

Civitas

CENTRAL COLLEGE ALUMNI MAGAZINE

TEACHER TRIANGLE
Three teachers discover
life-changing connections

THE BIG TEST
Mark Mills uses firsthand
knowledge to prepare
actuarial students



RESEARCH ORIGINALS:

SUMMER FELLOWSHIP FUNDS
STUDENT-FACULTY COLLABORATION

The Legacy of Faculty

by Mark Putnam, Central College president



Paul Weihe works with students in Vermeer Science Center.

In the course of my transition to Central College during spring 2010, I convened small groups of faculty members to help me learn more about the college. I began each session with one question: “What do we do really well?” The responses I received were so similar I began to wonder if the answers had been rehearsed. They repeatedly indicated that faculty members at Central know how to take students from wherever they are when they arrive on campus to ... the next level ... to achieve their ambitions ... to reach their potential ... to develop confidence in their desired areas of knowledge and skill.

The consistency of their descriptions was both impressive and reassuring. Now, in my fifth year, I have found their representations to be valid and reliable, and affirmed by many others.

The father of one of our students pulled me aside at the first football game I attended and shared the following story. Early in his son’s freshman year at Central the first college-level exam was fast approaching—a big deal for both student and parent. During a phone call home, this student mentioned to his father that his professor had scheduled a review session prior to the exam for any in the class who

wanted to attend. His son did attend and later reported that near the end of the scheduled session, the faculty member indicated that he would be heading home soon, but provided his home phone number to the students, inviting them to call him with additional questions any time before 11 p.m. Dad went out of his way to share this story with me so that I would know the quality of our faculty.

In the ensuing years, I have found that stories like this are quite common. Our dedicated faculty members are certainly committed to the craft of teaching, but even more importantly, they are determined to facilitate student learning.

Each year our faculty members who have been awarded endowed chairs sponsor an internal symposium for our faculty. The event is known on campus as “The Chairs Conference.” I have participated in this weekend event each of the past three years it has been in existence. The conference has become a highlight for us and is a great beginning for the academic year. The range of scholarly topics explored, the teaching methodologies shared, and the learning assessment techniques outlined are most impressive. We have a stunningly competent faculty who are students of their own practice and routinely go beyond the expectations set for them. I am proud to be associated with them.

The faculty of Central College is our greatest asset. They continue to leave a powerful legacy of teaching and learning.



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Professor of mathematics Mark Mills puts himself to the test by taking actuarial exams.

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As one of the inaugural class of Bosch Fellows, student Andrew Johnson '15 teamed up with assistant professor of chemistry Jay Wackerly.



Sanae Spencer Glendening '84 and Eric Glendening '85 attended alumni class reunions.

FORMER OBAMA SPOKESMAN IS FIRST GAARD SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE



Long time Obama aide
Tommy Vietor addressed
students as the first Gaard
scholar-in-residence.

Central hosted its first Gaard scholar-in-residence, Tommy Vietor, October 9-11. Vietor served President Barack Obama as a spokesperson for nearly a decade, including two years as national security spokesman and two years as assistant White House press secretary. At Central, Vietor spoke about the importance of global citizenship. The Thomas J. and Charlene P. Gaard Endowed Residency in the Liberal Arts was established in 2013 to benefit Central College students, faculty, staff and the greater Pella community.

In his roles with the Obama administration, Vietor served as a primary contact for the media on foreign policy, national security, education and labor issues. He was named one of the top ten

communicators of 2014 by Campaigns and Elections magazine. His experiences align with Central's yearlong theme of global citizenship, as the college celebrates the 50th anniversary of its study abroad programs.

Vietor spoke at the Intersections convocation October 9 regarding the importance of global citizenship, in addition to visiting several classes and meeting with student groups. He also presented a public address titled, "A Global Education: Lessons from my Time in Politics," in the evening at Cox-Snow Recital Hall.

Oscar Reynaga, lecturer of Spanish, said his Intersections students enjoyed hearing about Vietor's life experiences.

"They found it refreshing to hear someone speak honestly about the struggles everyone faces when confronted with 'the real world' and how life's path 'is not always a linear one' for everyone," Reynaga said. "They appreciated hearing him say that they should not do things because someone expects them to do so, but that they should instead make their own life choices, especially about things they feel passionate about."

The Gaard Residency will continue to bring notable scholars to Central each semester for multiday visits. The goal is to enable the campus and community to engage in meaningful and up-close exchanges with known experts over an extended period of time.

NEW DIRECTOR FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENT RECRUITMENT AND ADMISSION



Central has enhanced its commitment to attracting international students with the hiring of Frederik Schlingemann as director for international student recruitment and admission. Schlingemann arrived on campus in June and now works to create relationships with international schools and students.

Schlingemann is a Dutch citizen and earned his B.S. in business administration from Webster University, Leiden, The Netherlands, and his MBA from Webster University in Saint Louis, Missouri. He formerly served as the international recruitment coordinator at the University of Michigan-Flint, where he supervised international undergraduate, graduate and English Language Program student recruitment.

Schlingemann also previously worked as the international student recruiter at Winthrop University in Rock Hill, South Carolina, and worked as a graduate assistant with International Recruitment and Services at Webster University.

By hiring Schlingemann, Central seeks to build on its reputation as an international community of global learners and a leading college in global,

experiential education. Support from the Vermeer Charitable Foundation is instrumental in efforts around international student recruitment and global citizenship.

"I am honored and excited to join the Central College community," Schlingemann said. "I look forward to growing Central's international student population and to building strong relationships with members of the Central community."

To contact Schlingemann, email him at schlingemannf@central.edu.

CENTRAL HOSTS AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR

Chitra Divakaruni visited campus September 24-26 in connection with Central's common reading selection for the year. Students and faculty joined together in reading her novel "One Amazing Thing," which tells the story of a group of people trapped together in the visa office of the Indian Consulate during an earthquake.

Divakaruni is an award-winning novelist and poet, and she is currently

a professor of creative writing at the University of Houston. During her visit at Central, Divakaruni presented a keynote address, during which she shared about her experiences moving from India to the United States, becoming a published writer and her writing process. She also read a selection from her new novel "Oleander Girl" as part of Central's Writers Reading Series.

NIGHT OF APPRECIATION

Central's Star Community Partners were honored during the first-ever night game at Ron and Joyce Schipper Stadium. The Dutch played at 6 p.m. September 13 against Monmouth College.

Central last played a home football game at night in 1976, at the old A.N. Kuyper Stadium.

The night game coincided with Community Appreciation Night, during which Community Partners were recognized for their work in providing Central students with service opportunities. The evening ended with a postgame fireworks show, sponsored by various donors.



Fireworks capped the first night game held at Ron and Joyce Schipper Stadium.

Photos by Dan Vander Beek

by Larry Happel '81

CHAMPIONSHIP TRIO ADDED TO HALL OF HONOR

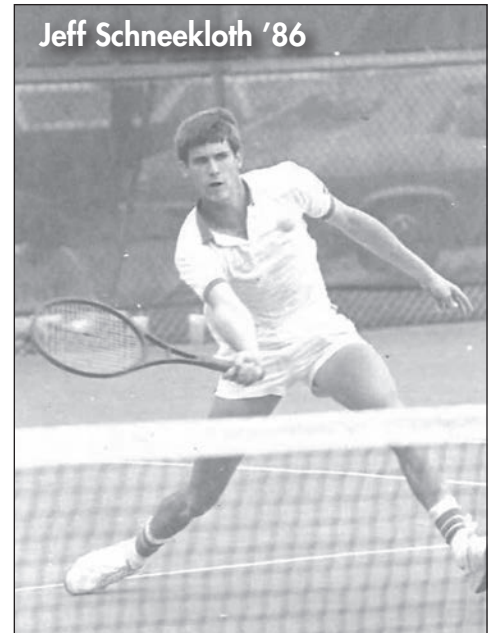
Rick Sanger '96



Megan Clayberg



Jeff Schneekloth '86



Two former athletes and a coach who combined to win 12 Iowa Conference team championships were inducted into the Central College Athletics Hall of Honor as part of homecoming festivities Oct. 4.

Rick Sanger '96

A 1995 Gagliardi Award finalist as Division III football player of the year, Sanger was a two-time all-America linebacker and NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship winner. He helped Central post a 38-4 record with three NCAA playoff berths and two Iowa Conference titles (1994, 1995). Sanger racked up 373 career tackles, including 129 in 1994 and a record-tying 24 tackles against Loras on Oct. 15, 1994. He received the 1994 Lankelma Award as Central's outstanding

underclassman and the Heerema-Schilder Award as 1995 team MVP.

Sanger was a team co-captain in both football and in track and field, where he was a three-time conference discus champ and six-time league placewinner in the discus and shot put. He was the team's 1996 most valuable field event performer.

An information technology specialist, Sanger earned a master's degree at Iowa State University. He began working for Alliance Technologies in Des Moines in 1996 and became director of partner product support.

Sanger and his wife, Danielle, have two children: twins Kenley and Avery, 6.

Megan Clayberg

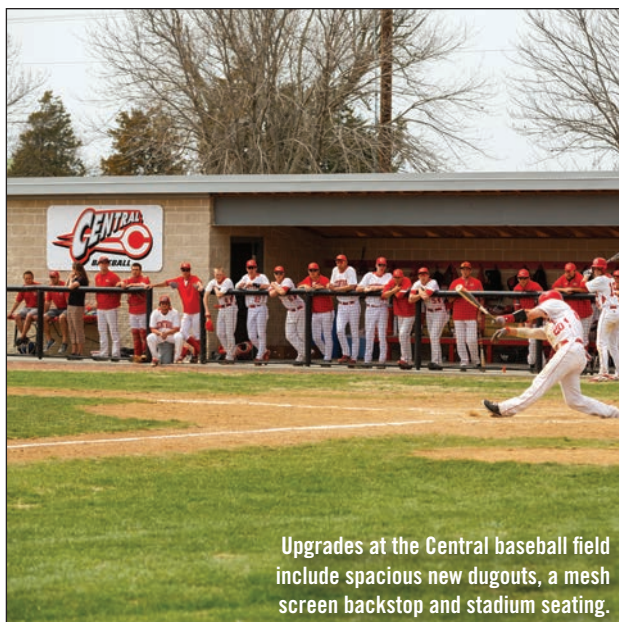
Clayberg piloted Central through one

of the most successful eras in Division III volleyball history. Clayberg was head coach from 1991-2002, compiling a 370-107 (.775) record. She guided the Dutch to eight conference titles, seven NCAA tournament berths, four consecutive final four appearances and three national championships (1998, 1999, 2000). The 1999 squad was among the all-time best, posting a 41-0 record with only one five-set match. Central rolled up an NCAA record 60-match win streak. Clayberg was a three-time league coach of the year, winning regional honors five times and the national award in 2000.

A Wayne State University (Neb.) graduate, Clayberg was a two-time all-league player and was inducted into the school's hall of fame (2002). She received



Rick Sanger '96, Megan Clayberg and Jeff Schneekloth '86 were inducted into the Hall of Honor during homecoming.



Upgrades at the Central baseball field include spacious new dugouts, a mesh screen backstop and stadium seating.

