

CENTRAL

BULLETIN SPRING '06

Central's psychology program: HEAD AND SHOULDERS ABOVE THE REST





President David Roe is continually amazed by Central alumni. ▲

Central College's strong psychology program and talented professors have influenced thousands of Central graduates. In addition to students majoring or minoring in psychology, nearly every student takes at least one psychology course as part of the core program.

Graduates with a major in psychology are ready to earn master's and doctorate degrees, become counselors, open clinics and teach at top psychology institutions in the country. Psychology graduates are successful in many different fields. Some are physicians, while others are attorneys. Many own businesses, and others enter the ministry. Recently, psychology graduates are heading into human resources, joining the corporate world and going into higher education administration.

Of course, our students' education does more than just prepare them for future careers. We have primed and positioned our students to take on leadership roles. A strong liberal arts education provides a tremendous foundation on which to build success.

We are very proud of our academic programs and psychology, in particular, is keeping abreast of current trends. We've held several seminars and programs on diverse topics before they became popular in the psychology field, and Central was one of the first colleges in Iowa to carry a health psychology course. We found we were doing many things before other institutions in Iowa and the Midwest. The psychology faculty at Central have always been top notch and will continue to be, thus, producing some of the best psychology alumni in the country.

In the coming years, Central will be able to provide an even better educational experience for students with a new education and psychology building. As part of Phase II of *The Campaign for Central*, this building will provide new classroom and instructional space for two of Central's growing programs. It also will be environmentally friendly. We will seek to meet federal green building standards and achieve further distinction with yet another Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating as we did with the Vermeer Science Center.

In this issue of the *Central Bulletin*, we take a look at some of our successful psychology alumni. They continue to strive and excel in their field and in their experiences. While there are many aspects of psychology, this issue focuses on how our graduates help others in terms of coping, safety, career placement, education and learning. Alumni continue to amaze and impress me in their journey after Central.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David H. Roe".

David H. Roe

CENTRAL BULLETIN

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Central Bulletin is published quarterly by the marketing and media relations office for alumni, parents and friends of Central College. Its mission is to inform about Central's programs and people, to strengthen connections to the college and to develop Central's position as a nationally recognized liberal arts college in the Christian tradition.

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Nondiscrimination policy:

Central College is committed to being an inclusive community whose members act with consideration for the physical, intellectual and spiritual well-being of all persons. All members of the college community are responsible for creating an atmosphere that fosters openness, mutual respect and diversity (board of trustees, 4/26/03). The above nondiscrimination policy includes, but is not limited to, persons of every ethnicity, race, national origin, ancestry, color, socio-economic class, creed, religion, philosophical belief, marital status, disability, physical appearance, sex, age, sexual orientation, gender expression and identity, and organizational affiliation. Read more at www.central.edu/welcome.

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▲ Chris Hulleman's psychology degree led this alumnus through a variety of paths.



▲ Few have left a bigger mark on Central College than the late Coach Ron Schipper, shown above with Scott Froehle '85.

I N T H I S I S S U E

Inaugural tropical ecology class a success



◀ Russ Benedict's tropical ecology students explore one of Costa Rica's natural rainforests.

Biology professor Russ Benedict taught a new course during the fall semester called tropical ecology — something that seemed to be somewhat of a difficult task in the Midwest, and especially in Pella, Iowa.

As part of their coursework, Benedict and 15 students embarked on a 14-day trip during Central's winter break. The class traveled to Belize to snorkel and explore Possum Point Biological Station, and to Costa Rica to study various tropical habitats including a dry tropical forest in Palo Verde, a cloud forest in Monte Verde and a low-land tropical forest in La Selva.

"The goal of this course is to introduce students to the amazing diversity

and complexity of tropical ecosystems, especially focusing on the New World Tropics in Central and South America," said Benedict.

CENTRAL RECEIVES \$1 MILLION GIFT

Central College received a \$1 million gift from Judy and John Reynen '59 in January to endow the Donald T. Butler Chair in Economics. Butler, professor emeritus of economics, was a faculty member at Central from 1953-95.

"Central College is truly blessed to have successful alumni who greatly appreciate the impact legendary professors at

Central had on their lives," said David Roe, president. "The Reynens wanted to honor and thank Don Butler and Central College. Endowing a chair in Don's honor is a marvelous way to accomplish these goals, and we are most appreciative of the Reynens for this generous gift."

Reynen, originally from Hollandale, Minn., served as a Central trustee from 1990-95. He is now living in Sacramento, Calif., and is self-employed as an attorney and real estate developer for Reynen Bardis.

ESTATES AND MAJOR GIFTS

Central College received two major estate gifts, one from Marian Stephens '51 for \$230,081 and the second from Harriet Van Roekel Macy '33 for \$200,000.

Also, the Bruce '63 and Sandy Klein Heerema '62 and Mark '64 and Kay Kuyper DeCook '63 Charitable Foundations each gave \$250,000 to *The Campaign for Central Phase II*. The Heerema gift is for the track and field project, while the De Cooks' generosity will help fund a portion of the education and psychology building.

The Heeremas are national campaign co-chairs for the track and field project. The De Cooks serve as co-chairs of the education and psychology building project.



- ◀ More than 50 Central students
- ▼ paired faith and action during their winter break mission trip to Reynosa, Mexico.

STUDENTS TO REYNOSA FOR MISSION TRIP

Campus ministries and 51 Central students went on a mission trip to Reynosa, Mexico, in January. Students helped teach at a Christian bilingual school and worked with children at an orphanage. They did minor repairs at the orphanage, painted at the school and a church and built four homes. Students held Bible school three afternoons a week. The group also distributed emergency clothing and food in poverty-stricken areas.

GRANT FROM STARR FOUNDATION

Central College received its seventh \$200,000 grant from the Starr Foundation to add to its C.V. Starr Endowed Scholarship. The foundation first awarded Central a \$200,000 gift in the fall of 1999 to provide scholarship assistance to students based on merit and need. Central received its original grant from the Starr Foundation in 1997, a three-year award totaling \$75,000.

The Starr Foundation was established in 1955 by Cornelius Vander Starr, an insurance entrepreneur who founded the American International family of insurance and financial services companies, now known as American International Group, Inc.

Education traditionally has been one of the largest areas of giving for the foundation due to Starr's personal interest in providing scholarships to deserving students. Central College is one of more than 100 institutions where the foundation has endowed scholarship funds.

WESSELINK TO CHAIR CENTRAL BOARD

In January 2006, Dave Wesselink '64 of Northbrook, Ill., assumed duties as chair of Central's board of trustees after the retirement of Carl Boat of Pella.



John Wesselink (1925-34). Boat had served on the board since 1969 and was chair from 1991-2006. He will remain on the board as an emeritus trustee.

Wesselink, retired chair and CEO of Metris Companies Inc., has served on Central's board since 1991 and is the grandson of former Central College President

STUDENT RECEIVES FELLOWSHIP

Senior Adam Duerfeldt of Urbandale, Iowa, was awarded the University of Kansas Madison and Lila Self Graduate Fellowship. A chemistry major, Duerfeldt is



the second Central student to receive this fellowship since it was first offered in 1991.

