



## First-Person Pride: 2023

*Notable achievements, accomplishments, milestones and memories shared by faculty and staff honored in February 2023 by the Iowa State University 25 Year Club for continuous years of service to the university*

### **Iver Anderson**

*Ames Laboratory of US DOE — 35 years of service*

“2006 ISU Inventor of the Year. The transition of the Major Professor placing a hood on the shoulders of a fresh Ph.D. that I have done 14 times --- It never gets ---- OLD!”

### **James Andrews**

*College of Liberal Arts & Sciences — 25 years of service*

“Promotion to the rank of University Professor in the Fall of 2019. Hearing quotes from students read aloud while receiving the 2006 University Award for outstanding achievement in Teaching reinforced for me my love for teaching!”

### **Bill Beach**

*College of Engineering — 25 years of service*

“It's always so fun to reconnect with former student workers and interns that I've had the opportunity to mentor and learn about their successes after graduation.”

### **Rajeon Birkestrand**

*Division of the President— 25 years of service*

“When I was a child, I would visit my father ((David Tesdall, 36 years)) who was the manager of Payroll Office in Beardshear. We would run down to the bookstore to get me a little "souvenir"”

## **Dan Black**

*Information Technology Services — 25 years of service*

"I was part of the team tasked with moving the printed phone directory to the online directory. It was far from my biggest project, but it was probably the most publicly visible and widely used. I enjoy the community and activities I've found through my involvement with some student organizations, both as an adviser and a participant."

## **Marlys Carlson**

*Academic Programs— 35 years of service*

"March 2020 - I am very proud to be part of the Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching (CELT) team that helped faculty to get more than 6000 courses online in just 2 weeks when the pandemic began so that academic excellence at ISU could continue. Attending the ISU graduation ceremony of my daughter, Stephanie Carlson ('13), and my son, Brandon Carlson ('16), and seeing them now both advancing in successful careers!"

## **Gail Castillo**

*Extension & Outreach — 25 years of service*

"Advancing to the State 4-H Office and being entrusted with risk management for our statewide program and leading the team for the 4-H Exhibits Building and Communication Events at the Iowa State Fair. I love the university and the many opportunities I've had. Men's basketball tends to be at the center of favorite memories; particularly the 2014 Big 12 Conference Tournament and the 2017 win at Allen Fieldhouse."

## **John Clark**

*Graduate College — 25 years of service*

"2018 Excellence in Information Technology Support from the Psychology Department. Most see the 2020 as a time when their lives were turned upside down. For me to see all the work I had done for years to prepare for a pandemic to enabled people to work remotely and ease the transition during a difficult time was extremely rewarding."

## **Carol Cornelious**

*College of Agriculture & Life Sciences — 35 years of service*

"Working at ISU for 35 years."

## **Carole Custer**

*Division of the President — 35 years of service*

"Record university enrollment. Building and serving the sesquicentennial cake in the Beardshear rotunda."

## **De Ehlers**

*Extension & Outreach — 35 years of service*

“Co-writing and publishing "Annie's Benchmarking Farm Family Living Expenses" publication and online tools for ISU ANR delivery and Annie's Project nationwide. Representing Iowa at National Workforce Readiness initiative, Chaperoning 4-H'ers to Washington DC Focus, Representing HSEO Family Finance for Women-In-Agriculture Annie's programming at National Risk Management Conference."

## **Robin Ertz**

*Extension & Outreach — 35 years of service*

“If you asked me during my interview if I would still be here in 25 years, I would have had to really think about it. Twenty-five years is a very long time - and a milestone for me. My favorite memories are laughter with colleagues. It's the people who make a difference and I'm proud to be a part of such a wonderful team and uplifting work culture."

## **Darrin Fischer**

*Information Technology Services — 25 years of service*

“Implementing Microsoft System Center Configuration Manager (SCCM) as an Enterprise campus service to lower endpoint management costs. This initiative allowed me to work and develop relationships with many IT staff and leadership across campus. Meeting my future wife, Erica Fischer."

