



NEWS FROM

HOPE COLLEGE

WINTER 2022

VOLUME 54, NO. 2

CAMPUS IS ABUZZ

Busy bees join Hope's sustainability team.

pages 20-23

DISTINCTIVE
HOPE



A REFLECTION OF COMMUNITY

"Of the Sun," representing traditions of Zimbabwe, Congo, Cameroon, Togo and Nigeria, brightens a mid-November evening as international students bring a bit of their homelands to Hope through "Images: A Reflection of Cultures." Featuring dance, skits, poetry, fashion, music and more from around the world, the student-organized event is a popular fall highlight, a gift to the campus and surrounding communities that consistently fills the 500-seat Knickerbocker Theatre. (Pictured are Monica Neba, Ibianga Cheetham-West and Esterline Nelus)



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ON THE COVER

News from Hope College has probably exhausted its quota of puns for the year in its headlines and Table of Contents description for this issue's cover story, but the wordplay reflects the abiding joy and enthusiasm underlying every facet of the college's new beekeeping endeavor. As shared on pages 20-23, the initiative is grounded in Hope's ongoing commitment to sustainability and yields a sweet fringe benefit. One might even say it's the bee's knees.

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magazine.hope.edu

CONNECT WITH US



FROM THE PRESIDENT

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. — John 3:16

Dear Friends and Family of Hope College,

This fall, we welcomed the largest number of new students in Hope's history: 955 attending college for the first time, and 50 who transferred into Hope from other institutions. As a result, our campus this semester has not just been full of students, it has been full of the energy and life that Hope students bring. We are grateful. Especially when many colleges and universities across the country have been experiencing enrollment challenges, we are grateful that so many students value the education that Hope offers enough to entrust us with their preparation for the future.

More broadly, we are grateful that so many students are seeking the *type* of education that Hope provides. There are numerous Christian colleges and universities in the nation, but Hope's approach is ecumenical, distinctive and unique. We strive to provide outstanding academics and co-curricular activities in an invitational Christian community with the opportunity for a robust engagement with faith.

For more than 155 years, our emphasis has been educating the whole person within the context of historic Christian faith. The nature of how we engage with faith reflects on our salvation through Jesus Christ as a gift of grace — not earned, but freely shared. God's gift of grace provides the foundation for how we as Christians ought to engage with the world: with a spirit of generosity. And this is why we have centered our *Hope Forward* vision around generosity. Like all great visions, ours is aspirational. And lofty. But it is also a vision guided by the Biblical principles that have sustained our institution from the beginning. As we continue on this journey, we hope our example will inspire our students — the next generation of leaders — to generously make their mark on this world.

At a time when we encounter so much brokenness in the world around us, it is encouraging to see such strong interest among young people in what they find here at Hope. As we celebrate the Advent season and the greatest gift of all, that interest and the hope it inspires are gifts that we can also treasure.

Spera in Deo!



Matthew A. Scogin '02
President



QUOTE UNQUOTE

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



Speaking during the Opening Convocation on Sunday, Aug. 28, at DeVos Fieldhouse, Dr. Deborah Vriend Van Duinen shared a three-point plan to help the incoming Class of 2026 make the most of the experience ahead.

The title of Van Duinen's address, "Invitation to Hope: Knowing, Doing, Being," was also her outline, providing what she described as three ways for the students to think about the newest chapter in their lives.

"These three ways describe what I believe we try to do here at Hope, what our mission is and what we offer you in terms of our academic program and co-curriculars," said Van Duinen, who is the Arnold and Esther Sonneveldt Associate Professor of Education. She discussed each of the three in turn, but also emphasized that they're components of a whole — a heady blend that is for each student to discern.

"I invite you to a transformative experience at Hope College, an experience that involves a messy mix of knowing, doing, and being, an experience that isn't handed over to you but one that requires your active engagement," she said. "My prayer for you is that the stories that you live here be ones that allow you to know, do and be as people at Hope in our broken world and people who live within a larger story, not just for the next four years but for the rest of your lives."

“*Being, is the root of all of our knowing and doing and is integral to both.***”**

She noted that knowing will involve learning more than facts and figures, with the students benefiting from the insights from the variety of academic disciplines they will study, and the student organizations, athletic teams, immersion trips, Bible studies and

other opportunities outside of class. "[A]s you think about what you will learn and know at Hope College, I encourage you to invest in your learning," Van Duinen said. "Ask hard questions. Resist easy answers. Put in time and effort. Be willing to change your mind. Read widely and learn from people who think differently than you. Allow for disagreements and learn from them. Take risks. Be willing to be wrong. Seek the truth."

"Doing," Van Duinen explained, both shapes and reflects the type of people the students will become.

"[A]t Hope, we want to help you develop loves, desires, and virtues steeped in the historic Christian faith," she said. "Humility, wisdom, courage, moderation, integrity, perseverance. We want you to practice hospitality and gratitude, to seek justice and to love mercy."

"Being," she said, "is the root of all of our knowing and doing and is integral to both."

"[T]here's so much overlap between knowing, doing, and being," she said. "When we dig into the rich ways these words can be defined and understood, I actually think it can become problematic to think about them as separate entities."

"But, maybe this isn't a bad thing," Van Duinen said. "Maybe this speaks to the liberal arts journey of starting out by wanting to put things, even people, into neat, tidy boxes and labels and then realizing at some point along the way that there is so much more overlap and messiness than initially anticipated. Maybe this is the beauty of the liberal arts. When done well, a liberal arts experience shows us the interconnectivity between everything, that knowing, doing and being can all exist in the same drawer of a file cabinet."

Please visit the college online for a photo gallery from Orientation Weekend as well as the full text of the address and video of the Opening Convocation.

hope.edu/convocation22

ENROLLMENT REPORT

Hope has enrolled a record number of students entering college for the first time, contributing to a third consecutive year with an increase in the college's overall headcount.

A total of 955 first-time college students joined Hope this fall, topping the previous record of 904 set in the fall of 2012 (2021's total was 848). Hope also garnered 50 transfer students.

Total enrollment this year is 3,251 students. The previous record was 3,407 students in the fall of 2016. Hope had enrolled 3,133 students in 2021, 3,060 in the fall of 2020 and 3,057 in the fall of 2019.

The students hail from 41 states and the District of Columbia, and 36 foreign countries.

hope.edu/enrollment22



HEIDI KRAUS NAMED ASSOCIATE PROVOST

Dr. Heidi Kraus of the art and art history faculty has been appointed associate provost for academic affairs.

Kraus, who joined the Hope faculty in 2012, is an associate professor of art and art history, and is an active scholar in addition to teaching. She previously served in multiple leadership positions at the college, including as chair of the Department of Art and Art History, director of the De Pree Gallery and director of global learning.

hope.edu/associate-provost



NSF SUPPORTS RESEARCH INTO AVIAN DECLINE

As of 2020, the world has lost an estimated two-thirds of its mammal, bird, reptile and insect populations. This extreme loss of biodiversity is widely considered a sixth mass extinction event. With the global bird population estimated to have declined by 3 billion since the 1970s, two Hope professors have received a grant from the National Science Foundation for their research seeking to better understand why.



The NSF has awarded biologist Dr. Kelly Ronald and chemist Dr. Natalia Gonzalez-Pech more than \$500,000 through a three-year grant for their interdisciplinary study of how house sparrows are affected by a specific type of air pollution: iron oxide nanoparticles (IONPs) — floating bits of iron generated by the iron and steel industries that are so small that a standard microscope cannot see them.

hope.edu/nsf-grant-birds



PULL AND NYKERK

The sophomore Class of '25 and the freshman Class of '26 each earned a win during this fall's two traditional student contests.

The freshmen gained 62 feet, 10 inches of rope to win the Pull tug-of-war, held on Saturday, Oct. 1, along the south side of 11th Street between Lincoln and Fairbanks Avenues. It was the college's 125th year with the event.

The sophomores won the 88th Nykerk Cup competition, held on Saturday, Oct. 15, at the Richard and Helen DeVos Fieldhouse and featuring members of the two classes presenting songs, plays and oration.

Galleries of photographs from both events are available online.

hope.edu/pull-2022

hope.edu/nykerk-2022



SUSAN IPRI BROWN ELECTED TO NATIONAL BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Susan Ipri Brown, associate dean for educational outreach (including as director of ExploreHope) and associate professor of engineering, has been elected to the Board of Governors of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

ASME helps the global engineering community develop solutions to real world challenges, and has more than 85,000 members worldwide. She is serving a three-year term on ASME's board that began on July 1 and will continue through June of 2025.

hope.edu/ipri-brown-asme

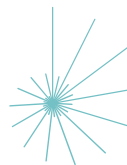


STATE-BY-STATE STUDY EXAMINES RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

Dr. Sarah Estelle of the economics faculty has conducted a state-by-state examination of religious liberty in the U.S. that provides concrete data online for anyone anywhere interested in how free exercise is legally safeguarded — or not safeguarded — across the country.

The study, which she conducted with Camryn Zeller '21, rates each of the 50 states via a percentage reflecting its legal protections of freedom of religion, and was commissioned by the Center for Religion, Culture & Democracy. The scores are built on how each state fares in 11 different categories — like safeguards for absentee voting based on religious conviction, or provisions allowing healthcare providers to refuse to provide abortions — that can be measured quantifiably.

hope.edu/religious-liberty-study



JOHN
TEMPLETON
FOUNDATION

Inspiring Awe & Wonder

SEEKING THE WAY TO INTELLECTUAL HUMILITY

At a time when differences of opinion seem increasingly difficult to overcome, Dr. Daryl Van Tongeren of the psychology faculty is part of an effort to find a solution.

He is a co-principal investigator — part of a leadership team with colleagues from three research universities — for “Applied Research on Intellectual Humility: A Request for Proposals,” which has received a \$6 million grant from The John Templeton Foundation. The four-year initiative will provide funding through sub-grants for researchers to explore what leads some people to be willing to accept that they might be wrong, or at least that they may need to revise their views.

hope.edu/templeton-grant



MARISSA DOSHI RECEIVES NCA EARLY CAREER AWARD

Dr. Marissa Doshi, associate professor of communication, has received the Early Career Award from the Ethnography Division of the National Communication Association.

The award is designated for members of the Ethnography Division who received their most recent degree within the past 10 years, with Doshi recognized for her record of research as well as her teaching and service work. She was honored on Saturday, Nov. 19, during the NCA Annual Convention in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Doshi joined the Hope faculty in 2014, the same year that she completed her doctorate in communication at Texas A&M University. Her research draws on feminist perspectives to examine the creative and cultural dimensions of media and technology use. Her secondary research interests include intercultural communication and issues of representation in mass media.

hope.edu/doshi-award



ERIKA CALVO-OCHOA NAMED RISING STAR

Dr. Erika Calvo-Ochoa, assistant professor of biology and neuroscience, has received a Rising Stars Award from the International Brain Research Organization (IBRO).

The awards support the research needs of early career neuroscience faculty from diverse and/or underrepresented backgrounds. Calvo-Ochoa, who is originally from Mexico, joined the Hope faculty in 2020. She will use the award in support of her research on neural regeneration in the olfactory system — which is responsible for the sense of smell — of adult zebrafish. With this research, she aims to understand the processes that enable olfactory recovery following brain trauma.



hope.edu/calvo-ochoa-award



UPWARD BOUND RECEIVES NEW FEDERAL GRANT

The new, five-year, \$437,006 grant to Hope College TRIO Upward Bound from the U.S. Department of Education earlier this year continued a streak unbroken since the Hope program began in 1968.

Hope College TRIO Upward Bound seeks to generate the skills and motivation necessary for success in education beyond high school among students from low-income and first-generation families who have the potential to pursue a college education but may lack adequate preparation or support. It is the longest-running Upward Bound program at a private college in the country, and has received federal funding through the U.S. Department of Education for its entire 54 years. It currently enrolls 92 students each year from the Holland, West Ottawa and Fennville school districts.

hope.edu/trio-grant

ADAM PECKENS RECEIVES EWB-USA ADVISING AWARD



Adam Peckens, who is laboratory director of engineering, has received the national 2022 Peter J. Bosscher Faculty Advisor Award for Outstanding Leadership from Engineers Without Borders-USA.

The award, which was presented to Peckens on Saturday, Oct. 8, during the 2022 EWB-USA Conference, recognizes advisors who provide exceptional support and mentorship to their student chapter. Peckens has been a mentor of the Hope chapter since joining the college's staff in 2014 and became advisor in 2018. Across the eight years, he has led the group through two international projects.

EWB-USA partners with communities around the world to meet their basic human needs, and has almost 300 chapters across the United States. Hope's chapter was established in 2005.

hope.edu/peckens-award



JEREMY BARNEY HONORED AS TOP ACADEMIC LIBRARIAN



Jeremy Barney, who is assistant librarian for metadata and digital collections with the Van Wylen Library, has been named the 2022 Academic Librarian of the Year by the Michigan Academic Library Association (MiALA).

The award recognizes the outstanding accomplishments of an MiALA member and their contributions to their institution and academic libraries within the 2021-22 academic year. Barney, a member of the Hope staff since 2016, received the recognition on Wednesday, Oct. 19, during the 2022 Annual Conference of the Michigan Library Association, held in Port Huron.

hope.edu/barney-award

HOPE RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN DIVERSITY

By Greg Olgers '87

Hope has received the 2022 Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award from *INSIGHT Into Diversity* magazine, the oldest and largest diversity-focused publication in higher education.

As a recipient of the annual HEED Award — a national honor recognizing U.S. colleges and universities that demonstrate an outstanding commitment to diversity and inclusion — Hope was featured, along with 102 other recipients, in the magazine's November issue.

Dr. Sonja Trent-Brown, who is vice president for culture and inclusive excellence and a member of the psychology faculty at Hope, credited the honor to ongoing efforts across the campus community.



Living and learning communities that incorporate multicultural perspective like the Phelps Scholars Program, which was the college's first when it debuted in 1999, are among the initiatives that helped Hope earn the national Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award.

"I believe we were recognized with this award because of the efforts of the Hope College students, faculty and staff who have been engaged in this work and making contributions toward being a place that is faithful, welcoming, and transformational as shared in Hope's Christian Aspirations," she said. "We continue to be on the journey together and this recognition for our efforts is an honor and an encouragement. Heartfelt thanks to our students and colleagues!"