Recipients participate in professional development programs throughout the school year, attend a week-long public policy seminar in Washington, D.C., and are awarded an annual stipend. After four years, students become members of the Society of Self Fellows. Upon receiving doctorate degrees, students are lifetime members of the society and are able to vote and hold office.

The only other Central student to receive the fellowship is Joe Lubach '02. ■

Panels inform prospective parents

Each year on four consecutive Saturdays in February, Central College alumni and current parents come to campus to serve on panels at our president's and dean's scholar days. The panels answer questions from prospective parents and share their Central College experiences.

Thank you Brooke Bouma '96, Tony Brownlee '02, Brad Eckerman '00, Ryan Fick '02, Anna Hellenga '04, Glenda Henle '02, Christa Comfort Marchant '99, Cy McMahon '99, Steve Perkins '01, Scott Schmailzl '03, Lacie Smothers '98, Lisa Adamson Vroegh '99 and Tiffany Thomas Wilson '99 and for participating on the alumni panel.

Thank you parents' council members Dave and Carolyn DeHoogh of Clive, Bob and Mary Dopf of Urbandale, Dan and Kathy Friedrichs of Ogden, Dave and Jill

Grindberg of Fort Dodge, Jay and Debbie Gruenwald of Williamsburg, Brian '80 and Lori Humphrey Fegley '80 of Cedar Falls, Gordon '76 and Beth Lunan Lauterbach '76 of Waterloo, Rich and Chris Maxwell of Collins, Gregg and Patti Sharp of Conrad and Michele and Mark VanderLinden '78 of Port Byron, Ill., for serving on the current parent panel.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Get out of the house; Central College is coming to a place near you. We have upcoming events planned in Ames, Des Moines, Waterloo, Milwaukee, Pella and the Twin Cities. For a complete schedule of events, visit www.central.edu/alumni/events.html. If you'd like to help with planning or event details, contact alumni@central.edu.

REPRESENTING CENTRAL COLLEGE

Many of our alumni represent Central College at events across the country. Thank you to the following people for attending inaugurations on behalf of Central College and President David and Betsy Roe this past year:

- Kristi Leonard '97 at Waldorf College in Forest City, Iowa;
- Rev. David Risseeuw '63 at New Brunswick Theological Seminary in New Brunswick, N.J.;
- Steve Bell '59 at Taylor University in Upland, Ind.

COUNCILS ON CAMPUS

The Central College parents' council met Feb. 11. The meeting featured a presentation by Annique Brown Kiel '99, assistant director of Central College Abroad, and a work session and discussion led by Bonnie Dahlke, director of student involvement and orientation.

The Alumni Advisory Council (AAC) met March 24-25. Burt Voss '49, Scott Parfrey '70, Rachel Morris '01 and Megan Mitchell '04 are new members. The council interacted with the education and psychology departments, mingled with out-of-state and international students and continued discussion within the four workgroups. For more information on the AAC, visit www.central.edu/alumni/advisory.html. ■



◀ Lisa Adamson Vroegh '99, Christa Comfort Marchant '99, Cy McMahon '99 and Lacie Smothers '98 talk to prospective students about Central.

HOW CAN YOU HELP CENTRAL COLLEGE?

here are 9 easy ways!

- **Refer a student.**

A new online form to refer students to Central College can be found at www.central.edu/alumni. The admission office needs your help in identifying great future Central students. Contact Terri Snyders Crumley '89, director of admission, at crumleyt@central.edu, with questions.

- **Be a resource.**

Central Connections is our online avenue for students and alumni to find advice or insider information about career fields of interest, opportunities for employment in a major, tips for networking, improving interviewing skills, job leads, relocation information and/or your career journey.

- **Attend events.**

Alumni events are low-key, social or extended learning functions for networking, fun and new friends. You might be surprised who you'll see.

- **Stay connected.**

Join the free online alumni community, and stay in touch with Central College classmates and friends. Update your information for the Bulletin, search the online directory or sign up to be a resource through Central Connections.

- **Host an alumni event.**

Want to throw a party for Central College friends living near you? Contact alumni@central.edu for more information.

- **Hire Central students and alumni.**

Contact Pat Joachim Kitzman at kitzmanp@central.edu in the Career Center with job openings, internships or other opportunities.

- **Give back.**

Help future generations of Central alumni have a great experience during their time at Central College. Visit www.central.edu/waystogive to give online to the Central Fund or www.central.edu/development to learn more.

- **Advertise.**

Wear your Central College clothing with pride and spread the good word. Browse the bookstore at www.cbamatthews.com/central.

- **Get back on campus.**

It's amazing how quickly things change. See what's new and what's improved. A great opportunity to visit campus will be Friday, Sept. 29-Sunday, Oct. 1 for our first ever combined Homecoming/Family Weekend. Hotels are filling up fast! See lodging information at www.pella.org.

Driftmier leads Dutch, garners all-conference honors



◀ Junior center Clint Driftmier earned all-Iowa Conference recognition for the rapidly improving Dutch men's basketball squad.

Driftmier, a 6-10 junior, had 14 double-doubles, while averaging 17.8 points and 10.1 rebounds and shooting 58.9 percent from the field. He was the league's leading rebounder.

Senior guard Chris Nelson became Central's career 3-point basket leader with 150. He averaged 11.5 points.

Sophomore point guard Brett De Hoogh established a new season assists record with 141 (5.9 per game).

ROCKY START FOR WOMEN, TIE FOR SIXTH

Experienced players were scarce, the top returnee was in Europe, and the youthful head coach was in her first season.

Although the Central College women's basketball team got off to a rocky start, new coach Natalie Nakic's team notched wins in four of the last eight games to close at 5-18 and 5-11 in Iowa Conference play.

The surge vaulted Central into a tie for sixth in the conference, just short of a spot in the six-team league tourney.

Senior center Ashley Nekola returned from Wales to become Central's top scorer averaging 12.4 points and 5.8 rebounds.

THREE WRESTLER PLACEWINNERS

Three wrestlers placed at the Iowa Conference tourney Feb. 16 at Central.

The Dutch were 2-15 under second-year coach Eric Reed. Injuries forced the team to often wrestle with several open weights, which was hard to overcome in a conference featuring the nation's top Division III league.

Senior Josh Porter was 28-14 and finished seventh in the conference at 197 pounds. Senior Ross Patton battled injury early but finished fifth at 165 pounds, becoming a three-time placewinner while posting a 14-14 mark. Two-time placewinner junior Ryan DeVriendt was eighth at 149 and was 14-20.

ALL-AMERICA HONORS FOR TWO RELAYS

Two men's relays earned all-America honors at the NCAA Division III national track and field championships hosted by St. Olaf College in March.

The distance medley team of junior Brian Respeliors, freshman Zach Zellweger, freshman Teddy Clark and senior Bryan George finished fourth in 10:08.54. The 4x400 unit of senior Justin Koeppe, junior Ben Bollard, senior Kevin Pitz and sophomore Guy Dierikx was eighth in 3:21.15.

The men's and women's track teams both took third at the indoor league meet.

Becoming the first Central player to average a statistical double-double in 27 years, center Clint Driftmier earned first-team all-Iowa Conference honors as the Dutch men's basketball program took another step forward under coach Mike Boschee.

Central's 11-13 record was its best since 1996-97. The Dutch reeled off six straight wins at mid-season, the school's longest streak in 11 years.

