

WINTER 2012

# Civitas

Central College

## 20 YEARS IN CHINA:

Tribute to a partnership

## THE START-UP SCENE:

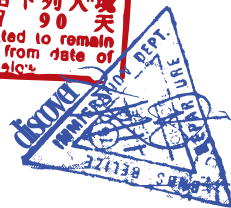
Alumni take on technology





## Lets go!

by Mark Putnam, Central College president



International travel can be intimidating at first, but once you have crossed our nation's borders, your life will be different. I know this not only from my personal experience, but also from students and alumni who eagerly tell stories of their experiences exploring the world. The details always vary, but the pattern is largely the same. Most either had limited or no experience with the world before they embarked on their first global learning experience. The words they use to describe the experience are powerful. Here are a few that have stayed with me:

- "It changed the trajectory of my entire life."
- "My whole family was changed by the experience."
- "It changed me as a human being."
- "I learned more about myself than I ever imagined."
- "It was one of the most important experiences of my life."

Those of us who have traveled these global roads realize that to be a learner is to be dislodged from what is comfortable. Culture shock is inevitable. There comes a point when we can't remember why we left the couch in the first place. This experience is accelerated by linguistic isolation, if we don't know the language well; spatial disorientation, as is the case in visiting any new place; and uncertainty about customs, expected behaviors and interpersonal interactions. The amazing thing is that we become learning sponges. All our senses and interpretive frameworks are at maximum, and we learn at a rate we can't imagine. It's pure magic.

Getting it wrong is perhaps the most important aspect of developing skills as global citizens. The skills of patience with delays, comfort in almost any setting and contentment in managing expectations are wonderful side benefits. We also learn very practical things like planning ahead, packing lightly and using kind words with

others who are trying to help. Eventually, pattern recognition emerges as the skills of international travel, cultural adaptation and global learning become transferrable from one setting to another.

These are all important skills, but what we value most is what we learn about ourselves. We can be stretched more than we realize in challenging circumstances—and remain composed and focused. We can learn to embrace others who are different and set aside stereotypes. We can discover, as one student put it, "Routine is not my forte."

This fall, I gave an assignment to our first-year students during orientation: Have a valid passport by Christmas. For some, this may be just another assignment; for others, this may be the single most important gift they give themselves.

What about you? Perhaps it's time to extend this assignment to the entire Central College community. Get your passport...pack lightly...and let's go.

Read more of Mark Putnam's writings in President's Corner at [civitas.central.edu](http://civitas.central.edu).



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Mark Johnson, professor of mathematics and computer science, teaches students to develop their own iPhone apps.

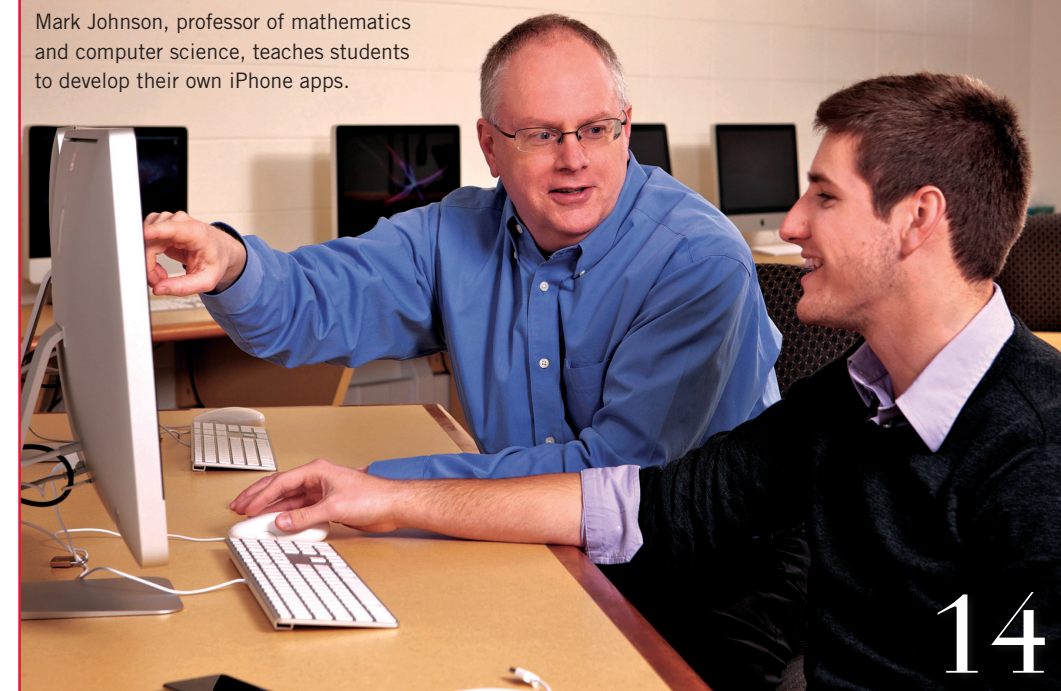


Photo by Dan Vander Beek

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Central students got their hands—and feet—dirty cleaning up debris from Hurricane Irene.

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# director named for entrepreneurship program

Photo by Paul Gates



“Students today must be able to think creatively and innovatively for their own financial well-being,” says Wade Steenhoek.

Wade Steenhoek, a former Des Moines Area Community College instructor and experienced businessman, was named director of Central’s new Martin Heerema Entrepreneurship Program, which began this fall. The program is meant to create what Steenhoek calls an “entrepreneurial ecosystem” at Central, allowing students to take risks, manage the results and learn from the outcomes. “At its core, entrepreneurship is about identifying a problem and solving it in a creative manner,” he says. “An ability to do that effectively is valuable in any career.”

As director of the program, Steenhoek will teach entrepreneurship courses and collaborate with students and faculty on projects. He will also work to form relationships with community partners around central Iowa to develop opportunities for Central students.

The Martin Heerema Entrepreneurship Program features newly designed courses in entrepreneurship and experiential learning on and off campus. “This position allows me to combine three of my passions: entrepreneurship, the energy of a college classroom and the creative problem-solving process,” says Steenhoek.



The students bonded with each other and with alumni who also wanted to lend a hand.

## STUDENTS CLEAN UP AFTER HURRICANE IRENE

During fall break, 18 Central students traveled to New York to help clean up damage caused by Hurricane Irene in August. Led by Kristin Sullivan Tremper ’03, coordinator of Reformed Church in America relations, the group left after classes on Wednesday, Oct. 12 and drove through the night to reach New York.

The students worked to clean up the remains of destroyed homes in Esperance, N.Y., trying to make sense of the piles of houses the flooding left

behind. They also mucked mud out of basements and removed ruined drywall in Schoharie.

During the trip, the group was helped by alumni Tom Patterson ’66, Glenn ’62 and Eileen Quinn Van Oort ’62 and Brenna Autrey ’99. Local churches donated meals, and the Burtonsville Volunteer Fire Department allowed the students to stay in their building.

“A lot of these students came to Central for this reason—to serve other people,” says Tremper.

Photo by Dan Vander Beek



**PAUL WEIHE EARNS BIOLOGY HONOR**  
Associate professor of biology Paul Weihe was named a 2011

BEN Scholar by BiosciEdNet (BEN), a digital library portal aiming to develop digital resources for biology study. The recognition is extended by the BEN Collaborative, a collection of 25 life sciences professional societies that promotes the use of digital resources and student-centered teaching at the undergraduate level.

BEN selects 15 scholars annually in a competitive application process. “I was thrilled to be selected,” says Weihe. “This is a tremendous opportunity, and I’m excited to participate.”

The scholars program teaches participants how to use digital libraries to make science instruction more student-friendly. They also integrate career exploration into curricula. During the 18-month program, Weihe will receive training from fellow scholars and peer mentors.

“Most people have heard that big changes are underway in the landscape of education, with young people learning differently today than they did in the past,” says Weihe.

## CLASS DIRECTORS AND CLASS DEANS INTRODUCED

The Senior Leadership Team, working with the offices of academic affairs and student life, has developed a new educational model for Central that will provide opportunities for students within a collaborative, developmental framework. The Integrated Learning model will be in place by July.

A key feature of the new model is the creation of class directors and class deans. Each of the four class directors will be the resident expert on challenges facing students in their freshman, sophomore, junior or senior years. Class deans, on the other hand, will stay with one group of students throughout their four years at Central. Eric Jones ’87 has been named the inaugural dean for the class of 2016, next year’s incoming class.

“Students are central at Central College,” says President Mark Putnam. “Our relationships with students and with each other form a foundation from which students can work to take responsibility for their education and personal growth.”

## KEY APPOINTMENTS IN STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

As part of the new Integrated Learning model, two experienced professionals have been appointed to lead the new division of student development and its co-curricular and developmental learning initiatives.

Peggy Fitch will be the vice president for student development and will continue as professor of psychology. Charlie Strey, currently associate dean of student life, will serve as dean of students. Both will begin their roles July 1.

In the new position, Fitch will oversee the full scope of student development opportunities important to providing a rich experience for students outside the classroom. As dean of students, Strey will serve as an advocate for Central students.



# NCAA meet Horton top freshman

Photo by Dan Vander Beek



Central's Eli Horton was the top freshman finisher at the Div. III cross country championships, placing 52nd.

Central's Eli Horton capped a notable rookie campaign by turning in the top freshman finish at the NCAA Division III men's cross country championships in Winneconne, Wis., Nov. 19.

Horton was 52nd in a career-best 24 minutes, 57.81 seconds in a 280-runner field on the 8,000-meter course.

That highlighted a promising season for the Dutch, who next year return their top six runners from a squad that posted a solid ninth-place finish at the NCAA Central Regional, their highest since 2006. Another freshman, Drew Jackson, narrowly missed joining Horton as an all-region honoree.

Meanwhile, junior Mel McDermott earned all-region distinction for the Central women with a 6,000-meter time of 23:23, a new personal best. The Dutch were 12th after placing 17th in the region a year ago. The women return six of their top seven runners for next season.

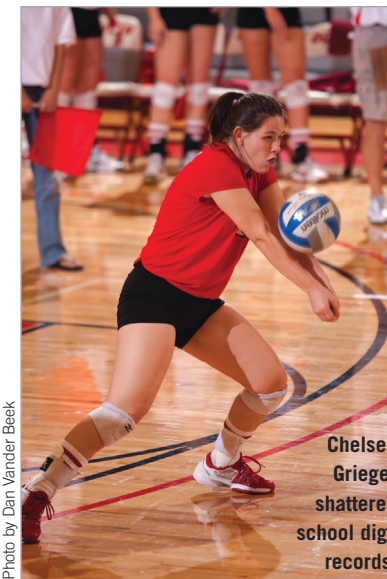
## SWARTZ EARNS ALL-LEAGUE WOMEN'S TENNIS HONORS

Senior Emily Swartz pulled a surprise at the Iowa Conference women's tennis tournament, advancing to the quarterfinals and receiving all-league recognition.

Senior Kayla Donner scored a first-round singles win, then teamed with Swartz for a victory in A flight doubles.

That followed a sixth-place showing at the conference team tournament. The Dutch posted a 6-9 dual mark.

Photo by Dan Vander Beek



Chelsea Grieger shattered school digs records.

## VOLLEYBALL TEAM MAKES LATE SURGE

Entering the Iowa Conference tourney as the No. 5 seed, the Central volleyball team made some late noise.

The Dutch went on the road to surprise fourth-seeded Loras, then stunned league champion Coe to advance to the championship match for the 16th time in the tournament's 24-year history, but fell to Cornell and closed with a 24-10 mark.

Senior libero Chelsea Grieger earned all-Iowa Conference honors for a third time, chosen for the first team. She topped school digs records for a season (812) and a career (2,441) and was named the conference libero/defensive specialist of the week five times.

## PAULSON RUNS AWAY WITH THIRD LEAGUE GOLF CROWN

Only a trip to Europe could prevent Central senior Sarah Paulson from becoming a four-time Iowa Conference women's golf MVP.

Paulson studied in Spain through Central College Abroad a year ago, after claiming the league title in 2008 and 2009. But Paulson was back this fall and ran away with her third title, carding a 75-72-87-78—312 to win the 72-hole tourney by 12 shots. She was named the league's player of the week four times in 2011 and 12 times overall. Paulson hopes to return to the NCAA Division III tournament in May.

Her showing helped Central to its fourth consecutive second-place team finish in the conference.

## BREAKTHROUGH SEASON FOR WOMEN'S SOCCER SQUAD UNDER KOBYLINSKI

Many were hopeful that new coach Mike Kobylinski could energize Central's women's soccer program. Few, if any, envisioned a 10-win season.

That's four more victories than the Dutch produced in the previous three years combined. Central was coming off a 2-13-1 campaign in 2010 after suffering through a 1-18 season in 2009.

But the new direction was evident from the start under Kobylinski, a 2003 Central grad and former all-region player for the Dutch men's squad. Central scored surprise victories in its first three games, exceeding the 2010 win total by Sept. 7, before finishing at 10-7.

Sophomore forward Alayna Bailey and sophomore defender Hannah Davy were second-team all-Iowa Conference picks.

