

CENTRAL

BULLETIN WINTER '10

**Things have changed.
Yet the most important
things stay the same.**



"Education is simply the soul of a society as it passes from one generation to another."
"Education is simply the soul of a society as it passes from one generation to another."

— GILBERT K. CHESTERTON

Central College may not be today how you remember it when you were a student, but it's still Central College. Over the years campus has changed. New buildings have been constructed; there are new offices and programs; and, a new curriculum will be put into place next fall. One thing that hasn't changed is the quality of Central's liberal arts education.

The college has adapted over time in order to meet the needs of our students. It's clear our world is forever changing and evolving. We want our students to receive the best education to

be prepared for anything. The job market is different than it was 25 years ago. New jobs are created every day as technology keeps advancing. We are preparing our students right now for careers that don't even exist.

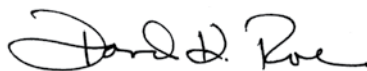
During my time at Central, I've had the privilege to teach a leadership class to students and also recently have taken a modified version of the course to staff managers and leaders. Both sets of experiences have helped me to understand more deeply our students, how and what they are thinking, and to develop a better appreciation for the complex tasks that face staff leaders at the college. In turn, based on the feedback I received, students and staff managers have gained knowledge and practiced skills, which will make them more effective in current and future leadership roles. Also, I believe class members came to appreciate more fully the special environment our students, faculty and staff have created here at Central College.

Although it's hard to walk the line of the past and the present, while thinking about the future, Central strives to maintain the integrity of our heritage, while keeping the best interests of our students for the future. Our students are just as remarkable now as you were when you were in school; maybe even more so given the pace of current life and the explosions in knowledge and electronic flow of information as well as misinformation.

I'm excited for the future of Central College. Our students, faculty and staff make Central what it is and will continue to do so. Throughout the years, Central students have brought an energy to this campus by their involvement and genuine interest

and concern in a variety of disciplines and activities. I look forward to seeing a new crop of graduates take on the alumni role. What might they bring to the college in the next 50 years?

In this issue of the *Bulletin*, you'll read about what our current students are doing, and I hope you take time to reflect on your days at Central.



David H. Roe

Photo by Paul Gates



▲ President David Roe generously shared his knowledge by teaching a leadership class to students and staff over the years.

CENTRAL BULLETIN

Winter 2010
volume 16, number 1

EDITOR

Abby Gonzales '02

STUDENT WRITERS

Jenae Jenison '12

Miguel Ley '10

Amanda Van Dyk '10

Billy Boyle '11

SPORTS EDITOR

Larry Happel '81

GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Brianna Blake

EDITORIAL ASSISTANTS

Mary Benedict

Susan Canfield

Connie Aalbers Marlow '76

Lynne Petty

DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI

RELATIONS

Sunny Gonzales Eighmy '99

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF

ALUMNI RELATIONS

Mary Vande Hoef '03

DIRECTOR OF MARKETING

AND MEDIA RELATIONS

Connie Cross

DIRECTOR OF PUBLICATIONS

Cyndi Atkins

Central Bulletin is published quarterly by the marketing and media relations office for alumni, parents and friends of Central College. For information on *Central Bulletin's* mission and Central's welcome policy go to www.central.edu/alumni/bulletin.

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

Postmaster: send address changes (PS 3579) to *Central Bulletin*, 812 University, Pella, IA 50219-1999. Address changes also may be sent to alumni@central.edu.

Production notes:



Productolite meets EPA and FTC guidelines for recycled coated papers. All pulp is elemental chlorine free (EFC) and totally chlorine free (TCF). The *Central Bulletin* is printed with a soybean-based ink by Town Crier, Pella, Iowa.

WWW.CENTRAL.EDU
641.628.9000



Photo by Paul Gates

10

▲ Read about current Central students and find out who they are and what they're doing.

ON THE COVER

Cory Nikkel '12

Photo by Paul Gates

10 REMEMBER YOUR DAYS AT CENTRAL?

Central students today aren't much different from the students of yesterday.

22 TIMES CHANGE, BUT OUR PURPOSE REMAINS THE SAME

Pam Richards, associate professor of exercise science, writes about helping students reach their goals.

DEPARTMENTS

- 2 Around the Pond
- 4 Alumni Happenings
- 6 Alumni Award Winners
- 8 Sports Update
- 24 Class Reunion Photos
- 26 Alumni Newsnotes
- 32 Homecoming/Family Weekend
- 33 Parting Shot



BACK
COVER

▲ Meet Central's 21st president Dr. Mark Putnam.



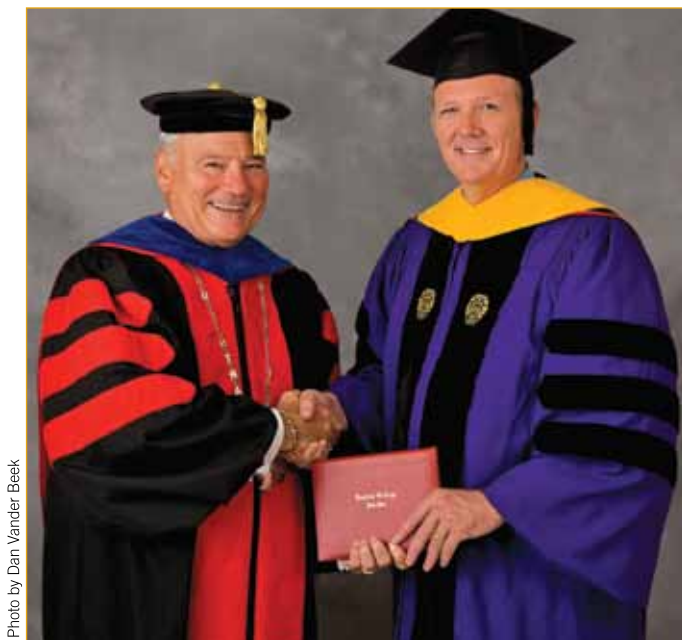
Photo by Emily Phillips '12

3

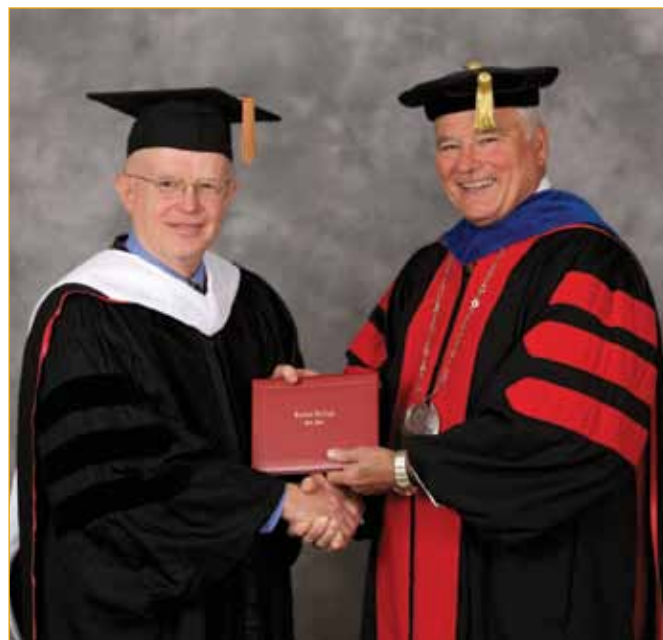
▲ Habitat for Humanity helped build homes this fall.

I N T H I S I S S U E

Central bestows two with honorary degrees



▲ President David Roe presented Dr. Todd A. Kuiken with a Doctor of Science degree.



▲ President David Roe presented Dr. David G. Myers with a Doctor of Humane Letters.

Central College presented both Dr. Todd A. Kuiken and Dr. David G. Myers honorary degrees this fall.

