

Dr. Charles Kaufman

Dr. Charles Kaufman, a professor in the School of Business at the University of South Dakota, was involved with Yankton College by first serving on the Corporate Board in 1967, then on the Board of Trustees in 1970, where he was elected the Vice-chair and then Chair of the Executive Board; he was an adjunct professor; twice Interim President during the 1970s and in 2004 was inaugurated as the fifteenth school president serving until 2014. During the late nineties and on into the first two decades of the twenty-first century, Yankton College continued to operate under the leadership of Kaufman. While maintaining a religious mission by establishing a Licensed Ministry program, Associate Degrees in Theology were conferred to those students who completed the two-year course of study. The first graduating class was in 1999. Unfortunately, the program was terminated due to the ever-increasing costs and a waning lack of interest.

The list of committees, tasks and responsibilities which Kaufman had undertaken as a result of this laudable relationship was immeasurable; his leadership and inspirational style benefited generations of faculty, administration, students and friends of Yankton College. Kaufman passed away in 2015.