

A close-up portrait of a man with dark, curly hair and a slight stubble. He is looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. He is wearing a dark blue or grey hoodie. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

NEWS FROM

HOPE COLLEGE

SPRING 2023

VOLUME 54, NO. 3

A CATALYST FOR HOPE

*Author Malcolm Gladwell and **Hope Forward** spark
a larger conversation about how to pay for college.*

pages 9–15

DISTINCTIVE
HOPE





DYNAMIC HONOR

Receiving the 2023 Inspiration Award in February as a leader in dance education from Chicago Tap Theatre — one of the nation's top tap companies — would have been recognition enough for the Department of Dance. It was next-level to have students invited to perform during the Chicago company's 20th-anniversary celebration; and not only to perform, but to perform a piece choreographed especially for them by the company's founder and artistic director, Mark Yonally. As shown here, West Michigan audiences had their own opportunity to enjoy the original work, titled "How Insensitive," just a few weeks later, during Dance 49 at Hope.

hope.edu/tapdancehonor

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ON THE COVER

New York Times-bestselling author Malcolm Gladwell, host of the podcast **Revisionist History**, headlined a gathering of thought leaders from multiple fields in March for the college's Catalyst Summit. Inspired by the **Hope Forward** initiative and subtitled "Access and Innovation in Higher Education," the two-day event provided a forum for considering new ideas and engaging in meaningful conversations about how to fix higher education's broken funding model nationwide.

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magazine.hope.edu

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends and Family of Hope College,

Are we at Hope College “revolutionists”? That’s how Malcolm Gladwell referred to us. He repeatedly called the *Hope Forward* vision “revolutionary” and said that we are leading a revolution to change higher education. Maybe! I hadn’t really thought of us as revolutionaries. If it is the case that we are leading a revolution, it’s because *Hope Forward* is informed by the original revolutionist: Jesus.

When we launched *Hope Forward* in 2021, we set out not just to improve access to college for our students, but to start a national conversation about how college is funded. Less than two years later, that conversation came alive at Hope through the Catalyst Summit, co-hosted by bestselling author Malcolm Gladwell. The purpose of the gathering was reflected in the summit’s name: A catalyst provokes change. The event gathered a distinguished array of educators, businesspeople, entrepreneurs, writers and others to discuss access, generosity and community — at Hope and nationwide.

Hope Forward is a vision for a radically different funding model for college, which we believe will ultimately lead to an even better learning environment. It’s a new idea, but one based on timeless truths: the message of Jesus. *Hope Forward* is a vision that funds education through gifts, asking students to donate to the college after graduating, rather than paying through tuition bills and debt up front. It extends the core message of the Gospel — you are covered, now go and live differently — to all Hope students. We give away what we offer at Hope — an excellent Christian liberal arts education — as a gift, and students are transformed and empowered to spread hope to the world. It eliminates the burden of student loan debt so that our alumni can pursue impact rather than chase income. It attempts to re-orient the kind of relationship we have with students to a covenantal one, rather than a transactional one.

It was inspiring to see how our guests at the summit were moved by this vision. Malcolm Gladwell commented, “Watching you put your faith to work makes me indescribably happy.” Without a doubt, the highlight of the summit’s sessions was the student panel. Members of the pilot cohorts spoke with depth and conviction about the life-changing power of a *Hope Forward* model.

You can read more about the Catalyst Summit starting on page nine. And best of all: The movement has only just started. It will be exciting to see where it leads.

Spera in Deo!



Matthew A. Scogin '02
President



QUOTE UNQUOTE

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



This year's Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Civil Rights Lecture on Monday, Jan. 16, provided personal historical perspective along with a celebrated example for inspiration. The speaker, Sheyann Webb-Christburg, is known as one of the youngest activists during the Civil Rights Movement in Selma, Alabama, in the 1960s, and was even described by King, who she met at her church when she was seven, as the "smallest freedom fighter."

"As a child, the civil rights movement in Selma, Alabama, was not a documentary to me. It was live, and in living color," Webb-Christburg told her audience in Dimnent Memorial Chapel. "All of the ugly wounds of segregation: The sitting in the back of the bus, the 'For White' and 'For Colored' signs that you would always see. And not even being able to vote if you were an African American. The lynchings, the verbal and physical abuse."

Even so young, Webb-Christburg recalled, she was inspired by King's message and spirit, and would sneak out of the house to attend meetings, defying her parents, who knew the dangers.

She experienced those dangers directly on March 7, 1965, when at age eight she was the youngest participant in the voting-rights march now known as "Bloody Sunday."

“ *I encourage you to always stand strong behind principles and purpose.* **”**

"This particular march was led by young people who understood the mission, who understood Dr. King's ministry of nonviolence," she said. "I remember as we were marching down Broad Street, which is the main street in Selma. I could see whites on the sidelines saying bad words, trying to distract the marchers. But the marchers kept on marching quietly with their heads held high, because they had been instructed no singing. It was quiet.

Many of the whites on the sidelines came to the marchers, spitting on them, trying to throw things at them to distract them, but the marchers kept on marching."

Things became worse, Webb-Christburg noted, when the group reached the cordon of police officers arrayed to stop them, and still continued to march.

"Tear gas had begun to burst in the air. People were being beaten down with billy clubs," she said. "The way the horses and the dogs were pushing their way into the crowds, just trampling over people. And people had begun to run. While the tear gas was burning in the eyes of many marchers and even myself, I could see people falling, crawling, crying, bleeding."

Film and photos from that day made the national news, and are credited with building support for the Voting Rights Act and the Civil Rights Movement. Webb-Christburg noted, though, that although the years since have seen political, social and economic progress, there's more to be done — and that, as was true 57 years earlier — young people like the students in the Dimnent audience are the ones who can see it through.

"It's a long road to change, but it's very necessary for each of us not to add to the problem. Not to add to the challenges at hand, but to become a part of the solution," she said. "Especially to the students of Hope. I encourage you to always stand strong behind principles and purpose. You are at the right point in your lives right now to improve situations, implement plans, mobilize, organize, strategize, and become great leaders of change. I encourage you students, especially, to stand up and speak up on what you know that's right, that will help to complement the attitude of what will make life good and better for each and every one of us."

Please visit the college online for a complete photo gallery from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day 2023.

hope.edu/mlkday2023

THREE FACULTY APPOINTED TO ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIPS

Three members of the faculty were appointed to endowed professorships earlier this year.



Dr. Angela Carpenter, assistant professor of religion, has been appointed to the Leonard and Marjorie Maas Endowed Professorship in Reformed Theology. The professorship was established by the late Leonard and Marjorie Maas to be held by a faculty member whose scholarly emphasis is on the historical and philosophical development of Reformed theology through the present day. Carpenter focuses on Christian theology and ethics with an emphasis on Reformed theology, and her research interests include moral formation, theology and the human sciences, and grace and ethics.

hope.edu/carpenterappointed



Dr. Fred Johnson III, professor of history, has been appointed to the Guy Vander Jagt '53 Endowed Professorship. The professorship was established in the early 1980s by friends of Vander Jagt, a longtime member of the U.S. House of Representatives, in appreciation for his leadership, and is held by a distinguished faculty member, preferably one who has a special interest in oratory or the interface between politics and communication. Johnson is an award-winning public speaker. His primary field is 19th century U.S. history, specifically the Civil War. His other areas of study include the U.S. in the 20th century, the U.S. military, foreign policy and African history.

hope.edu/johnsonappointed



Lisa Walcott, assistant professor of art and gallery director of the De Pree Art Center and Gallery, is the inaugural recipient of the Billy Mayer Endowed Professorship in Sculpture or Ceramics. The professorship was established by the late Dr. Richard '52 and Margaret Feldmann '52 Kruizenga in honor and memory of Mayer, a longtime member of the art faculty — and head of the college's sculpture and ceramics program — who died in 2017. Walcott's art practice includes kinetic sculpture, installation, drawing and photography through which she grapples with and makes light of the perils of daily life.

hope.edu/walcottappointed



FOR THE KIDS!

Hope students have put on a marathon effort for a 24th year for the young patients of Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. More than 800 students participated in this year's installment of the annual marathon, held on Friday and Saturday, March 3-4, at the Dow Center.

All proceeds from the marathon go directly towards the funding of special programs that are designed to make the children's visits to the hospital more bearable; helping the families to deal with their illnesses; and supplies related to treatment and care. This year's marathon raised \$384,336.24, setting a new Hope record and bringing the event's 24-year total to more than \$4 million.

A gallery of photographs is available online.

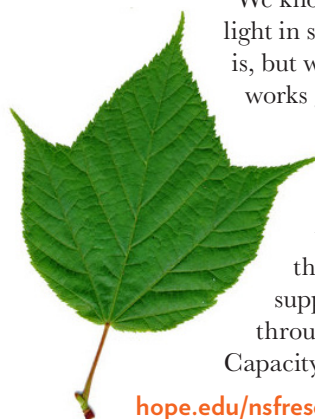
hope.edu/dancemarathon2023

NSF SUPPORTS PLANT RESEARCH

Dr. Jennifer Blake-Mahmud, assistant professor of biology, has received a grant from the National Science Foundation for the first research study seeking to reveal the genetics behind a curious biological phenomenon: the ability of some plants to change sex during their lifetimes.

"We know sex expression can be affected by light in some species, or even how big the plant is, but we don't know anything about how this works genetically," she said.

Blake-Mahmud and her student team are focusing on one species in particular: the striped maple, a tree native to Michigan. They began their investigation earlier this year supported by a \$501,356, three-year grant through the NSF's "Building Research Capacity of New Faculty in Biology" initiative.



hope.edu/nsfresearch

CAMPUS SCENE

TWO DEANS NAMED

Hope has appointed two current members of the faculty with strong backgrounds as teachers, researchers and administrators to academic deanships following national searches for both roles.

Dr. Jonathan Peterson '84 of the geological and environmental sciences faculty has been named dean of natural and applied sciences after serving as interim dean since the fall of 2020.

Dr. Lindsey Root Luna '03, associate professor of psychology and department chair, has been named dean of social sciences.



Peterson joined the faculty in 1994. He chaired the department from 2001 to 2007, and was appointed to the Lavern and Betty DePree VanKley Endowed Professorship in Geology and Environmental Science in 2015. Among other service beyond campus, he has twice been a visiting scientist at the

Department of Energy-Oak Ridge National Laboratory, and twice been resident director of the GLCA/ACM Oak Ridge Science Semester Program.



Root Luna has been a member of the faculty since 2012. Her service to Hope has also included directing the neuroscience program, and co-directing the Continuum Scholars and Faith and Scholarship programs for faculty, and she advises the college's chapter of Psi Chi, the International Honor Society in Psychology, and Psychology Club. Her service beyond campus includes having

been vice president of the Midwestern Region of Psi Chi.

Both Peterson and Root Luna maintain active research programs that involve students.

hope.edu/deansappointed



GRADUATION '23

Baccalaureate and Commencement for the Class of '23 are scheduled for Sunday, May 7. Commencement will take place at 3 p.m. at Ray and Sue Smith Stadium, and Baccalaureate at 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. in Dimnent Memorial Chapel.



The Commencement speaker will be **Dr. Richard Frost**, who retired from Hope in 2022 as vice president for student development and dean of students after serving at the college since 1989. The Baccalaureate speaker will be **Dr. Stephen Hemenway**, who is the Betty Roelofs '53 Miller Professor of English and will be retiring at the end of the school year after serving at Hope since 1972.



In the event of rain, Commencement will be held at the Richard and Helen DeVos Fieldhouse. Admission to Baccalaureate, and Commencement if indoors, is by ticket only.

hope.edu/commencement

THEATRE EARNS ACCLAIM

The Department of Theatre and students received multiple honors during this year's Region III Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival.

Sophomore Danai Mandebvu was the regional runner-up for the prestigious Irene Ryan Acting Scholarship Audition Award. In addition, she was subsequently one of only eight students, from colleges and universities across the United States, named a National Aspire Arts Leadership Fellow to participate in the national festival in Washington, D.C., this month.

