

NEWS FROM

HOPE COLLEGE

WINTER 2017

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PASTOR, PROFESSOR,
PRESIDENT

Dennis Voskuil's journey
to his new leadership role

pages 10-13





DISTINCTIVE HOPE

SURPRISE VISIT

The musical ensemble Mucca Pazza pays a surprise visit to Phelps Hall Dining Hall while at Hope in November through the Great Performance Series.

Beyond contributing to campus and community cultural and intellectual life through public events, each year's many guest artists and speakers further enrich students' experience by providing additional opportunities to interact with skilled professionals and thought leaders from around the world — through workshops, small-group meetings, speaking in class... or even a bit of levity during supper.

News from Hope College is published during April, August and December for alumni, friends and parents of Hope College by the Division of Public Affairs and Marketing.

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ON THE COVER

The Rev. Dr. Dennis N. Voskuil, installed as Hope's 13th president in August, rides past familiar campus landmarks on a bright autumn day. His two-wheeled, one-speed conveyance, which has carried him to and through campus and neighboring Western Theological Seminary for decades, was newly painted in Hope orange and blue and reconditioned as a gesture of welcome by the Physical Plant staff this summer.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

I am excited about this issue of *News From Hope College* — and not because of the cover story! It is humbling to open this magazine and find my story within the very same pages that share such inspirational stories about our alumni, students and employees. From cover to cover, you'll find a common thread running through these pages. Reconciliation. Collaboration. Respect. Dialogue. *Hope*.



There is something undeniably powerful about our name: *Hope*. In its simplicity, the word conveys unbreakable faith and relentless optimism. Rev. Albertus C. Van Raalte, who co-founded Hope College with Rev. Philip Phelps Jr., said of the school: “This is my anchor of hope for this people in the future.” In his statement, we hear echoes of Hebrews 6:19, “We have this hope, a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul.”

Sure and steadfast indeed. The name of our college community communicates a shared belief about our work: *It is meaningful. It is uplifting. And in today's climate, it is needed.* At times, it seems that the world has never needed hope more than it does today. And if the world needs hope, the world needs Hope graduates.

As Hope's mission statement says, we are educating our students for lives of leadership and service. This is apparent on and off campus — and on the pages in this magazine. From student-led initiatives that model civil discourse to institutional partnerships that strengthen faith to acts of service that span the globe, our efforts reflect a “sure and steadfast” commitment to God's creation. We believe His is a world worth serving.

As our students prepare to graduate and enter the world beyond Hope's campus, they do so with the courage and conviction to transform their communities. In them and in our alumni, we are assured: Hope College is living up to its name.

Spera in Deo,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dennis N. Voskuil". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rev. Dennis N. Voskuil, Ph.D.
Interim President and Professor



QUOTE UNQUOTE



**QUOTE, UNQUOTE IS AN ECLECTIC
SAMPLING OF THINGS SAID AT AND
ABOUT HOPE COLLEGE.**

The table offered an apt metaphor as speaker Dr. Cady Short-Thompson welcomed the members of the incoming Class of 2021 during the college's Opening Convocation on Sunday, Aug. 27, in the Richard and Helen DeVos Fieldhouse.

"I have found community at many tables in my life — the dinner table, the communion table, the classroom table, the library table, the conference room table and now, the board room table," said Short-Thompson, who is provost and a professor of communication at Hope, which she joined recently herself — on August 1 — after previously serving as dean at Blue Ash College in the University of Cincinnati system. "We gather with a shared purpose and form community with one another around many different tables within Hope College and you're personally invited. I want you to feel included and welcome and to see Hope College as nourishing, invitational and open to you."

Short-Thompson expanded on the imagery as she presented advice to the members of the class for making the most of their time at the college.

"First, the table at Hope College is nourishing — my colleagues and I have been planning an educational experience and a sense of place that will nourish and nurture you," she said. "We want your entire lives to be positively impacted by this college — academically, spiritually, mentally, emotionally and physically."

"Begin today to seek out your best options for ideal nourishment at Hope College — and be open to the guidance of expert faculty and staff who will offer ideas and inspiration for you," she said, noting that the students also shouldn't shy away from being challenged. "Sometimes, we will make you uncomfortable because we know that learning happens when you stretch."

Second, Short-Thompson said, Hope takes its foundation in the historic Christian faith seriously, but in a way that is invitational rather than prescriptive.

"Unlike many other institutions, at Hope College, we freely talk about and live out our Christian faith in our education, work, service and leadership here," she said. At the same time, she noted, "Wherever you are in your faith walk, we support and respect your beliefs. We share our faith and respect others' faith. We learn from one another — ideally sharpening each other and deepening our faith together."

"I invite you to live out your faith here," she said. "For each person, it will be different; but jump in, knowing that you're invited without a lot of assumptions or formal expectations."

Third, she said, the students will benefit from and contribute to a table that is open to opportunities, possibilities and difference. "We engage difference because we know that it makes us better and stronger to do so," Short-Thompson said.

"We can and will be a haven for thoughtful, respectful discourse on the issues of the day," she said. "We can — and should — disagree but we must always do so with love and respect. We can each interact well and lead by example — controlling our urges to behave in negative or ugly ways in an increasingly polarized world."

The students and the world around them, Short-Thompson noted, will benefit from the openness that the students will both experience and model.

"Our world needs educated citizens who include — those who include by listening, learning, inviting, hosting, valuing, asking questions, acknowledging, respecting, encouraging, empathizing, and praising one another for who they are and who they can become," she said. "And I encourage you to be wide open to discovering your passions and gifts — our liberal arts education will reveal strengths that were hidden to you before now."

 hope.edu/convocation2017



FRESHMAN SWEEP

The freshman Class of 2021 swept both the Pull tug-of-war and the Nykerk Cup competition this fall. The freshmen were matched against the sophomore Class of 2020 in the two historic contests. The Pull was first held in 1898, and Nykerk in 1936.

The freshmen defeated the sophomores by a narrow six feet, two inches during the Pull, held on Saturday, Sep. 30, at the traditional Black River site.

The class earned its Nykerk victory on Saturday, Oct. 28, during Family Weekend. The annual evening of song, plays and oration was held at the Richard and Helen DeVos Fieldhouse, the event's home since 2014.

Pictured are the '20 Pull team and '21 Nykerk smiles. Please visit the college online for more photographs.

 hope.edu/event-photos



HOPE IN PICTURES

Please visit Hope online to enjoy extensive photo galleries organized by topic and chronicling a variety of events in the life of the college — such as Homecoming Weekend (October 13-15). A torrential Saturday storm was an unwanted guest, but that simply called for some creative adjustment, like starting the football game early and honoring the Homecoming Court (seniors Anthony Nguyen and Allie DeVries were named king and queen) at the Jim and Martie Bultman Student Center.

 hope.edu/photos

FALL SPORTS REPORT

A 19th-place finish at the NCAA Division III Women's Cross Country Championships and a second-round appearance in the Division III Women's Soccer Championships highlighted a successful fall at Hope College. Repeat Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association titles were claimed in women's cross country and women's soccer. The football team reached the eight-win mark for the ninth time, and its Purple Community game raised \$13,792.03 for Van Andel Institute.

Three Hope student-athletes were named the MIAA's Most Valuable: Josh Gibson (men's golf), Emily Hamilton (women's cross country), and Megan Klintworth (women's golf).

 athletics.hope.edu

GRANT SUPPORTS FACULTY INTERNATIONAL STUDY

Hope students study abroad around the world. Now, members of the faculty will, too.

A \$170,800 grant from the Great Lakes Colleges Association (GLCA) is supporting a new, two-year program at the college that will provide opportunities for teams of faculty to travel abroad and develop connections to globalize their teaching and scholarship, the better to prepare students for their lives after graduation. The support is through the GLCA's Global Crossroads Initiative, made possible by a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Through the "Hope Portal to the World," which will begin this summer, teams of four to five faculty each will spend two to four weeks conducting study tours on topics and in areas of mutual interest to the team members. The teams will connect with colleges, universities and other organizations in the places they visit to learn more about ways to enhance their teaching or research and forming ongoing partnerships.

 hope.edu/glca-grant



FROM BLOGS.HOPE.EDU

“I’m not limited to one passion at Hope. I play soccer — a game I’ve loved since I was little — at a high level here, and I learn at a high level here, too.” — senior Erin Brophy

Writing for the Department of Kinesiology’s blog, senior geology major — and varsity women’s soccer player — Erin Brophy of West Lafayette, Indiana, reflected on the opportunity she enjoyed this summer to conduct field research in Sweden, noting that she found her experience equally enriched by the culture and people she met. “It’s amazing that the experiences you never expect to have and the people you never expect to meet are the memories you know you’ll never forget,” she noted.

The kinesiology blog is one of three dozen on the college’s vibrant blog network, which shares accounts written by students, faculty and staff highlighting scholarship, off-campus study, individual academic and co-curricular programs, alumni activities and achievements — and more.

 blogs.hope.edu/kinesiology

PROJECT SEEKS TO SPARK CHURCH ATTENDANCE

A grant to Hope from Lilly Endowment Inc. is supporting a new initiative to address the steep decline in church attendance and religious affiliation among the millennial generation and adults who no longer affiliate with a church while also meeting needs in local communities.

The \$458,502 grant will support “Generation Spark: Mentoring Tomorrow’s Church Leaders.” The program will work with individual churches to connect their youth (including ages 16-24) and adults of age 45 and older in one-to-one teams focused on helping to meet needs in the world about which they’re concerned.

Generation Spark’s approach — of fostering interest in church by connecting older and younger members with each other, their congregation and projects they care about — was itself developed by young people through the college’s Center for Leadership.

 hope.edu/generation-spark

HISTORY CONFERENCE AT HOPE

More than 275 teachers, scholars and lovers of history gathered at Hope on Friday-Sunday, Sept. 22-24, for the 143rd Annual State History Conference organized by the Historical Society of Michigan.

The conference was co-hosted by the college’s A.C. Van Raalte Institute, Van Raalte Press and Joint Archives of Holland, along with the Holland Museum. Multiple Hope faculty and staff were among the speakers, including Dr. Fred Johnson, who is associate professor of history; Dr. Jacob Nyenhuis, who is interim director of the Van Raalte Institute, editor-in-chief of Van Raalte Press, and provost emeritus and professor of classics emeritus; Geoffrey Reynolds, who is the Mary Riepma Ross Director of the Joint Archives of Holland; and Dr. Robert Swierenga, who is the Albertus C. Van Raalte Research Professor at the Van Raalte Institute.

The conference’s 15-member planning committee was co-chaired by Nyenhuis and Larry Wagenaar ’87, who is executive director of the Historical Society of Michigan and from 1988 to 2001 served as founding director of the Joint Archives of Holland. In addition to Nyenhuis, members of the committee from Hope included President Dennis Voskuil; Dr. Elton Bruins ’50, who was founding director of the A.C. Van Raalte Institute and is a professor emeritus of religion at Hope; and Geoffrey Reynolds.

 hope.edu/state-history-conference



INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPANT



Junior Irene Gerrish of Los Alamos, New Mexico, was chosen to attend the *New York Times* Athens Democracy Forum, an international event whose participants included former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, multiple current and former senior government officials from around the world, NGO and business executives, and leading journalists with the *New York Times*.

The forum ran Wednesday-Sunday, Sept. 13-17, in Athens, Greece. Gerrish was one of 24 students from 13 countries selected to participate through the Global Liberal Arts Alliance, an educational partner in the event.

hope.edu/irene-gerrish

MAJOR AWARD FOR RESEARCH



Junior Ashley Trojniak of Sterling Heights, Michigan, won the “Outstanding Student Poster Award” in the COLL Student Poster Contest, held during the Aug. 20-24 national meeting of the American Chemical Society.

She was the only undergraduate selected for an award and was chosen from among about 150 presenters, most of whom were graduate students. She was honored for her poster titled “Investigating surMOF thin film growth for sensing and storage applications.”

hope.edu/acs-award



FILM WINS NATIONAL CONTEST

A film co-created by senior Ismael Byers of Grand Blanc, Michigan, about spending the spring semester in Santiago, Chile, has won the grand prize in the 2017 IES Abroad “Study Abroad Film Festival.”

The announcement was made during the IES Abroad Study Abroad Film Festival, held on Wednesday, Nov. 1, at the Museum of Contemporary Art (MCA) Chicago. The film, *Solitude: A Companion Abroad*, explores the way that Ismael found moments in solitude valuable because they provided opportunities to reflect on his other experiences and their impact. It was selected through an online public vote during October from among three finalists that a jury had previously chosen out of 93 submissions.

Please also look for a feature about Ismael in the spring issue of *News from Hope College*. The short film can be viewed online.

hope.edu/ies-film



PANEL REFLECTS ON AMERICAN DEMOCRACY

An expert panel of analysts spanning the political spectrum shared insights regarding the Trump presidency and the state and future of American democracy with an audience of hundreds during Kirk on Campus, a new program of the Russell Kirk Center for Cultural Renewal that chose Hope for its debut.

The Thursday, Nov. 16, event featured New York Times columnist Ross Douthat; author and former *New York Times Book Review* editor Sam Tanenhaus; and Emory University professor Mark Bauerlein. Held in the Jack H. Miller Center for Musical Arts, the evening was co-hosted by the college’s Department of Political Science with faculty member Dr. Jeff Polet moderating.

“As a liberal arts college rooted in the historic Christian faith,” said Jeff Nelson, director of Kirk on Campus, “Hope College is a great partner for this kind of event, which notably features a wide range of political perspectives. It’s the kind of discourse increasingly rare on the average campus but we hope will be common for Kirk on Campus.”

hope.edu/kirk



Just Call Him Dennis

By Eva Dean Folkert '83

Those who know the Reverend Dr. President Dennis Voskuil well — and more tellingly, many who don't — skip over any one of his titular honorifics, earned and respected as they may be, and go straight to Dennis. Just call him Dennis, that's all he wants. The new, 13th president of Hope College even signs his official institutional emails this way:

*Spera in Deo, or Peace and Grace,
Dennis*

Not President Voskuil or Dr. Voskuil or Rev. Voskuil. Just Dennis, a guy from the “biggest little town” of Baldwin, Wisconsin, the son of a farm journal editor and school teacher, an everyman whose Christian humility and patent down-to-earth sagacity conjure your favorite uncle or amiable neighbor next door.

Yet, Voskuil is also Western Theological Seminary- and Harvard-educated, a noted scholar and professor of church history, a former pastor of three congregations, and now a two-time president at institutions of higher education in Holland, Michigan. (He had a highly successful tenure as the president

of Western Theological from 1994 to 2008 which came after 17 years of award-winning teaching in the Department of Religion at Hope from 1977 to 1994.) There are other Voskuil descriptors too — “true servant-leader,” “prolific thank-you-note writer,” “scholar and gentleman,” “team player” and “genuine follower of Jesus” — additional nomenclature ascribed to him by colleagues and friends. All that heaping praise makes him a bit uneasy, though quite grateful, and his Santa-rosy cheeks grow even more crimson in their telling.

You see, for all that he has achieved and for all that he knows, Voskuil is a man with an unpretentious ego and an unostentatious one-speed, orange-and-blue clunker he pedals around campus. His recent portrayal as rebel-monk Martin Luther was another glimpse into his *bona fide* modesty, too. On the Dimnent Chapel stage this fall, Voskuil revealed a college leader and church scholar willing to stand before a considerable audience in sackcloth, shod in sandals with thick socks no less. In “Here I Stand,” a keynote address to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation, he delivered a lesson straight out of Wittenberg, Germany.

Perhaps all of this self-effacement is because Voskuil has never forgotten the guidance seeded long ago by his teacher mother who reminded, “Denny, you are no better than anyone else,” and his farmer-writer father who rephrased, “Denny, remember you are as good as anybody else.” To this day, more than 60 years after their intonation, he still takes his mom and dad’s words to heart.

And because he does (and for several reasons more), you would be extremely hard-pressed to find anyone (if there is anyone) who does not like or admire the Reverend Dr. President Dennis Voskuil, almost always on a first-name basis.

“It’s okay if people are only comfortable calling me President or Dr. Voskuil, but I learned from my parents and in seminary that when we come around the Lord’s Table, there are no titles and no hierarchy. So I’m happy with people calling me Dennis because it symbolizes a relationship of equality.”

