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Tintle Awarded $300K for Second Stats Textbook

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Campus Kudos

Dordt College is again ranked among the top 10 "Best in the Midwest" colleges, according to new 2017 rankings by *U.S. News & World Report*. The college has been ranked on the *U.S. News* best colleges list for 25 years and is consistently rated as a top-10 college in its category. Dordt also appears on the "Best Value in the Midwest," "A-plus Schools for B Students," "Best Engineering Program" (the only one in Iowa), and "Schools with the Most International Students" lists.

The Princeton Review has again named Dordt College to its 2017 "Best in the Midwest" colleges list. The annual rankings are based entirely on what students attending the schools say about the college.

The *Western Journal of Nursing Research* has awarded **Faculty Paper of the Year to Statistics Professor Dr. Nathan Tintle** and his co-writer, Dr. Susan Dunn, a nursing professor at Michigan State. Jake Clark ('15), now a graduate student in biostatistics at the University of Iowa, and senior actuarial science major Lucas Vander Berg both contributed to the design and implementation of data analysis strategies for the paper.

Lucas Vander Berg recently received the prestigious Curtis T. Huntington Memorial scholarship from the Actuarial Foundation.



Engineering Professor **Dr. Justin Vander Werff received the Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute's Martin P. Korn award** for his paper on a cost-effective bridge system that handles seismic activity. The article appeared in the September–October 2015 issue of the *PCI Journal*.

TINTLE AWARDED $300K FOR SECOND STATS TEXTBOOK

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has awarded a team of statisticians, led by Dordt College Statistics Professor Dr. Nathan Tintle, a $300,000 grant to develop a second statistics textbook to follow the introductory statistics textbook he co-authored and published this year.



Nathan Tintle

This is the third major NSF grant received by the team Tintle leads. The statisticians are developing curriculum that helps students understand the logic behind statistics and then draw informed conclusions about the data. Their introductory textbook, the result of significant ongoing research, was published in May of 2016.

"Most students who take an intro to statistics course never take another one," says Tintle. "One thing that discourages them is that typically a second statistics course requires students to take other math courses, like calculus, first."

According to Tintle, solving complex problems depends on the ability to explore and understand the relationships between many variables simultaneously. So, a lack of people who have experience with multivariable statistics is a problem, he explains.

In the second textbook, Tintle and his collaborators aim to teach multivariable statistics to students without background knowledge in subjects such as calculus or linear algebra.

"The foundation we laid in our introductory statistics textbook is a strong one to build on for the second course," says Tintle.



JAMIN VER VELDE ('99)

DORDT CELEBRATES RECORD ENROLLMENT

Enrollment for the 2016-17 school year is at the all-time high of 1,523 students. This year's incoming class includes 392 students, the largest since 2008. Dordt's freshman-to-sophomore retention rate was 88.1 percent this year, compared to a national average in the mid-60s. This is also the highest retention rate on record at Dordt College.

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