Hope describes its Christian identity with three aspirations: to be faithful, to be welcoming and to be transformational. Trent-Brown noted that Hope's commitment to diversity and inclusion reflects Hope's commitment to them.

"Hope's Christian Aspirations say that 'Hope seeks to be a community that affirms the dignity of all persons as bearers of God's image,'" she said. "We work together toward Beloved Community, informed first by our faith and through the framework of inclusive excellence at Hope. We recognize and celebrate the value that each person created by God brings from lived experience, we focus on relationship building to foster a sense of belonging, and we strive to communicate that each member of Hope matters and contributes to creating our shared environment."

INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine selects the HEED Award recipients based on its review of several criteria that together demonstrate a holistic commitment to diversity.

"The HEED Award process consists of a comprehensive and rigorous application that includes questions relating to the recruitment and retention of students and employees — and best practices for both — leadership support for diversity, campus culture and climate, supplier diversity, and many other aspects of campus diversity and inclusion," said Lenore Pearlstein, publisher of *INSIGHT Into Diversity* magazine. "We take a detailed approach to reviewing each application in deciding who will be named a HEED Award recipient. Our standards are high, and we look for institutions where diversity and inclusion are woven into the work being done every day across their campus."

Included among the many factors contributing to Hope being recognized for the award were the engagement and representation of leaders across campus; new retention and recruitment efforts; new alumni-engagement efforts; new positions focused on multicultural recruitment, and culture and inclusive excellence; academically-themed programs that incorporate intercultural perspectives, such as the Phelps Scholars Program and the Emmaus Scholars Program; the Center for Diversity and Inclusion (CDI) and Hope's multicultural student organizations (MSOs); individual unit participation in goal-setting; the efforts of Hope's Racial Equity Steering Committee (RESC), and the work of the Board of Trustees. Also highlighted was Hope's involvement with nationally recognized initiatives such as the American Association of Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation (TRHT) Campus Centers and the Higher Education Recruitment Consortium (HERC).

NEW VITA SCHOLARS PROGRAM

DEVELOPS PASTORS FASTER

By Greg Olgers '87

*The new Vita Scholars Program (Vita is Latin for “Life”) will enable students to graduate from Hope with a B.A. and Western Theological Seminary with an M.Div. after a total of five years instead of the usual seven, reducing the overall financial cost to students so that they can pursue impact in keeping with the college’s ongoing **Hope Forward** model. The program will also emphasize preparing the participants especially for ministry in rural and urban settings.*



Hope and Western Theological Seminary have established a “3-2” pastor-preparation program that will provide specialized training for ministering to underserved communities.

The new Vita Scholars Program (*Vita* is Latin for “Life”) will enable students to graduate from Hope with a Bachelor of Arts degree and from the seminary with a Master of Divinity degree after a total of five years instead of the usual seven, reducing the overall financial cost to students so that they can pursue impact in keeping with the college’s ongoing *Hope Forward* initiative. It’s a model described as “3-2” or “accelerated degree” because it involves completing a four-year bachelor’s in three years and three-year M.Div. in two. The program will also emphasize preparing the participants especially for ministry in rural and urban settings.

“We’re excited to be partnering with Western Theological Seminary on this innovative program, which will prepare students to serve the communities that have a need and hunger for pastoral care,” said Dr. Stephen Maiullo, who is interim dean for the arts and humanities at Hope — and who, as a professor of Greek, will also be teaching in the program. “The curriculum provides opportunities for students to understand the circumstances of people who are different from them — people working in the fields and factories, on construction sites and in offices — so that the Vita Scholars can serve them more effectively all while easing the financial burden associated with earning a bachelor’s and a master’s. The program provides a path for students whose own circumstances might otherwise make this career seem like a dream they can’t achieve.”

*3-2 MODEL
OR “ACCELERATED
DEGREE” INVOLVES
COMPLETING A FOUR-
YEAR BACHELOR’S IN
THREE YEARS AND
THREE-YEAR M.DIV.
IN TWO.*



*“THE GOAL IS RELATIONAL LEARNING
THAT IS DRIVEN BY BIG-PICTURE
THEOLOGICAL REALITIES WITHIN
CONCRETE, DAY-TO-DAY EXPERIENCES.”*

*Dr. Keith Starkenburg,
director of the Vita Scholars Program and
associate professor of theology at Western Theological Seminary*

*THE STUDENTS WILL ENGAGE IN EXPERIENCES
BEYOND THE CLASSROOM INCLUDING:*

- SPECIALIZED PROGRAMMING*
- WORSHIP EXPERIENCES*
- CO-CURRICULAR CAMPUS ORGANIZATIONS*
- RELATED SUMMER EMPLOYMENT*
- CHURCH-BASED INTERNSHIPS*

“I am delighted that Hope and WTS have the opportunity to work together on this new initiative. I’m also grateful for the tremendous opportunity that this program provides students to experience exceptional classroom learning across both institutions, intentional mentoring, and transformative work and cohort experiences,” said Dr. Kristen Deede Johnson, who is dean and vice president of academic affairs, and G.W. and Edna Haworth Professor of Educational Ministries and Leadership, at the seminary. “These students will carry into their ministries a deep sense of the importance of the working lives of their parishioners in ways that draw on the best of the liberal arts and the Reformed tradition.”

The Vita Scholars Program is directed by Dr. Keith Starkenburg, who is an associate professor of theology at Western Theological Seminary. He has offices at both the seminary and Hope — whose campuses are adjacent to one another — to help provide ready access for students at each location.

The students will be participating in the Vita Scholars Program within cohorts organized around the time of their entrance into the program. While pursuing their degree from Hope, they will also be taking courses in the seminary’s three-year M.Div. track that will simultaneously meet requirements for their Hope degree. They’ll remain at Hope for four years and graduate with the rest of their Hope classmates, but as seniors will be taking all of their courses at the seminary. After graduating with a B.A. from Hope, they’ll have just one year to go at the seminary for their M.Div.

The students will also engage in a variety of cohort-based experiences beyond the classroom throughout the five years, ranging from cohort-based programming designed by Starkenburg, to worship experiences, to co-curricular campus organizations, to related summer employment and church-based internships. “The goal is relational learning that is driven by big-picture theological realities within concrete, day-to-day experiences,” Starkenburg said.

“At first, they will explore a variety of spiritual or devotional practices, learn about the basic storyline of scripture and the church’s history. They will read and discuss contemporary and historic theological readings that address economic dynamics, led by a variety of faculty and pastors,” he said. “They will participate in an undergraduate ethics and economics group led by an economics professor. They will spend two summers working in different contexts, based on their interests and background. For example, they may work in a factory one summer and intern at a marketing agency the following summer. They will interact with frontline workers, managers and other business leaders in guided discussions.”

The Vita Scholars Program started this fall as a pilot initiative with two students. The goal is to begin in earnest with five more students in the fall of 2023, another seven in the fall of 2024 and 12 in the fall of 2025.

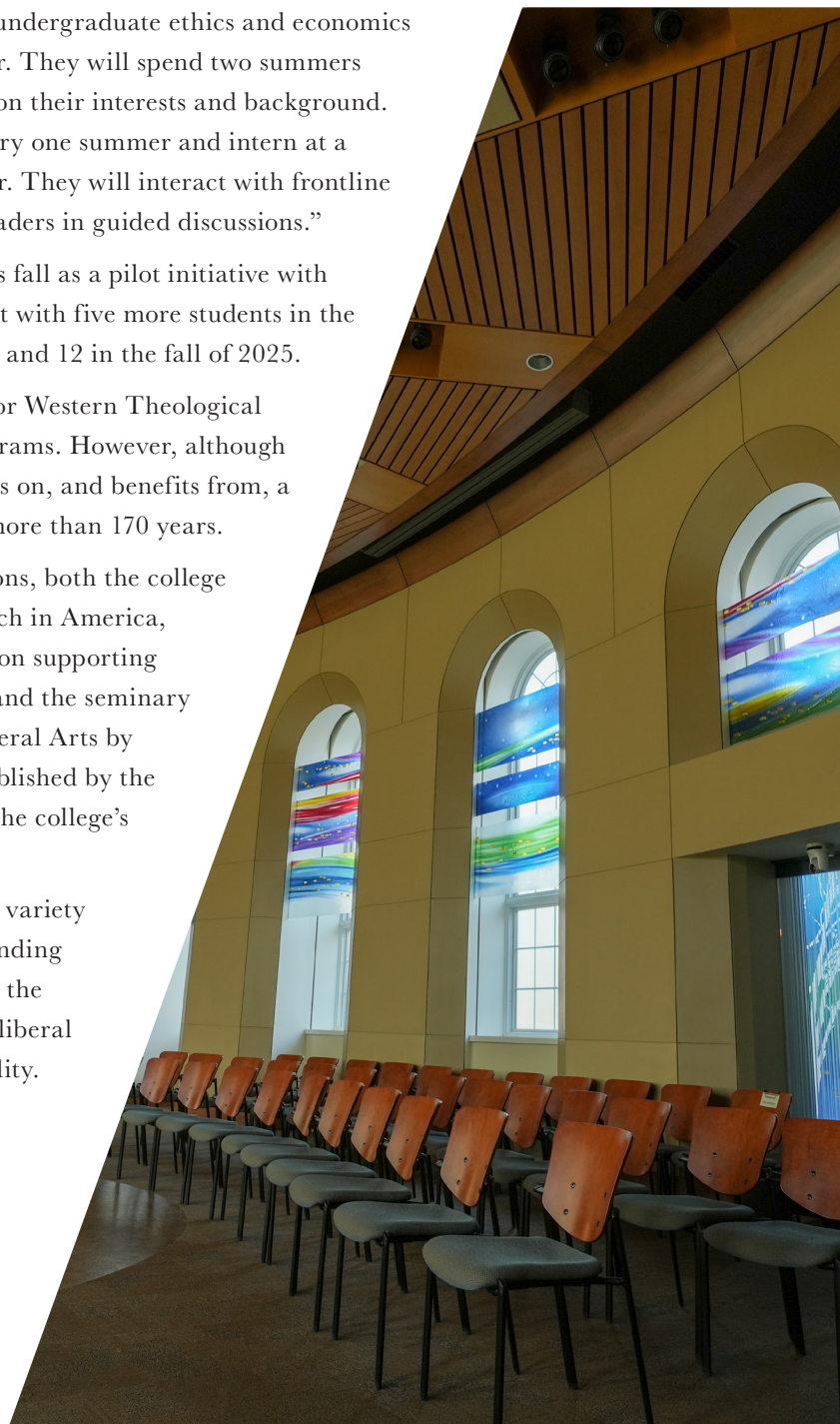
It’s the first time that either Hope College or Western Theological Seminary have offered accelerated-degree programs. However, although they are separate institutions, the initiative builds on, and benefits from, a close relationship and shared history going back more than 170 years.

While drawing students from many faith traditions, both the college and seminary are affiliated with the Reformed Church in America, a relationship that began in 1851 with the denomination supporting establishment of the Pioneer School from which Hope and the seminary eventually grew. Hope was chartered as a College of Liberal Arts by the State of Michigan in 1866, and the seminary was established by the denomination in 1885 based on what had previously been the college’s “Theological Department” for the preparation of ministers.

Hope and Western Theological Seminary jointly sponsor a variety of presentations for each other’s campuses as well as the surrounding community. Since 2019, the college and seminary have operated the Hope-Western Prison Education Program to provide a Christian liberal arts education to incarcerated men at Muskegon Correctional Facility.

More information about the Vita Scholars Program is available online.

hope.edu/vita



“Algorithm + You = Art”

By Greg Olgers '87

Viewers play a major role in a Hope professor's award-winning entry in the international ArtPrize competition held this fall. They collaborate for an experience that is different every time.

Created by Dr. Charles Cusack, professor of computer science and mathematics, “Algorithm + You = Art” invites those visiting it to enter a phrase and pick a color palette and a script to run, with a new work of art resulting and being displayed on-screen based on their choices. It also provides a chance to share in Cusack's long-standing passion for blending science and aesthetics.

“My art is highly influenced by my day job as a professor of both computer science and mathematics at Hope College,” Cusack said. “My art combines my love for combinatorics (the study of finite discrete structures), algorithms, and aesthetics.”

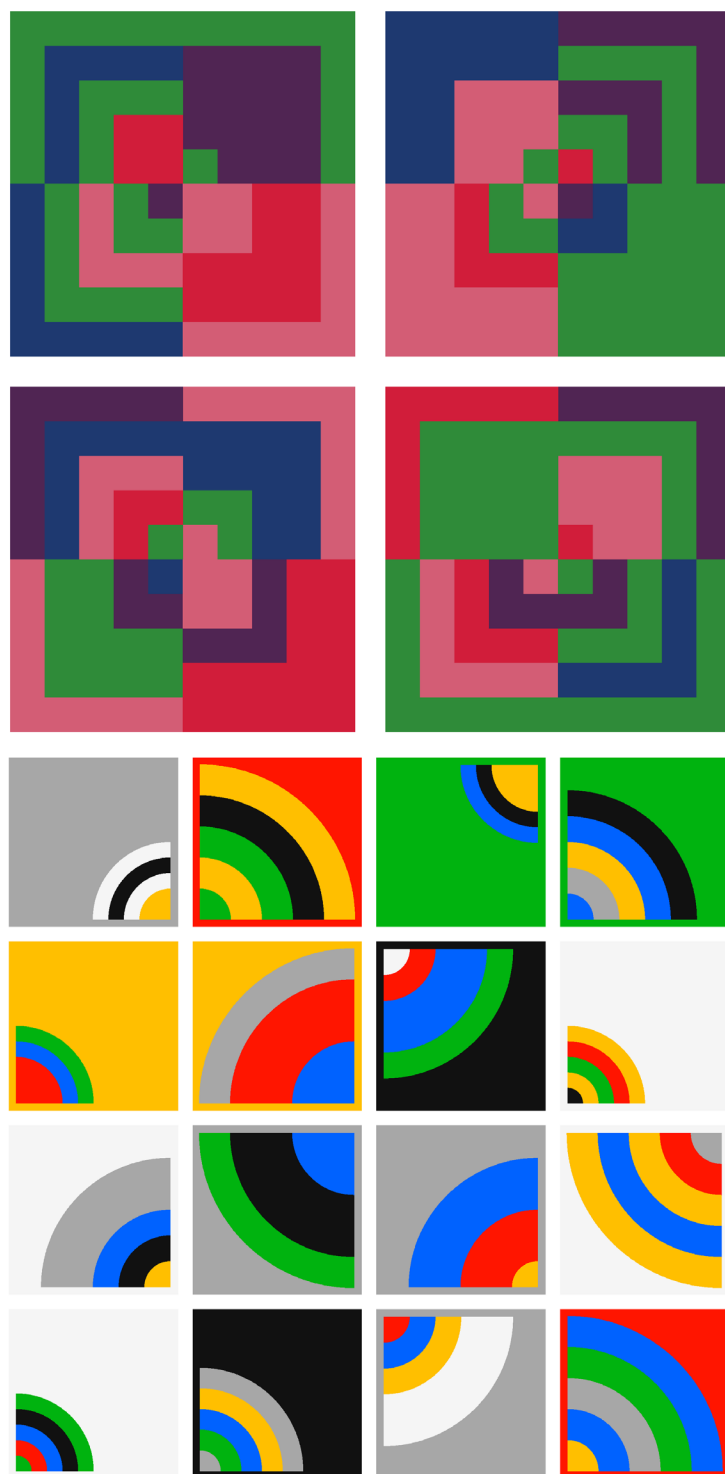
“I enjoy creating abstract works that draw the viewer in with vivid colors and interesting patterns,” he said. “My work can be appreciated merely for its aesthetic quality, but those who wish to look closer can also appreciate the deeper mathematical meaning that is sometimes present.”