This past summer, the Board’s decision to name Voskuil to a two-year interim position was an inspired one. His well-received appointment bridges a transition time between Dr. John Knapp’s departure (Hope’s previous president accepted the presidency at Washington & Jefferson College in Pennsylvania in August) and the college’s next leader. Voskuil is up for the challenge, even though he did not need another turn at sleepless nights by saddling up for a second presidential ride. His resumé needed no extra padding. He could have easily remained the director of the college’s Van Raalte Institute, where he worked before accepting the presidency. He could have invested all his time and energy in his family, unabashedly doting on his nine grandchildren (and even his childhood sweetheart and wife of 52 years, Betty, and their three children, too — Derek ’93, a businessman; Karsten ’96, a pastor; and, Elizabeth ’01, a social worker).

He could have, but honestly, Voskuil was pulling down a D-minus in Retirement 101 anyway. Following his retirement as the seminary’s president, he’s remained a worker, first as an adjunct professor at the seminary and then as a research fellow at the Van Raalte Institute before becoming its director. A solidly seasoned Protestant work ethic is at his core. He says his vigor is due to a hardy constitution, but he’s really just a less annoying version of the Energizer Bunny with a better mustache.

“For Dennis, serving Hope isn’t about him,” says Dr. David Myers, Voskuil’s longtime friend and “noonball” teammate (more on that later). “At this stage of life, with a flock of nine grandchildren he utterly adores, he doesn’t need this job. But Hope needed him and his successful seminary presidency rightly encouraged him to think that he could sustain Hope’s morale and excellence and prepare the way for our next president.”

Voskuil did, in fact, need one thing in taking this new presidential role. He needed to be obedient to God’s leading. The divine nudge he felt to guide Hope during a time when the need for stability and equilibrium are paramount was a Godly coaxing he could not ignore, especially because he did not seek the opportunity to do so. He was asked to apply by current Board Chair Karl Droppers ’82. For his part, Droppers says getting Voskuil to consider the presidential opening was an easy decision given Voskuil’s “boundless love for Hope.” That affection has run deep for four decades, and he isn’t even a Hope grad; Voskuil earned his bachelor’s in history from the University of Wisconsin.



“It’s okay if people are only comfortable calling me *President* or *Dr. Voskuil*, but I learned from my parents and in seminary that when we come around the Lord’s Table, there are no titles and no hierarchy. So I’m happy with people calling me *Dennis* because it symbolizes a relationship of equality.”

~~President Voskuil~~

~~Dr. Voskuil~~

- Dennis

For all of his leadership success, Voskuil has always seen himself primarily as an educator. “I love students. I would have been happy to retire from Hope as a religion professor,” he says so sincerely that no other persuasion is needed. But others, like former Board Chairman Max De Pree ’48 who took three hours to convince Voskuil to throw his name in the applicant pool during a different Hope presidential search in 1986 (the job eventually went to Dr. John Jacobson), saw qualities in Voskuil that the religion professor eventually realized he had.

“I learned I had gifts for leadership from Max and some others,” Voskuil recalls. “I think I kind of knew that but more than anything, I realized it was a way I could legitimately serve. I had to think about the whole thing of leadership differently.”

Voskuil’s approach to leadership is highly relational and collaborative, eschewing the company of yes-men and -women who nod like unquestioning bobbleheads and remain as silent. His egalitarian ways would never allow that to happen anyway. Nothing makes Voskuil happier than seeing the people with whom he works succeed, to thrive in an environment where high expectations and graciousness comfortably co-habit. To start, he’s been listening and engaging and taking walk-about around campus. For the first few months of his presidency, Voskuil visited nearly every department of the college, extending an affirming handshake, learning names, and being attentive to stories and dreams, taking a page out of De Pree’s book of making leadership an art.

“I take no one individual employed by the college for granted,” he says. “Everyone in a community has a right to be recognized. It takes work but it’s worth it and you make friends. I really want people to feel proud of where they are and what they do. Everyone, everyone is a significant part of Hope, and they have a voice.”

Though his presidential presence is gentle, calm — with a

good measure of good humor too — on the basketball court, not so much. There the pastor-president is an intense competitor. Voskuil is a fervent, long-time “noonball” player at the campus’s Dow Center during the lunch hour. Playing with and against Hope faculty and staff and Holland community members, the kinder and softer President Voskuil makes way for rough-and-tumble Post-Player Voskuil once inside the lines. His titles sit promptly on the bench alongside his suit coat and tie. He dons common basketball apparel — usually a nondescript red t-shirt and navy shorts — and plays the game he has loved since youth, albeit with some of his former offensive tackle tendencies. “Sometimes you just have to foul people” is his mantra. A tug on his opponent’s shirt, a jutting hip just at the right moment, a forearm that impedes progress, these are well-worn Voskuil noonball trademarks. So, too, is his nifty left hook shot and a selfless propensity to pass the ball to a teammate out on the wing even though he could have taken the open shot himself.

“My father loves playing games because he loves his family and friends. It’s a healthy outlet for the demands of leadership,” notes son Karsten.

Those demands now require that Voskuil guide the college during a time when external tensions and internal challenges need clear-eyed and compassionate leadership. He knows this full well, and he’s ready because Voskuil “believes in Hope College and its strategic position in shaping leaders for the church and world. He really does,” concludes Karsten. “It may have been easier for him to do something different in this season of life, but for him vocational calling is not something he could dismiss. This has always been true as he ends every night kneeling at the side of his bed in humility and prayer.”

Dennis Voskuil — pastor, professor, president — will now lead Hope only as he knows how: head-on and knees-down.

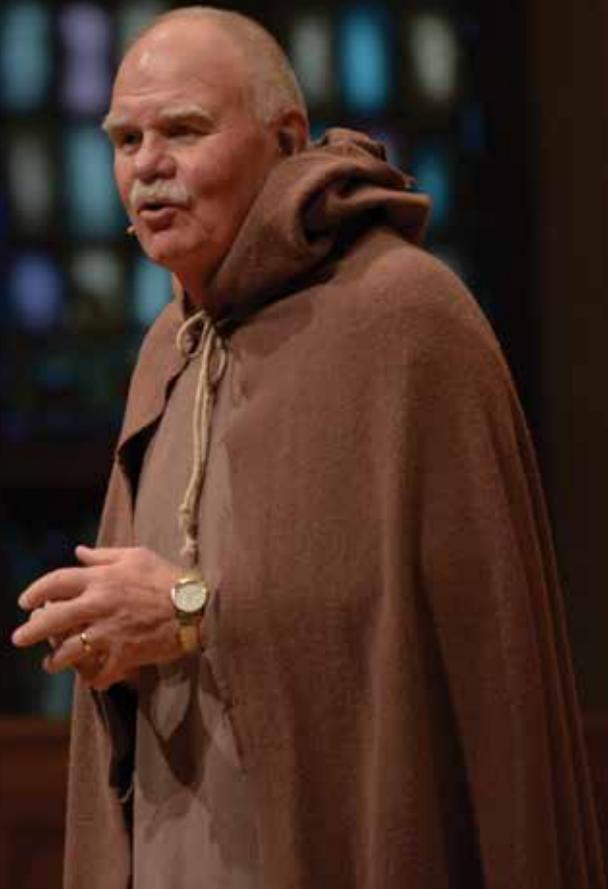


“For Dennis, serving Hope isn’t about him.”

At this stage of life, with a flock of nine grandchildren he utterly adores, he doesn’t need this job.

But Hope needed him and his successful seminary presidency rightly encouraged him to think that he could sustain Hope’s morale and excellence and prepare the way for our next president.”

–Dr. David Myers,
professor of psychology



ONE OF THE BEST

Hope Wins National Award for Excellence of Undergraduate Research Program

By Greg Olgers '87

Hope continues to earn national recognition for its long-standing tradition of teaching students through participation in research experiences.

The Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR) has presented Hope with a 2017 Campus-Wide Award for Undergraduate Research Accomplishments (AURA) for the high quality of its program. Now in its third year, the award draws from CUR's *Characteristics of Excellence in Undergraduate Research*, a document that presents criteria for exceptional undergraduate research, scholarship and creative activity programs. AURA recognition also requires campuses to have depth and breadth in their undergraduate research initiatives and evidence of continued innovation.

Only nine colleges and universities nationwide, three per year, have received the recognition since the annual program began in 2015. Hope is the only institution in Michigan to have earned the award.

"Active outreach to underrepresented students, integration of research into the curriculum, and sustainability are some of the hallmarks of the 2017 AURA recipients," said CUR's Executive Officer Elizabeth Ambos and President Anne Boettcher. "CUR is proud to recognize these academic institutions that have diligently pursued excellence in undergraduate research, scholarship, and creative inquiry on their campuses."

Hope has engaged students in original research for more than seven decades. Such experiential learning continues to be so important that it is addressed in the first goal and objective of the college's strategic plan, *Hope for the World: 2025*, adopted in 2015.

"Involving students in genuine scholarship is central to Hope's academic program," said Dr. William F. Polik, associate dean of research and scholarship at Hope. "We have strong research programs in all of the divisions: natural and applied sciences, social sciences, arts and humanities. Undergraduate research is a significant reason why Hope students are successful when they graduate. In the process of contributing to discoveries in their disciplines, students gain skills of creativity, problem-solving and independence that are critical to success after graduation."

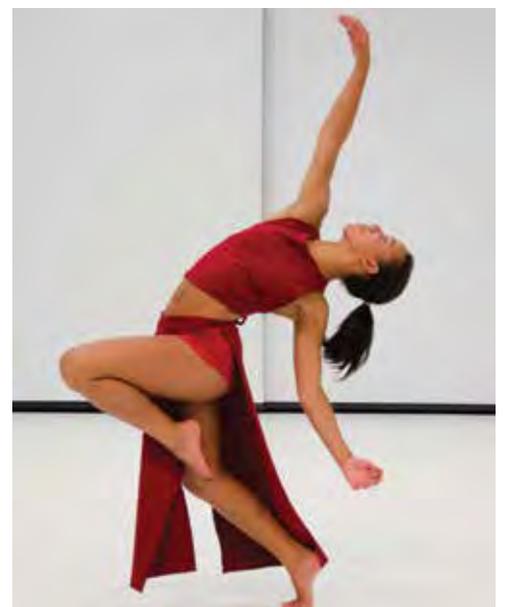
Mentored collaborative research happens year-round, with approximately 300 students conducting faculty-supervised independent research during the academic year and 200 doing research over the summer. In addition to the benefits to their learning, participating students frequently become co-authors on articles published in peer-reviewed professional journals.

Two decades ago, Hope began to broaden research opportunities beyond traditional faculty-mentored student projects. As a result, course-based research experiences now reach hundreds more students each year. Hope has also established several living-learning-research communities, including the Phelps Scholars Program, in which students explore topics related to diversity; FACES (Fostering a Community of Excellence in Science), which is a community of students who are members of groups underrepresented at Hope or in STEM fields; and Day1, which annually involves 120 students in research starting with their first day on campus.

To support the program, the college's faculty have secured \$20 million of external awards for undergraduate research over the past decade. The grants, Polik said, are complemented by endowed funds, state-of-the-art equipment and outstanding facilities.

Research has a long and storied history at Hope. More than 100 years ago, biologist Dr. Samuel O. Mast designed research laboratory space for the college's Van Raalte Hall, which opened in 1903. The late Dr. Gerrit Van Zyl (Class of 1918), who taught chemistry at the college from 1923 to 1964, is widely recognized for developing research-based learning at Hope in its modern sense.

Hope has received recognition in a variety of ways through the years for its success in teaching through collaborative faculty-student research, and for the high quality of the research itself. Among other acclaim historically, in 1998 Hope was one of only 10 liberal arts institutions in the nation to be recognized for innovation and excellence in science instruction by the National Science Foundation (NSF) with an Award for the Integration of Research and Education (AIRE), and in 1994 Project Kaleidoscope named the program in the natural and applied sciences a "Whole Program That Works" — a model for other



institutions to emulate. Based on the college's proven history of excellence, CUR chose Hope to present the national webinar "Transformational Learning through Undergraduate Research and Creative Performance" in April 2011.

For the past 16 years, since the category debuted, the *Best Colleges* guide published by *U.S. News & World Report* has included Hope on its list of institutions that are exceptional for their emphasis on undergraduate research and creative projects. Hope is one of only 42 institutions of all types, and one of only 12 national liberal arts colleges, on the list in the 2018 edition. Others in the cohort include Amherst, Harvard, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Princeton and Yale.

Hope students themselves also regularly receive national awards that reflect their participation in research, including prestigious Goldwater Scholarships and NSF Graduate Research Fellowships the past several years. Just this past August, junior Ashley Trojniak won the national "Outstanding Student Poster Award" — chosen from among undergraduate students and graduate students — presented by the American Chemical Society's division of Colloid and Surface Chemistry, for research conducted with Dr. Beth Anderson of the college's chemistry faculty. Also this summer, teams of Hope students won first place and honorable mention in the 2016-17 Undergraduate Statistics Project Competition of the Consortium for the Advancement of Undergraduate Statistics Education and the American Statistical Association, for research projects conducted in a course taught by Todd Swanson of the mathematics faculty.

The Council on Undergraduate Research supports faculty and student development for high-quality undergraduate student-faculty collaborative research, scholarship and creative activities. More than 700 institutions and more than 13,000 individuals belong to CUR. CUR believes that the best way to capture student interest and create enthusiasm for a discipline is through research in close collaboration with faculty members.

In addition to Hope, Denison University and Florida Atlantic University received AURA recognition this year. The other schools that have been honored are Furman University, Clemson University and the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire in 2016; and Allegheny College, George Mason University and The College of New Jersey in 2015. Hope and the other 2017 awardees will be honored at the CUR Executive Board reception on Friday, Jan. 26, 2018, at the annual meeting of the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) in Washington, D.C.

Hope has engaged students in original research for more than seven decades. Such experiential learning continues to be so important that it is addressed in the first goal and objective of the college's strategic plan, *Hope for the World: 2025*, adopted in 2015.

ELITE COMPANY

Hope received a Campus-Wide Award for Undergraduate Research Accomplishments from the Council on Undergraduate Research

9
colleges and
universities nationwide

3
per year

HOPE
The only institution
in Michigan to earn
the award

since the annual recognition program began in 2015

Hope has become one of only eight colleges and universities in the nation to offer Professional Tennis Management (PTM) certification, providing students with access to a career path with nearly 100-percent placement for new graduates.

PTM programs serve as a platform for aspiring students and professionals to pursue careers in the tennis industry.

Hope is offering its program in conjunction with its major in exercise science, placing a strong emphasis on player wellness and coaching as well as applied experience in program and facility management. Students, kinesiology department chair Dr. Kirk Brumels '88 noted, will also benefit from the college's award-winning tennis facilities and specialized staff that includes nationally recognized tennis-teaching professional Jorge Capestany, who is manager of the DeWitt Tennis Center and outdoor VandePoel-Heeringa Stadium Courts and is directing the program.

"The level of scientific and human performance background that Hope College students will gain through the exercise science major will set us apart from other institutions with PTM certification programs," said Brumels, a professor of kinesiology. "We believe strongly that the combination of rigor associated with Hope College coursework, the relevant courses in kinesiology and exercise science, and the extremely well-respected tennis professionals at the DeWitt Tennis Center will provide a level of education and preparation that will be difficult to replicate at other institutions."

Experience has shown that the career prospects for PTM graduates are strong. According to Tom Daglis, who has been the director of the PTM programs at Ferris State University and Methodist University, and is now with Berry College, "The PTM programs at Ferris State and Methodist that I have been a part of have had a 100-percent job placement rate since their inception. I expect the same to hold true now here at Berry where I am in the first year as director of the PTM program."

Hope has developed its program, which will begin offering courses in May, with the United States Tennis Association (USTA), which is the governing body for tennis in the United States. Graduates of Hope's program, which will exceed the standards that the USTA has established, will automatically receive certification through both the United States Professional Tennis Association (USPTA) and the Professional Tennis Registry (PTR).