Central's Witvoet in Rose Bowl lineup

BY MATT MILLER '08

One of the most crucial performers on the field during the Jan. 4 Rose Bowl wasn't from top-ranked USC or eventual champ Texas.

Former Central College athlete Dave Witvoet '71 was the officiating crew chief for the epic national championship shootout, won by Texas 41-38. Witvoet earlier was named the top crew chief in the Big Ten.

"I guess it was luck the Big Ten got to officiate this year's national championship game," said Witvoet. "Originally the Pac-10 Conference was supposed to officiate the Rose Bowl, but since USC made it to the national championship, Pac-10 officials were removed, allowing Big Ten officials to do it."

Witvoet is the second Central graduate to officiate a national title game. Former Dutch quarterback Brad Van Vark '78, a Big 12 back judge, worked the 2003 Fiesta Bowl championship clash between Ohio State and Miami (Fla.). Van Vark also officiated the Big 12 title contests in 2003 and 2004, and Jan. 2, he worked Virginia Tech's 35-24 win over Louisville in the Toyota Gator Bowl.

While Witvoet is accustomed to working big games in mammoth stadiums, he said this opportunity was special.

"Officiating the Rose Bowl was beyond anything I imagined," said Witvoet.

Witvoet's own college days were spent far away from ESPN instant classics and the national TV spotlight. While attending Central, he majored in geography and physical education. He also played forward as a 6-3, 175-pounder for the basketball team. During his senior year, encouraged by his father-in-law, Witvoet began to officiate local sporting events.

"I started at the local junior high football and basketball games, and soon it progressed into officiating varsity sports,"

he said. "The football opportunity just kind of opened for me."

Witvoet, a regulatory affairs manager for Pharmacia & Upjohn Inc., living in Plainwell, Mich., officiated in the Mid-American Conference for three years and the Great Lakes Conference for 12 years before spending the past 15 seasons in the Big Ten. In an atmosphere fueled by adrenaline, Witvoet tries to remain stoic.

"There are many different types of games," said Witvoet. "Emotions run high in all these games, but in a bigger game, I'm right in the middle, and I can't get caught up in the emotions of the players or fans. I've got to remain calm."

Witvoet isn't afraid of making game-changing calls, but welcomes the assistance instant replay now provides.

"Instant replay is great, but there are still some bugs to be worked out," said Witvoet. "We want to get the calls right and (instant replay) takes us out of the game, allowing proof for everyone to see."

Witvoet got an up-close look at the season's three Heisman Trophy candidates: Texas quarterback Vince Young, Trojans quarterback Matt Leinhardt, who won it in 2004, and running back Reggie Bush, the 2005 recipient.

"Being on the field with athletes like them was extraordinary," Witvoet said.

The game also displayed two successful coaches, Texas's Mack Brown and USC's Pete Carroll.

"I had a chance to talk with them before the game, and they're great coaches," said Witvoet. "They are some of the classiest coaches I've met, and it's evident in the programs they run."



Dave Witvoet '71 was officiating crew chief in January's national college title Rose Bowl game. He's the second Central graduate to officiate the national championship game as Brad Van Vark '78 worked the 2003 championship at the Fiesta Bowl. ▲

"You hear about them and see their highlights, but being able to see them in person was a new experience. Besides playing football, they are very mature young men. It was nice to see Bush and Leinhardt congratulate the Longhorns in the locker room after the game."

Witvoet said his Central education helped him develop the traits necessary to handle such a pressure-filled role on the national stage.

"I was extremely fortunate to be able to officiate that game, and the game showed how great college sports are," said Witvoet. ■

COACH RON SCHIPPER

1928-2006

Coach Ron Schipper, among the most successful football coaches in America, a member of the College Football Hall of Fame and one of the most influential figures in Central College history, passed away suddenly March 27 near his home in Holland, Mich. He was 77.

A campus memorial service was conducted in P.H. Kuyper Gymnasium April 22.

Schipper compiled a remarkable 287-67-3 (.808) record at Central from 1961-96, posting 36 consecutive winning seasons. He ranks second among NCAA Division III coaches in career victories. His Central teams won a record 18 Iowa Conference championships. The Dutch were selected for the NCAA Division III playoffs 12 times, winning the NCAA Division III national title in 1974 and placing second in 1984 and 1988. He served as president of the American Football Coaches Association in



1994 and received the organization's Amos Alonzo Stagg Award for outstanding contributions to the game.

Schipper also served as the college's athletics director from 1964-93 and played a pivotal role in launching Central's highly successful women's athletics program.

Yet it was Schipper's impact off the field that will be remembered.

"Coach Schipper was a great mentor and friend to countless individuals and impacted so many lives in a positive way," said athletics director Al Dorenkamp '75. "I feel blessed to have been connected with Coach Schipper as a student-athlete, Central colleague and friend."

A complete biography, photos and a memory blog with numerous testimonials to Schipper are posted at www.central.edu/athletics.

▲ Shown here in a game at old Kuyper Field in the late 1960s, Ron Schipper coached hundreds of Central athletes over 36 years and made a difference in the lives of countless more.

a great coach,
a better man

It's OK to cry—lessons learned from Coach

BY CLAY THOMPSON '90

I cried this morning while checking my e-mail.

That may not be particularly interesting, but I've been asked to write a *personal* reflection on my memories of Coach Schipper, and I can't think of a more appropriate way to open. He was an intensely emotional man.

Anyone who played for Skip was familiar with the contorted "fight-the-tears" expression that he'd screw his face into during discussions on any number of topics. Usually, the trigger for the wellspring had nothing to do with football — describing the courage of his young granddaughter who'd recently lost a leg, for instance; or an alumnus of whom he was especially proud; or children he'd met in Mexico. Football rarely was mentioned in these episodes. That may seem ironic because we all know how passionately Coach devoted himself to football. I'm guessing, though, it's the non-football related lessons and memories nearly all of his players are recalling most vividly tonight.

Descriptions of football coaches teaching lessons that transcend sport are overused. With Coach Schipper, though, it is perfectly true. Most of the technical aspects of football I learned from him have long since been forgotten along with other college-era information like locker combinations and Keats poetry. My memory is about as robust as my athletic ability, and let's just say I didn't see too much of the field on Saturday afternoons. Anyone who played for Skip, though, took away larger and much more meaningful lessons that are reinforced for many of us almost daily. Some of these he very consciously taught. Some of them we all just picked up from watching. This is an incomplete list:

- Invest yourself completely into any pursuit that has meaning for you.
- Never underestimate the importance of adequate preparation, nor the time and effort necessary to achieve it.
- Excel at fundamentals and broader success certainly will follow.
- When it goes well, celebrate and don't be afraid to hug.
- When it doesn't go well, learn something from the experience, and don't be afraid to cry.
- Don't back away from expressing how you feel, even if it requires making up new phrases.
- Have faith, live it and pray often.
- Always, always, always try to get better.
- Have fun.

I now live and work outside the United States and I haven't talked to Coach in about six years. So it was a surprise when about eight weeks ago I received a handwritten note from him forwarded from my company's U.S. headquarters building. In it, he congratulated me on something he'd read in the *Central Bulletin*. "You're the greatest!" the note began. He was proud of me. Suddenly I was 19 again and his hands were on my shoulder pads. It was the best thing that happened to me that week.

