

SUMMER 2019

CENTRAL

CENTRAL COLLEGE

CIVITAS

ALUMNI MAGAZINE



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CURATING AN EDUCATION

BY: MARK PUTNAM, CENTRAL COLLEGE PRESIDENT



One of my happy tasks each year is to write letters of recommendation for seniors. Some seek employment, others are applying for admission to graduate or professional school and a few are pursuing special opportunities like the Peace Corps. Their professors are in the best position to comment on their academic achievements, so I reflect on their leadership qualities, commitment to service, personal character and future promise.

Often these are student leaders I have grown to know well. It's such a privilege to watch students mature as they embrace expanding responsibilities, mentor younger students and gain confidence.

These students are multidimensional, with a curated array of experiences designed to achieve their unique goals. The recommendation letters seem to write themselves as I detail the various roles they

have played in the life of the campus.

These students commonly have multiple academic interests. They are often Student Senate members, music ensembles officers, athletics team leaders or participants in student activities and organizations. They are experiential learners who have studied abroad, done undergraduate research, completed internships and participated in service learning. Virtually all did volunteer service.

What makes this curating process possible? Often, it is strong advising and mentoring, either from a single individual or via a series of interactions in which the voices change but the underlying messages stay the same. For a few, the continuing chorus of faculty adviser, coach and administrative leader combines to bring diverse thinking yet coherent understanding to the unfolding

conversation of personal and professional life planning. Each student in his or her way combines the impressive resources of this college to curate an experience that presses for more.

Our young alumni test and validate their learning in new academic and professional settings. "Were you prepared?" I ask them. The answer is almost always the same: "Yes!" But the reasons why almost always vary. Paradoxically, Central produces consistent outcomes precisely because each student's experience is different. Each one's experience is curated just for them. ■

CENTRAL COLLEGE CIVITAS ALUMNI MAGAZINE

Summer 2019 | Issue 1

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Civitas is published by the Central communications office for alumni, parents and friends of Central College. For information on the Civitas mission, visit civitas.central.edu.

Civitas (USPS 096-840) is published quarterly by Central College, 812 University St., Pella, IA 50219-1999. Periodicals postage paid at Pella, Iowa, and additional offices.

Postmaster: Send address changes (PS 3579) to Civitas, 812 University St., Pella, IA 50219-1999. Address changes also may be sent to alumni@central.edu.



10% Post-Consumer Fiber

Production notes: Civitas is printed with a vegetable-based ink by Town Crier, Pella, Iowa.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

In response to an increasing number of your letters, we're launching a new Letters to the Editor section. To send us one, see "Write Us!" below.



MY RESIDENCE HALL WAS THE GYMNASIUM

I just read "Central Residence Halls" [Winter, 2019 issue, pages 20-22] and felt the need to comment. Since I was in the Class of 1950, it brought back wonderful memories—sufficient to have me go back to my scrapbook and retrieve some photos.

1. What a surprise to find that my residence hall was the gymnasium. My double-deck bunk bed was shared by one of my roommates.

2. The new men's dorm [Gaass Hall] was under construction at that time.

3. It was completed a few weeks later.

4. A bit later, I was photographed with two of my three roommates in front of it; left to right is **Paul Telford '50**, me and **Charles Powleske '50**. Believe it or not, my other roommate was **Richard Schultz '50**, who

became quite famous as executive director of the NCAA for many years. How proud I am to have known him.

5. Three of us from Alexandria Bay, New York, enrolled at Central at the same time; left to right is me, **Beverly Reynolds Parslow '50** and **Una Cornwall Parker '50**.

6. And finally, for your amusement, is a picture taken of me when I turned 90. The birthday present came from my daughter, Trudi, who substituted a bouquet of doughnuts for flowers. I've just taken a bite out of one of them.

Those years at Central are the most memorable of all my education. The contents of my scrapbooks verify that. Keep your publications coming; I'd hate to miss one.

— **Don Burns '50**, Los Alamos, New Mexico

Mr. Burns' reports that his education as a scientist began with him burning a hole in his new bedspread with magnesium ribbon when he was 10, continued with the study of chemistry at Central and Syracuse University and concluded with a Ph.D. in biochemistry from Purdue University. A long publication- and patent-studded career followed, most recently as a senior scientist at Los Alamos National Laboratories. He's also been a private pilot, a Great Lakes mariner and a musician. While at Central, he used to sneak in through an open window at night to practice the organ. Someone eventually gave him a key, literally opening the door to a lifetime of part-time work as a church organist. — ed.

RETHINKING THE ART HEIST

I was the Pella Police Department officer who caught the Brower case ["Central's Great Art Heist," spring 2019 issue, page 33-35]. After I went to the Marion County Sheriff's Office, a recluse was captured in Ottumwa. He had a huge collection of valuable items, mostly classic and antique books. I suggested to Pella it should follow up on his arrest and see if the Brower

collection might be there. Your article reminds me how much I think of that case.
— **John Frank '72**, Ankeny, Iowa

I just read the fascinating piece "Central's Great Art Heist." As an art historian by training, I'm always intrigued by stories such as these. I still harbor hope that the paintings stolen from the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston will someday

be found!

— **Lori Ferguson**, Sarasota, Florida

Interesting piece on the Brower Collection. The former CEO of the Rijksmuseum Amsterdam suggested contacting Arthur Brand, a famous art detective with a great track record on recovering lost art. I forwarded the piece about the heist to Brand. If I receive a reply I'll let you know.
— **Ton Sels**, The Netherlands

WRITE US!

Civitas welcomes letters and emails from readers concerning the contents of the magazine or issues relating to Central College. Please include the author's name, city and state; anonymous communications will be discarded. Letters selected for publication may be edited for length, content, clarity and style. Address letters to Civitas, Central Communications, Central College, 812 University St., Pella, Iowa 50219 or email Dan Weeks, Civitas editor, at weeksd@central.edu.

COMMENCEMENT

THE MEASURE OF SUCCESS

Commencement speaker **Steven Van Wyk '81** grew up just a few blocks from Central's campus but found that "hard work gets you places.... It eventually got me to Wall Street, New York City," where by 2001 at age 43 he was managing director and head of information technology at the financial firm Morgan Stanley, with an office on the 67th floor of Tower Two of the World Trade Center. "I was literally on top of the world," he says.

That world came crashing down Sept. 11, 2001, when his office was obliterated and seven of his colleagues died in the terrorist attack. After that day, he told the graduates, "all that really mattered was the people.... That is the day that I changed how I measured success. ... I came to realize that life is more about what you give than what you receive." He ended his speech with "I urge you to focus on living lives to serve others if you want to experience the measure of success."



Commencement speaker **Steven Van Wyk '81**



President Mark Putnam, center, and Associate Professor of Music **Gabriel Espinosa** congratulate **Jeremy Vester '19** following graduation.



President Putnam presents a Distinguished Alumnus Award to Iowa Lt. Governor **Adam Gregg '06**.

THE CLASS OF 2019 BY THE NUMBERS

238 graduates from 17 states completed 28,175 credits and majored in 32 different subjects.

42

double majored.

1

triple majored.

81

had one minor,
19 had two.

30

were children of alumni.

4

were twins.

87

studied abroad.

50

were in eight music groups
and ensembles.

17

took private music lessons.

MORE THAN 120

competed in at least one season in an intercollegiate sport and racked up two All-America awards, 33 all-conference honors, six conference team championships and participated in 29 NCAA postseason events. Men's track and field finished tied for ninth in 2018 and had three CoSIDA Academic All-Americans and won three NCAA Division III individual national championships.

OVERHEARD

"I wasn't the smartest kid in the class. In fact, that was actually my wife, Sheila."

— Commencement speaker
Steve Van Wyk '81

"At Central you've been challenged to be your best. We've expected much from you because we know there is no end to what you can accomplish. A liberal arts education at Central is about setting the bar high and pushing yourself to achieve lofty goals. Now, go forth and make a difference in the world." — **President Mark Putnam**

Seen on a mortarboard:

"Teachers who think they are crazy enough to change the world usually do."

AROUND THE POND



▲ DONOR DINNER

Central held its 19th Scholarship Dinner in April. The annual event allows student scholarship recipients to personally thank and share a dinner with the donors who helped make their Central education possible. More than 560 donors, students and college staff hosts attended this year's event in P.H. Kuyper Gymnasium.

Pianist and vocalist **Mackenzie Fuller '19** offered a musical prelude, four scholarship recipients shared their Central experience via video and longtime Central donor **Amy Dietrich Eilers '88** presented "My Central Gratitude Story: From Great to Grateful" and led an activity that encouraged those present to share their stories with each other.

"One of the greatest joys in life comes from knowing you have impacted and lifted someone else in a positive way," Vice President for Advancement **Sunny Gonzales Eighmy '99** said to the donors. "We sincerely appreciate your commitment to our students and their success today and in the future."

To view the video presented at the dinner: central.edu/journey.



◀ GIVING WALL

In an additional tribute to the generosity of Central's donors, the college unveiled a new Heritage Roll of Honor in the Graham Conference Center. The interactive digital installation recognizes those who have made planned gifts to Central during their lifetime and tells some of their stories.

To visit the interactive donor wall online: central.edu/heritage-wall.

To learn more about planned giving:
Call 800-447-0287 or email
development@central.edu.

▼ FACULTY AWARDS

Five Central College faculty members received awards this spring for outstanding leadership in teaching, service and scholarship.



Brian Roberts '92, professor of art, (B.A., Central College; M.A., Iowa State University; M.F.A. Sculpture, M.F.A Metals, Miami University) received the Dr. John Wesselink

Award for scholarship with a direct impact on teaching.



Lee Macomber, assistant professor of biology, (B.S., Cornell University; M.S., Ph.D., University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign) received the David Crichton Memorial

Teaching Award for excellence in teaching which challenges and shapes the intellectual development in students.



Paul Weihe, associate professor of biology, (B.S., University of Michigan-Dearborn; M.S., Eastern Michigan University; Ph.D., The Ohio State University) received the Frank

W. Moore Faculty Award for promoting student learning in the natural sciences.



Sara Shuger Fox, assistant professor of exercise science, (B.S., Iowa State University; Ph.D., University of South Carolina) received the Huffman Award for Outstanding Support

of International Education. This award recognizes the contributions made by Donald and Maxine Huffman to Central's programs in international education.



Linda Laine, professor of communications studies, (B.A., Abilene Christian University; M.A., Ph.D., University of South Florida) received the Hutch Bearce Community-Building and Faculty

Leadership Award for community building and mentorship or leadership.



▲ STAFF HONOR

Larry Happel '81, center, Central's longtime sports information director, recently was honored when the national championship trophy case inside P.H. Kuyper Gymnasium was named in his honor.