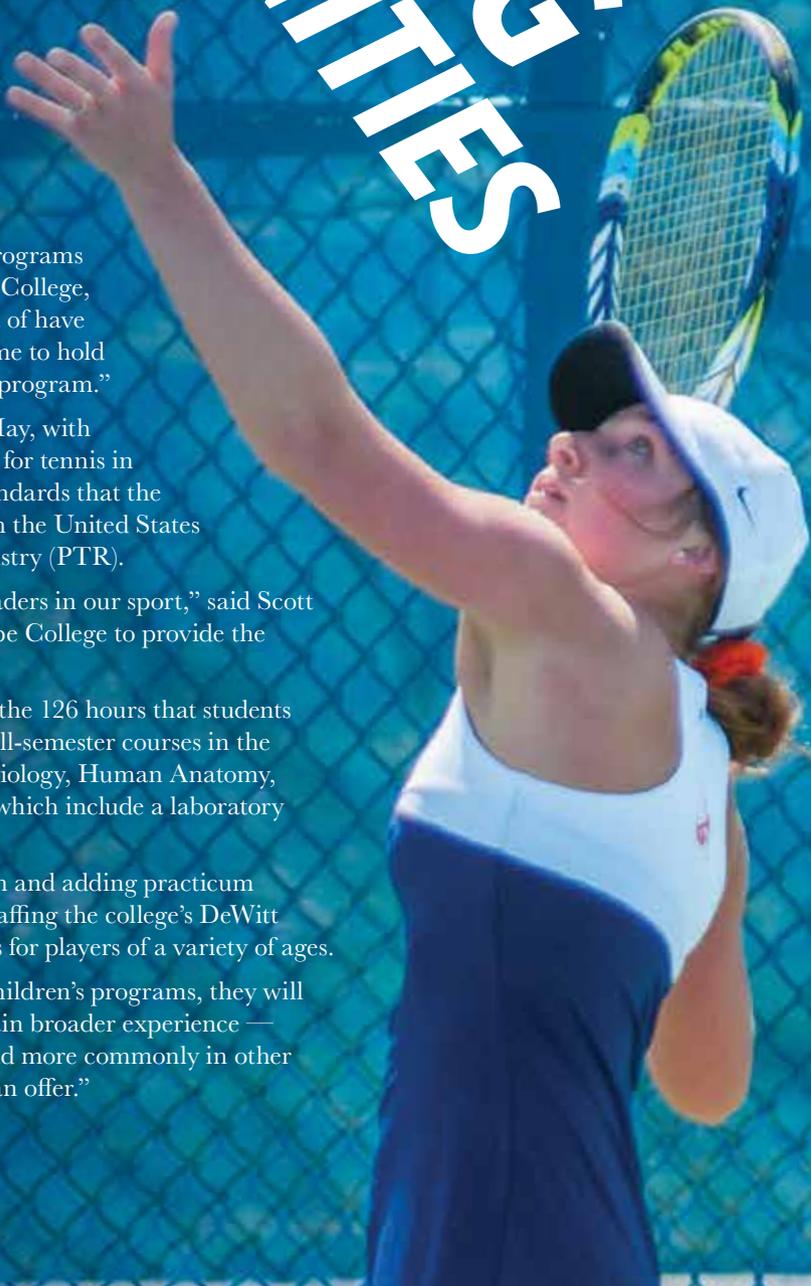
"It is important to support the development of the next generation of leaders in our sport," said Scott Schultz, managing director, USTA-U. "We are proud to team up with Hope College to provide the education, resources and opportunities to excel in the tennis industry."

Hope's program will include coursework totaling 65 credit hours out of the 126 hours that students must complete across the curriculum to graduate. It will include existing full-semester courses in the Department of Kinesiology such as Anatomical Kinesiology, Exercise Physiology, Human Anatomy, Nutrition, Performance Psychology and Philosophy of Coaching, many of which include a laboratory component, as well as in biology, chemistry and mathematics.

The Department of Kinesiology is also expanding its internship program and adding practicum courses to provide hands-on experience in tennis management, including staffing the college's DeWitt Tennis Center, running programs such as tournaments and teaching lessons for players of a variety of ages.

"They will have learned how to string racquets, they will have taught children's programs, they will have worked at the front desk. We will also take them beyond campus to gain broader experience — such as working with clay courts in the area, which they could expect to find more commonly in other parts of the country," Capestany said. "I'm pretty excited about what we can offer."

OPPORTUNITIES SERVING PROFESSORS





Let's Talk

How Hope College Strives to Make
Conversations Civil Again

By Eva Dean Folkert '83

In today's America, a craggy schism rocks almost any brand of public discourse, leaving deep welts of incivility on families, communities, the workplace and, of course, college campuses. For a country that has (or had?) prided itself on open dialogue, a remarkable number of people now shy away from controversial discussions for fear of immediate, outright anger with a steaming serving of disrespect on the side.

In "Civility in America: A Nationwide Survey," conducted by Weber Shandwick and Powell Tate with KRC Research, 59 percent of respondents say they quit paying attention to political debates and conversations because of negative tone or lack of civility. A record-high 75 percent of Americans believe that incivility has risen to crisis levels, 73 percent believe the U.S. is losing its status as a civil nation, and 75 percent blame it on politicians and 69 percent on social media and the internet. On the flip side, though, 75 percent say they would be willing to set a good example of practicing civility.

So there's hope, because if people are willing to be civil, then they should be willing to listen, learn... and talk. Despite all the political ire, negativity and Twitter wars, it is clear that most Americans — and the vast majority of Hope College — long for civil discourse. But it's going to take some counter-cultural efforts to get there.

Enter the "Virtues of Public Discourse," Vox Populi, and Communication 240 and 340 (intergroup dialogue courses), all Hope College-created entities meant to ennoble civility in difficult conversations at Hope and beyond. The invaluable work of helping students navigate restive, uncivil waters to solid, nicer ground is not without good direction, nor is it knee jerk. Deliberate effort begets intentional education begets a compassionate community, and that all received front-and-center billing at Hope this year with President Dennis Voskuil's installation address.

Drawing from the "Virtues of Public Discourse," a guidance first created by three Hope professors in the early 2000s, Voskuil revived the document's prominence in his speech titled "The Virtuous College." Setting before the Hope community the five "spare but arresting" virtues again — humility to listen, hospitality to welcome, patience to understand, courage to challenge and honesty to speak the truth in love (see sidebar) — Voskuil recognized that each virtue provides "biblically-rooted parameters for the manner in which a Christian academic community should engage each other." Their simple yet deep wisdom impressed him so much, he explained, that he wrote about them in his application letter to the Board of Trustees, commenting that not only would he strive to model them daily, but he'd also encourage his new campus to do the same.

Chris Bohle, associate director of student life, and juniors Kathleen Muloma and Joe McClusky have shared Voskuil's mindset for more than a year. As the main staff and student directors of Vox Populi — politically focused but interdisciplinary forums that tackled weighty topics around last year's election and now in its aftermath — Bohle, Muloma and McClusky used the "Virtues" document to frame and introduce every session potentially rife with incivility. In 2016, Vox Populi — which means "voice of the people" — discussed post-truth politics, party affiliation and faith, social media wars and how to handle politicized familial dissension. In 2017, Confederate symbolism, fake news and immigration policy headlined Vox events, all topics chosen by a nine-student committee and then addressed by faculty panels. For Vox organizers, there would be no shying away from hard conversations. Courage to challenge — one of the Virtues of Public Discourse — is immediately loaded on board simply because the topics Vox Populi grapples with are meant to stimulate discussion on both sides of the political barge.



“It’s easy to assume at a college that you are only going to get liberal opinions, but that has not been true at our events,” says Bohle. “There are pieces of our conversations — like when we discussed if Jesus would be a Republican or Democrat or the financial ramifications of the Trump presidency — that have brought both sides of the issues front and center. But at other times, we know what truth is and we can’t say everything has two equally logical sides backed up by evidence. We know there is a lot of gray area in life but there has to be truth in certain situations, especially when it is a moral situation like denouncing the KKK.”

“Vox Populi has taught me that healthy, impassioned, educated conversations are possible,” explains Muloma, a chemistry major with a biochemistry emphasis. “We are not without hope for honest discussions without pulling out hair or insulting the other person. Every time students attended, it reminded me that I am not alone in my desire for these healthy conversations, and that Hope students do want to talk about the controversial topics, and are seeking opportunities to learn and get better in the context of the Christian faith.”

And for Muloma, the Virtues of Public Discourse have provided a positive way to engage and learn through controversy without the threat of verbal fisticuffs.

“The Virtues of Public Discourse enable me to do two things while interacting with friends and family about politics,” she continues. “First, I am freed from the pressure to change peoples’ minds. Honest discourse takes changing someone’s mind off the table. It is a chance for each side to share their mind and heart and maybe plant a seed or an idea. Any change of heart, I believe, comes from God. Second, I am empowered to be educated and courageous enough to advocate for my opinions and beliefs. The Virtues of Public Discourse do not encourage softening convictions, but in fact increasing them. They teach how to communicate those convictions with respect for family and friends

A fresh start must begin somewhere. Why not at a place called Hope?

as well as even strangers on the street as individuals created in the image of God.”

In Dr. Deirdre Johnston’s intergroup dialogue classes, engaging in difficult conversations takes on a more structured process as social identities, social justice, conflict resolution and communication styles are explored. To reach the finish line of successful group discussions, Johnston teaches that trust must be established first. Without it, any controversial confrontation, with one person or many, is following a recipe for communicative disaster.

“We get into trouble when we casually say ‘let’s have a dialogue,’” explains Johnston, a professor of communication. “We’re going to have a dialogue tonight, here’s the time and the place, come talk about some horribly controversial topic.’ Then it blows up and it doesn’t go well. That’s because the group has been invited to dialogue without having the table set right because everyone goes into it defensively so listening and understanding don’t take place. So we must start from a place of trust,” which is her first order of business.

But trust is hard earned. And there is no silver bullet to gain its benefits quickly in a group setting; it takes time and skills that are counter-cultural for contemporary America. The capacity to listen deeply, to focus on the other, to speak clearly and to ask essential questions about identities and ideology is time-consuming and not intuitive. Social media “conversations” — where no or minimal trust has been established — yield to instant gratification via the route of opinionated retaliation. In-person conversations succumb to impatience. What does come naturally then — and in quick order — is prickly defensiveness and the need to be heard “so serial monologues and mindsets result,” Johnston says.



To combat these tendencies, Johnston teaches her Hope students to actually “lean into” tough dialogue. She’s taught faculty at Hope, and other colleges and universities, too, to do the same during summer workshops for the past seven years because “if we, as professors, run away from the get-go, we as a campus and a culture are not going to fare well in this,” she says.

“When I do workshops for other universities, especially Christian colleges, I point out that we have scriptural basis for all of this,” she continues. “We are supposed to, as Christians, lean into conflict. Turning the other cheek is not running away or avoiding or putting niceties on a controversy and pretending it isn’t there. Instead we need to lean into it and allow the fruits of the Spirit to take over because, on our own, we can’t do this well.”

Approximately 150 faculty and staff have participated in Johnston’s intergroup dialogue training, resulting in at least 2,600 student exposures to constructive discussions at Hope in two years alone, she estimates. As palpable tensions sever the country and show no real sign of abating any time soon, Johnston can’t help but think that Hope is doing its part, small as it may be, to help to stem the onerous tide of incivility. A fresh start must begin somewhere. Why not at a place called Hope?

“When we teach about these things, when we stay in the fight and educate, we make the future of our democracy a priority. If we don’t, we put it in peril. We’ve got to talk about this stuff because when we do, we set an example and prepare our students to engage and to engage civilly.”

It’s a hopeful sentiment and for any American optimist a necessary one. So, go ahead and talk politics, and like Johnston, Bohle, McClusky, Muloma, Voskuil and the many others at Hope who have found their civil voice, remember to be humble, hospitable, brave, patient and honest as if your nation depends on it. Because it does. Let’s talk.



Hope College’s Virtues of Public Discourse

Hope has a track record of seeking to foster civil conversations around difficult topics on campus. Three Hope professors in 2001 — Dr. James Herrick of the Department of Communication, Dr. Steven Hoogerwerf ’77 of the Department of Religion and Dr. James Kennedy of the Department of History — largely wrote the “Virtues of Public Discourse” document while serving on the Task Force on Issues of Sexuality created by President James Bultman ’63. The three drew from philosopher Alasdair MacIntyre’s book, *After Virtue*, and initially identified a set of seven or eight virtues. After more consideration, they refined their document to these five:

Humility to Listen

Humility recognizes the limitations on any one person’s knowledge, and thus makes it possible to learn from the insights of others. Humility says “No” to the pride that prevents open communication, thus encouraging a willingness to consider carefully others’ opinions and perspectives. Humility does not mean, however, endorsement of every view encountered.

Hospitality to Welcome

Hospitality is the virtue of creating a welcoming atmosphere for conversation about divergent commitments and convictions. It is the practice of creating and maintaining safe places for people to express ideas, beliefs or values, even those that may appear confusing, discomfoting or simply different from one’s own.

Patience to Understand

Patience is the willingness and the fortitude to stay engaged, calmly persevering, with the knowledge that waiting is not merely doing nothing, but is a persistent determination which reveals and stretches the ability to understand.

Courage to Challenge

Courage is the boldness to accept risks associated with honest advocacy of one’s position. Courage requires the strength to freely speak one’s convictions even when one’s opinions may be considered dangerous or unpopular. Courage also involves the ability to listen openly as people articulate beliefs that are different from one’s own.

Honesty to Speak the Truth in Love

Honesty is a determined commitment to discovering and speaking the truth. Fidelity to what is the case, and an unwillingness to mislead, are hallmarks of honesty. Honesty fosters an open environment that encourages growth and leads to real progress.



COMMUNITY IN CHRIST

By Josh Bishop

The muffled tap of felt-bottomed pieces on a chessboard. Queen to king's rook 3. Knight's pawn captures pawn. And then a mistake. An unnoticed piece slides diagonally to take the queen, and one of the players quips with a grin, "You Protestants — always forgetting about the bishops."

Sure, it sounds like the punchline to a joke ("A Reformed pastor and a Catholic priest..."), but it's straight out of one of the good-natured weekly chess matches between Father Nicholas Monco, O.P., the new priest who's known around campus as "Father Nick," and Rev. Dr. Trygve Johnson, the college's Hinga-Boersma Dean of the Chapel and minister of the Reformed Church of America (RCA). Enjoying friendly games marked by no small amount of laughter, they are modeling to students what unity in Christ looks like — and showing them that, in Johnson's words, "conflict doesn't have to be contentious, and differences don't have to mean divisions of friendship."

Fr. Nick arrived at Hope in August, when he was hired as the chaplain of the Saint Benedict Institute, an outreach of St. Francis de Sales Parish that serves Hope's Catholic students, who make up 19 percent of the student body. The parish is one of Campus Ministries' six covenant partners — local congregations that have agreed to provide spiritual care for Hope students. It's within the framework of this covenant partnership that Fr. Nick has been invited to minister on campus.

The addition of Fr. Nick reflects the college's increasing overall diversity. Roman Catholics now comprise the largest of the several Christian denominations at Hope, with students from the RCA, the college's founding denomination, representing about 10 percent.

While remaining committed to its historic affiliation with the RCA, Hope is equally committed to providing both a welcoming, supportive environment and a rich opportunity for students to explore their Christian faith in a thriving ecumenical community in which many voices are in conversation.

"The Christian family has a large circumference, and we're trying to pay attention to the center that calls all Christians together," Johnson said. "The center is the Triune God. Followers of Jesus come to the center from different parts of the circumference, but we come together because we confess Christ as Lord and we confess that the Trinity is one God in three. I do that self-consciously from my own tradition just as others do from theirs."

Fr. Nick is grateful to be at Hope, which he calls a "rare college" where the faith commitment is structurally built in. He remembers what it was like to attend a secular university, where it felt as if being a Christian was like "sneaking in a Trojan horse." He isn't trying to sneak around Hope College, though, and a good thing, too: With his white habit, its robes down to his ankles, and a long rosary at his side, he sticks out at Hope like a Muggle at Hogwarts.

Perhaps because of his conspicuity, Fr. Nick is something of a visible encouragement — if not a rallying point — for Hope's Catholic students. "I think he kind of normalized Catholicism a little more," said Alejandra Gomez, a senior from Rochester, Michigan.

Fr. Nick celebrates Mass at 5 p.m. on Sundays in Winants Auditorium and at noon every weekday in Harvey Chapel. Daily Mass lasts about 25 minutes, and Harvey Chapel in the Bultman Student Center is otherwise available to the entire campus for individual or group prayer. Fr. Nick also provides the sacrament of confession throughout the week and Eucharistic adoration in Schoon Chapel in Graves Hall on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m.