## CENTRAL LANDS THREE ON MEN'S SOCCER ALL-CONFERENCE SQUAD

Central senior defender Garrett Fooshee, senior midfielder Jonathan Schroeder and sophomore midfielder Daniel Peacock gained all-Iowa Conference men's soccer recognition. Each was named to the second team.

Central posted an encouraging 10-8-1 record, overwhelming Simpson 5-0 in the six-team conference tournament before falling at 14th-ranked Loras in the semifinals, 2-0. The Dutch graduate six seniors but return a deep and talented underclass group, according to coach Garry Laidlaw.

## FOOTBALL SQUAD SHARES SECOND AS SNEAD ASSAULTS RECORD BOOK

Senior Nate Snead capped a record-breaking career by quarterbacking

Central to within a touchdown of an Iowa Conference football title share.

The Dutch finished in a tie for second place at 6-2 with a 7-3 overall mark. Central narrowly missed a last-second score in a 20-13 loss at Wartburg Oct. 29, which would have left the Dutch in a tie for first place with eventual champ Dubuque.

Snead rushed for 952 yards in 2011, the most ever by a Central quarterback, and gained 2,500 for his career, seventh on the all-time rushing yardage list. He closed in third on the career passing yardage chart with 4,710 and second in total offense with 7,210. He had 91 rushing/passing touchdowns, 21 more than any player in school history.

Central landed a league-high 10 players on the all-conference squad. Senior offensive lineman Garret Albers, junior linebacker Keith Rush and freshman kicker Kevin Sheldon were first-team picks.

Snead was among seven Central seniors on the second team, joined by wide receiver Jeremy Snead, kick/punt returner Mike Furlong, offensive lineman Casey Tanner, defensive lineman Brady Hill, running back Preston West and punter Preston Roberts.



Quarterback Nate Snead rushed for 2,500 career yards.

Photo by Dan Vander Beek





Older members of the Central community have made service a lifelong endeavor.

# THE AGE OF THE SAGE

**sage**<sup>1</sup> [seyj] *noun, adjective, sag·er, sag·est.*

**noun**

1. a profoundly wise person; a person famed for wisdom.
2. someone venerated for the possession of wisdom, judgment, and experience.

**adjective**

3. wise, judicious or prudent: sage advice.

Source: Dictionary.com

There is a difference between knowledge and wisdom. Some say wisdom must be earned by years of firsthand experience, while knowledge can be pulled from books. But Jann Freed '77, professor emerita of business management, would say there's even more to it. To become a sage—one renowned for wisdom—you must pay forward what your knowledge and experience has taught you.

Freed has researched and written extensively on sages. She defines them as people who embrace aging, value their life experience and feel compelled to give back.

As the baby boomers get older, Freed explains, some tend to discount the value of their experience, instead looking for ways to reclaim youth. Sages, on the other hand, recognize the potential of their years of learning. "We talk about becoming elders, not just becoming older," Freed says.

Often this manifests itself through community service.

## WITH OPEN HANDS

Service work has become an integral part of a Central education. Since 1996, the Center

for Community-Based Learning has paired thousands of students with service-learning opportunities. Many fulfill their graduation requirement for experiential learning by partnering with a community organization for a semester.

The faculty, too, has been crucial in extending Central's service philosophy. From 1983 to 2008, the Faculty Benevolence Association (FBA) served people from the world's poorest countries.

The group members were first inspired to action by visiting speaker and social activist Tony Campolo. "He challenged the faculty to do more about social inequality and poverty," says Dale DeWild, professor emeritus of sociology and former FBA member.

One of their earliest projects was sponsoring refugee families from violence-stricken Latin American countries as they relocated to new homes in Canada. Group members provided housing, food, work, social support and legal aid while the refugees were in Pella. DeWild hosted a family for nearly a year. He and his colleagues went on to develop strong relationships with villages in Latin America with whom they worked.

Perhaps their most recognized effort was the founding of The Work of Our Hands in 1989. The Pella shop sells crafts made by artisans from around the world, providing fair wages for their work. "It just felt great to provide jobs for workers who were very poor, who were selected on the basis of their need," says DeWild.

## WITH AN OPEN HEART

But it isn't just faculty who volunteer. As Central's sage alumni are showing, the service culture doesn't end at the campus borders. Many carry it with them their entire lives.

Such is the case for Jan Van Zomeran Beran '53. Her passion for service began when she and her husband George moved to the Philippines to do missionary work. They stayed for 13 years, from 1960 to 1973. "That experience led to my

understanding of the importance of diversity," says Beran.

In her hometown of Ames, Beran served for 10 years on the Human Relations Committee, where she initiated the Dialogues Program. It was aimed at fostering interaction between diverse groups of people. "Our goal was to break down class, ethnic, racial and religious borders," Beran explains. "I hope people see the value of getting to know one another and understand that every person, regardless of background, has value."

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**"WE HAD AN  
EMPTY ROOM  
AND OPEN  
HEARTS ..."**

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As a sage, Beran cares not just about helping people but truly connecting with them. She and George hosted 15 long-term foster children and more than 60 respite youths, most of them teenagers. "We had an empty room and open hearts," she says with a laugh, adding that it was a great experience for her family. "I'm impressed by the survivability and flexibility that these teenagers show. It's been very gratifying to be a part of that."

In recent years, as a member of the Alumni Advisory Council, she has been thrilled to see Central's increasing emphasis on community involvement. Beran believes it is creating another generation of people like her, who want to use their wisdom to give back. "Service presents a change in direction for students," she says. "It opens their eyes to the need around them and lets them see the impact they can have."

Tell us about the service of other  
Central sages at [civitas.central.edu](http://civitas.central.edu).







# THE RIGHT ENVIRONMENT

Dr. Jim Zaffiro, a member of the political science department for 28 years, has shaped both his students and the Central landscape. The result is a college committed to sustainability.

Not many kids can say they have a real interest in politics. Jim Zaffiro could have made that claim with a straight face. After all, his 7-year-old self trick-or-treated through his Milwaukee neighborhood in a JFK costume.

That passion helped inspire a 28-year (and counting) career at Central. Originally specializing in African studies, he came to campus to teach comparative politics. Since then, he has created and taught courses in the four major subfields of political science, along with history, international studies and environmental studies. And he has helped to ignite Central's commitment to sustainability. All the while, his focus has remained firmly fixed on his students.

"I like making students think in new ways and examine their existing assumptions," Zaffiro says. "They see how their political and personal values overlap, and I can watch their intellectual growth over time."

Though Zaffiro is a well-respected Africanist—his work has generated two books and 34 articles—his professional focus has shifted away from research. He prefers projects

that more directly impact those around him. "I now refer to myself as a recovering academic," he jokes. "Early in my career, I was very focused on research, but my priorities and values changed. I once spent a year researching and writing a book on mass media in Botswana, but now I look back and say 'So what?'" Today, teaching is primary for Zaffiro.

The result is a group of former and current students who credit him with shaping their academic experience. Shannan Mattiace '90, Ph.D., professor of political science at Allegheny College, is a member of that group. "He was a major part of my intellectual development," Mattiace says. "He was so steady in his purpose to systematically explore topics. I think I responded to his care and determination to educate."

Mattiace counts the course World Food Issues: Agriculture, Population and the Environment—which was team-taught by Zaffiro and his wife Louise, professor emerita of chemistry—among the most formative of her education. It influenced her so much that she became a Mexicanist.

The class was a formative one for Zaffiro, too. Studying global food and agriculture helped ignite his passion for environmental studies and global sustainability.

That has become the defining cause of his professional career. Zaffiro has been one of the most influential figures in Central's now well-recognized sustainability efforts. For him, the cause includes not only ecological integrity, but also social justice and economic equity.

In 1992, Zaffiro helped introduce an interdisciplinary environmental studies major, making Central just the second college in Iowa with a similar program. He now teaches two interdisciplinary courses focusing on sustainability, and he helped to make a global sustainability course a graduation requirement.

Outside the classroom, Zaffiro was appointed to former President David Roe's first environmental task force in 2000, a group that recommended making a remodeled Vermeer Science Center the first Leadership in Environmental and Energy Design (LEED)-rated building in Iowa. McKee Hall and the Roe Center have since received LEED ratings, too.

"I LIKE MAKING STUDENTS THINK IN NEW WAYS AND EXAMINE ... EXISTING ASSUMPTIONS. THEY SEE HOW THEIR POLITICAL AND PERSONAL VALUES OVERLAP, AND I CAN WATCH THEIR INTELLECTUAL GROWTH OVER TIME."

He is also co-coordinator—with Mike Lubberden, director of facilities planning and management—of SUSTAIN, the Campus Sustainability Working Group, which includes employees, students, alums and community partners. The group designs and implements projects and makes recommendations for ways Central can become more sustainable. Thanks to SUSTAIN's efforts, sustainability has become a key part of the Central ethos.

"These commitments are worth a lot for the future of the institution," says Zaffiro. "Our biggest challenge as we go forward with these efforts is to get student buy-in. We have

to communicate a sense of importance, of relevance."

Lars Larson, a junior art major, says Zaffiro helped him find his passion for sustainability. Working around busy cross country and track seasons, Larson participates in SUSTAIN and has worked in the college's organic garden. He also appreciates Zaffiro's teaching style. "He is not only very knowledgeable but is interested in educating," Larson says. "I find it interesting when he makes connections with what is going on in the real world."

Other students note his ability to connect current events to his lectures. With the caucus season in full swing, he is examining how important sustainability will be for the candidates. "I'm afraid that energy and the environment will be invisible in 2012," Zaffiro says. "This election will be about jobs and the economy. These are such overriding public concerns that people don't just put environmental issues on the back burner—they take them off the stove."

Still, Zaffiro hopes his students will make themselves heard on Election Day, continuing

the trend begun four years ago. "2008 was a special election. It captured the imaginations of young voters, but there is a fear they won't come back," Zaffiro says. "I hope students see that political participation in their own country matters."

The choices his students make at the polls don't matter to Zaffiro. He only hopes he taught them to reach decisions on their own—and to base them on facts, not mindless media-driven slogans. His students have noticed. "He's the perfect example of a teacher-scholar," says Mattiace. "He taught me what it meant to be a scholar but to still love to teach."

Share your experience with Zaffiro or another favorite professor online.





# the road to Hangzhou

As the study abroad program in China ends this spring after two decades, we reflect on the Central students who studied in Hangzhou and the deep cross-cultural connections they made in a country that's constantly evolving.



When Ashley Kinkade '12 and Jonathan Wilson '12, along with a handful of other students, first arrived in Hangzhou, China, in the middle of the night, they were completely lost—and very jet-lagged. Everything was in Chinese, and they couldn't distinguish a hospital from a hotel, let alone find Zhejiang University.

Finally, they met Li Shumin, the Central College Abroad (CCA) program director in Hangzhou, and were taken to a large traditional Chinese dinner. "I couldn't even hold my chopsticks," recalls Kinkade. "I just wanted to go back to the airport and fly home."

Luckily, things started to look up after that, and both Kinkade and Wilson began to

love Hangzhou and the people they met there. Wilson even decided to stay a whole year.

Despite the friendly welcome American students receive in Hangzhou and the impressiveness of the university and the country as a whole, the culture shock is always enormous. Studying abroad in China, as Central students have done for more than 20 years, was an overwhelming, frustrating, mind-bending and ultimately broadening experience.

Taylor Wessels, a junior who studied in Hangzhou last semester, recalls the shock of her first day, a situation a white, middle class American rarely encounters. "It was the first time I was the minority," she says, "the one foreigner in a sea of Chinese."

## THE EXCHANGE BEGINS

In 1985, when the first Chinese exchange teacher arrived at Central, she was so frightened by what she had seen in American movies that she believed she couldn't walk safely alone across campus. Seeing the peaceful little college was the first in a series of culture shocks experienced by the Chinese and American pioneers who have taken part in the exchange over the years. None of that learning would have occurred if not for Don and Maxine Huffman, who both taught at Central for more than four decades.

In 1983, Al Poppen '54, whose wife Geri had taught English at Zhejiang University in Hangzhou, approached Maxine about the possibility of an exchange between the two schools. Maxine and her husband Don, who together had helped start the Central College Abroad (CCA) program in Merida, Mexico, were intrigued. They took the proposal to President Ken Weller, who was dedicated to enlarging CCA's scope in the world, and he quickly agreed to the program.