In front of friends, alumni, athletes and other supporters of Central athletics, Happel was presented the plaque that will adorn the trophy case in the M. Joan Kuyper Farver Atrium immediately inside the renovated athletics complex. Central has won 11 NCAA Division III national team championships.

Happel is joined by friends, *from left*, **Steve Muller '85**, **Al Dorenkamp '75**, **Mark Ellingson '80** and **Sam Vande Weerd '86**.

"It's fitting, in a way, they chose the national champions case, even though I don't consider my name worthy of being included there," Happel says. "During the expansion process and in branding the building, the one thing I insisted on, and it was nonnegotiable, was that we need to honor the national champions."

"Our 11 national championships are Central's heritage. Those are our magic moments, those are our milestones and the best of what Central athletics has achieved competitively. I view preserving that heritage as a key part of my job."

Happel has spent 40 years in his role with Central athletics and was on staff for 10 of the 11 national titles. Central's most recent national championship came in softball in 2003. The naming of the trophy case in Happel's honor came through the generous support of many friends including **Steve Muller '85**; **Jason '82** and **Betsy Vines**; **Dave '83** and **Denise Boll Baker '84**; **Dave '61** and **Ardie Pals Sutphen '64**; **Mark '80** and **Lori Kooiker Ellingson '82**; **Sam '86** and **Jill Van Zee Vande Weerd '91**; **Tom '86** and **Debbie Koos**; **Steve and Sophie Mathonnet-VanderWell**; **George Wares '76** and **Alicia O'Brien**; and **Al '75** and **Jo Fall Dorenkamp '74**.

▼ ALUMNI HONORS

Central College bestowed special honors on three of its own during its annual commencement ceremony May 18.



Catherine B. Elwell, a participant in Central's Paris Study Abroad Program in 1971 and 1972, received an Honorary Alumna Award for her 35-year career in the International Monetary Fund. There she participated in 30-plus mission trips to French-speaking African nations, serving on teams that helped some of the world's most vulnerable nations deal with such seismic global events as the mid-1970 oil crisis, the debt crisis of the 1980s, the end of the Cold War and the breakup of the former Soviet Union. She credits her Central study abroad experience with launching her career and has been a loyal supporter of Central's programs. She has presented lectures on the IMF to classes, participated in panel discussions, mentored students and served as the college's featured speaker. In 2014, she became a member of the college's National Advisory Council.



Adam C. Gregg '06, received a Distinguished Alumnus Award for his work as the Lieutenant Governor of the State of Iowa. Gregg double-majored in political science and history, interned with the U.S. Department of Defense, the U.S. Congress and the United Kingdom Parliament, played four years of Dutch football and graduated first in his class. He graduated with high honors from Drake University Law School, where he was an Iowa Supreme Court Scholar and on the Drake Law Review. He then practiced law, served as legislative liaison and policy advisor in the Iowa governor's office, was the Republican nominee for attorney general, and ran the State Public Defender's office. He was appointed Lieutenant Governor in 2017, elected in 2018 and is co-chair of the Governor's Empower Rural Iowa Initiative and vice chair of the Republican Lieutenant Governors Association.



Steven C. Van Wyk '81, received an honorary doctorate of public service for his leadership of a business team in New York's World Trade Center through the 9/11 terrorist attack. He was also the college's 2019 commencement speaker. Van Wyk, a Pella native, graduated with a double major in business management and accounting and is now executive vice president and head of technology and innovation for The PNC Financial Services Group. He previously served as chief information officer and later global chief operating officer for ING, Amsterdam. Van Wyk also worked for Morgan Stanley, Deloitte & Touche, Pella Corporation and Phillips Petroleum. He serves as chair of the board for the Banking Industry Architecture Network and on the board of the Reinsurance Group of America, Incorporated.

For more information about Commencement 2019, see page 5 or visit: central.edu/commencement.



Students pictured from *left to right*: Whitney Burgardt, Cody Tuttle, Pat Gray, Dalton Ehret, Cheyanne Scholl, Jeremy Vester, Hannah Reussner, Vinz Faure, Grace Vaughn, Brandi Gilbert, Miguel Piña and Alejandra Maldonado.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD ▶

Retired vice president for advancement **Dave Sutphen '61**, *second from right*, and his wife, **Ardie Pals Sutphen '64**, *second from left*, were honored by Central College's student-athletes at the Dutchies award event.

Dave received a Lifetime of Achievement Award. Now a major gifts adviser, he helped lead the Forever Dutch® initiative.

Dave was a football and baseball letterwinner at Central. For 38 years he operated Pella's Wormhoudt & Kempkes clothing store and was inducted into the Pella Chamber of Commerce Hall of Fame. He joined the college staff in 2000.

Ardie served for 27 years as executive assistant to five Central presidents and as secretary of the board of trustees. Son, **Todd Sutphen '85**, *left*, was a CoSIDA Academic All-America baseball player; daughter-in-law, **Val Newendorp Sutphen '85**, *right*, also attended Central as did daughter **Tamre Sutphen Logan '89**, *not pictured*.

"Dave is more than a fundraiser," says athletics director **Eric Van Kley**. "He hosts prospective students, mentors coaches, and is a passionate fan and a friend to our student-athletes. He loves them and they clearly love him. Dave and Ardie are Forever Dutch."

To view the recognition video:
central.edu/sutphen.



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Help us complete the **FOREVER DUTCH®** initiative.

Join **Dave '61** and **Ardie Pals Sutphen '64** in support of a new challenge to finish renovations to the first level of the A.N. Kuyper Athletics Complex.

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forever.central.edu

or contact:

Kathy Cashen Thompson '87, Major Gifts Officer
641-628-5186 or cashenthompsonk@central.edu

◀ STUDENT LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Central College honored these nine students during its annual Student Leaderships Award and Recognition program April 28:

Jeremy Vester '19 – Annual Theme Award, given to a student volunteer who demonstrated outstanding leadership promoting and implementing the college's annual theme. For 2018-19 the theme was community.

Miguel Piña '19 – Bridge Builder Award, given to a student volunteer who worked to establish connections across campus.

Vinz Faure '19 – Diversity and Inclusion Award, given to a student volunteer who actively demonstrates commitment to issues of diversity, inclusion and social justice through programming and campus activities.

Cheyenne Scholl '21 – Outstanding Event Award, given for an event that enhanced social, educational and/or cultural life on campus. Scholl coordinated Central's Out of the Darkness Walk.

Brandi Gilbert '21 – Outstanding New Leader Award, which honors a first- or second-year student who shows leadership promise.

Hannah Reussner '19 and **Jen Kern '19** – Senior Student Development Award, given to a student or students who have made notable contributions with student development while at Central.

Grace Vaughn '20 – Service Award, given to a student volunteer who demonstrated a superior commitment to active service in the greater community during the past academic year.

Alejandra Maldonado '19 – Unsung Hero Award, which recognizes a student volunteer who has positively influenced a program or organization from behind the scenes.

Central's Student Senate also was recognized with the Organizational Excellence Award, which honors a student organization for making positive contributions to and building community at Central.

On the same day, 50 Central students also were inducted into the college's chapter of The National Society of Leadership and Success, the nation's largest leadership honor society. The lifetime membership benefits include scholarships and awards, on-campus events, employer recruitment through an online job bank, and discounts on computers, textbooks, grad school prep courses, insurance and more.

PITCHING IN TO SOLVE **CLIMATE CHANGE**

FROM THE HALLS OF CONGRESS TO A PITCHING MOUND IN FLORIDA, CENTRAL COLLEGE'S ZACH GREDER '19 LEARNED LESSONS THAT WILL SHAPE AN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CAREER.

BY: LARRY HAPPEL '81



Central College's **Zach Greder '19**, *opposite left*, wants to help save the planet.

Saving a baseball game out of the bullpen might have helped him learn how.

Greder mastered his classroom lessons, graduating with a hefty 3.94 grade-point average as he heads to the University of Colorado School of Law and its highly rated program in natural resources, energy and environmental law. But it was on the baseball field that he learned to persevere.

Greder arrived from Sloan, Iowa, four years ago intent on a college football career. Instead, injuries led him to the baseball field where he'd enjoyed success as a high school pitcher. It only took one start in a junior varsity game his freshman year in Florida to realize what he was up against.

"They rocked me," he recalls with a wince. "I've never seen so many doubles in my life. I was like, 'Whoa, this is completely different.'"

After being pulled in the second inning, Greder sat in the dugout and silently concluded he wasn't good enough. But then a more rational strategy unfolded. He had to adjust. Greder spent the next year developing a slider and transforming himself into a relief specialist.

"I just kind of changed my mentality," he says.

Struggle, adjust, persist. Tools that Greder thinks will serve him well as the left-hander looks to bring the heat in helping preserve the environment. It's an effort that included partnering with teammate **Cam Fitzpatrick '19** to make Central certified by Tree Campus USA through the Arbor Day Foundation. Greder spent last summer working with the Woodbury County Conservation board near his rural Iowa hometown, clearing prairie and assisting with wildlife management. His Central experience launched him into advocacy work in the Iowa Legislature through the Environmental Law Policy Center this past spring and even to the U.S. Capitol, where in March he met with aides to the state's congressional delegation. His trip was orchestrated by **Brian Campbell**, *opposite right*, Central's director of sustainability education, who learned of an opportunity through an advocacy initiative with the Environmental Defense Fund.

Greder doesn't think he'd be as prepared for those opportunities had he not labored in the Dutch bullpen.

"Athletics have given me lessons that I never would have learned otherwise," he says. "I've always been good in the

classroom. It's just something that comes natural to me. But as a baseball player, I'm coming out of the bullpen, and I've had to work really hard to get to the level where I am. It gave me a way to learn that you do have to work hard."

Campbell thinks Greder's role as baseball team co-captain translates well to advocacy work, which requires collaboration.

"He's got that drive to achieve a goal," Campbell says. "Usually that means working within a team."

It hasn't come without frustration. Greder's new slider wasn't an overnight answer early in his career, teaching him patience as well as persistence.

"I had to keep my nose to the grindstone and it's helped me figure out who I am as a person, just my ability to stick it out even when things aren't working," he says. "I think that's going to make me a much better lawyer. If I lose a case or I have to work really hard on something, having that core belief that I'm not going to give up, that you continue to stick it out and work your tail off, I think that's going to make me better."

Greder's passion for the environment also blossomed at Central.

"As a kid we recycled, and I understood it from the standpoint of you get a nickel back for every pop bottle you put in, but once I got to college I started digging into climate change and just how important nature is to us as humans," he says. "From a spiritual standpoint, I'm a pretty devout Christian, and I see the world as something God created and I'm a piece of that, but I'm no more important than anything else."