Among other individual Region III honors, junior Kelsey Sivertson received the top award in the Institute of Theatre Journalism and Advocacy; junior Lydia Konings was a finalist for the Stage Management Fellowship and received the Off-Headset Book award; and senior Katy Smith was a semi-finalist and finalist for the Irene Ryan Acting Scholarship along with her acting partner, Annika Dekker '22. In addition, the Department of Theatre received several certificates of Merit for the 2022 productions of *Bright Star*, *The Winter's Tale* and *Silent Sky*.

hope.edu/theatrehonors



Danai Mandebvu '25

A CATALYST FOR HOPE

By Jim McFarlin '74

In the latest of his seven *New York Times* bestsellers, *Bomber Mafia: A Dream, A Temptation and the Longest Night of the Second World War*, Malcolm Gladwell, the world-renowned author, journalist and visionary thinker, draws a conclusion after researching the “Bomber Mafia,” the small but renegade band of 1930s U.S. Army pilots who sought to revolutionize the very nature of military combat.

He writes: *Revolutions are birthed in conversation, argument, validation, proximity, and the look in your listener's eye that tells you you're on to something.*

Q Mr. Gladwell, could the same be said about the *Hope Forward* initiative, the ambitious pay-it-forward tuition model being championed by Hope College that seeks to revolutionize the very nature of higher education?

A “Oh, yes,” he replies without hesitation, settling into a sofa in a Haworth Hotel conference room just hours after arriving in West Michigan for a whirlwind two days as keynote attraction for the college's first Catalyst Summit. “I just had a conversation with five *Hope Forward* students who were so — not just articulate. They were more than that. They were moving, and kind of passionate. It's really, really hard not to get inspired by that. That's what that passage says: It's the look in their eyes.”



From that sampling of the 58 students from 19 different states and 11 foreign countries who make up the inaugural *Hope Forward* cohort, Gladwell came away with a distinct impression. “They realize that they’re part of a revolution,” he observes.

“They’ve come here and they’ve understood, ‘Hey we’re involved in this wild, crazy, kind of fantastic experiment, and if it works this will be a game changer for thousands of kids.’ If I could bottle what was in that room and take it out to the world, we could get this funded instantly. I told Matt (Hope President Matt Scogin ’02), ‘They’re better than you at this. Instead of you doing fundraising calls, you should send them out.’”

Indeed, one of the consensus highlights of the summit, subtitled “Access and Innovation in Higher Education,” attracting hundreds of attendees on campus and online March 8-9 for meaningful conversations on reversing a U.S. student debt load of \$4.75 trillion and counting, was the “unveiling,” if you will, of six *Hope Forward* students. Hailed by presenter Nicole Dunteman, *Hope Forward* senior program director, as “our true stars and experts,” the program’s participants had not previously been identified so they could appreciate the full Hope experience without excessive scrutiny.

And appreciate it they have. One of the speakers, Anna, a sophomore from Louisville, is already active as a student organization leader. Seated side by side onstage at a packed Jack H. Miller Center for Musical Arts Concert Hall, all six volunteers were ready to bare their minds and souls.

“I think the biggest thing about *Hope Forward* is just...hope,” observes Sydney, a freshman from Iowa. “You’re giving all these families the hope they maybe didn’t think they would get. College is expensive. But for a lot of people, the hope that this is a new journey God is providing for you, and being able to give that back to people the way these generous donors have given it to us is really incredible.”

**“IT’S WAY MORE THAN A FINANCIAL MODEL...
IT’S GENEROSITY AT ITS PUREST FORM. YOU’RE
RECEIVING SOMETHING I NEVER THOUGHT I WOULD
BE ABLE TO RECEIVE. BUT NOW THAT I HAVE IT, I
CAN’T WAIT TO GIVE IT TO OTHER STUDENTS WHO
MAY BE IN THE SAME SHOES I AM.”**

—DAVI, HOPE FORWARD FRESHMAN





“It’s way more than a financial model,” adds Davi, a freshman from Brazil who grew up a missionary kid in Thailand. “It’s generosity at its purest form. You’re receiving something I never thought I would be able to receive. But now that I have it, I can’t wait to give it to other students who may be in the same shoes I am. What you put into it is what you get out of it, and I can’t wait to see what this will become in the future.”

But it was Steven, a freshman from Delaware by way of Dubai, who took on the question everyone was wondering. “People may think, ‘If you’re getting your tuition free, then you don’t care about your education as much,’” he speculates. “I think it’s the other way around. I think when we’re given this opportunity, we realize that we’re part of something so much greater. It’s ‘others focused,’ and I think that makes us want to do better and want to give back.”

The student panelists’ reflections on generosity realize one of the central goals of *Hope Forward*: namely, to foster a culture of grace grounded in the Gospel. Recalling how movingly one of their peers had also expressed the message, Gladwell noted, “It was about taking lessons straight from the scripture and saying, ‘This is something we are called to do. This is a kind of version of God’s will.’”

The role of the Christian faith — not only in underpinning *Hope Forward* but as an exemplar beyond — was woven throughout the summit’s presentations. As Scogin explained, “We believe everything we have is a gift

from God, and the only appropriate response to that is to be generous, is to be grateful, is to give.”

The conversations across March 8 and 9 considered not least of all how that message can inspire and shape society, particularly at a time when religiosity and church engagement are on the decline nationwide.

“I think communities like this that have been informed by essentially 2,000 years of a tradition that is steeped in gift and notions of forgiveness and what it is to receive first — that then generates certain types of lives and transformation,” said featured speaker Anne Snyder, editor-in-chief of *Comment* magazine, the Christian-based publication devoted to strengthening and improving our societal institutions. “This place, which is an academic institution that is rooted in that old stream — if you can embody it again in this communal way, having a lot more of this out there in civil society broadly I think is a way to create this sort of whole other set of rivers.”

It was another best-selling author, Michigan-based Mitch Albom, who served as unlikely matchmaker between *Hope Forward* and Gladwell. Albom, who made an appearance at the Catalyst Summit, agreed early on to provide funding for four students for the initiative. “And while talking to Mitch one day,” Scogin recalls, “he suddenly said, ‘You know, I think my friend Malcolm Gladwell might be interested in this. Do you mind if I tell him about it?’”



“IT’S A GAMBLE, BUT IT’S A GREAT GAMBLE. AND I AM JUST OVER THE MOON THAT SOMEBODY IS FINALLY TRYING TO ADDRESS THESE DEEP STRUCTURAL PROBLEMS IN HIGHER EDUCATION.”

Scogin didn’t mind. And Gladwell was interested.

But Malcolm Gladwell must receive hundreds of personal appearance requests every year. He could have “attended” the summit virtually and still given the event impact and star power. What motivated him to fly to Holland, Michigan, to explore the possibilities of *Hope Forward* firsthand?

“Well, it’s new,” he explains. “And different. And exciting. As you may know, I’ve been on this mini-crusade for the longest time about what ails higher education. I’ve done podcast episodes on it (on *Revisionist History*, his popular podcast produced by Pushkin Industries, the company he co-founded). I’ve written about it. So when I hear about new and interesting things I get curious. So I decided I should come here.

“It’s a gamble, but it’s a great gamble. And I am just over the moon that somebody is finally trying to address these deep structural problems in higher education.” Or, as Gladwell explained tongue-in-cheek to an audience at one “Catalyst

Conversation” session, “I went for a walk down Eighth Street, and I saw fancy restaurants, gastropubs, fast-food restaurants, every different kind of eatery. There’s more innovation in four blocks of Eighth Street than there is in all of American higher education.”

That conversation, “Pushing the Boundaries of Innovation in Higher Education,” saw Gladwell pairing Scogin with Arizona State University President Dr. Michael Crow, who transformed ASU from America’s preeminent party school to a nationally respected institution for research, online programs and inclusion. Crow estimated it took 15 years to achieve those innovations. “We’ve been at this (*Hope Forward*) for 19 months,” Scogin replied, then suggested a possible reason major change in higher ed is so difficult.

“I was 39 when the Board of Trustees hired me,” he reflected. “Both Michael and I took on our jobs in the middle of our careers rather than near the end, which is the typical path for a college president. The average age of a college president in the U.S. is 62, and their average time of service is six years. If you do this job at the end of your career and you have only six years to do it, you don’t have time to set a vision, see the change, then see the institution though it.”

The Catalyst Summit galvanized virtually every segment of the campus community while giving Hope a brief but significant national spotlight. Those playing significant roles in the conference included Dr. Gerald Griffin; Hope’s provost, who participated in two sessions, “Breaking Through the Tuition Barrier” with philanthropist and HOPE Toledo founder Pete Kadens, and “Creating the Future of Learning” with Dr. Heidi Kraus, associate provost; the Rev. Dr. Trygve Johnson, the Hinga-Boersma Dean of the Chapel, who chaired an interactive discussion on “The Christian Case for *Hope Forward*”; Douglas Conant, former Campbell Soup Company president-CEO and Hope Trustee; Shonn Colbrunn ’94, Boerigter Center executive director; Scott Travis ’06, executive director of alumni engagement; Dr. Stephen Maiullo, interim dean for arts & humanities; and Dr. Ryan White, associate dean for academic advising and applied learning.





THE SURPRISE OF THE CATALYST SUMMIT MAY HAVE BEEN THE UNCONVENTIONAL “KEYNOTE ADDRESS” THAT CLOSED THE EVENT THURSDAY EVENING. THE STAGE OF THE MILLER CENTER LOOKED MORE LIKE A LATE-NIGHT TV TALK SHOW, COMPLETE WITH A HANDCRAFTED “AFTER HOURS” LOGO, ANCHOR DESK AND CHAIRS FOR THE CELEBRITY GUESTS.

However, the surprise of the Catalyst Summit may have been the unconventional “keynote address” that closed the event Thursday evening. The stage of the Jack H. Miller Center for Musical Arts Concert Hall looked more like a late-night TV talk show, complete with a handcrafted “After Hours” logo, anchor desk and chairs for the celebrity guests. Gladwell assumed the Fallon/Kimmel/Colbert role: his guests included Snyder; Dave Levin, co-founder of KIPP Public Schools, a network of 280 pre-K-12 public charter schools across the U.S. that has been in operation for 30 years, and the ubiquitous President Scogin.

“We got so many things wrong 30 years ago, so many,” Levin admitted. “I mean, we could have had a whole discussion. But the thing we did get right was this idea that it was never about school. It was about life. And we decided that we were going to be here for each other, make a commitment to each other, for life.”

Sounds a lot like *Hope Forward*, doesn't it?



Malcolm Gladwell's Podcast *Revisionist History*

Malcolm Gladwell's *Revisionist History* podcast featuring reflections and interviews from the summit will debut this summer.

Revisionist History examines things from the past and asks whether we understood them the right the first time. Tune in!



Did you miss The Catalyst Summit and want to check it out?

Visit catalyst.hope.edu/live or scan the QR code to watch the videos.

Special thanks to Jim McFarlin '74 for covering the entire Catalyst Summit – in addition to hosting the event's student panel. We are grateful to Steven Herppich for his expert photography of our event, our talented partners at Brightformat for helping create all of our stage graphics and backdrops, and Haworth Inc. for providing the guests' furniture featured on stage.



Thank You!

There is an aphorism to the effect that trees are planted for the next generation.

To teach is much the same — although the results are often more immediate and observable. Both are acts of giving and faith, a commitment to a future hoped for and unseen.

The eight faculty retiring this year have devoted a combined 249 years helping Hope students grow, together building a forest one precious life at a time.

NOTE: As with Hope's faculty retirees of the past several years, our stories about each are online, where they will remain, a lasting tribute available around the world. Just like the thousands of current students and alumni whose lives they helped shape.

hope.edu/retirees2023

DR. RHODA BURTON

DuMez Associate Professor of English

23 years

DR. PETER GONTHIER

Professor of Physics

40 years

DR. STEPHEN HEMENWAY

Betty Roelofs '53 Miller Professor of English

51 years

DR. VICKI ISOLA

Assistant Professor of Biology Instruction

22 years

KELLY JACOBSMA

Genevra Thome Begg Dean of Libraries

35 years

NANCY SCHOLTEN '82 KAMSTRA

Associate Professor of Kinesiology Instruction

13 years

DR. JOHN LUNN

The Robert W. Haack Professor of Economics

31 years

TODD SWANSON

Associate Professor of Mathematics

34 years





Jairus Meer Goes to Washington

By Josh Bishop



“I am lost. I am lost in a world of endless possibilities.”