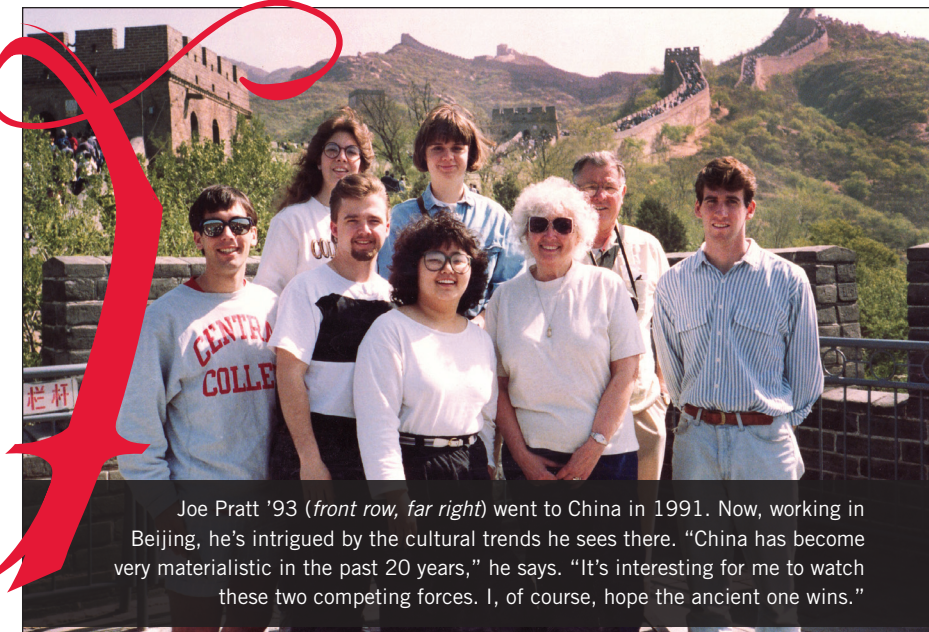
A few years later, an administrator from Zhejiang came to campus with an even bigger idea: Why not start sending Central students to the Chinese university? Maxine and Dean Hutch Bearce went to Hangzhou to lay the groundwork, and in the spring of 1991, Don and Maxine brought the first 12 Central students to China.

"When Central first started the exchange program, it was a superstar," says Chia Ning, professor of history, who was born in Beijing and started teaching at Central in 1991. "That a small liberal arts college would have an exchange with a major Chinese university—that was groundbreaking."

## THE FIRST YEAR

Joe Pratt '93 was in that first group of students. He studied Chinese language, painting, history and society. He learned how to go without a hair dryer and how to think creatively to overcome language barriers. Most important, he gained the confidence to face future culture shocks. And there would be a lot. After graduating from Central, he spent almost three years in China mastering the language. He later worked at a law firm in Hong Kong and now teaches law at Beijing University.

"When I first met Maxine and Don, I sometimes wondered if they knew what they were doing," Pratt remembers. "They had this tremendous faith in their program, but I didn't think they realized what we were getting into."



Now, looking back, I marvel at their foresight. I think they knew China was on the cusp of great change and that it would become very important."

## HISTORY OF MODERN CHINA

When Americans want deep roots, we often go straight to Europe. But Hangzhou, China, is 7,000 years old. The museums house kitchen utensils and farming equipment from the Bronze Age. Compared to that rich history, the last 65 years have been a blip. But they have informed so much of what China is today.

1945-1949

Civil war between nationalists and Communists

1949

People's Republic of China is established; Mao Zedong becomes chairman of the Chinese Communist Party; nationalists flee to Taiwan

1953-1957

"Transition to Socialism"

1958-1960

"Great Leap Forward" People's communes are created; food shortages due to famine



## THE PROGRAM GROWS

Since Pratt first arrived in China, hundreds of students from Central and other colleges have studied at Zhejiang University through CCA. They have witnessed some astounding changes in Chinese life. The city of Hangzhou, like most metros in China, has grown enormously—from 750,000 people to 5 million.

“It reminds me of the 1950s in the U.S., when I was growing up and going through college,” says Don Huffman about his years teaching English in China. “New campuses were being built at every college, and there was expansion of enrollment and new highway systems. It’s just unbelievable the growth that’s been occurring in China.”

Pratt contrasts the China he first witnessed in 1991 to the country he’s now immersed in. Back then, the shops had just a few crudely-made goods. Today, you can buy almost anything you’d find in the U.S.—Italian fashions, German beer, American electronics.

“With economic liberalizations, the society and politics have become more open,” says Pratt. “China is a large country with a big rural population—and it remains a one-party system—but it seems to me that the country overall is coming closer to resembling any other modern, developed nation.”

The program in Hangzhou flourished throughout most of the ’90s. Don and Maxine taught there for several years and were invited to be the English editors of a textbook, *New College English*, that sold more than 2 million copies. Don, along with a team of other writers at the university, is now working on the third edition. He says they have never been treated better than by their colleagues in China.

## THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Today’s students find the same welcome in Hangzhou. And they often have amazing opportunities to work in their fields. Wessels, a Spanish and linguistics major, worked for an English-language magazine called *that’s Zhejiang*. She revised articles by non-native speakers, reviewed restaurants and wrote about her experiences in Hangzhou.

Kinkade, an elementary education major, interned at the kindergarten affiliated with the university. She spoke English with the children and practiced Chinese with the teachers. Language is the biggest barrier for American students studying in China. In Kinkade’s Chinese language class, only one other student spoke English. “I remember how eager I was to learn the language, merely to ask the person next to me if they wanted to go to lunch,” she says.

Language assistants, a key feature of the program, are a huge help to students. Don and Maxine started the practice, assigning each student a *pengyou*, or friend. Many CCA alumni are still close with their *pengyous*. “Just practicing my Chinese with Mubin helped me learned so much more,” says Wessels. “I’ve gained a friend out of it, too. He helped us experience the real life in Hangzhou, not just the tourist traps.”

## CULTURE SHOCK

Still, China can be a lonely place for a foreigner, especially when it’s so difficult to blend in. Many Chinese people stare or ask to take photos with foreigners, which is an honorable thing in Chinese culture. While walking in the public market, Wilson was often stopped and asked to hold and kiss babies.

The crush of people is intimidating, too. The buses are crammed, and thousands of bikes fill the streets and sidewalks. The riders constantly ring their bells as they cut in and out of traffic. Seeing all this, Wilson had to reevaluate his views on social etiquette.

Overall, he was extremely impressed with Chinese culture, especially the hardworking attitudes of most people. Even the street sweepers and the garbage workers were diligent and positive. “I felt lazy in comparison to them,” says Wilson. “I’m in awe of how hardworking the average person is.”

## A CHANGING PERSPECTIVE

China has one-fifth of the world’s population and is on its way to becoming an economic superpower. Pratt believes that, in the future, every profession will be affected by China’s relationship with the U.S. Workers who have spent time in China are a huge boon for private companies and the U.S. government.

“Global education is a key part of our future,” says Chia Ning, whose specializes in East Asian studies. “No matter where you are or what you do, your workplace is the global world.” Many of her former students, including those in the sciences, have told her how valuable learning about Asia has been for their jobs.

But students who study in China gain more than improved career prospects. “My world is so much bigger now,” says Wessels. “It really changes the perspective of a white, middle-class American girl. I think it’s important to experience being in the minority, being uncomfortable and feeling out of place.”

## REMEMBRANCES

Two years ago, both Central College and Zhejiang University experienced a huge loss when Maxine Huffman passed away. Her husband Don was moved by the response he received from her former Chinese students. They took up a collection so he could travel to Hangzhou and hold a memorial service for the students she inspired there.

Central is suspending the program in China after the spring semester because of an intrinsic high rate of turnover in the director position. But Hangzhou will always have a special place in the hearts of those who temporarily made their homes there.

“Whenever I go back, I’m greeted on the street like an old friend,” says Don. “It’s like a second hometown.”



Chia Ning, professor of history, grew up during the Cultural Revolution and worked in the labor camps for years. In 1983, she came to the U.S. with \$50 in her pocket.

Read more of her story at [civitas.central.edu](http://civitas.central.edu).

1966-1976

“The Cultural Revolution” Mao launches a movement to restore ideological purity. Intellectuals are sent to rural areas to do manual labor.

1972

President Nixon visits China

1976

Mao Zedong dies

1979-1982

Deng Xiaoping begins modernization; economic growth becomes a priority

1980-1988

Modernization of industry, agriculture, science and technology and national defense

1989

Protests in Tiananmen Square

1990s

Urban consumer society continues to grow

2008

Beijing hosts the Olympic Games





Kathie Flood



Joe VandeKieft



Mark Johnson

When Kathie Flood '86 was considering starting her own company, a friend told her something that helped make up her mind. "Starting a company is like having a baby. There's no good time. You just have to jump in and do it."

Even during this recession, the tech business is booming. Companies like Facebook and Twitter have gone from tiny firms to worldwide phenomena. Web 2.0, social media and smartphones are redefining the landscape of our daily lives. And it's not all being done in Silicon Valley by Stanford grads.

In Seattle, home to tech giants Microsoft and Amazon, Kathie Flood is starting a video game company. In Des Moines, Joe VandeKieft

'99 is tackling the start-up scene with two separate firms. And on Central's campus in Pella, Mark Johnson is teaching students how to develop iPhone apps.

## IN SEATTLE

Kathie Flood applied to Microsoft because the head of the company where she worked hated the software giant. The year was 1990, and Flood didn't know much about Microsoft's business. But if her CEO—who made her work ridiculous hours and fired people at random—hated Microsoft so much, she thought it must be a pretty cool place to work.

After leaving that software company in Des Moines, Flood—who majored in math

and computer science at Central—worked at Microsoft for nearly 19 years. She helped develop operating systems like MS-DOS 5.0 and Windows 95 and create popular video games, such as Project Gotham Racing. Then, in 2009, while working on simulation games, Flood's entire studio—130 people—was laid off.

Flood didn't want to give up on the potential of her video game projects. She was awarded a nice severance package and faced with a life-altering decision: "I could go off and find another job, or I could take that money and try something new," she recalls.

Flood joined a small group of colleagues from her studio at Microsoft to found Cascade Game Foundry, which creates reality-based video games. Their products are still top-secret, and while Flood has no idea how long it will be before the company takes off, she says she has loved trying new things. "The potential to learn is astounding in your own company," she says. "I never felt like I was slacking off at Microsoft, but I definitely feel there were parts of my brain I wasn't using very much."

But working on so many tasks can be frustrating, especially when it means burning time on things experts handle at a large company, like fixing a busted computer. "The old adage that you have to wear a lot of hats is true," she says. "But not all the hats look good on you."

Despite long hours doing the unfamiliar work of business development, Flood enjoys working in a field where new trends are just emerging. At Microsoft, her superiors were hesitant to pursue unproven audiences. But the popularity of Facebook games has proven that it's not only young men who play video games. There's a much bigger audience out there, one that Cascade is trying to tap into.

Coming from the corporate world, being

an entrepreneur has been "eye-opening," says Flood. Like many corporate employees, she was used to people giving her orders. "When you go out to do something on your own, all of a sudden nobody's telling you what to do," she says. "You've got to figure it out for yourself." That's a little bit scary. It's also how big ideas are made.

## IN DES MOINES

Seattle is well-known for its tech industry, but no one from the coasts would expect to find a burgeoning start-up industry in the heart of Iowa. Which makes what's happening in downtown Des Moines all the more exciting.

A stretch of Sixth Avenue has been unofficially dubbed "Silicon Sixth" because of the many tech start-ups located there. Tej Dhawan '91, a member of Central's board of trustees, is deeply involved in the district's booming industry. He is co-founder of StartupCity Des Moines, a technology incubator launched in October.

As of December, the company was hosting seven start-ups.

Support from the state, which is trying to promote job creation, has helped the industry. In 2011, the Iowa state legislature reauthorized

tax credits for angel investments in start-ups. And in December, the state-wide initiative StartupIowa was launched to connect local entrepreneurs with the resources they need.

Joe VandeKieft is one of those entrepreneurs. He is co-owner, with Dhawan, of Pikuzone, one of the companies housed in StartupCity. They are currently testing secure email software for children, which will allow parents to designate who can to send messages to their kids.

VandeKieft is also the technical consultant for My Diabetes Home, a website and iPhone app for diabetics. He built both the website

*"The old adage that you have to wear a lot of hats is true ..."*



and the back-end system the phone interacts with. Once the app is launched, patients will be able to manage their medication, track their blood sugar and get dose reminders.

As an entrepreneur, VandeKieft has a big dream: to always be involved in a start-up. “There are so many of these companies like ours that have maybe two or three people working nights,” VandeKieft says of the Silicon Sixth district. “Some of them are going to make it big, and some of them aren’t. But the sense of community has been really neat to see.”

That’s the thing about start-ups, especially in a volatile industry like technology. You never know if people are going to respond to what you’re doing. VandeKieft advises potential entrepreneurs not to fear failure. “It may take three or four attempts to get off the ground,” he says. “Every time you fail, you learn something. And you can take what you’ve learned to the next opportunity.”

## ON CAMPUS

This fall, Central students learned how to build iPhone and iPad apps in a new class taught by Mark Johnson, professor of mathematics and computer science. For the final project, one student designed an app to keep track of assignments. Another created an assistant to manage random information, like long software passwords. One particularly creative student designed a drawing app for his kids that erases when it’s shaken, like an Etch-a-Sketch. For only \$99, they can submit their work to the Apple store. If approved, the app would be available on 250 million devices.