He ended the note by jotting his phone number and asking me to call him the next time I was in the U.S. A few weeks later I called. I wanted to let him know how much I still valued recognition from him and how much I'd learned from him about leadership and organizations and life.

No one answered. I chuckled to myself that Coach must be the only human alive in 2006 without an answering machine and told myself I'd try him later.

I never did.



▲ Coach Ron Schipper (right) counsels defensive back Michael Morris following an opponent's score in a 1993 game.

Living overseas, as exciting as it can be, is filled with challenges. Believe it or not, you can feel isolated living in a country of 1.3 billion people, especially if you are like me and are lousy at keeping in touch with family and friends — even those whom I love deeply. And occasionally, although thankfully not often, my day starts off by reading very bad news that occurred in the U.S. overnight — like the death of Ron Schipper.

I cried this morning because of Coach's death, and I cried because I did not make that follow-up call to him, and I cried probably for a whole lot of other reasons. I learned from Skip that crying is OK. I also learned those other lessons I tried to list above, several of which are about dealing with adversity, and looking for opportunities to improve.

I followed several of those lessons through the course of the day. I prayed. I thought about some of the people in my own family with whom I hadn't spoken in too long. And I picked up the phone.

The guy's still coaching.

CLAY THOMPSON '90 LIVES IN BEIJING, CHINA, SERVING AS DIRECTOR OF EMERGING MARKETS INTEGRATION FOR CATERPILLAR INC.



As a liberal arts institution, Central College helps position its psychology majors for a range of successful career paths, many of which directly are not related to psychology. This partly is due to the fact that psychology is scientifically based knowledge about human behavior — knowledge that can be useful in a variety of situations and contexts. Students also are trained to use their skills to design, analyze and interpret empirical research and information. A major in psychology places students in a position to work in any job setting that involves human beings.

Nationally, about 76,000 students graduate annually with a bachelor's degree in psychology. Approximately 15 percent of them eventually attain a master's degree, and about 5 percent earn a doctorate degree or other equivalent terminal degree. The story is different for Central psychology graduates with over 70 percent earning a master's degree (though not always in psychology), and about 40 percent receiving a doctorate degree or equivalent terminal degree from universities and professional schools all over the country.

ALUMNI CONNECT WITH OTHERS THROUGH A BROAD SPECTRUM OF PSYCHOLOGY

Some alumni stay with the traditional field and become psychologists, psychiatrists or counselors. Some lean toward service-related fields and become social workers, physicians, attorneys or teachers. Others gravitate toward research, marketing, advertising or business. All have one thing in common — people. In this issue of the *Central Bulletin*, four alumni are highlighted sharing how their Central educations led them to help people.

Holly Hartsock '99 helps people with disabilities find work at the Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services.

Bill Rankin '69 uses his research skills on a daily basis as a technical fellow at the Boeing Company to make sure people on airlines are safe.

An interest in motivation sent Chris Hulleman '93 to study social and personality psychology at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. Now in his fifth year of school, Hulleman is working toward a doctorate to become a college professor and help students reach their goals.

Shirley Van Konyrenburg Borgman '55 was in Central's inaugural class of psychology graduates. Although she started out in education, Borgman helped hundreds of individuals deal with death and dying in her work as a bereavement coordinator at Hospice of Pella.

BY ABBY GONZALES '02

Holly Hartsock '99

HARTSOCK FOUND HER CALLING

Holly Hartsock '99 always thought she wanted to be in the medical profession. She found herself around the University of Iowa hospitals and clinics at a young age, watching her mom, a nurse, at work.

"I always knew in some way I wanted to work in human services," said Hartsock, a rehabilitation counselor for Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services (IVRS) in Cedar Rapids. "But, this past year or so, it dawned on me — I just love helping people."

Hartsock's current position is similar to that of a career counselor. She determines client eligibility for services and develops individual plans leading to employment for individuals with disabilities. She develops relationships with businesses in the communities to identify employer needs for recruitment, disability awareness, job accommodation and follow-up.

The first week on the job, Hartsock encountered a high school junior with multiple mental and physical disabilities, which presented issues in his efforts at school and work. However, the young man was passionate about work. With assistance from Hartsock and IVRS's resources, the individual made transitions from high school to adulthood that exceeded expectations. He started with a fast-paced job at McDonald's and realized it wasn't for him. Instead, the young man volunteered as a kitchen assistant/dining room attendant for a retirement village. He now has assumed a full-time position with benefits and is a valued member of the retirement community.

"His disabilities didn't hinder him but were a challenge," said Hartsock. "He's learned how to handle them. He moved out of his parents' home to a residential facility and progressed to where he's now living independently. He's matured and evolved into a citizen who gives back to the community. You should never judge a book by its cover."

While the unemployment rate in Iowa as a whole is around 5 percent, it exceeds 60 percent for Iowans with disabilities, according to advocates. About 60 percent of jobs in Iowa now require some postsecondary education, not to mention familiarity with a computer and ability to multitask. Inadequate academic preparation and skills can be an obstacle for those with disabilities.

Some employers might think hiring workers with mental or physical problems could be more costly. Or, they may lack confidence in the employee.

"Part of my job is working with employers and developing relationships, helping them understand how candidates with disabilities are just as qualified candidates as anyone else walking through the door," she said. "You can't always see a disability. And they have to inform the employer if they need reasonable accommodations. That's where we become a resource to employers as well. We're trying to build relationships and help them to understand how reasonable accommodations aren't really going to cost them. It's going

to give them a very good candidate who is going to be a successful employee."

Working in a state and federal-funded organization has its challenges.

"With any type of public service, you always are

dealing with the realities of government regulations," she said. "But, your ultimate goal is to help your client. So you do what you can with what you have, and sometimes that shortage of resources and funding helps me do my job even better than if I had all the money in the world."

The Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation program is funded through Rehabilitation Services Administration and receives state-matched funding through the Iowa Department of Education.

"Right now, we're carrying a waiting list, and it's hard to tell people we can't serve them until they move up the list," said Hartsock. "It gets more optimistic at times. But you're looking for resources, so the greatest thing that comes out of it is you become more resourceful as a counselor. I think in itself, it has made me a better counselor knowing where else to look and give people advice."

While at Central, Hartsock felt she needed a psychology background to work in the human service industry.

"I found psychology matched who I was and what I wanted to do," she said.

DOING WHAT SHE DOES BEST AND LOVING IT

While at Central, Hartsock participated in an internship with the occupational therapy department at Pella Regional Hospital, and was a companion for an individual

residing at a nursing home for human development and aging class.

"I never imagined the two experiences would intersect as they did," said Hartsock. "In meeting and getting to know this person, I not only had one of the most meaningful experiences of my life, but also I found what it truly means to listen and learn, which are vitally important in my line of work. The individual I worked with that semester experienced a fall that resulted in the need for significant medical attention and rehabilitation. I had the opportunity to work with her throughout her rehabilitation and provide moral support and guidance along the way."

Hartsock said the experience led her to consider counseling and rehabilitation together. Because of this experience, she had greater confidence in entering the counseling field and found her chance through Rehabilitation Counseling Program at the University of Iowa.