"Eucharist is food for the soul," Fr. Nick said. "It allows Catholic students to encounter Christ in that sacramental way."

For senior Jonathan Bading, it's no surprise that the Catholic community is being built up around the Eucharist. Bading is a music performance major from Chantilly, Virginia, who serves on the leadership board of the Hope Catholics student group. "You can't have a strong Catholic community without being connected

to the Mass," he said. "We often speak about the Mass and the celebration of the Eucharist as the source and summit of the faith, so when you have a community removed from that central element, it's very difficult to be in communion with each other."

"At its most basic," said Father Nick, "my goal is to provide a regular sacramental presence and be someone students can talk to to develop their faith."

Gomez is one of several students who meets regularly with Fr. Nick. "He's very willing to listen without making judgments and always makes sure I'm comfortable to say what I want to say," she said.

"I'm very happy to have someone who can relate to students, someone who's younger and energetic and lively," said Catherine Coddington, a senior from Grand Rapids, Michigan, and treasurer of Hope Catholics.

Although he's relatively young (Fr. Nick is 34 years old and was ordained a Dominican priest in 2013), he has plenty of academic, spiritual and practical experience under his cincture. Fr. Nick received master's degrees in theology and divinity from the Aquinas Institute of Theology in St. Louis, Missouri, where he also earned a Certificate in Thomistic Studies.

Before coming to Hope, Fr. Nick taught theology at Fenwick High School in Oak Park, Illinois, for four years. That experience with students has helped him build relationships and provide spiritual care at Hope College.

"He knows the age group very well," Bading said. "I think he understands young adults, our strengths and our weaknesses. He's a very personable man, the type you can talk to about anything."

When he's not meeting with students or fulfilling the role of a priest, Fr. Nick can be found swimming at the Dow, playing chess, participating in "caffeinated evangelization" at a downtown coffee shop, or driving to and from Grand Rapids, where he lives with two other Dominican priests on the grounds of Aquinas College.

Hope College is a bit of a drive, but it's worth it. "I've been very moved by how welcoming people have been," Fr. Nick said. "From the administration trying to accommodate our needs to campus ministers, faculty and students, everyone has been very nice, welcoming and friendly."

"I want to promote a college where as many Christians as possible can link arms and talk to each other," Johnson said. "I would love to see continued conversation and collaboration to promote Christ. I want the Saint Benedict Institute to feel like it's flourishing, and I want Nick to feel his pastoral and priestly identity is bearing fruit. I want students to grow. I want real friendship and partnership together."

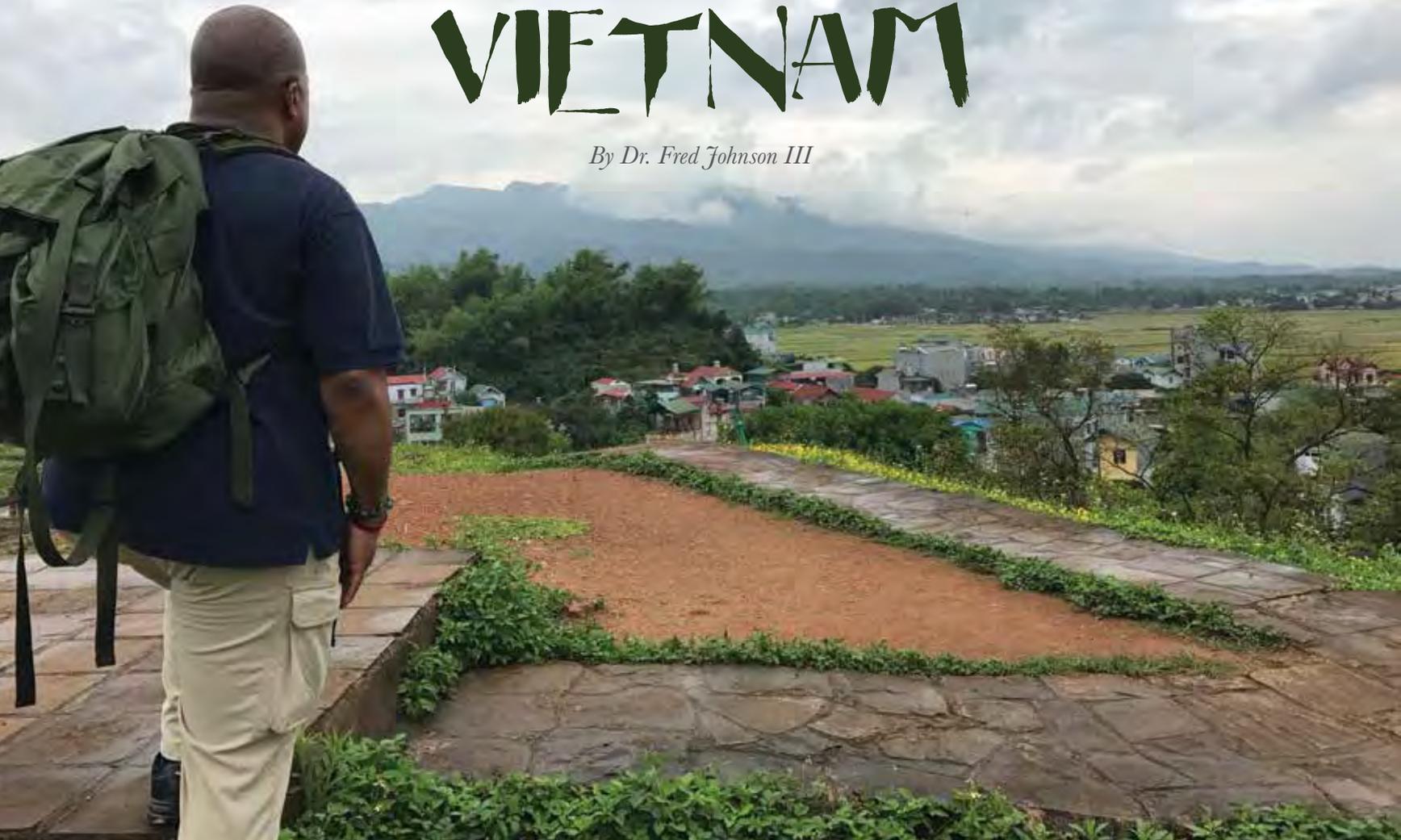
In that sense, at least, ecumenism at Hope looks a little bit like two friends laughing together from the opposite ends of a chessboard. After all, they're both playing the same game.

WHILE REMAINING COMMITTED TO ITS HISTORIC AFFILIATION WITH THE RCA, HOPE IS EQUALLY COMMITTED TO PROVIDING BOTH A WELCOMING, SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT AND A RICH OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS TO EXPLORE THEIR FAITH IN A THRIVING ECUMENICAL COMMUNITY IN WHICH MANY VOICES ARE IN CONVERSATION.



THE LONG SHADOW OF VIETNAM

By Dr. Fred Johnson III



The 2017 Vietnam May Term was the first-ever such experience offered to Hope College students. For two weeks, eight fierce young women helped their two gasping male professor chaperones keep up as we traveled across the immense beauty of Vietnam. At the risk of sounding like a cliché, the Vietnam May Term was a life-changing experience. The people of America's former bitter enemy welcomed us with world-class hospitality, but always hovering and extending a long shadow was the living memory of the war.

Looking into the faces of Vietnamese Hmong children, one tried to imagine the fear and passion that had cost 58,000 American and countless Vietnamese lives. For young American and Vietnamese soldiers, waging war in a land of such breathtaking scenery, and whose people possessed such a rich history, must have heightened the incongruity.

When we traveled to Dien Bien Phu, pieces started falling into place. In 1954, French commanders, determined to preserve their nation's right to dominate as Vietnam's colonial master, casually

ceded the highlands to their opponents. One need not be a military genius to quickly deduce the dangers of surrendering such an advantage. Presumptions of inherent Vietnamese inferiority proved costly. France's subsequent defeat and withdrawal from Vietnam underscored the extent of French hubris and highlighted the perils of Western racism.

France's defeat, happening so soon after America's frustrating stalemate against the communists during the Korean War [1950-1953], underscored the urgency to stand firm against global communism's clear and present danger. With the situation compounded by the reduction of international complexities to simplifications of East vs. West, Communism vs. Capitalism, Good vs. Evil, Us vs. Them, the turmoil in Vietnam became the *de facto* possession of the United States.

Over 40 years later, Americans are still wrestling with the "How" and "Why" of the Vietnam War. The most recent large-scale attempt to uncover answers to those questions happened on September 18, 2017, when PBS aired Episode I of *The Vietnam War* by documentarians Ken Burns and Lynn Novick.



“ Seeing the actual places where Vietnamese and American soldiers had clashed in bloody combat deepened my comprehension of the conflict while challenging me to understand humanity’s ongoing love affair with war. ”

-Dr. Fred Johnson III, associate professor of history and former Marine Corps officer

As I watched the program, memories of the May Term were immediately refreshed. Seeing the actual places where Vietnamese and American soldiers had clashed in bloody combat deepened my comprehension of the conflict while challenging me to understand humanity’s ongoing love affair with war. I recalled the powerful bond between the combat vet Marines who trained me in OCS [Officer Candidates School] and how they’d privileged me, and my fellow officer candidates, with their knowledge. Most importantly, I resolved to fight harder against attempts to dismiss the necessity of history. For as one of my undergraduate professors at Bowie State College once proclaimed: “War is a joke that old men play on the young.”

Knowing history may not ultimately prevent war, but it can serve as a powerful force of mitigation. Because it’s difficult to

play such lethal jokes on the young when they know the backstory, nature and motivations of the joke-tellers. Knowing history makes it harder for chicken-hawk leaders to bamboozle and bedazzle with their blustery talk. Knowing history makes it harder to send other people’s children to war while the senders obscure that they’ll bear little, or none, of the cost. History shouts cautionary reminders that Vietnam vets were also once young, did their duty and returned home to a nation determined to forget the war, and them. History challenges contemporary Americans to demand the same dedication and self-sacrifice from its leaders that is expected of the young people who are, have been, and will be sent to war.

Many Vietnamese sincerely told me that, while they’ve forgiven those responsible for the deaths of so many of each nation’s best and brightest, they will not forget. They choose to remember their history. They choose to learn. They choose to have a future that honors the sacrifices of the past. During the 2017 May Term, they did so by accepting their American visitors as brothers and sisters.

This essay was originally published on the Department of History blog in September. Its author, Dr. Fred Johnson III, associate professor of history, of course brings his scholarly perspective to his reflections on the college’s new May Term course in Vietnam, which he co-led this past spring with Dr. Scott VanderStoep ’87, dean for the social sciences and professor of psychology, but there’s also a bit more. In addition to being a specialist in U.S. 20th century history and the U.S. military, Johnson, pictured at the top of the previous page pondering the tactical geography of Dien Bien Phu, is a former Marine Corps officer.

Todd Erickson '81
Ziibi Elpidos, 2017
bronze

WHERE ARTWORK GROWS





Peter Chinni
Natura Extensa, 1965
bronze

The Leona M. and Jacob E. Nyenhuis Sculpture Garden complements the Kruizenga Art Museum, itself designed as a piece of interactive sculpture, by extending the celebration of art beyond the building's walls to the grounds that gently surround it. Dedicated on Saturday, Oct. 14, during Homecoming Weekend, the space features five works in the Abstract Modernist tradition, with room for more.

The garden is named for lead donors Dr. Jacob Nyenhuis, who is provost emeritus and professor emeritus of classics and interim director of the A.C. Van Raalte Institute, and Leona Nyenhuis for their many years of service to Hope.

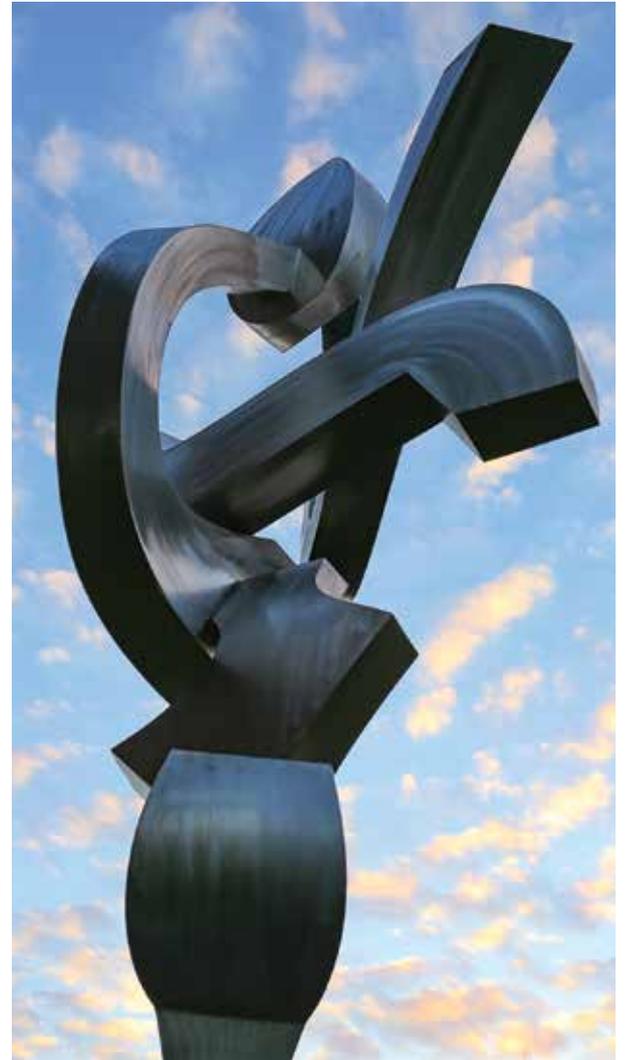
hope.edu/sculpturegarden



Murray Dewart
Pulse of the Morning II, 1993
wood, copper, steel



Billy Mayer, professor of art
Midwinter Horn, 1988
aluminum and polyurethane enamel



Kevin Barrett
Ignite, 2017
welded stainless steel

The Taste of Freedom

By Greg Olgers '87

He had freedom in his hand in June of 1991, and he couldn't reach it.

Nineteen-year-old Andrei Rukavishnikov was one of 19 students from the Soviet Union en route to the U.S. to spend the year at Hope College when his flight made a scheduled stop in Ireland. The disembarked passengers were each given a voucher for a Coke, and he couldn't have been more pleased.

"Everybody in Russia had said, 'Coca-Cola is the taste of freedom,' and of course I wanted to taste freedom," he said.

He rushed to the bar and promptly received one of the iconic red-and-white cans. But there was a problem. Although he'd had Pepsi in his country, he'd never seen it or any beverage in a metal can. "I had no idea how to open it," he recalled.

Rukavishnikov struggled with the tab, which broke off, creating an anxious, almost desperate, moment. "I have this drink of freedom in my hand but I cannot drink it," he said.

He returned to the counter and, a bit embarrassed, requested another. Wordlessly, the barkeep took the broken can from him and without even looking tossed it back over his shoulder into the waste receptacle before handing Rukavishnikov a second container — after opening it first. "He'd probably encountered other planes full of Soviets who couldn't open cans," Rukavishnikov said.

In any case, he at last had his prize. He took a big swig, and... "I thought, 'This tastes like Pepsi,'" he said.

Rukavishnikov laughed at the memory while visiting Hope this past summer for the first time since spending the 1991-92 school year at the college through a unique program designed to provide Soviet students experience with culture, democracy and free-enterprise systems in the U.S. as the Cold War thawed during the era of *perestroika* and *glasnost*. Hope was chosen to host the initiative, which ran for two years, because of its rare combination of community, vibrant Christian faith and academic excellence.

"One of the thoughts was, 'Let's find future leaders in Moscow and give them an education and expose them to the Christian faith, and see how it works,'" said Terry "Skip" Nagelvoort '64, whose New York-based investment banking firm, Nagelvoort & Company Inc., had been one of the program's corporate supporters.

As it turned out, Rukavishnikov's encounter with the can of Coke offered not only a taste of freedom but an introduction to the new experiences to come. "I felt like I was from another planet," he said.

The group arrived at the college on July 1, 1991, for an orientation that ran until the school year began. They attended seminars on topics ranging from American culture and social issues, to the Holland and Hope communities, to how to use the Van Wylen Library; visited area industries and other cities like Chicago; and enjoyed a traditional Fourth of July parade and picnic in South Haven, Michigan.