Kuiken is director of the Neural Engineering Center for Artificial Limbs and director of amputee services at the Rehabilitation Institution of Chicago. Currently, he is associate professor in the department of biomedical engineering, associate professor in the department of physical medicine and rehabilitation and associate professor of the department of surgery at Northwestern University (Ill.).

Since 2003, Kuiken has been associate dean of the Feinberg School of Medicine at Northwestern. He also is associate dean of academic affairs for the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, Feinberg School of Medicine.

Kuiken's mother, Edna Scholten Frank graduated from Central College in 1950.

Myers is professor of psychology at Hope College in Holland, Mich. He has made psychological research, theory and application available to professional psychologists, psychology students and

others throughout the world. Currently, nine different versions of his introduction to psychology textbooks are used in over 1,200 colleges and universities in the United States and have been translated in several languages for international use. The royalties from his texts are given to the David and Carol Myers Foundation, which has awarded grants to organizations such as the Association for Psychological Science, Church World Services, Project Ethiopia and the Foundation for the Advancement of Behavior and Brain Sciences.



▲ Student life coordinated a dog therapy session for students in December.

DOGS HELP STRESSED STUDENTS

At the end of the semester, students were given a unique opportunity to relieve some pre-finals stress. Gaass, Pietenpol and Hoffman Halls sponsored a Dog Therapy Session Dec. 3.

"Studies have repeatedly shown that animals lower blood pressure and decrease anxiety," said hall director Drew Sikkink.

Faculty and staff brought their pets to campus in order to help students de-stress.

"We wanted to do something that would get faculty and staff involved and benefit students," said senior Jim Edgeton, resident adviser in Hoffman Hall.

STUDENTS WORK WITH HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Central students are working closely with Marion County Habitat for Humanity again this year.

During the fall, students raised money by raffling off two varsity-autographed footballs at home games. On Halloween, they sponsored their first Habitat build on a house in Pella.

"It was so great to receive donations that helped make the build possible," said sophomore Ashley Kruger, Central's

Habitat president. "It makes you realize how much the community supports our chapter."

A spring break trip is planned for Natchez, Miss., to build homes.

"It was so great to receive
donations that helped
make the build possible. It
makes you realize how much
the community supports
our chapter."

HOWARD MCKEE GIFTS \$500,000 FOR EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGY BUILDING

Howard McKee '38, '81H generously gifted \$500,000 for two classrooms in the education and psychology building.

One classroom is named the McKee Classroom, while the second one is named in honor of Elsie Larson, friend of the college and personal assistant to McKee for over 50 years.

Throughout the years, McKee, a successful banker and businessman from Barrington, Ill., has provided time, leadership and financial support to the college. He served on the board of

trustees from 1975-86 and is an emeritus trustee. He's honorary co-chair of *The Campaign for Central, Phase II*, along with Joan Kuyper Farver '88H. Gifts from the McKee Family Foundation provide more than 60 scholarships to students each year.

STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF READING THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

This year, a group of around 150 people signed up to participate in a Read the Bible in a Year program with campus ministries. The group started the task on Oct. 1 and will finish by November 2010. Participants are using *The One Year Bible NIV* published by Tyndale. This group primarily is composed of students, but faculty and staff also are participating.

Each day, participants read passages from the New Testament, Old Testament, and the books of Psalms and Proverbs. The readings take approximately 15 minutes. During the week, 10 to 12 small groups meet for about an hour to discuss what they have read. The meetings are not meant to be academic but rather a time for participants to discuss points of interest and questions they may have. ■

▼ Nearly 150 students, faculty and staff are reading the Bible in a year.



Photo by Paul Gates

Homecoming/Family Weekend 2010

SAVE THE DATE!



Photo by Dan Vander Beek

▲ Central College will celebrate Homecoming/Family Weekend Oct. 8-10, 2010. Save the date! To learn more, visit www.central.edu/homecoming. To volunteer or help with a reunion, contact the alumni office.

ALUMNI AWARD NOMINATIONS NEEDED

All graduates and non-graduates who completed at least one semester or trimester are considered alumni of Central College. Nominations for 2010 alumni awards are due March 1. E-mail alumni@central.edu

central.edu or nominate online at www.central.edu/go/nominate.

Alumni Achievement Award

Criterion: Presented to an alumnus/a who has demonstrated exceptional accomplishments in his/her chosen profession.

Young Alumni Achievement Award

Criterion: Presented to an alumnus/a who has graduated from Central College in the last 15 years and has demonstrated significant professional and/or personal accomplishments since graduation.

UPCOMING EVENTS

for 2010

Monday, Jan. 11	Sioux Center, Iowa
Monday, Jan. 11	Symphonic Wind Ensemble in Des Moines
Friday-Sunday, Jan. 15-17	1984-85 national runner up wrestling team reunion
Saturday, Jan. 16	Alumni day in Pella
Wednesday, Jan. 20	Phoenix, Ariz.
Thursday, Jan. 21	G.O.L.D. in Des Moines
Friday, Jan. 22	Alumni track meet
Tuesday, Feb. 2	Washington, D.C.

Mr. and Mrs. Alumni Award;

Mr. Alumni Award; Ms. Alumni Award

Criterion: Presented to couples or male and female individuals who are Central College alumni and who have enthusiastically supported the mission of the college.

Alumni Stewardship, Service and Leadership Award

Criterion: Presented to an alumnus/a who has demonstrated exceptional stewardship, service, leadership, integrity, energy or sustainability efforts, to Central College or in his/her community.

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know eight of the 14 alumni and development staff members are alumni? And, the six who didn't graduate from Central have dedicated over 64 years of service? As a total office, we have over 130 combined years of service to Central College!

We love Central College and hope you do, too. If we can help reconnect you to the college through a campus visit, a meaningful gift or by finding lost friends, ask for our help today.

Jane Beranek, administrative assistant to the vice president of advancement

Mary Benedict, advancement database coordinator

Susan Canfield, director of grants and special projects

Sunny Gonzales Eighmy '99, director of alumni relations

Paul Jones '79, director of development

Connie Aalbers Marlow '76, coordinator of prospect research

Don Morrison, director of planned giving

Lynne Petty, administrative assistant to the directors of alumni and grants and special projects

Kristin Sullivan '03, coordinator of Reformed Church in America relations

Dave Sutphen '61, vice president of advancement

Kathy Cashen Thompson '87, director of the Central Fund

Mary Vande Hoef '03, assistant director of alumni relations

Peggy Johnson Van Den Berg '83, database specialist, endowed scholarship coordinator

Cindy Wilson, phonathon coordinator, administrative assistant to the director of the Central Fund ■



▲ CENTRAL COLLEGE ALUMNI AND FRIENDS GATHER FOR FOOD AND FUN!

(Left) Alumni and friends gathered for an event in October in Omaha, Neb.

(Middle) Leslie and Luke Rasmussen '04 joined alumni for a hockey game in November in St. Paul, Minn.

(Right) Over 240 alumni, family and friends went to *Wicked* at the Civic Center of Greater Des Moines in October.

CENTRAL COLLEGE ANNOUNCED AWARDS AT HOMECOMING/FAMILY WEEKEND 2009

Central College presented awards at the all-alumni dinner Sept. 26 as part of Homecoming/Family Weekend festivities. For complete biographies, visit www.central.edu/go/alumniawards.