"Climate change is the biggest problem of our time and to be a part of helping solve that is empowering. I want to be part of something that's really important."

Greder's grateful for every mile of his four-year Central ride.

"I've had so many opportunities here," he says. "Even just emailing the baseball coach and asking, 'Hey, can I join the team?' That's been a huge part of my life. I got called on a Wednesday and I'm flying to D.C. seven days later; that doesn't happen at a big school or all these other places, especially for a kid who's playing baseball. I've had opportunities that I don't think I could have had anywhere else."

"I would say, 1,000%, I made the right decision to come to Central." ■

To view an interview with Greder:
central.edu/greder.

ATHLETICS UPDATES

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD: Will Daniels '19 captured an NCAA decathlon title with the second-highest Division III point total ever (7,427), his third national crown. **Drake Lewis '21** is also an All-American, placing eighth in high jump (6 feet, 8 inches). Central tied for 24th. **Emily Burt '20** and **Gillian Streit '21** (discus) were national women's qualifiers. Both squads were fifth in conference. Ten athletes were named all-region and **Jim Fuller** was tabbed as regional assistant coach of the year.

MEN'S GOLF: Central was second in conference. **Kobe Rhodes '19** was second individually. **Trenton Sann '19** was eighth.

MEN'S TENNIS: Central finished 12-9, 6-2 conference (third place). **William Isminger '21** and **David Boschma '21** were all-conference in singles, Boschma and **Danny Anderson '20** in doubles.

SOFTBALL: Central won its 13th conference title, league tourney crown and gained a record 30th NCAA tournament berth, finishing third in a home regional. The Dutch finished 27-10, 12-4 conference. Pitcher **Mariah Fritz '19**, second baseman **Kaitlyn Andresen '20** and shortstop **Daria Parchert '21** were named second-team all-region. Outfielders **Shaye Witte '20** and **Sara Tallman '20** made third team.

WOMEN'S GOLF: Central finished 19th at the NCAA Division III Championship in Houston, Texas. **Brittany Coppess '19** tied for 43rd individually.

BASEBALL: Central finished 24-16, 11-13 conference and qualified for league tournament. Shortstop **Garrett Saunders '19**, outfielder **Coy Moore '19** and pitcher/outfielder **Tanner Wood '19** were named second-team all-conference.

**FOR UP-TO-THE-MINUTE NEWS
ON CENTRAL ATHLETICS:
ATHLETICS.CENTRAL.EDU.**



CENTRAL SCENE

PHOTO BY: DAN VANDER BEEK

Central graduates are open-minded world-improvers.
These diplomas will open doors to a lifetime of success.



A shining exception

Central College is incredibly good at something extremely rare: recruiting and educating rural students as well as their urban counterparts.

BY: DAN WEEKS / PHOTOGRAPHY: LINDA STELTER

Most colleges and universities have a big problem these days: too few rural students.

"Rural students are the least likely to go to college," National Public Radio reports. "They're being ignored as the nation starts to ramp up degree completion."

"Fewer than one in five rural adults aged 25 and older have college degrees, federal data show," announces The Hechinger Report, a nonprofit that covers inequality and innovation in education.

"Rural students underrepresented in higher education," said HigherEd Direct, the website of Higher Education Publications, Inc.

In fact, since 2017 at least 20 articles in a range of national media (including those quoted here) have all but declared rural students the most recently discovered underserved minority in higher education.

Central College is a shining exception to this national trend: The college always has enrolled a healthy proportion of rural students. During the past five years, an

average of 37% of Central's incoming freshman class came from rural areas—five times the national average for the percentage of rural students attending higher education institutions. [See "Crunching the Numbers," *below*.]

A HEALTHY BALANCE

The articles mentioned above, along with others, explain why a healthy balance of rural students in higher education is important—for all students, for higher education and for society in general.

"Rural Americans possess cultural wealth, diversity of perspective and other attributes that can enrich the enterprise of higher education," notes the Pell Institute for the Study of Opportunity in Higher Education.

"They also tend to be more conservative politically, which may help alleviate the public perception that universities are uniformly liberal institutions," reports tuition insurance giant Allianz in an

article titled "How Colleges Can Attract Rural Students."

"It's not that rural students aren't academically prepared," says "The Rural Higher-Education Crisis," an article in *The Atlantic*. "They score better on the National Assessment of Educational Progress than urban students and graduate from high school at a higher percentage than the national average, the U.S. Department of Education reports."

"Providing greater postsecondary opportunities for rural residents isn't simply a matter of equity or moral obligation—it's a matter of continued national prosperity," says Andrew Koricich, a professor of education at Appalachian State University quoted by *The Hechinger Report*. He points out that the U.S. economy relies heavily on rural communities and workers.

The resulting education imbalance has cultural implications, too, as the country becomes increasingly politically and economically divided along urban/rural lines.

CRUNCHING THE NUMBERS

Central College could find no single entity that tracks the percentage of rural students currently enrolled at U.S. higher education institutions. But a few back-of-the-envelope calculations seem to give a reasonable approximation.

According to *The New York Times*, 29% of 18- to 24-year-olds in rural areas are enrolled in college. The U.S. Census Bureau defines 7.4% of the total U.S. population as both rural and 18-24 years old. During the past five years, an average of about 37% of Central's incoming classes had home addresses considered rural by the U.S. Census Bureau. That means, all else being equal, Central enrolls rural students at five times the national average (37 divided by 7.4).

You might expect to see a higher percentage of rural students at an Iowa college than nationally, because overall, Iowa's population is more rural than the national average: 36% versus 19.3%. But most of Iowa's rural population is elderly. The percentage of Iowans who are both rural and 18-24 years old is actually less than the national average—6.4% for Iowa versus 7.4% nationally. Even if all Central students were Iowans (about 70% are), the college would be enrolling about 5.8 times the expected number of rural students (37 divided by 6.4).

Know a student you think might be a good fit for Central? Let our Admission Office know and we'll get in touch with them: 877-462-3687 or admission@central.edu.



Ed Henning '20 grew up on a farm near Hartwick, Iowa, population 79. He appreciates he can continue to play both classical violin and football at Central. "Every college you visit, they all say they're like a family. But Central was the only one that really felt like that," he says.

“Given election results that turned up the volume on the concerns of rural Americans, who voted their discontent over lost jobs and economic disparities, higher education leaders are now talking about how to reach the hard-to-get-to,” reported The New York Times in its article “Colleges Discover the Rural Student.”

Put simply, students from rural areas are statistically high achievers who offer valuable political, social, cultural and experiential perspectives to class discussions, campus communities and beyond that, the national body politic. Those perspectives are woefully underrepresented at most colleges or universities, or simply are missing.

WHAT TO DO?

“Higher education leaders are sitting up and taking notice of a forgotten segment of American society—the rural students, parents and community members who feel increasingly marginalized by our higher education system,” states the National Association of Colleges and Employers in an article titled “Serving Rural Students.”

The article went on to document a litany of recent attempts by various institutions to address the issue: “The University of North Carolina system released a strategic plan that focused on bolstering rural student enrollment. The University of Georgia recently announced a new initiative to support rural student success. Clemson University and Texas A&M have also expanded their rural recruitment efforts, with Texas A&M Director of Admissions Scott McDonald arguing that ‘In terms of diversity, geography is just as important as racial and ethnic.’ Liberal arts colleges such as Swarthmore College, Carleton College and Warren Wilson College have launched strategic admissions initiatives aimed at rural communities as well, and organizations such as the College Board and the College Advising Corps are seeking ways to facilitate the application process for students in more remote areas.”

And according to a Voice of America article, “A recent study of admissions directors found that 28% of private and 52% of public college admissions directors said they were interested in getting more rural students.”



Hillary Hamilton '19 says, “I’m from a small town [Corydon, Iowa, population 1,585]. ... Central is good at reaching the individual person rather than the crowd. Because of this, I’ve grown more confident, become more vocal and taken a more active role in my own education.”

THE CENTRAL SOLUTION

So how is it Central already is doing what so many higher ed institutions find elusive? Two reasons. One is Central makes recruiting a healthy balance of urban and rural students a priority. The other is the college’s welcoming community makes prospective students feel comfortable here right away, no matter where they’re from.

“We have a goal of visiting every high school in the state,” says **Carol Williamson** (hometown Pella, Iowa, population 10,352) Central’s vice president for enrollment and student development. “We’re nearly there. We visit a lot of them.”

That’s an unusual practice, says the Hettinger Report in an article titled “One Reason Rural Students Don’t Go to College: Colleges Don’t Go To Them.” It’s a matter of economics and convenience, the article explains, again quoting Koricich: “When we think about an urban high school, a college recruiter can hit 1,500 students at a time. To do that in a rural area, you may have to go to 10 high schools.” Central makes the effort.

IT’S ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS

When prospective students visit Central’s campus, they get personalized attention—the kind to which students from smaller, rural schools are accustomed.

“We have 3,000 personalized campus visits per year from prospective students,” Williamson says. Each visit includes an individual tour and from four to eight individualized appointments per student, who are asked about their interests before they arrive. Williamson’s staff schedules appointments with professors, coaches and directors and includes visits to classes, rehearsals and practices. “We want them to feel as though they are on a personal journey that emulates what their education will be like here,” she says.

Beginning about five years ago, Central’s admission staff members even make home visits. “We’ll meet a family at a coffee shop in their hometown or around their kitchen table to explain what Central’s academic program has to offer or walk them through a financial aid package. That’s where family decisions get made,” Williamson says.

APPROXIMATELY 37% OF CENTRAL STUDENTS COME FROM RURAL AREAS—ABOUT FIVE TIMES THE NATIONAL AVERAGE.

"The very first home visit we had was with **Lewis Braster '18** and his father" in Centerville, Iowa, (population 5,500) Williamson remembers. "When he graduated, his dad, Marty, stopped me to say, 'When you came to meet us at the café, we knew this was the place for Lewis.'"

With test scores, grade point averages and tuition costs, it's easy to feel college application comes down to numbers. "But the work we do is about people," says **Chevy Freiburger** (hometown Delhi, Iowa, population 379), Central's executive director of admission. "Everybody who applies is unique, and so are their circumstances. We treat everyone as an individual. We get to know them. It's hard work, but it pays off—both for our applicants and for Central. We embrace the personal component of recruitment.

"In rural areas, people are invested in their communities," Freiburger says. "At Central they see we are invested in them in the same way."

That personal component has been shown to resonate with rural students. "Recruiting Rural Students by Building Relationships," an opinion piece in *Inside Higher Ed*, made the point "colleges that want to recruit rural students need to make personal connections," citing a study in which students ranked such connections as having the most powerful effect on choosing an institution of the 15 influences about which they were questioned.