Johnson says Central tries to stay on the cutting-edge of technology, which is why his department decided to offer the course. “If you

don’t pay attention to the edge, it’s too easy to fall behind,” says Johnson. “At the same time, we want to keep an emphasis on principles as much as we can.”

These days, with fairy-tale stories like Facebook and Twitter, Johnson finds himself talking to more students about their start-up dreams. He knows they’ll need more than technical knowledge to be an entrepreneur. Luckily, Central recently created the Martin

Heerema Entrepreneurship Program, aimed at teaching leadership, communication and creativity to students from all majors.

Wade Steenhoek, who began as program director this fall, wants to create an entrepreneurial culture at Central. “This includes a variety of on-campus and off-campus activities geared toward creativity, innovation and problem solving,” he says.

Alumni have found Central’s liberal arts curriculum beneficial as entrepreneurs. Both Flood and VandeKieft value the communication skills they learned at Central. VandeKieft is often praised for being well-spoken, especially for a “computer nerd.”

David Ziemann ’12, a computer science major, is preparing to put his Central education to the test. In addition to taking the iPhone class last semester, he worked for ShareWhere, another company housed in StartupCity Des Moines, developing iFrame Facebook applications and designing web content for their site. Based on what he learned there, Ziemann is considering starting his own web development firm after graduation. “I honestly would love to create something out of nothing and be my own boss,” he says.

Are you involved in the start-up industry?  
Tell us about it at [civitas.central.edu](http://civitas.central.edu).



*In a male-dominated field like technology, women must be especially diligent about developing leadership qualities. In December, Mary Stier visited Central to share insights from her book on women’s leadership. Its lessons are relevant for all women who wish to advance in their careers. Alida Droppert, assistant professor of education, reviews Stier’s book.*

## Lady Leader: 10 Ways to Play in Big Boy Business

A book review by Alida Droppert

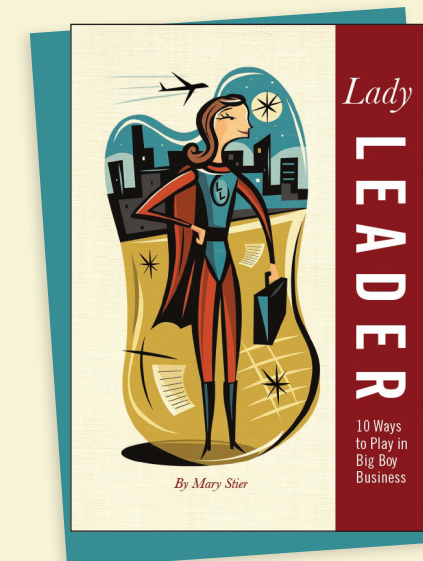
I was fortunate to attend Mary Stier’s presentation Dec. 6 in the Cox-Snow Auditorium. My first impressions were of a poised, elegantly dressed speaker who addressed her audience with clarity, sharing vignettes from her 25 years of personal experience in corporate management. Her message was motivational and explicit, aiming to inspire women to believe in themselves, overcome their fears and recognize their unique managerial qualities.

Like many in the audience, I decided to learn more and subsequently read her book, *Lady Leader: 10 Ways to Play in Big Boy Business*. She refers to her three defining Cs—communication, collaboration and compassion—and suggests that women can be true to themselves and still rise to executive positions in corporate America. Stier describes a new leadership model designed to respond to today’s instant, media-driven communication world. In this model, women are effective collaborators—communicating with compassion, multitasking and synthesizing information.

The text cites a gender-related characteristic—that women will wait to be asked rather than take initial steps to further their own careers. To overcome this, Stier encourages women to write their own mission statements, clarify their personal values and refer to these when making life-changing decisions. In the book, she discusses strategies to help women negotiate the often male-dominated board room and upper echelons of corporate management.

*Lady Leader* is a modern book for modern business women who care about family, colleagues, employees, health issues, values and beliefs. In 10 chapters, Stier guides women to understand gender differences so that they can successfully advance without self-doubt. She encourages them to seek out and become mentors, to develop an audible organizational voice and to communicate effectively with strong verbs. She suggests reducing emails to male colleagues to one clear message, rather than writing lengthy justifications. She also advises women to defuse tensions with humor and to dress stylishly and appropriately for success. Furthermore, she encourages women to become comfortable competing for, seeking out and retaining power in an organization.

In my own life, I will refer to this book as a guide for my personal leadership style and for more effective communication with my colleagues. As a professor in a liberal arts college, I work to inspire both female and male students to realize their potential and define and meet academic and lifelong goals. In my experience, success and advancement cannot be achieved without appropriate knowledge, hard work and social skills. All who strive for success, therefore, need to develop their ability to collaborate, communicate and show compassion, as these are the characteristics of responsible global leaders in dynamic, evolving, media-focused global organizations.



**Mary Stier** was formerly the president and publisher of the Des Moines Register and one of the top executives for Gannett, a media and marketing solutions company.





# all in one ROOM

Students study, sleep and socialize in their residence halls, which become their first home away from home. The lessons learned there can be just as important as what goes on in the classroom.

Think back to your time at Central. Your brain probably goes straight to that 2 a.m. conversation in the hallway, a pingpong championship in the basement, an impromptu study session in the lounge. For many students, college life is res life. And just because it's not happening in a classroom doesn't mean students aren't learning.

*"I truly believe that you get as much out of college outside the classroom as you do in it."* – Drew Sikkink '06, hall director

Central is intentionally a residential community; 96 percent of students live on campus in one of six residence halls or a handful of townhouses. The goal of the residence requirement is to create a community of engaged students. National research shows that students who live on campus get better grades, interact more with faculty and are more likely to attend graduate or professional programs.

"They can focus on being students," says Melissa Sharkey, director of residence life. "They're not worried about that part-time job or making rent. They're worried about going to class, joining this club, being in this play. It just changes your whole college perspective when you're immersed in it."

## Competition:

We've created a page online for each hall or house on campus. Visit [civitas.central.edu](http://civitas.central.edu) to "like" your favorite hall. The one with the most likes and comments will be declared *Best Hall on Campus*. Look for the winner on Facebook in late March.

## What residence life teaches:

### CLOTHES DON'T WASH THEMSELVES.

The magic of a laundry chute is extraordinary. You throw down your clothes, and they reappear clean and nicely folded. But every first-year student must become their own **laundry fairy**—and grocery fairy, too. "In high school, you take for granted having your parents do everything for you," says Grant Jansen '12, a resident advisor (R.A.) in Pietenpol. "And now your fridge is absolutely empty at 2 a.m. when you want a snack."



### FRIENDS ARE THE BEST PEOPLE TO LIVE WITH—AND THE WORST.

Everyone's heard the horror stories about living with friends—friendships broken, windows broken. "You don't always expect what you get living with your friends," says Molly Bauman, hall director for the townhouses. "But those are sometimes the best growing experiences too, learning how to adjust and compromise on the unexpected."



### YOU CAN'T WRITE A 20-PAGE RESEARCH PAPER IN ONE NIGHT.

According to Kat Bruxvoort '12, an R.A. for three townhouses, **procrastination is the biggest mistake** she sees students make. Even when a student is able to pull an all-nighter (yes, you've done it, and you're proud) the results are underwhelming. Planning ahead—and staying off Facebook when necessary—is an adult task students practice all four years.



### THIS IS NOT A SLUMBER PARTY.

In other words, there are going to be some stressful times. To negotiate them, students learn conflict resolution, such as telling a hallmate to turn down the music or pick up their stuff. Doing this in a respectful way that doesn't poison the hall environment can be tricky. "This is not high school," says Bauman. "You have to live with each other as adults. Sometimes that means having to confront your friends. But it's a great growth opportunity because it translates into other areas of your life, too."



### HELPING OTHERS DOESN'T JUST MEAN YOUR ROOMMATE.

College is about broadening your perspective, and the res-life staff can be as inspirational as the faculty. Bauman started a clothing drive for a local charity (and added the spice of competition). She was astounded by how the students responded—cleaning out their closets and hauling in bags of clothes from home. In the end, they collected **1,100** usable items to donate.

### GOLF AND TENNIS DO MIX.

Gennis—a combination of the two sports—is a popular game on campus, even sparking a few **hall-wide tournaments** last semester. Throughout the years, students have been quick to invent their own games when boredom sets in. Even the more common pastimes—ordering pizza, playing pingpong, making cookies, racing down the hall—are the backbone of good res-life experiences.



### TRAVEL IN HORDES.

The core of residence life is an experience you'll never have again: living with all your best friends. If you want to go somewhere, you just grab the nearest arms and propel them along, no matter the time or the temperature. It's no more than a five-minute walk, anyway. "I like to see hordes of students going places together," says Bauman.

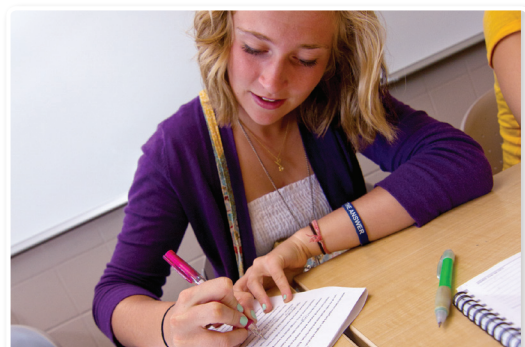
### ICE IS SLIPPERY.

So you probably already knew that before you came to campus. But did you know there's a specific way to fall to **avoid hurting yourself**? Students found that out last fall when an R.A. gave a program on winter safety—a much-needed lesson in Pella.





[www.central.edu/finearts](http://www.central.edu/finearts)



Visit the new fine arts website for stories, photos and videos about Central's creative campus.

## ALUMNI NEWSNOTES

### THE '40S

**Verla Wehde '49** and Farlin Caufield of Crystal Lake, Ill., were married Sept. 4.

### THE '50S

**Mae Mathes '57** and husband Richard have lived on their farm near Columbia, Iowa, for 51 years. They enjoy spending time with their five children, their spouses and their 49 grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

### THE '60S

**George Van de Voort '66** retired from his position as president and owner of GWV & Associates in Ellijay, Ga., where he lives with wife Julie.

**Gwen Mathes Krueger '67** retired after 44 years as an elementary school teacher in various school districts in three states. Gwen and husband John live in Plymouth, Wis.



FOUR GENERATIONS OF FELDTS

**Robert Feldt '65** and wife **Trudy Huizenga Feldt '65** of Fulton, Ill., are the grandparents of **Andrew Johnson '15**. Andrew is in the fourth generation of Feldts to attend Central College. The Feldt tradition began with Andrew's great-grandmother **Alice Boot Feldt '33**. The Johnson tradition began with Andrew's grandparents **Doug Johnson '67** and **Charlene Faye Johnson '68** and continued with his parents **Brian Johnson '94** and **Janella Feldt Johnson '94**.

Alumni are invited to submit Newsnotes to the alumni office. We want to hear about recent promotions, honors, relocations, marriages and births to keep classmates and friends informed about important changes in your life. Email [alumni@central.edu](mailto:alumni@central.edu) or update information online at [civitas.central.edu](http://civitas.central.edu). News items also are welcome by phone, 800-447-0287 or 641-628-5154. Or send a note to Central College Alumni Office, 812 University, Campus Box 5200, Pella, IA 50219.





**Gregory Christiano '69** and wife Kathleen live in Hopatcong, N.J. Gregory is a freelance writer, published author and historian with contributions to numerous magazines, journals and newspapers. His autobiography *Sworn to Remember*, a personal history and memoir that includes recollections of his years at Central, was released in February and is now available on the Amazon Kindle and the Barnes and Noble Nook, as well as in print. His *Trial by Terror: and Other Short Stories* was published by Publish America in September. Gregory is awaiting the 2013 publication of an anthology of early baseball history.

## THE '70S

**Sylviane Tisserand Ceneray '71** is working as a tour guide in Paris, France.

**Lynn Comstock Davis '71** retired in 2007 after 30 years teaching French in the Buffalo, N.Y. public schools. Lynn and husband William live in Myrtle Beach, S.C.

**JoAnn Harmelink '71** retired from her position as teacher and librarian at Perry Elementary School. JoAnn and husband **Don Harmelink '71** live in Perry, Iowa, where Don is a scheduling manager at Osmundson Manufacturing.

**Soren Wolff '71** gave up the helm of city manager in Holland, Mich., after completing 23 years of service. He will remain as consultant for a year before he and wife **Susan Gardner Wolff '71** retire to their family home in Cape Cod, Mass.

**Park Woodle '76** owns and operates Home Check, offering services to landlords, businesses, banks and home owners in the Pella and Knoxville area. Park and wife Susan live in Knoxville with their daughter. Their son **Robert Woodle '15** is a freshman at Central College, where, in addition to schoolwork, he plays soccer and percussion.

**Randy Caldwell '77** is the chair of the trust and estate planning section of the Iowa State Bar Association Probate. Randy practices law at Caldwell & Brierly in Newton, where he lives with wife **Margaret Chancellor Caldwell '77**. Margaret is a talented and gifted teacher in the Newton Community School District.

**Jann Freed '77** was named to the board of directors of Chrysalis Foundation in Des Moines, where she lives with her husband John Fisher.