- ♦ *Alumni Achievement Award* — **Mary Marshall Tucker '49** of Monroeville, Ala.
- ♦ *Young Alumni Achievement Award* — **Kim Poam Logan '94** of Urbandale, Iowa
- ♦ *Alumni Stewardship, Service and Leadership Award* — **Bob De Smidt '61** of Cedar Grove, Wis.
- ♦ *Mr. and Mrs. Alumni* — **Brian '80 and Lori Humphrey Fegley '80** of Cedar Falls, Iowa
- ♦ *Honorary Alumnus Award* — **Jay Huitsing** of Oro Valley, Ariz.
- ♦ *Presidential Service Award* — **Marge Van Houweling** of Pella, Iowa

ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Mary Marshall Tucker '49

The Alumni Achievement Award goes to an alumnus/a who has displayed exceptional professional and life accomplishments. One of the first black students on campus Mary Marshall Tucker of Monroeville, Ala., graduated cum laude in 1949 with history and English majors. Tucker earned a master's degree in history from Atlanta University and later an A.A. certification from Troy University in Alabama.



After marriage in 1954, Tucker moved to Monroeville, Ala., where she taught in the public school system and at the local community college. A 16-year member of the Kiwanis Club, Tucker was selected as Monroeville's citizen of the year in 2002. Tucker and her late husband John raised four children and prepared them and other community members for success and leadership before, during and after the civil rights movement.

YOUNG ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Kim Poam Logan '94

The Young Alumni Achievement Award is presented to an alumnus/a who has graduated in the last 15 years and has demonstrated significant professional and personal accomplishments since graduation.

Escaping from war in Cambodia as a child, Kim Poam Logan and her family fought to stay alive as they fled their homeland, eventually landing in Oskaloosa, Iowa. Learning a new language and culture, Logan graduated with a double major in English and French in 1994, with study abroad experience in France. She has diplomas from the University of Paris-La Sorbonne and Alliance Francaise in Paris, France, and participated in the honors program for foreigners at the University of Paris-La Sorbonne.

Currently the executive director of Metro Arts Alliance of Greater Des Moines, Logan has earned much professional recognition. Logan and husband Jeff live in Urbandale, Iowa, with their children.



ALUMNI STEWARDSHIP, SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP AWARD

Bob De Smidt '61

Bob De Smidt of Cedar Grove, Wis., is the inaugural recipient of the Alumni Stewardship, Service and Leadership Award. The honor is earned by an alumnus/a who has demonstrated exceptional stewardship, service, leadership, integrity, energy and sustainability efforts to Central College and his community.

De Smidt graduated in 1961 with majors in economics and business management. He continues to stay active with Central by serving on the National Advisory Council; attending alumni, church and athletic events; donating time, supplies and finances;

and serves as a special admission recruiter for the state of Wisconsin. He also is a past reunion chair.

Employed for 47 years at the Brady Corporation in Milwaukee in sales and marketing, De Smidt is retired but continues to consult. His volunteer activities are widespread and his motto is, "We are here to serve others; so let's just do it." De Smidt and his wife Doris Veldhorst De Smidt '64 have three grown children and four grandchildren.

MR. AND MRS. ALUMNI AWARD

Brian '80 and Lori Humphrey Fegley '80

The Mr. and Mrs. Alumni Award is presented to alumni couples who enthusiastically have supported Central College's mission.

Lori graduated with a bachelor's degree in education and has additional graduate and continuing education hours in a variety of topics. She is a kindergarten teacher with the Cedar Falls Community School District. Brian, a psychology major, earned an MAE from the University of Northern Iowa in counseling/student personnel services. He is an income maintenance administrator with the Iowa Department of Human Services in Waterloo.

The couple met at Central College their freshman year and have a daughter Allison '08 and a son Peter '11.



HONORARY ALUMNUS AWARD

Jay Huitsing

Because of his attendance at college activities, involvement with college's programs, financial support, and dedication to the college's well being, Jay Huitsing of Oro Valley, Ariz., is now an honorary alumnus of Central College. Huitsing and wife Betty Brands Huitsing '49 have attended alumni and campus events and alumni advisory council meetings. As told through the eyes of another Central College family member, Huitsing has given every indication that he considers himself to be a member of the Central family.

Huitsing spent 33 years in office machine sales and services and has served as elder, deacon and Sunday school superintendent in RCA, CRC and Presbyterian churches. A member of Rotary International since 1972, he's served in various club board positions including president. He delivers meals to shut-ins and elderly people twice a week, is a past member and president of the Chicago Office Machines Dealers Association, Du Page County Private Industry Council and the Greater Wheaton (Ill.) chamber of commerce.

PRESIDENTIAL SERVICE AWARD

Marge Van Houweling

Selected by the president, the presidential service award honors individuals, like Marge Van Houweling, who have given selflessly to Central College.

Van Houweling, a New Sharon High School graduate, served Central for 39 years. A custodian for Gaass Hall for several years before taking over responsibilities in the Maytag Student Center, Van Houweling retired in December 2008. Recognized with the Central College service award in 1995, she also received a 25-year award and rocking chair honoring her time at the college over the years.

Van Houweling volunteers at her church and Hilltop north in Pella twice a month. Married to her husband Gerald for 59 years, they have a daughter, two sons and two granddaughters. ■



Photos by Dan Vander Beek

Another unbeaten football season

A powerful ground game fueled a championship season for the Central football team.

Operating behind a vastly improved offensive line, senior running back David Zachary rushed for a league-leading 1,242 yards as the Dutch posted a 10-0 mark for their 17th unbeaten regular season, a record 30th Iowa Conference championship and a 20th NCAA Division III playoff berth.

It's the fourth league title in five years for coach Jeff McMartin '90, who closed the regular season with a 53-12 record in his six-year career.

Sophomore quarterback Nate Snead, who missed nearly all of 2008 with injury, rushed for 781 yards and 14 touchdowns, while completing 65.2 percent of his passes for 986 yards and 13 scores. Sophomore Jeremy Snead caught 44 passes for 532 yards and nine TDs.

Meanwhile, junior defensive lineman Shane Wong led the league in sacks for the second straight year with 10.5. Junior defensive back Cody Baethke recovered from an injury-plagued 2008 campaign to top Central's tackle charts with 58, along with three interceptions.

Central wrapped up the outright title with a 41-33 win at preseason favorite Wartburg Nov. 7. It was Central's only league game decided by less than 14 points as the Dutch outscored opponents by an average of 21 points and outgained them by 84.5 yards. Central finished the regular season ranked No. 5 in the AFCA Division III rankings. The Dutch ended their season with a 40-42 loss to the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor (Texas) in the first round of playoffs in Pella.

David Zachary led the league in rushing ►
with over 1,200 yards this season.



Photo by Dan Vander Beek

WOMEN EARN NCAA CROSS COUNTRY TRIP

For the first time since the national championship 1981 season, the Central women's cross country team earned a berth at the NCAA Division III meet.

Ranked No. 8 in the Central Region after finishing third in the Iowa Conference meet, the Dutch topped a couple of nationally ranked teams and pulled off a strong fourth-place finish at the 26-team regional meet Nov. 7 to earn the bid. Five of first-year coach Joe Dunham's top seven runners turned in career-best times.

Seniors Amber Mayer, Angie Berry and Hannah Anderson each earned all-region distinction with their performances. Berry made her third NCAA national meet trip, having qualified as an individual in 2006 and 2007. Joining the trio on this year's NCAA trip to Highland Park, Ohio, were seniors Amy Ledvina and Rachelle Tipton, sophomore Melanie Louis, and freshman Mel McDermott.

The Central men were sixth at the conference meet and 17th at the regional. Freshman John Gonzalez was a surprise, steadily improving throughout the season and closing as Central's top runner in the league and regional meets.

PAULSON REPEATS AS LEAGUE GOLF CHAMP

Shattering the league scoring record she tied as a freshman, sophomore Sarah Paulson cruised to her second consecutive conference women's golf tourney crown.

Paulson carded a 73-72-73-82 — 300, six shots better than the old school and tournament record and seven shots ahead of the tournament runner-up.

An all-America honoree last spring, Paulson led Central to a second-place team finish, the program's best since 1993. Senior Eva Downes and junior Nicole Wenstrand each earned all-conference distinction as well.

Jodee Schaben was league coach of the year after sharing the honor last year.



