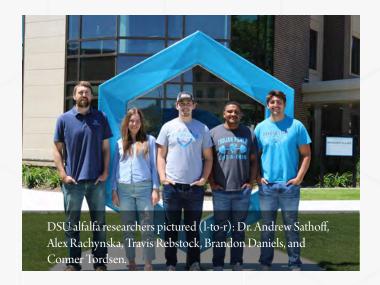
The students originally came up with the idea in 2020 for a mini-projects course. The game began as a 2D side-scroller game like Castle Crashers, but eventually evolved into a 3D-style game similar to Dark Souls.

Peter Britton, Assistant Professor in the Game Design program, finds excitement in watching the growth of the team's vision. "It's always fun to see it advance from where it starts to where it ends," Britton said. Having their games on STEAM showcases not only what the students can do, but also what the program teaches them.



Feeding South Dakota

During the fall 2022 semester, Dakota State University Design students partnered with Sundog Coffee for a fundraiser to benefit Feeding South Dakota. The students exhibited and sold their food-themed artwork at the coffee house, with proceeds from the sales donated to Feeding South Dakota, the state's largest hunger-relief organization. Visitors to the exhibition were also encouraged to bring food donations to contribute to Feeding South Dakota's pantries.



DSU continues alfalfa research

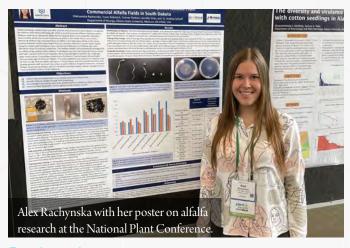
The third summer of alfalfa research has taken place at Dakota State University. This research is done in participation with the National Science Foundation's Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR).

DSU students Brandon Daniels, Alex Rachynska, Travis Rebstock, and recent graduate Conner Tordsen, '22 researched biological controls to defend alfalfa from disease. They worked under the guidance of Dr. Andrew Sathoff, Assistant Professor of Biology.

Biological controls (biocontrols) involve using another microbe to see how it can defend the plant against Aphanomyces or Pythium (root rot), according to Tordsen. The research, which Tordsen began in the fall of 2021, showed that biocontrols worked really well, providing another option for treating plants other than fungicides. Biocontrols are also more environmentally friendly and can be used by organic farmers.

To test this in the lab, they grew alfalfa plots and treated them with biocontrols. "We infected them with Pythium and Aphanomyces," he said. They followed this with a disease severity index test and calculated percent germination, finding good results with some of the biocontrols, seeing the germination rates increase from a range of 21 to 72%.

The students presented their findings at the South Dakota EPSCoR 2022 Undergraduate Research Symposium in July. Additionally, Rachynska presented Pythium work at the Plant Health Conference in Pittsburgh in August, and Rebstock presented biocontrol work at the World Alfalfa Congress in November.



Rachynska youngest presenter at National Plant Conference

Sophomore Alex Rachynska was the youngest presenter at the Plant Health 2022 Conference in August in Pittsburgh, Pa.

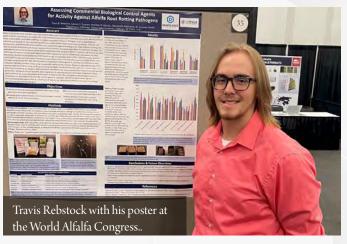
Rachynska shared alfalfa research she and fellow DSU students conducted over the course of the school year and summer. The poster she presented, "Identification and Characterization of Pythium Species Isolated from Commercial Alfalfa Fields in South Dakota," showcased the results of their work.

Rachynska, an international student from Ukraine, worked to select the essential information for the poster, illustrate it, and arrange it in an understandable way. She then practiced presenting the poster with Dr. Andrew Sathoff, Assistant Professor of Biology.

At the conference, she presented the poster to many, even taking the time to present it in Russian, at the request of an attendee. "It was a little bit harder for me to do it in Russian because I was practicing in English," she said.

Several people asked her what her Ph.D. study was in and were surprised to find she was an undergraduate researcher. "I chose DSU because of the lab research," she said.

"No one else in the world has these isolates," Sathoff said. "They're unique to South Dakota, and they grow a lot of alfalfa here, and we've confirmed them as pathogens, so people want to test them."



Travis Rebstock youngest presenter at World Alfalfa Congress

In November (2022), Dr. Andrew Sathoff and Travis Rebstock attended the World Alfalfa Congress in San Diego. Rebstock, a senior biology major and student athlete, presented a poster at the congress titled "Assessing Commercial Biological Control Agents for Activity Against Alfalfa Root Rotting Pathogens."