They also had homestays, an experience that for Rukavishnikov was itself life-changing. He was hosted by John '56 and Margery Addis '56 Ver Beek of South Haven, forging a relationship that has lasted ever since. He and the Ver Beeks have visited one another at a variety of locations in the U.S. and abroad through the past 26 years, and Rukavishnikov and his wife, Tatiana, and daughter, Katya, stayed with the Ver Beeks during their recent summer stop in West Michigan.

"It's developed into a wonderful friendship," he said. "We've seen each other many times."

As he visited Hope this past July, Rukavishnikov recalled the sites and experiences of his first time abroad fondly. There was Arcadian Hall (renamed Wyckoff Hall in 1994), where he lived ("It was big fun," he said. "I had so many friends here."), and Van Wylen Library, where he worked. A computer science student, he appreciated the high-end equipment at Hope with which he had an opportunity to work. And then there was all-you-can-eat Phelps Dining Hall...

"When I left Moscow, the socialist planning system was gone but the capitalist one wasn't in place yet," he said. "I came from a hungry country, basically, and this was like paradise for me. I think I probably gained five kilos [11 pounds] in one month."

Rukavishnikov's academic experience was transformative. In contrast to his program at Moscow State University, which was tightly focused, Hope offered variety.

"You are free to study whatever you want," he said. "It changed my life because I realized that I didn't only want to study computers."

He learned to play the Spanish guitar with Larry Malfroid. “I still play it, and although I have five guitars now, my favorite is the Yamaha that I bought 26 years ago in Holland,” he said. He enrolled in a tennis class, an introduction to a sport that he still enjoys.

Crucially, Rukavishnikov also took courses in the Department of Economics and Business, which set him on the career path that he has followed during the quarter century since.

“The first stone in this building of my career, the most important stone, the keystone, was placed by Hope College,” he said. “I improved my English. I learned management skills. It was very useful experience for my career.”

Rukavishnikov returned home in the spring of 1992 to a new nation, Russia, since the Soviet Union had dissolved during his time at Hope, in December 1991. He completed a Master of Sciences degree in operations research at Moscow State University, but he also earned a bachelor’s degree and then an MBA from the American Institute of Business and Economics in Moscow, and conducted additional study through the University of Pennsylvania’s Wharton Executive Education program.

He has since traveled across the world, and has worked in marketing for a variety of companies in Russia, the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Baltics, including Smirnoff Vodka, Mars, Dealine (computer hardware manufacturer and distributor) and Baltika Breweries (Russia’s market leader in beer). His responsibilities increased through the years, and included vice presidencies with the Baltika Group and Euroset, and serving as chief marketing officer with Eurasia Global and chief internal marketing officer with the May Company. Since 2014 he has been managing partner of his own firm, EBITDA Marketing.

He has published two books, *Beer Revolution and Marketing in Russia* and *How to Increase Sales? Smart Marketing*, and won awards including being named the Best Marketing Director of Russia by *Company’s Secret* magazine and among the Top-10 Marketing Directors of Russia by *Profile* magazine, and for the Best Marketing Book in Russia for Smart Marketing.

Rukavishnikov is no less grateful for Hope’s impact on his faith journey, for which he especially credits the Ver Beeks.

“I was not religious at all,” he said. “In communism, it was not against the law, but it was not promoted.”

“John and Margery took me several times to churches and I started thinking about Christianity,” he said. “It wasn’t something that I had to do. They said, ‘If you want to go, we would be delighted to take you with us. If you do not want to go, it will be okay.’”

“So I went, and I thought even the first time, ‘What a beautiful service.’ It was about moral values, and the moral values that the pastor explained came right to my heart,” he said.

Some years later, Rukavishnikov visited Egypt’s historic St. Catherine’s Monastery, established in the sixth century. He was helping the Greek Orthodox monastery digitize its manuscript collection, which is the world’s second-largest (after the Vatican). He was baptized at the monastery at age 28, and has returned many times since. He and Tatiana named their daughter in St. Catherine’s honor.

His visit to Hope this summer was an opportunity to relive good memories, but he also valued it as a chance to express appreciation — to the college, to the Ver Beeks and to Nagelvoort, whom he met for the first time — for all that has followed since his summer of ’91 layover.

“This was a whole new world,” he recalled as he toured the campus. “A whole new culture, new food. People were so friendly. The friendship, the willingness to help, the openness to new people. I was amazed,” Rukavishnikov said. “One year at Hope College changed my life.”



FROM

seed

TO

Harvest

“Participating in the SEED program is an incredible opportunity where you can serve others, see God’s work in the global church, learn about a different culture, and find brothers and sisters in Christ at home and abroad.”

They couldn’t always engage in conversation, but through the universal languages of sport and selfless service they had no trouble communicating.

Hope student-athletes have a unique opportunity to share their talents as well as their faith and passion for helping others through SEED (Sport Evangelism to Equip Disciples). The new international mission- and service-focused program recognizes that sport provides a significant platform from which athletes can influence others.

In SEED’s debut this past summer, three mixed-sport teams of about a dozen student-athletes apiece accompanied by Hope athletic staff visited Costa Rica, India and Zambia for two weeks each. Partnered with non-profits and serving alongside local churches, they conducted sport clinics for enthusiastic youngsters; helped meet critical health needs by distributing and demonstrating water filters donated by Sawyer Products, which has also generously provided support that makes the trips possible; and developed friendships with the people they met that provided a chance to convey the message of Christ’s love.

The program, which will continue this coming summer in Costa Rica, Ghana, Uganda and Zambia, is rooted in the lessons taught through the Parable of the Sower: “But the one who received the seed that fell on good soil is the man who hears the word and understands it. He produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what is sown” (Matthew 13:23).

Although the students sought to make a difference to others, the experience made a difference to them, too. Please visit the college online for more about the program as well as several blogs written by the students about their time abroad.

 blogs.hope.edu/seed





the Right Chemistry

By Greg Olgers '87



Dimnent Memorial Chapel has hosted many alumni weddings through the years. Frequently, Hope peers are in the party. Often, treasured faculty mentors are invited to attend. And sometimes, members of the faculty or staff (typically religion, or Campus Ministries) have even officiated.

Saturday, July 29, was almost certainly the first time, though, that chemistry professors both walked the bride down the aisle and presided. Amber Prins '15 and John Dood '17, however, wouldn't have had it any other way.

It is one of the college's distinctive qualities that professors serve as mentors and guides who care about more than their students' work in the classroom or laboratory. Dr. Jason Gillmore and Dr. Brent Krueger, who performed the crucial roles in the wedding, were both even much more than that to Amber and John.

"My dad passed away during my first semester," Amber said. "Dr. Gillmore took on the fatherly role for me and really took care of me at Hope."

She was one of Gillmore's research students, but also became like a part of the family. She had dinner with him and his wife Jodi and their children Anna and Will (the latter two of whom she also babysat, and who became junior bridesmaid and junior groomsman), and had someone to talk to when she needed a father's ear.

"I used to joke that I got to see what it's like to parent a teenager or 20-something," Gillmore said. "And she once said — and I thought she was joking — 'You're going to have to give me away when I get married.'"

Once at Hope himself, John became one of Krueger's research students. The teams even worked together one summer on a joint research project, and Amber remained in the area for two years after graduating, teaching general chemistry laboratories at the college this past year, before enrolling in a Ph.D. program this fall.

Amber and John met through their time in the department, and when they became engaged they didn't need to reflect too long on where they wanted to get married. "We met at Hope, so we thought it'd be really special to do the wedding there," John said.

As Amber told him about their plans, Gillmore assumed that he would simply be attending, but he soon learned that she had

been serious earlier. "She said, 'You're going to give me away. I told you that three years ago,'" he said.

Amber and John also didn't need long to decide who would conduct the ceremony. With Gillmore's role already determined, Krueger was to them the obvious choice.

"We didn't really have a home church that we felt knew both of us," she said. "So we asked him."

While he was honored, it wasn't as obvious to Krueger.

"I'm sure I asked her to repeat herself, and then I think I asked, 'Why?'" Krueger said. "It was a wonderful answer: that Jason and I had played big roles in her life and John's life in the past handful of years."

"It was really lovely," Gillmore agreed. "It's one of the most significant single days that someone can have in life, and for them to want to have us involved was really meaningful."

The opportunity included an additional connection for Krueger because he has become acquainted with John's father, Lindsey Dood '87, while the two have been serving together on the college's Board of Trustees since Krueger became a faculty representative to the board in 2014. "It's interesting that I've gotten to know John's dad during the same interval, and that also makes it special," he said.

Amber and John have since moved to Florida. Amber is pursuing a doctorate in chemistry at the University of South Florida, and John is working remotely as a software engineer for Dematic-Egemin in Holland, Michigan, where he'd had an internship as a student.

And Amber's thoughts regarding her future after graduate school make perfect sense.

"I think I'd like to teach at a small liberal arts college," Amber said. "I'd definitely want to be at a school that's strong in the undergraduate sciences and research like Hope is."

There was an additional faculty connection that is highly visible on the next page. The wedding photographs accompanying this article were taken — and have graciously been shared — by Dr. Andrew Le of the Hope music faculty, who is also a professional photographer. He took the couple's engagement photos as well.



WINDOW TO HOPE'S HISTORY

HELLO?

The 10th anniversary year of the iPhone provides an opportunity to reflect on how much making or receiving a call on campus has changed for students through the years. A couple generations ago, students in residence halls shared a pay phone by floor. By the time the parents of today's students were students themselves, each room had its own. Today, the room phones are no more because students arrive with their own.





CLASSNOTES!

Classnotes Writer: Julie Rawlings '83 Huisingsh

Your Hope friends want to hear from you! Please share your news online at alumni@hope.edu or hope.edu/update, or via mail at: Alumni News; Hope College Public Affairs and Marketing; PO Box 9000; Holland, MI 49422-9000

Submissions for the Spring 2018 issue are due by January 30, 2018.

60s

Gail Friesema '61 Farnham of Ithaca, New York, attended the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance annual meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, in April. Members of the volunteer National Response Team and National Volunteer Team gathered to expand the teams' knowledge of disaster ministries and response. She started volunteering in 2005 with hurricane Katrina recovery with her local presbytery work team, wearing a tool belt and doing dry wall/roofing. In 2007, she became a member of the National Response Team of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and now travels with laptop and clipboard. She reports that her son made her promise not to go up on roofs after she turned 70. PDA members receive training throughout the year in areas such as natural and human-caused disasters, emotional and spiritual care, church damage post-disaster volunteer workforce housing, long-term community rebuilding, and refugee/immigration in disaster response.

Carl Vermeulen '61 of Williamsburg, Virginia, and his students at Paul D. Camp Community College (Suffolk, Virginia) reported their peer-reviewed "Heat-Proofing Vaccines" to an international meeting of the American Society for Microbiology in New Orleans in June. Non-

live vaccines such as DPT, meningococcus and Salk polio along with many for livestock were stabilized in dried pure-starch noodles and were able to withstand 140F for a month or more (simulating trans-equatorial container shipping) yet retaining 75-percent potency.

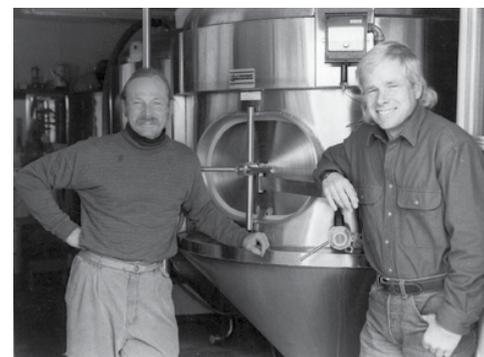
Jack A. Siebers '63 of Holland, Michigan, has been included in *The Best Lawyers in America 2018*. He is in corporate law with Foster Swift Collins & Smith, P.C.

70s

Adelheid Holthuis '71 Denz of San Antonio, Texas, is the author of *Uprooted: The Story of an Immigrant*, a novella about a young surgical nurse who comes into adulthood during the horrors of World War II Germany. It is based on a true story, and grapples with Adelheid's late mother's wrenching emotional odyssey from Nazi Germany to Holland, Michigan, to which Adelheid's parents immigrated in the 1950s and where they spent the next 36 years. Adelheid's father, in turn, had previously spent part of his childhood in Holland but had returned to Germany, serving with the Wehrmacht's 116th Panzer (*Windhund*) Division and participating in actions including Operation Barbarossa in Russia, the Normandy Campaign in France and the Battle of Huertgen Forest in Germany.

Susan Klaner '71 Madden of Onaway, Michigan, reports that September was filled with a trip to Kailua-Kona, Hawaii, for a 10-house, 10-day Blitz Build with Habitat for Humanity. Her team, which included 27 people from all over the USA, was divided up to build two houses. She reports that the families were all on site to work alongside the volunteers and provide water, Gatorade and snacks during the build.

Cathleen Work '73 Draper of Edmonds, Washington, retired after 43 years in education. The first six were as a fifth- and sixth-grade teacher in the public schools of Oberlin, Ohio. One year was as a teaching assistant at



"SOMETHING IN THE WATER" PART 2

Following publication of the article "Something in the Water" (Summer 2017), about microbreweries established by alumni, we learned that we missed the earliest of them all, Grand Teton Brewing, founded in 1988 by **Charlie Otto '78** and **Ernie Otto '70** (the latter of whom died in June 2008). Originally named Otto Brothers' Brewing Company, it was the first modern microbrewery in the state of Wyoming and has been based in Idaho since the late 1990s. The photo shows Charlie and Ernie in the company's early days. Please visit *News from Hope College* online to see the complete list of all eight alumni microbreweries (so far...) along with links to their websites.

hope.edu/breweries

GENERATIONAL PRESENCE

Please visit the college online to see the listing of this year's 117 Generational New Students.

magazine.hope.edu

CLASSNOTES



Steven Visscher '80 of Bronxville, New York, is pictured with the Emmy he won on Sunday, Sept. 17. He was part of the team that won the award for outstanding sound editing for a limited series, movie or special. He was the supervising Foley editor for the “Subtle Beast” episode (July 16, 2016) of *The Night Of*, an eight-part crime drama television miniseries on HBO.

University of Washington while working on a master’s in curriculum and instruction. The remaining years were in the Northshore School District’s Gifted and Talented Program in Bothell, Washington, teaching grades three – six. She reports that her retirement plans include rest, volunteering and travel.

Steve Norden '74 of Dublin, Ohio, was recently awarded the John A. Price Award for Excellence in Law Enforcement Chaplaincy by the International Conference of Police Chaplains. He has served as a volunteer chaplain with the Dublin Ohio Police Department since 1990 and also with the Federal Bureau of Investigation since 2012.

Robert Van Voorst '74 is a professor of New Testament at Western Theological Seminary and recently had his book *Commonly Misunderstood Verses of the Bible: What They Really Mean* published by Cascade Press. It treats 24 passages from the Old and New Testaments, and is designed for both individual reading and group study.

Rich Williams '75 reports that he has released performance measures for New Mexico Mainstreet. They have leveraged a combined \$51,021.866 in private-sector reinvestment over the last five years, which has provided opportunities for local entrepreneurs to open and expand 558 net new businesses. For 15 years he has been the executive director of New Mexico MainStreet, which is an accredited program of the National MainStreet Center and the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Beverly Kerlikowske '76 Butler of San Rafael, California, was recently honored at Theatre Bay Area’s 40th anniversary gala as one of the 40 people who have changed the face of regional theatre in the San Francisco Bay Area. She serves on the executive committee and board of Playground, a new plays incubator, and also on the board of Marin Theatre Company. She also is a member of Playwrights Center of San Francisco and the Dramatists Guild. Beverly is head of treasury management customer experience communications at Wells Fargo’s headquarters in San Francisco, where she is a senior vice president.

David Blasch '78 and his wife, Sue, have both retired and settled into Dave’s childhood summer home in Catskill, New York, where they await the arrival of two grandchildren in January and February.

Todd Harburn '78 edited the book *A Surgeon with Custer at the Little Big Horn*. He is an independent scholar, orthopedic surgeon and doctor of sports medicine. He and his wife, **Shirley Bolhouse '79 Harburn**, reside at the Straits of Mackinac, Michigan.

80s

Charles Aardema '80 has published his first children’s picture book, called *In My World*. It is a whimsical, illustrated story that depicts a world in which animals, plants, insects and people behave and look very differently. He notes that a second book is in the works.