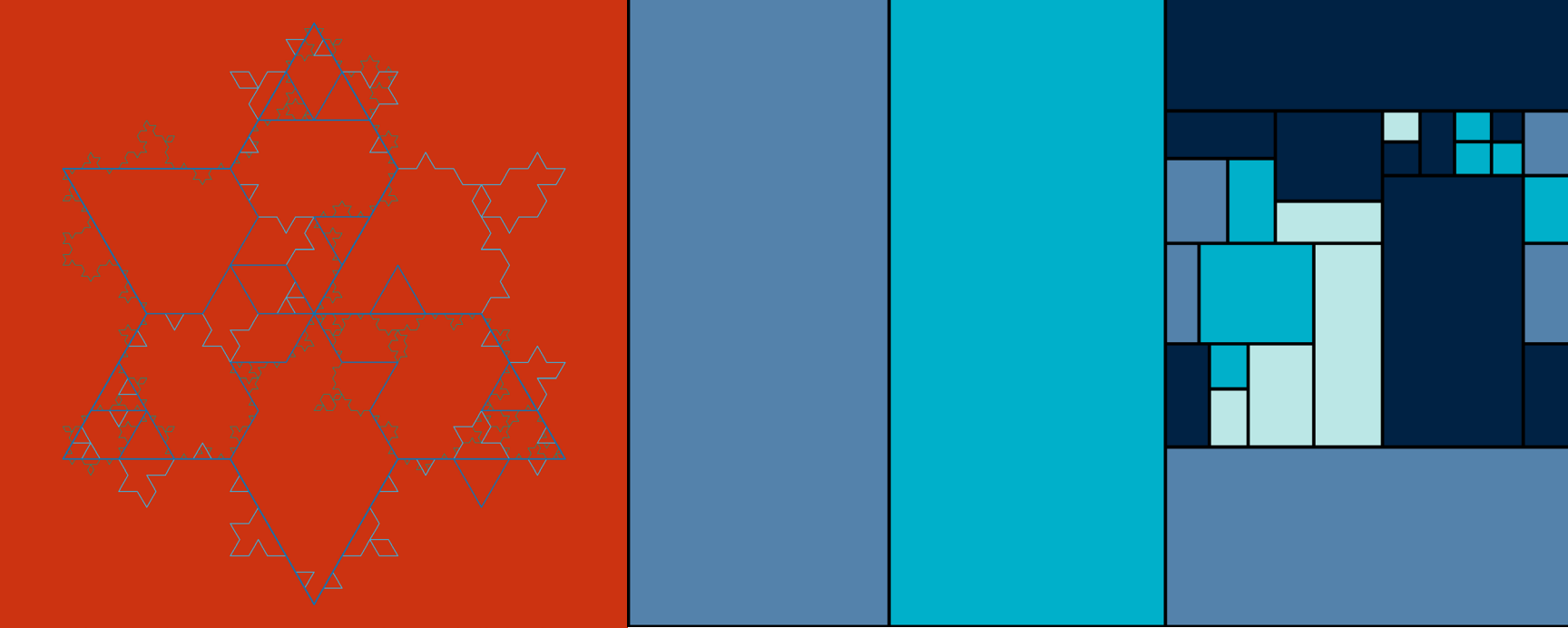
“Algorithm + You = Art” won runner-up in the Digital category of the Juried Awards portion of ArtPrize, which competition-wide featured works by about 750 artists from 15 different countries, and across all media, that were displayed in venues throughout Grand Rapids, Michigan. While no longer available at the downtown location that hosted it during the Sept. 15-Oct. 2 event, “Algorithm + You = Art” is available only a few clicks away via the magic of the Internet. Those interested in creating their own piece (or pieces) are invited to visit the link below. The resulting artwork will be displayed on their phone or computer and emailed to them.

cusack.hope.edu/artprize

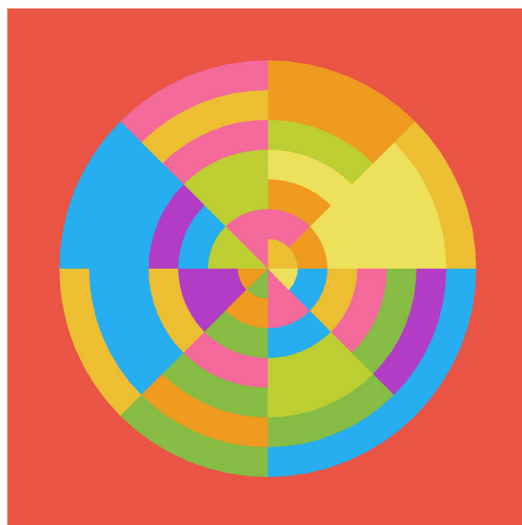
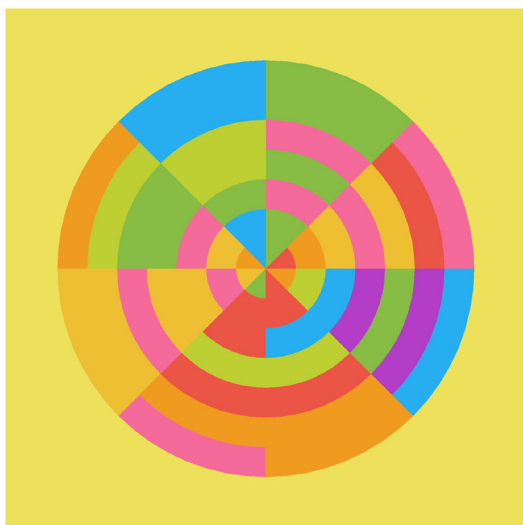
A story with more about Charles Cusack's participation in this year's ArtPrize is also available on Hope's website.

hope.edu/cusack-award





Professor Charles Cusack's award-winning digital work "Algorithm + You = Art" engages those visiting it in a creative process that blends science and aesthetics. They are invited to enter a phrase and pick a color palette and a script to run, with a new piece of art based on their choices – including an encoding of their phrase – resulting and displayed.





FALL SEASON FEATURES MEMORABLE JOURNEYS

By Alan Babbitt



ANA TUCKER



CONNOR VACHON



LAUREN LEE



BECKY SCHMIDT



SETH ALMQUIST



PURPLE GAMES

A record-tying cross country run and a fourth NCAA volleyball regional title highlighted a successful start to the 2022-23 school year for Hope College Athletics.

Senior Ana Tucker equaled the highest finish in history for a Flying Dutch runner at the NCAA Division III Women's Cross Country Championships, placed fourth in the nation to match performances from Erin Herrmann (2016) and Marcia VanderSall (1992). An exercise science major, Tucker led Hope to a 13th-place team finish at nationals and a seventh consecutive MIAA title while also earning first place during the fall NCAA Great Lakes Regional and MIAA individual championships. Hope hosted the regional at Three Fires Golf Club.

Men's cross country saw sophomore Connor Vachon become the team's first MIAA individual champion since 1986 and qualified to race at the NCAA Championships. The Flying Dutchmen placed seventh out of 38 teams for their highest regional finish in seven years, and second at the MIAA Championships in Alma by four points in the closest race in 36 years.

Vachon and Tucker made history as the first Hope runners to win MIAA men's and women's titles in the same season.

Led by All-American freshman setter Lauren Lee, volleyball advanced to the NCAA quarterfinals for the fourth time in team history. The Flying Dutch made an impressive run to the Grand Rapids, Michigan, regional title as the sixth seed, defeating three Top 10 teams in three days, including host Calvin University in the regional final. During the regular season, Hope gave head coach Becky Schmidt '98 her 500th victory with a come-from-behind win against Albion College at DeVos Fieldhouse.

Men's golf led wire-to-wire to return to the top of MIAA. Led by MIAA individual runner-up and senior Seth Almquist, the Flying Dutchmen capped a dominant performance over 108 holes that included winning all four league jamborees and the 36-hole, two-day MIAA Fall Finish. Hope finished 43 strokes ahead of runner-up Trine University and clinched an opportunity to host the final two rounds of the 54-hole NCAA Championships qualifier this spring.

A total of 38 Hope student-athletes received All-MIAA recognition in eight sports, including football, women's golf, men's soccer and women's soccer, along with men's cross country, women's cross country and volleyball.

In October, the annual Purple Community Games were held on campus. Men's and Women's Soccer, led, respectively, by head coaches David Blahnik and Leigh Sears, combined to raise \$6,800.30 to fund an internship for a Hope student at Van Andel Institute in Grand Rapids.

ATHLETICS.HOPE.EDU

A Honey of a Project

By Greg Olgers '87

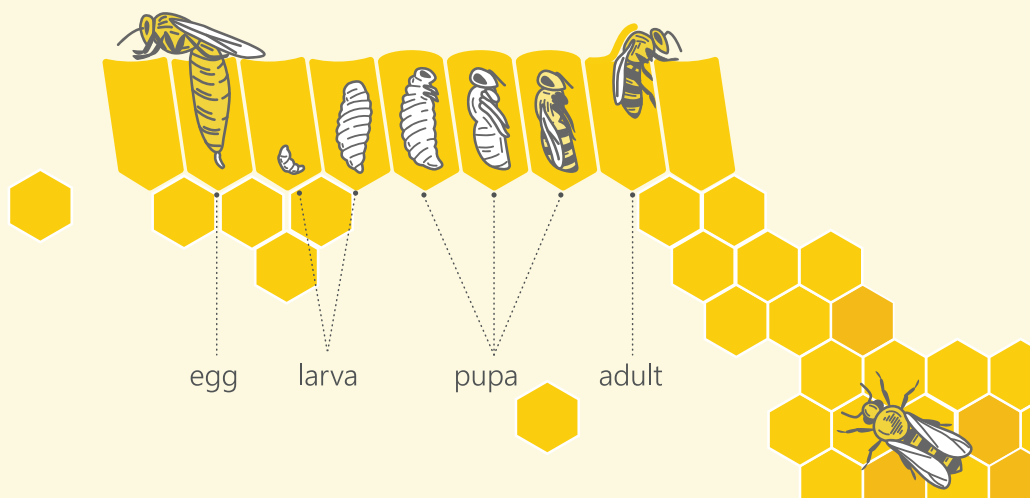
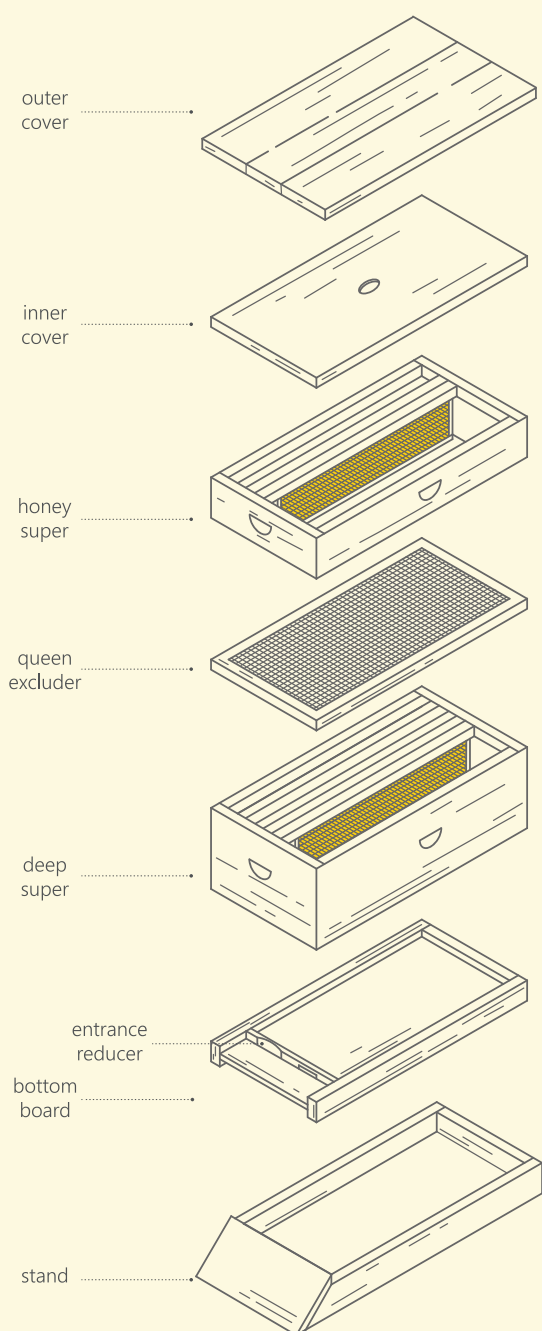
It takes eight to 12 bees a lifetime to produce enough honey to fill a single teaspoon.