With this dramatic statement, Hope College junior Jairus Meer opened his keynote address at the 12th Annual National Summit of the Courageous Conversation Global Foundation (CCGF) in Washington, D.C., on Oct. 3, 2022.

Meer, who is earning a major in biology and a minor in peace and justice, was the only undergraduate invited to speak at the nationwide summit.

It was a long way to go for Meer — not just the 550 miles from Holland, Michigan, to Washington, D.C., and not just the 8,107 miles from his home in the Philippines to Hope College, but also in terms of his understanding of racism and diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI).

“When I was a freshman in spring of ’21, I was an international student. At that time, I didn’t know what racism even meant,” Meer said. “Realizing that I’m different was the first key point.”

His understanding of racism has developed quite a bit since then — in no small part because he knows what

it’s like to have people judge him by the color of his skin. The bulk of Meer’s CCGF address explored the question, What does it mean to be someone with, in Meer’s words, a “luscious golden brown color”?

“Where do I belong?” he asked in his speech. “Racially, I don’t belong anywhere.” In both the United States and the Philippines, he experiences his skin color as putting him in the middle, neither white enough nor black enough. “Being in the middle isn’t always safe,” he said.

Meer wears this unique perspective throughout Hope’s campus, where he works to advance racial justice as a fellow in the CCGF’s Courageous Equity Leadership Fellows Program (CELFF, pronounced “self”).

“That’s the foundation’s version of doing diversity, equity and inclusion work with college students on their college campuses,” Meer explained.

Meer is working with Ada Rios, a junior at Hope and another CELFF fellow, to develop a new training structure for the fellowship. “He’s very joyful,” Rios said. “He tries his best to be a relatable person and create safe spaces for people.”

“

When it comes to race and DEI, it should really be a collaborative effort. I want Hope to know that people of color are not enough to break racism and are not the only ones who are supposed to do DEI work.

—Jairus Meer '24, the only undergraduate invited to speak during the 12th Annual National Summit of the Courageous Conversation Global Foundation in Washington, D.C.

”



“

The work that Jairus is connected with through Courageous Conversation helps to create peer-led dialogue on relevant topics for students...

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—Jevon Willis, director of the Center for Diversity and Inclusion

”

Thanks in part to her CELF training, Rios is working to start a Pan-Indigenous Students Organization at Hope. “That’s another point of connection that Jairus and I have: Our passion for indigenous cultures,” she said. (Rios will be speaking about colorism’s impact on indigenous communities in Mexico at the CCGF’s 2023 Cumbre Latinx national summit in April.)

“Hope should know that DEI is not easy work to do,” Meer said. “I think people here at Hope just know race based on their skin color. But it really isn’t — there’s more to it than that. There’s so much complexity, so much trauma that hides beneath it all, that it’s not easy to process all those things.”

Meer first became involved with DEI on campus as part of the Asian Student Union when he was a freshman. In 2022, his sophomore year, Meer delivered a TEDxHopeCollege talk titled, “This is who I can be: My international student story.” Now, he is raising awareness on various social media platforms and continuing his DEI work with CCGF and within his communities.

“The work that Jairus is connected with through Courageous Conversation helps to create peer-led dialogue on relevant topics for students,” said Jevon

Willis, director of Hope’s Center for Diversity and Inclusion (CDI). “This type of learning environment is important in helping to enrich, educate and increase the awareness of our students, with topics and subject matter that creates opportunities for greater understanding, strengthening our campus’s inclusion efforts.”

Margo Walters, assistant director of Hope’s CDI, noted that Meer conducts his DEI work on campus with consistent enthusiasm: “Jairus exudes positivity!”

Positive attitude notwithstanding, Meer spoke about the mental exhaustion that can come with pursuing DEI efforts, especially for students of color, and he’s eager to see more people join in.

“When it comes to race and DEI, it should really be a collaborative effort,” he said. “I want Hope to know that people of color are not enough to break racism and are not the only ones who are supposed to do DEI work.”

He is also passionate about combining his DEI perspective with his future career. After Hope, Meer plans to earn a Ph.D. in the field of genetics. “DEI is everywhere, and STEM is just another space for it. I think there’s still more work to be done,” he said.

Dr. Liz Schofield '02 Sharda, assistant professor of social work at Hope, said Meer is a “thoughtful, bright, curious learner who easily engages with people holding diverse identities,” noting that his “relational skills and genuine passion for justice, particularly around diversity, equity and inclusion, make him an effective leader among his peers and for our campus community.” Meer was a student in the Celtic May Term, traveling with Sharda to explore conflict, peace and justice in Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Back in Washington, D.C., Habeeb Awad, an international student advisor at Hope’s Fried Center for Global Engagement, joined Meer at the conference, where he was “impressed at his ability to communicate intentionally and interculturally as well as his willingness to step outside of his comfort zone by interacting with people of different cultures, beliefs and values.”

When he finished his CCGF speech, Meer was asked to stay on stage, where he was presented with the Ruby Bridges Student Leadership and Courage Award.

“Oh my God. Is this my Oscar moment?” Meer joked. “I would like to thank my parents.”

Meer was visibly caught off guard by the honor, which is given to only one college student in the U.S. each year. “I did not expect the award. I was just told I was going to give a simple speech, that’s it,” he explained. “One thing that really shocked me was the fact that a simple Filipino kid who three years ago went abroad, did not realize that he would be getting an award like this at all. It was a meaningful surprise.”

Meer said that receiving the award made him more motivated to pursue DEI work. When he first started the work as a freshman, he was still unsure if it was the right path (or even what DEI was) — but now he realizes that he does have a purpose in this space.

CCGF leaders clearly agree: “We thank you for your courage, for your leadership, and your willingness to share your story,” said Madison Potts, when she handed the award to Meer. Potts is an equity transformation specialist at Courageous Conversation and a member of the CCGF board. “We are so proud of you,” she said while the summit crowd applauded the humble, vulnerable, enthusiastic and quite surprised Meer. “Keep being you. Keep inspiring this world.”

Maybe Jairus Meer is not quite as lost as he thinks.





AN ALL-AMERICA SEASON



Junior Ben Catton raced in two events at the NCAA Championships.



Senior Ellie Jankowski was one of eight Flying Dutch who competed at indoor nationals.



Sophomore Greta Gidley finished as national runner-up in the 200-yard individual medley at the NCAA Championships.



Junior Eli Meder represented the Flying Dutchmen at the NCAA Indoors Championships.



Seniors Evan Thomas, Brady Swinehart and Harris Hawkins, pictured from left, helped the Flying Dutchmen win an MIAA Tournament title.



Seniors Savannah Feenstra, Claire Baguley, Meg Morehouse, Ella McKinney and Kate Majerus, pictured from left, aided the Flying Dutch's MIAA title repeat.

By Alan Babbitt

Hope student-athletes delivered NCAA Division III All-America performances in 15 events and MIAA regular-season or tournament titles in four sports during the 2022-23 winter season.

Three student-athletes were named to Academic All-America® teams, as selected by the College Sports Communicators organization: senior environmental science major Claire Baguley (women's basketball), senior biology major Evan Thomas (men's basketball) and junior business/economics majors Ben Catton (men's swim/dive).

Three more were voted as MIAA Most Valuable Athletes by the league's coaches: senior Ana Tucker in indoor track, sophomore Abby Koops in diving and sophomore Sara Kraus in swimming. Both Koops and Kraus earned their honors for the second consecutive season. Senior Meg Morehouse was chosen as the MIAA Women's Basketball Defensive Player of the Year. Hope totaled 37 All-MIAA First or Second Team recipients.

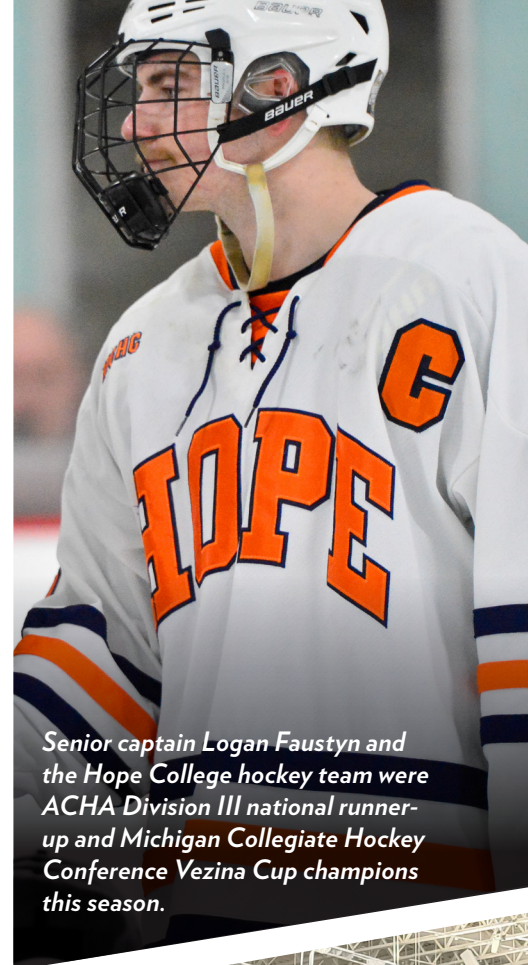
In swimming and diving, the Flying Dutch qualified 10 for the NCAA Championships in Greensboro, North Carolina, and placed 10th for their 17th Top-10 women's finish and their highest finish at nationals since 2007. Hope brought home 13 First- or Second-Team All-America honors, including a national-runner-up swim in the 200-yard individual medley for sophomore Greta Gidley. Kraus and freshman Katie Hermann both earned First Team All-America honors in both the 100 and 200 backstroke, a Hope first. Junior Ben Catton represented the Flying Dutchmen at nationals in both the 100 butterfly and 100 freestyle. At the MIAA Championships, the Flying Dutch three-peated as MIAA Champions with a 276.5-point margin of victory during the four-day meet at Calvin University. The Flying Dutchmen took second.

In indoor track and field, the Flying Dutch finished 16th at the NCAA Championships in Birmingham, Alabama, behind Tucker's national-runner-up effort in the 1-mile run and fourth-place run in the 3,000 meters. *(Please see the next two pages for a story about how Tucker has found synergy between athletic competition and her exercise science major.)* Hope also took ninth in the women's distance medley relay. Junior Ben Meder represented the Flying Dutchmen at nationals in the men's 800 meters. At the MIAA Championships, the Flying Dutch went back-to-back by dominating with seven event titles and a 106-point margin victory. The Flying Dutchmen won three events and placed fourth in the team standings.

In basketball, both the women's and men's teams advanced as far as the second round of the NCAA Division III Tournament and captured MIAA Tournament titles for the second consecutive season. The top-seeded Flying Dutch defeated Albion College and Trine University in a span of two days at DeVos Fieldhouse in February to clinch the MIAA's automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament. The third-seeded Flying Dutchmen beat No. 2 Trine University and No. 1 seeded Calvin University on back-to-back days at Calvin to earn the league's berth in the NCAA Tournament.

The Hope College club hockey team finished as national-runner-up at the ACHA Division III National Championships in Marlborough, Massachusetts, near Boston. The Flying Dutchmen made a bid to three-peat as national champions before falling to the University of Michigan's ACHA team, 5-3, in the title game.

ATHLETICS.HOPE.EDU



Senior captain Logan Faustyn and the Hope College hockey team were ACHA Division III national runner-up and Michigan Collegiate Hockey Conference Vezina Cup champions this season.



Freshman Katie Hermann and sophomore Sara Kraus both earned First Team All-America honors in the 100- and 200-yard backstroke.

TRAINING TO EXCEL

ALL-AMERICA RUNNER ANA TUCKER MOTIVATED
BY EXERCISE SCIENCE STUDIES AT HOPE

By Alan Babbitt



Ana Tucker put what she learned in the classroom at Hope into practice running against the top distance runners in the nation.

In just under two hours in March, the senior from Midland, Michigan (H.H. Dow HS) challenged for national titles and raced to All-America honors in two events at the 2023 NCAA Division III Indoor Track and Field Championships in Birmingham, Alabama.

Tucker joined sprinter Nora Kuiper (2009 outdoor) and distance runner Marcia VanderSall (1993 outdoor) as Hope runners who earned two All-America honors in the same NCAA Championships.

First, Tucker finished as national runner-up in the 1-mile run. About 1 hour and 45 minutes later, the exercise science major ran again and placed fourth in the 3,000 meters.

