

too long to enumerate here, but some highlights include:

Total enrollment up from 1,350 to 3,800; 78% of that increase experienced over the past five years, with an additional 15% projected for Fall 2015

Transition from undergraduate to graduate and doctorate degree status

Upgrade of athletic programs from NAIA to NCAA

Successful completion of the largest capital campaign in Trine's history (\$90 million) and raised 55% of current \$75 million Invest in Excellence campaign

Update and revitalization of the physical campus through a \$100 million investment in new projects, including eight new apartment-style student housing units

Renovation of the Health Sciences Education Center

Expansion of welcome/admissions center  
New university center and library

New athletic and recreation center, complete with a new stadium

Renovation of the administration building and the T. Furth Center for Performing Arts  
Renovation of Ford Hall, home of the Ketter School of Business

Construction of the Jim and Joan Bock Center for Innovation & Biomedical Engineering

New College of Engineering and Business  
Full-time faculty bolstered by 60%, from 53 to 89

A career-placement average of 99.7% for Trine graduates, compared to the national average of 75.6% as reported by the National Association of Colleges and Employers in 2013-2014

To celebrate what has been accomplished under Dr. Brooks' leadership, however, must lead naturally to a discussion of why he has been so successful. "I started in the classroom teaching, which I still love," says Brooks. "You never grow tired of that exposure to young people." After teaching biology and physiology, Brooks worked his way up from classroom professor to department chair, then to school dean. At universities in Tennessee and Delaware, he served as both vice president for academic affairs and executive vice president/chief operating officer, eventually becoming immersed in the various operations of a college campus.

But three years into his role as chief academic officer at Lincoln Memorial University in Harrogate, Tennessee, Brooks awakened to the crucial function of fundraising and development. Consequently, his academic history and his fundraising experience together produced a love for administration that prompted his desire to pursue the presidency. "I'd learned through that process the two most critical areas for the success of an institution," says Brooks: "The enrollment aspect and the fundraising aspect." He attributes part of Trine's success as a team to understanding and focusing on those two priorities. "Financially, enrollment and fundraising drive the institution."

The fact that higher education has seen drastic changes during Dr. Brooks' tenure emphasizes its focus. "Higher education has become more and more of a business," he says. "We've learned to operate like a business." Schools are becoming consumer-driven now, which makes the student a customer. "Kids arriving today need an education with a career in mind."

Trine's astonishing 99.7 percent career-placement average for graduates is hardwired directly to the school's career focus. "We're fortunate to be a school that is more professional-oriented in our degree offerings, which gives us a clear advantage," says Brooks. Possibly the greater advantage for students, however, is the school's connection to local business and industry. By ar-

anging practicums and internships with local companies, the faculty sets up its students to gain valuable experience outside the classroom and to build relationships with potential employers. "The key to success today—particularly on the education side, but also the job-placement side—is that linkage to business and industry," says Brooks. In fact, all new programming at Trine is seen through the lens of its potential for career outcomes.

If Dr. Brooks had a word of advice for his peers, he might add two elements to the list of reasons why he has succeeded as a leader. "Don't be afraid to take a risk. Be bold," he says. "Be bold in your vision, stick to your beliefs, listen to the market but don't be afraid to take a calculated risk." Second, drop the long-range planning. "I'm not sure that long-range planning fits higher education," he says. "Ten-year plans don't fit, so we've adopted a philosophy we call a rolling three-year plan."

Here again, a look at why Dr. Brooks has succeeded must be cut short, primarily because the president would rather talk about who has made him successful. "People make the institution. You try to hire great people with talents greater than yours and not be threatened by that," he says with warmth and a wry smile. Indeed, the plaque on his desk reads, "There is no limit to what a man can do or where he can go if he doesn't mind who gets the credit."

Whether luck or talent, Brooks has the knack for attracting good people to an organization at all levels—faculty, staff, board of trustees, donors and, of course, students. "You need good people to lead an amazing transformation," he says.

And while Brooks is no longer in the classroom, he still finds multiple ways to engage the students. He maintains an open-door policy with them, an ideal that one might question until Brooks hands you his business card, which includes his home phone number. "That connection with students is something that just never goes away," he says.

This year, Trine University is celebrating the 15-year tenure of its president, Dr. Earl D. Brooks II, and for good reason. He has done much and he has gone far, and for that, he deserves a fair share of the credit.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF FRANK DAVIS

#### HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 22, 2015*

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Frank Davis of Concord, North Carolina, who passed away on August 24, 2015. We send our prayers and sincerest condolences to his wife, Joan, and the entire Davis family.

Born on November 7, 1944, Mr. Davis dedicated his life to serving our nation's students. After receiving his degree from Berry College, Mr. Davis taught high school English in a nationwide linguistic research and development project in Rome, GA. After completing this project, Mr. Davis transitioned to the field of higher education, where he served three decades as an admissions and chief development officer at several universities, including his alma mater. In 1998, Mr. Davis joined The Cannon Foundation, later becoming the Foundation's Executive Director in 2000.

I had the honor of becoming friends with Mr. Davis during his time at the Cannon Foundation, and I was immediately struck by his hum-

ble attitude and sincere dedication to service to others and to improving educational opportunities for all students. Not only that, he inspired each of us to be better people and to give back to our communities through kindness, charity and service.

I recently had the honor to present Mr. Davis posthumously with the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, the highest award the Governor of North Carolina can bestow. The Order was created in 1963, and has been presented to honor persons who have a proven record of service to the State of North Carolina. While Mr. Davis made his mark in other states, like Georgia and Alabama, it seems like he always had North Carolina on his mind.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in commemorating the life of Frank Davis for his commitment to his community and the numerous lives he impacted throughout his life.

#### HONORING RICHARD K. DONAHUE

#### HON. NIKI TSONGAS

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 22, 2015*

Ms. TSONGAS. Mr. Speaker, the City of Lowell, Massachusetts is well-known for its historic contributions to this nation, from its roots in the founding of modern industry, to world-renown authors and artists, to public officials who helped shape the national conversation. Lowell recently lost one of those titanic figures with the passing of Richard K. Donahue.

Richard Donahue will be remembered across Massachusetts and the country for his expertise and leadership in the legal world, as well as his acumen and achievements in politics, policy and business.

A valued citizen of Lowell, his professional career existed on the national stage, through his storied involvement in the successful campaign of President John F. Kennedy, his tenure as a confidant and advisor at the Kennedy White House, as a highly-regarded and nationally respected lawyer, and as President of NIKE, a major worldwide company. He was an exemplary role model for young Lowellians coming of age in the 60s and 70s, setting a standard of excellence and accomplishment that he made seem quite easy.

As much as Dick was a national figure, he never lost touch with his home city. He remained deeply committed to Lowell throughout his entire life. Dick represented the fighting spirit and dedication to community that is Lowell's trademark. He always had the community's best interests at heart.

His wife, Nancy, the founder of Merrimack Repertory Theater has been its guiding light from its inception. Dick and Nancy's tremendous philanthropic support to the theater and across the region reflected their unflagging generosity and willingness to share the fruits of a very successful life and devote it to the best interests of the City of Lowell.

Dick also understood that the City and its University rise and fall together, and devoted himself to being a leader at the University of Massachusetts Lowell, helping to position that institution for future success.

Even in recent years, when Dick's health was not good, you'd still see him attend events he thought were important. It reflected