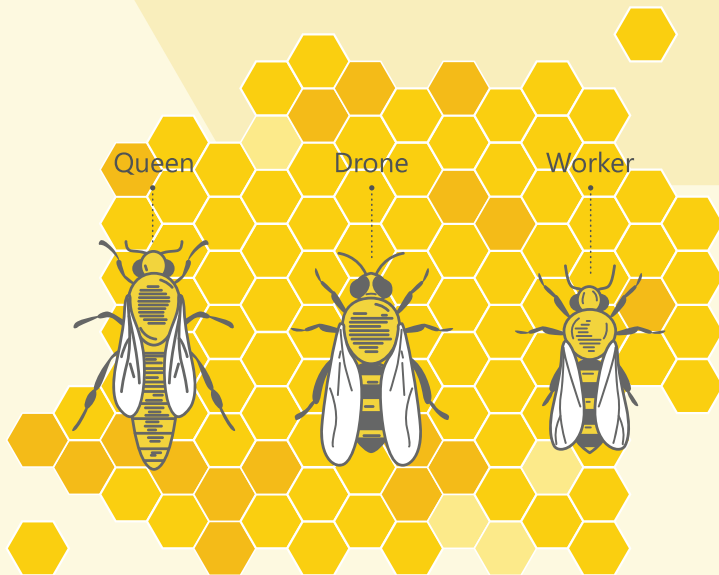
The three hives installed on the Hope campus this past spring generated 10 gallons that ultimately found their way to the shelves of the college's bookstore to provide a sweet taste of campus and West Michigan.

That's a lot of bees doing a lot of work.

The busy insects — which can journey 3-5 miles away in their quest for nectar and pollen — have joined the Hope community through a team effort by the college's Office of Sustainability, grounds department, environmental sciences program and Creative Dining Services (Creative). The honey is a bonus. The goal is to provide local action to help address a global issue: the decline of pollinators essential to crops such as fruits, nuts and many vegetables, and — by extension — the world's food supply.

"Honey bees are a very sensitive population. They've been having a really hard time with pesticides and herbicides, and that's decreased the population," said Michelle Seppala Gibbs, director of the Office of Sustainability.





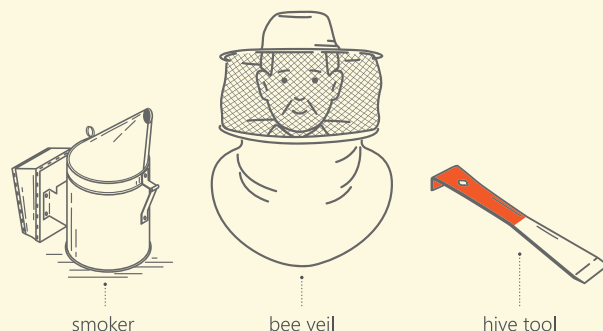
“Honey bees are a very sensitive population. They’ve been having a really hard time with pesticides and herbicides, and that’s decreased the population.”

—Michelle Seppala Gibbs,
Director of the Hope College
Office of Sustainability

It’s not just honey bees that are at risk, but other pollinating species like bats and hummingbirds. The United Nations considers it enough of a crisis that it has even designated May 20 as “World Bee Day” to bring attention to the issue. As explained by the UN, “Close to 35 percent of invertebrate pollinators, particularly bees and butterflies, and about 17 percent of vertebrate pollinators, such as bats, face extinction globally.”

Gibbs noted that she and Hope’s grounds manager, Bob Hunt, had discussed the idea of adding an apiary to campus for some years, with resources and others’ enthusiasm and knowledge coming together this year to bring the project to fruition. The resources — underwriting the purchase of the bees, hives and related equipment — included a grant from Creative, which provides food service for campus and operates Hope’s Haworth Hotel, and from the college’s revolving fund for sustainability projects, which accrues from a portion of the savings from previous efforts like the installation of energy-efficient lightbulbs on campus. The enthusiasm, knowledge and time have been contributed by friends of the college and members of the Hope family, many of whom were already involved in beekeeping.

The bee team is particularly grateful, she said, to Don Lam ’66 for providing expertise and, through his home-based business, Don Lam Bees, equipment and even bees. Lam and his wife, Jean, have been keeping bees for nearly 25 years, and Don is an officer and past president of the Holland Area Beekeepers’ Association, and serves on the board of directors for the Michigan Beekeepers’ Association.





"We're very careful that we only take surplus honey – that's an important part of the beekeeper's job. Each hive needs 80 to 100 pounds to survive for the winter."

—Janine Oberstadt, Assistant Vice President of Operations and Corporate Sustainability with Creative Dining Services



"He's been a great resource," Gibbs said. "We've taken a lot of classes with him, he's always helpful when we have questions."

Among other lessons: Beekeeping requires patience, not least of all because colony survival isn't guaranteed. Nationwide, a recent survey found that 40% of managed hives don't survive the winter, with losses during the summer as well. Hope's successful colony followed two attempts earlier in the year that failed.

The apiary has been placed in a quiet corner of the college's athletic fields, well distant from where competitors and fans gather. That might seem like a precaution on behalf of Hope's human denizens, but it's actually for the bees, who are pretty mellow but simply do better with some privacy, early eastern sun and a nearby water source.

"These bees are not aggressive," said Janine Oberstadt, who is assistant vice president of operations with Creative — and as a beekeeper herself is helping with the project. "Only if you're really messing with them are they going to come after you. We have what I call 'really sweet bees.'"

That assessment was borne out in the latter part of September, when Hope's "Bee Team" collected honey-laden frames from the hives. On that particular day, Chef Jay Sharkey, who is a volunteer with the Hope project and a beekeeper with Creative, provided guidance. Corporate culinary training coordinator with Creative, Sharkey has a strong connection to Hope through his wife, Ann, who has been on staff at the college's Haworth Hotel since it opened in 1997. He brought along a smoker to calm the bees if necessary, but they didn't even seem to mind when he gently brushed them from the wooden frames that fill the hives and contain the honeycombs.

As for the frames themselves, Sharkey was pleased by the amount of honey that the bees have produced.

"I'm pretty happy we got something with first-year hives," he said. "That's very encouraging."

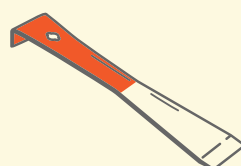
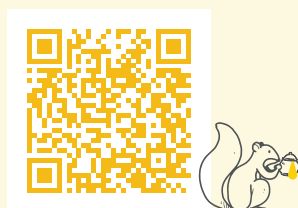
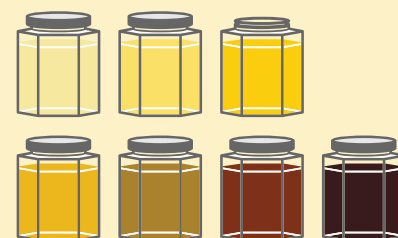
The team is careful not to take too much. The bees, after all, have a reason for generating the honey. "We're very careful that we only take surplus honey — that's an important part of the beekeeper's job. Each hive needs 80 to 100 pounds to survive for the winter," Oberstadt said.

By season's end, the hives yielded 60 frames' worth of surplus. The Bee Team next gathered in the certified kitchen in the college's Cook Hall on October 10 to spin the honey, which is surprisingly literal. The process begins with scraping away the wax caps with which the bees have covered the hundreds of honey-filled hexagonal chambers in each frame. From there, the frames are lowered into cylindrical extractors that are essentially centrifuges. By hand crank or motor, they're spun in a circle until the honey flies out of the honeycombs, drains down and can be collected from a faucet at the bottom.

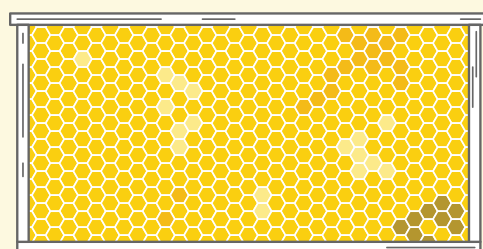
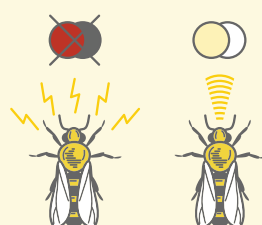
The resulting 200 bottles — each containing eight ounces and custom-labeled for Hope — went on sale at the Hope College Bookstore on Oct. 21. The proceeds will be poured back into the college's sustainability revolving fund and support new initiatives in the future.

The hives, in the meantime, have been carefully winterized (the bees will keep them a toasty 80-90 degrees) to give them the best chance to endure the season. Come spring, the cycle will begin anew.

The Hope-produced, 100%-raw honey is being sold at the Hope College Bookstore for \$10.99 a bottle while supplies last.



hive tool color



frame



Research on the Dynamic between Faith and Mental Disorder

By Jim McFarlin '74



Let's begin by telling you what Hope Assistant Professor of Philosophy Dr. Kate Finley is NOT trying to prove in her research:

RESOLVED: If you believe in God or have faith in Christianity, you must have some sort of mental disorder.

No, what's driving her research efforts these days are the interactions and intersections between various types of mental disorder — such as bipolar disorder, depression and schizophrenia — and different facets of religious beliefs and experiences. And in part because so little has been written on that connection from a philosophical standpoint, Finley has received for this project over \$150,000 in grant funding through the University of St. Andrews, Fuller Theological Seminary, Blueprint 1543, Calvin University (all funded by the John Templeton Foundation) and from the Hope College Global Health Program.

For a philosophy professor to win an outside research grant is something akin to you hitting the jackpot.

“Even though it's not much compared to people in the sciences, these smaller research grants, including Hope's summer Nyenhuis research grants, have been incredibly helpful in me getting this project going,” says Finley.

Finley says she became interested in the subject through her own experience; the experiences of loved



ones; her volunteer ministry experience with children, adolescents and adults; and her experience teaching inmates at the Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility in Ionia, Michigan. “Mental disorder is a topic that comes up over and over again,” she says. “It's a real point of struggle for a lot of people. And for people who are religious, understanding how mental disorder interacts with faith is an important part of that.”

Over the course of this project, her research team has conducted lengthy interviews with over 70 participants, and questionnaires with over 260 participants who identified as having a mental disorder and also having significant experience with Christianity. “We did not just focus on people who currently identified as Christian, but also participants who said, ‘I've gone to church in the past, I used to be a Christian, but partially

because of how it treated mental disorders I have left the faith,” Finley says. “It’s really important to include the perspectives of those people.”

She sought out a wide age range, including Hope undergraduates, “because people at different points in life have really different perspectives on how their mental health and religious identity impact each other. But obviously, for adolescents and young adults, mental health is one of the biggest concerns right now.”

Much has been written on this subject by psychologists and some by theologians, “but I was surprised to find out that only one philosopher had written on this previously,” says Finley. “One of the gaps I saw that really interested me was the potential positive and meaningful effects of mental disorder on religious beliefs and practices. There has been a lot written on the negative effects mental disorder and religion have on each other, and a lot on the positive ways that religion can help people cope with mental disorder, but I was really interested in the opposite direction.”

Perhaps you should expand on that, Doctor. “Just to be clear, by positive or meaningful effects of mental disorder on religion I don’t mean that the disorder is positive — that it doesn’t cause suffering, or that God gave someone their disorder. I just mean that one of the key ways we deal with suffering of any kind is by finding some kind of deeper meaning in it, and religious meaning

is often a big part of that. That was missing in work on mental disorder, and it’s really important to fill in that gap because without frameworks for finding religious meaning in mental disorder it can be incredibly difficult to do without slipping into ‘over-spiritualizing’ mental disorder and ignoring the biological, psychological and social aspects.

“Some people that we interviewed said some version of ‘I don’t know what you’re talking about, when you ask about positive effects of mental disorder.’ Although some people may never experience positive meaning from their mental disorder (through no fault of their own), in these statements some participants seemed to indicate that there was a lack of conceptual space for them to even entertain the possibility of positive meaning. And as a philosopher, I’m all about conceptual space and conceptual frameworks.”

On the other hand, “I hoped we would find people who had drawn some positive meaning from their experiences and suffering, but I was surprised by how many people did,” she says. “I found it really fascinating that people talked about how their experiences with mental disorder challenged and ultimately changed their idea of faith and God’s character and purpose for us. But there are also obviously people whose experiences with mental disorders have undermined their faith. I’m really grateful and truly humbled that so many people have shared really vulnerable details about their lives in the interviews that they’ve given.”

Finley says this research will continue for at least a couple more years. “I have plenty of ideas I still want to work on and studies I want to run,” she explains. She’s also collaborating on several related projects with teams of neuroscientists and psychologists, with funding from Duke University, to study the neurological dimensions of some of these topics — especially stigma towards those who experience psychotic disorders, and the role of firsthand narratives in shifting this stigma.

In the research she conducted this summer, Finley worked with Dr. Stephanie Pangborn of the communication faculty as well as students Christina Chiazza ’23, Brooke Bennett ’24, Emmelyn Simpson ’24 and Emily Davidson ’24. Chiazza, Bennett and Simpson continued to work with her this fall. Bennett was so inspired by the experience that she is attempting to form a student-based group to discuss the intersections of religion and mental health at a grassroots level.

Finley encouraged the student researchers to pursue their own projects inspired by the assignment.

“I plan on going into clinical psychology, so I was less interested in writing a paper than in some of the practical applications of our research,” says Bennett, a psychology and global health double major. “On campus there are resources relating to mental health, but one thing our campus is lacking is peer support. Often people feel reluctant to seek professional

help. I believe a peer group could be a great bridge for people to be more comfortable using more professional resources.”

When she isn’t exploring the rational investigation of the philosophy of mind and cognitive science, Finley pursues her passion as a visual artist. Does she have a favorite medium?