Tucker said her studies at Hope helped prepare her for two long and historic runs so close together.

"I learned a lot of good training principles from my studies in exercise science. That certainly helped me a lot," Tucker said. "Exercise science also just makes me passionate about running in general, then my running makes me passionate about studying exercise science. It's really a nice cycle there where school motivates athletics, and athletics motivates school for me."

Both runs — 4 minutes, 49.87 seconds in the 1-mile and 9:38.99 in the 3,000 meters — were indoor school records.

During Day 1 of the NCAA Indoor Championships Tucker anchored the distance medley relay that finished ninth and ran in the 1-mile preliminaries where she recorded the ninth-fastest run.

Assistant track and field coach Mark Northuis '82, who works with distance runners, said he was proud of Tucker's performance.

"It was a pretty ambitious schedule that she wanted to do. I am really proud," Northuis said. "Ana could have just gone for the individual events and left the distance medley relay hanging, but she showed she was a teammate trying to help the relay make All-American as well. She was the only distance runner in the meet to do four events."

"It was quite an accomplishment. She handled it beautifully," Northuis said. "It shows the fitness level she's in and her whole attitude and ability to focus on what she's going after."



At indoor nationals, Tucker ran her last mile of the day in 5:02. She also clocked the fastest final lap of the field in the 3,000 meters.

Tucker was pleased with her strategy for a busy afternoon.

"When I looked at the two events today. I knew I wanted to run the mile as fast as I could then use whatever energy I had left for the 3k," Tucker said. "The key was staying calm between the two races and being confident in myself, and also going out a little more slowly in the 3K so I could feel out how much energy I had left."

"It means a lot to me. I never had an indoor championship go well," Tucker said. "The first time I tried to run it got canceled due to COVID. The second time I ended up dropping out of the race. It meant a lot to me to come back and run well in multiple events."

Tucker now has earned All-America honors eight times in her Hope athletic career: three times in both indoor and outdoor track and field and twice in cross country. She owns Hope records in three indoor track and field events and two in outdoor track and field.

In June, Tucker was voted to the Division III Track and Field All-America Teams, selected by College Sports Communicators.

Tucker is an ideal student-athlete to coach, said Northuis, the Hope women's and men's cross country head coach.

"She's easy to work with because she's an exercise science major. She really understands that and where her body is at," Northuis said. "She was able to understand why we were having her do certain things in between races. She had very little warm-up. She did other things just to get ready. She was very good at mental preparations. We focused on one race at a time and let the race come to her."

Inspiring a Healthier Lifestyle for Adolescent Girls

By Natasha Strydhorst



As COVID-19 disrupted health the world over, Dr. Vicki Voskuil was tuned into one of its hidden, insidious effects: an ancillary pandemic that was particularly pernicious among the United States' youth.

"Especially during the pandemic, it became obvious that we also have this other pandemic of inactivity that's across all ages," she says. She has found that "adolescents are — in general — not active enough." She and her students are seeking to change that — one small group, and study, at a time.

Despite the challenges imposed by COVID-19 restrictions, during the 2020-21 academic year the associate professor of nursing and her research assistants set out to design a physical activity intervention in adolescent girls. They implemented and observed it in the summer of 2021.

"I would say for teenage girls or boys, a lot of researchers focus on after-school programs," Voskuil says. However, "it's hard for some kids — especially if they're babysitting their brothers and sisters or have other after-school activities — to be able to do that." So this intervention took a different track, as an intensive summer program.

The adolescents in the program were given Fitbits to wear through the seven-week program, during which they participated in physical and educational activities. Each week's theme contributed to the project's acronym: INSPIRE. The girls were encouraged to be Informed, Nourished, Strong, Physical, Independent, Resilient and Engaged via scavenger hunts, healthy snack preparation,

Each week's theme contributed to the project's acronym: INSPIRE. The girls were encouraged to be Informed, Nourished, Strong, Physical, Independent, Resilient and Engaged via scavenger hunts, healthy snack preparation, hiking, cycling and other health-focused — and, crucially, fun — activities.



hiking, cycling and other health-focused — and, crucially, fun — activities.

While the Fitbits tracked objective health data such as heart rates and step counts, participant surveys gauged motivation, self-efficacy (confidence in one's ability to attain goals) and physical literacy (such as knowledge about physical activity, skill and fitness). "It's a richer dataset if you have both types of data," Voskuil explains.

This semester, she and her team are working on publishing the findings of the study. Data documented that participation was high — the attendance rate was 83.42% percent — and that participants' physical activity

increased and resting heart rate decreased significantly over the course of the intervention. Voskuil's next step will be to seek external grant funding to repeat the study with a larger number of girls, plus a control group.

Study participants were recruited from schools with higher percentages of free and reduced-price lunches provided to students, an indication of socioeconomic status. This opened the opportunity to a population of students who might not otherwise have access to club sports or other physical-activity-based programming during the summer. One focus was to help girls become independent in their physical activity, so at the end of the study

Voskuil gave the Fitbits to them in the hope that this would motivate them to stay active.

The involvement of student researchers is integral to Voskuil's work and mentorship philosophy. "One of my goals is to get them thinking about graduate school and get them thinking about research and what they might be able to do with it," says Voskuil, because when it comes to nursing research, "we don't have enough people in the field."

"That's one of the best parts of my job," she adds. "I like to teach, but I really like to work one-on-one with the students, too."



Pictured left to right: Johanna Emmanuel '21, Vicki Voskuil, Marisa Guidone '23 and Claire Magnuson '22

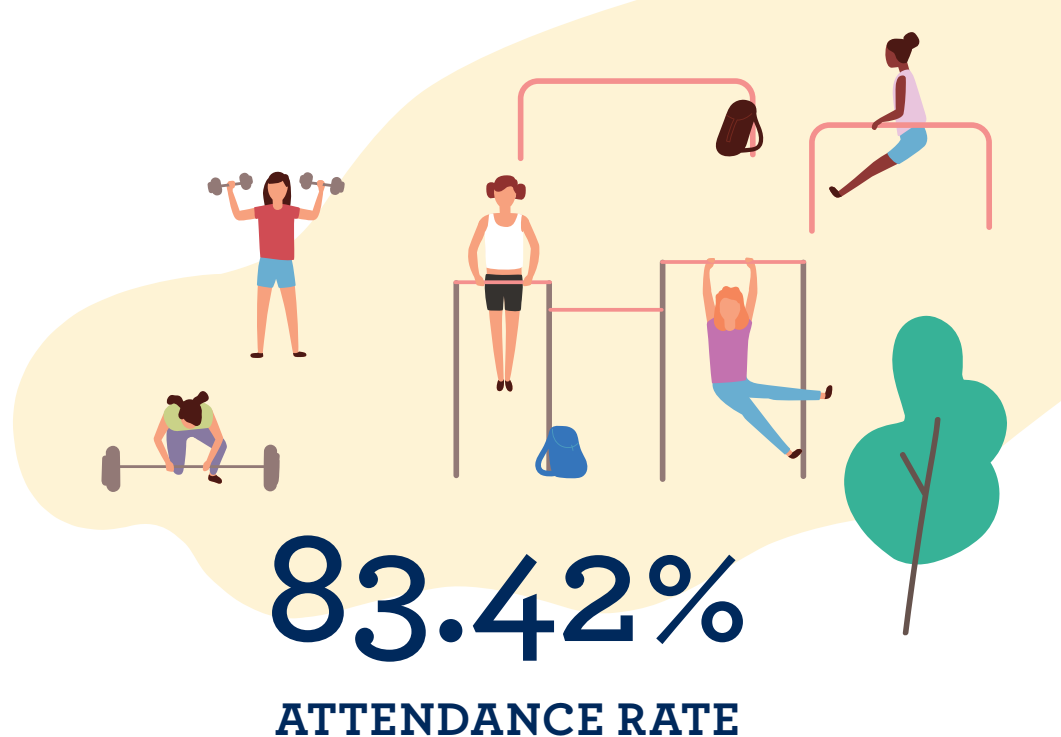
Starting in fall 2020, teams of Voskuil's students developed roughly the first half of the seven-week program; the following summer, three student researchers completed that with her and implemented the program.

"I would say it was pretty impressive, what the three of them came up with," Voskuil says. The Midwest Nursing Research Society concurs: At its 2022 spring conference, the society presented the team with a Distinguished Abstract award.

"I didn't realize until going to this conference in the spring how great a job Hope does of incorporating undergraduate research into the nursing program," says Claire Magnuson '22, one of Voskuil's research assistants on the project. "I took that for granted, I think. I thought that was something every undergraduate institution did, but that's clearly not the case." Not many undergraduates made presentations at the conference, she noticed.

Magnuson relished the opportunity — and its effect on her burgeoning skill set. Voskuil, she says, "really wanted all of our input and our feedback... and I feel like that's allowed me to grow in my leadership skills through the research. We were given a lot of leadership opportunities."

While the study is preliminary and enrolled just 15 participants, it investigated a national difficulty — physical inactivity among young girls — and proposed a specific intervention to address it. "There are a lot of interventions out there, but not



83.42%

ATTENDANCE RATE

Data documented that participation was high — the attendance rate was 83.42% percent — and that participants' physical activity increased and resting heart rate decreased significantly over the course of the intervention.

very many that are working, or have substantial effects on this population," Voskuil explains.

The project was an outlier in another sense, too. As Magnuson observed during her conference experience, a substantial portion of research activity takes place in master's- and doctoral-level programs, whereas this work is thanks to the efforts of Voskuil and her undergraduate students.

Each of Voskuil's research assistants — Magnuson, Johanna Emmanuel '21 and Marisa Guidone '23 — brought a unique skill set to the project, Voskuil reports, and took on the project adeptly. "That was an amazing part for me," she adds.

"I got to know Dr. Voskuil in many different capacities, and she was

someone that I was able to talk with — not just about school, but life as well," says Magnuson. "And I definitely looked toward her for advice in terms of jobs and what I wanted to do after college."

Magnuson began working as a nurse at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago in mid-2022, but — thanks in part to her research training — she sees graduate studies in her future.

"I really like to learn; I like school. If you told me I had to go back for a few more years to finish my nursing degree, I would not be mad about it. I definitely want to go to graduate school one day," she says. "I wouldn't be as confident in that if it weren't for some of these research experiences that I had at Hope."

Probing the Nature of “Stuff”

*It's Not a Solid, Not a Liquid, Not a Gas,
But It's Crucial to Clean Energy and
Nuclear Fusion*

By Natasha Strydhorst



Given Dr. Zachary Williams' hometown heritage and mathematical proclivity, studying physics may have always been a bygone conclusion — much to his relish, and Hope's.

Williams grew up on Florida's "space coast" near the Kennedy Space Center. "Everyone in my hometown was, at most, one or two degrees removed from a NASA affiliation," he says. His natural penchant for math steered him into mechanical engineering — and from there his magnetic fascination with "probing the nature of stuff" pulled him into physics.

It was evident to him from the start that the need for clean energy would make nuclear fusion "a huge, world-changing revolution once we get that working," Williams says. So he focused his research efforts on a key component of the process: *plasma* — the fourth state of matter.

"You need super-high temperatures to make fusion happen. And when you're working with very high temperatures, you necessarily have to be working with plasma," he says. Williams found his niche in studying the dynamics at play in plasma, the super-hot, electrically charged fluids that make up our sun — and, indeed, the enormous majority of all normal (read, non-dark) matter in the universe.

"Plasma is just another state of matter, like solids, liquids and gases. We know those very well, and going between them is really just a matter of turning our temperature knob up," Williams explains. "If I have a solid cube of ice and I turn up the

temperature, it melts into a liquid. If I turn up the temperature again, it evaporates into a gas. And if you keep turning up the temperature on a gas, eventually what happens is the molecules that make up that gas will split into their component parts that are electrically charged — what we call ions and electrons."

It's more complicated than it sounds.