**Allan Paris '77** accepted a new position as global director, process management with Deere & Company in Moline, Ill., after 34 years at the John Deere Des Moines Works. Allan and wife Sandy live in Runnells, Iowa.



WYCKOFF FAMILY PORTRAIT

**Krysta Gooding Wyckoff '91** and husband Kyle discovered the new entryway signage at Central College to be the perfect backdrop for this year's family photo with their children and grandchildren. Pictured (L-R): Kyle Wyckoff, **Krysta Wyckoff '91**, Nichole Wyckoff, Carsen Wyckoff, Isabelle Wyckoff, Daniel Wyckoff, **Elisha Wyckoff '14** and **Justin Wyckoff '12**. Krysta and Kyle live in Carlisle, Iowa, where Krysta is office manager at Goodhue Nolte Insurance.

## THE '80S

For information about **Mike DeWild '80**, **Brian Fegley '80**, **Lori Humphrey Fegley '80**, **Damon Adair '81**, **Randy Sikkema '82** and **Milli DeWild Toom '88**, see the '00s.

**Gary Nell '81** is cruise director for Stem to Stern, LLC in Des Moines.

**Jackie Haus Hoggins '82** is the community relations outreach person for the Army Sustainment Command at the Rock Island Arsenal in Rock Island, Ill.

**Gary Meyer '82** is working on a temporary assignment in Johor Bahru, Malaysia, setting up plating processes for a test tooling solutions group. Gary and wife Betty live in Antelope, Calif.

**David Pope '82** is a project manager at Principal Financial Group in Des Moines. David and wife Jan live in Grinnell.

**Steven Turpin '82** is a classical music coordinator and host of "Morning Musicale" for Indiana Public Radio in Muncie, where he lives with wife Elizabeth.

**Diane Logan '84** of Gilbert, Ariz., is vice president and CAO of Aires, LLC in Phoenix.

**Mark Coffey '85** was promoted to vice president of affiliated business units at Hormel Foods Corp. in Austin, Minn., where he lives with wife Tammy. They are the parents of three sons.

**Joe DiBernardo '85** of Chicago, Ill., works in the business insurance division at Allstate Insurance Co.

**Susan Klimstra '86** is a pastor at Salem United Church of Christ in Waukon, Iowa.

**Amy Coughenour Betancourt '87** is vice president of international programs at National Cooperative Business Association in Washington, D.C. Amy and husband Victor live in Silver Spring, Md., with their two children.

**Harold Goldzung '87** is senior consultant at CSC Corp. in Falls Church, Va. Harold and wife Laura live in Bristow. They are the parents of two children.

**Eve Benson Vanden Broek '88** enjoyed a 10-day sailing trip through the lesser Sunda Islands of Bali, West Nusa Tenggara and East Nusa Tenggara located between the South China Sea and the Indian Ocean in September. She is an executive assistant in the lending division of Bankers Trust in Des Moines. Eve and husband Theo live in Pella.

## THE '90S

For information about **Brian Johnson '94** and **Janella Feldt Johnson '94**, see the '60s.

**Tej Dhawan '91** is principal owner of StartupCity Des Moines, an Iowa-based incubator for early stage technology companies. Tej and wife **Karen Spencer Dhawan '91** live in Grimes with their two children. Karen is a systems consultant at Advanced Technologies Group in West Des Moines.

**Cory Ingram '91** is an assistant professor of family and palliative medicine at the Andreas Cancer Center – Mayo Health System in Mankato, Minn., where he lives with wife Lilian.

**Darci McCannon-Humphrey '91** took a job with the Department of Defense and lives with husband Donnie and their two children in Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal.

**Kyle Nelson '91** is a registered representative for Main Street Investments at Marion County Bank in Pella, where he lives with wife **Jil Bancroft Nelson '94** and their four children. Jil teaches second grade at Madison Elementary School in Pella.

**Kristi Barten Siwajek '91** is regional director of Africa at Children International. Kristi and husband Gary live in Moline, Ill., with their daughter.

**Lisa Jaarsma Zylstra '91** received the Iowa Preserve America History Teacher of the Year Award at a state luncheon held in Des Moines on Oct. 28. Lisa teaches fifth grade at Jefferson Intermediate School in Pella, where she lives with husband **Brian Zylstra '92** and their two sons. Brian is the manager of on-campus operations for Central College Abroad.

**Tina Gehringer-Minior '92** and husband Patrick are the new proprietors of the Northside Tavern in St. Marys, Iowa, where they live with their two children.

**Julie Wilkening Wilber '92** and husband Scott live in Boone with their two children, where they own and operate Wilber's Northside Market, which sells produce to grocery stores, Iowa Food Cooperative and ISU Dining. During the winter months, Julie is an enrolled agent preparing tax returns.

**Kathy Rheinschmidt Corbett '93** is assistant manager at the Flooring Gallery in Windsor Heights, Iowa. Kathy and husband David live in Des Moines.

**Michelle Wellik Henry '93** is a staff accountant at DineEquity, Inc., a parent company of IHOP and Applebee's restaurants. Michelle and husband Jay live in Olathe, Kan., with their two children.

**Todd Kreitlow '94** is director of operations for Tactical Gear Distributors in Pinehurst, N.C., where he lives with wife Gloria and their three children.

**Matthew Lindeman '95** teaches physical education to grades six through eight for Grundy Center Schools in Grundy Center, Iowa, where he lives with wife **Jan Sikkink Lindeman '94** and their three daughters. Jan teaches first grade in the AGWSR School District.

**Kristine Milburn '95** of West Des Moines teaches English at Valley High School.

**Joshua Baron '96** is pastor at Fonda Reformed Church in Fonda, N.Y., where he lives with wife Kimberly and their son.

Johnna and husband Mark live in Colfax with their daughter.

**Christine York Meggison '96** is an instructor and coach with Farrell's eXtreme Bodyshaping at their Grimes location. Christine and husband Michael live in Johnston, Iowa, with their three children.

**Brian O'Neil '96** teaches sixth grade at Mary Welsh Elementary School in Williamsburg, Iowa, where he lives with wife Amy and their two children.

**Jamie Montoya-De Smidt '96** is an elementary school counselor at Broadmoor Elementary and an introduction leader for Landmark Education in Colorado Springs, Colo., where he lives with wife Dolores and their three children.

**Karla Jurgemeyer '97** of St James, Minn., is a collection and resource management intern at University of Wisconsin Libraries, where she is working towards a master's of library and information science.

**Kristi Leonard '97** of Forest City is chair of the wellness department at Waldorf College. She earned tenure and the subsequent title of associate professor of wellness in May. Kristi is working toward a doctorate in community health education from the University of Northern Iowa.

## Outside the Classroom

### Russ Goodman, associate professor of mathematics

Graduate students spend thousands of hours researching and writing their dissertations—often to have them sit in a closet. Goodman is determined to turn his work into something more. During a sabbatical in the fall of 2011, he condensed the dissertation into an article he submitted to the math journal *Communications in Algebra*. Goodman also presented on the article at the annual meeting of the Iowa section of the Mathematical Association of America on campus this fall, which he organized.

The sabbatical has given Goodman time to work on another article—this one about his use of an unconventional book in the classroom. As part of his Contemporary Mathematics course, Goodman teaches *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* by Mark Haddon, a novel about a mathematics-loving boy with autism. "It's a great book to connect the mathematically challenged students in my class to ideas such as logic, problem solving and the seeming link between mathematics and autism," says Goodman.



**Matt Hosch '92** and Martha Miller of Hopkins, Minn., were married Oct. 22. Matt is a software engineer for U.S. Bank in Minneapolis.

**John Lucas '92** is an associate vice president and deputy director of academic programs department at the Institute for the International Education of Students in Chicago, Ill.

**Kevin Carroll '96** is the administrator at Broadlawn Medical Center in Des Moines. Kevin and wife **Julie Wagemann Carroll '96** live in West Des Moines with their two children. Julie teaches English for West Des Moines Community Schools.

**Johnna Ashby Donahue '96** is a senior equity financing consultant at Principal Real Estate Investors in Des Moines.

**Ryan Anderson '98** is a pharmacy clinical coordinator at St. Luke's East Hospital in Lee's Summit, Mo. Ryan and wife Claudia live in Olathe, Kan., with their son.

**Andrea Peterson Barr '99** practices obstetrics and gynecology at Trinity Medical Center in Bettendorf, Iowa, where she lives with husband Chad.





CARR AND POETTING WED

Masse Carr '08 and David Poetting '09 of Des Moines were married July 30. Masse is an associate academic coordinator at Iowa State Athletics. David is an associate HVAC sales engineer at Johnson Controls in Des Moines. Pictured first row (left to right): **Amber Smith Madsen '09, Daira Hoegh Driftmier '05, Lindsay Zylstra '11, Allison Klett '08, David Poetting '09, Masse Carr Poetting '08, Ashley Barsness '10, Brittany Zern '10, Kiley Masters '08, Natalie Jones Metzger '05, Ben Metzger '04.** Second row: **Jeremy Kippely '08, Lisa Tonkin Kippely '08, Justin Madsen '10, Ben Barnett '10, Jenny Owens Delavan '08, Zak Clark '08, Simeon Lang '08, Brian Laughlin '10, Blake Scott '08, and Nick Phillips '10.** Back row: **Nate Nees '10, Brent Lund '10, Clint Driftmier '07, Dane Jensen '09, Jeff Corkrean '07, Chris Nelson '07 and Greg Levenhagen '09.**

**Elizabeth Adolphi-Seedorf '99** teaches business at Cherry Creek High School in Denver, Colo., where she lives with her husband Bryan.

**Michelle Wehrman-Flores '99** teaches English at Xavier High School in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, where she lives with husband Christopher and their two children.

## THE '00S

**Enda Breadon '00** is a professional playwright, director, movement coach and teaching artist at Honolulu Theatre for Youth in Honolulu, Hawaii, where he lives with wife Sandra.

**Dorice Hankemeier '01** of Muncie, Ind., is an assistant professor of athletic training at Ball State University in Muncie.

**Jeffery Streeper '02** is a supervisor of retirement communications at Securian Financial Group in St Paul, Minn. Jeff and wife **Shelli Ahmad Streeper '02** live in Columbia Heights, where Shelli owns and operates Next Level Sports. They are the parents of two daughters.

**Patricia Galvan '05** is pursuing a master's degree in Mental Health Counseling from Drake University. She is a workforce advisor at Iowa Workforce Development in Ottumwa, where she lives with her son Shawn.

**Mollie Ibbotson '05** and Harsha Phukan of Des Moines were married Nov. 19. Mollie is a client service consultant for community

husband Jon live in Mason City with their daughter.

**Emily Edeker '06** and Casey Malloy were married Jan. 3, 2009. Emily is a research assistant in the human development and family studies department at Iowa State University. Emily and Casey live in Ankeny with their daughter.

**Megan Augustin '07** and Ryne Foster of Scottsdale, Ariz., were married Sept. 3. Megan is a physical therapist at Scottsdale Healthcare.

**Stephanie Hillman '07** of Prospect Heights, Ill., is the director of fitness and wellness at Sears Holding Corp. for Tennis Corporation of America in Hoffman Estates. She is the girls' basketball and girls' track and field coach at Maine East High School in Park Ridge.

**Shannon Regan '07** and William Hickman of Los Angeles, Calif., were married Aug. 6. Shannon is the assistant to the director at UCLA Herb Albert School of Music.

**Brian Respeliers '07** of West Des Moines is an associate fixed income sales representative at Wells Fargo in Des Moines.

**Whitney Taylor Baethke '08** is executive director of the United Way of Jasper County in Newton, Iowa, where she lives with husband **Tyler Baethke '05** and their two children. Tyler is the web manager and football coach for the Newton Community School District.

**Jordan Bloodsworth '08** and Rhys Beynon of Ankeny were married June 12, 2010.



KNOBBE AND BLOODSWORTH MARRY

**Jennifer Knobbe '08** and **Aaron Bloodsworth '07** of Ankeny, Iowa, were married Aug. 27. Jennifer practices chiropractic medicine at her office, Natural Health Chiropractic and Acupuncture, in Ankeny and Aaron is employed by EMCO Enterprise in Des Moines. Pictured front row (left to right): **Jordan Beynon Beynon '08, Lori Redenius Wells '08, Dani Sexton DeForest '08, Katie Bonnema Owens '05, Jennifer Knobbe Bloodsworth '08, Aaron Bloodsworth '07, Alysa Tanis '08, Natalie Ruedy Faust '08.** Back row: **Randy Sikkema '82, Damon Adair '81, Kyli Hake Gander '08, Ben Gander '08, Lacey Ritscher '08, Cole Adair '08, Jacinda Davis Schipper '08, Milli DeWild Toom '88, Mike DeWild '80 and Jeff Faust '07.**



ROTTINGHAUS MARRIES KEEN

**Ashley Rottinghaus '08** and Jeff Keen of Evansdale, Iowa, were married Oct. 9, 2010. Ashley is a registered nurse at Allen Hospital in Waterloo. Pictured front row (left to right): **Christa Stocks Nelson '08, Kayla Schipper '10, Sara Adams '09, Katherine Roloff '08, Ashley Rottinghaus Keen '08, Melissa Meyer '08, Sara Wade '08 and Hailee Christensen Stockton '08.** Back Row: **Eric Nelson '08, Thom Mahler '08, Joe Cerwinski '07, Emory Dease '07, Nichole Rottinghaus Knepper '02 and Jake Knepper '03.**

Jordan offers creative and client services through Lessing-Flynn Advertising in Des Moines.