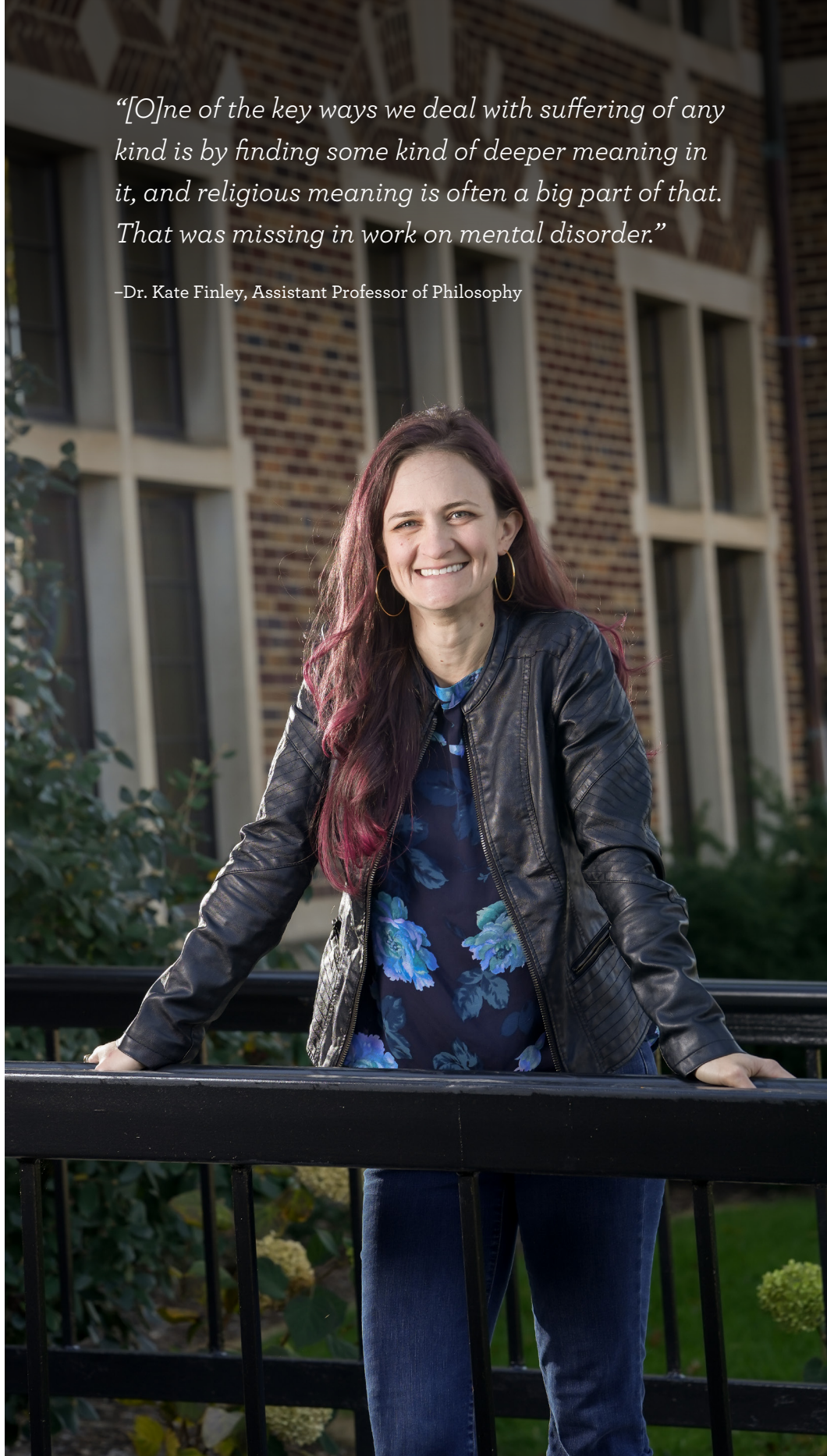
“I totally didn’t expect that question,” she says, smiling. “I was originally an art major in college. I mostly work in oil and watercolor paint, but recently I’ve gotten into some digital stuff — pretty rudimentary coding and interactive designs.

“I’m interested in art both as an artist and from a philosophical perspective. I think there are actually some really interesting tie-ins to the mental disorder and religion research, because art can communicate in non-literal, often metaphorical, ways, and those things can transform our thinking in a pretty distinct way.”

Finley notes that “for example, art can shape our theological conceptions. Artwork that presents God as being separate or distant from us, or as having a particular race or gender — those things can become deeply entrenched in how we think of God, often without us realizing it. So it’s important to acknowledge and utilize these influences, and in some cases, challenge them.”

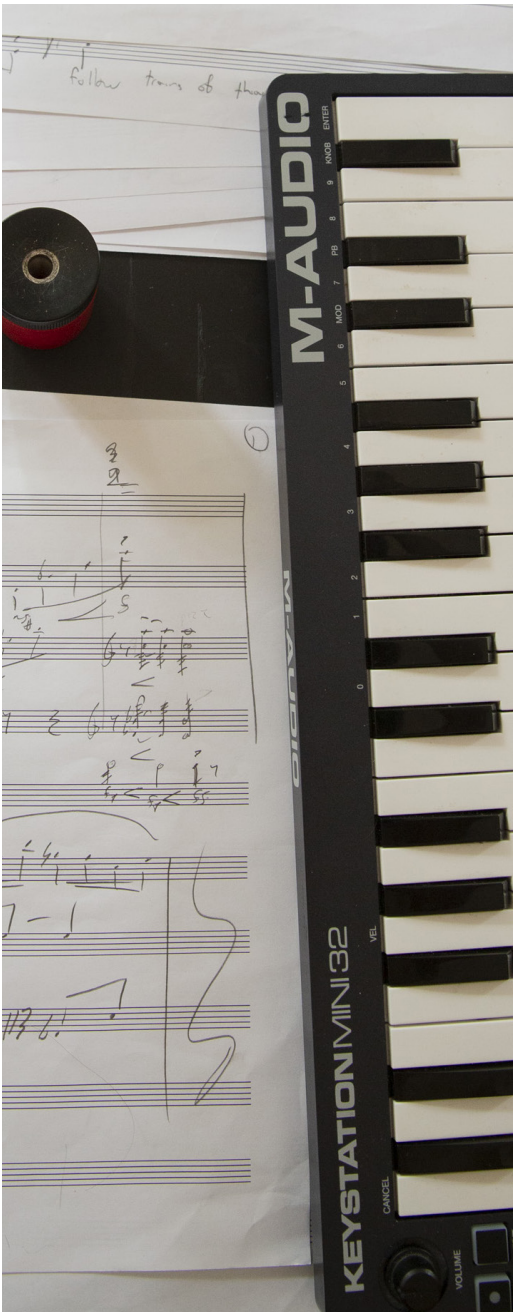
“[O]ne of the key ways we deal with suffering of any kind is by finding some kind of deeper meaning in it, and religious meaning is often a big part of that. That was missing in work on mental disorder.”

—Dr. Kate Finley, Assistant Professor of Philosophy



The Art and Science of Composition

By Jim McFarlin '74





As a youngster growing up in California, Dr. Benjamin Krause realized that no matter how excited he got playing other people's music on the piano, at some point he would have to compose himself.

"In the beginning, it was all about just playing the piano," recalled Krause (rhymes with drowsy), assistant professor of music and award-winning composer. "I played guitar and a little percussion, but I was always wanting

to make stuff up on the piano, writing little songs and loops that sounded like movie themes or pop songs. I was doing that from the age of eight.

"Then in college it all kind of came together. I was studying piano but realized I really didn't have a passion for piano by itself. I wasn't going to become a concert pianist, so I started taking composition more seriously and learning about the history, the theory, different styles of music. I realized that was what I was meant to do. In

particular, encountering jazz music and learning jazz piano opened up a whole world of sounds and possibilities for me, and deepened my interest in improvisation and composition."

While Krause teaches courses in the Hope College music department's core curriculum, including piano, jazz, music theory and aural skills, his passion is to mentor and inspire students who have the same revelation he received in college.

Certainly he has credentials to inspire any fledgling composer. A devotee of vocal and instrumental formats ranging from classical to jazz, new music and beyond, Krause has performed at New York's Carnegie Hall and received a prestigious Copland House Residency Award in 2018, the same year he joined the Hope faculty on a part-time basis, commuting three days a week from his Chicago home. In 2018 he also was named Distinguished Composer of the Year by the Music Teachers National Association.

Yet Krause says his latest honor is his most prominent, and perhaps most challenging: in 2020 he won a national competition and was commissioned to compose an original work for the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra.

"It's called the Rapido! Competition," he said. "I'd heard about it for years, but due to the pandemic I was home with extra time on my hands. They give everybody two weeks to submit their finished work."

Two weeks? Isn't that kind of... quick?

"No, that's *extremely* quick," Krause said, laughing. "Which is why they call it Rapido! — as in, work quickly. There aren't many competitions like that, which makes it kind of a novelty. But I think it's also grounded in the idea that historically, composers and other artists have had to work very quickly, on deadline. When I'm working on my music, I feel like it's never 100 percent the way I want it, but there comes a time when you have to let it go. Like a teacher of mine used to say, 'Bless and Release.'"

Winning the Rapido! Competition for a chamber work for four instruments (which Krause later expanded into a larger piece, "Notes from Inside") led to his orchestral commission for the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. So how is that piece coming along? "Oh, I haven't even started it yet," he said this summer, laughing again. "It's a long process, and it's probably going to be done sometime in 2023–24. I'm waiting to see if they're going to give me an assignment. That's just how orchestras do things, and the piece itself is going to take a while. I probably won't even begin until sometime early next year."

When in composition mode, it's not unusual to find Krause engulfed

in sheet music paper, translating his inspirations into the musical score.

"I think of composition, especially recently, as a process of discovery," he reflected. "I'm not necessarily 'coming up' with something; I'm finding it." He draws a lot of ideas from literature, such as the poetry of Amy Lowell, whose Pulitzer Prize-winning work inspired the music that earned Krause an honorable mention in the 2020 National Association of Teachers of Singing Art Song Competition.

"But I would say it usually starts with something I find musically compelling. I look for something that kind of gets my heart pumping or that I find beautiful. Once I find it, it's like sifting through sand and finding little bits of gold. Then I get excited and start building on that."

When working with budding young composers, "I feel so much of my advice comes from the best advice I've received," he said. "My philosophy is to find my students' own goals and aspirations and put those front and center. I don't mean *What do they want to do in 10 years?* — but *What is the music they're hearing or feeling? What are they moved by?*" He builds from that, challenging students in a variety of ways "so the tool kit they come out with is more complete, more robust. They learn different tricks and tools for solving creative problems."

In late 2021, Krause collaborated with Dr. Pablo Peschiera '93 of Hope's Department of English to create a vocal piece for the Chapel Choir to sing at Hope's annual Christmas Vespers services. And July brought Krause a particularly memorable moment: the premiere of a major piece he composed for choir and instrumental ensemble at his alma mater, Valparaiso University, to mark the 40th anniversary of Lutheran Summer Music, a festival and residential academy for high school and junior high students. Krause has been composer in residence there for five years. "It's my first piece I've been able to finish since becoming a father," he said, "so that means a lot to me, to kind of get back in the swing of things."

In February Krause's wife, Christina, gave birth to the couple's first child, a son named Adrian. "It's been a really huge change, obviously," he said, "but it was great to have this summer mostly just quiet and enjoy a lot of good family-at-home time."

"Honestly, it was fun for a while, having that kind of back-and-forth lifestyle from Chicago to here, because we still got to enjoy all the big city stuff. But now it's really nice to be here and have a more stable lifestyle with our son. It's quieter than Chicago, but Holland has a lot to offer, too."



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“I think of composition, especially recently, as a process of discovery. I’m not necessarily ‘coming up’ with something; I’m finding it... but I would say it usually starts with something I find musically compelling. I look for something that kind of gets my heart pumping or that I find beautiful. Once I find it, it’s like sifting through sand and finding little bits of gold. Then I get excited and start building on that.”

– Dr. Benjamin Krause, Assistant Professor of Music

Imaginary numbers, real belonging

By Natasha Strydhorst

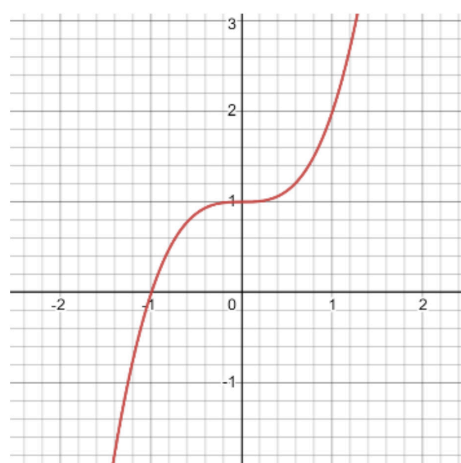
In many ways, mathematics is art — at least for Dr. Stephanie Edwards. She's always had an affinity for the field, but it really blossomed when she was in graduate school. Doing complex analysis (math beyond calculus) brought home to her that math is beautiful — and it works.

Complex analysis is, as the name suggests, complicated. “The easy way to see it is calculus with imaginary numbers thrown in,” Edwards says. Imaginary numbers are created possibilities from mathematical impossibilities. “What’s the square root of negative one?” Edwards asks. Logically, it’s an impossible question: two negatives multiplied together yield a positive — there’s nothing that, multiplied by itself, will result in a negative real number. However, mathematicians “imagined what would happen if you could” multiply a number by itself to arrive at negative one, Edwards says. That something is an imaginary number, $i = \sqrt{-1}$.

Like a child’s imagination, these fictitious numbers “open a whole new world, and you can take problems — real world problems — and solve them in the complex plane,” Edwards says. Then the answers can be applied to the real world, thereby solving real problems. Any type of fluid flow — how water moves around rocks in a river, how air moves around the wings of an airplane, how boats move through water — is part of complex analysis. You will see it applied to electronics, circuits, amplifiers, and in general oscillating systems. (Hope’s engineering and physics departments love it when their majors have taken complex analysis, Edwards says, because it opens up so many ways for them to

solve problems.)

Edwards' research stays within her "Mathematical Family." Her advisor's advisor was the well-known mathematician, educator and problem solver George Pólya. She and her mathematical siblings have all studied his work. Most of his results require functions to have only "real zeros."



In a polynomial equation such as $y = x^3 + 1$, a zero is the value of x when y is equal to zero. One can think of it as where the graph of the function crosses the x -axis. Complex or "nonreal" zeros are solutions that can't be represented on a graph. In the example above, the real zero is at -1 and the nonreal zeros are at $\frac{1 \pm \sqrt{3}}{2}$.

"For my research, I take Pólya's theorems, and I'll say: 'What happens if we relax the hypothesis and allow functions that have nonreal zeros?'" Edwards says. "Where does his argument fail? Pólya was a really smart guy; in general, his argument won't work for functions with nonreal



zeros, so we use technology to give us insight into ways to prove (or disprove) new results." Edwards' students have presented their work at regional and national meetings. Some have even won awards for their presentations on the research.

Edwards has experienced challenges beyond those in mathematics. She found herself battling a rare form of cancer, Ewing's sarcoma, and during her year of chemotherapy she was on medical leave. During the time of healing and reflection, she concentrated on what brought her joy. When she finally returned to work, she told her students, "I'm exhausted, but you bring me such joy being in this classroom."