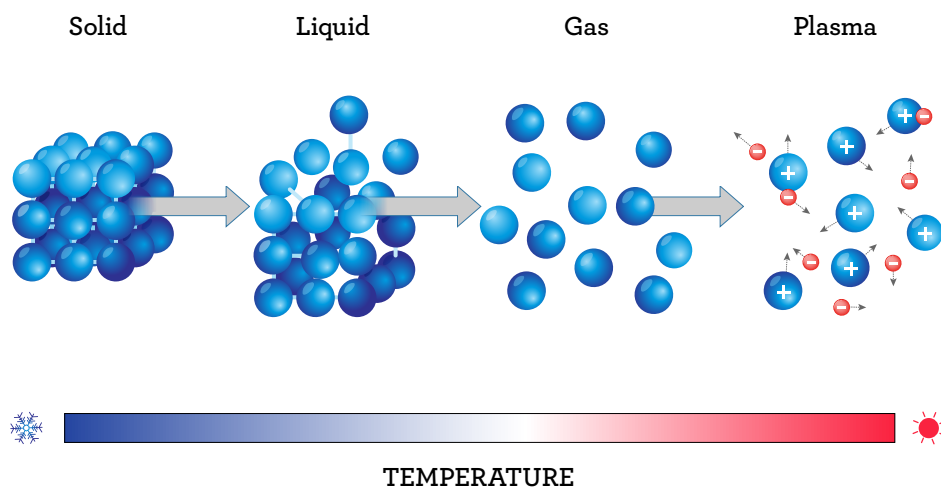
"Plasma has properties similar to fluids, behaving much like a gas, but with an added property of electric charge," Williams says. "So it has to combine electricity and magnetism and fluid dynamics and mash it all into a horribly complicated mess. And that's what we call plasma physics."

In the past, faculty at Hope College have conducted research in a microplasma lab, investigating

the strikingly different properties of plasma that forms in exceedingly tiny spaces. While microplasma can be directly observed in a lab environment (albeit on a miniscule scale), the plasmas at play in our sun are rather less accessible and quite a lot more electrically charged. Consequently, they're studied in the realm of computation. (This introduces a further complicating factor in plasma physics, one most people are familiar with on a much smaller scale: computers and their glitches.)

Williams and his students don't study plasma directly; they model its behavior using computer simulations, working to put together the puzzle that is turbulence — the chaotic and unpredictable movement of plasma — one intricate piece at a time.

STATES OF MATTER



Turbulence, Williams says, “is this big unsolved problem. We’re not necessarily trying to say, Yes, we’ve solved turbulence. We say: *All right, given that we have to deal with it, what sort of understanding can we develop? What sort of predictions can we make?* We’re trying to see how effective it is to home in on a couple of much simpler, much more understandable phenomena, and see if by just focusing on those and combining them in a clever way we can do a good job — not a perfect job, but a good job — of reproducing this otherwise really difficult-to-describe system.”

It’s valuable for physicists to glean understanding of *turbulence* because it plays a significant role in nuclear fusion experiments and potentially in the sun’s coronal mass ejections (whose interactions with Earth’s magnetic shield result in the visually stunning northern lights). The former is key because nuclear fusion is essential for nuclear power production. The latter is important because — given enough oomph — coronal mass ejections may wreak havoc with electrical infrastructure in Earth’s orbiting satellites.

“At this stage, we’re trying to look at this fundamental question: *Can we glean a good amount of useful information by filtering out a lot of the mess and focusing on just a few fundamental aspects of the dynamics?*” Williams explains. Even piecemeal, the task is a daunting one.

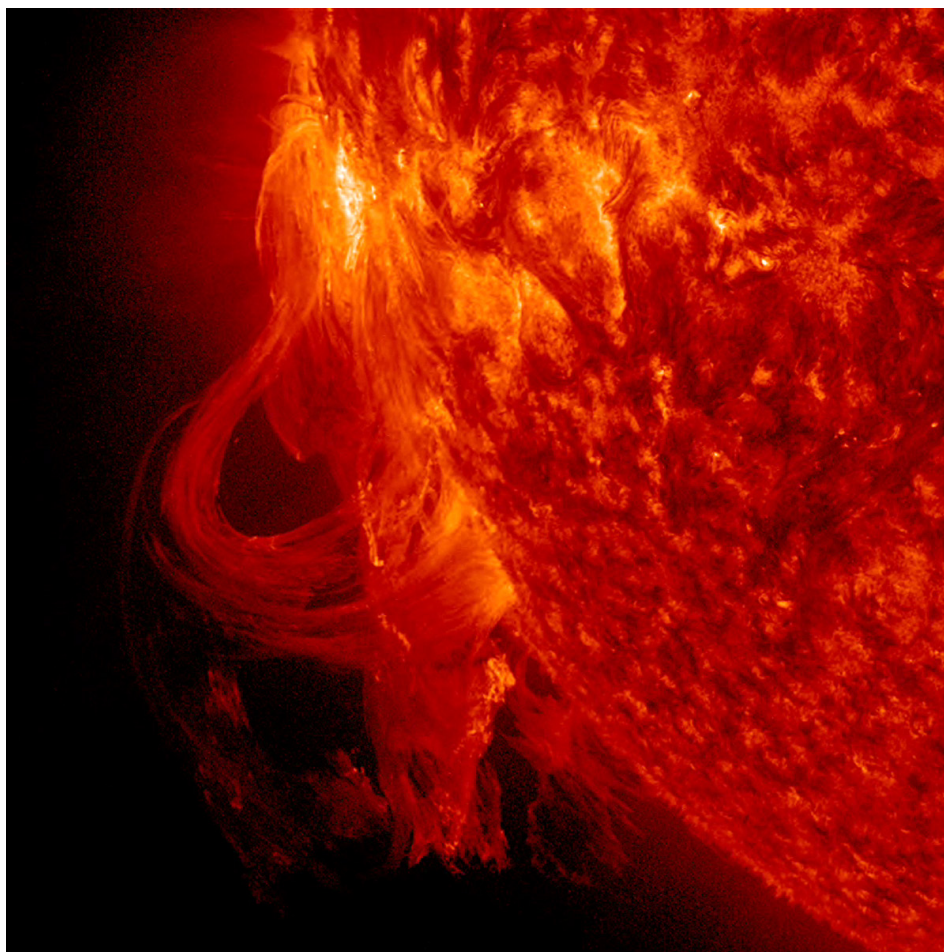
“It’s not just a straight line: do this, get output, get results, done. It’s a very winding path to get from A to B any time you’re working with computation,”

Williams says. “There are all sorts of unexpected and unforeseen variables that you have to deal with. It takes time and code development and patience — and, hopefully, a good sense of humor — as you struggle through all the different aspects.”

When the modeling process goes relatively smoothly, it’s a matter of simulating plasma turbulence and isolating a few significant *eigenmodes* — a fancy word for fundamental ways that plasma can “wobble.” Then Williams and his students run simulations with just those pieces in play, investigating how they vary from the whole and, crucially, how they remain the same.

“The hope would be that as we gain understanding and as this project evolves, it could be applied to talking about dynamics associated with coronal mass ejections in the sun’s atmosphere, or with tearing instabilities in fusion plasmas,” Williams says.

Piecemeal insights and discoveries notwithstanding, the beautifully (and frustratingly) dynamic, complicated, intricate and turbulent chaos is bound to remain. “You know, we kind of have to play with the hand that we’re dealt when it comes to the laws of the universe,” Williams says.



“Plasma Ballet” Photo credit: Solar Dynamics Observatory/NASA

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“It’s not just a straight line: do this, get output, get results, done. It’s a very winding path to get from A to B any time you’re working with computation... It takes time and code development and patience – and, hopefully, a good sense of humor.”

–Dr. Zachary Williams, assistant professor of physics



What Bolsters Resiliency? Foster Parenting during the Pandemic

By Ann Sierks Smith



Think back to 2020, when COVID-19 was turning the world upside down. If there are kids in your household, what's your take: Was that time stressful?

As a broad-reaching shutdown took effect, Dr. Elizabeth Schofield '02 Sharda, LMSW, assistant professor of social work, quickly grasped how complicated life was about to get. As a social worker and as an experienced foster parent, she also realized that the shutdown's impact would be even more pronounced for foster families.

And she recognized an unexpected opportunity to research what helps foster parents bear up under stress — in this case, what was helpful and stabilizing for them as they cared for foster children during what may have been the hardest time ever to shoulder that task.

Her purpose: to document for the first time what kinds of social support really help. After she completes her data analysis this summer, she'll share the study's findings with child welfare agencies in the hope that they will increase their focus on supporting foster families in the ways her study found are fruitful.

Resilience — "the ability to withstand and to have our well-being preserved in the midst of challenging, stressful, even traumatic circumstances," as Sharda defines it — has been the focus of her research since she left clinical social work for



academia in 2017. She's especially interested in how social supports contribute to foster parents' resiliency, as one of a number of factors.

Even in normal times, Sharda says, foster parenting is "uniquely stressful." Foster parents have limited authority. Everyone knows the relationship is temporary. They care for kids who've been traumatized both before and by their removal from their homes,

and who are more likely than the general population to have heightened behavioral health, educational and medical needs.

"Different types of social support act as a buffer against the stress of the role," she explains. "Fostering can be really confusing and isolating and challenging. Those who have friends, neighbors, religious community around them aren't as impacted by the hard stuff."

Training child welfare professionals and foster and adoptive families before she joined the Hope faculty, she'd observed that some foster parents cared effectively for child after child, but "some crashed and burned after one child or one group of siblings living with them. So, I was curious."

As the pandemic persisted, Sharda proposed qualitative research to capture the "essence" of foster parents' experiences — what social scientists call a "phenomenological" study. She wanted to hear from foster parents, one-on-one, about the stress they experienced — and the support.

Much existing research in the field looks at what can go wrong, Sharda says, like foster parent burn-out.

"I was interested in the flip side. What enables us to keep going? Anybody in a helping profession — how do we do it without it taking us under? How do we continue doing work that we love, that is fulfilling — but that is also complicated and draining and sometimes even traumatizing — and remain healthy ourselves?"

Collaborating with student researcher Carlie McNiff '22, Sharda networked with several Michigan organizations and recruited 16 foster parents for the study. Sharda interviewed each one in summer 2021. The following spring, McNiff presented the team's initial findings at Hope's Celebration of Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity. Their project received the college's 2022 Social Sciences Young Investigators Award. McNiff is now studying for her MSW at the University of Michigan.

This summer, Sharda and social work major Rebekah Yurschak '24 will conduct thematic analysis of the interviews with foster parents and draft a manuscript for submission to an academic journal. To share with stakeholders such as foster parents and child welfare practitioners, they'll also highlight the study's implications for policy and practice. The summer phase of the project is made possible by the Wichers Fund for Faculty Development, through Hope's Nyenhuis Faculty Development Grant program.

Here's a small sampling of what Sharda and her research assistants learned about the unprecedented pressures foster parents weathered during the COVID shutdown. Some study participants were frustrated when agency offices closed and regular home visits were not occurring. Suspension of court operations created even more uncertainty than usual about how long a foster child would stay. Some felt uncomfortable monitoring children's Zoom meetings with parents or providing hands-on help with, say, occupational therapy during children's online sessions with specialists. They missed support groups. Some who isolated from their own nearby parents to keep them safe missed the help they'd previously provided. Some felt their agency didn't care enough about their family's safety.

Infusing all that were experiences foster parents shared with parents more broadly: the sudden addition of new, unwelcome tasks that felt overwhelming.

"I'm Lysoling my cereal boxes, for heaven's sake," one foster parent told Sharda. "I don't need added stress on top of it. Like, what more do you want us to do?"

But some foster parents also saw a silver lining. "A hopeful, positive piece is that many families mentioned actually enjoying the shrinking of their worlds. They were able to bond and get to know their kids in a different, accelerated way, because they were forced to. All the services that weren't happening, plus all the additional stuff that kids in foster care have — all that evaporated for a while. Families mentioned that that was really sweet time — not always, but often."

Perhaps most important to Sharda's purpose in this research, she found that study participants drew strength from fairly simple things, like an online support group, a church providing dinner once a week, or friends alongside them in a "COVID bubble."

Sharda and her husband have fostered nine children since becoming licensed in 2009, so she could relate to what she heard.