Sophomore Kayla Donner earned all-conference honors.

DUTCH DUO GAINS TENNIS HONORS

Senior Faith Bliss and sophomore Kayla Donner earned all-Iowa Conference women's tennis honors.

Bliss and Donner teamed up to place fourth in Flight A doubles at the league tournament.

Central posted a 9-7 record under first-year coach Steve Tyler. The Dutch placed fifth at the conference team tourney, dropping a 5-4 decision in a marathon against Cornell College before rebounding with a 5-3 victory over Loras College in the fifth-place match.

YOUNG MEN'S SOCCER TEAM SHOWS PROMISE

A young men's soccer team went toe-to-toe with every team on a challenging schedule, but settled for a 9-10 record that easily could have been considerably better.

Of Central's 10 losses, nine were by one goal, including a 2-1 overtime road setback against two-time Final Four participant Loras and a pair of one-goal defeats against NCAA tourney qualifier Wartburg.

Junior forward Brett McKenzie scored 10 goals with three assists for the Dutch, who graduate just one senior, defender Erik Lundgren, a four-year starter.



Senior Erik Lundgren was the lone senior for the Dutch this fall.

YOUNG WOMEN'S SOCCER TEAM LOOKS TO FUTURE

Central paid the price for relying on a youthful lineup but brighter days are ahead for the women's soccer squad.

Second-year coach Colin Kuchy's first recruiting class bolstered the team as Central started seven freshmen and sophomores but closed with a 1-18 mark. Junior midfielder Kristi Klatt was the team scoring leader with five goals and two assists. The Dutch graduate a pair of four-year starters, midfielders Jessi Steward and Jenna Hindman.

RIPPERGER LEADS VOLLEYBALL TEAM

Senior outside hitter Michelle Ripperger was a first-team all-Iowa Conference volleyball pick for the second straight year, while sophomore libero Chelsea Grieger was a second-team pick.

The Dutch posted a 22-12 mark. Despite a sixth-place conference finish, Central showed flashes of living up to its traditional standing as a national contender. The Dutch knocked off No. 6-rated St. Thomas (Minn.) and swept Luther, another NCAA tournament qualifier.

Senior middle hitter Lindsay Jennings received honorable mention all-conference recognition. ■

Photo by Dan Vander Beek

Photo by Dan Vander Beek



Remember YOUR days *at* Central

You might think things have changed. New buildings. New faculty. New programs. New courses.

Physically, the college looks different. Sixty years ago, Peace Street ran through the middle of campus as did trains on railroad tracks. Those are gone now and instead of Peace Street, there's Peace Mall, the walkway to Geisler Library. The library's "fish bowl" is now Café@Geisler, where students and faculty grab lattes on their way to classes. Several buildings have been constructed over the years: Central Market, the Weller Center for Business and International Studies, Howard McKee Hall and the education and psychology building.

Academically, the college has changed, too. There are new programs and offices including community-based learning and the intercultural life office. There are new majors, too, such as athletic training and actuary science, both added this year.

Social aspects of the college continue to grow as there are more than 80 recognized organizations and clubs on campus, ranging from bridge club to mock

trial to collegiate 4-H to Student Senate.

Yet despite all of these changes, the most important thing really hasn't changed. At the root of it all, it's still about the students.

In the next few pages, you'll read about current Central College students and their experiences. The students on these pages may remind you a lot of yourself or your friends.

At Central, students remain interested in service, education and ministry. Did you want to become a minister, a teacher or join the Peace Corps? And who can attend Central without memories of the treasured music of the A Cappella Choir, a theatre performances or athletics? Did you perform in a theatre production? Were you the quarterback for the Dutch?

From study abroad to nearby internships, our students today gain the same outstanding education and experience as the generations who passed through these halls in earlier years. We invite you into these pages to meet the students of today.

Faith always has been a major part of Cory Nikkel's life. He attended Pella Christian High School and grew up in the Christian Reformed Church.

Nikkel's faith has grown deeper while at Central College. Though he's involved in a variety of activities such as football, campus ministries, tutoring, working in admission as well as an off-campus job, and starting up the Pietenpol Band, his roots remain in God.

College is a time for students to develop their own faith views and Nikkel wants to help in that process.

"I'm very structured and have things planned out, and I hope it goes that way," said Nikkel. "But, God can change things."



Photo by Paul Gates

In high school, Nikkel thought about being a doctor or dentist. Then he had a revelation and God called him into the ministry.

"I was frustrated at first and my faith drifted," he said. "But, my high school Bible teacher brought me back, and I knew I was meant to be a minister and help people with their own faith journeys."

With a scholarship for pre-ministerial studies, it may be surprising Nikkel is majoring in English, not religion.

"I have a love for writing and literature and want to spread that love to others by writing my own books someday," he said.

After graduation, Nikkel plans to teach at a low-income high school for at least four years through a federal teach grant he received. While doing that, he plans on getting a license to exhort, which will allow him to preach.

Following his stint as a teacher, Nikkel will go to seminary. A unique aspect of Nikkel's studies is the independent work he's doing with Chad Pierce, instructor of religion. Pierce is leading Nikkel through Biblical Greek, something Nikkel also will learn in seminary.

"It's really neat Central allows me to choose my own path," said Nikkel.

Nikkel's curiosity about the church led him to take up a denominational study. He interviewed pastors from the area and asked why they chose the denomination in which they're preaching. Examining their responses is helping Nikkel prepare for his future in ministry.

"I grew up in a great church with loving people, but there was always this question in the back of my mind wondering why my family went to this church and was affiliated with this denomination," he said. "What I learned was my parents grew up in that denomination and I think out of human nature, we get comfortable in what we've always known. I'm trying to find what I believe because someday I need to pick a denomination to pastor."

And, there's no better time to explore those kinds of big life questions than when in college.

"Now's the time to do what you want to do and find yourself," he said. "I have a big passion for answering the questions everyone has."

The things Caitlin O'Connor will remember about Central College are those same things many alumni remember as highlights of their Central years — A Cappella Choir and Tulip Time.

"It all started at Tulip Time," said O'Connor who was Homecoming queen this year. "That's when I visited Central as a high school senior."

And, for each following Tulip Time, O'Connor has been on the front lines every day of the annual festival. She has been in the crowd of Dutch dancers performing before the grandstand. More hours were spent working in the poffertjes stand. And, of course, she was on the stage for special choir performances.

*"I wanted a college where
I could be involved in music
for fun. And, I could still
study math."*

The most memorable choir times weren't those Tulip Time shows but the annual tours and the traditional Christmas Candlelight Concert.

"The candlelight concerts are magical," said O'Connor. "I remember my first one and listening to senior Andrea Kapusinski '07 get teary eyed as she spoke to the ensemble before the performance."

"Now I'm coming up on my last Christmas Candlelight Concert, and I completely understand the emotion and importance of this event."

While O'Connor participated in music all four years at Central, her academic focus is teaching with a planned endorsement in 6-12 mathematics.

"I wanted a college where I could be involved in music for fun," said O'Connor. "And, I could still study math. For me, math 'fits.' It's the organization of numbers and processes that fascinates me."

O'Connor was paired with Pella Middle School teacher Alan Dole through the Central Teacher Academy, a unique teacher preparatory program that pairs selected students with mentors in the Pella Community School District for three years. Since her sophomore year, O'Connor has observed,

learned and finally student-taught in Dole's seventh grade classroom.

"It's been fun to watch Caitlin blossom," said Dole. "I know at first she wasn't sure if this was the right level for her. I've watched her desire to be an outstanding teacher grow and observed her commitment to being a better teacher. It's been great to see her enthusiasm for this profession."

Following graduation in May, O'Connor plans to begin her career in education. But some of her fondest memories of Central will be of friends.