Photos by Dan Vander Beek

a master's degree at Fort Hays State University (Kan.).

Clayberg served as associate head coach in 2003, then returned as junior varsity coach in 2008 before becoming an instructor/coach at Pella High School.

Clayberg and her husband, Brett '85, have four children: Nathan, 19, Noah, 16, Natalie, 13, and Nolan, 10.

Jeff Schneekloth '86

Schneekloth was a key cog in Central's men's tennis dynasty that saw the Dutch reel off 11 consecutive league crowns from 1977-87, becoming the only player in school history to be a four-time league champ in both singles and doubles. He captured titles at No. 3 singles (1983), No. 2 singles (1984) and No. 1 (1985, 1986), while winning the No. 1 doubles championship all four years. Schneekloth was the conference MVP in 1985 and 1986. He was an NCAA Division III national tourney qualifier in doubles in 1983 and 1984, then was chosen in singles in 1985 and 1986.

After spending two years as a tennis teaching professional in Arizona and California, Schneekloth became an educator, teaching for six years before becoming an administrator, earning a master's degree at the University of Northern Iowa in 1995. In 2010 he began serving as associate principal at Taft Middle School in Cedar Rapids.

Jeff and his wife, Sonya, have two sons: Skyler, 19, and Riley, 17.



Central celebrated the installation of the new PPI videoboard at Ron and Joyce Schipper Stadium with PPI Day Sept. 20. Enjoying the festivities were (left to right): vice president for advancement Bill Northup '83, PPI vice president for marketing Dusty Bradley, PPI vice president for operations Mark Zylstra, PPI president/CEO Roger Brown, PPI board member Stan Poortinga, president Mark Putnam, athletics director Eric Van Kley, PPI vice president for human resources Greg Stravers, vice president for finance/CF0 Sam Iogha.



The first phase of the Hillside Seating Project at the Central soccer field was completed in time for Central's home season opener Aug. 29. It features stadium seating and other spectator enhancements.



SUMMERTIME SCHOLARS

Get to know Central's first five Bosch Fellows

These students tackled professional research projects, with topics ranging from music to molecules, with faculty sponsors on campus this summer. The Arthur J. Bosch Endowment for Student Research provided housing and financial support for these awardees, who spent their break preparing for graduate school and their chosen careers.



Ashley Oblander '16
and Russ Benedict

ASHLEY OBLANDER '16

Hometown: Spillville, Iowa
Major: Biology
Faculty sponsor: Russ Benedict, professor of biology

WHAT I DID:
I worked with Dr. Benedict to advance his Prairies for Agriculture project, which aims to show Iowa farmers the benefits of planting native prairie. Our work this summer was a small part of finding answers to big questions.

WHY THIS PROJECT:
The 10-week fellowship was more in-depth and hands-on than what I can experience during the school year. I was amazed how much I learned this summer.

MY HIGHLIGHT:
One of the best things about coming to Central is that you can get to know your professor. When you spend all summer with them, it's like you're part of their family.





**Andrew Johnson '15
and Jay Wackerly**



The Arthur J. Bosch Endowment for Student Research was established in 2013 to make possible undergraduate summer research opportunities for Central students across many academic disciplines. Named for chemistry professor emeritus Art Bosch '51, the endowment provides a stipend and housing for students, allowing them to focus on research projects rather than summer jobs. Each Bosch Scholar is paired with current faculty sponsors who work closely with the students to advance their research projects.

ANDREW JOHNSON '15

Hometown: Rockton, Ill.

Major: Chemistry and physics

Faculty sponsor: Jay Wackerly, assistant professor of chemistry

WHAT I DID:

I conducted research on oxaquinonacyclophanes, which are large, multi-atom molecules capable of binding other molecules inside them. Their structure is why my research is interesting, because the cavity in the molecule can bind different molecules, and we can chemically alter the molecule to release bound molecules at a later time.

My research this summer involved optimizing this reaction, blocking an unwanted side reaction and trying to force the macrocycle to stay in a certain state. I am continuing this research throughout this year for my honors thesis, and hopefully we will be ready to publish a paper soon.

WHY THIS PROJECT:

I have been involved in research in this field with Dr. Wackerly since I was a freshman, so it was only natural that I would want to work full time this summer and try to advance the research as far as possible before I have to leave Central. I also wanted to experience a full-time academic research lab before I go to graduate school next year.

MY HIGHLIGHT:

My favorite part of this summer was getting to present at a national American Chemical Society conference in San Francisco. I presented a poster on my research with two colleagues, and I was able to talk to a lot of undergraduate and graduate students and hear about their struggles and successes while sharing my own.

**Alexandria Savolt '15
and Ashley Scolaro**



ALEXANDRIA SAVOLT '15

Hometown: Dyersville, Iowa **Major:** Psychology
Faculty sponsor: Ashley Scolaro, assistant professor of psychology

WHAT I DID:

I continued to build research on cognitive control and handedness. I wanted to learn whether there are significant differences in individuals' performance of cognitive tasks based on whether they are right- or left-handed.

WHY THIS PROJECT:

I am left-handed, and I've always heard things like, "left-handed people die earlier, but they are better at sports and more creative." I was interested to see if anyone had done research in this area, and I set out to investigate conflicting findings. Together, Ashley Scolaro and I studied various factors that could account for these differences.

MY HIGHLIGHT:

This experience has allowed me to grow as a researcher. Before this project, I had only classroom experience with research, so it was new and exciting to do research full-time for a summer. I was also able to pull apart data and look at it in many ways, and I had more time to truly understand the findings.

BRANDON MENNENOH '15

Hometown: Audubon, Iowa
Major: Vocal music education
Faculty sponsor: Cynthia Doggett, associate professor of music

WHAT I DID:

I examined cultural issues in Bizet's "Carmen," a French opera, and Strauss' "Salome," a German opera.

WHY THIS PROJECT:

I wanted to explore the possibility of studying musicology in grad school.

MY HIGHLIGHT:

I discovered how "Carmen," which premiered during the communist rise in Paris, portrays the gypsy life, gender power and racism, and how "Salome" addresses homosexuality and anti-Semitism. I was impressed by these artists' careful consideration of how to express themselves and the needs of society at that time.



Brandon Mennenoh '15 and Cynthia Doggett



"I was impressed by these artists' careful consideration of how to express themselves and the needs of society at that time."

Brandon Mennenoh '15



"I got to hear some great stories from the older generation, and I discovered the value of listening to an individual." **Emily Saville '15**

Emily Saville '15 and Ashley Scolaro



EMILY SAVILLE '15

Hometown: Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Major: Psychology

Faculty sponsor: Ashley Scolaro, assistant professor of psychology

WHAT I DID:

I continued building my research on reminiscence and its therapeutic benefits to older adults. My participants discussed prompts relating to the past (reminiscence group) or their current life (my control group). What I found was that people's moods improved after talking with me about both topics. This shows the significance of social interaction for older adults. Another very interesting finding was that every individual benefited from the conversation, no matter his or her level of cognitive ability.

WHY THIS PROJECT:

This fellowship was a great opportunity to expand my research from the spring. I was able to include more participants and dive deeper into questions relating to cognitive ability. This experience will be a huge advantage for applying to grad school. I want to get my master's of social work and pursue a career in counseling.

MY HIGHLIGHT:

I got to hear some great stories from the older generation, and I discovered the value of listening to an individual. If we can all just take a little bit of time out of our day to give our loved ones a call or visit, loneliness and depression may not be such an issue. I also think I gained a few more grandparents throughout the process!



Practicing WHAT HE TEACHES

by Cindy Deppe

Professor of mathematics Mark Mills practices what he teaches. Last summer, he sat for his second professional actuarial exam—not as a prospective actuary, but as a faculty member intent on doing a better job walking in his students’ shoes. And it is not the first time.

Mills, along with faculty colleagues Robert Maurer (accounting, retired) and Debela Birru (business management), created Central’s actuarial science major in 2009 and has been growing

the program since. While many colleges and universities cut programs during that period, Central added the interdisciplinary major just after the 2008 recession.

“We were seeing good math students coming in who were headed more in the business direction than the science direction,” Mills says. “As I talked to business colleagues, they also saw talented students who were interested in the field but were not able to cover all the bases without stepping

outside their major in business management or economics.”

Mills says Central was able to package courses already available on campus to meet the requirements of the Society of Actuaries and make sure students would be prepared when they entered the field.

Actuaries are business professionals who analyze risk, using math, statistics, financial theory and business principles to assess the impact of future events. Associates and Fellows in the Society of Actuaries complete



I taught the probability course at Central and had been advising my students to take courses to be prepared for the professional exams, but I hadn't taken the exams myself, so it felt hollow to keep recommending without the firsthand experience.

Mark Mills

a rigorous set of up to nine professional exams to gain certification to work with life insurance companies, retirement plans, health benefit systems, financial and investment management firms, and other emerging businesses.

SHOW, NOT TELL

Mills, who earned his Ph.D. in mathematics and joined Central's faculty in 1999, says he ventured into the field of actuarial science because he wants to show students how to use math in the world. "My interests are in applied math—statistics, probability and using math to problem solve in a variety of ways," he says.

During the 2006-07 academic year, Mills worked part-time in the test lab at Pella Corporation to learn how mathematics and statistics were used in the working world. "It was a chance to taste how math is applied in manufacturing and to see where math abilities are used in the workplace (measurements, statistics, data mining)," Mills says. "I analyzed data sets related to moisture testing of windows and predicted percentages of warranty claims based on available data."

Mills' next real world stop came in 2012, when he took his first actuarial exam, known in the industry as Exam P, for probability. "I taught the probability course at Central and had been advising my students

to take courses to be prepared for the professional exams," Mills says, "but I hadn't taken the exams myself, so it felt hollow to keep recommending without the firsthand experience."

Mills was also curious. "My real impetus for taking these exams is to learn, 'Am I really preparing my students?'" he says. Through taking the exams, Mills has found ways to improve Central's actuarial classes. "I learned there were gaps in our coursework," he says, "and that there are some tricks you can use to solve problems or formulas that will save you time."

GOING THE EXTRA MILE

Mills' former students and colleagues say that "going the extra mile" is characteristic of Mills' dedication to his students and profession.

Steven Grotzinger '14, an actuarial science grad and employee of EquiTrust Life Insurance Company in West Des Moines, says, "Dr. Mills has the students' best interest in mind at all times. Even after graduation, he has been willing to help with the exam process and exam material. I appreciate his hands-on experience because he knows the difficulty of the exams firsthand and is able to help students, both past and present, to

understand the time and effort required to pass them.”

When Grotzinger interviewed for the internship that led to his full-time job, he found his supervisors were impressed by the variety of classes required at Central. “Dr. Mills is always looking to improve his way of teaching and ways to improve the major,” Grotzinger says. “He has done a great job, as is evident by the students that end up in an actuarial role after college.”

Assistant professor of economics Jessica Schuring '04 is another testament to Grotzinger's recent experience. Schuring, also Mills' former student, now co-directs the actuarial science major with him.

“As a student, I remember him as incredibly caring,” Schuring says, “both inside and outside the classroom. He was always willing to give you time for your career questions or other questions about life. He cared about you as a person and was always willing to listen.” Schuring says this carried over as she and Mills became colleagues. “When he commits to anything,” she says, “he is fully on board and gives his all.”