This poster is based on the ongoing research he and several students have conducted in DSU's biology lab regarding alfalfa pathogens. Their findings indicate that Southern Ag and RootShield could be incorporated into a Pythium seed and root rot management strategy in alfalfa. These results indicated that biocontrol active ingredients should be tested with commercial fungicides for possible use together.

Rebstock was the only undergraduate presenter at the conference with many asking him what his Ph.D. studies were in.

SRI grants

Four students recently received Student Research Initiative (SRI) awards.

- » Elsie Aslesen received an SRI award for "Neonicotinoid Accumulation in Eggshells of Wild Birds and Its Potential Effects on Reproduction"
- » Christine Vogel received an SRI award for "Detecting Bias in Personal Outcome Measures Interviewers"
- » Travis Rebstock received an SRI award for "Assessing South Dakota Fusarium Isolates for Pathogenicity Towards Alfalfa"
- » Jay Tedone received an SRI award for "Functional analysis of differentially expressed genes in alfalfa (Medicago sativa) inoculated with Aphanomyces euteiches."

Faculty News

Faculty accomplishments

Kristina Adams recently earned the Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging as well as the Instructional Design for Adult Learner certificates through LinkedIn Learning.

Angela Behrends was invited to design the cover of the Fall 22 magazine of the South Dakota State Poetry Society Pasque Petals Society. The magazine was available at the Brookings Festival of Books.

Stacey Berry has had two poems, "On true love" and "Mangy dog," accepted for publication in the Fall 2022 issue of Pasque Petals, published by the South Dakota State Poetry Society.

Justin Blessinger was the featured speaker for the September "History Happy Hour," sponsored by the Lake County Museum, in Madison.

Joseph Bottum, Director of the Classics Institute, read from his new collection of poems, "Spending the Winter" on October 19, at DSU.

Matthew Ingram was invited to a panel at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting in Seattle Washington in November.

Matthew Ingram and IM Wallance recently published "Making a Mark: Transforming Everyday Work of City Arborists into Dance" in Frontiers in Communication (23 August 2022).

David Kenley spoke at the "History Happy Hour" at Sundog Coffee House in Madison. The title of his address was "You found what?! Serendipity and Discovery at the Local History Museum."

Kelly MacLeod and her students completed a successful staging of "Shakespeare in Love."

Alan Montgomery's artwork was selected for exhibit in Tbilisi, Georgia – Collect Art. His work was be published in a magazine.

Joe Ren exhibited work and gave a lecture at Florida A&M University in November.

Dr. Jeff Palmer organized the South Dakota Academy of Science annual meeting held on the DSU campus October 28 & 29. Other faculty members involved were Drs. Andrew Sathoff, Kristel Bakker, and professor emeritus, Dr. Dale Droge.



In Memoriam: Dr. Jim Maloney, Associate Professor of Physics and Astronomy

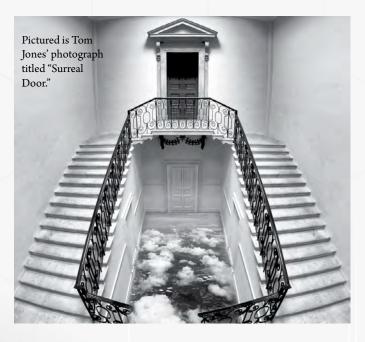
On July 24, 2022, our colleague Dr. James (Jim) Maloney passed away after a 20-month battle with cancer.

Dr. Maloney earned an undergraduate physics degree from the University of Illinois and then continued his education by attending Marquette University School of Law. After practicing law for 10 years, he returned to his love of physics and enrolled in the Ph.D. program at Northern Illinois University. Dr. Maloney joined the DSU faculty in 2016 and quickly became one of the most popular faculty members.

Dr. Maloney's research focused on improving simulation models for electromagnetic element and charged particle interactions, designing particle beam elements and layouts, and studying nonlinear effects in electromagnetic fields. He had a passion for model rocketry, and his students responded with enthusiasm whenever he invited them out of the classroom to assist in launching a rocket.

Dr. Maloney's astronomy classes were "standing room only" and students would try to register for them months in advance. In late 2021, Dr. Maloney organized a launch party for the James Webb Space Telescope. He was so excited to see how this new tool would impact his field.

Dr. Maloney is survived by his wife, Nina, '22 and his children, Alec (Lafayette, IN), Christina (St. Kitt's, West Indies), and Michael (Madison). We invite you to keep them in your thoughts during this difficult time. We have all been touched by Dr. Maloney's dedication to his students, his passion for his discipline, and his heartwarming friendship. We dearly miss him.



Jones' photography featured in multi-state exhibition

Congratulations to Professor Thomas Jones for having his photograph "Surreal Door" featured in the 2022 Regional Photography Biennial Exhibition.