"I think the greatest thing about Central's program is you can specialize in an area that interests you because there are so many different tracks in psychology," she said. "One of the things that most opened my eyes to what we do in psychology was research. The research symposium and doing your own research project really helped prepare me for what I did after Central in my graduate studies. It was a great challenge."

After graduating from Central, Hartsock worked one year as a physical therapist associate. She started classes at the University of Iowa in 2000 and graduated with a master's degree in May 2002. While at Iowa, she had an internship with IVRS where she eventually ended up working full time.

Now her greatest satisfaction is seeing an individual become employed and successful and closing them out as a client.

"We have the ability to go see our clients at work," said Hartsock. "To see the satisfaction on their face when they reach their goals — that's the greatest feeling. I love to see my clients achieve what they've done mostly for themselves and see their true independence come through. A lot of times, I'm just a tool along the way — a benefit — to help them get there."



Holly Hartsock '99 is a rehabilitation counselor for Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services. Hartsock's psychology degree led her in to the human service industry — a place where she feels right at home. Hartsock helps individuals with disabilities find employment.

Bill Rankin '69

CRUNCHING NUMBERS FOR SAFETY

Three Mile Island.

Three words that bring to mind a picture of nuclear oblivion. March 28, 1979, the nuclear plant near Middletown, Pa., suffered a severe core meltdown when the facility experienced a failure in the secondary, non-nuclear section of the plant.

The accident caught federal and state authorities off guard. The most serious accident in U.S. commercial nuclear power plant operating history brought about sweeping changes involving emergency response planning, control room design, reactor operator training, radiation protection and many other areas of nuclear power plant operations where human factors engineering had a role to play. It also prompted the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to tighten and heighten its regulatory oversight. Resultant changes in the nuclear power industry and at the NRC had the effect of enhancing safety.

For Bill Rankin '69, Three Mile Island is more than just a historical event. For him, it was a significant psychological test. It was one test nuclear power plant operators failed, but one he has worked tirelessly to ensure it never failed again.

"I did all my work at the Battelle Seattle Research Centers for the Department of Energy and Nuclear Regulatory Commission," Rankin said. "I worked with NRC for seven years from 1979-86.

"We analyzed which human factors issues contributed to this accident," he said. "Following this analysis, my job was to work with the NRC and the nuclear plants in the areas of control room design, operator training and emergency operating procedures to make sure this kind of accident never happens again."

Throughout his career, Rankin has parlayed his interests in psychology into a career of analyzing and working with the human factor.

"I found a whole new area of psychology when I was at Central," said Rankin. "I knew I didn't want to be a clinical psychologist, but experimental psychology really hit a key with me. So I switched majors from mathematics to psychology. Then I went to the University of Nevada at Reno from 1969-70."

After completing his service as a conscientious objector from 1970-72, Rankin returned to grad school at Washington State University in Pullman where he received a master's and a doctorate in psychology with a minor in sociology. Then, Rankin moved to Seattle, Wash., and got a job at the Battelle Seattle Research Centers and began to put his knowledge of the human factor to work.

"My training in human learning and performance was important then because that's what human factors deal with — improving human performance through design and training," he said. "Battelle was selected to do that type of research for the NRC. The last thing I did in the nuclear industry was evaluate nuclear power plant maintenance programs."

Rankin continues to study how people perform, and how people can perform better. Today he's doing that at The Boeing Company. Since 1986, Rankin has worked for Boeing in corporate human resources, training, engineering and customer service.

"At Boeing, I'm able to change my career every three to four years and do things experimental psychologists are trained to do but often don't get a chance to do."

Rankin feels his work never goes unnoticed.

"At Boeing your work is always applied," he said. "You do very few theoretical studies. You may

collect data, but it's so you can apply it to a design or something similar. You need to have the knowledge in your head. You spend at least two years doing research to get the knowledge."

Working in the area of aircraft maintenance human factors for the last 10 years, Rankin's team developed a process called the Maintenance Error Decision Aid (MEDA), which is used to investigate the cause of maintenance errors. Rankin and his team have trained hundreds of aircraft maintenance organizations around the world to use the MEDA process. The end result is to use his training to help people fly safely wherever they may travel.

THE HUMAN FACTOR

"Safety is the number one issue in aviation," said Rankin. "Airlines want to know what they're doing well and what they can do better."

[continued on page 16](#)

**"IT'S NEVER ENDING.
EVERYTHING I'VE LEARNED
COMES TOGETHER SO I
CAN MAKE SURE PEOPLE
ARE SAFE."**

Psychos on the MOVE

Jordan Hall, home of the “Psychos,” and the oldest building on Central’s campus, has housed the nationally respected psychology department since 1968. Thousands of psychology students have called Jordan Hall home.

But soon, Central’s “Psychos” will say goodbye to Jordan Hall and hello to a new education and psychology building.

One of the capital projects of Phase II of *The Campaign for Central* is currently in the fund-raising and planning stages. The projected \$9-million facility tentatively will break ground in 2007. Because the building will be located directly west of the Vermeer Science Center, the site will allow students learning opportunities among the natural sciences, education and psychology.

This model will make the psychology and education programs at Central highly distinctive in Iowa. The opportunity to share space offers exciting possibilities such as working across departments, easy coordination of programs benefiting students in both departments, and stronger student-faculty research efforts both within and across departments.

Psychology and education faculty want and need to collaborate with one another in areas of shared expertise.

“Psychology and education share a lot of goals, as it is, we’re on opposite ends of the campus,” said Ed Willis, professor of psychology. “Soon, we’re going to be right across the street from the science center. With what’s happening in psychology now in terms of brain research and genetic research, this is a natural tie in, not only with education, but also with biologists, chemists and biochemists.”

The building will provide appealing and accommodating classroom and instructional space.

Preliminary programming indicated the new building could include “smart” stations in the classrooms, a departmental computer lab, a 24-hour-access student computer lab, and a media lab to ensure students develop the technological skills and information literacy they will need after college. Programming for this project will be complete this spring with schematic design and budget development continuing this summer.

The psychology department’s current facility presents challenges, particularly concerning technology and its ability to take advantage of collaborating with colleagues in the education department who have similar priorities and areas of expertise. Right now, space to host groups, such as the Iowa Teachers of Psychology and the Iowa Psychological Association, is limited.

Central again will pursue a Leadership in Energy



and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating from the U.S. Green Building Council. According to the strategic plan, Central wants to promote and model appreciation of our natural environment and stewardship of its limited resources. The Vermeer Science Center was the first LEED-rated building in Iowa and achieved a silver medal when the building opened in 2003.

And travel is a part of Rankin's job.

"I enjoy interacting with people from different cultures. I've visited over 40 countries on my business travels. Some are among the richest countries of the world, and some are among the poorest. But, the people are pretty much alike."

Helping people is the foundation of much psychological study. And, the psychology program at Central is designed to combine communication skills and a foundation in research to prepare students for careers or graduate study. In Rankin, the foundation was laid for advanced research of "the human factor."

In addition to his psychology degrees, his liberal arts education helped him in all his work positions. One of the founding staff at Central's computer center in 1968, Rankin's computer knowledge, mathematical background and psychology degrees, prove to be a good fit for him. So, it makes sense Rankin's interest in computing and math is one of his strengths in psychology — statistics. Training evaluation and dealing with computer software and statistical analysis are down his alley.