It's unusual for professors to take actuarial exams, Schuring says, because of the large time commitment—up to 400 hours of study. “If you are a practicing actuary in the field, it's lucrative



to pass the exams,” Schuring says, “because there are salary increases and promotions attached. But in academia, taking the exams and all of the required study time is totally for the students' benefit.”

Schuring knows what she's talking about. After graduating from Central, she worked at Nationwide Insurance in Des Moines while completing her M.B.A. During that time, she also took the first actuarial exam while

on the job. Schuring then earned a Ph.D. in economics, and she says Mills wrote letters of recommendation to support all of her career steps.

Schuring returned to Central in a visiting faculty position in 2010, and she is now in the tenure process with Mills serving as a second evaluator (outside the economics department).

STUDENT BENEFITS

When reflecting on the importance of Mills practicing what he teaches, Schuring says the benefit for students is huge. “These professional exams are a big unknown for them—it's the first time they've taken an exam that wasn't tied to a syllabus,” Schuring says. “To have someone who has just walked through

“We are much better teachers and advisers when we know where our students are headed.”
Mark Mills

Students studying for actuarial exams benefit from Mark Mills' experience taking the tests.



“He was always willing to give you time for your career questions or other questions about life. He cared about you as a person and was always willing to listen.”

Jessica Schuring '04

the process and studies with the students is a tremendous benefit.”

After taking Exam P, Mills offered question-and-answer sessions every Friday over his lunch hour for students preparing for the exam. “I made up exam questions or used problems from old exams,” Mills says. “I really wanted to help students be successful based on my exam experience.” Now that he’s completed the second exam (Exam FM, for Financial Math), Mills expects to share that experience too.

“We are much better teachers and advisers when we know where our students are headed,” Mills says. “I really want to know that I am preparing my students well, and I feel like I learned that. I’m looking forward to a productive year in our program and to raise the expectations that students complete exams.”

Both Mills and Schuring say that putting greater emphasis on the professional exams within the curriculum is important for students.

“Students without exams aren’t getting hired,” Schuring says. “In fact, some internships aren’t hiring those without exams.”

Preparing students for exams is vital to give them a foot in the door, Mills says, but he also

wants them to have knowledge they need beyond the exams. “We plan to strike a middle ground of preparing for exams and knowledge for the long run,” he says.

Another plus for Central’s actuarial program is that students can earn Validation by Educational Experience credits (VEE credits) prior to graduation. “VEEs are areas in which colleges can become certified by the Society of Actuaries,” Mills explained. “Central students who complete the actuarial science major can easily complete VEEs before graduation in economics, corporate finance and applied statistical methods.”

Since the 2008 recession, the market demand for actuaries has grown, which has increased both income and job security. That demand is also reflected in the increased enrollment in the Central program. Mills and Schuring are currently advising 11 declared majors, plus many first- and second-year students who have expressed interest in the major.

Mills hasn’t ruled out taking additional exams in the future. The experience he’s gained has made the intense studying worthwhile, enabling him to meet his goal of better preparing students for the tests. Central actuarial students thank him for putting himself in their shoes, and they’ll reap the benefits in the career world.

CENTRAL CONNECTIONS

by Cindy Deppe

& *the power of the written word*



Melissa Urbain '05 accepts her Teacher of the Year award.

Stark and “the power of the written word” brought them together.

ENTER MELISSA URBAIN '05, STAGE RIGHT

Melissa Urbain teaches English Language Development and Language Arts Intervention classes at John Muir Middle School in the San Jose Unified School District. In May, Urbain was named Teacher of the Year by the northern California district, recognized “for guiding and encouraging her students academically, while also nurturing their growth into young adults.” Nominated by peers, Urbain was selected because of her “instructional excellence, devotion to students, and contributions to a positive school climate.”

Call it serendipity. Or call it the magic of Central connections. Mary Stark, professor of English, calls it “the power of the written word.”

“It” is the connection Stark made between two former students, a decade apart—Melissa Urbain '05 and Chris Stone '96—and the mutual admiration, inspiration, mentoring and reflection among these three professional educators.

While studying at Central, Urbain wrote an essay, assigned by Stark, that featured her high school mentor—Stone. Neither Urbain nor Stone knew about the Central connection until

Urbain’s quick rise to Teacher of the Year in the large, diverse school district seemed unlikely for a student from Iowa. “School was difficult for me,” Urbain says. “I was always below grade level, and my parents got tutors for me. By tenth grade, I was still struggling but became interested in English and writing stories.”

Urbain entered Chris Stone’s classroom at Davenport Assumption High School, in Davenport, Iowa, where she eventually earned an A. “Chris graded on creativity and idea development, not mechanics,”

Urbain says. "He was interested in my idea expression, and I ended up loving English and loved going to school for the first time. Chris got to know me and truly cared. When I earned that A, I was never so proud in my life. I knew then I could do it, and that I had people like Chris on my side."

Urbain graduated and attended community college before transferring to Central. Stone moved on too, and they lost touch. Seven years later, an assignment in Stark's class unearthed the three-way Central connection.

"Mary had the class write about someone who had influenced each of us," Urbain says. "I wrote about Chris because of his belief in me and his teaching example. Mary, in her infinite wisdom and incredible ability to connect with students, recognized that my mentor, Chris Stone, was her former student."

Stark tracked down Stone's contact information, re-introduced the two via email and phone calls, and Urbain followed up. "It was the most wonderful connection ever," Urbain says. "Chris remembered me, and we've been connected ever since. We meet up when we are in Iowa at the same time."

ENTER CHRIS STONE '96, STAGE LEFT

Chris Stone is assistant director of the Disability Resource Center at the University of North Carolina, Wilmington (UNCW), and a doctoral candidate in higher education administration at George Washington University.

After graduating from Central with an English major and secondary education certification, Stone taught middle and high school language arts, including Urbain's high school class at Davenport Assumption. Stone then moved across the country for (unbeknownst to him) a one-year teaching position, and, while searching for his next job, connected

with a Central graduate who was coordinating volunteer tutoring programs for the Diocese of Davenport Catholic Schools.

Stone's interest in disability services was kindled, and after earning a master's degree in post secondary disabilities services, he continues that work at UNCW, while working on his dissertation to complete his Ed.D.

Part of Stone's work in the UNCW Disability Resource Center is to develop learning plans and strategies to help students become more successful. "It's finding what makes students click," Stone says—and added quickly, "and it all goes back full circle to Mary Stark."

"I was in the teacher education program at Central, and Mary was my adviser," Stone says. "I got a good sense of what was important in teaching from watching Mary."

Stone, too, recalls a writing assignment from Stark that turned his interest in teaching into practice.

"I took an environmental literature class with Mary as an independent study," Stone says, "and I had to write a paper on 'The Lorax' and our environmental future. She simply said, 'Be creative.' I wrote a five-page paper in Seussian verse, and she liked it."

Stone said Stark's approach—encouraging students to be creative—is always on his mind while teaching. "'Earth Mother Mary' was always open, natural, willing to talk," Stone says. "She would have you over to her house to read and drink cider. We didn't keep in touch regularly after graduation, but she always remembers me graciously. So when Melissa called, it was a serendipitous connection."

ENTER MARY STARK, CENTER STAGE

Since 1980, Mary Stark has influenced countless young writers and aspiring teachers at Central. This fall, in addition

to her English teaching responsibilities and her role as John and Anna Poole Endowed Chair in the Humanities, Stark is also acting chair of the education department.

When she first came to Central, Stark started working with student teachers. "I like that part of my work and have always kept it as a part of my responsibility here," she says. Stark teaches children's literature to elementary teachers and literature for young adults to aspiring secondary teachers.

"Writing in many forms provides the opportunity to express and have a voice," Stark says. "We value that as teachers." She adds, "If Melissa and Chris hadn't written, they never would have connected."

Stark also teaches Intro to College Success, a course taken by about 80 percent of incoming students to learn study techniques, time management and to navigate campus resources. "It's all about networking," Stark says. "I ask them to write a letter to someone who has inspired them. There have been different variations over the years, as I like variety and choice in writing. How they connect with each other is always pleasing."

After students graduate, Stark says many write to tell her what they are doing. "As educators, we are planting seeds," she says, "and when it all comes to fruition, it's humbling and rewarding to see what former students are doing."

ROLL THE CREDITS

According to Urbain, Stark's compassion and understanding for every student provided a source of

confidence in her own early teaching career. "Mary is such a fantastic model," Urbain says. "She is such a respectful, gentle soul who always says 'I want to help.' She helps me continue to believe in my abilities."

After working in after-school programs for a year with AmeriCorps, Urbain began teaching in San Jose, where there were many teacher graduates of nearby Stanford University. "I was intimidated," Urbain says, "but realized very quickly that I was just as well prepared. Kudos to Central faculty for leveling the playing field."

Urbain soon earned a master's degree in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) from San Jose State University, and she credits Stark and other Central faculty with helping her to see the world through lenses of different backgrounds.

"I was super impressed with the English and education faculty at Central," Urbain says. "All were forward-thinking and interested in building educators. I really admired them for being open-minded." During her "free" summers, Urbain has taught in Japan, China and the West Indies, gathering experiences she can bring back to the classroom.

That's how Urbain realized she needed to know more about English language development. "Many of my students struggle with speaking multiple languages," she says. "It's a remarkable privilege to work with people from all over the world."

It was Stone, Urbain says, who showed her how to connect with students who may be struggling. "I've taken these experiences back into my own classroom," Urbain says, "letting them

I've taken these experiences back into my own classroom, letting them know I care, and it's okay to struggle, because that means you are working hard.

MELISSA URBAIN

know I care, and it's okay to struggle, because that means you are working hard."

Now, five years into teaching middle schoolers, Urbain loves their energy and goofiness. "It's a great time in their lives," Urbain says. "I have three years with them, so I can build on these formative years. As a language arts teacher, I have a little more freedom with them to teach to fill gaps."

Urbain also works in Inside Intervention, a remedial reading and writing program for eighth graders that sometimes also deals with behavior issues. "I can identify," Urbain says. "They are behind, and so was I. My

As an educator, Stone says he also aspires to have an impact. "In my high school class with Melissa, we didn't use worksheets or rote learning," he says. "I wanted students to share with me what their interests were. It's what I gained from Mary. Teachers who are influential in bringing you to education have an impact."

Stone says he's glad Urbain "got it" in his class. "It's hard to know that you influenced someone until you are told," he says. "I was drawn to working with students with disabilities because it was an area where I felt I could make an impact."



message to them is 'we're going to get better at this.' When I see them happy and learning, I am so proud."

Urbain is also in her second year as an instructional coach for fellow teachers in language development. She says this role provides a chance to inspire other teachers and solve problems with them. "I have that central fundamental belief that all students can learn," Urbain says. "If not, you are in the wrong profession—don't give up on them, just teach in a different way."

“He was interested in my idea expression, and I ended up loving English and loved going to school for the first time. Chris got to know me and truly cared. When I earned that A, I was never so proud in my life. I knew then I could do it, and that I had people like Chris on my side.”