**Traci Dyer '08** of Pella is the assistant volleyball coach at Central College.

**Sasha Djordjevic Fuerstenberg '08** is a business development coordinator for Seneca Companies in Des Moines. Sasha and husband **Kyle Fuerstenberg '08** live in Des Moines, where Kyle is an assistant manager at US Bank.

**Olivia Junk '08** and Chris Stoner were married June 11.

**Jamie Maxwell '08** is the learning center teacher working with level 1 special education students for grades 6-12 and the assistant crosscountry coach for the Lone Tree Community School District.

**Abby Schwennen Sherman '08** is a participant specialist with the ITA Group in West Des Moines. Abby and husband **Daniel Sherman '08** live in Des Moines, where Dan is an outbound sales specialist at Wells Fargo Financial.

**Jacob Vaverka '08** of Pella is a hardware and software analyst at Vermeer Corp.

**Julie Balmer '09** and Ben Tweedt of North Liberty were married Sept. 24. Julie is a student ministry associate director at Parkview Church in Iowa City.

**Eric Hunerdosse '09** of Marshalltown, Iowa, is a an elementary special education teacher at East Marshall Community School District in Marshalltown.

**Daniel Krull '09** teaches junior high English and is co-head football coach for Southeast Warren Schools in Liberty Center, Iowa.

**Dannielle Lindsey '09** of North Liberty, Iowa, is the campaign coordinator at Yellowbook USA in Cedar Rapids.

**Scott Meier '09** of Shellsburg, Iowa, is an assistant teller manager at Collins Community Credit Union in Cedar Rapids. In September he opened a 24/7 fitness club in Shellsburg.

**Danielle Newendorp '09** and **Jeremy Hinkel '08** of Iowa City, Iowa, were married Sept. 17. Danielle teaches English as a second language and read 180 in the West Liberty Community School District. Jeremy works in technical support and sales at Go Daddy in Cedar Rapids.

**Jen Schooley '09** of Earlville, Iowa, teaches high school Spanish at Maquoketa Valley Community School in Delhi. This summer she took 17 students to Mexico, where they traveled to several locations in the Yucatan, including a visit to the program house. Jen's sister **Jeanne Schooley Clark '04** accompanied the group as chaperone. Jeanne teaches Spanish at Oskaloosa High School in Oskaloosa, where she lives with husband Michael and their son.



RUSSELL AND JENEARY WED

**Lindee Russell '08** and **Phil Jeneary '07** of West Des Moines were married Oct. 1. Lindee is a Spanish IMWII for Iowa Department of Human Services, and Phil is a loan document specialist with Wells Fargo. Pictured front row (left to right): **Allison Fegley '08, Kathy Adkins Angove '71, Phil Jeneary '07, Lindee Russell Jeneary '08, Nichole Foxhoven '08, Shelley Russell Skuster '08, Jenny Flater Gales '10, Chris Gales '09 and Matt Clawson '08.** Second row: **Brian Fegley '80, Lori Humphrey Fegley '80, Melanie Revell Kroese '08, Jenny Petersen '08, Elizabeth Davis VeDepo '08, Kiley Masters '08, Jeremy Siefken '08, Mike Hammond '08, Matt Miller '08, Joe Russell '11, and Nicci Lang Wilson '07.** Back row: **Jeff Rubel '07, Nathan Kroese '08, Trent Johnson '07, Sara Mouw '10, Brandon Morgan '07.**



## Where are they now?



**Tom Cook '69** spent 10 years as a faculty member in the music department. Alumni will remember Cook's role as associate professor of music and director of the mighty CUI Marching Band. Even after leaving campus in 1979 for the University of Montana, Central remained special to Cook. His doctoral dissertation, finished in 1983, was titled "A History of Music at Central College During the Nineteenth Century."

Now retired and living in Missoula, Mont., Cook recalls many fine memories from his time at Central, not least of which was meeting his wife, **Janie Hemmes Cook '74**. The couple celebrates their 40th wedding anniversary in the summer of 2012.

"In the end, I have enjoyed a tremendously gratifying career in the arts, making some great music and learning to become an appreciative consumer of the arts," Cook says. "I'm a lucky guy!"

Read the full Q&A online.



### THE '10S

**Jennifer Flater Gales '10** works in accounts receivable at Capernaum Pediatric Therapy in Edina, Minn. Jennifer and husband **Christopher Gales '09** live in Hopkins.

**Katherine Mills '10** moved to London in September to pursue a master's degree in international human rights law from Brunel Law School.

**Adena Schnedler '10** and Jim Edgeton of Pella were married June 25. Adena is a research contractor employed by Pella Regional Health Center Human Resources.

**Jana Stallman '10** and **Evan Olson '09** of Houston, Texas, were married July 10, 2010. Jana and Evan are attending Rice University, where Jana is pursuing a doctorate in chemistry and Evan is pursuing a doctorate in applied physics.

**Rachelle Tipton '10** of Newton, Iowa, teaches kindergarten for the Newton Community School District.

**Suzanne Wares '10** teaches first grade at Tri-County Community Schools in Thornburg, Iowa.

**Morgan Wilson '10** and Nic Steenhoek were married Oct. 8. Morgan is a loan servicing specialist II at Wells Fargo Consumer Credit in West Des Moines. Morgan and Nic live in Monroe with their daughter.

### CLASS OF 2011

As of Dec. 8, the following information is on file in the Central College alumni office. Please notify the alumni office (800-447-0287 or alumni@central.edu) to update your record.

**Quinn Adair** is a technical recruiter at TEK Systems in West Des Moines.

**Tiffany Ahrenholtz** is a family consultant at Mid Iowa Family Therapy in West Des Moines.

**Breana Aldridge** is employed by Aviva in Des Moines.

**Tyler Alexander** is a financial representative at Northwestern Mutual in Des Moines.

**Craig Anderson** is a personal trainer at The Rock Swim and Fitness in Rockford, Ill.

**Ryan Arnold** is a staff accountant at SAIC in Bellevue, Neb.

**Nichole McGrew Baethke** is an office assistant at Animal Care Center in Chicago. Nichole and husband **Cody Baethke '10** live in Wheaton, Ill.

**Kyle Bales** is a pro tech at Prairie Crop in Beaman, Iowa.

**Carissa Bane** is pursuing a master's degree in school and career counseling at Colorado State University in Fort Collins.

**Andrew Barber** is an operations clerk at Wells Fargo in Des Moines.

**Katlyn Bargren** is a staff accountant at Bergan Paulsen and Co. in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

**Ashley Beck** is pursuing a master's degree in sciences at Montana State University in Bozeman.

**Teresa Beiermann** of Johnston is an administrative assistant II at Principal Financial Group in Des Moines.

**Catelin Bixby** teaches kindergarten for Creston Community School District in Creston, Iowa.

**Clayton Boeyink** is a Milieu treatment counselor at Orchard Place in Des Moines.

**Benjamin Bohlender** is an assistant accountant at Hansel Construction Services in Parkersburg, Iowa.

**Kristen Borcharding** is an assistant financing consultant at Principal Financial Group in Des Moines.

**Heather Borgman** is a lab technician at ITWC in Malcom, Iowa.

**Chantel Boyd** is an AmeriCorps Vista volunteer in the department of student services at Central College.

**Billy Boyle** is a supply management specialist at John Deere in Waterloo, Iowa.

**Kelilah Brown** is pursuing a master's degree in music at the University of Iowa in Iowa City.

**Jill Butterfield** is employed by Mid-Continent Lumber Dealers Supply in Fort Dodge, Iowa. She is taking flying lessons with the long-term goal of becoming a commercial pilot.

**Sara Cade** is an assistant supervisor at the YMCA in Ankeny, Iowa.

**Allison Engelbrecht Caldwell** teaches third grade for the Pella Community School District in Pella, where she lives with husband **Brandon Caldwell**.

**Darynn Carlock** is a Universal Banker at Arbor Bank in Sidney, Iowa.

**Morgan Caves** is a public relations and creative marketing liaison at Cambridge Investment Research Inc. in Fairfield, Iowa.

**James Chapline** is a youth counselor at Woodward Academy in Woodward, Iowa.

**Mitchell Chilton** is pursuing a master's degree in sciences at the University of Iowa in Iowa City.

**Jacob Clark** is a residence director at Doane College in Crete, Neb.

**Melissa Clegg** is pursuing a master's degree in library science at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa.

**Shawna Cooper** is a domestic violence advocate at Children and Families of Iowa in Des Moines.

**Nicholas Corbin** is an assistant manager at Smokey Row in Pella.

**Spencer Coulter** is a business solutions consultant at RSM McGladrey in Des Moines.

**Kyle Craig** works in the department of research and marketing at Trail Lock by Schippers in Pella.

**Ryan Crall** works in the large assembly department at Kinze Manufacturing in Williamsburg, Iowa.

**Christopher Crawford** and Lauren Moler of Waukee were married July 23. Christopher is a production support specialist at Farmers Mutual Hail Insurance Company of Iowa in West Des Moines.

**Sara Crippen** traveled to Tanzania in January to hike and volunteer. This spring she will work in the commercial fishing trade in Alaska before heading to Jubilee Farms, a

sustainable farm in Comer, Georgia, to work with incoming Burmese refugees before they are resettled in nearby Atlanta.

**Jessica Curry** is a volunteer at City Year Seattle for King County in Seattle, Wash.

**Sara Dale** is pursuing a master's degree in health sciences at Des Moines University.

**Jennifer Daugherty** is a volunteer with the Peace Corps teaching English as a second language.

**Preston Davidson** is a customer service representative at Sears Holding Corp. in Des Moines.

**Rachel Davy** is a collector I at Wells Fargo in West Des Moines.

**Devin Delvaux** is a rate analyst at IMT Insurance Group in Des Moines.

**Danielle DeHaan** is a customer service representative at Precision Pulley and Idler Inc. in Pella.

**Kathryn DePenning** is a communication coordinator at Federated Fellowship Church in Pella.

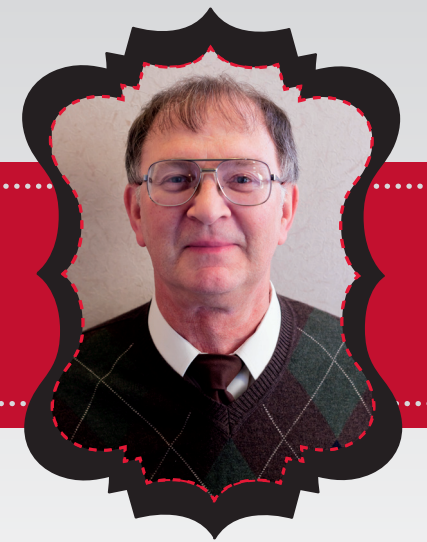
**Melissa DeRuiter** is employed at ING n Des Moines.

**Theodore Dirkx** is a solutions specialist at Vermeer Corp. in Pella.

**Erik Donner** is employed by Pella Corp. in Pella.

## The Gift of Music

*"College is part of training for a lifetime ..."*



The Hoekstra family loves music. All four of them—Jim '66, his wife Bea '64 and their two sons, Steve '92 and Tim '95—performed in the A Cappella Choir at Central. Jim and Bea especially loved attending their sons' concerts, though they didn't stop going after the boys graduated.

Jim met Bea Minium in the trombone section of the band, where he talked to her while they counted measures of rests. The two married after Jim graduated from Central, and he immediately went on to earn his Ph.D. in solid state physics at Iowa State University, where he has worked for more than 39 years, most recently as a senior systems analyst in Information Technology Services.

After 40 wonderful years together, Bea passed away in 2006 after a long battle with cancer. Jim, too, had been fighting prostate cancer, until he joined a trial for a new drug. He was almost cancer-free a few weeks later. "One of the things that motivated me to give to Central was my medical miracle," says Jim.

Central College has been named a major beneficiary of Jim's TIAA-CREF retirement plan. Because Central is a non-profit organization, the funds will be passed to the college without any income tax consequences; thus freeing Jim, if he chooses, to give his heirs other assets that are not as heavily taxed. "I decided to do this because of what Central gave to me—and my kids," says Jim. "They have been able to contribute to society and do what they wanted to do with their lives." Jim is particularly proud that both his sons are still involved in the fine arts—Steve plays baritone horn in his city band, and Tim sings in the Dubuque Chorale.

Recently, signs of Jim's cancer have returned. He has begun treatment with a newly FDA-approved drug, and he is hopeful. Jim is grateful for what Central College meant for his family. "College is part of training for a lifetime," says Jim. "It's not just going to school, and then it's over."