And it's not just rural students who benefit from such connections. A recent analysis on student success done by The New York Times and the Urban Institute's Center on Educational Data and Policy found that personal connections remain invaluable once a student is enrolled, no matter what the student's pre-college background. According to "The College Dropout Crisis" a New York Times article that reported the results, "colleges with higher rates of student success.... deepen students' connections to other people on campus, including their classmates (through extracurriculars), professors and advisors." It quoted one college president as saying, "The bottom line is connection—feeling like somebody cares."

"A caring, supportive community is the core of Central's identity," says Central President **Mark Putnam**. "It's gratifying to see research that shows students learn, develop, persist and achieve more with personal attention and a sense of belonging, because our students have always told me

that the relationships with faculty, staff and other mentors here are one of the best parts of their Central education."

Impersonal jargon, on the other hand, is a turnoff to rural students, particularly those who are first-generation college-bound and may be unfamiliar with admission terminology. "College officials muddle their pitches, brochures and procedures with jargon terms—as many as 25 of them per communication—and specialized knowledge that confuse and demoralize potential students from rural areas," writes Sonja Ardo in her 2017 book *College Aspirations And Access In Rural, Working-Class Communities: The Mixed Signals, Challenges, and New Language First-Generation Students Encounter*. Central admission staff try hard to avoid this pitfall, explaining the application process—and higher education in general—in plain language.

Perhaps most of all, though, students

"CENTRAL IS GOOD AT REACHING THE INDIVIDUAL PERSON RATHER THAN THE CROWD."

— HILLARY HAMILTON '19

from rural areas say it's not just what the admission office does that attracts them to Central, although that makes a difference. And it's not because of a special rural student initiative. It's what Central is. The campus culture has the intimate, open, welcoming feel of a small town that makes rural students feel comfortable right away. And that's been baked into the college since its founding in 1853.



Marin Harrington '21 says she came to Central to "build meaningful relationships and figure out what I wanted to do with my life." The English major found "a new, enriching social life," academic challenge and a focus as an editor (of the college's Writing Anthology) and a writer (she won a first-place award in Central's annual creative writing contest).

LIKE FAMILY

Like most students, **Ed Henning '20** (hometown Hartwick, Iowa, population 79), can tell the difference between marketing and reality. In an interview with student writer **Brandon Rosas '20** (hometown Parnell, Iowa, population 193), Henning says, "Every college you visit, they all say they're like a family. But Central was the only one that really *felt* like that."

That's a sentiment echoed by nearly all Central students. But rural students such as Henning seem to particularly value it. That's because they immediately recognize Central offers something they've grown up in and highly prize: A close-knit, caring community of mentors and peers that respects where they come from (wherever that may be), gets to know them personally and cares about them individually. To

that Central adds the mission of helping all students find their unique path in the world—wherever it may lead.

That's especially true if a student's path combines multiple interests. Small high schools typically encourage students to participate in many activities rather than specialize—if nothing else because students there need to do so if a small student body is to field a team or produce a play.

Henning, for instance, played football since sixth grade and also is a classically trained violinist. Central was the only college, among several he visited, with athletics and music programs that each encouraged him both to play in the orchestra and on the football field. All the other schools' programs told him he'd need to choose between the two activities.

That support of diverse interests is part of Central's educational philosophy. "We

encourage students to pursue multiple passions," says Central football coach **Jeff McMartin '90** (hometown Wellsburg, Iowa, population 707). "The more opportunities students have to connect with professors, coaches, conductors—that's what your college experience should be about. Our co-curricular programs are really good at working with each other so that students can be involved in multiple activities."

That's not just a service to students—it results in a better athletics program, McMartin says. "We want a well-rounded, diverse football team. There are things students from different backgrounds can teach one another. Students from small towns have a tremendous work ethic, loyalty, desire to learn and commitment to improve. They are used to being invested in a community and that really adds something to a team."

"WE HAVE A GOAL OF VISITING EVERY HIGH SCHOOL IN THE STATE."

– CAROL WILLIAMSON, CENTRAL'S VICE PRESIDENT FOR ENROLLMENT AND STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

Brandon Rosas '20 (hometown Parnell, Iowa, population 193) is another multitasking student: He's a writer, a painter and active in contrabando, among other interests. "I knew that Central had a world-renowned study abroad program, generous financial aid and strong academics and that Central went above and beyond to connect students to opportunities that suit their interests," he says.



The elements that make up Central's caring community are reinforced by its pioneer and Dutch immigrant heritage and by its church affiliation, all of which prioritize a strong community. They're augmented by Pella, a close-knit rural town with world-spanning cultural and business connections. It all adds up to a place that's attractive to students no matter their hometown.

"People are so nice in Iowa—way nicer than I'm used to in Pennsylvania," says **Abigail Lowry '22** (hometown Philadelphia, population 1.6 million) interviewed by **Marin Harrington '21** (hometown Omaha, Nebraska, population 467,000). Lowry chose to come to Central to study engineering and continue to develop her interests and talents in music, poetry and art. "I felt welcomed when I came to visit, and everyone was so accommodating at freshmen orientation. That clicked with me the most," she says.

A RESERVE OF CONFIDENCE

Hillary Hamilton '19 says, "I'm from a small town [Corydon, Iowa, population 1,585]. I value knowing people when I see them. The relationships between students

and professors really stood out to me, and I appreciated the participation students showed in a class I sat in on as a prospective student. It's impossible for me to walk across campus without stopping to talk to a friend or a professor. Central is good at reaching the individual person rather than the crowd. Because of this, I've grown more confident, become more vocal and taken a more active role in my own education."

Hamilton deftly puts her finger on a paradoxical truth that higher ed policymakers and administrators seem to overlook: A college environment that feels familiar and safe is exactly what allows students to develop greater confidence and stretch beyond their previous comfort zones. And that benefits all students, no matter their background.

That reserve of confidence led Hamilton to explore opportunities she couldn't previously have imagined. Even if she had, she might not have had the nerve to act on them elsewhere—especially had she been coping with the culture shock of studying at an impersonal, urban institution with a student body 20 times larger than the population of her hometown.

Hamilton started off aspiring to be a newspaper reporter. Now, after doing Central-sponsored communications research with a nonprofit, she's aiming to be a college professor. She has been accepted to an organizational communications graduate program with a teaching assistantship where she will pursue her master's and doctorate degrees.

Civitas profiled **Rob Lindley '95** (hometown Alta, Iowa, population 1,883) in the winter 2018 issue ["An Actor and a Gentleman," page 12]. He tells a similar story. His high school graduating class was 45—small enough "I knew what I was good at and so did everyone else," he says. "I would have been swallowed up at a state school. Central was a logical next rung—a place where I could learn a lot and still be a big fish." Now, on national tour with the Broadway hit "The Phantom of the Opera," the world is his stage.

Abigail Lowry '22 (hometown Philadelphia, population 1.6 million) says "People are so nice in Iowa—way nicer than I'm used to" in her hometown of Philadelphia, population 1.6 million. The engineering major who is also developing talents in music, poetry and art "felt welcomed when I came to visit, and everyone was so accommodating at freshmen orientation."



ROOTS AND WINGS

Jonas Salk, the physician who invented the Salk polio vaccine, wrote, "Good parents give their children roots and wings. Roots to know where home is, wings to fly away and exercise what's been taught them."

Perhaps good colleges do, too—even if those wings choose to fly back home again. Although Central's graduates can be found across the country and around the globe, more than 56% choose to stay in Iowa. That's good for the state, says **Jenae Jenison '11** (hometown Pella, Iowa, population 10,352), Central's director of external engagement and a member of the Governor of Iowa's Empower Rural Iowa Initiative.

"The initiative calls for finding rural leaders, and Central College is identifying them as high school students, then educating and equipping them to become leaders in their communities. Many of

them move back home because they know they can make a difference. I moved back to Pella from Des Moines because I could have a seat at the table to make a real change in the community," says Jenison, who was recently named one of the Red Rock Area's Top 10 under 40.

Henning may well do the same. He has played violin internationally, as well as with the Central College and Community Orchestra and the country band Tyler Richton and the High Bank Boys. The latter won the Iowa Country Song of the Year award in February, tours statewide and opens for national acts.

Henning, a business major, plans to take his music "as far as it can go," then return to Hartwick and farm.

After all that rural Iowa has offered him in the way of education and opportunity, why wouldn't he? ■

"IN TERMS OF DIVERSITY, GEOGRAPHY IS JUST AS IMPORTANT AS RACIAL AND ETHNIC."



REALITY DOESN'T BITE

Taylor Schuelke '12 rewrites the '90s cult hit film by finding success as a young film producer.

STORY AND PHOTOS BY: DAN WEEKS

Taylor Schuelke '12 coordinates video production from creative direction to budget to scriptwriting to location selection to logistics to crew management.

Turns out that's not only what she does, it's who she is.

When I asked to interview her in Washington, D.C., she responded with production notes: a choice of locations complete with website links, walking directions and comments about photo background, recording noise levels and location permission requirements.

On site, before I could remove my lens cap, Schuelke had scouted camera angles, assessed light levels, wheedled permission to enter a locked room and charmed the building engineer into reprogramming the lighting.

During our shoot, Schuelke was photo subject, art director, location manager and photo assistant. I held the camera and pushed the shutter button when told. "Let's try that again," she'd say, squinting the camera screen until we'd taken an image that satisfied.

Then we sat down in a cafe where Schuelke, with but the slightest prompts, supplied a dramatically paced, documentary-style overview of her life. I've never conducted an easier interview. I had a wonderful time, but felt a bit superfluous. Schuelke could have done the whole gig without me, and probably better.

"I'm a bit of a perfectionist," she confessed when it was over. "And I like to be busy."

Here's a film-treatment version of her education and career to date, with a few snippets of dialog from the narrator and protagonist:

SCENE 1: CENTRAL COLLEGE CAMPUS, PELLA, IOWA

Introduction: Enter Taylor, an energetic first-year student from Rosemount, Minnesota. Recruited for volleyball, she has energy to spare, adds track. Double-majors in art and French. To keep busy, adds position as track representative to the student athletics advisory committee, photo editor of the campus newspaper, singing in jazz combos and interning in the study abroad office. Studies off-campus on Central programs twice—once in Paris, once in Washington, D.C.

Dramatic Tension: Taylor is daughter of two engineers and is a math whiz—but loves art. What to do? “I’ve always thought of art as very mechanical, and love 3-D art for that reason,” she confesses to mentors **Matthew Kelly**, associate professor of art, and **Brian Roberts ’92**, professor of art. They respond by pushing her toward a freer style. Glassblowing forces her to embrace a flowing, organic medium; it becomes her favorite class, foreshadowing her later transition from still photography to video. **Walter Cannon**, professor emeritus of English, gives her intensive mentoring in writing, freeing her prose to flow as well, foreshadowing later work writing video scripts. Liberated but still unsure of where it all leads, Taylor studies abroad in Paris.