The 2022 Regional Photography Biennial is a new program from Gallery 1516, a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting Nebraska and Regional artists. In service of that mission, the gallery introduced the Regional Photography Biennial as a way to showcase the artistic talent of photographers from the seven-state region of Nebraska, Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, South Dakota, and Wyoming. Entries came from cities including Omaha, Lincoln, Kansas City, St. Louis, Colorado Springs, Des Moines, Sioux Falls, Jackson Hole, and Denver.

The exhibition featured 93 artworks representing a variety of photographic styles. Categories of work include Abstract/Conceptual, Animals, City/Street, Landscape, Nature, People, Photojournalism, and Still Life.

The Regional Biennial is a selling show designed to introduce collectors to quality photography being produced in the region. Gallery 1516 does not take commission fees from the sale of the artist's work; 100% of the sale price always goes directly to the artist. The quality of work in this year's Regional Biennial was outstanding. This exhibition is a great opportunity to start or expand a collection, with the added knowledge that the artists are directly benefiting from your purchase. Gallery 1516 is honored to provide a world-class venue in service of artists, collectors, and all art-lovers.

Behrends' artwork added to state's permanent collection

Angela Behrends' artwork "Buffaloed" has been accepted for the South Dakota Art for State Buildings program through the South Dakota Arts Council.

"This means it will become part of the state's collection and be on permanent display in one of South Dakota's state buildings," Behrends said.

"Buffaloed," a buffalo head made of steel wire with bison horn caps, was initially a part of the South Dakota Governor's 8th Biennial Art Exhibition. Behrends was an invited artist, with her work automatically accepted for the exhibition.

The piece traveled across the state, on display at the South Dakota Art Museum, Dahl Arts Center, Washington Pavilion Visual Arts Center, and John A. Day Gallery in 2019-2020.

"This is a great honor, and I am pleased the state of South Dakota will give 'Buffaloed' a good home," she said.





Pictured is artwork created by Alan Montgomery which was featured in Collect Art's digital magazine special edition with the theme "Sea in Me."

An artist's journey

Growing up, Alan Montgomery thought he might be a naturalist, a zoologist, or maybe even a marine biologist, but by high school realized his future was in art.

"I have a strong interest in nature, but also in drawing because I knew that was a part of the documentation," he said.

He attended college at Minnesota State University Mankato, earning a Bachelor of Fine Arts and later a Master of Fine Arts from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln.

In the fall of 2000, Montgomery joined the Dakota State University faculty. Since then, he's continued teaching and sharing his art with the world.

He's been featured in a variety of exhibitions around the globe, including in the Netherlands, London, Italy, Soho in New York City, South Dakota, and recently in the country of Georgia.

His work was featured in Collect Art's digital magazine special edition with the theme Sea in Me, which called for sea or ocean thematic content.

Montgomery's art is influenced by nature, the poetry of Seamus Heaney, climate change, beekeeping, and cycling.

While Montgomery enjoys sharing his art, he finds working with students truly rewarding. "What I've been doing lately is stressing the idea of progress," he said.

He has students create a progress portfolio, where students showcase the work they've done and create a narrative in PowerPoint about each piece.

"I wanted to give them something they can reference to see they've advanced," he said.

Awards & Recognitions



Game Design major Kaya Colwill wins \$10,000 scholarship

DSU freshman and esports athlete Kaya Colwill is one of 10 people in the nation awarded a \$10,000 scholarship from Gen.G Foundation.

Gen.G is a global esports organization with professional teams. According to their website, the Gen.G Foundation's "mission is to develop talented young gamers who can lead the industry's next generation." In that future, they "envision a community that promotes inclusion and diversity while encouraging academic excellence."

Colwill, a computer game design major from Sioux Falls, will be playing on the DSU esports teams for VALORANT, Smash Ultimate, and in FGC, the Fighting Game Community, playing fighting games like Guilty Gear Strive.

"They were looking for people they could invest in that would impact the gaming industry as a whole," she explained, "and with my prospective involvement in creating games and potentially playing, they decided to select me for the scholarship."

By playing games on smaller platforms, Colwill has taken the opportunity to create design documents, and has also studied mechanics design and balance design.

At DSU, she is excited to learn the variety of skills that go into game design, such as programming, art, and sound.

Student Awards

- » The Alliance was awarded the SD BOR Organizational Leadership Award.
- » Alliance member and Animation major Justin Davey presented at the Youth Leadership Forum this summer and has been selected as one of their youngest team leaders for this coming summer's events at Northern. The Youth Leadership Forum enables young adults who have a disability to learn from each other and from successful adults with disabilities who are recognized leaders and role models. Students learn more about their own disability and others' disabilities, how to analyze their own strengths and weaknesses, enhanced organizational skills, different leadership styles, about the legislative process and disability laws, how to influence others, etiquette, and much more!