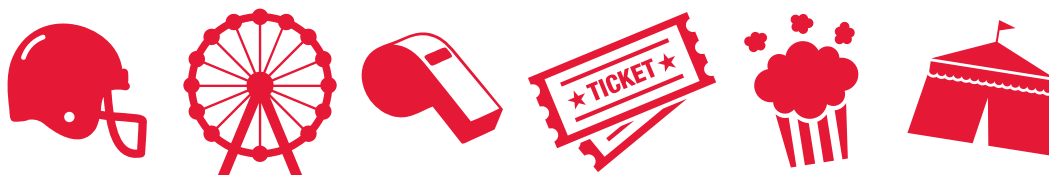
MELISSA URBAIN

MORE THAN SERENDIPITY

All along this thread—teachers inspired, words written and relationships built—each of the three admirers has had a unique perspective. For Stark, it has been exciting to hear about her students' success—and a delight to know that they are passionate about helping others. For Stone, it has been a reminder of his goal and a glimpse into the impact he has had. For Urbain, it has been a chance to celebrate the connections that changed her identity.

Combine the written word with a dash of serendipity, and the outcome is the magic of Central connections.

CENTRAL COLLEGE ALUMNI CLASS REUNIONS



CLASS OF 1964

Row 1: Quentin Kuyper, Sylvia Gunnink Poe, Judi Kolenbrander Braskamp, Carol Boerefyn Brickley, Arlene Tysseling Dahm, Kathy Derksen Terpstra, Willa Schaver Brown, Ardie Pals Sutphen **Row 2:** Charlene Voss Johnson, Joan Vande Vusse Williams, Jessie Van de Voort Madden, Linda Barton Banken, Joan Rosenberg Lindaman, Ruth Roelofs Tresemer, Carol Van Kley Olsen, Steve Onder **Row 3:** Bob Williams, Paul Dirksen, Jim Danks, Jim Muyskens, Mark De Cook, Jim Francis, Arlan De Kock **Row 4:** Bill Hemmes, Sherwin Koopmans, Jim Engelkes, Dick Lindaman, Paul Kolenbrander, Lawrence Paschold, Bob Pentico



Row 1: Ron Zoutendam '54, Martha Hanson Zoutendam '54, Jen Noordsey Andeweg '54, Logan Andeweg '55 **Row 2:** Aaron Koskamp '51, Barbara Rathmell Koskamp '53, Bob DeYoung '59, Carol Jutting DeYoung '59

Row 1: Greg Christiano, Jane Sandell Blair, Janet Secor, Jennifer Boerefyn Hart **Row 2:** Rich Vander Hart, Harley Riak, Bill Rankin, Charles Jones **Row 3:** Dale Vander Wilt, Robin Hand, Gary Dirksen, Mike Peterson, Arlyn Stuart

Row 1: Dave Gaulke, Don Robinette, Nancy Greer Paris, Peggy Barnes Smith, Ed Sprague, Becky Desing Bock, Denise Gosiewski Smith, Terri Humphrey Gotta, Kim Soo Hoo Vann, Joyce Ringele **Row 2:** Kris Easter Gaulke, Dave Swanson, Thom Summitt, Lois Sorenson Boeyink, David Sprecker, Chuck Laug, Sue Brunscheen Cerwinski, Sue Ryerson Sikkink **Row 3:** Ed Newhard, Dave Mattern, Warren Poldberg, Bill Rollison, Kent Johnson, Randy Gunter



Row 1: Mary Ohaver Moermond, Paul Jones, Dave Helmick, DeeDee Dykstra



Row 1: Mike Rhoades, Andrea Busker Van Wyk, Allison Corron, Sanae Spencer Glendening **Row 2:** Craig Zimmerman, Tim Bleadorn, Judy Hartog, Phil Wandrey **Row 3:** Pedro Gongora, Steve Earnest, Bonnie Bouma Schlieker, Bob Andeweg



Row 1: Betsy Lewis Casebolt, Julia Davis, Shelly Anderson Grams, Heidi Ehrenberger Haney **Row 2:** Glenda Masteller, Jody Harris, Kelli Carpenter Green, Christie Brandenburg Schmitt, Linda Schumacher, Terri Snyders Crumley, Loretta Short Loyd **Row 3:** Petra Cella Anderson, Chuck Ray, Joe Simon, John Cross, Mike Eilers, Kara Glendening Busker, Nathan Busker, Mary Valentine Jetter



Row 1: Janella Feldt Johnson, Joyce Fehr Barker, Kari Quillin Gronoski, Jil Bancroft Nelson, Darby Dunham Kurtz, Jonene Bichel-Van Meter, Kyle Munson **Row 2:** Brian Johnson, Lori Fine Rodgers, Julie Pegg Smith, Mary Green-Warnstadt, Shannon Ehlers, John McKinney, Dave Elfvin **Row 3:** Jenni Morse Halseth, Jamie Weld Champion, Tonya Englund Wilkins, Deanna Ver Steeg, Karen Morkin-Van Dyke, Vicki Oxley Piedras, Eden Dagit Gens, Brian Dunlap **Row 4:** Jay Jackson, Chandra Smith Leeper, Paula Wood, Eric Schulz, Jeni Holm, Mike Dahlhauser **Row 5:** Dean Pape, Anna Jensen, Ben Lindaman, Angela Mueggenberg Gage, Jeff Gilbert, Angie Leonard Morrow, Megan Harvey, Rae Fehring, Andrew Hudson



Row 1: Joe Vande Kieft, Kerry Maynard Vande Kieft, Heather Jeanette Rohe **Row 2:** Ryan Van Haaften, Eric Rohe, Kellie Steuhm Phillips, Christa Comfort Marchant



Row 1: Melissa White Anderson, Jill Young Whitham, Raegan Schultz Wagner, Jessica Chase Pierce, Sheramie Hinders, Danette Cary Webber **Row 2:** Kelly Graber Kalvig, Lindsay Schultz Janke, Ann Hellenga Gritters, Jacob Oyen, Matt Jens, Luke Rasmussen **Row 3:** Angela Lowenberg Jones, Jon Kalvig, Randy Jarzombek, Ryan Roy, Brett Van Waus

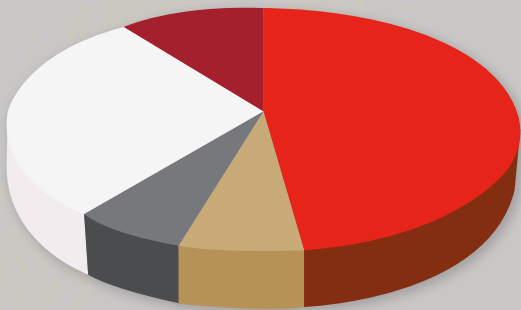


Row 1: Leanna McBride Showman, Meghan Swella Norton, Laura Bade **Row 2:** Rachel Boeke, Emily Stracke, Danielle Francois, Julie Palmer



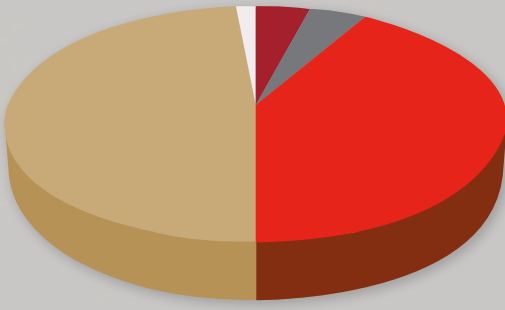
Row 1: Andrew O'Brien, Aleesha Godwin, Emily Hutchinson, Amanda Meyer-Smith **Row 2:** Steve Messerschmidt, Nathan Graves, Ryan McPherrin

***To see more photos of homecoming and to download your class photo go to www.central.edu/alumni/photos/.**



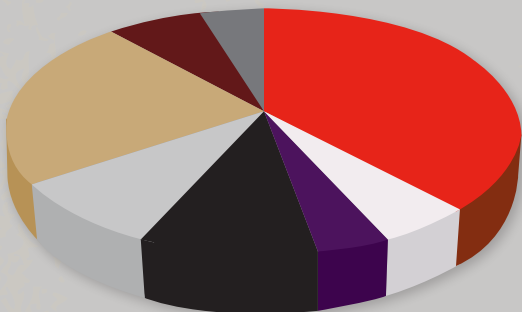
REVENUE

Tuition and fees, net	\$20,510,472
Endowment	\$3,400,000
Contributions	\$6,698,178
Auxiliary enterprises	\$14,257,672
Other	\$2,703,654
Total	\$47,569,976



ASSETS

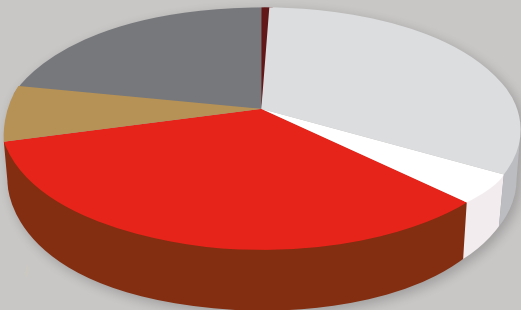
Cash	\$4,771,167
Receivables	\$8,829,590
Investments	\$82,733,450
Property and equipment, net	\$86,843,499
Other	\$8,549,993
Total	\$191,727,699



EXPENDITURES

Instruction	\$17,559,896
Academic support	\$2,313,201
Institutional support	\$2,246,880
Student services	\$4,288,023
Administration and general	\$3,490,523
Auxiliary enterprises	\$10,156,872
Student activities	\$3,922,533
Other	\$1,199,626
Total	\$45,117,554

Change in unrestricted net assets from operating activities.....\$2,392,422



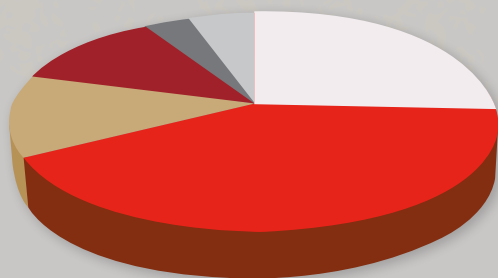
LIABILITIES

Accounts payable	\$921,875
Notes and bonds payable	\$60,743,726
Other	\$5,239,557
Total	\$66,905,158

NET ASSETS

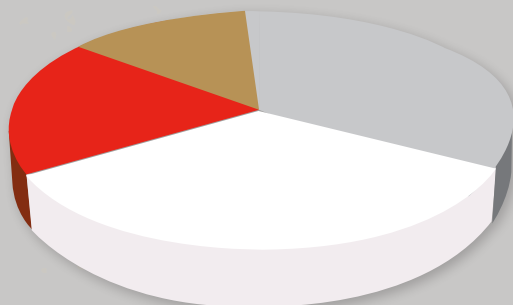
Unrestricted	\$63,773,720
Temporarily restricted	\$14,634,631
Permanently restricted	\$46,414,190
Total	\$124,822,541
Total	\$191,727,699

2013-14 FINANCIAL REPORT



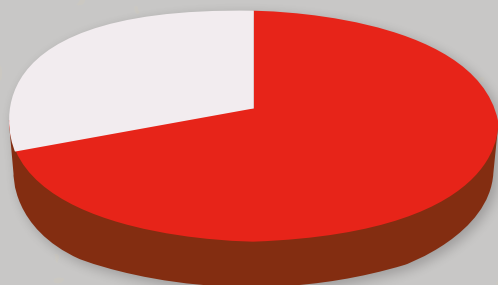
GIVING BY SOURCES

Alumni	\$2,075,829
Friends	\$465,095
Corporations	\$482,236
Foundations	\$1,546,546
Associations/churches.....	\$119,007
Non-alumni parents	\$271,460
Total.....	\$4,960,173



GIVING BY DESIGNATION

Capital purposes	\$1,493,427
Endowment	\$888,000
Annual support	\$1,613,907
Other restricted annual gifts....	\$964,839
Total.....	\$4,960,173



SCHOLARSHIP GIVING

Endowment	\$541,713
Journey Scholarship	\$1,613,907
Total.....	\$2,155,620

Thanks to donor support throughout the years, Central has been able to provide students with a quality education that not only gives them an unparalleled campus experience but also prepares them for life after college.