The Aha! Moment: Back from Paris, Taylor spends hours editing her photos. Discovers producing Facebook photo albums combines her artist’s eye for composition with her innate penchant for organizing and sequencing. Her talent is affirmed by winning a Central study-abroad photo contest with a photo of a little French girl in a red peacoat reaching to feed ducks at a historic Luxembourg fountain.

Epiphany: study of French culture helped create iconic photo. Wants to make more such images.

Passion Found: Taylor takes up photography in earnest, becomes photo editor of *The Ray*, Central’s student newspaper. Photojournalism internship in Washington, D.C., follows. While there, applies for photographer job at National Geographic, seeking to combine her love of photography, travel and culture. Is told they need videographers, not photographers. Starts shooting video. Feels further liberated by the addition of motion to her art. As scene ends with commencement, Taylor ponders where it will all lead.

INTERLUDE: TAYLOR’S PARENTS’ HOUSE, ROSEMONT, MINNESOTA

Rolling the Dice: Taylor, thrilled by her discovery of video but unsure how to make a living, returns home to Minnesota and starts freelancing as a photographer. Gets lots of wedding jobs, little artistic satisfaction. “I’m really sad here. I was so happy in D.C.,” she confesses to herself one night. Packs a suitcase and buys one-way ticket to D.C.



**“I’VE BEEN ABLE TO DO WHAT I DREAMED.
NOW I GET TO DREAM AGAIN.”**

– Taylor Schuelke ’12

SCENE 2: WASHINGTON, D.C.

Snake Eyes: Taylor sleeps on the floor of a friend’s apartment by night, spends her days at the workplace where she’d interned earlier, making herself available for work (which is light and occasional) and applying for full-time jobs (which are not forthcoming). After a month, runs out of money. Returns home for Thanksgiving at request of her concerned parents. Leaves her suitcase and its contents in D.C., symbolizing determination to return.

INTERLUDE: TAYLOR’S PARENTS’ HOUSE, ROSEMONT, MINNESOTA

Vindication: Taylor, barely off the plane from D.C., gets phone call proffering a full-time job in D.C. After a joyous Thanksgiving, packs second suitcase and returns to D.C. for good. Shades of Mary Tyler Moore: “You’re gonna make it after all!”

SCENE 3: WASHINGTON, D.C.

Paying Dues: Taylor gets a first job as an assistant for an independent commercial video production house. It's grueling, which suits Taylor just fine. "The video van would pick me up at 4 a.m. and drop me off at 10 p.m. every night. All I wanted was more. I was on film sets all the time. I was on Capitol Hill at least once a week. I got to meet Christine Lagarde, Meryl Streep, Martin Sheen. I spent two days filming at the mansion of the rapper Ginuwine and it was so much fun!"

It is video boot camp: set up, style, shoot, takedown, cleanup, repeat—all under the gun, on deadline. Miss a shot, make a technical mistake and you're dead—there's no time or budget for a do-over later.

The transition from college to professional life is no problem for the former Central two-sport athlete, two-major scholar, two-off-campus-program traveler and two-thesis second-semester senior. "I like to be completely scheduled,

**"I'M A BIT OF
A PERFECTIONIST.
AND I LIKE TO
BE BUSY."**

– Taylor Schuelke '12

so I was also taking a media and ethics class in The Associated Press building and started a blog of my photography. Being busy is my natural state so it wasn't difficult to adapt."

Testing Limits: Taylor's next job is for a company that specializes in live events for executives—including a five-week, 40,000-attendee Mary Kay convention in Dallas. Working with a motion graphics designers, video editors and audio engineers, she produces all the event's videos.

There is a jumbotron behind center stage, and vertical, trapezoidal and horizontal satellite screens crammed with video content—singers, dancers, pogo-stick walkers, entertainers, laser light shows, motion graphics that pulsed to music—all timed to complement with motivational and educational presentations.



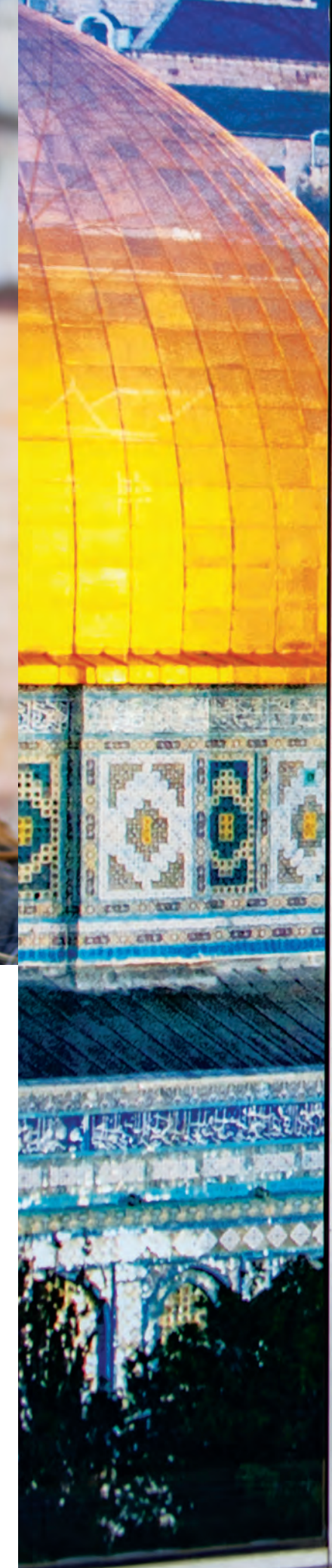
Being completely scheduled is no longer a problem. "I'm 22 years old. I've never been more unhealthy in my life. We work 80 to 120 hours per week. It's awful." If commercial video was boot camp, this is full-on, real-time battle—but a great way to learn a lot, fast.

Big Break: Taylor gets a call from a former mentor, a producer at National Geographic, asking if she knows of anyone who might be interested in an associate producer job. "What about me?" she asks. The next day, she quits her job and starts work on *Inside the Mega Twister*, a National Geographic special about a 2013 Oklahoma tornado—the largest ever recorded on earth. Her job: help compile video clips from 160 storm chaser sources into a film that captures the event from initial strike to end. The result is a huge success.

In Demand: Now a known quantity with a major project in her credits, Taylor works on other documentaries, including the *Mystery of the Manta Ray* and *Grizzly Empire*, the latter a series on bears in Alaska. Then, in her first job on an extended series, she joins the post-production crew of *The Incredible Dr. Poll*, a top-rated Nat Geo Wild reality series about a Michigan veterinarian who treats everything from lizards to beef cattle. She begins as an associate producer, quickly starts writing and editing scenes, advances to producer, then producer/editor. "I'm doing what I've dreamed. Now I get to dream again," she says.

POST-CREDIT MESSAGE:

Taylor Schuelke continues her work as an independent freelance filmmaker based in Washington, D.C. She plans to focus on nonfiction film, and has her sights set on directing a documentary. ■



100+ STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Central students are building the future, one group at a time.

BY: **MARIN HARRINGTON '21**

Central offers 100-plus opportunities for student involvement; more than 40 of those opportunities come through student-led clubs and organizations. Each makes a unique mark on the campus—and on the students who staff them. Central adds new clubs nearly every year.

“Student clubs and organizations are a great way for students to connect with other students; grow their support network; increase their understanding of other people, perspectives and cultures; develop leadership skills employers are looking for, apply classroom knowledge and impact their community through engagement and service,” says **Sean Wiseman**, Central’s director of student involvement. “I commonly recommend students get involved in a couple of groups: one for fun and sharing a common interest, and one that aligns with their career path.”

Here are how six of those organizations contribute to student life and the college’s educational mission. For a list of organizations, see “More Student Organizations,” *page 26*.



▲ **CAMPUS ACTIVITIES BOARD (CAB)**

“Being part of CAB is one of my favorite things about being a Central student. I get to know the student body better through the events CAB sponsors, and having a say in what happens on campus inspires me to plan events that will bring everyone together.” – **Yana Rouse '21**

Mission: Build campus community via cultural and entertainment events.

History and Operations: Established in 1961, about 15 to 20 interview-selected CAB members work two or more hours per week in the Student Involvement Office. Members lead campus events by contacting off-campus entertainers about performing at Central, reserving spaces for the event and creating advertising, all while working within a predetermined budget. Events are no cost to students and range from outdoor activities such as ice skating on the pond to performances by visiting musicians and comedians. Many events also aim to interculturally educate, such as movie showings that focus on the Civil Rights Movement or LGBTQ+ history.

Achievements: CAB puts on approximately 30 events per semester, with attendance typically ranging from 100 to 200 students.

Goal: Increase the number of students on staff from 12 to 20.



▲ DANCE MARATHON

“Dance Marathon is full of fun, outgoing and hard-working students who want to make a difference in a young child’s life. Being a part of this group has made such an impact on my life, too.” – Rylie Conway ’21

Mission: Raise funds for the University of Iowa Stead Family Children’s Hospital.

History and Operations: Central began its Dance Marathon in 1981 and raised \$3,498.25 for muscular dystrophy research. The marathon lasted 30 hours and included square dancing, costume contests and card tournaments—anything that did not involve standing still or sitting down was considered “dancing.” Currently, 85 members conceive, plan and execute a themed spring dance marathon that includes in attendance the families and medical professionals supported by the event. Participants each raise \$25 or pay \$10 at the door.

Achievements: The 2018 marathon, themed “To Be A Kid Again,” raised nearly \$9,000.

Goal: Increase participation in the marathon and raise \$10,000.



▲ DUTCH BRIGADE

“As a freshman, the Dutch Brigade was a great way for me to make friends and bond with other students over how much we love Central.” – Brad DiLeo ’22

Mission: Unite Central students and alumni through service and school spirit.

History and Operations: The Dutch Brigade is well known for attending sporting events in red-and-white striped overalls, but the students participate in community service multiple ways, like working as greeters at the A Capella Choir’s concerts. In Fall 2018, the group led two projects for Central College Service Day—running games at the Children & Family Urban Movement Fall Festival and serving food for the organization’s daily meal.

Achievements: The group is one of the largest service organizations on campus, with more than 60 members.

Goal: To expand community building by completing more service projects, like assisting in the tulip planting on campus and hosting team-building activities with Dutch Brigade members.