One of her greatest joys is witnessing her students experience "math moments." A "math moment" is that time of enlightenment, excitement, and clarity when a person finally makes a connection within the material that leads to understanding. The environment must be encouraging for students to be able to have such a moment. "A lot of it is making them feel valued as people. They may not understand a specific concept; it doesn't mean they can't understand it," she says. "And any time a student has a math moment, the whole class will celebrate."

In Edwards' experience, math moments abound at conferences.

She's currently the president of Pi Mu Epsilon, the national honorary mathematics society. It's a volunteer-run organization whose funds go directly to students "to promote the joy of mathematics," Edwards says, often by sending them to conferences to present their work and hear about work by others. Pi Mu Epsilon is organizing most of the undergraduate content for the January 2023 Joint Mathematics Meetings (the largest annual gathering of mathematicians in the world). Edwards will be traveling to Boston with ten Hope students, some of whom will present their research. The entire group will be learning all that the mathematical community can offer them. "Students can go and see: There are people who love to do the same things you do, and they're cool. They're not dorky," Edwards says. "Mathematics is community."



I guess my whole life's about community, because working in a group where you feel accepted and valued can make such a difference."

That community is something Edwards especially hopes to bring to the forefront for female students, who are in the minority in a largely male-dominated field. She regularly brings students to the Nebraska Conference for Undergraduate Women in Mathematics, which she sees as a foundational experience.

"They come back feeling inspired and that they can do things," she says. "That's the big thing. They don't have to go into math. They don't have to go to graduate school. They just have to know they can do it, and that it changes the world."

Edwards has introduced innovative projects to bring community onto the Hope campus, too. Among her fondest achievements is her button project. Students are given buttons with mathematical symbols directly tied to the class they are taking. The students then pin them to their backpacks. Now, Edwards says, "you walk around campus and you see students with one or two buttons, but then you see some with a

whole billboard, like I have, and they get so excited about it. It's something little that can create solidarity. Mathematics is so much thought of as an isolated field, so any way you can start making people feel belonging makes a big difference."

Battling the perception that math is isolated — even isolating — is key to Edwards' mentorship philosophy. "Interdisciplinary stuff: that's where everything's at — bringing ideas from different places, learning something else and making progress. And you can't do that in an isolated environment," she says. Edwards invites new math majors to stop by her office to personally receive a book of short stories of triumphs in math, and the message behind them: "Math is hard, but you can do it." Department social events often feature strategy games that apply mathematical thinking to a more casual realm, such as backgammon or *Settlers of Catan*.

Visitors to the Department of Mathematics and Statistics in VanderWerf Hall may see another of Edwards' initiatives: the "VanderBoards." Two enormous outdoor chalkboards serve as a community forum. Whenever a new problem's added, people can gather informally to discuss solutions, or set them down in chalk — *Good Will Hunting* style.



“Mathematics is community. I guess my whole life’s about community, because working in a group where you feel accepted and valued can make such a difference.”

–Dr. Stephanie Edwards

*Professor of Mathematics,
Department Chair*

Edwards’ calculus classes are treated to trips to Hope’s Kruizenga Art Museum, where they hear about art creation and apply it to mathematics. “You can put different parts together and sometimes it doesn’t fit well,” Edwards explains. “Sometimes you start out with a block and you subtract to get to your art,” as with a marble sculpture. “Sometimes you add to get

your art,” as with a clay one. “I’d have students write a reflective paper on how mathematics is the same way.” They take measurements of an ancient ornate bell too large to practically weigh and a sugar bowl too delicate to fill, using calculus and mathematical modeling to estimate their weights and volumes.

Edwards credits the success of such initiatives to the dynamics at Hope,

and specifically her department. “The community in our department, it’s different,” she says. “The people make all the difference in the world.”



the road. to epic

By Greg Olgers '87

As Dr. Steve Boerigter, who became chair of the college's Board of Trustees in July, anticipated retirement from Los Alamos National Laboratory, he wanted to begin with something once-in-a-lifetime epic.

It didn't take long for him and spouse Kathy Reeder '83 Boerigter, who'd retired from teaching a couple years earlier, to decide — as experienced tandem cyclists — on a coast-to-coast bike ride across the United States. And so, in early August, their tandem bicycle decked out in Hope orange and blue, they symbolically dipped a wheel into the Pacific Ocean and began a three-month, 5,000-mile journey from Washington State's Olympic Peninsula to the Southernmost Point Buoy in Key West, Florida. In between, they crossed the North Cascades, rode the vast Plains of Montana and North Dakota, experienced construction and detours, and enjoyed the scenic beauty of the Great Allegheny Passage and the C&O Canal Towpath.

Along the way, they also came to appreciate something that they both realized was more epic than the length of the ride or even the stunning scenery.

"In the end," Steve said, "doing the trip is just going through each day being patient and kind to each other and trusting that it will work out. We're only two feet apart almost all of the time, so we need to be in sync."

"The country is beautiful and vast," he said, "but it was our personal experiences with others that were the highlight of the trip. We spent a lot of time in very rural America, a place fewer people know these days. Often, the daily narrative tells us that people are so different or we can't understand their view. Our daily experiences have been just the opposite."

"We have discovered that everybody has a story, and they're happy to share their story if you give a little vulnerability, listen intently and ask good, insightful questions," Steve said. "And when you understand their story, the boxes you put people in evaporate."

It was true, they found, everywhere.

"Somebody asked me, 'How do you do this, meeting people?'" Kathy said. "We invade people's space and make strangers our friends."

At a time when division and mistrust seem to be the national *zeitgeist*, it has been heartening.

The husband-and-wife cyclists experienced daily what Steve describes as "God moments" that reinforced the lesson in often extraordinary ways. Like when the North Carolina campground that they'd reached at the end of a hilly, exhausting October day was full, all of its sites either occupied or reserved.

"Right at the moment when we were trying to figure out what we were going to do next, a big RV rolls up and the driver asks if we need help," Steve recalled. "Kathy explains our situation, and he says, 'You guys can be our guests. We have a huge campsite — plenty of room.'"

Later gathered around the campfire, the two couples talked the hours away, and strangers became friends as they found things in common — little things, and big. Remarkably, the other husband and wife were also named Steve and Kathy. They'd also been married since June of 1986. They also valued their Christian faith.

"We have discovered that everybody has a story, and they're happy to share their story if you give a little vulnerability, listen intently and ask good, insightful questions. And when you understand their story, the boxes you put people in evaporate."

—Dr. Steve Boerigter

"And so we had a wonderful evening of a shared meal and a shared campsite," Steve recalled. "It is an example of how during a time of uncertainty we can trust that God's going to be generous and have a gift for us — perhaps when we don't deserve it."

Taken as metaphor, the day-to-day challenges of the ride itself seem like life lessons as well. Together on the loaded

Taken as metaphor, the day-to-day challenges of the ride itself seem like life lessons. Together on the loaded tandem, Steve and Kathy are often in vulnerable situations such as climbing steep hills, heavy traffic entering cities, poor road and trail conditions, or charting an uncertain route through detours and construction. These tough situations are where trust becomes most important, not only between themselves but also with the motorists and others.

tandem, Steve and Kathy are often in vulnerable situations such as climbing steep hills, heavy traffic entering cities, poor road and trail conditions, or charting an uncertain route through detours and construction. These tough situations are where trust becomes most important, not only between themselves but also with the motorists and others.

“The hardest part for me as the captain [the rider in front] has been road construction — detours, traffic,” Steve said. “In a perfect world, I know where I’m going, and we’re just pedaling. With detours and construction, I’m not sure where to go and my Garmin is unhelpful to me. That’s often also when the road goes bad or traffic snarls and it’s real work keeping us upright and safe. It’s hard to be focused on both ‘safe’ and where I’m going at the same time.”

For Kathy, in contrast, “I think the hard part for me is that when you’re on the back as the stoker, you have no control over steering or braking. And I can’t see around Steve, so I really have to trust him fully. So communication is a really big thing on the tandem.”

“Some have asked us how our marriage is going through the adventure,” she said. “Sure, we’ve had our moments, we once went down pretty hard on the street while getting going with one foot clipped in. But we’ve never been closer — both literally and figuratively.”

They also found that many of the comforts and possessions that can seem important... aren’t. Although they sometimes stayed in motels and ate at local restaurants (often the local bar and grill), they for the most part needed to carry everything either strapped to the bike or in its small trailer, including a tent, repair kit, food, water, clothes...

“We had two shirts, two socks, shorts, zip-off pants, base layer, sandals. That’s all of our off-bike clothes,” Steve said. “So you’d see us wearing either the black shirt or the blue shirt. Not surprisingly, the experience absolutely made us appreciate how one can be successful with less.”

That said, with so little clothing, coin-operated washers and dryers became if not essential, at least treasured, which did reveal one unexpected need.

“One thing I hadn’t thought about: We had to save quarters,” Kathy said. “And I hadn’t had to do that since college.”

“In an age when cash is not your friend, *per se* — ‘the cashless society’ — trying to save quarters is not so easy,” she said.

Even as Steve and Kathy enjoyed meeting new people, the trip also provided a chance to see familiar faces. Their carefully planned route included time with family in Washington, Minnesota, Indiana, North Carolina and — at the half-way point — Holland, Michigan, and the Hope campus.

Kathy’s first journey to Hope had been by car not bike, when she visited with friends as a high school senior from Jenison, Michigan. She acknowledges that she had already decided to go elsewhere and was just looking for a day off, but the college’s personal touch impressed her and she changed her plans and enrolled. She majored in biology and minored in chemistry and joined the Sigma Sigma sorority, and went on to teach chemistry for nearly 30 years, retiring in 2019.

For Steve, who grew up in Holland, the initial connection to the college was through family. His last name will be familiar to those who know of the college’s Boerigter Center for Calling and Career — it was established in 2016 in honor of his parents, George ’61 and Sibilla Boerigter, by employees of SoundOff Signal, the company that George founded. In addition to Steve’s father, three of his uncles were Hope grads.

Although Steve’s two brothers also attended Hope, he was interested in engineering, a major that the college didn’t offer at a time. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in geological engineering at the University of



Arizona, and then a Doctor of Science degree in nuclear engineering at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He held a variety of positions during his subsequent 29-year career at Los Alamos National Laboratory, in both technical and non-technical leadership roles.

Kathy and Steve didn't meet *at* college, but they did meet while *in* college, when both were summer counselors at Camp Geneva north of Holland. They eventually became Hope parents, with two of their three daughters, Kim and Michelle, graduating from the college in 2014 and 2016, respectively.

They appreciated their daughters' experiences at Hope, and Steve liked what he saw as the vision for the Boerigter Center developed, so he didn't hesitate in joining the board when invited by then-president Dr. John C. Knapp in 2017. It was also a natural fit given his own commitment to volunteer service and to education in particular, which included serving on the Los Alamos Public School Board and chairing the Advisory Board for the University of New Mexico Los Alamos Campus. Outside of education, he's also a past president of the board of United Way of Northern New Mexico and a founding member of the Los Alamos Community Foundation.

Steve notes that he's enjoyed his past five years on the college's Board of Trustees, observing that "This group is the most capable body of people I've ever spent time with in my life. They love Hope College and I'm unbelievably humbled to be even just a part of it."

He especially appreciates the bold vision of *Hope Forward* not only to improve access to a college education, but to shape culture for the better at the same time.

"I think for me, the vision of *Hope Forward* that is most powerful is this notion of building an enduring culture of generosity. Imagine deep, life-long gratitude having experienced Hope College from the gifts of others — who themselves were the recipients of others' generosity. Frankly," Steve said, "it sure sounds similar to how God's grace works."

"If riding over 5,000 miles on a tandem sounds hard, imagine changing the funding model for higher education and building an enduring culture of generosity and grace along the way," he said. "That's pretty epic."

 For more about the trip and the Boerigters' experiences, follow @boerigtertandem on Instagram.

“HOPE SUSTAINS”: AFFINITY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

By Greg Olgers '87



The “Hope Sustains” affinity group established this summer provides a new way for alumni to connect with others committed to stewardship of creation and to make a difference at and via the college.

In addition to offering a community of alumni with similar interests, “Hope Sustains” presents abounding opportunities for *alma mater* impact. They run the gamut, from being literally hands-on as with the “One Big Weekend” tree planting in October, to serving as a resource for students interested in learning about careers in sustainability, to lending expertise to inform Hope’s stewardship initiatives, to helping fund the college’s sustainability-focused programs and research.

“Hope Sustains” was initiated by Dr. Anne Deckard ’73 Hiskes and Dr. Richard Hiskes ’73, whose careers have included teaching and administrative roles at the University of Connecticut and Grand Valley State University, and who have long been interested in creation care and environmental justice. They appreciated what they saw at Hope, ranging from the work of the Office of Sustainability and the “Green Team” consisting of students, faculty and staff; to designing new buildings to meet LEED standards; to sustainable practices in groundskeeping; to academic programs in environmental science and environmental studies; to the environmental focus of numerous faculty-student research groups. Hope has received a variety of local, regional and national

honors through the years for its sustainability efforts, including a STARS Silver rating from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education. This fall, the college was named runner up for 2022 Sustainable Business of the Year recognition by the West Michigan Sustainable Business Forum.

“There couldn’t be a place with a better foundation for doing this,” Rich said. “We’re really just helping along what’s here.”

The couple had initially committed to funding three sustainability projects (retrofitting a cottage, a sustainable transportation station, and grants to faculty to expand sustainability into the curriculum and across the different academic divisions) in honor of Anne’s mother, Anne DeBoer Deckard, who had also been a college-level educator. Knowing, though, that many among Hope’s thousands of alumni are also interested in sustainability, they soon proposed “Hope Sustains” as a way for others to become engaged in enhancing the college’s role as an example, community resource and training ground for future sustainability leaders.

“Hope has a great reputation in undergraduate experiential learning, and so this fits right in with Hope’s reputation and strengths,” Anne said. “We want to inspire other alumni to give back to their alma mater and keep Hope’s great legacy in higher education going.”

“Hope Sustains” is guided by a 12-member Board of Directors whose career paths and volunteer service span government, corporate, non-profit, education and faith-based institutions. Michelle Seppala Gibbs, who is director of the college’s Office of Sustainability, noted that the group is a much-appreciated partner as Hope seeks to expand its already award-winning sustainability efforts.