Sheryl Busman '80 Vander Wagen was recently elected to serve a second two-year term as secretary of the National Board of the Antiochian Women for the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America, based in Englewood, New Jersey. She will also serve as religious coordinator for the

Antiochian Women for the Diocese of Toledo and the Midwest.

Marty Klein '81 is chief financial officer of Athene Holding Ltd., a retirement services company which listed on the NYSE last year. He and his wife, Debbie, reside in Richmond, Virginia, and New York City, New York, and celebrated the marriage of Marty’s daughter in July. His son is a senior at Rutgers University.

Nancy Kropf '81 of Winterville, Georgia, has published a book, *Evidence based Treatment with Older Adults*. The book is written for mental health professionals and students that are working with older adults. She is the dean of the Byrdine F. Lewis College of Nursing and Health Professions.

Lori Moore '81 had the stars of *The Guiding Light* on her show, *The Lori Moore Show* on WWMT/CW7, including **Kim Zimmer '81**. They were promoting their show *The Lion in Winter* at The Barn Theatre.

Linda Leslie '82 of Cincinnati, Ohio, celebrated her 10-year anniversary at University of Cincinnati, where she is a database team manager as part of the IT@UC software development team.

Tom Van Heest '85 of Grand Haven, Michigan, recently published *Rock: a football novel*, the third book in the Juddville Jaguars series.

Linda Hardin '86 and Otto Turrentine were married in July in Blaine, Washington. Linda is teaching her 30th year in special education and they live in East Lansing, Michigan.

Scott Buhmaster '88 of Chicago, Illinois, has been named chief operating officer at the Force Science Institute, an internationally recognized, research-based organization focused on studying the intricate human dynamics involved in high-stress, rapidly unfolding force encounters involving law enforcement professionals. The institute provides specialized training for a wide variety of federal, state and local law enforcement agencies worldwide.

90s

M. Lynn Massey '90 Breyfogle is an associate dean and professor at Bucknell University, and has been awarded an American Council on Education Fellowship for 2017-18. ACE is the nation’s premier higher education leadership



Eric Tooley '87 and **Anne Hathaway '88 Tooley** of Ada, Michigan, were on opposite sides of the Black River during the Pull as students, but as parents they've enjoyed sharing the tradition together with daughter **Allison '18**, who participated in the 120-year Hope tug-of-war during each of her four years at the college, two as a moraler and two as a coach. Hope traditions have been a meaningful part of the family's experience. Eric and Anne were also involved in Greek Life, in the Fraternal Society and Delta Phi sorority respectively, and Allison and her older sister **Katelyn '15** both joined the Sigma Sigma sorority.

hope.edu/tooley-pull

development program preparing senior leaders to serve American colleges and universities. She will be serving her fellowship at Albion College under the mentorship of President Mauri Ditzler.

Norman "Chip" Duford '90 completed his 24th summer in Holland, Michigan, as a member of the Hope Summer Repertory Theatre Acting Company. Roles he played were Alfieri in *A View From The Bridge*, President Roosevelt in *Annie, The Musical* and a member of the ensemble cast of *Working*.

Thomas R. Ter Maat '90 of Ada, Michigan, has been included in *The Best Lawyers in America 2018*. He specializes in insurance law with Foster Swift Collins & Smith, P.C.

William Charles Crowley '92 held an audition for Dance 44 at Hope this past spring and also served as program liaison for the 2017 Hope College Leap of Faith – Paris May Term. He then taught a month-long Graham Technique intensive for a sixth year at the Centre de Danse du Marais in Paris, France, in August, before embarking on his third annual Master Class Tour, which included engagements in Charlotte, Ann Arbor and Detroit in Michigan; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Radford, Virginia; and Savannah, Georgia, in September. He then set a work on students at the Miami Arts Charter School in Florida in October.

Brian Keisling '92 and **Jill Eenigenburg '92 Keisling** celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary in August. Brian is director of operations and actuarial services for Michigan's Medicaid program and Jill teaches private piano lessons. The oldest of their three children, Julia, is a fourth-generation Hope student and a member of the class of 2020.

Scott Runyon '93 reports that he was honored to be called as the 16th senior pastor of the First Baptist Church of Birmingham, Michigan, in their nearly 150-year history of ministry in the beautiful and thriving city northwest of Detroit. He began on June 1 at an exciting transitional time as together they will be reinventing their work and mission within the community. He reports that he has found the members of the congregation wonderfully thoughtful, faithful, warm and generous with their time, energy and attention. They are open and excited about exploring how God might lead them into fresh and new ministry in the future, and he is happy to be joining them on the journey.

Mark Baker '94 of Midlothian, Virginia,

Giving Forward



**Dr. Kirkwood and
Celeste Faber**

Dr. Kirkwood and Celeste Faber established the Earl H. '38 and Mildred E. Kirkwood '39 Faber Scholarship Fund in honor of Kirk's parents.

The focus of their support is for students who come from hard-working, nonaffluent families who would not be able to afford a Hope experience and education. The Fabers are inspired by the Lord to sponsor students who demonstrate financial need and inspire recipients to do the same. Their example of responding to a person's kindness by being kind to someone else is a tradition shared with students on campus.

By planning a gift to support Hope's future, you help the college carry forward its mission of educating students for lives of leadership and service.

For more information contact:

John A. Ruiter, J.D.

Executive Director of Gift Planning

616.395.7779

ruiter@hope.edu



hope.edu/plannedgiving

CLASSNOTES



FROM THE HOPE STAGE TO THE WORLD

Nine alumni who have pursued careers in opera or have experience as opera accompanists returned to campus on Tuesday, Oct. 24, to share their experience and talent during a panel discussion and a gala concert named for an acclaimed predecessor that brought them together for the first time. They gathered from as far away as Hong Kong through the efforts of Linda LeFever Dykstra, who retired from the college in May as an associate professor emerita of music after teaching voice since 1997 — and had mentored many of the vocalists as students.

The concert was named in memory of Sakiko Kanamori '63, who discovered her gift for singing while performing in the Chapel Choir and went on to Juilliard and subsequently had an acclaimed opera career. She died of a rare blood infection in 2004. In her memory, her husband, Byron Mook, and sons Barry and Dennis established an endowment to support Hope voice students who are on their way to professional singing careers.

Pictured from left to right are: **First Row**, Jenna Buck '12 (soprano), Linda LeFever Dykstra (retired faculty), Dr. Briana Sosenheimer '10 (soprano); **Second Row**, Beth Quimby '99 Fischer (pianist), Sally VanderPloeg '10 (pianist), Meredith Arwady '00 (contralto), Sarah Ashcroft '11 VandenBrink (soprano); **Third Row**, Dr. Isaac Droscha '08 (baritone), Brent Smith '12 (bass), Greg Frens '01 (heldentenor).

More information about each of the performers is available online at:

hope.edu/alumni-opera

reports that in June of 2016, the Federal Government appointed him to serve as an administrative law judge for the Social Security Administration in Richmond, Virginia. He has also continued his service in the U.S. Navy Reserves; he holds the rank of a commander and currently serves as the executive officer for a unit responsible for appeals from Navy and Marine Corps Courts-Martial. He reports he

is enjoying the good life in Richmond with his wife, Meredith, and three children.

Jeff Baxter '94 is the lead pastor of River Church, Lakewood, Colorado, and has written a new book, *From Broken to Beautiful: What Repairing Streams Has Taught Me About Healing The Local Church*.

Erik Butchart '95 and **Callie Budd '01**

were married on Sept. 2, 2017, in Coldwater, Michigan.

Thomas Akland '97 has recently been named to the Ascension Medical Group of Michigan board of trustees. Ascension is the nation's largest nonprofit health system and one of the largest health systems in Michigan. He has served as the chief of the department of pediatrics since 2007 for Borgess Health in Kalamazoo, Michigan, and is a teaching faculty member for the Western Michigan School of Medicine. He lives with his wife, **Audrey Coates '97 Akland**, and their two girls in Plainwell, Michigan.

Rebecca Spencer '97 of Amherst, Massachusetts, received a five-year, \$2.64-million grant from the National Institutes of Health to study mid-day napping benefits on young children. She is a neuroscientist at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

Mandy Pryor '99 Vidor and Andrew Vidor announce the birth of Ava Ann on April 17, 2017.

00s

Katherine Kober '01 and Kate Cunningham announce the birth of Rowan Irene on April 19, 2017.

Chris Vande Bunte '01 has accepted a call as the senior pastor of the Delmar Reformed Church in Delmar, New York.

Shannon Wixson '02 Smith and Jeremiah Smith announce the birth of Poppy Lee on May 27, 2017. She joins big brother Abraham James.

Trevor Weston '02 of West Bloomfield, Michigan, joined the law firm of Foster Swift Collins and Smith PC in Southfield, Michigan. His practice focuses on estate planning and probate and trust administration.

Noel Snyder '03 of Grand Rapids, Michigan, is a program manager at the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship.

Kristin Sheehan '03 Wren and Richard Wren announce the birth of Teagan Campbell on June 13, 2017.

Amanda Howe '04 Blackburn of Ann Arbor, Michigan, graduated with a Juris Doctorate, with honors, from the University of Toledo Law School in a commencement ceremony held on Saturday, May 6.

Scott Blackburn '04 of Ann Arbor, Michigan,

graduated with a Pharm.D. degree from Wayne State University in a commencement ceremony held on Tuesday, May 9.

Courtney Brewster '04 of Memphis, Tennessee, accepted the position of associate director of the College Prep Program at Washington University in St. Louis.

Julie Brownell '04 completed a fellowship in Urologic Oncology at Roswell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo, New York. She has started working at Bronson Urology & Continence Specialists in Kalamazoo, Michigan, as a urological surgeon.

Katie Budris '04 and **Chris Bryan '04** were married on June 25, 2017 in Kildeer, Illinois.

Sarah Gonzales '04 Triplett is the chair of the State Arts Action Network, which is a council of Americans for the Arts, the national arts and arts education advocacy organization. AFTA's SAAN includes 53 members from 42 states, including the District of Columbia. Members independently lead their state's arts policy initiatives and gather together to share best practices and advise AFTA's state and local government affairs team on key policy initiatives.

Gretchen Schmidt '05 Fry and **Timothy Fry '05** along with their daughter, Meg, celebrated the first birthday of Charles Carver on Aug. 8.

Bethany Martynowicz-Pollard '05 and Tim Pollard announce the birth of Ellianna on Nov. 16, 2016. She joins big brothers Alexander and Zachary.

Gretchen Peterson '05 Taylor and **Andrew Taylor '06** announce the birth of Brigitta Lynne on Feb. 22, 2017.

Victoria Orefice '06 Cooley and Matt Cooley announce the birth of Willem Charles on May 24, 2017. Victoria also completed her Master of Education degree in literacy studies with an emphasis on Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) from Grand Valley State University in August 2016.

Abigail Van Kempen '06 Dufel and Cari Dufel announce the birth of Harriet Leigh on July 9, 2017.

Ashley Glickman '06 and Michael Kozma announce the birth of Roxie Eleanor on July 30, 2017.

Andrew Rose '06 and **Lauren Mueller '07 Rose** announce the birth of Lukas Richmond on May 31, 2017. He joins big brothers Christian



Kate Pitchford '14 is working for the communications team on the *Africa Mercy*, a non-governmental hospital ship, and will be in Douala, Cameroon, until July 2018. Mercy Ships is an international organization that operates around the world, currently focusing on West Africa. The communications team includes photographers, videographers and writers, and Kate is one of two media liaisons on board. Their job is to facilitate visits by international and local news teams who want to feature the ship in some way, in order to promote Mercy Ships and its mission to provide safe and affordable surgery for those who lack access to basic medical care. She also discovered Steve Schwind '90 on board as a staff development manager.

and Gabe.

Meghan Florian '07 had her book *The Middle of Things: Essays* published in July by Cascade Books.

Ashley Bainbridge '07 Foster and Brett Foster announce the birth of Grace Annilee on Jan. 19, 2017. She joins big brother Lane (age 3) and furry brother Scout.

Kali Hess '07 Haynes and **Addison Haynes '08** announce the birth of Cohen William on May 9, 2017. He joins Briella Hope, who was born on Feb. 2, 2015. Kali is the head coach of the Brebeuf Jesuit Dance Team, and Addison is a physician at IU Health.

Schuchen Deborah Li '07 has assumed the regional role of communications manager for Getz Healthcare, managing the marketing and communications needs for the entire company with presence in more than nine countries in Asia.

Laura Peterson '07 recently moved to northern Virginia to begin working as a children's librarian for the Loudoun County Public Library System.

Miriam Lee '07 Presley is teaching K-6 general music for Southern York County Public Schools in Glen Rock, Pennsylvania.

Stephanie Konfara '07 Wright and Justin Wright announce the birth of Elliot Dawson on June 2, 2017. He joins big brother Ethan.

Jeremy Benson '08 is a poet laureate of Napa County, California.

Tarin Coulas '08 completed her pediatric residency at Northwestern University/Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago in June 2017. She is now a pediatrician at Spectrum Health Medical Group – Pediatrics in Grand Haven, Michigan.

Sarah Watkins '08 Fabian of Chicago, Illinois, is in her second year of teaching in the Department of Communication, Media, and Theatre at Northeastern Illinois University (NEIU) as a tenure-track assistant professor of theatre. In July she was named the new managing artistic director of NEIU's Stage Center Theatre, and she reported looking

CLASSNOTES

forward to shaping the future of the theatre for her students. Sarah remains an active freelance scenic designer in Chicago, Illinois.

Heidi Weir '08 Franklin of Canton, Michigan, completed her first year as marketing director for ATEQ Aviation.

Yvette Wissner '08 Scharf received a Master of Science in nursing – family nurse practitioner degree from Olivet Nazarene University on Tuesday, Aug. 15. She is working as a nurse practitioner with Covenant Healthcare in Saginaw, Michigan.

Joseph Seymour '08 received a master's degree in city and regional planning from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Drew Wierda '08 and **Lindsey Cole '08 Wierda** announce the birth of Theodore Edgar on Aug. 29, 2017.

Lauren Stacks '08 Yamaoka is now working as a major gifts officer for Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. She and her husband, **Tom Yamaoka '08**, are recent transplants to the DFW area and would love to connect with other Hope College alumni in the area.

Timothy Carter '09 reports that after spending the past six years in sub-Saharan Africa, most recently as the deputy country director for Samaritan's Purse in South Sudan, he returned to Michigan to pursue an MBA from the University of Michigan this fall.

Elizabeth Seifert '09 and Jim De Jong were married on July 8, 2016 in Holland, Michigan.

Elise LaRoche '09 has joined the Franciscan Physician Network and is now practicing family medicine in Indianapolis, Indiana. She and Daniel Hekman were married on July 29, 2017.

Erika English '09 Mayer of New Berlin, Wisconsin, was awarded the 2017 Herb Kohl Teaching Fellowship, a prestigious honor that recognizes the top teachers in the state of Wisconsin. She succeeded through rigorous rounds of the process at the local and regional level before making it to state, and received the award in late spring.

Julie VanLaan '09 Goldsby and **Kurt Goldsby '10** announce the birth of Emma Kathryn on June 10, 2017.

Amy Kunzi '09 Verseput and Nate Verseput announce the birth of Logan Lane on Aug. 19, 2017.

10s

Shirley Bradley '10 Dean and Thomas Dean Jr. announce the birth of Agnes Elizabeth on June 7, 2017.

Colleen Leikert '10 Laskowski and Stephen Laskowski announce the birth of Juliet on March 18, 2017.

Emily Cook '10 Pierson and **Preston Pierson '10** announce the birth of Evelyn Jo on July 27, 2017.

Christina Tassoni '10 Van Til and Christopher Van Til announce the birth of Elliott Jo on August 23, 2017.

Samantha Sadogierski '10 Waterstone and **Mark Waterstone '11** announce the birth of Simon Edward on Sept. 20, 2017.

Aaron Welsch '10 and **Anna Heckenliab '11 Welsch** announce the birth of Emma Claire on Feb. 21, 2017.

Blair Williams '10 is a senior engineering program manager in the infotainment and Autopilot hardware engineering group at Tesla Motors.

Sarah Patton '11 Benjamin and Peter Benjamin announce the birth of Anna Clare on June 22, 2017.

Alayna Ruberg '11 and Don Atkins were married on July 28, 2017, in Spring Grove Park in Grandville, Michigan.

Allyson Dreger '12 graduated with a Doctorate in Physical Therapy degree from Central Michigan University. She and Jonathon Lewis were married on Sept. 8, 2017.