"Most of the work I've done since Central College has dealt with human factors in issues in high tech industries — control room design, training evaluation, selection test development, procedure development and error investigation — making sure people work safely and provide a safe service for others. It's never ending. Everything I've learned comes together so I can make sure people are safe. It truly is a liberal arts education at work."

Chris Hulleman '93

AN INTEREST IN WHAT MOTIVATES PEOPLE, MOTIVATES HULLEMAN

Coming to Central College, Chris Hulleman '93 already knew what he wanted to do. He wanted to be a teacher and a coach. After a few life-changing experiences, Hulleman is living his dream.

"One of my supervisors used to say, 'You can get one of two things out of life. You can get what you want, or you can get what other people give you,'" he explained. "You can go out and pursue your dreams and goals, or you can sit around and whatever is left over, then you'll get it."

Hulleman stepped back and took a look at what really excited him. What did he want to do with his life? He always had an interest in psychology and was interested in how to motivate people and how people learn.

"I think the thing that defines me and what I'm interested in is getting people from the position where they're saying, 'I have to do this' to 'I want to do this.'"

Hulleman thinks about that concept in several ways including athletics and academics.

"How do you help people develop intrinsic desire and love for what they're doing?" he posed. "Self-motivation applies to a lot of different areas."

That's how Hulleman decided on the University of Wisconsin at Madison. He went there to study goals, intrinsic motivation and performance. Hulleman received a master's degree in 2002 and currently is working toward a doctorate to become a college professor.

Right now, he is in the middle of a two-year fellowship through the National Science Foundation, ending next year.

"We bring in researchers outside of education to do research on educational issues," he said.

Wisconsin was one of 12

schools in the nation to receive a \$25 million grant.

"It's a great training experience," he said. "When you go into graduate school, you really get narrowed in and do research, and there's a reason for that because you're supposed to become an expert. But the problem is, you get so narrow you forget to connect with other disciplines and how other people think about things. It puts things back in perspective."

Part of the fellowship research looks at intervention in the classroom and manipulation of different aspects of the classroom to see if it has positive effects on the students' interest in the course and their performance.

"One thing we look at is how meaningful the class is to people," he explained. "How useful is it for them in their everyday life or future? Findings so far indicate the more people see the value of the course they are studying, the more likely they are to be interested and perform at a high level."

The research centers around what factors influence people's performance, such as how well students perform in the classroom and how interested they are in the subject. Of course, the follow up to that is if the interest continues over a long period of time and if it affects the types of classes students take in the future.

“ ...WHAT I’M INTERESTED
IN IS GETTING PEOPLE
FROM THE POSITION WHERE
THEY’RE SAYING ‘I HAVE TO
DO THIS’ TO ‘I WANT TO
DO THIS.’ ”



Chris Hulleman '93 wears many hats — student, teacher, researcher, husband and father. Pursuing a doctorate at the University of Wisconsin at Madison, Hulleman manages to balance work and life.

The research aspect of Hulleman's studies is something he wasn't sure would be his cup of tea, but he has started to like it.

"One of the unique things about Central's psychology program is as an undergraduate, you do your own research project junior year," Hulleman said. "Not a lot of schools do that. Many have students write a research proposal, and that's different than actually conducting your own research. You just learn so much. That's a great strength of Central, and it sets it apart from a lot of other schools."

Hulleman never saw himself doing much research at all. But being trained in it and having the different tools to be able to do it correctly, he was able to see how he could answer some of the questions himself.

"That has captivated me," he said. "And right now, I'm really focused on research for my dissertation."

BALANCING ACT — STUDENT, RESEARCHER, TEACHER, HUSBAND AND FATHER

As a graduate student, Hulleman juggles all different kinds of roles including researcher, teacher and student.

"It's a struggle on how to make decisions and balance it all — school, family and personal life," he said.

Juggling family, four children under seven — soon to be five, in addition to spending 20-30 hours a week studying and 20-30 hours a week teaching and doing research can be taxing but worth it.

He's used to staying busy and stretching himself. Following graduation, Hulleman wanted to get some real life experience. Not being able to take advantage of Central's study abroad program, he decided to go to London on a work exchange program for six months. Upon arriving home, he found out he won a Rotary scholarship to study psychology in Australia but was unable to go because classes started in a month. Instead, Hulleman got a teaching and coaching job at Indianola High School for the year and then set his eyes on the land down under.

R^{the} Research COMPONENT

CAPSTONE RESEARCH

To obtain a bachelor's degree in psychology from Central, students must successfully complete the "dreaded" capstone research project as juniors and seniors.

Students design and implement individual research projects on cognitive, cultural, developmental, personality, gender, multicultural or social psychology topics. As part of the capstone research experience, students collect and analyze data and present research results in accordance with American Psychological Association standards.

"As an independent project, it helps students learn how to be responsible and manage their time wisely," said Jill Kramer, a senior psychology major from Steamboat Rock, Iowa. "Being able to pick a topic you are passionate about helps. It doesn't really seem like work.

"Many times psychology students go to grad school and are required to complete a research project similar to the undergraduate requirement at Central, so they are already a step ahead in the game. Professors share e-mails from alumni in graduate school who feel they are advanced because of what they accomplished at Central."

THE PSYCHO NETWORK

In the late 1980s, Jim Schulze, associate professor of psychology, and alumna Jan Steddum Garner '83 administered a survey to all psychology alums going back to 1956. Their work was published as "The Psycho Network," providing important information for Central's psychology department.

Ed Willis, professor of psychology, followed up in the year 2000 with a study similar to the one in the 1980s, which encompassed alums from the 1990s. He compiled the results and published "The Psycho Network II."

Both surveys received a very high return rate, and interesting findings concluded Central is on the right track as far as alumni success rates. Central graduates exceeded national averages in obtaining further degrees and training.

"The surveys help us refine our program," said Maria Carla Chiarella '95, assistant professor of psychology. "Then we know what we're doing well and what we can do better. It really helps keep us fresh as a department."

Willis is scheduled for sabbatical next fall. His major activity will be to resurvey all psychology department alums to find out what they currently are doing.

While in Australia, Hulleman earned a post-graduate diploma in psychology while playing for an American football team.

After his time in Australia, he opted to work and get more life experience as a social worker in Des Moines.

"There were things I wanted to do," he said. "I didn't want to go and study something for five or six years. I wasn't really sure excited me right after graduating college. It's kind of a daunting thought. That's a lot of time. I loved the idea of being a college professor and teaching psychology, but I really didn't know what specific area to pursue."

After a year, he moved to Pella with wife Teresa McGovern Hulleman '93, who was an assistant women's basketball coach at Central, while he served as Gaass Hall director and an assistant football coach. He also worked in the counseling center and taught drug and alcohol education. Eight years after graduating from Central, Hulleman enrolled at the University of Wisconsin.

"There's just an amazing flexibility with a psychology degree," he said. "One of the reasons I chose psychology was because of that flexibility.

"I think I picked well."

Shirley Van Konyrenburg Borgman '55

BORGMAN MAKES PELLA'S HOSPICE A REALITY

Thirty years after her graduation, Shirley Van Konyrenburg Borgman '55 dusted off her Central degree in psychology and looked around her. She hadn't intended to wait this long to begin her career, but sometimes life just gets in the way.