“This is something that has been on our radar for a long time, and to have alumni say that they were interested in seeing this get started and help it get kicked off was huge,” she said. “Hopefully it will encourage our alumni to help Hope do even better.”

Those interested in learning more about sustainability practices at Hope and alumni who wish to become involved in “Hope Sustains” are invited to visit the college’s Office of Sustainability online for additional information.

hope.edu/sustainability

Everyone interested in supporting Hope’s sustainability efforts financially may do so at any time, but might want to watch in particular for the forthcoming annual Day of Giving. Scheduled for Feb. 23-24, the event includes opportunities to contribute to specific areas of the college — including Hope’s sustainability initiatives.

2022-23 “HOPE SUSTAINS” BOARD MEMBERS

Annie Deckard ’73 Hiskes

Co-Chair

Retired Grand Valley State University dean, Brooks College of Interdisciplinary Studies. Professor emerita of philosophy, the University of Connecticut

Kyle Funk ’18

Co-Chair

National League of Cities – transportation and infrastructure policy specialist

Kaila Robertson ’19 Bylsma

Secretary

Meijer – information technology

Richard Hiskes ’73

Outreach and Engagement

Professor emeritus, University of Connecticut, political science and human rights, and retired Grand Valley State University professor of political science and human rights

Nick Gibson ’17

Trane – project manager

Sarah Josuns ’02 Kessler

City of Clearwater, Florida – lead environmental specialist

Junu Shrestha ’01

World Bank – senior environmental specialist

David Beattie ’73

Communications

b.comm creative, director, ESG branding/marketing

Jeffrey Vredenburg ’11

City of Sarasota, Florida – sustainability manager; adjunct professor, Ringling College of Art and Design

Steven Bouma-Prediger ’79

Ex Officio Faculty Liaison

Hope College – Leonard and Marjorie Maas Professor of Reformed Theology; chair, Department of Religion; chair, Green Team

Nicholas Duthler ’09

Ex Officio Staff

Hope College – Physical Plant project manager

Michelle Seppala Gibbs

Ex Officio Staff Liaison

Hope College – director, Office of Sustainability



10 UNDER TEN

By Kate Bultema '09 Ralston

Every year, the Holland Bowl Mill creates beautiful wooden bowls that are used as the physical awards for the college's "10 Under 10" award recipients. Below the recipient's name and graduation year, the bowl states that each is "an agent of Hope living faithfully into their vocation." While this year's recipients' vocations range from social work to art education to medicine, they have all used their unique talents and passions and their Hope educations to impact their local and global communities.

The 10 Under 10 Awards are designed to highlight Hope's young alumni and demonstrate the amazing things they are able to accomplish in the short amount of time since their graduation. The 10 alumni who are honored with this award represent the many, many more graduates who are serving as amazing role models for current Hope students.

On the pages which follow, they reflect on Hope's role in their journeys. For Q&A interviews that share more about each and why they do what they do, please visit the college online.

hope.edu/10u10awards22

'12

SARA DUHR BAZYDLO

*Licensed Clinical Social Worker at
John D. Dingell VA Medical Center*

"Hope College provided a space for me to gain a deeper awareness of calling and purpose. Along with being encouraged to explore vocation, faculty and staff at Hope helped me to identify my gifts and gain skills to make a greater impact."



'17

ALLIX HUTCHISON

*First Grade Teacher at
Hudsonville Public Schools*

"My time at Hope was irrefutably the best four years of my life. I learned so much from the hands-on experiences offered through [teacher-education] field placements, and I would call my mom on the drive home almost every week to share something new I learned from the teachers with whom I volunteered. I credit Hope with shaping me into a better teacher, mentor, advocate, leader, friend, colleague, encourager and Christ-follower."



'17

JOSH COOPER

*Voter Protection Director – Democratic
Party of Illinois 2022 Coordinated Campaign*

"I have never once questioned whether or not I was competent, qualified or that my experience was applicable in my professional, spiritual or philanthropic endeavors. My activism is rooted fundamentally in my Christian upbringing and the values that were instilled in me by my parents who reared me. It was in college that I learned HOW to think, not just what to think."



'13

ALECIA IVERY

*Midwest Lead Consultant & National
Trainer at The Center for Healing and
Justice Through Sport*

"Hope helped me find the understanding of my faith and belief on my own. Going out of my comfort zone and joining the Gospel Choir helped me when I graduated to continue taking risks and finding leadership roles."



'12

NICHOLAS LEONARD

*Art and Design Education Visiting
Lecturer at Northern Illinois University*

"When I went to Hope College I knew I wanted to be an art educator. What I was not expecting was the influence of Hope in bringing my career into a larger life calling and a way to glorify God. In teaching art, I do not expect every student to go out and become a fine artist, but I do expect every student to encounter images that can influence their thinking. I now see my calling to equip people to be more aesthetically aware in their daily lives to recognize the greatness and glory of God and His creation."



'15

ISABEL MORRIS

*Assistant Professor of Civil and Environmental
Engineering at New Mexico Tech*

"I am so grateful for the values Hope successfully helped nurture in me (service at a local and global level, holistic leadership and a sense of calling or vocation). Taken together, the experience of a Hope education is indistinguishable from where I found my calling and readied myself to follow it."



'14

SAMANTHA POON

Attorney, Department of Homeland Security

"Being a student at Hope helped me to better understand myself in a world around me that often looked very different from me and held different values than my own. The Phelps Scholars Program helped me to know what it looked like to bring diversity, equity and global citizenship into everyday life. The continuing community I have from my time at Hope has been invaluable."



'12

MARCO TORI

*Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer,
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention / LCDR,
United States Public Health Service*

"I developed an appetite for research to contribute to the broader scientific community while at Hope. My research has transitioned from organic chemistry to health services research in substance use, but I gained important skills while at Hope. The theme of service continues to be a guiding light in my work as a public health doctor in Boston and as I transition to working for the CDC in an elite epidemiology training program."



'19

ALEXANDRA VROOM

*Registered Nurse at Trinity Health –
St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor*

"I could continue to recount many other impacts my Hope education has provided me with, and I do so freely with people in casual conversation. One would be surprised at how often my patients say, 'Hope College in Holland, Michigan? Why, I heard that's a great place to be! What did you think?' after I tell them where I graduated. I love affirming their assumption and recounting my positive experiences."



'12

EDEN COLLINS

*Assistant Professor of Art at
Stephen F. Austin State University*

"At Hope College, I learned how to thrive in an environment of discipline, rigor and scholarship that simultaneously valued altruism and giving back. The passion of the professors, the expectations placed on me in the classroom, and the culture of volunteerism on campus have all permanently impacted the way I engage in my career and as a volunteer."

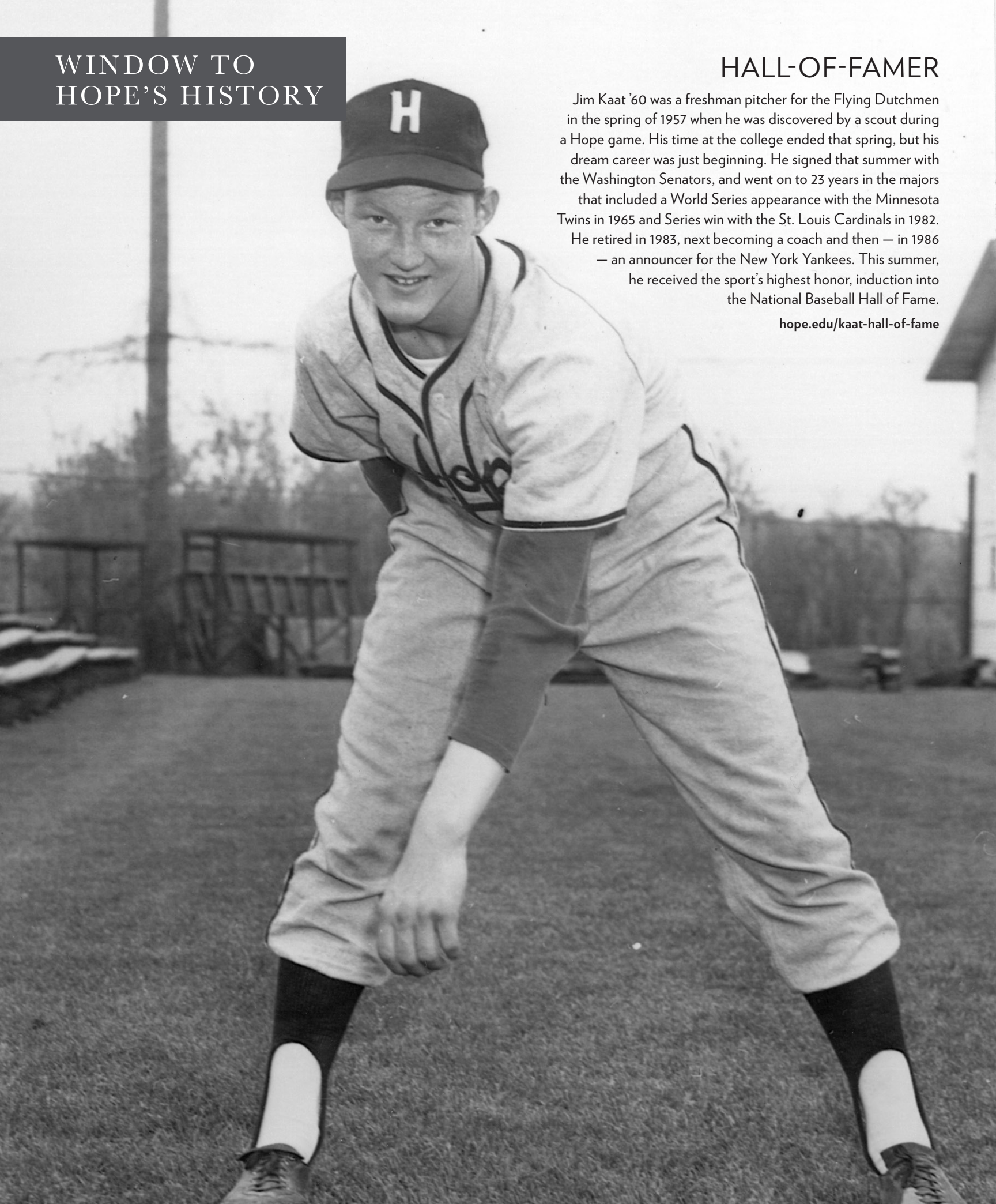


WINDOW TO HOPE'S HISTORY

HALL-OF-FAMER

Jim Kaat '60 was a freshman pitcher for the Flying Dutchmen in the spring of 1957 when he was discovered by a scout during a Hope game. His time at the college ended that spring, but his dream career was just beginning. He signed that summer with the Washington Senators, and went on to 23 years in the majors that included a World Series appearance with the Minnesota Twins in 1965 and Series win with the St. Louis Cardinals in 1982. He retired in 1983, next becoming a coach and then — in 1986 — an announcer for the New York Yankees. This summer, he received the sport's highest honor, induction into the National Baseball Hall of Fame.

hope.edu/kaat-hall-of-fame





CLASSNOTES!

Classnotes Writer: Julie Rawlings '83 Huisingh

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 2023 issue are due by January 31, 2023.

50s

James Harvey '52 has just published his 12th book in the Christian Living area. The book is titled *Letters from Perverse University – 2nd Edition*. The book contains a series of satirical letters from a professor of deception at Perverse University in Hell written to his former students in the U.S.A. working to undermine the basic Judeo/Christian values upon which the country was founded.

Richard Hagni '53 received the Honorary Life Member Award from the International Association on the Genesis of Ore Deposits. The

award is in recognition of lifetime achievements in the field of ore geology and services to the association and its commissions in the course of many years. He taught geology at Missouri University of Science and Technology from 1956 to 2000. He has published 24 book chapters and books and 201 papers, and given 397 scholarly presentations at geological meetings.

Charles Johnson '54 published the book *Another Watchman* with his granddaughter, Kristin Johnson Vincenzes. He and his wife, Donna Huss, have been married for 69 years and he is 91 years old.

60s

Anne Wiegerink '60 Anderson had her third book published: *Cubbie The Therapy Dog*. The true story is told by Cubbie and illustrated by Donna Setterlund from California.

Darrel Staat '64 had his eighth book published by Rowman and Littlefield: *Centers of Excellence: Niche Methods to Improve Higher Education in the 21st Century*. Darrel is still working full time as associate professor in the Thayer School of Graduate Studies at Wingate University. He finds working with doctoral students a great pleasure.

70s

Victor Folkert '72 and **Nancy Warren '77 Folkert** are actively retired in Conroe, Texas. In August, Wipf and Stock published Vic's book, *God through Cosmic Lenses: Quantum Mystery and Infinite Personality*.

Gene Marie Callahan '73 has been named artistic director of the Battenkill Chorale, Cambridge, New York. Battenkill Chorale is an unauditioned mixed chorus which performs in Washington, Warren, Rensselaer, and Saratoga Counties. In addition to her piano and voice students, she conducts the chorus at Siena College, where she also teaches Basics of Singing and continues as the organist and choir director at Old First Church, Bennington, Vermont.

Terrance Stevens '73 retired from Pfizer in 2020 after a 44-year career in the pharmaceutical industry. He and his wife, Elizabeth, are enjoying traveling, golf, and grandchildren.



The week before his induction into the National Baseball Hall of Fame (as featured on page 46), **Jim Kaat '60** was honored by the Minnesota Twins by having his number retired. He is pictured at center with former Hope teammate (and fellow pitcher) **Al Kober '60** and current Hope coach **Stu Fritz**.

CLASSNOTES



Neal Sobania '68 of Lakewood, Washington, is co-author, with longtime scholarly collaborator Dr. Raymond Silverman, of the book *Ethiopian Church Art: Painters, Patrons, Purveyors*. The image-rich study chronicles a tradition that has been part of Ethiopian Orthodox Christianity for more than 1,500 years. It is based on research they conducted for 25 years in the northern Ethiopian town of Aksum and in Addis Ababa working with more than 200 individuals. Neal was director of international education and a member of the history faculty at Hope from 1981 to 2005. He was subsequently at Pacific Lutheran University, where he was executive director of the Wang Center for Global Education and a professor of history, retiring in 2016. Through the years, he has donated to the college's Kruizenga Art Museum more than 1,000 pieces of art and cultural objects that he has collected across the course of his career, including more than 700 that are Ethiopian-related; the museum exhibited 67 of the latter in an exhibition in the fall of 2018. Neal, at right, is shown presenting personal copies of the book to collections manager Andie Near and museum curator Charles Mason.