Samuel Hirt '12 and Arielle Brosman were married on July 15, 2017.

Christopher Schmelz '12 and **Rebecca Segar '12 Schmelz** announce the birth of Micah Mira in June 2017.

Emily Stolz '12 received a Master of Education degree in languages with a concentration in English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) at the College of Charleston in May.

Zachary Beswick '13 received a medical degree from Wayne State University School of Medicine and began his diagnostic radiology residency at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit.

Jeannie Horner '13 Bultema and Jeremy Bultema announce the birth of Deacon Allen on



Kierstynn Foster '16 and **Daniel Rozema '16** celebrated their wedding day with family, friends and the doctors who saved Kierstynn's life when she was diagnosed with leukemia at age 16. They visited Helen DeVos Children's Hospital in Grand Rapids Michigan, where Kierstynn was treated. The pictures and story went viral appearing on ABC News, Yahoo News, The Knot and *People Magazine*. "It was one of my favorite moments of the entire day, to walk into that place not being there for a treatment but to be there in a celebration kind of way," Kierstynn told *People*. The couple was married at Dimnent Memorial Chapel on Saturday, June 17.

April 28, 2017.

John LoVasco '13 and **Hannah Nyboer '14** were married on June 23, 2017, in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Carly Nelson '13 is a regional field director for the Michigan Republican Party.

Philip Ploski '13 and Kelly Ploski were married on June 14, 2014. Their first daughter arrived on May 26, 2015, and their second daughter arrived on Dec. 29, 2016. They have moved to Dallas, Texas, where he is pursuing a linguistics master's with the Graduate Institute of Applied Linguistics. He reports that his life goal is to translate the Bible into a language that is lacking a written Scripture.

Shelby Schulz '13 moved to Denver, Colorado,

and is teaching kindergarten for Denver Public Schools at Kunsmiller Creative Arts Academy.

Kirsten Van Reenen '13 and **Nyun "Noel" Hein '14** were married on March 24, 2017, in Livonia, Michigan.

Jessica Culbertson '14 and Patrick Reed were married on July 29, 2017, in Woodstock, Illinois.

Kelsey Janssen '14 graduated from Michigan State University College of Law in May and is an associate at Warner Norcross and Judd in the Grand Rapids, Michigan, office. She and Frankie Dame were married on September 30.

Aaron Johnson '14 and **Kristen LaDuke '14 Johnson** announce the birth of Liam Isaac on Aug. 29, 2017.

Angelica Rodriguez '15 Day received a Master of Arts degree in international affairs with a focus on international security from The George Washington University in Washington, D.C., in May 2017.

Michael De Witt '15 and **Charlyn Pelter '15** were married on Aug. 5, 2017 in Roseville, California.

Kaysee Stevenson '15 received a Master of Arts degree in educational leadership in the higher education and student affairs program from Western Michigan University. She and **Tyler Dunifin '17** were married on June 30, 2017, in Holland, Michigan.

Emma Bomeli '16 and Matthew Higgs were married on July 14, 2017. They now reside in Holland, Michigan.

Jamie Bulthuis '16 and **Will VerDuin '16** were married on May 13, 2017, in Holland, Michigan. They now reside in Houston, Texas.

Aaron Goodyke '16 joined the Caledonia Community School District as middle school choir director at Kraft Meadows and Duncan Lake.

Courtney Lohman '16 and **Paul Bradley '16** were married on June 3, 2017 in Downers Grove, Illinois.

Alex Apostoleris '17 is a trauma representative for surgery working for DePuy Synthes (Johnson and Johnson) in the Lansing area.

Josh Augustine '17 is a manufacturing engineer at Abbott Laboratories.

Duncan Bocks '17 is an IT security compliance analyst at Herman Miller. He and **Michelle Jager '17** were married August 11, 2017, in Holland, Michigan.

Rachel Dober '17 is working for AmeriCorps VISTA, serving in Helena, Montana, and focusing on education and healthy futures. She will be serving with two nonprofit organizations, the YMCA and Youth Connections Coalition, where she will be doing program and curriculum development along with fundraising and grant writing. She plans on attending graduate school

next fall after her year of service.

Christin Drozd '17 is a client accounting specialist for Seber Tans, PLC. She and Andrew Kelley were married on Sept. 2, 2017.

Kate Ebels '17 is a staff accountant at LVS CPAs & Associates, P.C.

Stephanie Harper '17 is a third-grade teacher at Fowlerville Community Schools in Fowlerville, Michigan.

Amanda Lowry '17 is working in project management for Almost Heaven Saunas.

Sarah Mattioli '17 is a high school chemistry teacher in the Issaquah School District in Seattle, Washington.

Molly Meyer '17 is a financial service professional at Charles Schwab in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Julian Morrison '17 is a gap-year intern for OneWay Ministries in Aurora, Illinois, doing videography and audio production work. He plans to pursue a Master of Fine Arts degree after his internship is finished.

Megan Nowicki '17 is an audit associate for BDO in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Samantha Stevenson '17 is a registered nurse at Holland Hospital Spine and Orthopedics floor.

Jon Van Reenen '17 is a talent acquisition assistant for ZF Group.

Grace Wiesner '17 is teaching seventh grade mathematics in Kalamazoo Public Schools.

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IN MEMORIAM

The college is often privileged to receive additional information in celebration of the lives of members of the Hope community who have passed away. Expanded obituaries are available online.

hope.edu/nfhc

Wallace Van Liere '43 of Eden Prairie, Minnesota, died on Wednesday, Aug. 2, 2017. He was 95. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II, achieving the rank of first lieutenant. He was a business owner. Survivors include his children, Sandy (Steve) Elfstrom, Kent (Jennifer) Van Liere, Keith (Cheryl) Van Liere and Ross Van Liere; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Elaine Venekasen '43 Van Zoeren of Zeeland, Michigan, died on Wednesday, Sept. 20, 2017. She served as junior choir director and was the organist for 35 years at Calvary Reformed Church. Survivors include her children, Barbara (Gary) Blaukamp, Jane Van Zoeren '72 (Richard Michmerhuizen and Mary (Jim) Dornbos; seven grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Norman Davis '45 of Jamestown, New York, died on Wednesday, Aug. 16, 2017. He was 96. He served in the U.S. Army in the Korean War. He had his own ophthalmology practice. Survivors include his daughter, Norma Jean (Brian) Murray; sons, Hollis Davis '73 and William Davis; three grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and sister, Mildred Davis Myers.

Dale Drew '46 of White Lake, Michigan, died on Friday, Sept. 1, 2017. He was 90. He served in the Navy for two years. He was the chief of staff at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital and practiced urology for 43 years in Oakland County. Survivors include his children, Laura (Larry) Malczewski, John (Karen) Drew, Thomas (Donna) Drew and James (Julie Verbeek '82) Drew '81; eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Gerard DeLoof '49 of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, died on Tuesday, Sept. 19, 2017. He was 95. He joined the U.S. Army and served under General Patton in the European Theater of World War II. He served in ministry in

Michigan and Florida and was most recently at Chancellor American in South Dakota. Survivors include his wife of 67 years, Verladyne Saunders '45 DeLoof; children, Tim (Sandy) DeLoof, Marilyn (Steve) Ward, Don DeLoof, and Steve (Mary) DeLoof; 10 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Robert Snow '49 of Holland, Michigan, died on Wednesday, Oct. 4, 2017. He was 92. He served as a combat engineer in World War II. His career was in the pulp and paper industry. Survivors include his wife Rita; children, Don (Wei Hong) Snow, Scott (Jennifer) Rice-Snow, Laurie (Bob) LeSuer and David Snow; six grandchildren; brother, Curtis Murray '45; and brother-in-law, John Bloemendaal.

Albert Edgar Lampen '50 of Holland, Michigan, died on Sunday, June 4, 2017. He was 90. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and worked 38.5 years at Holland Board of Public Works. Survivors include his wife of 11-and-a-half years, Marlene Lampen.

Durward "Dewey" Bakker '52 of Grand Rapids, Michigan, died on Sunday, July 9, 2017. He was 87. He was a pediatrician in Grand Rapids, Michigan, for more than 40 years. Survivors include children, David Bakker, Nancy (Jeff) Droge and Marc (Jayne) Bakker '89; five grandchildren; siblings, William (Betty) Bakker, Kathleen (Fred) Van Tubbergen and Daniel (Sandy) Bakker; and sister-in-law, Barbara (Larry) Van Genderen.

Dorothy TenBrink '52 Bauman of Zeeland, Michigan, died on Sunday, July 16, 2017. She was 87. Survivors include her husband of 66 years, Kenneth Bauman '53; children, Nora Bauman '75 (Darrel) Joyce, Ken (Mary VanDis '80) Bauman '79 and Julie Campbell; seven grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; brother, Martin TenBrink and sister, Kay Mokema.



Irwin Brink '52 of Holland, Michigan, not only was a graduate of the college's chemistry program but spent his career contributing to its success.

Brink, who died on Friday, June 23, 2017, at age 86, was a member of the chemistry faculty from 1957 until retiring in 1996. In addition to receiving multiple research awards and mentoring students, he chaired the department and was dean of natural sciences. His service also included having written a history of science at Hope that served as a major source for the 2009 book *A Century of Science: Excellence at Hope College*.

Survivors include his wife of 63 years, Barbara Lowing '56 Brink; children, Jeanne Brink '83 (Jay '81) Lindell, Anne Brink '85, Robert (Karine Renard) Brink '88 and Mary Brink '89 VanKula; four grandchildren; and brother, Kenneth Brink.



MAX DE PREE '48 SHARED LEADERSHIP ARTISTRY

Max De Pree '48 of Holland, Michigan, an internationally respected corporate leader who helped shape Hope across 12 years on the college's Board of Trustees, died on Tuesday, Aug. 8, 2017, at age 92.

De Pree, who was chairman emeritus of Herman Miller Inc., was a member of the college's board from 1983 to 1995 and chair from 1987 to 1995. Hope presented him with an honorary degree in 1987.

His tenure on the board coincided with two major capital campaigns: the *Campaign for Hope* (1985-87) and *Hope in the Future* (1992-94). Campus development through the campaigns included the construction of the Maas Center, Admissions House, Van Wylen Library, Lugers Fieldhouse and DeWitt Tennis Center; acquisition of the Knickerbocker Theatre; addition of laboratories to the Peale Science Center; and renovation of the track and field facilities. Significant growth in the college's endowment included major support for the academic program; multiple endowed

professorships and student scholarships; and establishment of the Hinga-Boersma Dean of the Chapel and additional support for Campus Ministries.

De Pree began his career with Herman Miller Inc. in 1947. For 40 years, until December of 1987, he worked in nearly all areas of management, including for 18 months in Europe directing the international operations. He became chief executive officer in 1980.

He was the author of five books: *Leadership is an Art*, *Leadership Jazz*, *Dear Zoe*, *Leading Without Power* and *Called to Serve*. His books have sold more than one million copies and have been translated into more than a dozen languages. He received numerous major professional honors and held seven honorary degrees.

De Pree was a member of the Peter Drucker Foundation Advisory Board and for 40 years served on the board of Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, California. Fuller established the Max De Pree Center for Leadership in 1997 in his honor.

His education began at Wheaton College but was interrupted by military service during World War II — including one-and-a-half years in the European Theatre of Operations. Under the Army's direction he studied at the University of Pittsburgh, Haverford College and the University of Paris. He attended Hope after completing his military service.

Survivors include his wife, Esther, his sons Charles and Kris, his daughters, Jody and Nancy, their spouses, 23 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. His daughter-in-law Dr. Barbara Tacoma '81 De Pree is a member of the college's Board of Trustees.

died on Saturday, May 27, 2017. He was 85. He served in the U.S. Army for two years. He worked for RCA, NCR, Fairchild and National Semiconductor, and then had his own consulting firm until retirement. Survivors include his wife, Roberta Prentice; children, Iain Prentice, Brian (Anna) Prentice, Neal Prentice, Keith Prentice and Krystal (J. Anthony) Hamm; three grandchildren; and siblings, Peggy (Stanley) Scarborough and Robert (Jill) Prentice.

Julius Brandt '54 of Lynden, Washington, died on Friday, Aug. 4, 2017. He was 95. He served in the U.S. Army and served as a member of the Army Signal Corps in India and Burma. He was a pastor of Immanuel Reformed in Belmond, Iowa, and The National Evangelical Church of Kuwait. Survivors include his children, Jan Brandt '73 and Jack (Pam) Brandt; two grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; sister, Laura Folkert; brother, Harv Brandt; and sister-in-law, Joyce Pomp.

Jean Wierenga '54 Otto of South Haven, Michigan, died on Sunday, Sept. 10, 2017. She was 85. She was employed as an elementary teacher in area public schools and also served as program director at Hope Reformed Church for six years. Survivors include her sons, Steven Otto and David (Bobbie) Otto; two grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Emma "Lucille" Meek '56 Goding of Las Cruces, New Mexico, died on Friday, June 30, 2017. She was 83. Survivors include her brother, David Meek; children, Stephany Benaway, Clark Goding '81 and Heather Spencer; and three grandchildren.

Lois Taylor '57 De Zeeuw of McBain, Michigan, died on Sunday, Sept. 3, 2017. She was 82. Survivors include her children, Ruth (Ivan) Stahl, Brian (Dale Marie) De Zeeuw, Evon Belflower, Diane Koster and Ken (Brenda) DeZeeuw; 15 grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; siblings, Muriel (Ted) Schierbeck, Helen Taylor '59 (Sam '65) Hofman, Doris Taylor '62 Brumels, Keith (Olga) Taylor '68, Jean Taylor '62 (Chuck '70) VanEngen; and in-laws, Sadako Ohki, Bill (Donna) DeZeeuw and Rich (Carol) DeZeeuw.

Gordon Meeusen '57 of Guilderland Center, New York, died on Sunday, July 9, 2017. He was 82. He served with the U.S. Army in the Korean War until his honorable discharge in 1953. Survivors include his wife, Diane Drake '57 Meeusen.

John Brouwer '59 of Osseo, Wisconsin, died on Monday, April 3, 2017. He was 82. He was a pastor in Dell Rapids and Corsica, South Dakota, Randolph, Altoona/Hallie and Neillsville/Granton, Wisconsin. Survivors include his wife of 57 years, Florence Brouwer; his children, Darwin (Pat) Brouwer '82, Ivan (Nancy) Brouwer, Karen (Kevin) Gunvalson, Gwendolyn Brouwer and Evonne (Joshua) Cash; three brothers; five sisters and eight grandchildren.

Marcia Berghorst '53 Davis of Knoxville, Tennessee, died on Friday, Aug. 11, 2017. She was 86. She was a second-grade teacher. Survivors include her children, Anne Davis Colquitt, Tim (Patti) Davis, Mike (Pam) Davis, Mary Davis (Darrell) Dance; seven grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and sister, Mary Berhorst '63 VanderWoude.

Donald Prentice '53 of Parachute, Colorado,

IN MEMORIAM

Mary Wiersema '61 Vermeulen of Waynesboro, Virginia, died on Thursday, Aug. 3, 2017. She was 77. She was an instructor and career counselor at Black Hawk College. Survivors include her children, Kevin (Denise) Vermeulen and Susan (Edwin) Lancaster; and three grandchildren.

William Vandenberg III '62 of Holland, Michigan, died on Wednesday, Aug. 2, 2017. He was 83. He was in the Marine Corps. He was a student recruiter. Survivors include his brothers, Terry, Thomas '64 and Charles (Jory) Vandenberg; and sister, Kristy.

Word has been received of the death of **Sally Tellman '62 Wallace** of Lake Lansing, Michigan, on Monday, April 18, 2016. Survivors include her sister, Joan Tellman '70 Johnson.

Kenneth Sebens '63 of Oak Harbor, Washington, died on Monday, June 5, 2017. He was 75. He was a clinical social worker in Oak Harbor. Survivors include his wife of 44 years, Susan Hipwell '72 Sebens; sister, Jayne; sons, David (Sayuri), Thomas (Kimberly), Justin (Haley) and Scott; and six grandchildren.