"I didn't know where I was going at that time in my life," she said. "After the kids left home, I thought, 'Now what?'"

The "what" was a need in Pella for care and support of patients and families as they faced death.

In 1982 as she was helping take care of her husband's ill cousin, Borgman started to think about her future. She began reading *On Death and Dying* by Elisabeth Kubler-Ross and really became fascinated with bereavement, having had a bad experience as a child.

"I wanted to help people get through difficult times, especially since it wasn't easy for me when there was a death in my family," said Borgman. "My family never talked about death and dying. Funerals weren't like

they are now. When my grandmother died, we stayed behind a curtain and weren't to be seen."

Borgman started to make some calls to Pella Regional Health Center to see if there was any talk of starting a hospice.

"Nothing permanent was in the works," she said. "I told them I would love to be a volunteer if things got going."

At that point, things "got going," and Pella's hospice became a reality in 1983. Borgman was one of the three founders and took the role as administrator. Ed Willis, professor of psychology, and Jim Schulze, associate professor of psychology, served on the first board. Four or five years later, Borgman moved into bereavement when a new administrator was hired.

HELPING PEOPLE PUT THEIR LIVES BACK TOGETHER

"I had to educate myself and do a lot of reading on bereavement, and I learned a lot quickly," said Borgman who retired in 1999. "It was a wonderful experience, and I learned as much from those grieving as I did from books. I hadn't experienced the death of my husband or children or had a miscarriage ... but these people had and were trying to put their lives back together."

Borgman put new order in her life. After graduating with the first psychology class in 1955, she taught fourth grade at Webster Elementary in Pella for three years before moving to the family farm with husband Glenn '54 in 1958. Instead of continuing to teach, she became a stay-at-home mother to three children: Dean, Dee and Dirk '87.

Borgman got the itch to start working again and wanted to use her psychology degree — a degree that meant a lot to her.

She recognized the great need for support classes in Pella and developed them. She became a teacher again.

"I knew I had organizational skills to create hospice," Borgman said. "I felt comfortable listening to people's sad stories and knew my role was a listening role, especially since I never went back to school to become a counselor. There was no need to [go back to school]. I was happy with my life. When I saw



Shirley Van Konyrenburg Borgman '55 utilized her psychology degree by helping start Pella's hospice care nearly 30 years after graduating from Central.

people move on with their grief — that's when I knew I was in the right place."

Borgman struggled herself with understanding the grieving process, but during her support groups, she came up with a variety of different takes on the subject and created her own grief wheel.

"There's always improvement in the lives of those grieving," she said. "It's so rewarding to see the changes in people. When they first are involved in hospice and the programs, they are so sad, and it's so nice to see them 10 weeks later looking like they're going to make it."

Central helped Borgman mature and gain self-confidence. Without it, she may never have had the courage to take on such a task as helping start a much-needed hospice program.

"I credit Central with giving me a wonderful liberal arts education and helping me grow up a great deal," she said. "My strength is creating something new, and it's exciting to be able to do that. It's a wonderful challenge. The spiritual gift God has given me helped me create something in the caring field." ■

A psychology degree prepares you for more than you thought

Psychology alumni span all areas

by Ed Willis, professor of psychology

PROFILE AT A GLANCE

- Earned an associate degree from Modesto Junior College, 1972
- Earned a bachelor's degree in psychology (1966) and master's in general psychology (1967) from San Jose State University
- Began teaching psychology as an instructor at Central College, 1967
- Received doctorate in general experimental psychology from Iowa State University, 1974
- Granted tenure and promoted to assistant professor (1972), to associate professor (1977), and to professor (1982)
- Taught in Yucatan spring 1975, fall 1981, winter 1985-86 and winter 1989-90
- Assistant director of Central College Upward Bound program, 1978-1984
- Psychology department chair, 1988-2000; 2003-04
- Married to Barb Willis; two sons, Jake and Joe

Over the years, the most persistent question I get from students thinking about a major or minor in our department is, "What can I do with psychology?" Sometimes I give the somewhat flippant but nonetheless true response, "Anything you want to do, especially if it involves

working with people." The best way to deal with the question, however, is to let our graduates answer.

Central College psychology alumni are pursuing a variety of interesting careers both within and outside of psychology and making important contributions to the broader culture. Careers range from counselors to attorneys, psychiatrists to physicians, missionaries to administrators and business analysts to pastors. The list of names on the following page could continue for several pages, but I think you get the picture.

A few years ago, Jim Schulze and alumna Jan Steddom Garner '83 surveyed psychology alumni who graduated between 1956 (when the psychology major was established at Central College) and 1991; a little later I surveyed alumni who graduated between 1992 and 1999. Both surveys showed similar and highly encouraging results with alumni exceeding the national average of those furthering their education. Alumni often tell us they enter their graduate program with insecurities about being able to compete with students from major universities, only to discover they have had experiences not shared by their classmates and actually are *better* prepared for graduate study.

Each year, roughly 25 percent of our psychology graduates go directly to grad-

uate school. The rest find employment, both in psychology-related and non-psychology-related jobs throughout the United States or choose to participate in programs like the Peace Corps, VISTA or JET (teaching English in Japan). Psychology-related jobs at the bachelor level provide valuable experiences in dealing with a wide range of clientele such as emotionally disturbed children/adolescents, people with developmental disabilities, family-violence victims, people with autism and alcohol and drug abusers. Within five or six years, these folks usually decide to go to graduate school, mainly because they realize they need an advanced degree to be more effective with their clients or because they decide to move in a different direction.

Throughout the decades, we have remained faithful to the fundamental goal of our program: to create, in a liberal arts context, a research-based curriculum helping students discover ways psychological science can inform their lives as individuals and as participants in the larger world. We are idealists who want our graduates to be positive change agents and who want our curriculum to evolve, always keeping it on the cutting edge of the discipline. Our current students are reaping benefits. In the last three years, for example, 13 student research projects



Ed Willis, 1976

have been presented as poster-sessions at the Midwestern Psychological Association Convention in Chicago, and seven projects have been accepted for presentation at the 2006 convention this spring. This kind of experience positively influences decisions of graduate admission committees. The successes of our current students and alumni have led our program to be recognized as a benchmark program throughout the Midwest. For this and other reasons, information about our graduates is very important to us. I've recently taken on a sabbatical project to re-survey all psychology alumni to find out what everybody is currently doing, so you will be hearing from me soon.

A recent development will make it possible for our department to be more effective than ever in preparing psychology students for life after Central College:

the education and psychology building. This new facility will put psychology faculty into close collaborative contact with faculty in education, biology and chemistry and will bring the latest technology to bear on the teaching process.

Interactive computer classrooms allow students to work on computers, for example, participating in survey and experimental research or taking and administering/scoring psychological tests online while getting instruction in a course. Rooms with mounted video equipment and one-way mirrors facilitate data collection in research projects and allow observation and simultaneous feedback for students practicing counseling skills.

I speak for the psychology department when I say it is hard to think about leaving Jordan Hall, which is full of warm memories. However, when we consider what psychology students of the future are going to need, we know we are doing the right thing by moving into this new building.