For the 2013-14 fiscal year, the Journey Scholarship Fund surpassed its goal of \$1.5 million with the help of the \$50K in 50 Days matching gift challenge—which turned into \$75K in 50 Days as we reached \$50K in just 32 days!

Reaching this year's goal of \$1.6 million for the JSF will require both breadth and depth of support from many current and new donors. "Our need for scholarship support never seems to diminish," says Bill Northup, vice president for advancement. "And we simply couldn't be more grateful for the way the Central family has stepped up to the challenge of creating opportunities for our students."

Each and every gift to the Journey Scholarship Fund directly affects the life of a student. Gifts to the JSF are changing the lives of our students and their families.

Every gift matters. Learn about ways you can support the college at www.central.edu/waystogive.

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 + Deceased

Journey SCHOLARSHIP FUND

JOURNEY SCHOLARSHIP FUND AND ANNUAL GIVING

2013-14 YEAR IN REVIEW

Total Number of Gifts: **3,454** | # of Gifts of 1,000 or more: **275**

Total Dollars: **\$1,613,907**

NUMBER OF GIFTS OF \$250 OR LESS:

2,894

TOTAL DOLLARS FROM GIFTS OF \$250 OR LESS:

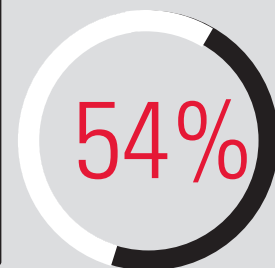
\$214,146.89

GIFT FROM THE FARTHEST AWAY: BRIAN SHEPARD—

6,200 MILES

FROM YAMANASHI, JAPAN

Percent Who Made Their Gift via the Phonathon:



Alumni Participation: 10.1% of grads & non-grads (1,781/17,644)

TOTAL DOLLARS FROM ALUMNI:

\$731,862

Total Dollars from Parents: **\$279,085.50**

ALUMNI AWARD WINNERS



Three Central College alumni—and one honorary alumna—received awards Oct. 4 in conjunction with Central's 2014 Homecoming celebration. The awards honored the recipients' important contributions to their career fields and to Central College. Recipients were Jeff Link '89, Kirk Kolenbrander '83, Markay Winston '87 and Marlyn Rietveld-Ebbers, who was honored for professional achievements and dedication to Central. The awards presentation took place in Maytag Student Center.

JEFF LINK '89

CEO of Analytics Media Group of New York and Chicago
Owner of Link Strategies, LLC, in Des Moines

Jeff Link recently formed Analytics Media Group with members of the team that marketed President Barack Obama's 2008 and 2012 campaigns. Link advised this team while managing Link Strategies, his own political consulting firm. Link was also involved in Sen. Tom Harkin's 1996 and 2002 campaigns.

KIRK KOLENBRANDER, PH.D. '83

Vice President and Secretary of the Corporation at MIT in
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Kirk Kolenbrander has worked with MIT since 1990. Before serving in his current role, Kolenbrander was an associate professor of electronic materials, associate dean for student life and senior advisor to MIT's president. At

MIT, Kolenbrander has been recognized for excellence in teaching and for outstanding contribution to student life.

MARKAY WINSTON, PH.D. '87

Chief of Special Education and Supports, Chicago Public
Schools

Before working in Chicago, Markay Winston distinguished herself as director of student services for Cincinnati Public Schools. She led the district in special education, crisis response, homeless education, school health and English as a second language. Winston also served as a school psychologist and mental health consultant for Cincinnati's Secondary Diagnostic Center for Behavior Disordered Youth, as well as an adjunct professor at the University of Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky University.

MARLYN RIETVELD-EBBERS, HONORARY ALUMNA

Marlyn Rietveld-Ebbers has been connected to the Central family since 1979, when her daughter Rebecca Rietveld Eversman '83 started at Central. Rietveld-Ebbers' connections grew to include her second daughter, Alissa Kuhlman '93, husband Rev. Jim Ebbers '48, step-daughter Susan Ebbers '74 and son-in-law Scott Eversman '83. She has been an active part of Central for decades, serving with President's Associates, Cornerstone Society and Town & Gown, as well as attending Central events year round.



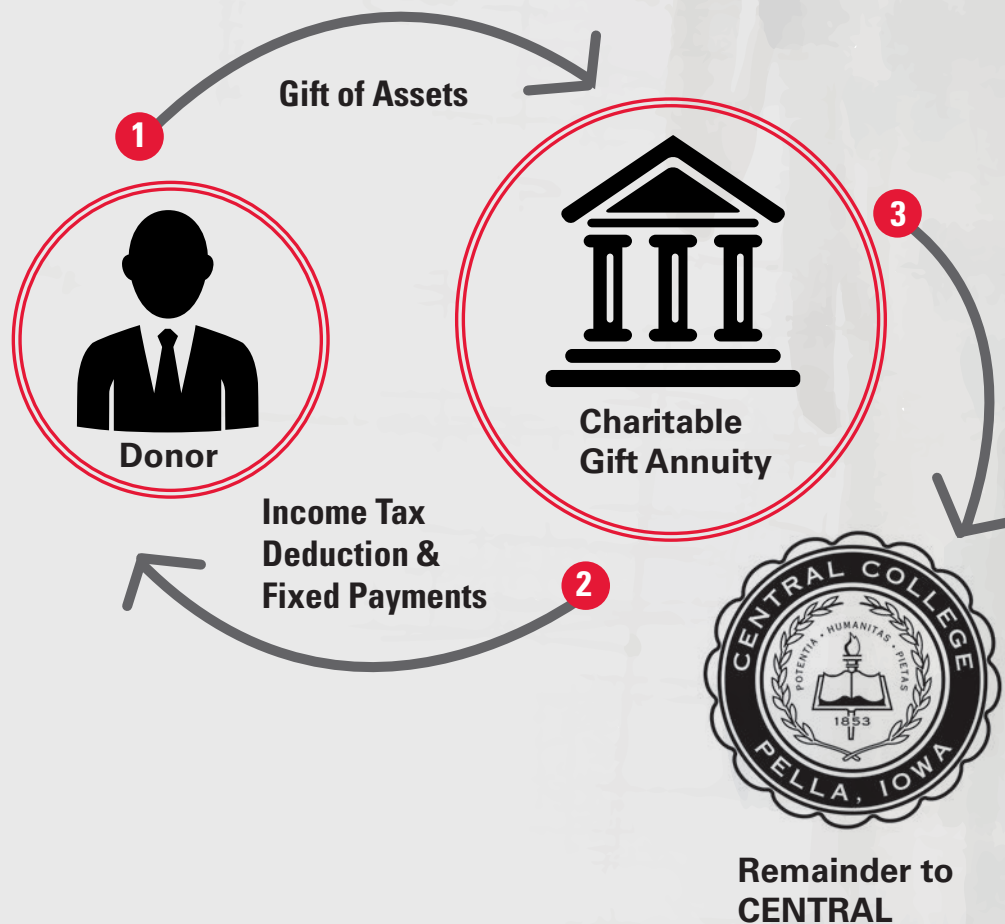
2014 CENTRAL COLLEGE LEGACY



Legacy 2014 students with parents and grandparents posed outside Central Hall during freshman move-in day.

First row (left to right): Bev De Witt DeVries '91, Elizabeth DeVries, Scott Haney, Cameron Haney, Heidi Ehrenberger Haney '89, Elaine Nagel Jaarsma '50, Anna Tysseling, Tanner Douma, **Kitty Hoskey Tysseling '90**, Jil Bancroft Nelson '94, Regan Nelson, Cheyenne Kinsella, Keely Kinsella, Allison Kinsella, **Jane Healy Bollinger '85**, Alan Bollinger, Blake Bollinger **Second row:** Faith Vanderharr, Marty Pratt, Sydney Pratt, **Jenny Parks Pratt '92**, Lori Baugh, Isabella Baugh, Savannah Baugh, **Ralph Jaarsma '59**, Elyse Lubbers, Benjamin Tysseling, Jim Tysseling, **Kyle Nelson '91**, **Denise Pflughaupt Kinsella '91**, Rod Kinsella, Aly Wynne, Noah Bollinger, Ben Bollinger, Becky Iddings **Third row:** Joe Eilers, **Amy Dietrich Eilers '88**, **Marty Chipps '92**, **Kristen Sparesus Chipps '92**, **Curtis Baugh '82**, Sebastian Baugh, Avery Baugh, **Carma Horstmann Sturtz '84**, Randy Lubbers, Luke Lubbers, **Linda Hietbrink Wilson '87**, Elisa Callejon, **Jane Heinen Callejon '88**, Lisa Thomas, Brandon Iddings, Faith Martin, **Larry Iddings '85** **Fourth row:** **Mike Eilers '89**, **Kristin Sickler De Vries '88**, Annie De Vries, Austin Chipps, Wendy Den Adel, **Stan Sturtz '81**, Chandler Sturtz, **Rob Wilson '87**, **Tim Wilson '14**, Scott Wilson, Miguel Callejon, **Brad Thomas '90**, Ben Thomas **Fifth row:** Sean Eilers, **Jeff DeVries '87**, Luke Den Adel, Matthew Den Adel, Abbie Den Adel, **Mark Den Adel '89**, Mike Gardner, Matt Gardner, **Rita Heemsbergen Gardner '80**, **Dawn DeYoung Pakkebier '90**, Bailea Pakkebier, **David Pakkebier '92**

MAKE A GIFT TO CENTRAL AND RECEIVE A FIXED INCOME FOR LIFE



If you would like to support Central and receive steady payments during your retirement years, a **Charitable Gift Annuity** may be just right for you.

BENEFITS

- Receive fixed annual payments for life
- Possibly receive tax-free income
- Diversify some of your portfolio to produce a fixed income for you, backed by Central's assets
- Federal, and possible state, income tax charitable deduction
- Reduce or eliminate estate taxes

EXAMPLE

Jane Brown, age 75, makes a cash gift of \$100,000 to Central this year in exchange for a charitable gift annuity. She will receive annual

payments of \$5,800 from Central for the rest of her life. She is entitled to an income tax charitable deduction for current income tax purposes of about \$45,000 (based on an IRS discount rate of 2.2%). Assuming Mrs. Brown is in the 28% federal income tax bracket for ordinary income and can use up the entire deduction, she will save about \$12,700 in income taxes. Of the \$5,800 she receives each year, only \$1,258 will be taxed at ordinary income rates, and \$4,542 per year will be tax-free for 12 years.