OUTDOOR-ISH CLUB

"I thought I was going to miss the outdoor activities available in my home state of Colorado until I learned Iowa actually has many of the same opportunities. I want to build community and bring students new opportunities to explore the state." – **Jack Jermano '21**

Mission: Offer Central students the opportunity to explore Midwestern nature through rock climbing, hiking and other outdoor activities.

History and Operations: Founded in Fall 2018, club leaders plan various excursions throughout the semester. Members have the opportunity to attend the events that interest them, from rock climbing trips to Climb Iowa in Grimes or a service cleanup at Lake Red Rock.

Achievements: As a new group on campus, the club had to undergo a rigorous creation process. The founders had to garner 15 student signatures of endorsement for the club, develop a constitution of guidelines and present their goals to Student Senate for approval.

Goals: To take the group rock climbing outside at least once during the school year.

POETRY CLUB

"I founded Poetry Club so students can see writing as fun and something they can emotionally connect with—and to create relationships among student poets on campus." – **Mary Rose Fair '19**

Mission: Create a positive and casual environment for students of all skill sets to write and share poetry.

History and Operations: Since its founding in Fall 2017, membership has remained at about 10 people, creating a close-knit environment. During meetings, students read original writings aloud and receive feedback from the group or complete writing exercises together and share their results.

Achievement: Poetry Club remains the only extracurricular activity on campus dedicated to creative writing open to students of all majors.

Goal: To attend a formal poetry reading or poetry slam together.

REMEMBER THESE CLUBS?



FIELD HOCKEY

Central's sports organizations once included women's field hockey. The sport was established at Central in 1938 by **Tunis Prins**, director of athletics and professor of physical education, 1938-49. It was an intramural sport and teams played an exhibition game once per year during halftime at a football game. This photo is from 1954.



KCUI

Central's radio station first aired Dec. 15, 1960. The station broadcast student-produced material from musical compositions to sports coverage. To ensure students could listen to the broadcasts, the school purchased five FM radios for each residence hall that could be checked out for one week at a time. This photo was taken in 1996.



▲ STUDENT SUSTAINABILITY COALITION

“This is a great place to bounce around ideas for sustainability on Central’s campus. I’ve gotten so much advice about projects I want to start, which creates great communication about sustainability at Central.” – Elizabeth Sheldon ’21

Mission: Promote environmental awareness in the Central community by providing opportunities to serve the environment.

History and Operations: Students Concerned About the Environment, founded in 1987, has been rebranded as Student Sustainability Coalition within the past year. Meetings are held once a month and are open to all students. This time is an opportunity for students to share how they are living sustainably, discuss environmental news and brainstorm initiatives to increase Central’s sustainability.

Achievements: In Spring 2018, members of the coalition successfully got individual recycling bins in all dorm rooms on campus.

Goal: To plan and execute a sustainability-related event on campus as a coalition.

Central’s student body spawns new student organizations all the time. In 2018-19, an agriculture club formed for students interested in ag careers. It sponsored a “goat therapy” event before Spring 2019 finals in which students could pet or hug a kid of the cloven-hooved kind.

And the 2019-2020 academic year will be particularly fruitful. As a result of student interest, four more new clubs will debut—target shooting, angling, women’s bowling and men’s volleyball. ■

To contribute to any Central College student organization, contact: Sean Wiseman, Director of Student Involvement, wisemans@central.edu, 641-628-5134.

MORE CENTRAL STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Agriculture Club
ALIVE: Catholic Campus Ministries
Angler’s Association (Fishing Club)
Anime Club
Anthropology Club
Art Club
Book Club
Bridge Club
Central College Democrats
Central College Republicans
Central Students for Life
Chemistry Club
Common Ground (LGBTQ+)
Computer Science Club

Drone Club
Dutch Boom Drumline
Economics, Accounting and Marketing Club
Education Club
Fellowship of Christian Athletes
French Club
Graham Hall Council
Greek Council
History Club
Hockey Club
Hoo-Rah Squad
InterVarsity
Math Club
Men’s Volleyball

Mock Trial
Organizations of Latinx-American Students
Philosophy Club
Physics & Engineering Club
Scholte Hall Council
Student Alumni Association
Students Against Human Trafficking
Townhouse & McKee Hall Council
Ultimate Frisbee Club
Women’s Bowling

NEWSNOTES

THE '50s

Gordon De Jong '57, a distinguished professor emeritus of sociology and demography at Penn State University, is recipient of the Honor Your Colleague Award from the Population Association of America. He was recognized for his career contributions to the discipline of demography. Gordon and wife, Caroline, live in State College, Pennsylvania.

THE '60s

LeRoy Sankey '63 is executive Presbyterian emeritus, Presbytery de Cristo. LeRoy and wife, **Sandra Kersbergen Sankey '63**, live in Tucson, Arizona. They have three children, five grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

James Muyskens '64 is interim president, CUNY Graduate Center, New York. Previously, James was president of Queens College and in 2014 returned to teaching at the Graduate Center and at Hunter College. James and wife, **Alda Pippel Muyskens '63**, live in Arlington, Virginia.

Doug Schakel '64 and wife, **Sharon Kreun Schakel '67**, live in Olathe, Kansas. The couple will celebrate 55 years of marriage in August. Doug's 28 basketball instruction videos are seen by coaches and players worldwide and his Doug Schakel Basketball YouTube channel recently reached one million viewers.

Mike Ashby '68 was inducted into the Camanche High School Hall of Fame during a banquet held in Clinton, Iowa,



▲ **Eileen Klinger Vande Bunte '67** and 12 devoted friends from the Class of 1967 have maintained a round-robin letter since graduation and met for reunions every three to five years. In October, nine met in California to celebrate 55 years of friendship. During their latest adventure, they walked and hiked many of California's best sites including San Francisco, Monterey, Carmel, Big Sur and Yosemite. They also honored their former CUI English professor, **James Wilson**, with a book discussion of "Cannery Row" by John Steinbeck. Front row left to right: **Helen Van Zanten Hemmes '67**, **Linda Bergeson Anderson '67**, **Eileen Klinger Vande Bunte '67** and **Barbara Duven Armstrong '67**. Second row: **Linda Spaans Esten '67**, **Vivian Vroom Hildebrandt '67**, **Judy Lorier Kading '67**, **Sharon Van Dalen Damkot '67** and **Nancy McDonald McClimen '67**. Members unable to attend were **Pam Wilson Larsen '67**, **Connie Rozeboom Moore '67**, **Marge Schaper Scherer '67** and **Marcia Wiersema Renkes '67**.

in January. After graduation from Central College, Mike enjoyed a successful cross country career before becoming one of Camanche High School's most touted coaches. While head wrestling coach, he celebrated three undefeated dual seasons with more than 100 dual wins and state appearances. He was part of the first state team dual appearance and earned the 1987 Coach of the Year honor. Mike and wife, **Linda Scowcroft Ashby '70**, have retired to Fripp Island, South Carolina.

THE '70s

For information about **Linda Scowcroft Ashby '70**, see the '60s.

Ardith Ryken Westra Brunt '72 retired, professor emeritus, North Dakota State University, Fargo, North Dakota. Ardith and husband, Christopher, live in Horace, North Dakota.

Bill Perrenoud '74 is director, Jasper County Historical Museum, Newton, Iowa.

Jane Shartzter '74 is semi-retired in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, after 40 years in education as a teacher, administrator and consultant in the United States, England, Zaïre, Sudan, Burundi, Venezuela and the United Arab Emirates. Jane continues to work as coordinator of Principals' Training Center, an organization that offers college credit courses for local and foreign teachers, administrators and counselors working in overseas American and international schools.

THE '80s

For information about **Todd McDonald '85** and **Kris Kluis McDonald '88**, see the '10s.

Paul Richardson '84 is president, RiS Publishing, Montpelier, Vermont. Last year he completed a major book and documentary film project on Russian centenarians. In December 2018, Paul was honored as a distinguished alumnus of the Russian and East European Institute of Indiana University. Paul and wife, **Stephanie Ratmeyer '85**, live in Montpelier.

Sharon Kann Jaeschke '86 teaches math, Southeast Valley High School, Gowrie, Iowa. She is recipient of the I.O.W.A. STEM Award for the North Central Region. Sharon is in her 33rd year of teaching mathematics and is the mother of four. She credits Central professors **Andreassian**, **Whaley**, **Graber** and **Meyer** for the compassion and patience that guided her to be the type of math teacher she wanted to be.

Mark Hennessey '88 is CEO, Hennessey HCM (Human Capital Management), Cedar

Rapids, Iowa. Mark and wife, Lori, live in Cedar Rapids.

Harold Hynick '89 is professor of theater, Missouri Valley College, Marshall, Missouri. Harold and wife, **Christine Carnes '89**, live in Marshall. Christine is a course review specialist at Central Methodist University, Fayette, Missouri.

THE '90s

Kent Clayberg '90 of Winchester, Virginia, is women's volleyball coach, Shenandoah University, Winchester.

Jeff Sheffler '90 is vice president, commercial lending, BLC Community Bank, Little Chute, Wisconsin. Jeff and wife, Lisa, live in Appleton, Wisconsin. They have two children.

Bonnie Slykhuis '90 of Knoxville, Iowa, is lean consultant, Des Moines Area Community College, Ankeny, Iowa, and hypnotist, H3 Hypnosis, Knoxville. Bonnie is a certified instructor, National Guild of Hypnosis and certified health coach, Optavia.

Brad Dunlap '92 is vice president, business development, CIVCO Medical Solutions, Coralville, Iowa. Brad and wife, **Stephanie Oswalt Dunlap '93**, live in Coralville with their two daughters.

Brian Fritz '93 is doctor of chiropractic medicine, Fritz Chiropractic Clinic, Tama, Iowa. Brian and wife, **Diana Gregson Fritz '94**, live in Tama. Diana is office manager, Fritz Chiropractic Clinic.

Raquel Jurgemeyer Linch '95 is director, KSIB Radio, Creston, Iowa. Raquel and husband, **Mike Linch '93**, live in Creston. They have two children.

John Mitchell '95 is resident vice president-Kansas City branch manager, EMC Insurance Companies, Overland Park, Kansas. John and wife, Maureen, live in Overland Park.

Troy Vincent '96 owns and operates Navigate Wellbeing Solutions, Des Moines, Iowa. He employs three former exercise science graduates of Central College: **Cyndi Johnson O'Rourke '11**, **Alex Kleis Rosien '12** and **Alayna Bailey Westerkamp '14**. Troy and wife, Kayrin, live in West Des Moines, Iowa, with their daughter.

Nan Kruse Baker '97 is community director, YouthRoots, Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Nan and husband, Robert, live in Sioux Falls with their four children.

David Chivers '98 is an independent strategy consultant and executive advisor in the Des Moines area. David and wife, **Theresa Fontana Chivers '97**, live in Des Moines, Iowa, with their two children.