After all, the heart of the psychology program at Central College is not located in any particular place on campus but rather in people and relationships. I wonder how long it will take before psychology students begin thinking of the education and psychology building as the "Home of the Psychos."

A few years ago, I encountered a man in Maytag who was on campus to hire for his firm. When he found out I was a psychology professor he brightened up and said, "Oh, I love it when people I hire have taken psychology courses!" I asked him why, and he replied, "When I hire people who have not had any psychology, they are very helpful to us for a few years, but when we want to bump them up into a supervisory or management position, we can't; they're stuck. But if they have some psychology, they have the interpersonal and relationship skills allowing them to understand people and to move up in our organization."

Maybe "Anything you want to do" is not so flippant after all. ■

MA Measure of SUCCESS

Here's a list of what some of Central's psychology alumni have done with their major.

Dick Whittlesey '65 — was a counselor at Psychology Associates in the Quad-Cities area; currently director of new business development for Genesis Health Systems.

Art Schut '69 — executive director of the Mid-East Council on Chemical Abuse in Iowa City and Des Moines.

Dana Snoap '73 — attorney with Dunn, Schouten & Snoap in Wyoming, Mich.

Vickie Gregory '75 — psychiatrist and attorney in her own practice, Neuropsychology Associates in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Dan Conrad '78 — retired from a successful career in management at AT&T before becoming vice president at Time-Warner Cable in Milwaukee, Wis.

Ruth Vander Kooi '82 — physician at Flatirons Medical Practice in Louisville, Colo.

Rodney DeRonde '90 — missionary with Operation Mobilization in Debrecen, Hungary.

Laura Schalekamp '91 — human resources administrator at McKinsey & Co. in Chicago, Ill.

Beth Mackintosh '93 — account executive with MCI in Denver, Colo.

Connie Chrisman Clark '94 — business analyst with The Principal Financial Group in Des Moines.

Karen Ellingson Ahrens '96 — clinical psychologist at Prairie View, Inc., in McPhearsen, Kan.

Elizabeth Brown Hardeman '99 — pastor at Alton Reformed Church in Alton, Iowa.

Rachel Morris '01 — associate at Mercer Health and Benefits in Washington, D.C.

A Central icon

by Larry Happel '81

Emotions swirled in the stomach of Mike Orr '69 as he peered into the Des Moines Mercy Hospital room. The feeling no doubt conjured up memories from some 40 years earlier, when he anxiously approached Central economics professor Don Butler, clutching his carefully typed, double-spaced paper for Principles of Economics on the elasticity of the world bauxite market.

Now he simply wanted to see his favorite professor one more time. Butler was stricken with cancer and word filtered out he wasn't doing well. A visit with Butler typically produced more one-liners than the first half-hour of an old Milton Berle TV show. But Orr wondered if this time Butler's face might be etched with the pain doctors could no longer control, or the gravity the situation demanded.

As Orr entered the cramped hospital room, Butler's wife Barb rose and motioned for him to take her chair. Orr awkwardly offered to stand.

Butler wanted no part of such decorum.

"No, no, honey," he insisted. "Mike would rather kneel here at my feet."

And Butler smiled the familiar smile that was as much a part of Central College as conference football trophies and Dutch names in the student directory.

He passed away Feb. 3, not long after Orr's visit.

Butler was a Central faculty member for 43 years, a remarkable Cal Ripken-

like tenure but one that doesn't begin to tell the impact he had on the place. He was a Central icon. Management professor Jann Freed '77, calls him "a pillar of Central," and it's hard to term that an exaggeration. The guy *wrote* the Central fight song, for crying out loud.

Faith and family came first, but Butler poured himself into Central College. He totally was devoted to Central students, his life blood.

"I don't teach economics," he often reminded. "I teach students."

He was the root cause of that rarest of sounds, laughter in an economics classroom. And students were the source of his ever-present smile.

"He even had our class over to his house for dinner once," said Alan Walther '81. "He said his wife kept bugging him about why he was coming home so happy every night. He attributed it to our class and our interactions, and he wanted her to see for herself."

"Even if you didn't have him for class, you knew who he was," recalled Dave Sutphen '61, Central's vice president of advancement.

Butler was the emcee for the midnight celebration welcoming the 1974 national championship football team back to Kuyper Gym. He was the one setting up a table at the Central Auxiliary's annual international food and crafts festival. He was the one leading cheers at the Homecoming pep rally — in between



zingers directed at his old card partner, football coach Ron Schipper. And, oh yes, he was the one wearing the wig and dancing around a sombrero with longtime dean of students Bill Hinga and education faculty member Norm Ryerson — "Los Dos Gringos" — taking first place in Central's rendition of "The Gong Show" in the old Rap Room of the student union in 1977.

But he also was the one prodding his students, stretching their minds and challenging them to become more than they dared imagine.

"He was always pushing you, to make you better," Sutphen said.

To think future Central students won't benefit from Doc Butler is sad, until realizing they will.

"He and a number of other professors, like the Huffmans, the Bosches, Don Meyer, Larry Mills and others were so committed to the college," Orr said. "They created the environment and the sense of community that is what's so special about Central today. Maybe today's students don't know Doc Butler, but they're still benefiting from him."

CENTRAL COLLEGE HOMECOMING & *Family Weekend* Sept. 29 – Oct. 1, 2006

For the first time, Central will celebrate Family Weekend during Homecoming. All alumni, families and friends are invited to return to campus to enjoy the festivities. In addition, classes of 1956, 1961, 1966, 1971, 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1996, 2001 and 2006 will hold reunions. We also welcome members of the classes of 1951 and earlier to join us for the weekend. For a complete homecoming schedule, log on to www.central.edu/homecoming

Welcome Center

Friday, Sept. 29, Maytag Student Center, BMW Rooms 8 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 30, Maytag Student Center, BMW Rooms 8 a.m.– noon

Friday, Sept. 29

10 a.m. Heritage Day Reception
11 a.m. Dan Hocker Memorial Golf Tournament
11 a.m. Homecoming Worship Service
3:30 p.m. That was then, this is now
6 p.m. Lemming Race
6:15–7:30 p.m. Barbecue — Central Market patio \$
7:30 p.m. Pep Rally and Homecoming Coronation
7:30 p.m. Symphonic Wind Ensemble Concert
8 p.m. 1st annual Networking AND MORE Social
8:30 p.m. Movie on the Wall
10 p.m. Comedian/Magician

Saturday, Sept. 30

8 a.m. Dutch 5K Fun Run & Walk \$
9:30–10:30 a.m. President's Hour
9:45–10:30 a.m. Life-long learning opportunities
10:30–noon Family Carnival
10:45–11:30 a.m. Life-long learning opportunities
10:45–11:45 a.m. Central College Abroad information session
11 a.m. Athletic hall of honor plaque unveiling ceremony
11 a.m. Tailgate Under the Big Tent \$
12:40 p.m. Parade of Classes
1 p.m. Football — Central vs. Wartburg \$
4 p.m. Reception for athletic hall of honor inductees
5 p.m. All-alumni reception and dinner and class pictures \$
7:30 p.m. Class reunion gatherings
7:30 p.m. Live Band Karaoke

Sunday, Oct. 1

11 a.m. Final Farewell Brunch \$