2022 True Trojan Awards

2022 Student Success Award - Tom Jones, Professor in the College of Arts & Sciences.

This award honors a faculty member who helps DSU reach goals on retention and placement rates, which enable students to obtain affordable and meaningful credentials as they prepare for career and life success. Jones received several nominations, which included comments such as this: "By highlighting [students'] art, Jones helps his students build confidence and professionalism, helping them visualize continued successes."

2022 Bringing Out the Best - Dr. David Kenley, Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences.



Kenley exemplifies the qualities highlighted with this award; developing trust and credibility, providing co-workers with a sense of purpose, positively influencing others, and building unity. Kenley does this by being

a servant leader, according to nomination letters. "He is sincere, caring, and knows how to be a real professional at all times while being personable and approachable. He brings out the BEST in all of us!"

2022 Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Award - Dr. Stacey Berry, Professor in the College of Arts & Sciences



A colleague wrote that Dr. Stacy Berry "has been tireless in promoting and protecting students in the LGBTQ community." She also helped implement a campus pride survey and serves as the advisor and mentor to the Alliance, the

gender and sexuality club on campus. She has also been named the committee chair for the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion committee.



Department & Program Updates

Looking to the future: the inaugural CLI Advisory Board

The College of Arts and Sciences hosted the inaugural meeting of the CLI Advisory Board on December 2, 2022. With the CLI program having successfully graduated its first-class last May, the time is right to look ahead for what DSU knows is already a pathbreaking program. The role of the CLI Advisory Board is to provide advice to the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences to support the development and continued excellence of the CLI Program. Importantly, it will also help the College live the DSU value of 'continuous improvement.'

The CLI Advisory Board brings together 12 external advisors from a range of backgrounds in cybersecurity, government, and business domains. It has CEOs, CISOs, and CIOs from large and small commercial organizations; representatives from the Federal Government, including the Department of State, Congress, and the U.S. military; and people with deep connections to both the people and the State of South Dakota. All of them understand the importance of creating a program that will continue to equip our graduates to move into challenging and exciting careers.

This diverse mix of expertise will bring to bear their insights and experience to help keep the CLI Program at the forefront of cyber education. The Board will advise on a range of issues, including helping identify emerging technologies, suggesting future areas of study to enhance the program, and highlighting changes in the business, government, legislative, academic and international environments that may impact cybersecurity and education. More broadly, they will facilitate collaboration between DSU and external organizations and will be advocates for the program as well as the wider DSU vision.

Majors/Programs

Bachelor

Analytical Science (BS)

Biology: Biology Education (BS)

Biology: Integrated Biology (BS)

Computer Game Design (BS)

Cyber Leadership and Intelligence (BS)

CLI Digital Forensics (BS)

CLI World Affairs and Human Behavior (BS)

Digital Arts and Design: Computer Graphics (BS)

Digital Arts and Design: Digital Sound Design (BS)

Digital Arts and Design: Production Animation (BS)

English: English Education (BS)

English: English for New Media (BS)

General Studies (BGS)

Individualized Studies (BS)

Mathematics (BS)

Mathematics: Cryptography Specialization (BS)

Mathematics: Information Systems Specialization (BS)

Mathematics: Intermediate Education Specialization (BS)

Mathematics: Secondary Education Specialization (BS)

Associate

General Studies (AA)

Certificates

American Civic Traditions Certificate

Digital Photography Certificate

English for New Media Certificate

Mathematical Foundations of Cryptography

Multimedia Certificate

Multimedia Design and Production Certificate

Professional and Technical Communication Certificate

Website Design and Development Certificate

Graduate Certificates

Advanced Mathematics Graduate Certificate
Mathematics Graduate Certificate

Minors

Art Minor

Audio Production Minor

Biology Minor

Chemistry Minor

Computer Graphics Minor

Digital Photography Minor

English Minor

English for New Media Minor

Film Production Minor

History Minor

Applied Mathematics Minor

Mathematics, Elementary Education Minor

Multimedia Web Design Minor

Physics Minor

Production Animation 2D Minor

Production Animation 3D Minor

Professional & Technical Communications Minor

Sociology Minor

Spanish Minor

Speech Communications/Theatre Minor



By the Numbers

332 total enrollment



SD counties countries states

student athletes in 15 sports

AVERAGE ACT SCORE 22.25

undergraduate placement rate

faculty/adjuncts Staff 20 student employees



Accreditation Information

Dakota State University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), founded in 1895, and is one of several institutional accreditors in the United States. HLC accreditation indicates that DSU has the standards, processes, and assurance that it delivers quality educational experiences. DSU must meet 18 core components within the five HLC Criteria for Accreditation.

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Every gift helps our work continue to rise.