"I'll remember lots of things — music, the choir tour to Italy, Tulip Time, favorite faculty," said O'Connor. "But the best part is the friends from all areas, not just music, but athletics, education classes and activities. I've made friends who will always be an important part of my life."



Photo by Paul Gates

Question: What made a student from New York take a look at Central College?

Answer: A free visit to Iowa to check out campus.

"It was too good of a deal to pass up," said Chris Weaver of the admission stipend to out-of-state students.

After initially being surprised by all of the corn, Weaver was impressed with Central's friendly people and decided to give it a try.

"Pella is a tightly knit community that is very welcoming," he said. "The town and Central have helped me to appreciate the differences between a small town and large city."



Photo by Paul Gates

Almost four years after stepping foot on campus for the first time, Weaver reflects on his time at Central.

"My best experience at Central, hands down, was going abroad to London, England," said Weaver. "I love everything about London."

As part of his experience abroad, Weaver obtained a spot as a member of the world-renowned London Community Gospel Choir. The London Community Gospel Choir can be heard on the *Lion King* soundtrack and has performed with international superstars Stevie Wonder and Elton John.

"My favorite part of being in the choir was landing a four-night gig leading up to Christmas Eve at the world famous Jazz Café in London. Out of 60 members, I was one of 10 chosen to perform," said Weaver. "The London Community Gospel Choir gave me a drive and determination to push forward with a singing career. It reassured me that singing is what I have to do because it is what I love to do."

Weaver, who was crowned Homecoming king this fall, participates in A Cappella Choir, Chamber Singers and Vocal Jazz Combos on campus through Central's music department, which continues its tradition of extensive travel both within the United States and abroad. Weaver's unique travel opportunities within the vocal groups include two weeks in Italy with the A Cappella Choir and a tour in Mexico for Vocal Combos.

"I feel more well-rounded because I was able to get involved in extracurricular activities as well as academic ones..."

Central College means more to Weaver than just the experiences abroad or in choir.

"I feel more well-rounded because I was able to get involved in extracurricular activities as well as academic ones," said Weaver. "A liberal arts education opened my eyes to things I did not know were out there and things I now enjoy."

A liberal arts education suits Hannah Anderson perfectly. As a freshman, she fulfilled her x credit* working with residents at Pella Regional Long Term Care as part of a personal essay course. Now, she volunteers there playing Scrabble and Skip-bo with residents.

Anderson found her volunteerism fits in line with her course work at Central and her future in the health field. Volunteering in long-term care

“One of the things that caught my attention right away when I came back was how much the faculty cares about you ...”

got her in touch with the hospital, where she has job shadowed in urgent care and obstetrics. In addition to her work for Pella Regional, Anderson spends time volunteering at D&D Therapeutic Ranch, working with patients and horses.

“I have horses at home and I miss them, so this gives me a chance not only to be around horses, but also to help people who need it,” she said.

Although Anderson volunteers, academics were a major component in her college search. It is the main reason she first came to Central, and it’s also the reason she returned. After her freshman year, she thought she wanted to go to a bigger school and transferred to a university but quickly found she really missed the personalized one-on-one attention from faculty at Central.

“I became a number — literally,” explained Anderson, who still has her ID number memorized from the one semester she spent at the big university. “I had to use it on every paper, every e-mail, everything I did I put my ID number on it because that’s how I was known at the college. I wasn’t Hannah Anderson there.”

Anderson missed the friendliness of Central’s campus, where she saw familiar faces greeting her.

“One of the things that caught my attention right away when I came back was how much the

faculty cares about you,” she said. “I had been gone a semester and right away when my adviser saw me, she called me by name and welcomed me back.”

Soon after, Anderson was in the grocery store where she encountered her adviser’s husband, whom she had had one class with her freshman year.

“He knew my name, who I was, my major and that I was an advisee of his wife,” said Anderson. “That left a lasting impression on me and I knew I was home and where I belonged.”

* x credit is part of Central’s core curriculum and is an experiential credit that involves significant contact and interaction with a minority, subculture or international group.



Photo by Paul Gates

Lights, camera, action.

Sophomore Anna Boelman stands on a dark, blackened stage nervously anticipating her performance for the evening. She gets a rush of adrenaline as the spotlight shines on her in front of the audience and she becomes her character.

Boelman loved theatre in high school and was looking for a school with opportunities for her to continue her interest along with a variety of other extracurricular activities.

Her parents, alumni Jerry '73 and Mary Nelson Boelman '75, encouraged her to go on a campus visit, despite Boelman's lack of enthusiasm for going to the same college as her folks.

"I at least had to go on a campus visit to make

Dad happy," explained Boelman.

Boelman humored her father, came for a campus visit and quickly learned what Central had to offer such as campus ministries, theatre and golf, all of which she participated in her freshman year.

"My experience so far has been absolutely splendifferous!" she exclaimed. "The faculty truly care about the students."

Boelman especially notices a difference in theatre at Central compared to high school as the faculty expect actors to develop characters instead of being told what the characters think and feel.

"It helps me think more deeply about my character," she said.

Another difference for Boelman was the stage setting and wondering if she would fit in with Theatre Central.

"I was blown away and quite intimidated at first," she said about her initial participation in Theatre Central. "But, after the first couple weeks of rehearsal, I realized people want you to broaden horizons and try new things. That first performance was unlike anything I had ever done because the staging was so different. In high school, I was on stage at the auditorium, above the audience. Here, the audience is right there. I remember thinking, 'AHH! They can see everything I'm doing!'"

Now, Boelman feels at home on stage at Central. She also feels at home in Pella.

"Pella is great," Boelman said. "I love the small-town feeling, especially coming from a small town. Everyone is nice and friendly and I appreciate that."

Even though theatre takes up some of Boelman's spare time, she's no slouch in the classroom. Boelman is gearing up to save the world — literally.

"My dream job is to work for World Vision [a Christian humanitarian charity organization dedicated to working with children, families and their communities worldwide to tackle poverty and injustice]," she said.

Boelman sees herself being a nurse in Uganda one day, helping with AIDS relief. She knows she probably wouldn't have ever dreamed that far if it weren't for Central.

"Central really has opened my eyes to the world and I am a better person for that," she said. "I love Central College."



Photo by Paul Gates

Atila Marcón's interest in international affairs started when he was a young boy. In 1970, a foreign exchange student from Knoxville, Iowa, stayed with his father's family in Argentina. The following year, Marcón's father went to Knoxville to be a foreign exchange student. Since the age of five, Marcón has visited Knoxville every summer and in 2002, he followed in his father's footsteps and studied at Knoxville High School as a foreign

"After a semester in Argentina, something inside was telling me I needed to challenge myself and study in the United States ... Even though it is more difficult ... I enjoy it very much."

exchange student. He returned home for a year and started college, but he wanted to challenge himself, so he returned to Iowa to study at Central.

"After a semester in Argentina, something inside was telling me I needed to challenge myself and study in the United States," said Marcón. "Even though it is more difficult, since English is my second language, I enjoy it very much."

In order to continue learning about business on a global level, Marcón chose to study at Central because of its great study abroad programs. In spring 2008, he studied in Hangzhou, China, to improve his Chinese language skills for future business opportunities. Studying abroad also was a requirement for his international studies major and allowed him to increase his knowledge of international affairs. Someday, he would like to return to China to continue his studies.

"I always have wanted to study Chinese and go to China," said Marcón. "Central provided me with that opportunity, and it was one of the best experiences of my life."

This past fall, Marcón had an internship at Pella Corporation in the international sales department.

"Working in the international sales department at Pella Corp., I believe, was a great way for me to start my international career because I learned skills I can apply to my future work," said Marcón. "I learned how to communicate with sales representatives located in other countries such as Mexico, Guatemala, Japan and Peru. I am convinced we live in a very diverse world and the more we know about each other, the better we can do business."