To learn more about how a Charitable Gift Annuity may work for you and to receive a free illustration, please contact Don Morrison at **(641) 628-5280** or **morrisond@central.edu**.

ALUMNI NEWSNOTES



Upcoming events:

- Dr. Russ Benedict, Central College: “An Intro to Ornithology”
- A Visit to the Red Rock Dam
- Tony Pleamons-Pearson '14, Central College: “Central Students During the U.S. Civil War”
- Mike Morgan, “The Mystery of Gasoline”
- Doug Wilson, “History of Coal Mining in Iowa”

Whether you graduated last year or many decades ago, you continue to learn, to grow, to discover.

The quest for lifelong learning is just that ... a journey that opens the door to new opportunities, new friends and new experiences. That's what Central RED Society is all about.

Central RED Society is Central College's innovative lifelong learning program that enriches members' lives through relevant, broad-based learning experiences. Central RED Society will foster creativity, intellectual curiosity and engagement with Central College and the community.

Join today! Members pay a \$35 annual membership fee, or join with a friend - two for \$50. Eight to ten events will be held each year. For membership information and upcoming events visit www.central.edu/red or call the Alumni Office at 800-447-0287.

THE '40S

William Hardin '42 retired after 66 years at his law firm in Knoxville. William plans to enjoy time with his three children and nine grandchildren.

THE '60S

For information about **Joyce Gray McSorley '69**, **Walter Hazzard '69**, **Sally Anderson '69** and **Donna Frey Kastning '69**, see the '70s.

LeRoy Sankey '63 was unanimously conferred with the title of Presbytery de Cristo Executive Presbyter Emeritus. Lee actively held the position from 1993 until 2006, when he retired from serving as

chief administrator and pastor to pastors of Presbytery de Cristo. Lee had spent 40 years' ministry as a parish pastor and a presbytery executive. Lee and wife **Sandra Kersbergen Sankey '63** live in Tucson, Ariz.

Doug '64 and wife **Sharon Kreun Schakel '67** of Olathe, Kan., celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Aug. 7. Doug was a featured speaker at the Wyoming Basketball Coaches Association summer clinic in Casper, Wyo., in July. He has begun posting a series of basketball instruction videos on YouTube. Sharon is a volunteer ESL teaching assistant at Johnson County Community College.

Maja Stiel Westra '68 and husband **Richard Westra '69** found a new home in the retirement community of Penney Farms, Fla.

They are happy with their new surroundings and know they have made a community of friends for life.

Jon Kuiper '69 of Central Square, N.Y., will miss his reunion at Homecoming this year because he will be on vacation in the Yucatan. Jon is a semi-retired pastor on staff at the Central Square Community Church/UCC. He and partner Angelo de Maria are celebrating their 35th year together and have nine grandchildren and one great-grandson.

THE '70S

Richard Crine '72 retired from his position as senior system engineer II at Raytheon Company in Anaheim, Calif., where he lives

Alumni are invited to submit Newsnotes online. We want to hear about recent promotions, degrees, honors, relocations, marriages and births to keep classmates and friends informed about important changes in your life. Update information online at civitas.central.edu or email alumni@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.





YUCATAN 1968 REUNION

Diane Staubus '71 of Woodstock, Ga., and five Yucatan co-conspirators hatched a plan during a mini reunion in New Jersey last year to hold a bigger reunion this year. Their hard work paid off, and a sizable group came together in Minneapolis for a reunion weekend. This group of Yucatan alumni, who traveled to Yucatan during fall 1968, are pictured seated (left to right): **Joyce Gray McSorley '69**, **Walter Hazzard '69** and **Sally Anderson '69**. Second row: **Donna Frey Kastning '69**, **Joyce Anderson '71**, **Kathy Ennen Dierks '71**, **Nick Koldyk '70**, **Walt Galloway '70**, **Diane Staubus '71**, **Allen Grooters '70** and **Gretchen Damsteegt Kirchner '70**. Back row: **Tom Taatjes '70**.

Donald Gano '74 of Geneseo, Ill., was promoted to assistant professor, granted tenure and given program director responsibilities for the criminal justice program at Black Hawk College in Moline.

Mike Moore '75 and wife **Kathy Maher Moore '77** of Pella traveled to Bollywood, India, to attend the wedding of Sarah Cogswell, the daughter of **Katie Seid Cogswell '75**. Also in attendance at the wedding were **Nina Cogswell Morwell '79** and **Pat Cogswell Giraldi '75**.

Hildy Bowbeer '76 of Minneapolis, Minn., is the magistrate judge for the U.S. District Court in St. Paul.

Galen Ramsey '76 of Villa Park, Ill., retired from his position as property designer for the College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn.

David Helmick '79 is the claims audit manager at ACCC Insurance Co in Houston. David and wife Kelley live in Spring, Texas.

THE '80S

For information about **Carla Sandee Olson '89**, **Keith Meendering '80**, **Tony Braida '89** and **Mark Koskamp '80**, see the '70s.

Michael Montgomery '80 retired from his position as principal at East Elementary in Knoxville. At his retirement celebration, his childhood friend, Congressman Bruce Braley, presented Mike with a Congressional

Record Award in recognition of his 34 years in education. This fall, Mike will observe and supervise Central College student teachers through the teacher education program.

Daniel Gomez '82 retired in 2011 as senior chief petty officer in the United States Navy after 25 years of service.

The father of three children relocated to Glendale, Ariz., to be near his family.

Tom Griffith '83 is the director of talent acquisition for Superior Support Resources in Brookfield, Wis. Tom and wife Karen live in West Bend and are the parents of two children.

Christopher Fontana '84 is the borestore and cutting edge sales manager at Vermeer Corp. Christopher and wife Janine live in Pella.

John Briggs '85 is a 747 pilot with United Airlines flying out of Chicago. He recently earned his black belt in Tae Kwon Do. John and wife Stacy live in West Des Moines.

Leah Zeutenhorst Tokheim '86 is the IT project manager at John Deere. Leah and husband Alan live in Johnston with their son.

George Marshall '88 is the senior director of retail with Nike Retail at Altos in the Portland, Ore., area.

Petra Cella Anderson '89 is the supply chain planner at Molex, Inc., in Lisle, Ill. Petra and husband Michael live in Aurora.

Harold Hynick '89 is associate professor of theatre at Missouri Valley College. Harold and wife **Christine Carnes '89** live in Marshall.

THE '90S

Donna Decker Hefner '91 teaches first grade at Saint Lawrence O'Toole Parish in Matteson, Ill. Donna and husband Jeremy are the parents of three children and live in



GROENENBOOM AND HARTSOOK WED

Dennis Groenenboom '75 and partner Scott Hartsook of Des Moines were married May 31. Dennis is the executive director of Iowa Legal Aid. Pictured in the back row (left – right): **Carla Sandee Olson '89**, **Jeff Kooistra '76**, **Holly White Kooistra '75**, **Sandy Perry Sigman '76**, **Tommi Hay Boeder '74**, **Keith Meendering '80**, **Diane Miller Tough '76**, **Mark Babcock '91**, **Jann Freed '77**, **Tony Braida '89** and **Mark Koskamp '80**. Seated (left – right): **Dennis Groenenboom '75** and **Scott Hartsook**.



Greg Vines '86 and wife **Carla Callaghan Vines '87** hosted a reunion July 19 for his Welsh crew who attended the Wales program during the fall semester, 1983. They are pictured first row (left – right): **Meg Debner Street '85** of Ames, **Shellie Page Kemna '85** of Kansas City, Mo., **Carolyn Shover Benda '86** of Toledo, **Lori Brand Olson '85** of Keota, **Nancy Cisar Wright '84** of Des Moines and **Stacie Runyan Gibler '85** of Albia. Second row: **Marti Haan Hearn '86** of Aurora, Ill., **Kelly Crone Hearn '85** of Farmington, N.H., and **Sue Bjork Rush '83** of Ankeny. Back row: **Greg Vines '86** of Johnston, **Brad Schulze '84**, of Indianola and **Tim Lazenby '86** of Yale.

Park Forest.

Christine Epperly leuter '91 was named vice president, controller and chief accounting officer at United Stationers in Deerfield, Ill. Christine and husband William live in Wilmette with their two daughters.

Tina Henninger Ries '91 is director of communication for Blessed Sacrament Catholic School in Denver, Colo., where she lives with husband Garth and their two children.

Joe Stutting '91 was named superintendent of the Sturgeon Bay School District in Sturgeon Bay, Wis. Joe and wife **Jami** are the parents of three children.

Donna Starr Stout '92 of Des Moines is on the consumer support processing team at Hewlett Packard.

Mike Furness '93 is the financial planning and analysis manager for Andersen Windows and Doors in Des Moines.

Noel Powell '93 and Shawna Hollebone of Westford, Mass., were married Dec. 1, 2013. Noel is associate director at Sunovion Pharmaceuticals in Marlborough and recently embarked on a second career. After a decade of practice, Noel earned a winemaker's certificate from the University of California-Davis. Since becoming a commercial winemaker, Noel has since founded the newest farm winery in Massachusetts, Aaronap Cellars, released his first vintage to the public and obtained a wine shipping license.

Michael Frohling '94 is master electrician and lighting designer at Pacific Conservatory Theatre in Santa Maria, Calif., where he lives

with wife Jessica.

Scott Sickle '95 and Kristin Odom of Baytown, Texas, were married July 24. Scott is an AVID teacher at Goose Creek High School in Baytown.

Wade Weber '95 is a youth program specialist at Iowa State University Extension Outreach in Spencer. Wade and wife Caryn live in Spirit Lake with their four children.

Derek Swain '96 of Saint Charles, Ill., is vice president of sales at PRA Global in the greater Chicago area.

Kristi Leonard '97 was this year's recipient of the Trustees' Outstanding Faculty Award at Waldorf College, where she is associate professor of wellness and department chair. Kristi and husband Terry Oliphant live in Forest City.

Jamie Hiscocks Cash '99 is the accounts receivable specialist at MediRevv in Coralville. Jamie and husband Rob live in North Liberty with their two sons.

Annique Brown Kiel '99 is director of administered programs abroad at Drake University in Des Moines, where she lives with husband Adam and their two daughters.

THE '00S

For information about **Kurt Rietema '04**, **Brooke Nederhoff O'Kane '07** and **Rachel Singley '07**, see the '10s.

Michelle Roozeboom '00 and Brian Baker were married Oct. 5, 2013. Michelle is senior principal statistician at General Dynamics Information Technology. Michelle and Brian live in West Des Moines with their

son.

Matt Dunsbergen '01 is a kindergarten – fifth-grade principal at Terrace Elementary in the Ankeny Community School District. Matt and wife Rochelle live in Ankeny with their three children.

John Hodges '02 was appointed chair of the Iowa Board of Parole. John and wife **Kristine Holtan Hodges '02** live in Bondurant. Kristine is a business project management consultant in commercial program delivery at Nationwide Insurance.