## **Steven Freeman**

*College of Agriculture & Life Sciences — 25 years of service*

“Earning the designation of University Professor. Hooding my first ISU PhD student."

## **Leland Harker**

*College of Engineering — 35 years of service*

“I received a dean's staff excellence award in 2017 and was a co-inventor on a patent in 2021. My wife and I shared a kiss at midnight under the campanile on our 25th wedding anniversary."

## **Cynthia Haynes**

*College of Agriculture & Life Sciences — 25 years of service*

“Being recognized for excellence in teaching/learning from ISU, NACTA, and ASHS....and promotion to full professor. My most memorable moments at ISU usually happen in the classroom. Nothing quite compares to "seeing the light bulb moment" when the learning happens on my students faces. It is truly priceless!"

## **Michael Holtzbauer**

*College of Agriculture & Life Sciences — 35 years of service*

"2022 Recipient of the Carroll Ringgenberg Award."

**Patti Kendall**

*Enrollment Management — 35 years of service*

“My son graduating in 2017 and making life long friends with my coworkers.”

**Karen Krueger**

*College of Veterinary Medicine — 25 years of service*

"Being part of a team that was able to bring on COVID-19 testing."

**Nora Ladjahasan**

*College of Design — 25 years of service*

“Community outreach programs where I was able to indirectly helped Iowa communities in their community issues. Having ISU as my 2nd family in times of need (unconditional support and love that I received from my college and university colleagues when I was diagnosed with cancer).”

**Brandi Latterell**

*Facilities Planning & Management — 25 years of service*

"A notable accomplishment in my career was being asked to help manage the "rebuild" of Hilton and Scheman following the 2010 flood. What a team effort that was. My favorite moments are the people walking across campus or running into someone that I worked with in the past - there are so many wonderful connections made at ISU."

**Margaret LaWare**

*College of Liberal Arts & Sciences — 25 years of service*

"Receiving the Iowa State Regents' Award for Faculty Excellence in Fall 2022. Hooding my first PhD student at the Graduate Commencement Ceremony and watching her move to her first job."

**Claudia Lemper-Manahl**

*College of Agriculture & Life Sciences— 25 years of service*

"Developing the AgDiscovery Program for CALS College and working as an Innovation Faculty Fellow in the new Student Innovation Center. My favorite ISU memory is attending the American Society of Microbiology Annual meeting with 5 of my students and sharing the experience with them."

**Ebby Luvaga**

*College of Agriculture & Life Sciences— 25 years of service*

"Being recognized on the 2021 Women Impacting ISU Calendar. Traveling abroad with students."

**Robin McNeely**

*College of Design — 25 years of service*

"Enabling the GIS Facility to train and support students, staff and faculty with their GIS project needs. Many students we employed have written after they leave to say what they learned with us has helped them get a job. Breakfasts with President Geoffroy as part of the P&S Council."

## **Alan Miller**

*Information Technology Services — 35 years of service*

"Starting out as a groundskeeper and working up to being a Cable Plant Engineer with IT Services. Seeing many building projects from the beginning to completion and how the technology changed over the years. Meeting many great people along the way."

## **Gail Nonnecke**

*College of Agriculture & Life Sciences - 35 years of service*

"Iowa Professor of the year. The excitement and enthusiasm each fall semester when the students begin a new academic year."

## **Amy Oxley**

*Central Finance & Finance Delivery — 35 years of service*

"I've always worked well with the ISU Community/Public. Favorite ISU memory would be when we had special themed meals at UDM: circus day etc."

## **Shannon Peel**

*College of Human Sciences — 25 years of service*

"Assisting with the transition of the undergraduate athletic training program to a graduate program and establishment of the athletic training teaching lab. I have many wonderful memories from my 2 years in Athletics surrounded by great people and it is difficult to list only one."