**Like Jim Hoekstra, you too can give a gift that will help Central College today or with a deferred gift for tomorrow.**

To confidentially discuss all giving opportunities, contact the advancement office at 641-628-5154 or email [morrisond@central.edu](mailto:morrisond@central.edu). If you have already included Central in your will or through other estate provisions, your notification will allow us to properly thank you.

To view more planned gift information, go to [www.central.edu/go/plannedgiving](http://www.central.edu/go/plannedgiving) or [www.yourcentralstory.org](http://www.yourcentralstory.org).



**Jacob Dreyer** of Brookings is pursuing a master's degree in mass communication and journalism at South Dakota State University. **Julie Dreyer** is a customer services associate at ING Financial Services in Des Moines.

**Deirdre Rahe Giesler** works in the Faulconer Gallery at Grinnell College in Grinnell, Iowa. Deirdre and husband Bret live in Pleasantville. They are the parents of six children including **Jon Bach '15**.

**Natasha Jansen** is a wellness coordinator at Hearthstone: A Ministry of WesleyLife in Pella. **Cyndi Johnson** is employed by the ITA Group in West Des Moines.

## Outside the Classroom

### Josh Dolezal, associate professor of English



Faculty do a lot of reading—all those student papers—but it's rare to find the time to focus on writing. That's why Dolezal is dedicating much of his sabbatical in the fall of 2011 and spring of 2012 to honing his nonfiction. He is writing about organic farming for two magazines, *Edible Iowa River Valley* and *The Iowan*. The goal of this work, including visits to local farms, is to design a new course in literary journalism.

Dolezal is also serving as a referee for the *Bellevue Literary Review*, a journal devoted to literature about health and illness, and *Cather Studies*. This spring, he is revising manuscripts for a memoir and a poetry collection.

**Melissa Dunlap** is a customer service representative at American Homepatient in Marshalltown, Iowa.

**Ashley Ellingson** is a loans servicing specialist at Wells Fargo in West Des Moines.

**Zachary Elsbecker** is pursuing a master's degree in health sciences at Drexel University in Philadelphia, Pa.

**Regan Englund** is a staff accountant at Hormel Foods in Austin, Minn.

**Leah Farrington** teaches high school social studies and is the assistant volleyball coach for the Montezuma School District in Montezuma, Iowa.

**Peter Fegley** is a treatment counselor at Tanager Place, a children's psychiatric medical institution in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

**Kathryn Williams Freed** teaches math at Elk Horn High School in Elk Horn, Iowa. Kathryn and husband **Tim Freed '10** live in Corning, where Tim teaches biology and science.

**Paige Fynaardt** and Joseph Pierson of Oskaloosa, Iowa, were married April 2. Paige teaches seventh grade math in the Oskaloosa School District.

**Claudia Garcia** is a volunteer with the Peace Corps stationed in Panama.

**Quincy Garner** is pursuing a master's degree in engineering from Iowa State University in Ames.

**Jasmine Garth** is pursuing a master's degree in physical therapy from Regis University in Denver, Colo.

**Shawna Geoffroy** is a sales associate in New York & Company in Seal Beach, Calif.

**Stephanie Gibbons** is a study abroad coordinator at University of Iowa in Iowa City.

**Shane Hallengren** of Pella is a copywriter intern in the communications office at Central College.

**Jason Harvey** is a financial analyst at Principal Financial Group in Des Moines.

**Angela Heil** is a store manager of Sports Page Sporting Goods in Altoona, Iowa.

**Brooke Hiemstra** is an ELL teacher associate at MOC Floyd Valley in Orange City, Iowa.

**Hannah Hitchcock** is pursuing a medical degree from Des Moines University.

**Trevor Hixon** is a counselor at Youth Homes of Mid-America in Johnston, Iowa.

**Natalie Hobt** teaches eighth grade science in the Carroll Community School District in Carroll, Iowa.

**Ashley Holcombe** is pursuing a master's degree in education from Nicholls University in Thibodaux, La.

**Andrew Hopper** teaches history, psychology and sociology at Fairfield High School in Fairfield, Iowa.

**Brittney Hubers** is pursuing a master's degree in physical therapy from Belmont University in Nashville, Tenn.

**Kaitlin Huff** of Des Moines is a settlement auditor at John Deere.

**Sara Hugley** is an auditor at Ernst & Young in Des Moines.

**Lauren Iddings** of Oskaloosa, Iowa, teaches creative writing and is in charge of the yearbook and the TAG program at Oskaloosa High School.

**Kristen Ingle** is a chiropractic assistant at Swain Chiropractic in Altoona, Iowa.

**Cody Jandik** is a vendor relationship manager at GreatAmerica Leasing Corp in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

**Seth Kassis** of Thousand Oaks, Calif., is a territory sales representative at Cbeyond Sales Careers in La Mesa.

**Whitney King** is a research laboratory technician at Albermarle-Caitlin in Ames.

**Christopher Kleven** is pursuing a master's degree in engineering at Notre Dame University in South Bend, Ind.

**David Lakin** teaches middle school for the Maquoketa Community School District in Maquoketa, Iowa.

**Nicki Landt** and **Andrew Ness** of West Des Moines were married May 21. Nicole is pursuing a master's of medical science degree in physician assistant studies at Des Moines University, and Andrew is a personal trainer at Fitness World West.

**Jonathan Lindstrom** is a GIS technician at Bartlett and West Engineering in Topeka, Kan. Jonathan and wife **Rachel Jordan Lindstrom '10** live in Manhattan.

**Amy Loftus** is a marketing coordinator at the Iowa Events Center in Des Moines.

**Willem Lubberden** is pursuing a master's degree in engineering from Iowa State University in Ames.

**Kiley Lythberg** is pursuing a graduate degree in child and family law and jurisprudence from Loyola University in Chicago, Ill.

**Carole Mapes** is an AmeriCorps volunteer in Walla Walla, Wash.

**Marko Marinkovich** is a laboratory technician at Monsanto in Ankeny, Iowa.

**Beatriz Mate-Kodjo** is pursuing a law degree from Drake University in Des Moines.

**Tyler Mather** of Urbandale is a system engineer at Advanced Technologies Group in West Des Moines.

**Ashley Matteson** is pursuing a master's degree in sciences at the University of North Carolina in Greensboro.

**Jacquelyn Mauk** is pursuing a medical degree from Des Moines University.

**Seth Metcalf** is an operations support specialist at Cerner Corp. in North Kansas City, Mo.

**Amy Meyer** of Urbandale is a systems/services support analyst at EMC Insurance Companies in Des Moines.

**Curt Mick** is a customer service representative at Mick's Furniture in Albia, Iowa.

**Dirk Miller** is a loan services specialist PFS at Wells Fargo in Des Moines.

**Joel Miller** is a tax analyst at 2nd Story Software in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

**Max Miller** is an accountant at MV Transportation in Elk Horn, Iowa.

**Jacob Miltenberger** is a lawn and garden sales associate at Sears.

**Allison Moeller** of Houston, Texas, is a case assistant at Morgan, Lewis & Bocklus LLP.

**Steven Moeller** is a systems integration analyst at Accenture in Minneapolis, Minn.

**Sarah Moglia** of Columbus, Ohio, is an event specialist at Secular Student Alliance.

**Joel Mudd** is pursuing a law degree at Duke University in Durham, N.C.

After passing the National Athletic Trainer's certification exam, he was promoted to athletic trainer for the Peoria Chiefs the low-A affiliate of the Chicago Cubs in Peoria, Ill. He will remain in Mesa during the off-season and spring training before joining the Chiefs during the baseball season.

**Kandi Neville** of Indianola, Iowa, is a case manager at Red Rock Area Community Action Program in Ankeny.

**Amanda Nichols** teaches at Webster City High School in Webster City, Iowa.

**Molli O'Brien** teaches fifth and sixth grade math and is the assistant high school girls basketball coach for the Algona Community School District in Algona, Iowa.

**Michael O'Rourke** is a junior buyer at Brownell's Inc., in Montezuma, Iowa.

**Jason Ohlfest** is an engineering co-op at Fisher Controls in Marshalltown, Iowa.

**Austin Patton** is a document processor at Wells Fargo in Des Moines. Austin and wife **Megan Ewoldt '10** live in Ankeny.

**Kelsey Peterson** is a youth counselor at Woodward Academy in Woodward, Iowa.

**Sarah Phillips** and Matthew Stoker of West Des Moines were married Aug. 6.

**Ashley Ranniger** is a department manager at Pella Corp. in Pella.

at Hillside Christian School in Coralville, Iowa. Mark is a staff accountant with Protein Sales LLC/West Liberty Foods.

**Michelle Rosenberg** teaches first grade at South Prairie Elementary School in Grimes, Iowa.

**Joseph Russell** is works in security at Vermeer Manufacturing in Pella.

**Stephani Ruzicka** is a nanny in London, England.

**Kelly Schafbuch** of Pella is an online communications intern in the communications office at Central College.

**Nicholas Schnicker** is pursuing a master's degree in sciences at the University of Iowa in Iowa City.

**Lee Schroeder** is a solutions specialist at Vermeer Manufacturing in Pella.

**Kari Shadley** is a respite assistant at ChildServe in Johnston, Iowa.

**Kelsie Sheets** teaches middle school special education in the Montezuma Community School District in Montezuma, Iowa.

**Sadie Siefken** teaches eighth grade reading and English in the West Fork Community School District in Sheffield, Iowa.

**Nathan Smith** teaches high school math in the Newton Community School District in Newton, Iowa.

## Outside the Classroom

### Linda Laine, associate professor of communication



Although it's not her specialty, Linda Laine has roots in the health care field. For her dissertation, she completed an ethnographic study of hospital nurses, and she's been teaching the communication section of a hospice training course in Pella. During her sabbatical this past fall, Laine designed a course on health communication. "The field deals with the interaction between people and message production surrounding all areas of health and illness," she says.

Laine says the course will cut across all the subfields of health communication. On the macro level, that includes public health campaigns and the portrayal of illness in the media. On the micro level, the course will cover interactions between caregivers and patients and issues of identity and stigma. Laine hopes the class will attract students from all majors—especially those considering a career in health care.

Read more about Laine's research online.



**Brianne Nederhoff** is pursuing a master's of medical science degree in physician assistant studies from Midwestern University in Downers Grove, Ill.

**Ashley Nelson** is pursuing a degree at Palmer College of Chiropractic in Davenport, Iowa.

**Shane Nelson** of Mesa, Ariz., spent the summer and fall in Mesa, working as the athletic trainer for the Mesa Cubs, the rookie league affiliate of the Chicago Cubs.

**Shikhar Rastogi** is an application developer at Thoughtworks in Chicago, Ill. She trained for six weeks in Bangalore, India prior to starting her job.

**Eve Reinhold** teaches kindergarten through fourth grade special education at Charter Oak-Ute Community School District in Charter Oak, Iowa.

**Lindley Roorda** and **Mark Visser** of Coralville, Iowa, were married June 4. Lindley teaches fourth through eighth grade

**Rachel Staman** of Baltimore, Md., teaches sixth grade with Teach for America at Baltimore City Public Schools while pursuing a master's degree in data driven urban education and education administration from Johns Hopkins University.

**Austin Staton** is an activity aide at the Windmill Manor in Coralville, Iowa.

**Allysa Stephens** is a personal trainer at Aspen Athletic Club in Clive, Iowa.





**ZISKOVSKY AND HALCOMB WED**

**Jill Ziskovsky** and **Tyler Halcomb** of West Des Moines were married June 25. Jill is an administrative assistant at Dallas Center-Grimes High School in Grimes and Tyler is a personal trainer at Fitness Together in Clive. Pictured in the front row (left to right): **Lynnette Ziskovsky Fevold '78**, **Deb Worden Ziskovsky '81** and **Lyle Ziskovsky '81**. Second row: **Trent Smith '11**, **Kurtis Brondyke '11**, **Mark Holan '10**, **Adam Bartelt '08**, **Tanner Vander Weerd '11** and **Quinn Adair '11**. Third row: **Katie Williamson Ness '11**, **Nicki Landt Ness '11**, **Cory Bacon '12**, **Felicia Coleman '13**, **Alex Fuller '11**, **Rachel Purdy '12**, **Emily Teas '11**, **Rachelle Tipton '10**, **Liz Arentsen '10**, **Jill Ziskovsky Halcomb '11**, **Tyler Halcomb '11**, **Molli O'Brien '11**, **Kelli Ziskovsky '13**, **April Ziskovsky '08**, **Andrea Heisterkamp '10**, **Brooke Hiemstra '11**, unidentified, **Kyle Craig '11**, **Jake Gillespie '12**, **Tom Shaff '12** and **Jess Fevold '12**. Back row: **Matt Ness '10**, **Drew Ness '11**, **Aaron Steenhoek '11**, **Philip Heisterkamp '13**, **Zach Eash '13**, **Matt Patrick '10**, **Noah Mortel '12**, **Gavin Crandall '11**, **AJ Baker '12**, **Cole Henderson '11**, **Christopher Kleven '11**, unidentified, **Alex Huyser '11**, **Zach Elsbecker '11** and **Megan Gray '12**.