Addy Whitehouse '75 published her second novel in the Dana Demeter Mystery series under the pen name A. F. Whitehouse. Her book, *Signs of the Father*, can be found on Amazon.

80s

Pamela Pater-Ennis '80 received the Prophetic Ministry Award from New Brunswick Theological Seminary. She was honored for her work in My Sanctuary Healing, which is a ministry to those who have been abused by either clergy, church members or a wider congregation.

Kim Logie '83 Bates retired after 27 years in education to work for herself and help

small businesses move into a more tech-heavy environment. She reports she has been enjoying her house on the lake and being able to control her own schedule.

Todd Holstege '83 retired in February of 2021 after 37 years of teaching, serving as athletic director and coaching. He keeps himself busy running his interior and exterior painting company and his Patience Properties. He and his wife, Kim, are following their son, Spencer, 6'5" and 320 lbs., starting LG at Purdue University. Spencer was named the top weight lifter on the team and has been named Preseason All-Big Ten Second Team, by PFF, for the 2022 season. His goal is to be drafted in the 2024 draft. Boiler Up!

Linda Miller '83 and Chuck Bryda were married on June 11, 2022, in Naperville, Illinois. Linda's daughters, Carissa Speelman and Cailyn TenHoeve '17, and Chuck's daughter, Lindsay Bryda, were the attendants. Linda's granddaughter, Adeline Speelman, was the flower girl and her grandson, Owen Speelman, was the ring bearer.

Tim Vande Bunte '83 has retired as CEO and chairman of the board of Vande Bunte Eggs after 40 years with the company and is now selling the company. He reports that he looks forward to spending more time with his children, grandchildren and friends, and will continue traveling, including a mission trip with Every Child Ministry to Uganda in 2023. He plans on cooking and baking more and taking classes to sharpen his skills. He will continue to chop wood, exercise and ride by bicycle. He joined the Hemingway Society which was an interest inspired by his high school teacher **John Burgraff '62** reading the book *Farewell to Arms*, and will continue his annual pilgrimage to Key West, Florida.

Wendy Vande Vusse '84 Delhaye retired from Saugatuck Public Schools as director of guidance and counseling in June 2022 after 33 years in public education.

Duane VandenBrink '84 reports that he is excited to have joined his *alma mater* as an adjunct professor this fall. He taught an evening chemistry course in the Schaap Science Center, and enjoyed the interaction and enthusiasm of his students.

Johnny Marmelstein '85 has accepted the Dean of Students position at Pacifica Christian High School in Newport Beach, California. Pacifica Christian teaches students to think and live well by providing a rigorous, college-preparatory, liberal arts education for students from all backgrounds and neighborhoods. He will also take over the Boys' Varsity Soccer Program. In his 38th year of teaching and coaching, Marmelstein has amassed a high school soccer coaching record of 504-191-68.

Marjorie Lindner '87 Gunnoe is a professor at Calvin University. She recently published *The Person in Psychology and Christianity* with InterVarsity Press.



Jon Smoker '69 of Elkhart, Indiana, set a world bench press record of 216 pounds for 75+, 165 lb. class. It was previously held by a lifter from Azerbaijan.

Harry Coffill '89 is continuing his service to Godfrey-Lee Public Schools, serving as K-12 library-media specialist. He reports that this year brings exciting changes, as Lee High-Middle School is building a new library, and Harry is helping in the design and relocation of the space. Additionally, Godfrey-Lee Schools received two library grants this year, a Laura Bush Foundation grant for library materials at Godfrey Elementary School, and \$150,000 grant from the Michigan Department of Education for library upgrades.

90s

Brian Knight '91 was named president and CEO of the National Association of State Credit Union Supervisors (NASCUS) in January of this year. Prior to being named CEO, he served as the organization's general counsel and executive vice president for the previous 15 years. He joined NASCUS in 1998.

Bob Toth '93 is a PA-C at the Orthopedic Center. He has been part of the Sports Medicine Division for 12 years. He provides humanitarian medical care internationally with Team

Rubicon. He is the primary medical provider for the University of Utah baseball team and the Salt Lake City Bees.

Bill Boerman '94 was presented with a state tribute by State Representative Brad Slagh during a school board meeting at Adams Elementary in Zeeland, Michigan, on Monday, Sept. 19. The tribute was given in recognition of Bill being name "Regional Teacher of the Year" last spring. He is currently teaching fourth grade at Woodbridge Elementary in his first year with Zeeland Public Schools. He previously taught STEM at Holland Middle School, the position he held when he earned the regional honor.

Mark Whittaker '94 became president of the Scientific Research Consortium – AminoAcids.com in October 2021. AminoAcids.com is a testing lab that serves the biopharmaceutical and food industries.

Kristin Underhill '95 is the managing director of the Crystal Theatre Performing Arts Center, a restored 1927 historic theater in Crystal Falls, Michigan. She was previously the office manager for the Department of Art and Art History at Hope for 20 years.

Marianne Swierenga '99 was granted tenure and promoted to associate professor at Western Michigan University, where she is a cataloging and metadata librarian in the University Libraries.

00s

Kevin Fitton '00 had his first book of short stories, *Auras*, published by Fomite Press. He has a Master of Fine Arts degree from Bennington College and is a Ph.D. student at Western Michigan University.

Michelle Kramer '00 Grimestad and Dave Grimestad announce the birth of Sarah Lynn on Dec. 14, 2021. She joins big brother, Jonathan (3).

Laura Donnelly '01 read from her work and spoke at Hope College's Jack Ridl Visiting Writers Series on Monday, Oct. 3. She is the author of *Midwest Gothic*, a poetry chapbook selected as the winner of the Richard Snyder Prize.

Kate Te Winkle '02 Meyer has published her second book, *Faith Doesn't Erase Grief*. She also wrote *The Red Couch*.

Deborah Hoffman '02 Walters was selected as a 2022 Finalist for the FLAG Award for Teaching Excellence. The FLAG Award for Teaching Excellence recognizes and celebrates extraordinary New York City public school teachers who inspire learning through creativity, passion, and commitment. An independent jury selected the finalists from those nominated based on numerous factors, with a strong emphasis placed on the student experience. Candidates for this award challenge and inspire students of all abilities; utilize innovative teaching techniques and approaches to curricula and activities; reach out beyond the classroom, making a positive impact on the school and the community; embrace their role as an educator with tireless, devoted dedication; acknowledge the full spectrum of potential in each and every student; teach through example, as a leader and role model both inside the classroom and out; and engage in opportunities for self-improvement, and continue to learn, grow and develop as a teacher.

Katherine Ramsey '03 is a registered nurse working as a senior clinical application analyst for Indiana University Health. She has focused the last one-and-a-half years on the COVID vaccine build in their electronic health record and the integration with Indiana's State Vaccine Registry. In June, she transitioned to a senior data analyst position for IU Health, focusing on clinical quality data.

Rachel Le '07 Sprow and Josh Sprow announce the birth of Genevieve Lynn on July 1, 2021.

10s

Shirley Bradley '10 Dean and Thomas Dean announce the birth of Thomas Andrew Dean III (Tres) on July 31, 2022.

Natalie DeGeorge '10 Nethercott and her husband, Tyler, announce the birth of their fourth child and third son, Blaise Raphael, on July 12, 2022.

CLASSNOTES

Karly Murphy '11 was awarded a K99/R00 Pathway to Independence Award by the National Cancer Institute. This award will provide her with up to \$1 million in funds to support her research and career development. Through this award she will design and optimize a digital tool to help adolescent and young-adult cancer survivors manage symptoms of depression.

Alayna Ruberg '11 and Don Atkins announce the birth of Asher Daniel Ruberg on April 30, 2021.

Grace Gonzalez '12 D'Agostino and Joe D'Agostino announce the birth of Bianca Ann on Dec. 23, 2021. She joins big sister, Giada.

Stephanie Rogers '14 Olson recently became the chief operating officer for operational excellence at the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services. The department provides essential services to improve the health, safety and well-being of all North Carolinians.

John Lithio '15 plays for Pony (Pride of New York) Club frisbee team, which just won at Worlds. He has 90 goals in two seasons and two title game appearances and one championship. He started the offensive line for the New York Empire on AUDL and won the championship game.

Matt Milliken '15 and **Marie Dollar '15 Milliken** announce the birth of Henry Frederick on March 23, 2022.

Lauren Rechenbach-Chapman '16 Stonerock received her Doctor of Pharmacy, Pharm.D., from the University of Michigan, College of Pharmacy in 2021 and is currently in her second year residency at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, specializing in ambulatory care.

Hannah Larson '16 Riffe and Joshua Riffe announce the birth of Aubrey Raegan on May 27, 2022.

Megan Bisson '17 and Cody Kuster were married on June 17, 2022. They now reside in Spokane, Washington, where Megan is the assistant director of orientation and family programs at Eastern Washington University.

Elizabeth Lewellyn '17 Ramlow received her doctorate in optometry (*summa cum laude*)

from Indiana University School of Optometry and is now on staff at Baker Eye Care in Iron Mountain, Michigan. She and her husband, Dustin, reside in Norway, Michigan.

Becky Compton '17 Stephan and Michael Stephan announce the birth of Olive Hope on June 15, 2022.

Brenda Colina '18 and Tyler Horn '19 were married on July 30, 2022, at the Church of the Gesu in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. In May, they graduated together from Marquette University Law School and began their professional careers as associate attorneys at Ratzel & Associates, LLC and Lichtsinn & Haensel, S.C., respectively.

Allison Utting '19 Burkhardt was awarded a James Madison Fellowship by the James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation of Alexandria, Virginia. The fellowship supports further study of America's history by college graduates who aspire to become teachers of American history, American government and civics in the nation's secondary schools.

Rebecca Chema '19 is pursuing a DNP degree in nurse anesthesia at Oakland University-Beaumont.

Luke Lanham '19 and Sarah Plowman '19 were married on May 28, 2022.

Miguel Williams '19 has opened his own coffee shop, Apothecary Coffee and Espresso, in Farmington, Michigan.

20s

Desiree Love '20 is pursuing a second bachelor's degree, studying nursing in Michigan State University's accelerated second degree nursing track.

Reganne Diener '21 is a resource room teacher in Grand Haven, Michigan.

Liam Tobin '21 is an engineering consultant for Keyence Corporation.

James Mandeville '22 is pursuing a Ph.D. in chemical engineering at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

Garrett Shrode '22 is a policy analyst at the Eno Center for Transportation in Washington, D.C.



ANCHORED TUITION PLEDGE



The tuition students start with at Hope College is the tuition rate they will end with. We vow to hold our tuition rate constant because we are committed to the ambition of making Hope more affordable and accessible, both now and in the future.



IN MEMORIAM

Please visit the college online, to view expanded obituaries.

magazine.hope.edu/winter-2022/inmemoriam

40s

Raymond Lokers '40

Aug. 12, 2022, Hamilton, Michigan

Joyce Muilenburg '40 Booher

Sept. 16, 2022, Markesan, Wisconsin

50s

Robert Koop '50

Aug. 13, 2022, Holland, Michigan

Pauline Hendrieth '51 Williams

June 16, 2022, Brewton, Alabama

Eunice Schipper '52 Northuis

Sept. 16, 2022, Grand Haven, Michigan

John Boeve '53

July 21, 2022, Osprey, Florida

Paul Van Den Brink '53

Sept. 4, 2022, Portage, Michigan

Doris Stoffregen '56 Latham

Aug. 4, 2022, Ramsey, New Jersey

Carol Houghtaling '58 Brinkerhoff

Aug. 14, 2022, Charlottesville, Virginia

Janice Miller '59 Holcomb

Sept. 4, 2022, Lansing, Michigan

Janet MacKay '59 Kuyers

July 29, 2022, Holland, Michigan

60s

Gary Looman '60

Aug. 5, 2022, Webster Groves, Montana

Douglas Neckers '60

Nov. 22, 2022, Perrysburg, Ohio

Christine Pindar '61 Van Eck

Aug. 2, 2022, Grand Haven, Michigan

Gerald Nieuwsma '62

Aug. 7, 2022, Morgantown, West Virginia

Daughn Schipper '63 Greenwood

Aug. 30, 2022, Holland, Michigan

Carl Nykamp '63

Sept. 25, 2022, Idaho Falls, Idaho

Sandra Holmen '64 Harz

Sept. 22, 2022, Grand Haven, Michigan

Ralph Jackson Jr. '64

Aug. 21, 2022, Naples, Florida

Billie Cable '65

Aug. 31, 2022, Cincinnati, Ohio

Patrick Price '67

June 10, 2022, Mason, Michigan

Gilda Davis '69 Holvick

Aug. 3, 2022, Fenton, Michigan

70s

Randall Cain '72

July 4, 2022, Boulder, Colorado

Bruce Groendyk '74

Aug. 29, 2022, Grand Rapids, Michigan

Laure Adolph '75

July 31, 2022, Rockford, Illinois

Michael Waalkes '75

July 27, 2022, Raleigh, North Carolina

Gary Brugger '79

Aug. 1, 2022, Grand Haven, Michigan

80s

Steven Bredeweg '80

Sept. 25, 2022, Holland, Michigan

Trisca Rutledge '89 Beasley

Sept. 12, 2022, Manchester, Michigan

90s

Holly Palmer '97

July 23, 2022, Drummond Island, Michigan

Amanda Black '99

Aug. 24, 2022, Acworth, Georgia

Sympathy to the family and friends of

Francis Fike

Nov. 1, 2022, Holland, Michigan

Francis retired from Hope in 1998 as *professor emeritus* of English after 30 years on the faculty.

Gwendolyn Schmidt Snoek

Sept. 2, 2022, Denver, Colorado

Gwendolyn was a researcher and assistant professor in the psychology department at Hope College.

Norma Wolcott VanderMeulen

Aug. 15, 2022, Chicago, Illinois

Norma was an instructor of Spanish from 1948 to 1950.



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EVENTS

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ALUMNI WEEKEND

We are looking forward to celebrating Alumni Weekend on April 28-29, 2023.

hope.edu/alumniweekend

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