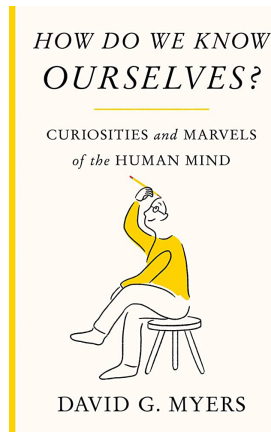
"We need people to talk to, bring us meals, pick our kids up at school — to send a complaining text to in the middle of the night," Sharda says. When caring for a foster child, she and her husband lean on friends who "get it in ways that other friends don't. We've got a really good village around us. That's something that I want everybody to experience if they want to do this work."

“Fostering can be really confusing and isolating and challenging. Those who have friends, neighbors, religious community around them aren’t as impacted by the hard stuff.”

—Dr. Elizabeth Schofield '02 Sharda, LMSW



2022 HOPE COLLEGE FACULTY BOOKS



How Do We Know Ourselves? Curiosities and Marvels of the Human Mind

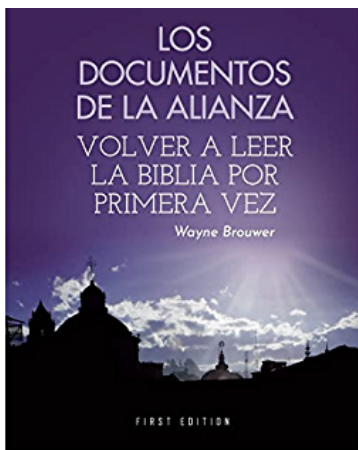
Dr. David Myers, *Professor of Psychology*

With a conversational approach and bite-sized chapters, *How Do We Know Ourselves?* by psychologist Dr. David Myers makes it easy to find psychology's answers to questions ranging from why we misinterpret song lyrics to why it can be so difficult to change someone else's — or one's own — opinion.

Subtitled “Curiosities and Marvels of the Human Mind” and geared toward a general audience, the book has been published by Farrar, Straus and Giroux, an imprint of Macmillan Publishers. Its 40 essays appear in three clusters: “Who

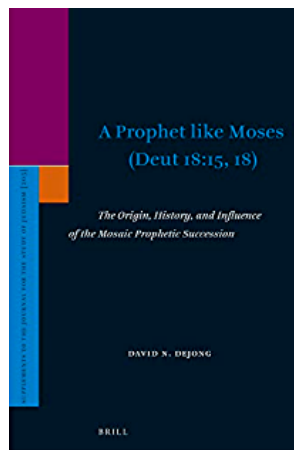
Am I?,” focusing on the self; “Who Are We?,” exploring relationships; and “What in the World?,” taking a psychological eye to the larger world. Each running a quick four to six pages in length, they cover topics like “Making New Year’s Resolutions That Last,” “Judging Others and Judging Ourselves,” “The Psychology of Division,” “How to Make and Sustain Friendships,” “How Nature and Nurture Form Us,” and “The Power of Confirmation Bias and the Credibility of Belief.”

hope.edu/myersbook2022



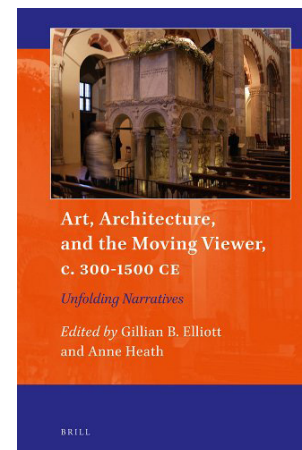
Los Documentos de la Alianza: Volver a leer la Biblia por primer avez

Dr. Wayne Brouwer
Professor of Religion Instruction



A Prophet like Moses (Deut 18:15,18): The Origin, History and Influence of the Mosaic Prophetic Succession

Dr. David DeJong
Assistant Professor of Religion



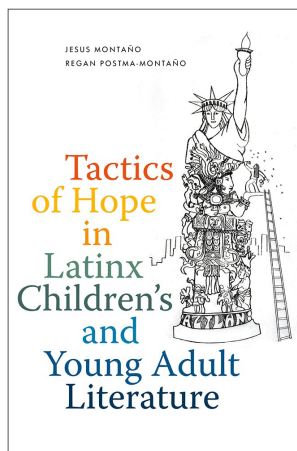
Art, Architecture, and the Moving Viewer: Unfolding Narratives circa 300-1500

Dr. Anne Heath
*Howard R. and Margaret E. Sluyter
Associate Professor of Art History and
Department Chair*



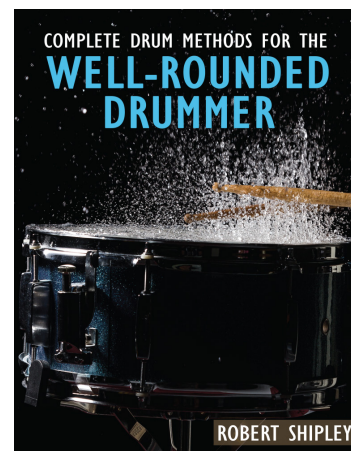
Should Wealth Be Redistributed? A Debate

Dr. Steven McMullen
Associate Professor of Economics



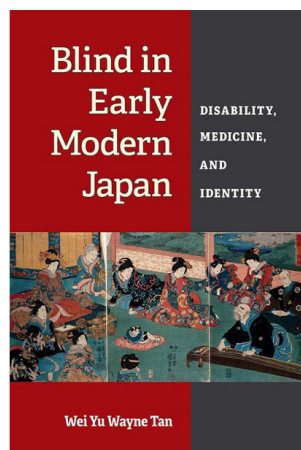
Tactics of Hope in Latinx Children's and Young Adult Literature

Dr. Regan Postma-Montaño
Assistant Professor of English and Spanish Instruction
Dr. Jesus Montaño
Associate Professor of English



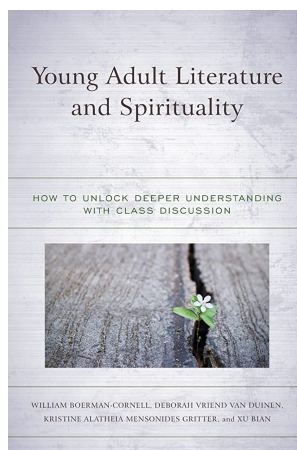
Complete Drum Methods for the Well-Rounded Drummer

Professor Robert Shipley
Assitant Professor of Music



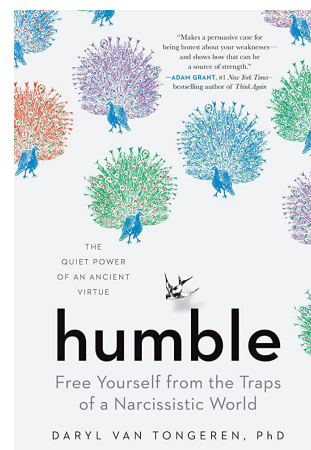
Blind in Early Modern Japan: Disability, Medicine, and Identity

Dr. Wayne Tan
Associate Professor of History



Young Adult Literature and Spirituality: How to Unlock Deeper Understanding with Class Discussion

Dr. Deborah Vriend Van Duinen
Arnold and Esther Sonneveldt Associate Professor of Education



Humble: Free Yourself from the Traps of a Narcissistic World

Dr. Daryl Van Tongeren
Associate Professor of Psychology and Director of the Frost Center for Social Science Research



GRAIN
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TIPPING THE SCALES

By Cheryl Wunderlich

A single grain of rice is almost inconsequential, measuring about a quarter-of-an-inch long and weighing 1/64 of a gram. But as one Hope alumna discovered, one grain of rice can tip the scale and make all the difference.

Amy Back '06 Ahiga, relying on her faith and the idea that doing something small can have a great impact in the fight against poverty in Kenya, launched Grain of Rice Project in 2013, a non-profit organization that “empowers Kenyans through education and training initiatives in Jesus’ name.”

“When you see poverty on a massive scale, your life will never be the same,” Ahiga said, referring to her experience in Kibera, a densely populated informal urban settlement near Nairobi. “I knew I could not meet every need. But I could take advantage of small opportunities to help, giving people a grain of hope.”

Ahiga came to appreciate the importance of that grain of hope during her first trip to Africa in 2008. She taught art for two years after graduation from Hope before going to Kenya to live with a family for eight months.

While there, she built relationships with three talented Kenyan women who needed a way to support their families.

Beginning in the living room of a humble home on her next trip to Kenya, she assisted them in using their skills to handcraft appealing items by repurposing discarded materials they found around Kibera. Lacking a market and any chance of reaching one, Ahiga realized that she could help in a simple way: by packing their creations in her suitcases and selling them when she was back in the United States.

Upon returning home in 2009, she settled in Valparaiso, Indiana, where she taught in a rural elementary school for eight years. Every summer, she returned to Africa and eventually quit her teaching job in 2017 to run Grain of Rice Project full time before moving to Kenya in 2020.





“My education at Hope was a springboard for everything I have been able to do... Having a liberal arts background and studying in so many subjects makes you well-rounded.”

—Amy Back '06 Ahiga

People end up in Kibera settlement, Ahiga explained, because they come to Nairobi looking for opportunities to better their lives but don't find any. About 235,000 people live in the one-square-mile area in small dwellings they construct themselves with materials they can find at hand, such as scrap wood and leftover corrugated tin. With no indoor plumbing, residents share a hole in the ground for a bathroom, usually one for every 50 dwellings.

Seeing children living in these conditions also tugged at Ahiga's heart. Using her degree as a visual arts education major at Hope, she started a children's program to provide a safe place for children to go after school and basic literacy instruction for those who could not afford an education.

“I'll always kinda be an outsider,” Ahiga said. “It's local people who can have the most impact. They are the ones to bring change.”

Her small efforts to equip people with vocational skills and start a children's program in Kibera have rippled out to touch hundreds of lives. The Grain of Rice Project now includes an artisan program to help people make a living by selling their handmade fair trade products through a website. And the children's program has expanded into Grain of Rice Academy, a primary school Ahiga constructed and opened in 2021. Current enrollment is 130 students.

The school's mission reflects the mission Hope College instilled in Ahiga during her time on campus: “We strive to be a school that nurtures creative, critical thinkers and provides a high quality, cross-curricular education in an equitable environment for all students. No matter their background, we will support all students within a Christian context to establish them as future leaders and global citizens.”

“It might sound cheesy, but Hope students are inspired to change the world,” Ahiga said. “I can't change all of Kenya, I can do small things to empower people that will add up to make a big difference in their lives and spill over to make a difference in the lives of others around them.”

Ahiga first became interested in serving others through a service project offered on campus her freshman

year. She was also inspired by her roommate Heather Amundson '06 Lobejko who made a trip to Cameroon, Africa, with the first Hope Engineers Without Borders team. Lobejko along with alumna Anna Marshall '07 Kalmbacher, both nursing majors, collected baseline community health data for the engineering students' clean water project. Hearing about their experiences gave Ahiga a burning desire to go to Africa one day, she said.

"My education at Hope was a springboard for everything I have been able to do" in Kenya, Ahiga said. "Having a liberal arts background and studying in so many subjects makes you well-rounded."

Ahiga credits her Earth and Ethics class with Dr. Steven Bouma-Prediger '79 for changing her view of creation care and equipping her to promote green initiatives such as composting, recycling and sustainability. Her teaching and art background have helped her develop a hands-on, literacy-based curriculum infused with STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) and the arts for the Grain of Rice Academy.

"It's the right of every child around the world to get a quality education wherever they come from that teaches kids to think, not just memorize, as is often the case in Kenya," Ahiga said.

Ahiga has a 4-year-old son, Ellis, who attends the Grain of Rice Academy. The academy is located in a small village outside Nanyuki, about 4.5 hours from Nairobi. Grain of Rice Project moved to the village because they had outgrown their place near Kibera and they wanted to be in an area where people are often unreached with opportunities.

Ahiga said she took a giant step of faith to purchase the land, relocate the artisan training program and start building the school in 2020 because Grain of Rice Project mostly relies on outside funding, and land in Kenya is expensive. But God provided all that was needed, she said.

Many of the artisans from Kibera have relocated to Nanyuki, and many of the students from Kibera board at the school, returning home during breaks. The new site also includes sustainably farmed vegetable gardens, staff and volunteer housing, and a bunkhouse for students.

Grain of Rice Child Advocate donors provide the funding for most of the students. Donor advocates are presented to the students, who choose whom they want to sponsor them. Ahiga said it is important for them to be empowered to make choices. More than 40 students are waiting for an advocate to support their education, so this is currently one of the academy's greatest needs.

