

## Alumni E-Newsletter, January 23, 2025



### From Professor to Provost, an Interview with Dr. Greg White

We recently sat down with Provost and Senior Vice President Greg White whose professional affiliation with NDNU spans three decades and counting! Since joining the university in 1993 as a Math professor, Greg has served in a number of increasingly responsible capacities including Chair, Department of Math and Computer Science; Director of Institutional Research; Assistant Provost; Associate Provost; Vice President for Academic Affairs; Chief Financial Officer; his current role, Provost and Sr. VP; and about half a dozen Interim and Acting positions as well!

"I think I hold the record for the number of offices anyone has had on campus – 12 locations, including six in Ralston Hall!" says Greg.



Greg holds a bachelor's degree in physics and mathematics from the University of Rochester (U of R) and earned his master's and Ph.D. in mathematics from the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA). In addition to his many professional accomplishments, Greg is actively involved with the Redwood Symphony, where he is well known for his musical prowess on the French horn and extensive leadership experience.

#### **Tell us about your background. Was it always your intention to go into higher education?**

I grew up in Berkeley during the Free Speech movement in the sixties, one of four children who all enjoyed music and travelling with our parents. The University of Rochester was on my radar because of my early interest in music, math and physics. When my high school girlfriend was accepted at U of R, that clinched the deal for me. I had a wonderful experience there and enjoyed playing in the orchestra, playing on the men's volleyball team, and serving in several student leadership positions.

I started out as a physics major but took so many classes in math that I ended up majoring in that as well.

Becoming a math professor was always a possibility, although I didn't know how much I loved teaching until I started the doctoral program at UCLA. I had my first experience as an instructor when I served as a teaching assistant (TA) for the Department of Mathematics and helped train other TAs. That led to faculty positions in math at Occidental College, University of California at Berkeley, St. Mary's College, and then here at NDNU.

[Read More >>>](#)

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### **Special Event - SNDdeN Mass Honoring Sr. Dorothy Stang**



In remembrance of Sister Dorothy Stang, the SNDdeN cordially invites you to a special Mass on Tuesday, February 4th to celebrate her life and mark the 20th anniversary of her martyrdom.

There will be several events honoring Sister Dorothy Stang this year, including a very special event in Rome on January 10, where she will join other Christian martyrs from around the world by being recognized with a permanent memorial at the Basilica of St. Bartholomew on Tiber Island. She will be the first woman from the United States to be so honored. Her memorial will include a relic that the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur have preserved through the years: a small amount of blood-soaked soil from the site of her martyrdom.

Sister Dorothy was known by her love for God, God's creation, and the farmers and their families in the Amazon jungles of Brazil with whom she lived and served for nearly 40 years before her death. For more information about Sister Dorothy Stang, you can visit: [Sister Dorothy Stang's Life - US East-West Province](#).

#### Event Details

Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2025

Location: Moore Pavilion on the Notre Dame Belmont (NDB) Campus

Time: 10:00am

No RSVP required. Please park in front of the NDB high school and enter through the main doors of the Pavilion.

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## President Martin Speaks at CIC's 2025 Presidents Institute

Earlier this month, President Beth Martin was a featured panelist at the Council of Independent Colleges (CIC) 2025 Presidents Institute in San Antonio, Texas. She was joined by leaders from Centenary College, GSV Ventures, and the CIC to discuss "AI Applications for Campus Administration," exploring AI's impact on enrollment, financial planning, and institutional research. The Presidents Institute annually gathers more than 300 independent college and university presidents among nearly 750 total participants.

"AI will be transformative in education, K-12 as well as higher education" says Dr. Martin. "NDNU is ahead of the curve on this. Our Admissions/Enrollment department implemented a new AI-driven CRM last spring, *Element451*. This is a student-centered platform which uses AI to help prospective applicants access information about our programs in real time, and alerts counselors to potential students who need additional contact."

NDNU's Marketing and Communications Department has been using AI to generate video content, build automated ad campaign optimization, and develop predictive modeling analytics to improve engagement of student prospects.

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## AI Hub: "Let's Talk AI in Teacher and K-12 Education"

Speaking of AI, for those of you in the education industry, here's a great opportunity to learn more about using AI in the classroom:

Dr. Kelly Vaughn, Interim Dean, School of Education, recently hosted a webinar, "Discover How AI is Transforming Teacher Education." During this session, the panel offered insightful perspectives on how AI is transforming education. This session was designed to provide valuable insights and strategies for leveraging AI in education, with a special focus on supporting pre-service teachers with critical thinking skills for the classroom.

Watch the full video [here](#).



## Step Into the Future with NDNU



As you can see, NDNU is on a roll when it comes to innovation and excellence in educational offerings. You can help us get the year off to a strong philanthropic start by making a gift to the **NDNU Annual Fund**.

Your tax-deductible contribution will fuel life-changing student experiences and first-class instruction. Contributions to the Annual Fund support scholarships, programs, and other critical operational needs.

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