He hopes to eventually own a company involved with importing and exporting goods between different countries.



Photo by Paul Gates

It's a familiar story. Mom or Dad attended Central College and had a great experience. Twenty-five years later, son or daughter is definitely NOT interested in Central College.

"Absolutely true!" agrees Whitney King, daughter of Kevin King '83 and wife Anne. "I was dead set against Central College, but Dad insisted I visit ... and I absolutely loved it."

What is it about Central College that continues to appeal to generation after generation?

For King it was the right combination of academic programs, availability of classes and the assurance of graduating within four years. And, it was just the best "fit" for her.



Photo by Paul Gates

On campus, King works for the admission office, sharing her love for Central College with other students visiting campus and searching for the right school.

"I take prospective students around campus and talk about why I love Central," she said. "I get to tell my story at Central and discuss my major, talk about my study abroad experience, how I met some of my best friends, plus all the great opportunities we have to offer."

King is also a teacher's assistant for a general chemistry class, working in the lab with students, helping the faculty member answer student questions, and aiding in experiments when needed.

"I'm also beginning some independent research under Dr. [James] Shriver, professor of chemistry," said King. "Working on research directly with a senior faculty member is an opportunity Central provides students, which often is not available at larger institutions."

King's other on-campus activities include helping the Spanish Club re-organize, pledging a co-ed fraternity, working as a tutor-counselor for Upward Bound as well as serving as an EMT both in the community and on campus.

"After completing EMT classes and testing my senior year of high school, I became both Iowa certified and nationally certified to work in an ambulance as an EMT-B," said King. "I currently work about 48 hours per month as a volunteer for the Pella Community Ambulance, mostly in afternoons or weekends."

"When the call is on-campus, I can hear the page, respond and do what I can before the ambulance arrives."

When King first came to Central, her goal was to become an emergency room physician. But after studying in Spain, working as an EMT and gaining more life experience, she realizes there are many options open to her.

"I'm actually not sure what I want to do after I graduate," said King. "Originally, I wanted to work as an ER physician, but after spending a semester in Granada, Spain, I've realized there's a whole big world out there and am excited about all the opportunities Central has provided me. I'm ready for anything."

Originally drawn to Central because of the opportunity to play football, junior Ted Dirx already has left his footprints across campus — while trying to minimize the school's carbon footprint.

Dirx knew before arriving on campus he wanted to major in environmental studies. Upon starting classes, he became involved in SUSTAIN, a campus organization dedicated to resolving environmental sustainability issues at Central and increasing global sustainability awareness on a larger scale by producing student leaders. He is involved in three main aspects of SUSTAIN: recycling, composting and environmental awareness in students.

Last year through SUSTAIN, Dirx worked with faculty and staff to implement distribution of gray recycling bags to all campus housing, one of which hangs behind every dorm-room door. He also speaks to the entire freshman class every fall during welcome week about the importance of recycling in a society where natural resources are dwindling.

Everyday, Café@Geisler produces large amounts of coffee grounds. Until last spring, these grounds were thrown away. Dirx is in charge of running a trial program that involves students volunteering to deposit the coffee grounds in the college's organic composting units. Using the coffee grounds to fertilize the soil in the college garden not only helps reduce waste from the café, but also greatly enriches the soil quality, which in turn yields stronger and healthier produce. To quicken the composting process, Dirx led a service project last spring where students constructed compost tumblers for the garden out of reusable materials. Most of the produce harvested from the garden goes to the food shelf at Peace Lutheran Church in Pella.

Perhaps the most controversial and newsworthy change he has exacted at Central is the institution of Trayless Tuesdays in hopes to increase students' environmental awareness, specifically about their own affects on our ecosystem. Food trays are removed from Central Market on Tuesdays, obliging students to carry plates, utensils and glasses individually. The mild inconvenience of going trayless far outweighs the social benefits.

"It teaches students about the global effects of wasting food," said Dirx. "By going trayless, we

reduce our food waste by 25 percent each day."

Dirx also has traveled with other SUSTAIN members on two occasions to Washington, D.C., for the annual Campus Sustainability Conference. He helped organize both trips and says attending is beneficial to everyone because participants see how the group's Midwest mindset on sustainability measures up to more aggressive, liberal student movements on the East Coast.

The new change to the core curriculum requiring all incoming students to complete a sustainability requirement shows Dirx he's not alone on this sustainability journey.

"Our generation has been handed a planet in peril, facing threats like water shortage and global warming," he said. "These issues need to be solved with global sustainability at our minds' forefront."



Photo by Paul Gates

Nate Snead was once a backup quarterback as a walk-on at a Division I university, but now he's the starting QB at Central, leading the Dutch to an undefeated regular season record and Iowa Conference title along with a top five national ranking.

The junior from Southeast Polk High School already knew about Central's winning tradition in football. But what really made a difference in his decision to transfer was knowing his high school teammates were playing and making an impact for the Dutch.

"I wanted to be a part of something more

exciting," said Snead. "I saw how much fun my Southeast Polk classmate Jake Viggers was having at Central and I thought 'That's what I want to do, too.'"

Viggers, a kicker, came to Central as a freshman, and was joined by Snead, several other Southeast Polk friends, and Snead's brother Jeremy who plays wide receiver, in year two at Central.

"Knowing I could play with a group of people I care about made transferring easier," said Snead. "Football at Central has really a great atmosphere. We are a family."

"I think having high school teammates on the squad has made the transition a whole lot easier for Nate," said Dick Bowzer, quarterbacks coach. "He has some comfort on the field having receivers he's played with for years and is more confident in his abilities."

Snead is now just as close with other Central teammates and has come to love his new tight-knit football family.

"Playing at Central is amazing," said Snead. "Getting an opportunity to play with best friends and my brother makes everything exciting and worthwhile. I'm pleased with my decision to transfer to Central."

*"Football is just one aspect
that is great about Central ...*

Although Central is much smaller than his previous school, Snead finds it's more than football that is making the connection for him. The academic programs as well as the people are more welcoming and friendlier at Central than what he previously experienced.

"Football is just one aspect that is great about Central," said Snead. "Academically, it's just as exciting. I like how faculty are attentive to each individual student and are here to get the best out of us."