Jamie Hiscocks Cash '99 is analytics manager, MediRevv, Coralville, Iowa. Jamie and husband, Rob, live in Solon, Iowa, with their two children.

Kelly Vielmo '99 is risk and legal manager, PwC, Washington, D.C. Kelly and husband, Jack Montgomery, live in Washington with their three children.



▲ **Kim Franey Friday '93** died suddenly April 2018. Seniors on the 2018 softball team raised money to have a chair behind home plate named in her memory. They presented it to her family April 13, 2019. Front row, left to right: **Tabitha Taylor '18**, Trey Friday, **Laura Bach Olson '93**, **Mindi Remsburg Kacmarynski '93**. Middle row, left to right: **Emily Walton '18**, **Paige Dickel '18**, **Annie DeVries '18**. Back row, left to right: **Robert Friday '92**, Braiden Friday, **Sydney Rudd '18**.

THE '00s

Tony Brownlee '02 is president, Kingland Systems Corporation, Clear Lake, Iowa. Tony and wife, **Amy Olson Brownlee '03**, live in Clear Lake with their two children. Amy is director of finance, Iowa Mold Tooling, Garner, Iowa.

Nick Kuennen '03 is team lead, data/voice networks, Pella Corporation Pella, Iowa. Nick and wife, Sally, live in Pella with their two children.

Deb Perkins '03 is interim director, student success and support programs, North Orange Continuing Education, Fullerton, California. Deb and husband, **Joshua Perkins '03**, live in Long Beach, California. Joshua is leasing officer, Port of Long Beach, California.

Sarah Kohl '04 is senior program manager, Motorola Solutions, West Des Moines, Iowa.

Becky Hedges Pospisal '04 is owner and founder, The Knotty Nail, Des Moines, Iowa. The Knotty Nail was voted Best Paint and Sip Studio at Cityview's Best of Des Moines ceremony. Becky and husband, Andrew, live in Clive, Iowa, with their three children.

Kelli O'Neil Rice '05 is professor of kinesiology, Coe College, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Kelly and husband, Dan, live in Iowa City, Iowa, with their two children.

Renee Sedlacek '05 of Bondurant, Iowa, is director of community engaged learning, Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa. Renee is working toward a Ph.D., education, Drake University.



▲ **Sherami Hinders '04** is national scripture engagement specialist and regional coordinator, spiritual formation and prayer, InterVarsity, Boston, Massachusetts, and working toward a Master of Arts degree in theology at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. In April, she co-led 15 students, staff and ministry partners to InterVarsity's Journey Ireland pilgrimage. She was joined on the pilgrimage by **Efrain Garcia '19** of Oskaloosa, Iowa. Efrain took advantage of this travel opportunity to Ireland during spring break while studying abroad in Granada, Spain. They were surprised to learn of their Central connection.

THE '00s (continued)

Keith Petersen '06 is software consultant, Lean Techniques, Johnston, Iowa.

Steven Dickey '07 is revenue optimization strategy manager, Radisson Hotel, Minnetonka, Minnesota. Steve and wife, Heather, live in Delano, Minnesota, with their two sons.

Marie Goering '08 of Ottumwa, Iowa, is call center analyst, Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Ottumwa.

Alex Billings '09 is a short-term seasonal firefighter, employed at Hopkins Roofing, Pella, Iowa.

Ramy Mosbah '09 is account executive-Americas, Safety Culture, Kansas City, Missouri. Ramy and wife Marla live in Kansas City with their daughter.

THE '10s

For information about **Cyndi Johnson O'Rourke '11**, **Alex Kleis Rosien '12**, and **Alayna Bailey Westerkamp '14**, see the '90s.

Krystal Rozeboom Laughlin '10 teaches fifth grade, Webster City Community School District, Webster City, Iowa. Krystal and husband, John, live in Fort Dodge, Iowa, with their son.

Jordan Leuschen '10 is LPL financial advisor, LSB Wealth Management, Lincoln Savings Bank branch, Cedar Falls, Iowa. Jordan and wife, **Hannah Anderson Leuschen '10**, live in Cedar Falls. Hannah is a dentist at Cedar Valley Dental Associates, Cedar Falls.

Joel Maidens '10 is academic specialist/advisor, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan. Joel and wife **Liza Calisesi Maidens '10**, live in Lansing, Michigan. Liza is choral faculty, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, Michigan.

Graci Martsching Zeiger '10 is gear up facilitator, Iowa College Aid, Indianola, Iowa. Graci and husband, Scott, live in Indianola with their son.

Shane Nelson '11 is athletic trainer, Boise State University, Boise, Idaho. Shane and wife, Jackie, live in Boise.

Sara Hugley Rolffs '11 is director of finance, Grand View Christian School, Des Moines, Iowa. Sara and husband, Tyler, live in West Des Moines, Iowa, with their son.

Jack Bruns '12 is commercial account executive, Two Rivers Insurance Services, Mount Pleasant, Iowa.

Grant Jansen '12 is physician assistant, Family Medicine Clinic of Mount Pleasant, Mount Pleasant, Iowa.

Jon Mendoza '12 is digital literacy, online learning manager and virtual campus manager, Des Moines Public Schools, Des Moines, Iowa.

Jazmyn West Baker '13 is project delivery leader, Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company, Grinnell, Iowa. Jazmyn and husband, Joshua, live in Mingo, Iowa.

Rhiley Huntington Binns '13 is mind matters community specialist, Science Center of Iowa, Des Moines and self-employed doula. Rhiley and husband, **Joseph Binns '13**, live in Des Moines, Iowa. Joe is an assistant actuary, Principal Financial Group, Des Moines.



▲ **Emily Phillips '12** and Devin Johnson of Fulton, Illinois, were married Nov. 10, 2018. Emily is library paraprofessional, Fulton High School. Front row left to right: **Kailey Short '12**, **Natalie Diaz Crall '12**, **Ashley Kruger '12**, Devin Johnson, **Emily Phillips Johnson '12** and **Jess Emard Ebener '12**. Back row: **Ryan Crall '11**, **Ellie Jacobs**, **Zach Jacobs '12**, **Kirby Rock '12** and **Abbey Sparks Rock '12**.

Megan Overton Bouska '13 is community life director, Vriendschap Village, Pella, Iowa. Megan and husband, **David Bouska '13**, live in Pella. David teaches Spanish, Pleasantville High School, Pleasantville, Iowa.

Krystal Lewis Kruse '13 is assistant director alumni relations, Des Moines University, Des Moines, Iowa. Krystal and husband, Jason, live in Des Moines.

Alissa Reece Evans '14 is client experience manager and wedding coordinator, Harpor's Vineyard, Chariton, Iowa. Alissa and husband, Brad, live in Lucas, Iowa.

Zane Hendricks '14 of Fort Dodge, Iowa, is senior analyst, Midwest Growth Partners.

Rachel Lindhart '14 of Lincoln, Nebraska, is orientation coordinator, office of student enrollment, University of Nebraska–Lincoln.

Ellie Miller '15 of Omaha, Nebraska, is stock room manager, chemistry department, University of Nebraska. She enjoys the campus atmosphere, one of the things she misses most about Central College.

Kari Sandage '15 was an environmental educational volunteer, Peace Corps, Nicaragua from 2016-18. Kari is park ranger, Denali National Park, Alaska.

Zane Peters '16 and **Mallory Sims '15** of West Des Moines, Iowa, married May 12, 2018. Zane is source emissions technician, Comprehensive Emission Services, Waukee, Iowa. Mallory is senior auditor, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Des Moines, Iowa.

Bridget Anderson '17 is staff accountant, BH Management Services, LLC, Des Moines, Iowa. Bridget lives in Johnston, Iowa.

Clayton Blythe '17 is machine learning engineer, Zillow, San Francisco, California.

Morgan Ernst '17 and her colleague were awarded a \$2,000 grant by the National Education Association Foundation to expand their school STEM program. Ernst will start teaching middle school math this fall in Pella, Iowa.

Jacob Hirst '17 is minor league coach, New York Yankees, Tampa, Florida.

Garrett Blythe '18 is software engineer with ACT Inc., Iowa City, Iowa.

Ben Clark '18 is customer service representative, Crown Lift Trucks, Ladson, South Carolina.

Kylie Gerstein '18 is enrolled in the nursing program, Allen College. She received the Nurse Corps Award, which supports her tuition.

Kallie Holte '18 received the highly competitive Army Scholarship, which will support her tuition while she is enrolled in the dental program, AT Still University, Kirksville, Missouri.

Libbie Randall '18 is sports reporter and multimedia journalist, KTIV Channel 4 News, Sioux City, South Dakota.

Jeb Rosebrook '18 of Iowa City, Iowa, is archaeology field technician, Tallgrass Archaeology LLC.



▲ **Alexis Lotspeich '18** of Davenport, Iowa, is costume designer, Spotlight Theatre, Moline, Illinois. In her first season at the theatre, Alexis has completed work on *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder* and *Big*, a play based on the Tom Hanks movie. This summer she will continue using her degree in theatre by helping with children's camps. She is pictured in the center of the middle row with other members of the crew and the cast whose costumes she designed.



▲ **Emily McDonald '18** and **Jaimie Miranda '17** of Jacksonville, North Carolina, married Dec. 28, 2018. Jaimie, based at Camp LeJeune in North Carolina, represented the U.S. Marine Corps at the World Team Trials Challenge in May. He is working toward a master's degree in counseling. Participants in the wedding included, left to right: **Josie Youel Hulme '18**, **Regan Nelson '18**, Lexy Peterson, Alison Schutt, Katie Landhuis, Kristin Sauerbrei, Alexis Miranda, Marisa Onnen, **Kathy Connolly '18**, Lauren McDondald, **Emily McDonald Miranda '18**, **Jaimie Miranda '17**, **Ryan Vandall '17**, **CJ Pestano '18**, **Gabe Cobb '18**, Ivan Ruvalcaba, **Jay Pike '16**, **Zach Moss '17**, **Sam Apland '15** and **Tyler Lowy '15**. Not pictured: **Todd McDonald '85** and **Kris Kluis McDonald '88**.

NEW ARRIVALS

Marc '98 and Ellen Gallinger Poortinga '04, daughter Jolie Mae, July 27, 2018.

Alexandra and **Molly Parrott '02**, son Gordon Rowe, Sept. 6.

Joshua and **Jill Parsons Payne '04**, son Augustus Obrey, April 27, 2018.

Steffanie and **Kevin Bonnstetter '05**, son Klay Joseph, May 17.

Rachel and **Brian Klett '06**, son Zane Charles, Jan. 7.

Heather and **Steven Dickey '07**, son Logan Darrel, Feb. 7.

