



NOTRE DAME
DE NAMUR UNIVERSITY
100 Years in Belmont

Alumni E-Newsletter, January 12, 2023



Spotlight on NDNU Alumna Catharine Williams

We are delighted to feature Catharine Williams for this month's alumni spotlight. Catharine earned her master's degree in Clinical Psychology from Notre Dame de Namur University (NDNU) in 2021 and will be fully licensed as a Marriage and Family Therapist and Professional Clinical Counselor within the next few months. She currently works at Clarity Counseling and Wellness in San Carlos, where all eight of the full-time staff are NDNU graduates!

A California native, she attended undergraduate school at the University of California, Berkeley, where she majored in psychology. "My preference would have been to go directly to graduate school, but my parents wanted me to gain some work experience." She went into sales for a few years, and then into training and management. When her son and daughter reached their teens a few years ago, she applied to NDNU's School of Psychology. "It was the most natural thing in the world, both going back to school and now doing the work that I was meant to be doing."



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Teri Cannon Headlines January 25th Women in Leadership Speaker Series

Learn more about developing leadership skills and be inspired to create change at the January 25, 2023 Women in Leadership Speaker Series event at Taube Center on the Notre Dame de Namur University (NDNU) campus.

Our speaker, **Teri Cannon**, founding president of Minerva University, will talk about how the university was built to become ranked the "#1 Most Innovative University in the World" by World's Universities with



Alumni Association Survey Responses

We heard you! Thank you to the many individuals who responded to our survey to help create a vision and plan for the newly reconstituted Alumni Association. We are delighted to share some of our findings.

Memories and Reflections: Overall respondents had fond memories of their time at NDNU, citing their professors, courses, classmates and campus as “incredible, unforgettable, formative and enlightening.”

- “Being part of the student government, clubs and orientation team really made the experience of NDNU special. I loved getting to know the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur.”
- “NDNU prepared me for teaching in public schools with my credential. I am retired now; but have been substitute teaching almost every day because the training keeps on giving me more to give.”
- “Attending the-then College of Notre Dame was one of the best moves and times of my life. There were several faculty and staff who helped me develop personally and intellectually. By the time I graduated, I had been involved in a number of groups and clubs in a leadership role.”

Recommendations: As we expected, effective communication to alumni emerged as a top priority. While the monthly alumni eNewsletter is a good start, one alum advised “Look for the small stories. There are so many.”

Many expressed interest in attending social events like BBQs, retreats, and mixers while others suggested in-person and online events that involve discussion around topical issues and professional networking opportunities. Creating a contact page for students to keep in touch was another suggestion.

Going Forward: A dedicated section for alumni on the NDNU website is in process, with the goal of rolling it out in the next few months. The site will house all of our eNewsletters, events and activities, and down the road, will provide a means by which alumni can keep everyone informed about their lives, as well as opportunities to get in touch with one another. Stay tuned!

Join Us for an Alumni Reunion "Happy Hour" on January 19th

Please help us celebrate the start of a New Year at a special Happy Hour event for Alumni next Thursday, January 19th. The festivities will begin at 5:00PM, continuing through 7:00PM, at the Weigand Gallery on NDNU's campus.

Join us for drinks, hors d'oeuvres, and great conversation, including remarks from NDNU President Beth Martin and former faculty member Bobby Vaughn!

Admission is free. Please RSVP using [this link](#). We look forward to seeing you there!



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