Eventually, Ahiga plans to continue adding classrooms to the school as funding becomes available so it can accommodate students from preschool through ninth grade. She also recently added a counselor to the staff because so many children come from backgrounds with trauma, and it hampers their ability to learn.

"I want to love on kids and help them to see that they have a purpose beyond trying to survive every day," Ahiga said. "You have gifts and abilities no matter where you come from. Your circumstances shouldn't limit you."

Learn more about the Grain of Rice Academy and see beautiful handcrafted fair trade items made by the artisans for purchase at grainofriceproject.org



A photograph of the Stonehenge monument in England, featuring large grey stone structures arranged in a circular pattern on a grassy field. The scene is captured during sunset or sunrise, with a warm orange and yellow glow on the horizon and scattered white clouds in a blue sky. A low stone wall and a rope barrier are visible in the foreground.

The Global Travel Program Is Back

By Scott Travis '06

After a pause due to the pandemic, we are excited to relaunch the Global Travel Program. Since 1961, alumni and friends of the college have had the opportunity to explore the world as lifelong learners and gain a deeper understanding of different cultures. Recently, more than 900 people have expressed interest in traveling with the college. Using the feedback from these alumni and friends, we are launching a new tour for 2023 and an early access form to collect interest for three additional tours in 2024 and 2025.

Register for the 2023 Tour with Tom and Cheryl Smith

We are now accepting deposits for *The Liberal Arts in London and the Countryside*. The educational tour, led by Tom and Cheryl Smith, will take place Sept. 8 – 17, 2023. Tom was a professor of business from 1993 to 2020, and Cheryl served as an RN in the Hope College health clinic from 1994 to 2020. The two of them led three-week student study-abroad programs to London for 16 years. Now you can join them for an experience that will include Stonehenge, Bath, Stratford-upon-Avon, Cambridge, the Cotswolds, Windsor Castle and London. More information, including an itinerary and costs, is available online.



Get Early Access to 2024-25 Tours

There are three additional tours being planned for 2024 and 2025:

- *Explore Costa Rica: Coffee, Cloud Forest, and Coast* with Dr. Tom Bultman '78, professor of biology, in February 2024;
- *Experience Paris: Art, History and Culture* with Dr. Heidi Kraus, associate provost, and Dr. Lauren Hinkle '04 Janes, associate professor of history, in March or June 2025;
- *Scotland Fringe Fest and Highlands* with Eric Van Tassell '06, assistant professor of lighting and sound design, in August 2025.

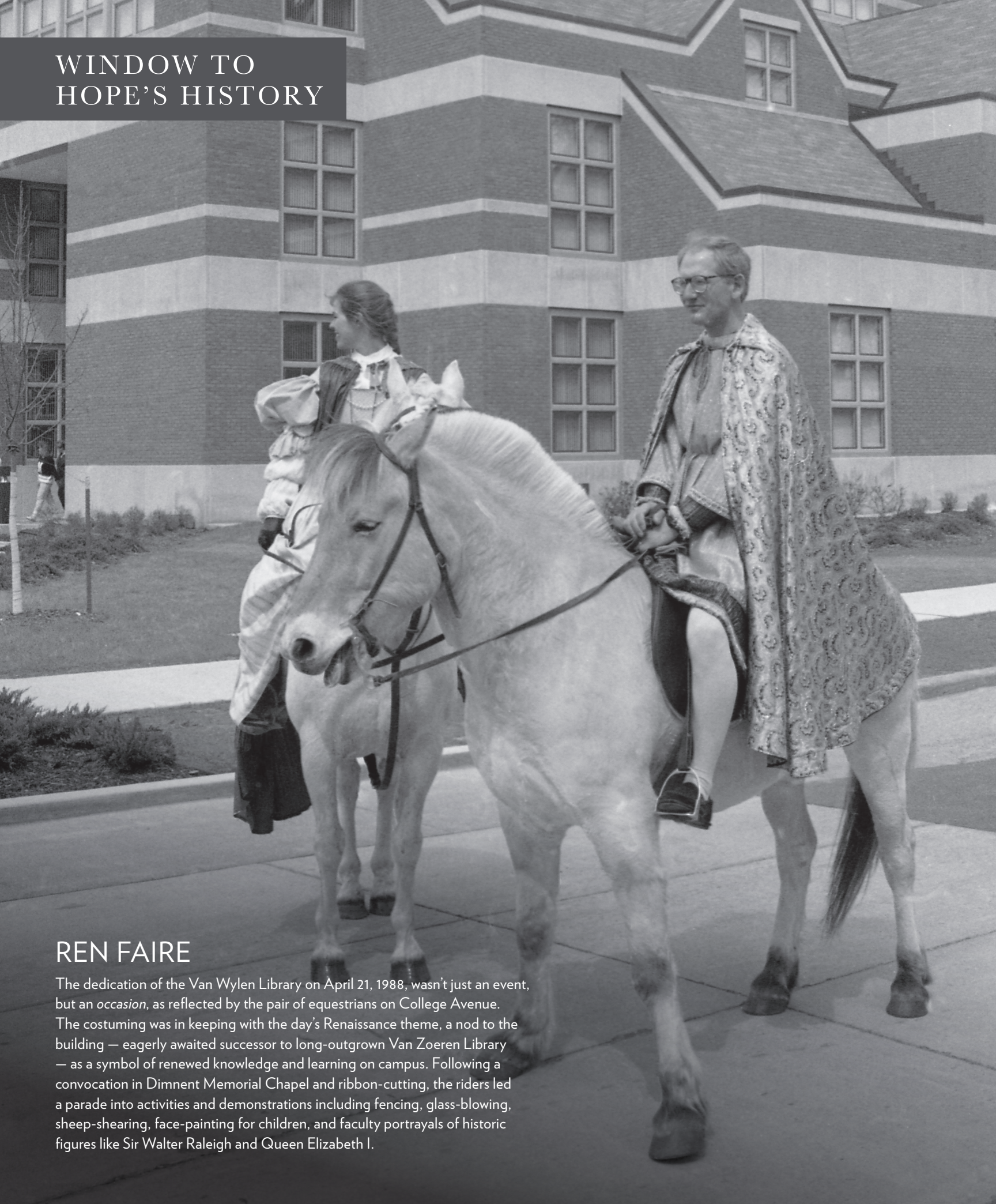
An early-access form is now available for these tours online. An itinerary, specific dates, and costs will be shared at least six months prior to the tour taking place.

In addition to providing an enriching travel experience, the program supports the college's commitment to providing students with study-abroad opportunities. Proceeds from the program will be used to fund scholarships for Hope students participating in study abroad.

For more information on the Hope College Global Travel Program, including the upcoming tours to England, Costa Rica, Scotland, and Paris, visit hope.edu/globaltravel or contact Amanda Ausen '02 Root or Scott Travis '06 with Alumni and Family Engagement at alumni@hope.edu or 616.395.7250.

Learn more about these tours at [**hope.edu/globaltravel**](https://hope.edu/globaltravel)

WINDOW TO HOPE'S HISTORY



REN FAIRE

The dedication of the Van Wylen Library on April 21, 1988, wasn't just an event, but an *occasion*, as reflected by the pair of equestrians on College Avenue. The costuming was in keeping with the day's Renaissance theme, a nod to the building — eagerly awaited successor to long-outgrown Van Zoeren Library — as a symbol of renewed knowledge and learning on campus. Following a convocation in Dimnent Memorial Chapel and ribbon-cutting, the riders led a parade into activities and demonstrations including fencing, glass-blowing, sheep-shearing, face-painting for children, and faculty portrayals of historic figures like Sir Walter Raleigh and Queen Elizabeth I.



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 Summer 2023 issue are due by June 6, 2023.

50s

William Heydorn '55 reports that his book, *Geronimo: The Rest of the Story*, has been published by WestBow Press. The book features photos from 1900 and 1901 when his grandfather, Howard Rutsen Furbeck, joined three other seminary students from Rutgers College to “sing the Gospel” to settlers in the new towns forming along rail lines in the Territory of Oklahoma. The quartet was also popular at camp meetings with members of the Apache, Arapahoe and Cheyenne tribes. Bill is already working on his next project, about the early days of baseball.

70s

Karen Johnson-Weiner '75 retired in 2016 but continued her research of the Amish, publishing *Lives of Amish Women* (Hopkins 2020) and *All About the Amish* (Herald Press 2020). Now her researching days are officially over. This past June, she donated her papers (including extensive correspondence with members of Amish communities) to the Young Center for Anabaptist and Pietist Studies, at Elizabethtown College in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. The papers will be housed in the Earl H. and Anna F. Hess Archives and available to anyone doing research on the Amish and other Anabaptist groups. She reports that she continues to visit Amish friends regularly.

Adelaide Whitehouse '75 has published *Signs of the Father: A Dana Demeter Mystery #2* under the

name A.F. Whitehouse. The first in the series, *Signs of Murder*, is a finalist (Indie Fiction) for the Chicago Writers Association's Book of the Year Award.

80s

Matt Soeter '81 lost his wife of 36 years, Grace Soeter in June 2021. He has subsequently married a widow, Becky Sue Maag Gagnon of Canyon Lake, California. He received a call in November 2021 to San Gabriel Presbyterian Church (ECO), a Chinese American congregation.

Nancy DeWitte '82 Condon reports that many years after paddling across the U.S. in an open canoe, she has published an expedition account. Her adventure memoir is *Paddle for Water, Canoeing across America with a Message and a Man I Never Intended to Marry*. Armchair adventurers can now experience the trials, adventures, and achievements she and her partner encountered during 5,000 miles and 13 months on the river. Advocating for water conservation in this way bolstered her 40-year career – and counting – as an environmental educator.

Linda Gruenberg '86 released a middle-grade historical novel called *Blazes & Brimstone*, inspired by the historic fire in Holland, Michigan, 1871. The book is about three children who rescue horses from a livery stable when the city of Holland, Michigan, burns down. She is currently living in Lapland, Sweden.

90s

William Lowry '91 and **Shalom Sonneveldt '93** are engaged, an engagement 33 years in the making. They will be making their home in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Shalom is the administrative coordinator and pastoral care assistant at River Terrace church in East Lansing, Michigan.

Jennifer Brady-Johnson '92 received a post-professional doctoral degree in occupational therapy from St. Catherine University in May 2022. Her doctoral project was on evidence-based practices in mental health that contribute to regulation.

Brett VanderKamp '94 was named to the Grand Rapids 200 List. This list recognized the most powerful business leaders in West Michigan. He is the CEO of New Holland Brewing Co.

Elizabeth Anker '96 has written and published *On Paradox: The Claims of Theory*. She is a professor of law and associate professor in the Department of English at Cornell University, coeditor of *Critique and Postcritique*, and author of *Fictions of Dignity: Embodying Human Rights in World Literature*. Her new book contends that the faith in the logic of paradox has been the watermark of left intellectualism since the second half of the 20th century, showing how paradox generates the very exclusions it critiques and undercuts theory's commitment to social justice.

Andrew “Jon” Adamson '97 is the associate director of Cedar Grove Cemetery at the University of Notre Dame.



HOPE TO HONOR TWO WITH DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS

The Hope College Alumni Association will present Distinguished Alumni Awards to **Dr. Michael Dickinson '87** and **Sarah Sanderson '03** on Saturday, April 29, during the banquet held as part of Alumni Weekend.

Dickinson is a specialist in cardiovascular diseases and advanced heart failure and transplant with Corewell Health (formerly Spectrum Health Medical Group) in Grand Rapids, where he is quality lead for heart failure treatment, and is also a clinical associate professor at Michigan State University. He has held a variety of leadership positions within his specialization, with Corewell Health, and been recognized repeatedly for excellence by patients, colleagues and professional organizations.

Sanderson is a foreign service officer with the U.S. Department of State, and is currently posted at the U.S. Embassy in Stockholm, Sweden, after previously serving in Uganda and China. Passionate about language teaching and learning to promote peace and prevent conflict through increased understanding and connection, she has also taught English in Japan, Brazil and China, in addition to leading a study-abroad program in Ecuador. She received Hope's Young Alumni Award in 2016.

Friday and Saturday, April 28-29, will also feature reunion celebrations for the classes of 1973, 1983 and 1993; a 50-Year Circle Luncheon for the classes of 1972 and prior; and a ceremony inducting the Class of 1973 into the 50-year group.