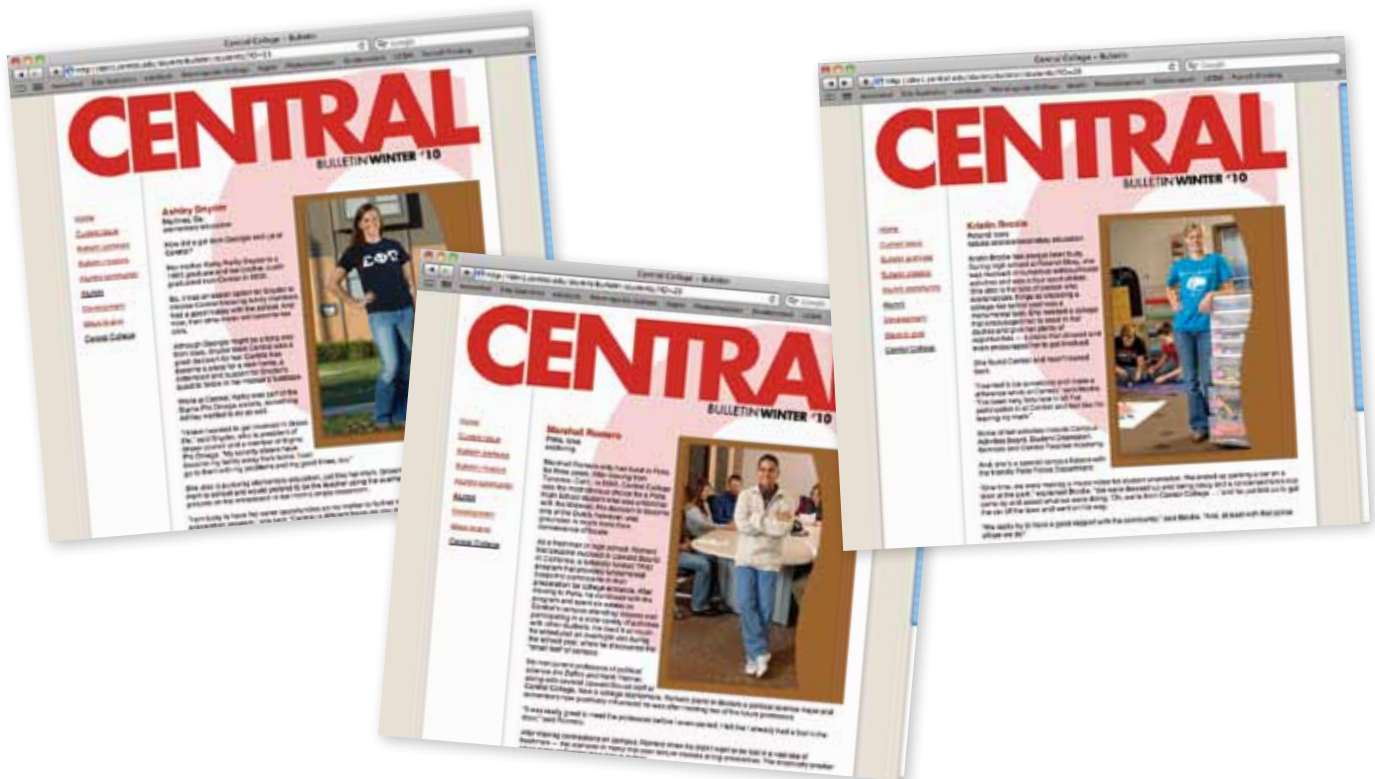
Snead plans to work in business management after graduation and feels Central has prepared him for the road ahead.

"I know my professors, as well as my coaches, actually care about me as a person and are helping me develop as a student-athlete."



Photo by Paul Gates

Check out MORE. stories online



www.central.edu/alumni/bulletin

Times change, but our purpose remains the same

by Pam Richards, associate professor of exercise science



Photo by Paul Gates

As I sit in my office and look across the street at the building my new office hopefully will be in next year (in the former Peace Lutheran Church), I can't help but think how different our facilities are from those in place when I joined the Central College faculty 25 years ago. For all the change in our physical campus, however, we are still fundamentally about the same thing — the students and their dreams. Let me explain.

I came to Central College in 1984 to be the women's cross country and track and field coach, as well as an instructor in physical education. At that time, I was a new faculty member and our physical education major had one focus: teaching physical education for approximately 12-20 majors at any one time, as well as service courses for the rest of the college. I had numerous advisees those first couple years who I knew could be successful beyond the high school level, so I started to encourage and discuss with them from the beginning of the advising process to think beyond their experiences and expectations of high school teaching and coaching to college and university teaching as well.

I remember one young man most vividly because he was manager of my track and field team, and his future wife was a sprinter on

◀ Pam Richards, associate professor of exercise science, continues to help students reach their aspirations.

Pam Richards

Associate professor of exercise science

- 26th year at Central College
- Bachelor's degree from East Stroudsburg State University, master's from Penn State University, doctorate from the University of Northern Colorado
- Head women's cross country and track and field coach at Central from 1984-93
- Taught 22 different courses in the exercise science curriculum and has created 12 new courses
- Research interests focus on information literacy and curricular offerings in exercise science
- Authored the first exercise science curriculum
- Native of Easton, Pa.; she and wife Eunice reside in Des Moines

the squad. He came to my office one day and sat in the chair next to my desk and said, "Dr. Richards, when I graduate I'd like to be a coach like Ron Schipper, but I do not know how." I smiled and said, "Jeffrey, you need to take care of your class work each day, keep your grades up so you can get a coaching assistantship, and go directly from Central to a graduate school with a coaching staff that will work with you."

If you read Coach McMartin's professional bio, you will see he did exactly as we discussed that day, and as fall after fall passes, we are all grateful he worked hard and grew to be the type of coach we are proud to have here at Central.

As the years passed, so did the course offerings in physical education. In the early 1990s, as the entire faculty was developing the old core curriculum, I was the chair of the physical education department, and I asked the dean at that time, if we could change the curriculum in physical education as well. John Roslien wanted to formalize the athletic training program, and I wanted to formalize the health education program, so we developed the first exercise science curriculum and created two

"So, although our physical campus is totally different ... Central College professors are still doing exactly what they were doing when I first arrived on campus — helping our students dream big and reach their goals."

new programs within exercise science: health promotion and athletic training to join physical education. Our majors grew from 20 to approximately 120, and we remodeled and added on to H.S. Kuyper Fieldhouse for the first time. But, although we had new majors as well

as a larger and remodeled building, the students still had similar concerns.

This young woman sat in the same chair as Coach McMartin, but her concerns were a little different. She loved the new exercise science curriculum; she knew she wanted to go directly to the University of Iowa for a master's degree in health promotion, but her father was worried she would be over-educated and under-employed. At about the same time she voiced her concerns, we were having a parent visit day, so I agreed to come to the visit day luncheon and explain to her parents how she could graduate from Central College, obtain a graduate assistantship to pay her tuition at the University of Iowa, and prepare to live her dreams. Wendy Walton Schuh '99, followed that path and is now assistant director of student health services at Minnesota State University-Mankato.

So here we go again — ready to expand the physical space in exercise science to keep up with the growth of the new exercise science curriculum as well as the number of programs, classes and majors. And again, a student who wanted to develop a career in exercise science but

was not exactly sure how to do that is at the center of our growth.

This advisee sat in the same chair as my previous advisees and her concerns were similar but also unique in her own way. She wanted to graduate from Central and go to graduate school so she could "do exactly what you do Dr. Richards!" I am both proud and happy to report that our most recent graduates are as successful in graduate school as our early alumni. Again, Kelli O'Neil '05 and I sat down and discussed her classes at Central, curriculum in exercise science, and dreams for the future. Today, she is the newest faculty member in our exercise science department and has added valuable practical and applied classes to the newly modified health promotion program at Central.

So, although our physical campus is totally different than it was 25 years ago, and both the curriculum in exercise science and number of majors has exploded over the last decade, Central College professors are still doing exactly what they were doing when I first arrived on campus — helping our students dream big and reach their goals. ■



CLASS OF 1959

Front row (left to right): **Bobby Pryor, Vernon Wiersema, Dorothy Sikkink Dykstra, Joan Kolenbrander Koele, Ralph Jaarsma, Marilyn Spoelstra Baham** and **Colleen De Wall Dikkers.**

Second row: **John Bylsma, Jim Grimm, Bob Cage, Steve Bell, Ann De Boer Shearer, Roland Ratmeyer** and **John Jowers.**

Third row: **Glenn Roelofs, Faithe Heusinkveld Timmer, Merlyn Vander Leest, Darrell Brand, Gary Boeyink** and **Duane Brand.**

Back row: **Judy Woody Willars, Ruby Septer Alderman, Gayle Ketterling Berryhill, Bob De Young, Carol Jutting De Young** and **Kathy Cheney.**



CLASS OF 1954

Front row (left to right): **Ron Zoutendam, Martha Hanson Zoutendam, Jen Noordsy Andeweg, Dottie Heideman Julian** and **Bonnie Van Zomeren Bailey.**

Back row: **Dick Evers, Gene De Hoogh, Helen Van Zante Boertje, Carol Ver Steeg Manussier** and **Bonnie Thomassen Lautenbach.**