Lisa Vanderpluym '02 of Waukee is a field training consultant and senior account executive at Principal Financial Group in Des Moines.

Corey Vorthmann '02 was promoted to assistant superintendent of the Council Bluffs Community School District. Corey and wife Annie live in Council Bluffs with their son.

Nathan Scott '03 and Anne Scott of Overland Park, Kan., were married May 7, 2011. Nathan is a senior transmission engineer at Burns & McDonnell in Kansas City, Mo. Nathan and Anne are the parents of two children.

Megan Kruse Luckett '04 is senior manager II, supplier food safety at Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., in Bentonville, Ark. Megan and husband Curtis live in Bethel Heights with their daughter.

Adam Weiler '04 is founder and director of Ambrose in Holland, Mich., where he leads a screen printing and design business with a commitment to educating children about the arts. The Ambrose studio is used to create and print custom designed T-shirts, with part of the proceeds going to fund the after-school programs. The studio also does corporate branding and logo design work and hosts team-building youth and corporate workshops. Adam and wife Jenna live in Holland.

Sarah Williams Christian '05 teaches second grade at Northstar Elementary in Knoxville, where she lives with husband Tyler.

Jordan Kologe '05 is associate pastor at Church of the Good Shepherd in Charlotte, N.C., where he lives with wife Jennie.

Justin Van Soelen '05 and wife **Jill Williams Van Soelen '06** take their Dutch pride on the road with personalized Central license plates. They live in Pella with their three children. (Iowa residents who would like to follow suit can order their plates online at <http://www.iowadot.gov/mvd/personalizedplates/home.html>.)

Nate Weir '05 and Leslie Dunham of Green Bay, Wis., were married March 22. Nate is an assistant athletic trainer for the Green Bay Packers.

Marie Menninga '06 of Belleville, Ill., is a freelance musician in the St. Louis Metro East area.

Jenna Kenkel Hucka '07 teaches second grade at Harlan Primary in Harlan, where she and husband **Todd Hucka '05** live with their daughter. Todd is an insurance agent at Schaben Insurance and Financial in Panama.

Sara Meyer '07 and David Sheets of Cedar Rapids were married June 22. Sara is a literacy consultant at Grant Wood Area Education Agency in Cedar Rapids.

Ashley Hysell Millet '07 is the greenhouse manager at Grinnell College. Ashley, husband **Jeffrey Millet '07** and their daughter live in Grinnell, where Jeff is a dentist at Grinnell Family Dentistry.

Matthew Miller '08 is the communications marketing coordinator at Farm Bureau Financial Services in West Des Moines, where he lives with wife Andrea. Matt is working toward a master's degree in communication from Drake University.

Brittany Waack '08 and Seth Goings of Arvada, Colo., were married June 6. Brittany teaches French at Centaurus High School in the Boulder Valley School District in Lafayette.

Holly Wolinski Pope '08 and husband Rob moved from their home in Colorado to Chandler, Ariz.

Jered Wells '08 is a medical physicist with Duke Clinical Imaging Physics Group at Duke University Hospital in Durham, N.C., where he lives with wife **Aimee Crippen Wells '08** and their two children. Aimee works in the childcare program at the YMCA.



Ashley Tapper '11 and **Zachary Beekman '12** of Jefferson were married June 14. Ashley is a physical therapist assistant and certified athletic trainer for 21st Century Rehab at Greene County Medical Center, and Zach teaches eighth grade special education at Greene County Middle School. Pictured first row (left to right): **Joseph Atwell '13**, **Marisa Beekman '11**, **Ashley Wiersema '12**, **Zach Beekman '12**, **Ashley Tapper Beekman '11**, **Hannah Worrall '12**, **Cyndi Johnson O'Rourke '11**, **Amanda Funk Melcher '13** and **Josh Atwell '13**. Back row: **Trent Rolffs '10**, **Joa Hayes Rolffs '10**, **Erin Kraayenbrink '10**, **Chris Weaver '10**, **Andrea Heisterkamp Kruger '10**, **Spencer Beekman '15**, **Michael O'Rourke '11**, **Austin Hill '11**, **Reid Imerman '12**, **Eric Wilkerson '12**, **Eric Van Kley**, **Tommy Van Renterghem '12** and **Bob Kuennen**.

Gregory Foote '09 and Elizabeth Pearson of Des Moines were married May 10. Greg is the loan administration manager at Centralized Alliance Fulfillment.

Bryanne Hensley '09 of West Des Moines is the minister for children at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Ankeny.

Daniel Krull '09 teaches fourth grade at Nodaway Valley Elementary in Greenfield. Dan and wife Julie live in Indianola.

Andrea Montrone Levine '09 is the community based program coordinator for Big Brothers Big Sisters in Beloit, Wis., where she lives with husband Gordon.

Meghan Swella Norton '09 is an eMedia production manager at F+W Media in Fort Collins, Colo., where she lives with husband Nicholas.

THE '10S



Come to Paris! Celebrate 50 years of Central College Study Abroad.

You are invited to us join as we take a trip to where it all started for Central Study Abroad... **Paris, France!**

Join us **June 6-14, 2015**, for a trip with your Central family. It will be an intimate trip for only 20 people with wonderful excursions and time to explore on your own.

For complete details go to **www.gtd.org** and search **G#150603**

FUTURE REUNIONS:

- **Yucatan:** January 3-11, 2016
- **Austria:** Summer of 2016
- **Spain:** Summer 2016
- **England:** Summer 2017
- **Wales:** Summer 2017
- **Netherlands:** Spring 2018
- **Ghana:** Summer 2018
- **China:** Summer 2018

What's it like to work at a museum?



Angie Leonard Morrow '94 likes objects with a history. But we're not talking about your average flea-market finds. Morrow is responsible for cataloguing and tracking items such as 2,000-pound Spirit Stones from China and Peruvian mummies at The Field Museum in Chicago.

Early in her college career, Morrow knew she wanted to work with historical objects. "One of the first classes I took at Central was cultural anthropology with Cynthia Mahmood," she says. The class strengthened her interest in museums, as did a subsequent course on archaeology. A general studies major allowed Morrow the freedom to tailor her coursework to her intended career path, and she and adviser Michael Schrier worked to select courses in art history, U.S. history and world history, as well as a minor in geography.

Morrow has worked for a number of museums, both during college and after. She's currently head registrar at The Field Museum, working with the anthropology collections. But what does a head registrar do?

"My side of the museum is the logistical, practical side," she says. "My position is an administrative role in addition to handling the day-to-day tasks of registration and collections care. For example, registrars oversee collection storage, work with conservation, facilities and security as well as outside vendors for insurance and shipping, and our counterparts around the world to protect the works for future generations."

Morrow's job involves maintaining meticulous records of objects in the collections. These records document an object's history or provenance, which is equally as important as the piece itself. "The object is of course very important, but without the history of the object you don't know where it came from; you don't know its significance to a culture," she says.

The museum has only about a half a percent of its collection on view at any time, Morrow says, but one of the perks of her job is having access to the full collection of 25 million works. "I get to work with the objects hands-on that most people won't ever see," she says.

Head registrar—and most museum jobs—are not necessarily on college students' radars. But Morrow says museums have a place for many types of careers. For instance, museums employ lawyers, historians, illustrators, educators and engineers.

During her time at Central, Morrow studied on programs in Chicago and Washington, D.C., which she says helped immensely in gaining experience in her field. In Chicago, she interned at The Field Museum, and in D.C., she worked with collections at the U.S. Treasury Department. In addition to getting hands-on experience, Morrow made contacts during the programs who have become long-term colleagues and mentors. Morrow says, "I still keep in touch with them and have used them as references over the years."

Morrow says it's helpful to gain as much experience as possible before graduation. She says, "I think it's important to try as many things as you can, figure out what you're good at, and what you want to pursue."

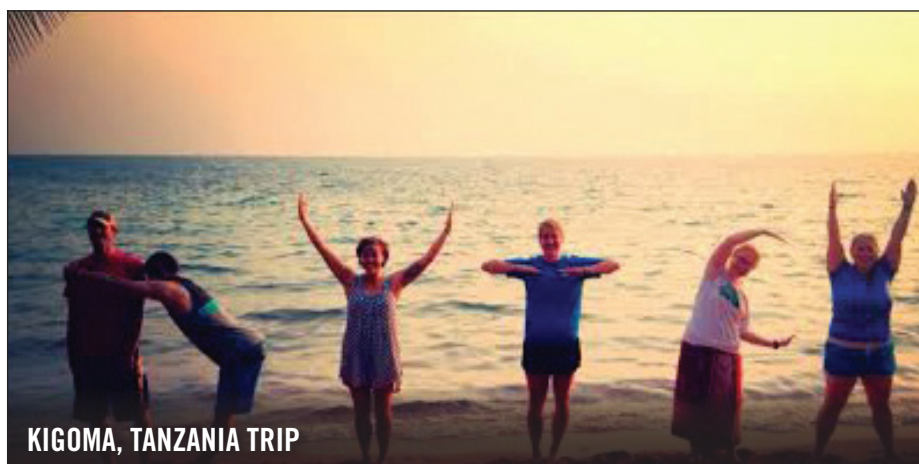
Paul O'Kane '10 is practicing dentistry at Pella Family Dentistry in Pella, where he lives with wife **Brooke Nederhoff O'Kane '07** and their two children.

Lauren Oscarson '10 relocated from Pella to Phoenix, Ariz., to pursue marketing at a Vermeer equipment dealership.

Jessica Curry '11 of Silver Spring, Md., teaches first grade at Capital City Public Charter School in Washington, D.C.

Joseph Shoemaker '11 is the area sales manager for Chrysler Group LLC in Auburn Hills, Mich.

Jessica Vetter '11 of Pella is the operations manager at George Daily Auditorium in Oskaloosa, where she was recently cast in the musical "Georgiana." Joining her in the cast were former classmates **Chris Williams '10** of Des Moines, who is employed at the Science Center, **Andy McGuire '10** of Oskaloosa, who is the youth director at the George Daily Auditorium, **Mary Schnoebelen '12** of Pella, who works at Applebee's, **Rachel Singley '07** of Oskaloosa, who is employed at Heslinga Law Firm, and **Emily Hutchison '14** of Pella, who is attending La' James International College in Des Moines.



Melanie Hopkins '12 used two weeks of her summer vacation to make a second journey to Kigoma, Tanzania, where she joined **Kurt Rietema '04** and his wife, who moved there in 2013 to be full-time missionaries with Hope of the Nations. She discovered **Allison Redman '13**, **Cory Nikkel '12** and **Mallori Ghent '12** were leading a team, and their trips were going to overlap. The photograph was taken at Jacobsen's Beach on Lake Tanganyika, the longest lake in the world, in the Kigoma. They are pictured (left to right): **Kurt Rietema '04**, **Cory Nikkel '12**, **Casey Finch '08**, **Melanie Hopkins '12**, **Allison Redman '13** and **Mallori Ghent '12**.

Bethany Bachman '12 of Ankeny is a network education consultant at Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield in Des Moines. She is in the adult learning and organizational performance graduate program at Drake University, with an emphasis in higher education.