## **Jim Roth**

*College of Veterinary Medicine — 45 years of service*

"Establishing and building the Center for Food Security and Public Health. Attending graduation ceremonies for veterinary students"

## **Heather Sauer**

*College of Design — 25 years of service*

"Received the 2020 College of Design Professional and Scientific Staff Award for Extraordinary Performance; selected for 2019 Cardinal Women\* cohort and invited to speak at Cardinal Commencement. Walking through the streets of Rome with Cy while working with Model Farm to produce the College of Design's "Ciao! Cy: A Semester in Rome" video mentoring a student intern who discovered her love for writing about community(ties)."

## **Latoja Schaben**

*Division of the President — 25 years of service*

"Many achievements in my career. The most I'm proud of is being loyalty to the athletics program, university and community. Especially in a time people jump for job to job. "Iowa State Way". I have many the one that sticks out to me. We were playing Baylor on Valentines day and they were 14th in the country. We upset them and had all our former players back. That night I met my husband and we have been married for 15 years."

## **Melinda Schminke**

*College of Veterinary Medicine — 35 years of service*

"The latest accomplishment is I was able to suggest and form a team to get a Food Pantry at the Vet School going, called Bone Appetite! I saw a need amongst the students and am happy to say it is a success! One of my favorite memories as an employee and a Mom was when my twin girls decided to go to ISU. One became an ISU cheerleader and one was on the track team. However, I tell my 3 kids that I have over 600 more kids (Vet Students) I treat as my own."

## **Christopher Seeger**

*College of Design — 25 years of service*

"2013 National APA Planning Achievement Award for Transportation Planning: Incorporating crowdsourcing and facilitated-Volunteered Geographic Information into Safe Routes to School Planning. My first week as an Extension Specialist was spent in the field with specialist Bob Cole and landsce architect Jack Leaman to review/judge park improvements made by communities. A great way to start a career of community engagement!"

## **John Shriver**

*College of Agriculture & Life Sciences — 25 years of service*

"Taking my kids to watch the Veishea Parades."

## **Arun Somani**

*College of Engineering — 25 years of service*

"Successful supervision of 33 PhD and 41 Master students during 25 year career at ISU. I co-taught a 12-credits two semesters course sequence covering material of three main courses of computer engineering program to 20 sophomore students. Students chose to have a pizza party at my home instead of writing the final exam. We all enjoyed it!"

## **Duane Sorenson**

*Division of the President — 25 years of service*

"Coaching Cyclone women athletes to over one hundred school records and over 200 Big 12 All-Conference honors. Beating KU for 2nd place at the BIg 12 Swimming and Diving Championships."

## **Mitchell Squire**

*College of Design — 25 years of service*

"Being twice recognized for my teaching by the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture, the leading international association of accredited professional degree programs in the United States, Canada, and abroad as well. The beginning of fall semester every year. It refuels my compassion and commitment. The VEISHA parade was always a favorite as well."

## **Kris Stacy-Bates**

*Library — 25 years of service*

"Serving on the team to keep the Library 160 curriculum updated, so all undergraduate student are better prepared for every other class where they need to understand how to do a literature search and evaluate what they find. Enjoying some of the Rice Krispies Treat that set the record for world's largest at the time!"

## **Douglas Stephens**

*Ames Laboratory of US DOE — 25 years of service*

"Receiving a 2014 CYtation award. Helping construct the new Sensitive Instrument Facility. Building the third, fourth, fifth, and sixth generation network for Ames Laboratory. Lucheons with co-workers who became friends. Serving science to build better and brighter tomorrows."

## **Deb Thornburg**

*Institutional Financial Strategy — 35 years of service*

"Getting my bachelor's degree while working full-time and raising two kids. Halloween potlucks are fondly remembered! Great costumes, delicious food (with recipes to take home) and lots of good conversation."

## **Kathryn Wieland**

*College of Business — 25 years of service*

"P & S Scientific Excellence Award 2022 & 2010. All of the ongoing relationships with ISU alumni who were once students seeking jobs/ internships that became recruiters of ISU students for their company after graduation."

## **Darin Wohlgemuth**

*College of Agriculture & Life Sciences — 25 years of service*

"Developing Iowa State's strategic recruitment scholarships, building the analytical models for the RMM, and teaching thousands of students Economics. Teaching class and hearing the "oh" that students say when they "get it"."