CLASS OF 1969

Front row (left to right): **Ronald Ehresman, Pam Seitzinger Nelson, Sandy Cowell Van Engelenhoven, Joan Vande Vusse Williams, Barry Williams, Jane Sandell Blair** and **Barbara Sterk Christensen.**

Second row: **Dennis Herrema, Phyllis Zeilenga Peterson, Lois Dykstra Gates, Dori De Wall Breakwell, Eileen Terwiel Meier, Linda Stemsrud Vogt, Lou Hoekstra** and **Guy Blair.**

Third row: **Judy Postma McKean, Gloria Petersen Simpson, Pat Meiner, Viola De Jong Vandelune, Paul Hoekstra, Art Schut** and **Paul Lamb.**

Back row: **Mike Peterson, Richard Hovey, Arlyn Stuart, Gary Dirksen, Harley Riak, Bill Rankin** and **Paul Poppen.**



CLASS OF 1964

Front row (left to right): **Charlene Voss Johnson, Judi Kolenbrander Braskamp, Arlan De Kock, Sylvia Gunnink Poe** and **Ardie Pals Sutphen.**

Second row: **Donald Todd, Ruth Roelofs Tresemer, Mark De Cook, Bob Pentico** and **Doug Schakel.**

Back row: **Sherwin Koopmans, Richard Lindaman, Joan Rosenberg Lindaman, Carol Van Kley Olsen** and **Linda Barton Banken.**



CLASS OF 1974

Front row (left to right): **Steve Held, Thom Summitt, Bill Rollison** and **Dave Easson.**

Back row: **Gary Keller, Nancy Braskamp Eckert, Jo Fall Dorenkamp** and **Terri Humphrey Gotta.**



CLASS OF 1979

Front row (left to right): **Susan Breen-Held, Mary Ohaver Moermond, Scott Van Den Berg, Evelyn Maass and Bea Ellerbe Jenkins.**

Back row: **Bob Meinhard, Bruce Lear, Jim Stephens, Dave Erickson, Paul Jones and Dave Helmick.**



CLASS OF 1994

Front row (left to right): **Jason Henderson, Ryan Shaw and Brent Sandquist.**

Back row: **Angie Leonard Morrow, Chris Holst, Mike Farquhar and Deanna Ver Steeg.**



CLASS OF 1984

Front row (left to right): **Bob Willits, Andrea Busker Van Wyk, Susan Gustafson Smidt, Phil Wandrey and Scott Westenberg.**

Back row: **Sanae Spencer Glendening, Linda Tobey Giacobelli, Tim Bleadorn, Russ Smidt and Dan Van Oss.**



CLASS OF 1999

Front row (left to right): **Mike Spencer, Sara Aguilera, Sunny Gonzales Eighmy, Amanda Jonckheere Riedell, Deanne Travis Sandbulte and Eva Creydt Schulte.**

Back row: **John MacGregor, Nathan Eighmy, Stacey Buresh Mueggenberg, Robin Hinners Clark, Michelle Stolte Johnson, Deanna Grubb Arkema and Brock Schulte.**



CLASS OF 1989

Front row (left to right): **Leslie Carpenter-Holt, Linda Schumacher, Kim Hosek Blakesley, Shelly Grams Anderson and Glenda Masteller.**

Second row: **John Miceli, Mary Valentine Jetter, Karen Strupp Lawrance and Boyd Burnham.**

Back row: **Chris McEnaney Claey's, Teresa German Cross, Julia Davis and Betsy Lewis Casebolt.**



CLASS OF 2004

Front row (left to right): **Jason Lihs, Clint Larson, Jen Stewart Larson, Kelly Graber Kalvig, Jon Kalvig, Brett Van Waus and Adam Meyer.**

Second row: **Angela Lowenberg Jones, Marqita Jones, Robin Buick, Lindsay Westre, Jill Parsons, Chelsie Kempf and Rob Whitham.**

Back row: **Jill Young Whitham, Melissa White Anderson, Jill Foster Oliver, Jen Carver Cannon, Catie Ruefer Brand, Krystle Bosch Allison, Ryan Roy and Matt McCombs.**

Photos by Dan Vander Beek

ALUMNI CLASS REUNIONS

HOMECOMING / FAMILY WEEKEND 2009



The Desperately *Normal* Device

by Lindsey Croghan '10

When I think about the reasons why I came to Central, I think of glass. Once I went on my campus tour and saw the glass studio I was hooked. I took Glassblowing I and II as a junior. This semester, I changed things up from 2,300-degree glass to a room temperature studio.

In Sculpture I with Brian Roberts, associate professor of art, the assignment was to use paper products as the main media and the sculpture had to have a theme of identity. I chose to focus on one aspect of my identity, which is being a woman. The sculpture deals with society's pressure on women, and how these pressures influence women's personal body image.

Dieting has become a "normal/acceptable" expectation for women in our society. Throughout history, the pressures of society have made women perform ridiculous metamorphoses to their once beautifully natural bodies. A corset is an example of such a constraining mechanism that women have used to obtain the ideal shape. However, over time women have traded suffocating corsets with equally asphyxiating food restrictions. The guilt from eating a 300-calorie candy bar does more harm to body images than it does to the thighs.

I let my concept dictate my materials usage. I wanted to use diet foods one typically finds in a woman's home. I narrowed labels to diet pop boxes and nutrition facts, but then realized I would

need an exponential amount of labels. Being a thrifty, environmentally conscious, college student, I thought, "Why not ask people who purchase diet pop if I could reuse the cardboard box?" Plus, if I was going to talk about society's pressure, I might as well use my society. I sent an e-mail to faculty, listed my need in the college's daily announcements, asked my peers, proposed different Pella businesses and even dug through the recycling bins for the much desired labels. Soon, I had my materials.

Now all I needed was a mannequin to help construct the sculpture. I was contemplating buying one for \$10 on eBay, when I asked my friend Merlyn, who coincidentally had two she collected over the years. After she helped me transport the mannequin to campus, I got to work paper mâchéing fitness magazines to the mannequin. Then, the foundation was layered with diet pop and nutrition fact labels. Snickers wrappers were used as the "boning" and the corset was laced with a measuring tape. The inside design of the



Photo by Paul Gates

▲ Senior Lindsey Croghan works on her project in Sculpture I. The corset was made with dietary labels.

corset was done with a uniform diet pop brand except the "T"s were trimmed off.

Overall, I allowed the inside of the corset to act more as a literal metaphor about what I think diets do to people's body images, and the Snickers wrappers act humorously as my fighting stance on the matter. ■

Lindsey Croghan is a senior art major from Manning, Iowa.

CENTRAL'S 21st PRESIDENT

Dr. Mark Putnam



Pictured (left to right): Emma, Mark, Greta and Tammy Putnam.

Central College welcomes Dr. Mark Putnam as its 21st president. Putnam will assume leadership duties in July 2010 following current president Dr. David Roe's retirement in June 2010.

Putnam is senior vice president for executive affairs at Northeastern University in Boston, Mass., where he has taken on a succession of leadership roles over the last 10 years. He also has held key administrative posts at Connecticut College and Alliance Theological Seminary. Putnam earned a master's degree and doctorate from Columbia University (N.Y.), and a bachelor's from Nyack College (N.Y.).

"Our search committee feels extremely confident Dr. Mark Putnam is an exceptional match for Central College as we look to the future," said Mike Orr '69, presidential search committee chair and board of trustee member. "Mark's understanding of the major issues facing independent higher education, his broad administrative experience at both large and small colleges, combined with his excellent leadership and interpersonal skills will help Central leverage its considerable strengths to make it even more distinctive to students seeking a high-quality, private liberal arts education."

"For me and my family, this is a unique and exciting opportunity to help lead an accomplished institution to even higher levels, and to be part of the dedicated, passionate and driven campus community," Putnam said. "I am eager to begin working with the exceptional faculty, students and staff on campus, alumni around the world, and neighbors in Pella."