Paige Blythe '12 and **Garrett Fooshee '12** of Wichita, Kan., were married July 21, 2013. Paige is the high school softball coach at Oxford High School, where she teaches 7th-12th grade Spanish. Garrett is a personal trainer at Genesis Health Clubs.

Kathryn Bruxvoort '12 of Altoona is a claims customer service representative III at Nationwide Insurance.

Samantha Fink '12 and Christopher Henningsen of Eldridge were married July 26. Samantha teaches kindergarten – sixth-grade resource special education in the North Scott Community School District.

Brandon Geib '12 and **Chloe Gearhart '14** of Windsor Heights were married June 7. Brandon is in his final year at Drake University Law School in Des Moines and Chloe is employed by Wells Fargo.

Andrea Johnson '12 and **Paden Kleinbesselink '14** of Fayette, Mo., were married June 21. Paden is a graduate student and assistant with the athletic training department at Central Methodist University. Andrea is employed with Commercial Trust Company.

Ashley Kruger '12 is a career advisor in the business career services center within the school of business at Kansas University in Lawrence.

Kari Schmidt '12 of West Des Moines is a program assistant at Hope Ministries Center for Women and Child in Des Moines.

Lauren Setterdahl '12 of Marshalltown is a physical therapist assistant at Marshalltown Medical and Surgical Center.

Megan Strait '12 and **Jacob Eeling '12** of Johnston were married May 31. Megan is a research associate in tumor immunology at NewLink Genetics. Jacob is a research associate in the department of Weed Science at Iowa State University.

Sarah Rankin Folkerts '13 is an assistant teacher at Kid's Life Discovery Center in Chariton, where she lives with husband **William Folkerts '14**. William teaches sixth-grade science at Chariton Middle School.

Emily Korth '13 of Anamosa teaches eighth-grade math in the Anamosa Community School District.

Rachel Purdy '13 teaches third grade at West Elementary School in the North Polk Community School District in Alleman.

Jacob Stevenson '13 of West Des Moines is a youth development professional at Boys and Girls Club of America.

ADVANCED DEGREES

Donna Coobs Strange '81, bachelor of science degree, nursing, Mount Mercy University, Feb. 2014.

Justin Kolenbrander '89, master's degree, cybersecurity, University of Maryland University College, Aug. 2014.

Scott Sickle '95, master's of secondary teaching degree, University of Nebraska, Aug. 2001.

Nathan Scott '03, bachelor's degree, mechanical engineering, Iowa State University, 2014.

Marie Menninga '06, master's of music degree, collaborative piano performance, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, May 2014.

Jenna Kenkel Hucka '07, master's degree, educational instruction and curriculum with an emphasis in leadership, Buena Vista University, May 2011.

Sara Meyer Sheets '07, master's degree, education, Viterbo University, Aug. 1, 2013.

Paul O'Kane '10, doctor of dental surgery, University of Iowa, 2014.

ARRIVALS

Brian and **Jenny Mutch Buehler '94**, daughter Karis Mae, Jan. 25

Jessica and **Michael Frohling '94**, daughter Kaleigh Lauren, Jan. 4

Brian Baker and **Michelle Roozeboom-Baker '00**, son Brayden Jay, July 25

Anne and **Nathan Scott '03**, daughter Eleanor Kathryn, June 20, 2013

Russ '04 and **Samantha Snedigar Allen '04**, son Kypton Dalton, Dec. 8, 2013

Laura Billingsley '04 and Eric Kochneff, daughter Frances Lily, Aug. 22

Robert and **Lori Durlinger Feilmeier '04**, son Bryce Martin, April 25

Curtis and **Megan Kruse Luckett '04**, daughter Harper Gayle, July 15

Shane and **Megan Dickel Vande Voort '04**, son Meyer Whitman, Oct. 30, 2013

Todd '05 and **Jenna Kenkel Hucka '07**, daughter Priya Nadine, June 7, 2013

David and **Kristy Penning Jahraus '05**, daughter Emily Marie, Oct. 3, 2013

Jon and **Michele Moeller Hand '06**, son Oliver Richard, June 27

Steph and **Ben Bollard '07**, son Cooper Paul, April 18

Jeff '07 and **Ashley Hysell Millet '07**, daughter Kiera Ann, Nov. 23, 2013

Michael and **Katrina Obermeier Phelan '07**, daughter Aurora Eleanor, July 13

Isaac '07 and **Kristin Hacker Rodenberg '07**, daughter Willow Mae, April 9

Brett and **Amanda Underwood Smith '07**,

daughter Emersyn Kate, Feb. 18, 2013

Josh and **Stacey Whittle Hogberg '10**, son Ezra Joshua, May 3

Paul '10 and **Brooke Nederhoff O'Kane '08**, son Evan Thomas, Aug. 18

Ty and **Ashley Gerst Van Wyk '10**, son Coy Paul, April 15

Holden '12 and **Kelly Schafbuch Blythe '11**, daughter Larson Paige, Sept. 17

IN MEMORIAM

Bernice Ver Ploeg Hedge '39 of Fremont, Sept. 22

Cori Vander Linden De Cook '44 of Pella, Sept. 18

Ann Arink Kettler '48 of Fulton, Ill., June 18

Dick Moberly '48 of Des Moines, Aug. 21

Ward Bailey '50 of Scotia, N.Y., June 20

Eugene Vander Well '50 of Holland, Mich., July 8

Rosemary De Bruyn Taylor '51 of Ames, Aug. 16

Edward Ver Hoef '54 of Boonsboro, Md., June 20

Luetta Kats Schermer '55 of Zeeland, Mich., June 10

Wayne Koenen '56 of Mankato, Minn., Feb. 5

Gerard Van Dyk '58 of Flemington, N.J., May 16

Darlene Kuiper Picard '59 of Peoria, Ariz., March 28

Irvin Van Haaften '61 of Clear Lake, June 23

Ruth Pietenpol Martinez '63 of Florissant, Colo., July 30

Bonnie Scott Vander Linden '65 of Pella, Sept. 5

Kay Smith '67 of Dubuque, Oct. 20, 2013

Margaret De Bruin Kasper '68 of Wheatfield, Ind., Sept. 5

Carole Tiger Simmons '71 of Berwick, Pa., Nov. 21, 2013

Terry Van Zee '74 of Boulder, Colo., Sept. 15

Joyce Dangler Swanson '76 of Littleton, Colo., Sept. 20

John Cox '77 of Lisbon, July 22

Sue Epifano Loeschen '77 of Barrington, Ill., Dec. 16, 2013

Debbi Sander Zorea '90 of Richland Center, Wis., July 16

Richard Gander '91 of Creston, July 28

Steven Meyer '91 of Fort Dodge, March 13

Ryan Elliott '06 of Des Moines, Aug. 2

Joe Schwanebeck '06 of Ankeny, Sept. 21 10:57 AM

Robert C. Froelich, Sr., former vice president of business at Central, of Holland, Mich., Aug. 20

Scientists at Summer Camp

Rachel Braak '15 and Elizabeth Paladino '15 work to make science accessible for kids.

by Jenni Hodges



It's not easy, Elizabeth Paladino '15 found, to keep middle schoolers busy all day. Paladino, a chemistry major from Waverly, Iowa, worked for the Science Center of Iowa this summer, where she planned and led science camp programs for 5th to 8th-grade students. "We had to plan the entire day," Paladino says. "I learned how important it is to overplan."

Rachel Braak, '15, a biology major from Ankeny, Iowa, also learned to be flexible while working at the Science Center this summer. Braak moved between different groups to lead 1st through 8th graders in all kinds of

activities, from the classic Coke and Mentos reaction to vacuum chamber experiments. "We tried to make it as fun as possible," Braak says. "It was great to connect with kids and show them science is cool."

According to Paladino, this discovery also takes place in science classes at Central. Paladino started college before declaring a major, and she says her helpful professors and exploratory courses caught her interest so quickly that she chose chemistry after her first semester.

Paladino, who is part of Central

Teacher Academy, says she was grateful to have had previous experience working in the classroom. After her junior year, Paladino had already had many opportunities to practice teaching and keeping students safe. Paladino's summer job at the Science Center gave her further opportunities to observe and learn from coworkers who teach during the school year.

Braak also drew on her experience as a Central student — particularly her recent ornithology class with professor of biology Russ Benedict. Braak's enthusiasm for birds earned her frequent duties as a guest teacher in other classes. "At the science

"We tried to make it as fun as possible. It was great to connect with kids and show them science is cool."

Rachel Braak '15

center, I was mainly known as 'the bird person,'" Braak says. "I was able to use lots of what I've learned."

In the future, Braak hopes use her developing teaching skills to educate children and adults about conservation — especially animals. Braak interned this fall for the Lincoln Park Zoo education department while completing a semester in Chicago. After a successful summer, Braak will also return to work at the Science Center of Iowa later this year.



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ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Chemist and Connoisseur

by Cindy Deppe



Chemist and connoisseur Noel Powell '93 got his first taste for winemaking in Irvine, Calif., while he earned a Ph.D. in organic chemistry from the University of California. The self-described “farm kid from southwest Iowa” initially found his way to the Irvine campus through a summer internship he completed as a Central College student. He returned to Irvine for graduate school, where friends introduced him to the surrounding wine country and the world of fine wine.

After several years of collecting wine and talking with winemakers, Powell bought a wine kit to try making his own wine and fell in love with the process. A decade later, after trial-and-error practice and earning a professional winemaker

certificate from the oenology program at UC Davis, Powell decided to embark on a second career as a commercial winemaker and founded Aaronap Cellars in Westford, Mass. “Wine is really just chemistry in a bottle, with a lot of art and history thrown in,” Powell says. “It allows me to get back to my farm roots while combining so many of my interests.”

Powell had entered Central as a history major but said his first class with Louise Zaffiro, professor emerita of chemistry, led him in another direction. “What got me into chemistry was that I loved making something in a flask and doing the analysis,” Powell says. Analytical chemistry with Cathy Haustein and organic chemistry classes

with Art Bosch sealed the deal.

Powell says studying at Central gave him opportunities to dabble in many different fields — from chemistry to organ lessons. “As a project leader today, you have to be versatile and flexible,” Powell says, “so having a broad liberal arts background gives me an advantage over someone who specialized from day one.”

After graduate school, Powell entered the pharmaceutical industry as a medicinal chemist and worked to design new drugs for oncology, immunology, rheumatoid arthritis, cardiovascular and psychiatric diseases. Over the past 15 years, Powell has worked for leading drug companies, and he is currently associate director of chemistry at Sunovion Pharmaceuticals in Marlborough, Mass.

While Powell has made good use of his chemical education, he has also been an avid student of amateur winemaking—a new direction for his chemistry skills.

Now, Powell says he also sees Aaronap Cellars as a retirement plan. “The winery is hands-ons and growing more quickly than expected.”

Powell released his first wines to the public in May and says he is extremely pleased with the response. He recently obtained a wine shipping license for the state of Iowa, so residents over 21 can order Aaronap Cellars’ wines direct from www.aaronapcellars.com.

Powell’s advice to young entrepreneurs? Get as broad an education as you can — and take a business class. “The journey I’ve taken since leaving Central has culminated in my dream of opening my own winery,” Powell says. “Follow what makes you happy — the key is figuring out how to get paid to have fun!”