Franklin Spoolstra '63 of Rockford, Michigan, died on Monday, Aug. 21, 2017. He was 85. Survivors include his wife of 30 years, Maxine Spoolstra; children, Jacob (Brittany) Spoolstra, Jared Spoolstra, Kathy (Ron) Scholten, Mark (Christine) Spoolstra, Karen (William) Kamp, and Janet (Michael) Barnes; stepson, Michael Winegar; 13 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; sisters, Jean Rusthoven and Edith Gruendler; sisters-in-law, Sandra Dunn, Lona Cochran and Nancy (Bob) Scholfield; and former wife, Louise Spoolstra.

Terry Mc Gilvra '65 of Des Moines, Iowa, died on Friday, Aug. 18, 2017. He was 74. He served in the U.S. Army for two years. He was an auditor for the State of Iowa for 40 years. Survivors include his wife, Debbie Mc Gilvra; children, Shane (Hsiu Li) Mc Gilvra, Shelley (Jeff) Brouwer, Tammy Helm, Chad (fiancé, Logan) Mc Gilvra, Tina Mc Gilvra, Jeremy Mc Gilvra, Breann (Ben) Rogers, Jordan Mc Gilvra and Brittany Mc Gilvra; sisters, Sue (Kevin) Drey and Sally (Tim) Baar; 14 grandchildren; one great-grandchild; mother-in-law, Joan Cumings; and step-mother-in-law, Gloria Cosner.

John Buteyn Jr. '66 of Plano, Texas, died on Thursday, July 20, 2017. He was 73. He was the founding and lead pastor for 30 years at the Reformed Church in Plano until his retirement.

He then continued in ministry in the sultanate of Oman. He served on the Board of Trustees at Hope College. Survivors include his wife, Linda Deurwaarder '68 Buteyn; daughter, Leslie Buteyn; son, Erik (Hilary) Buteyn; two granddaughters; and four grandsons.

Gail Bumford '68 Paterik of Detroit, Michigan, died on Saturday, Sept. 23, 2017. She was 71. She was a full-time and substitute teacher for many years in the Chicago area. Survivors include her husband of 48 years, David Paterik '69; sister, Janet Bumford '71 (Robert '69) Flyer; brother, James Bumford; mother, Peg Bumford; daughters, Elizabeth Bumford '92 (Jeffrey) Dargis and Deborah Bumford '99 (Nathan '98) Gambino; and three grandchildren.

Sheryl Medendorp '69 Styf of Sarasota, Florida, died on Wednesday, July 5, 2017. She was 70. She was a teacher and a gifted/talented coordinator in Hastings, Michigan. Survivors include her husband, Dave Styf '69; children, Dan Styf '97, Jon (Catherine) Styf and Matt Styf; and four grandchildren.

Roy Welton '70 of Holland, Michigan, died on Friday, Sept. 15, 2017. He was 69. He was a managing partner at Trade Center Counseling and Health Associates and owned the practice Welton and Associates since 1994. Survivors include his wife of 30 years, Cindi Welton; children, Courtney Welton '97 and Adam (Kim Meulenbelt '06) Magoon '07; step-children, Darcy Komejan and Dee Dee (Drew) Torres; seven grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; mother, Winnie Welton; brother, Brad (Janus) Welton '67; brother-in-law, Mike (Kay) Staszal; sister-in-law, Lynn Ball; and mother-in-law, Betty Staszal.

Raymond Schofield '71 of Mount Laurel, New Jersey, died on Wednesday, Sept. 20, 2017. He was 70. He worked for many years for Youth Education in the Arts, helping advocate for music education. Survivors include his wife, Barbara Tintle '72 Schofield; children, Daniel and Martha; two grandchildren; and sister, Bonnie.

Thomas Page '72 of Holland, Michigan, died on Thursday, June 15, 2017. He was 68. He was a teacher at West Ottawa's Lakewood Elementary school and the general manager of Holland Country Club. Survivors include his sister-in-law, Karyl Garbow; and brother-in-law, Tim Garbow.

Maryjan "Jan" Wydra '73 of Wells, Maine, died on Wednesday, July 19, 2017. He was 71. He

served in the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam War. He was an English teacher at Kennebunk High School, Traip Academy and Wells High School. Survivors include his wife, Holly Wydra; children, Kairsten (Mark D'Ascenzo) Wydra, Kathleen Kelly, Justin (Jenna) Wydra and Skip (Carolyn) Kelly; and six grandchildren.

Virginia Reed '74 Kruisenga of Hudsonville, Michigan, died on Tuesday, July 11, 2017. She was 64. She was a teacher for Lakewood Public Schools for 27 years. Survivors include her husband, Robert Kruisenga; children, Rob (Laura) Kruisenga, Cindy (Mike) Rankens, and Karen Kruisenga Cornelius; six granddaughters; siblings, Walter (Toni) Reed III '69, John (Heidi) Reed '71 and Phil (Teresa) Reed '77; and in-laws, Ken Kruisenga, Ann (John) LeJeune.

Ruth Wolting '75 Prince of New Era, Michigan, died on Monday, July 3, 2017. She was 64. She was an art teacher for Fremont Public Schools. Survivors include her husband, Ken Prince; mother, Doris Wolting; sisters, Mary Lynn (Bill) Seid, Susan (Kim) Rochau and Joan (Tom) Lyon; and brother, Don (Luanne) Wolting.

Catherine Creet '76 De Jonge of Holland, Michigan, died on Thursday, Aug. 3, 2017. She was 63. She was employed at Life Savers for many years. Survivors include her sister, Ginny Rinaldi.

Mary Flanagan '79 Danielson of Alto, Michigan, died on Wednesday, Sept. 6, 2017. She was 59. Survivors include her husband of 35 years, Mike Danielson; daughters, Amanda Danielson '07 (Jordan) McElroy and Laura Danielson; one granddaughter; mother, Joyce Flanagan; siblings, Linda Flanagan '82 (Albert '82) Smith, Beth (Craig) Plante and Jill Flanagan '93 (Bret '90) Norvilitis; mother and father-in-law, Lois (Norman) Danielson; and brothers-in-law, Gerry (Deb) Danielson and Jim (Vicki) Danielson.

Paul Hospers '80 of Rochester, Minnesota, died on Wednesday, July 19, 2017. He was 59. He worked 37 years in various capacities involving computer software development. Survivors include his mother, Margaret Hospers; and siblings, Mary Hospers '77 (Brad) Rogers, Mark (Jane) Hospers '81 and Ruth (Andy) Bowne.

Leslie Piaget '89 of Holland, Michigan, died on Sunday, July 9, 2017. She was 50. Survivors include her mother, Barb Timmers '63 Piaget; and siblings, Tom Piaget, Susan Piaget '91 (Mark) Faga and Chris (Jim) Trujillo.

Brenda Hutson '90 Popok of Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan, died on Tuesday, May 9, 2017.



HELEN DEVOS REMEMBERED FOR LASTING IMPACT

Helen DeVos, who died on Wednesday, Oct. 18, at 90, will be remembered enduringly at Hope College for her transformative impact on the campus and students' education.

Hometown and visiting fans experience it every time they enjoy a game or other event at the Richard and Helen DeVos Fieldhouse, or a concert in the Jack H. Miller Center for Musical Arts. Each year, hundreds of students also complement her extensive philanthropy themselves through the student-organized Dance Marathon, which since 2000 has raised funds for Helen DeVos Children's Hospital in Grand Rapids.

The Richard and Helen DeVos Foundation contributed a leadership gift on behalf of the fieldhouse, and the college named

the building for Richard and Helen in honor of their impact on the quality of life in western Michigan, in the Holland community and at Hope. The fieldhouse serves as home court for the college's volleyball and men's and women's basketball teams, and also houses the Department of Kinesiology. The couple presented the game ball for the men's basketball game during the dedication of the building on Saturday, Nov. 19, 2005.

The foundation also provided one of the lead gifts for the Jack H. Miller Center for Musical Arts, which opened in August 2015, and the building's 800-seat Concert Hall is dedicated in memory of Helen's parents, George and Wilma Van Wesep. The accompanying plaque notes: "As educators who filled their home with music, love and Christian values, they created an environment for their only child, Helen Van Wesep DeVos, to develop her own lifelong love of music." In addition to the Concert Hall, the silver LEED-certified center houses the college's Department of Music and the 125-seat John and Dede Howard Recital Hall.

Richard and Helen DeVos are also honored through an endowed scholarship named for them at Hope.

Survivors include her husband, Richard DeVos; children, Suzanne DeVos '82, Daniel (Pamella) DeVos, Richard (Betsy) DeVos and Doug (Maria) DeVos; 16 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and sisters and brother-in-law Jan (Bob) Courts and Bernice Heys.

She was 48. She was the chief counsel for the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. Survivors include her husband, Jack Popek; children, Alice Popek and Jack Popek; mother, Gail Hensley; sister, Devon Hudson '92; and brothers, Kyle Rueter and Ryan Rueter.

Kimberly Krofft '91 Lease of Indianapolis, Indiana, died on Wednesday, Aug. 16, 2017. She was 48. She was a case manager for Indiana Professional Management Group. Survivors include her sister, Jennifer Krofft Kiger.

Samuel Middleton '94 of Byron Center, Michigan, died on Tuesday, June 6, 2017. He

was 46. Survivors include his wife, Jennifer Middleton; children, Olivia and Owen Middleton; three step-children, Jake, Clare and Grant Newhall; mother, Sherry Middleton; brother, Joe Middleton; and sister, Brandy Middleton '95 (John Thomas) Todd.

Holly LeBlanc '96 of Holland, Michigan, died on Friday, July 21, 2017. She was 44. She was employed for 20 years at Central Wesleyan Church. Survivors include her parents, Rich (Sharon Dykstra '64) LeBlanc; and sisters, Cherie (Robert) Ockerse, Christy (Ken) Boeve and Lauri (Dave) Denhof.

Anna Demshuk '99 of Holland, Michigan, died on Sunday, Aug. 20, 2017. She was 40. Survivors include her parents Thomas (Carol) Demshuk; wife, Missy Nienhuis; and siblings, Andrew (Rebecca) Demshuk, Christy Wilt and Mary Demshuk.

Brittany Buchholz '16 of Owosso, Michigan, died on Friday, Sept. 8, 2017. She was 23. She was employed with Memorial Healthcare as a CAN and patient care tech. Survivors include her parents, Kelly (Mary) Buchholz; brothers, Justin and Evan Buchholz; and grandparents, Norman (Donna) Blight.

Sympathy to

The family of **Betty Groenewoud** of Holland, Michigan, who died on Thursday, Aug. 17, 2017. She was 83. She worked for Hope College on the physical plant and custodial team for 25 years. Survivors include her husband of 66 years, John Groenewoud; daughters, Jean (Keith) Bakker, Nancy (Michael) Wolters, Lois (Todd) Yonkers and Lori (Craig) Rose; nine grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

The family of **Bonnie Rietman** of Zeeland, Michigan, who died on Tuesday, Sept. 5, 2017. She was 68. She retired after 25 years as a custodian at Hope College. Survivors include her children, Tim Rietman, Tammy (Andrew) Middleton, Dennis (Stacey Wendt '96) Rietman '96 and Darin (Laura) Rietman; 13 grandchildren; brother, Larry (Arlene) Nienhuis; sisters, Sharon (Phillip) Lemmen, Merry (Russ) Bartels and Debra Riemersma; and in-laws, Phyllis (Norm) Garvelink.

The family of **Donald Boeve** of Holland, Michigan, who died on Saturday, Sept. 3, 2017. He was 83. He retired from the physical plant at Hope College. Survivors include his wife of 55 years, Millie Boeve; children, Mary Wilson and Tom Boeve; two grandchildren; siblings, Anabelle Kluitenberg, Bonnie Sanford, Irv (Sharon) Boeve, Jim (Von) Boeve and Terry (Rosie) Boeve; and in-laws, Barbara Boeve, Betty Wiggers, Claryce Klaassen, Wes (Marge) Wiggers, Dennis (Rosemary) Wiggers and Bruce (Barb) Wiggers.

Always Invested

BILLY MAYER
1953–2017



Billy Mayer, who died unexpectedly at his home on Saturday, Nov. 11, at age 64, made it clear that it was possible to take art seriously and still have fun.

As an example of the former, the sculptor-professor had this to say in a 1994 feature in *The Grand Rapids Press*: “I try to find the kind of voice a material has to offer, tapping into the tone and letting it become articulate.” Later in that same story, though, while reflecting on public art and on his use of materials such as aluminum and steel, his sense of whimsy also shows: “I’d love to paint the transformers at the power plant — one of them really looks like a kind of Cootie...”

Both dedication and good humor marked his approach to teaching at Hope, where for nearly four decades he was committed to helping students find their voice, investing in them whether or not they planned to become artists themselves. It began with classes like Basic Sculpture, with projects that might include giant cardboard assemblages or a massive plastic inflatable (all displayed on campus), and continued as he mentored during upper-level courses and helped guide those majoring in studio art.

Hope held a memorial service on campus on Tuesday, Nov. 21, and the college’s fall Juried Student Art Show, running in the De Pree Art Center and Gallery from Monday, Nov. 27, to Friday, Dec. 8, was dedicated in his memory. In addition, a student scholarship fund has been established in his name at Hope.

Survivors include his wife, Michel Conroy.

 hope.edu/mayer



An undated image from early in Billy’s tenure



Helping as the Fall 2013 Basic Sculpture class brings its work to campus for display



Working with students in a sculpture class in 2012



Working with students in a ceramics class in 2012



At an exhibition of his work in the De Pree Art Center and Gallery in 1994



WINTER AND SPRING EVENTS

Please visit hope.edu/eventinfo to view more information about the college's hundreds of events!

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. LECTURE
JANUARY 15, 2018

WINTER HAPPENING JANUARY 20, 2018

**CELEBRATION OF UNDERGRADUATE
RESEARCH AND CREATIVE PERFORMANCE**
APRIL 13, 2018

ALUMNI WEEKEND APRIL 27-28, 2018

COMMENCEMENT MAY 6, 2018

KRUIZENGA ART MUSEUM

**CULTURE, COMMERCE
AND CRITICISM: 500
YEARS OF EUROPEAN
AND AMERICAN PRINTS**

JANUARY 12 -
MAY 19, 2018

MUSIC

**MUSICAL
SHOWCASE**

FEBRUARY 2, 2018

ATHLETICS

THE RIVALRY

FEBRUARY 3, 2018

THEATRE

**THE GLASS
MENAGERIE**

FEBRUARY 16-18,
22-24, 2018

DANCE

DANCE 44

MARCH 2-3,
8-10, 2018

GREAT PERFORMANCE SERIES

**DR. LONNIE SMITH
TRIO**

MARCH 9, 2018

TIMELESS CLASSICS

The Pull tug-of-war and the Nykerk Cup competition travel as living history, journeying across generations to the present from the last decade of the 19th century and the fourth decade of the 20th. Although on the most basic level they express class rivalry — freshmen versus sophomores, even-years versus odd-years — the differences only matter in the context of the events. What makes the contests enduring is the opportunity that they provide to forge friendships while working toward a common goal — all while participating in traditions that are uniquely Hope.

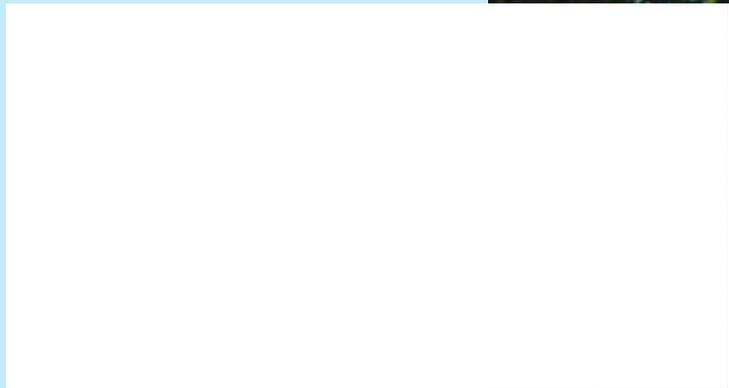
CLOSING LOOK





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Prospective students and their families are invited to visit Hope and experience first-hand the college's friendly community and distinctive holistic approach to preparing students for lives of leadership and service.

VISIT OPTIONS

- Individual Visit
- Overnight Visit
- Visit Days

2018 SPRING VISIT DAYS

- Monday, January 15
- Friday, January 19
- Friday, January 26
- Friday, February 16
- Monday, February 19
- Friday, March 2
- Friday, March 9

SCHEDULE YOUR VISIT:

 hope.edu/visit

REFER A STUDENT:

 hope.edu/refer