**Sara Stephenson** is an onsite meeting and event coordinator at LimoLink in Marion, Iowa.

**Ashley Tapper** is a physical therapy assistant at Mercy College of Health Sciences in Des Moines.

**Alyssa Taylor** is pursuing a master's degree in occupational therapy at the University of Minnesota in Rochester.

**Emily Teas** is a special education teacher at Capitol View Elementary in Des Moines.

**Katie Tenboer** is manager of Grafx 2 A Tee in Pella.

**Jessica Thomas** is a registered pharmacy technician at Wal-Mart in Knoxville, Iowa.

**Emily Thompson** is an AmeriCorps Vista volunteer with Iowa Campus Compact working at Children and Family Urban Ministries in Des Moines.

**Curt Toppin** is a customer support analyst at Overland Conveyor in Pella.

**Stephanie Torgeson** and **Neil Reasland** of Cedar Rapids were married December 18, 2010. Stephanie is a service and support coordinator at ARC of East Central Iowa.

**Taylor Tremmel** is an assistant financing consultant at Principal Financial Group in Des Moines.

**Elizabeth Urban** is a health screening technician at Health Solutions in Owings Mills, Md.

**Adam Van Arkel** teaches fifth and sixth grade instrumental music at Grinnell Middle School in Grinnell, Iowa.

**Kayleen Vander Horst** works in the accounts receivable and collections department at Grand View University in Des Moines.

**Tanner Vander Weerd** is a youth counselor at Woodward Academy in Woodward, Iowa.

**Mara Venteicher** is a pod coordinator at Kossuth Regional Health Center in Algona, Iowa.

**Justin Von Ahsen** is pursuing a master's degree in music with dual emphases in music theory and trumpet performance from Truman State University in Kirksville, Mo. He received a graduate teaching assistantship and is teaching freshmen aural skills.

**Molly Von Holten** is employed by Pioneer Hi-Bred Research Center in Princeton, Ill.

**Jordan Waddell** is a marketing specialist in the multichoice annuity division of Aviva and lives in West Des Moines.

**Tyler Wallingford** is pursuing a medical degree from Creighton University in Omaha, Neb.

**Ashley West** is a volunteer with AmeriCorp in Des Moines.

**Loni Weston** is a client representative at Marsh US Consumer in Urbandale, Iowa.

**Stephani Wickett** is a One-on-One Associate in the Pleasantville Community School District in Pleasantville, Iowa.

**Bradley Williams** is a loan servicing specialist at Wells Fargo in West Des Moines.

**Jessica Williams** is pursuing a master's degree in sciences from the University of Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls.

## UPDATE YOUR INFO!

Have you moved, changed jobs, gotten married, had a child, etc.? Keep the alumni community up to date by contacting the alumni office at 800-447-0287 or [alumni@central.edu](mailto:alumni@central.edu). Remember to visit [civitas.central.edu](http://civitas.central.edu) to see what your classmates are up to!

**Katie Williamson** and **Matt Ness '10** of Wheaton, Ill., were married July 23. Katie is a reporting process specialist at McGladrey in Schaumburg.

**Kristin Wilson** is a recruitment and benefits administrator at Community 1st Credit Union in Ottumwa, Iowa.

**Erin Winn** is a co-coordinator at Persimmon Project in Schenectady, N.Y.

**Lindsay Zylstra** of Sully, Iowa, is an admission counselor at Central College.

## ADVANCED DEGREES

**Kristine Milburn '95**, doctorate in education leadership, Drake University, May.

**Kevin Carroll '96**, doctorate in educational leadership, Drake University, May.

**Dorice Hankemeier '01**, doctorate in human movement science, Old Dominion University, May.

**Rebecca Brooker '03**, doctorate in developmental psychology, Penn State University, May.

**Emily Edeker '06**, master's degree in human development and family studies, Iowa State University, 2010.

**Eric Hunerdosse '09**, master's degree in education and human resources, Colorado State University, August.

**Jennifer Knobbe '09**, degree in chiropractic medicine, Cleveland Chiropractic College, Overland, Kan.

**David Poetting '09**, master's degree in mechanical engineering, Iowa State University, May.

## ARRIVALS

**Alex '96** and **Vicki Oxley Piedras '94**, son Christian Tlatoani, Dec. 24, 2010.

Andrew and **Julie Schroeder Parsons '96**, son John Herschel, March 4.

**Jeremy '98** and **Jessica Krohn Samuelson '02**, daughter Harper Grace, Oct. 9.

Don and **Kristi Pieper Carlson '99**, son Cael John, Aug. 14.

Pasha and **Justin Quaas '99**, son Bennett Roy, Sept. 23.

Tim and **Sherri DeWaard Te Grootenhuis '00**, daughter Alexandra Rose, Sept. 29.

**Shane '01** and **Brooke Tham Sterling '04**, son Calin Anthony, Aug. 12.

Casey and **Emily Edeker Malloy '06**, daughter Irelyn Rose, Oct. 2, 2010.  
Laura and **Lucas Sampson '06**, son Sam Lucas, March 25.

## IN MEMORIAM

**Edwin Mick '36** of Knoxville, Iowa, Sept. 27.

**Alice Wesselink Wells '36** of Sioux Center, Iowa, Oct. 23.

**Don De Wit '46** of Tracy, Iowa, Nov. 17.  
**Carol Huibregtse Flikkema '46** of Pella, Nov. 18.

**Nelva Rensink Brunsting '47** of Houston, Texas, Nov. 11.

**Jacob Pell '49** of Fresno, Calif., Nov. 23.  
**Donald Hull '50** of Oxford, Ohio, Oct. 14.

**Anna Hinrichs Klaassen '50** of Mesa, Ariz., Oct. 30.

**Duane Vander Schaaf '50** of Franklin, Wis., May 23.

**LaVerne Collister '52** of Colfax, Iowa, Nov. 1.

**Wilfred Fiet '58** of Indianapolis, Ind., Nov. 15.

# Outside the Classroom

## Brian Roberts, associate professor of art

As an artist, Roberts is attracted to the imagery of Iowa. During his sabbatical in the spring and fall of 2011, he worked on a series of ceramic sculptures that reference the familiar architecture of grain elevators, corncribs, barns and sheds. "For me, most of these buildings are, in essence, vessels for containment," says Roberts. "I am drawn to the purity of the geometric forms of these buildings and to the visual complexity of their weathered surfaces."

Roberts also used his sabbatical to learn the process of enameling, which is the art of fusing glass to metal. With a handmade hydraulic press, he created enameled jewelry inspired by organic forms like seeds, pollen, fruits and vegetables. Based on this research, Roberts is including an enameling project in his Metalsmithing I course this spring.

See photos and read more about Roberts' work online.



**Shannon Regan '07**, master's degree in music with an emphasis in voice performance, Chicago College of Performing Arts, May 2009.

**Brian Respeliers '07**, master's degree in finance, Drake University, Aug. 2010.

**Masse Carr '08**, master's degree in education leadership policy studies, Iowa State University, May.

**Jamie Maxwell '08**, master's degree in teaching and coaching, University of Northern Iowa, May.

**Ashley Rottinghaus '08**, bachelor's degree in nursing, Allen College, August.

**Justin '02** and **Samantha Smith Clinkinbeard '02**, son Oliver Don, July 29.

Bethany and **Brent Gaulke '02**, son Silas Dean, June 5.

**Michael '03** and **Amanda Gezel Merema '03**, son Cooper Lee, Sept. 28.

**Seth '03** and **Heather Vande Lune Comfort '05**, son Trigg Uriah, Oct. 9.

**Todd '04** and **Amber Clubb Smith '03**, daughter Emma Jane, May 5, 2010, and daughter Adelyn Nicole, July 22.

**Tyler '05** and **Whitney Taylor Baethke '08**, daughter Gabby Jean, Nov. 18, 2010.

**Dustin '06** and **Kate Jackson Hite '04**, daughter Abigail Marie, Sept. 27.

**James Vroonland '61** of Harrison, Ark., Sept. 22.

**Janice Van Veldhuizen Honold '62** of Hampton, Iowa, July 14.

**Christine Dickerson '69** of Summit, N.Y., Oct. 14.

**Lynn Oelrich Boeyink '70** of Sioux Center, Iowa, Oct. 24.

**Philip Lacqua '70** of Staten Island, N.Y., Aug. 3, 2007.

**Joseph Tangolics '71** of Edison, N.J., Sept. 4.

**Larry Humphrey '75** of Brooklyn, Iowa, Sept. 27.



## Ten Tough Questions



Over the past three months, the Central community has been pondering the future of the college—in conjunction with the seven planning teams and the Planning Year Steering Committee. Mary Strey, vice president for academic affairs and dean of faculty, posed a question each week to alumni, current students and other Central friends and family members. Their collective responses illustrate the deep, diverse thinking done by the community.

10. Where in the world should Central College be?
9. What opportunities do technology and social media create to enrich and enhance learning opportunities on the Central campus and beyond?
8. What would be the evidence that Central is innovative, entrepreneurial and creative?
7. What is the future of the library at a liberal arts college?
6. What is the responsibility of a liberal arts college in an economy in which a growing and significant percentage of jobs will be in the health professions?
5. Does Central today foster habits of mind and behaviors that contribute to a sustainable society?
4. How well do the key concepts of The Blue Zones and their role in well-being inform Central today?
3. What does Central College have to offer an international student who wants to spend a year abroad (reverse study abroad)?
2. How do you know if an institution is a leader in undergraduate scholarship?
1. What tough questions should we have asked, but did not?

Visit “The Planning Year” at [civitas.central.edu](http://civitas.central.edu) to read the community’s responses. It’s not too late to add one yourself.



## Famous for a Few Months

Tyler Wentworth '13 spent his summer interning with the production company dphilms, helping to produce commercials and TV shows, including the History Channel’s *American Pickers*.

When Tyler Wentworth '13 turns on the TV this evening, he could encounter something few ever do—a show or commercial that he helped to make.

This past summer, Wentworth interned with dphilms, a production company in Rock Island, Ill. “I freaked out the first time I saw one of my commercials,” Wentworth says. “My dad was in the other room, and I was yelling at him to turn on the TV.”

Early in June, though, it looked like he might never get the experience. Two weeks after the semester ended, he still hadn’t heard back from dphilms about the job. Spurred on by impatient parents, he made a follow-up.

“We’ve got a spot for you,” they assured him. They’d just been too busy to call. After accepting the production assistant internship, he soon found out how busy the business could be.

“Film has always been a side passion for me,” the junior business management major says. He is minoring in visual communications and has always done creative side projects, but working with a production company was a big leap. From developing concepts, finding talent and writing scripts to working on set and helping in post-production, he became familiar with nearly every phase of the production process.



Wentworth got the chance to work on some high-profile projects for dphilms. He met head men’s basketball coach, Fran McCaffery, and head women’s basketball coach, Lisa Bluder, while filming at the University of Iowa, where he ran the teleprompter.

The most recognizable project he worked on was the History Channel program *American Pickers*. The show follows an Iowa-based crew as they travel the country salvaging antiques. Wentworth worked on two shoots with co-star Danielle Colby-Cushman at the pickers’ Le Claire office.

“I sort of felt famous,” Wentworth says with a laugh. Crowds he helped to quiet outside the shop assumed he was a major Hollywood player. “Danielle came up and talked to me like we were already friends.”

Wentworth also quickly learned the amount of work it takes to get a major TV show ready to air. He watched his dphilms co-workers put in three hours of work to finalize a 10-second segment for *American Pickers*. At times his work days started at 3:30 a.m. and lasted 16 hours.

Despite the chaotic schedule, Wentworth says his working atmosphere was relaxed and collaborative. “It was really motivating. I could see very clearly the direct impact my efforts had on the project.”

Though he’s not sure his future lies in film, Wentworth is grateful for the experience the internship provided. “It helped me realize there are a lot of jobs out there,” he says. “I can do what I want to, and I don’t have to compromise on my career.”





# Alumni Spotlight



Brian Cretin '99 sends off a floating lantern in Thailand.

## WANDERING around the world

Brian Cretin '99 won't be coming home anytime soon. He quit his job as a web developer and took off for ... the world.

Cretin has been traveling since August and hopes to be on the road for at least a year. Long-term travel has been a dream ever since he studied in London as a computer science major at Central. His friends convinced him to take that first trip, but no one had to persuade Cretin to embark on his dream this time.

So far, Cretin has spent time in London, the Middle East and Asia, including a seven-week stay in Thailand. Highlights

of his trip have been visiting holy sites in Jerusalem, scuba diving at the island of Ko Tao in Thailand and seeing King Tut's tomb and treasures in the Valley of the Kings.

"The nice thing about traveling long-term is that you get to take your time and don't feel the pressure to cram everything into a week or two," says Cretin.

To follow Cretin around the globe, visit his blog at [www.viewfromacretin.com](http://www.viewfromacretin.com).

Want to read more about Cretin's journey?  
Check out the full story online.