Phil '07 and Lindee Russell Jeneary '08, son Carson Daniel, Oct. 19, 2017.

Nick '07 and Kelsey Rethmeier Mulder '09, daughter Monroe Etta Jane, March 16.

Mike and **Kara Neumann Mertz '08**, twin girls Lydia Shirley and Melody Charlotte, Dec. 18.

McKinlee and **Dustin Ritter '08**, daughter Maisie Ann Frances, Feb. 12.

Brian and **Danielle Jacobson Burmeister '09**, son Jack Carver, Aug. 14, 2018.

Craig Rutherford and **Rachel Jones Kampling '09**, daughter Philippa Mei, April 25.

Jim '10 and Adena Schnedler Edgeton '10, son Keyden Matthew, Dec. 11.

Blake and **Andrea Heisterkamp Kruger '10**, daughter Kyla Carolyn, Jan. 13.

Rick and **Amanda Van Dyk Johnson '10**, daughter Lily, Sept. 20, 2018.

John and **Krystal Rozeboom Laughlin '10**, son Joshua John, Oct. 27.

Loren '10 and Kiley Lythberg Liming '11, son Karter Walker, March 3.

Mark '11 and Lindley Roorda Visser '11, son Case Dalen, Jan. 15, 2018.

Holden '12 and Kelly Schaffbuch Blythe '11, son Sawyer Holden, April 12.

Kirby '12 and Abbey Sparks Rock '12, daughter Cecilia Mae, May 1.

Joe '14 and Julia Mohr Flaherty '15, daughter Aubriella Hope, Sept. 29.

Matt '14 and Brianna Reed Greenfield '14, son Kobe Alan, Feb. 15.

Mark '15 and Breanne Riesberg Hentschel '15, daughter Claire, Jan. 8.

Drew '15 and Emily Saville Jackson '15, son Aiden Lee, April 1.

ADVANCED DEGREES

Sandra Kersbergen '63, master's degree, humanities, University of North Dakota, 1985.

Ardith Brunt '72, master's degree, dietetics, Iowa State University, 1993. Doctorate, dietetics, Iowa State University, 1999.

Paul Richardson '84, master's degree, political science, Indiana University. Certificate, Russian area studies, Russian and East European Institute, Indiana University, 1988.

Bonnie Slykhuis '90, Master of Science, training and development, Drake University, 1997.

Renee Sedlacek '05, Master of Arts, post-secondary education, student affairs, University of Northern Iowa, 2013.

Steven Dickey '07, master's degree, business administration, hospitality management, DeVry University, 2018.

Grant Jansen '12, Master of Science, physician assistant, Des Moines University, 2018.

Ivilyn Paul Van Os '12, master's degree, Oriental medicine, National University of Health Sciences, 2019.

Rachel Lindhart '14, master's degree, science in college student affairs, Eastern Illinois University, 2017.

Kari Sandage '15, master's degree, environmental studies, Antioch University New England, 2018.

Jacob Anderson '16, master of letters, theatre, University of Glasgow, 2018.

IN MEMORIAM

Alda Mae Van Heukelom Hoekstra '45, Cherokee, Iowa, April 7, 2019.

Yvette Larsen Vande Berg '45, Burleson, Texas, March 11, 2019.

Marjorie Fae Boot '46, Pella, Iowa, May 11, 2019.

Patricia Hendrickson Houtz '48, Willits, California, March 23, 2019.

Marilyn Kool Herny '50, Leighton, Iowa, April 15, 2019.

Bruce Penn '51, Hendersonville, North Carolina, March 9, 2019.

Rev. David Jurgens '52, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, March 24, 2019.

Edna Adeline Den Hartog '53, Des Moines, Iowa, May 3, 2019.

Beverly Peters Westenberg '57, St. Germain, Wisconsin, Feb. 24, 2019.

Homer Darrel Terpstra '59, Altoona, Iowa, Feb. 20, 2019.

Marlene Holleman Dahm '59, Pella, Iowa, April 26, 2019.

Kenneth Laverne Barton '63, Lone Tree, Iowa, Feb. 27, 2019.

Helen Lee Lodge '78, Nevada, Missouri, April 14, 2019.

Joseph Brammer '81, Anchorage, Alaska, Jan. 18, 2019.

Russell A. Hayes '84, Mount Pleasant, Iowa, May 9, 2019.

IN MEMORIAM



FORMER CENTRAL COLLEGE DEAN OF STUDENTS MARJORIE GILES DIES

Marjorie Giles, 82, a longtime former Central College staff member and active participant in the Central and Pella communities died May 5, 2019, in Pella, Iowa.

Giles joined Central in 1972 as associate dean of students and served as dean of students from 1993-95. In addition, she served as the college's director of retention and development programs from 1995-98. Originally from the Chicago area, Giles attended the National College of Education and received a master's degree from McCormick Theological Seminary. Before her work at Central, she served as a kindergarten teacher, a Christian education director and on the residence hall staff of Illinois State University.

An avid sports fan, Giles helped start women's athletics championships in the Iowa Conference (now the American Rivers Conference), was a member of the NCAA Council from 1990-93 and was the first female president of the Iowa Conference during the 1991-92 academic year. In 2003, the IAC renamed the women's all-sports trophy the "Marjorie B. Giles Trophy." At Central, the Marjorie Giles Student Life Leadership Award is presented annually to a student who has demonstrated values and faith-based leadership in a variety of co-curricular activities, in addition to Central athletics as an athlete, trainer, student, coach or in another related athletics role.

In 2004, Giles received the Fellowship of Service award for dedicating more than 26 years of professional service to Central. She remained active in her retirement and was an active member of Friends of the Central Arts, Central RED, Central Club, Cornerstone Society, Heritage Club and Second Reformed Church of Pella.

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HOMECOMING

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SEPTEMBER 27-29, 2019

For a complete schedule of events visit:
central.edu/homecoming.

PREVIEW A CAREER

CHRISTINE EPPERLY IEUTER '91

HOMETOWN: Oskaloosa, Iowa

MAJOR: Accounting

STUDENT ACTIVITIES: Sigma Phi Omega; Student Ambassador; Student Council; Upward Bound counselor; Advancement Office student worker and EAM department tutor

Career: Auditor, Ernst & Young, Des Moines, Iowa; Managing Auditor, PriceWaterhouse, Chicago, Illinois; Finance Director, Allstate Insurance Company, Northbrook, Illinois; Chief Accounting Officer, Essendant, Deerfield, Illinois

Location: Chicago, Illinois

Community Service: Moderator, Board of Trustees; First Congregational Church of Wilmette; Board Member, Essendant Charitable Foundation and Volunteer, Wilmette Food Pantry

Central College always has been a part of the life of **Christine Epperly Ieuter '91**. “My father was on the coaching staff and worked in the Career and Professional Development Office for years,” she says.

But it wasn't until after she graduated that she realized just how strong her allegiance to Central was. “It's because of how the school develops its students into leaders and for service to God,” she says. “Service is a huge part of what I do now, both in my career at Essendant and at my church. Had my education at Central not been so focused on that balance, I wouldn't have been as confident that I could roll up my sleeves and help.”

Ieuter gives back because she wants Central students to know their education can take them anywhere. “I can spot a Central alum from across the room,” she says. “They're warm and friendly, they help other people, they're polite and professional. The combination of community service, academics and spiritual development at Central is wonderful preparation for life and can take you anywhere. There are Central alumni across the country and around the world.



What you get here is what you need to go anywhere.”

Last year, Ieuter started supporting a career preview trip to Chicago. Students spend two days in the city and meet with Central alumni in various industries and professions. “It's my brainchild,” says Ieuter, who hopes a dozen students can take the trip this year. The trips, she says, benefit both students and alumni. Students gain alumni contacts and mentors. Some end up with internships that benefit both the student and the organization they end up working for.

That's how it worked for Ieuter. “Three

summers ago, we had a need for an intern. I reached out to Central, they gave me four or five students' résumés, we picked two of them and they were fantastic. I thought, ‘It's good for them; it's good for us. We need to do more of this!’” ■

**“WHAT YOU GET HERE IS
WHAT YOU NEED TO
GO ANYWHERE.”**

– CHRISTINE EPPERLY IEUTER '91

50 YEARS AGO AT CENTRAL

THE TIMES, THEY WERE A CHANGIN'

BY: DAN WEEKS

According to the Central student newspaper *The Ray* and the Central yearbook *The Pelican*, during the 1968-69 academic year:

PRESIDENT AREND D. LUBBERS ANNOUNCED HIS RESIGNATION

and Kenneth J. Weller was selected to take his place. Lubbers had been president since 1960 and grew the college from 500 to 1,225 students; Weller would lead the college until 1990 and author the Division III athletics philosophy among many other accomplishments.

"THOROUGHLY MODERN MILLIE"

featuring Julie Andrews played at Pella's Holland Theatre.

CAMPUS RADIO STATION KCUI

played easy listening music during the dinner hour and classical music later in the evenings. You could buy an eight-transistor radio on which to listen for \$4.44 from Coast-To-Coast.

CENTRAL'S FIRST TRIBUTE TO MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. was held April 4, 1969.

ABC NEWS CORRESPONDENT

STEPHEN BELL '59 gave the commencement address.

"REBELLION IS INCREASING,"

REPORTED *THE RAY*. According to the National Student Association, there were at least 221 major demonstrations (panty raids and football rallies excluded) at 101 large colleges and universities in the previous academic year involving 39,000 participants, or 2.6% of the students enrolled in the colleges studied. None was reported at Central.

THE YUCATAN OFF-CAMPUS STUDY PROGRAM BEGAN.

"WE HAVE FLOWER POWER, BLACK POWER, AND NOW WE ARE WORKING ON STUDENT POWER,"

The *Ray* editor Johannes W. Kuiper '69 wrote in an editorial. "On campuses across the nation, including Central's, students and student governments are fighting for greater participation in the planning and administering of college policies and programs.... This fall we will elect students to serve on various committees. They will be members in full standing, with the same voting rights as faculty and administration. The election of these representatives will be the most important ever held on campus."

— Sources: *The Ray*, *The Pelican*



▲ An illustration from *The Ray* captures the aesthetic of the era.



▲ Arend D. Lubbers was one of the country's youngest college presidents when he assumed the office at Central in 1960 at age 29.



▲ *The Rag*, a parody of *The Ray*, led with a fictitious story of administrative upheaval.

WRITE TO US!

Were you here in '69? Do you have any Central memories and/or photos of that time that you'd like to share? Email them to the editor at weeksd@central.edu.



MOVE IN DAY

PHOTO BY: DAN VANDER BEEK

Red-shirted upperclassmen volunteers help carry freshmen belongings to dorm rooms on move-in day each year.