More information about Alumni Weekend is available online.
hope.edu/alumniweekend

Tracy Bednarick-Humes '98 was recognized by the National Association for Gifted Children as a Gifted Coordinator of the Year. She is with Lindbergh Schools, St. Louis, Missouri.

00s

Brad Herrema '00 is a shareholder in Brownstein Hyatt Farber Sreck, LLP firm

and has been elevated to chair of the national resource department.

Dana Lamers '01 VanderLugt reports that *Enemies in the Orchard: A World War 2 Novel in Verse* will be published by ZonderKidz in September of 2023. The seeds of the novel, which is written for a middle grade audience, were planted in her creative writing classes at Hope two decades ago, when her research revealed that German prisoners of war picked apples on her family

orchard during the Second World War. In addition to writing, Dana works for Hudsonville Public Schools as an instructional coach and also works part time in Hope's education department supervising secondary student teachers.

Ben Fedak '03, Hartwell Gary '00, Jamie Pierce '03 and Jeff Templeton '03 will host Lyle!stock this summer. Lyle! and many special guests will crank it up to loud (and fun) at Holland's Park Theatre on Saturday, Aug. 5, for an all-day, all-ages rock and roll celebration. Full details at lylerocks.bandcamp.com

Sara King '03 and Jeffrey Terborg were married.

Joanna Wiens '04 Deming is the new executive director of the Pittsburgh Food Policy Council.

Valerie Patrick '04 Smith completed her Master of Science degree in historic preservation at Columbia University's School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation. Prior to this degree, she completed an advanced certificate with Columbia, allowing her to study architecture in Paris. Her thesis, "The Small House Movement of the 1920s: Preserving Small 'Better Houses,'" has been used to document historical assets in Santa Barbara, California, and bring attention to the under-represented movement in American architecture.

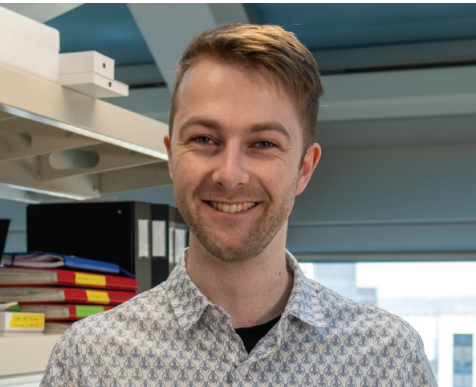
Abbie Matthews '05 and David Exoo were married on Sept. 24, 2022.

Matt Schwabauer '06 moved at the beginning of October to Naples, Florida, where he works as a carpenter at Gulfshore Playhouse, a premier, professional regional theatre in Southwest Florida. He was also recently cast as Captain Von Trapp in The Naples Players' production of *The Sound of Music*, which ran March 1 – April 2.

Abby Bolkema '07 Nyhof is the president of the Montana General Music Teachers Association.

Stephanie Konfara '07 Wright and Justin Wright announce the birth of Asher Joshua on Dec. 17, 2022.

Sarah Herington '08 Charles and Lee Charles announce the birth of Anita Genavieve on Oct. 17, 2022. She joins her older sisters, Gavi and Jessa. They live in Waukee, Iowa, and Sarah volunteers as a clinic manager at Waukee Area Christian Services Free Primary Care Clinic.



McLane Watson '15 of Grand Rapids, Michigan, has been named a Damon Runyon Fellow by the Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation, an honor that places him among the most promising early-career scientists in the nation. He is one of only 14 awardees in this year's class of Damon Runyon Fellows. He is a postdoctoral fellow in the competitive Cancer Epigenetics Training Program at the Van Andel Institute, and had also worked at VAI as an undergraduate intern and research technician before earning his Ph.D. in immunology from the University of Pittsburgh. The four-year, \$250,000 Damon Runyon fellowship will support him as he investigates new ways to supercharge cancer immunotherapies by identifying how metabolism fuels immune cells. *(Photo courtesy Van Andel Institute)*

Heather Esfandiari '09 Dutton and Jason Dutton announce the birth of Carter Alan on Sept. 20, 2022.

Cindy Fein '09 Krumlauf and Andrew Krumlauf announce the birth of Hendrix Charles on June 7, 2022.

10s

Emily Sicard '10 Nickerson and Trevor Nickerson announce the birth of James Allen on Dec. 19, 2022.

Emily Cook '10 Pierson and **Preston Pierson '10** announce the birth of Anna Jean on Oct. 23, 2022.

Whitney Heneveld '10 Rollenhagen and **Jake Rollenhagen '11** announce the birth of Rhett Jacob on Nov. 29, 2022.

Luke Hoogveen '11 and **Leah Patenge '12 Hoogveen** announce the birth of Ronan Lucas on Oct. 24, 2022. He joins big sister Alba.

Shelby Schulz '13 Finney and Matthew Finney announce the birth of Beckett James on Nov. 25, 2022.

Ryan Restum '16 and Molly Restum announce the birth of Henry Lou on Nov. 20, 2022.

Jordan Betten '18 and **Emily Byrd '20 Betten** announce the birth of Jason on Oct. 14, 2022.

Kyle Funk '18 and Caleb Parker were married on Oct. 15, 2022.

Kirstin Anderson '19 Birkhaug will return to Hope College this fall as an assistant professor of political science. She will earn her doctorate from the University-Wisconsin Madison this summer.

20s

Kiley Corcoran '20 Gomez is pursuing her J.D. degree at George Mason University Antonin Scalia Law School. In October, she and her partner won the Upper Class Competition hosted by the ASLS Moot Court Board.

Emily Sandstedt '20 and **Jacob Starr '20** were married on April 22, 2023.

Mackenzie Hester '21 works at Pinkham Notch, a visitor center at the base of Mount Washington. She educates visitors on trail safety information and assists in search and rescues.

Kylie Galloway '22 is a public relations executive at Guinness World Records in New York, New York.

Matthew Summerfield '22 and **Mikayla Zobeck '22** were married on Aug. 6, 2022. Matthew is a neuroscience Ph.D. student at the Carver College of Medicine at The University of Iowa. Mikayla is an account manager at Dow Chemical Consumer Solutions.


Hope
COLLEGE

ALUMNI WEEKEND

FRIDAY & SATURDAY

APRIL 28 & 29

*Celebrating reunion parties for the
classes of 1973, 1983 & 1993!*

FOR MORE INFO
OR TO REGISTER
PLEASE VISIT:



hope.edu/alumniweekend



IN MEMORIAM

Please visit the college online, to view expanded obituaries.

magazine.hope.edu/spring-2023/inmemoriam

40s

Nancy Boynton '42 Prindle

Feb. 8, 2023, Harwich, Massachusetts

Frances Colenbrander '44 Vermeer

Oct. 11, 2022, Sioux Center, Iowa

Suzanne Leestma '46 Pettinga

Oct. 10, 2022, Holland, Michigan

Louise TerBeek '47 Claver

Jan. 27, 2023, Hopkins, Michigan

Lois Hospers '48 Jalving

Jan. 13, 2023, Holland, Michigan

50s

William Boelkins '50

Feb. 2, 2023, Holland, Michigan

Donald Harling '50

Nov. 19, 2022, Rock Hill, South Carolina

Canute Vander Meer '50

Feb. 20, 2023, Atlanta, California

Robert Erickson '51

Feb. 12, 2023, Nashua, New Hampshire

Wayne Fieldhouse '51

Sept. 20, 2022, Bradenton, Florida

Craig Leslie '51

Dec. 1, 2022, Lakeland, Florida

Lillian Stegenga '51 Rooks

Feb. 11, 2023, Zeeland, Michigan

Wendell Rooks '51

Feb. 15, 2023, Zeeland, Michigan

Genevieve "Jackie" Gore '52 Visser

Dec. 1, 2022, Virginia Beach, Virginia

Elaine Groustra '52 Boers

Sept. 25, 2022, Holland, Michigan

Roger Visser '52

Oct. 8, 2022, Virginia Beach, Virginia

Randall Bosch '53

Jan. 17, 2023, Bayville, New York

Kenneth Raak '53

Oct. 20, 2022, Worthington, Minnesota

Warren Sinke '53

Nov. 9, 2022, Bay City, Michigan

John Brannock '54

Oct. 13, 2022, Sun City, Florida

John Corry '54

Dec. 3, 2022, New York, New York

Norman Schuiling '54

June 18, 2022, Grand Rapids, Michigan

Muriel Elzinga '55 Bolhuis

Jan. 27, 2023, Holland, Michigan

Betty Schepers '55 Scholten

Oct. 30, 2022, Portland, Oregon

John Adams '56

Oct. 18, 2022, Hampton, New Hampshire

Gerard Marsh '56

Feb. 7, 2023, Kalamazoo, Michigan

Jerrald Redeker '56

Oct. 29, 2022, Holland, Michigan

John Hamelink '57

Sept. 29, 2022, DeTour Village, Michigan

Harry Mencarelli '57

Oct. 24, 2022, Grand Rapids, Michigan

Suzanne Underwood '57 TenHoeve

Feb. 13, 2023, Holland, Michigan

A. Dorothy Benes '57 Weiss

Oct. 20, 2022, Orange City, Iowa

Carol McCahan '58 Bradford

Dec. 24, 2022, Morgantown, West Virginia

James Cooper '58

Oct. 23, 2022, Traverse City, Michigan

John Docherty III '58

Feb. 11, 2023, Millersville, Maryland

John Griep '58

Sept. 13, 2022, San Diego, California

Edward Vander Kooy '58

Oct. 2, 2022, Holland, Michigan

Roger Winkels '58

Feb. 12, 2023, Holland, Michigan

Sue Huizenga '59 Kanis

Oct. 19, 2022, Holland, Michigan

Arthur Olson '59

Nov. 23, 2022, Jenison, Michigan

Donald Paarlberg '59

Sept. 18, 2022, Coldwater, Michigan

60s

George Bitner '60

March 11, 2023, Spring Lake, Michigan

James Kranendonk '60

Feb. 5, 2023, Charlton, Massachusetts

Bruce Parsil '61

May 25, 2022, Kalaheo, Hawaii

Lois Garber '62 Cary

Dec. 23, 2022, East Lansing, Michigan

Margo Kahler '62

Jan. 29, 2023, Santa Barbara, California

David Needham '62

Dec. 11, 2022, Clinton, South Carolina

Alexandra Townsend '62

Oct. 13, 2022, Lansing, Michigan

Johanna Van Lente '62 Vandrey

Sept. 26, 2022, DeKalb, Illinois

Janet Riemersma '62 Woods

July 16, 2022, Franktown, Colorado

James Esther '63

Dec. 12, 2022, Monroe, New York

Richard McFall '63

Feb. 12, 2023, Portland, Oregon

Gerald Schneider '63

Dec. 8, 2022, Zeeland, Michigan

Marcia Osterink '64 Immink

Jan. 21, 2023, Holland, Michigan

Arthur Kramer '64

Feb. 3, 2023, Estes Park, Colorado

Robert Mackay '64

Nov. 28, 2022, Lexington, Kentucky

Stephen Nordstrom '64

Dec. 21, 2022, Clio, Michigan

Nancy Loewy '64 Polen

Dec. 16, 2022, Linden, Michigan

Beulah Daniel '65 Derks

Dec. 21, 2022, Holland, Michigan

Marjorie Gouwens '65 Hudgins

Nov. 6, 2022, Bloomington, Indiana

David Von Ins '65

Dec. 22, 2022, Saugatuck, Michigan

Jacklyn Benninger '66

Nov. 16, 2022, Detroit Lakes, Minnesota

John Tanis '67

Oct. 3, 2022, Saint Joseph, Michigan

Arlene Schutt '67 Tenckinck

Jan. 29, 2023, Bedminster, New Jersey

Jon Dykema '68

Jan. 27, 2023, Holland, Michigan

Walter Reed '69

Oct. 24, 2022, Jackson, New Jersey

James Shalek Jr. '69

Dec. 2, 2022, Warrenville, Illinois

Robert Vanden Bos '69

Oct. 5, 2022, Grand Haven, Michigan

70s

Diane Hymans '70

Oct. 28, 2022, Columbus, Ohio

Robert Kidd Jr. '70

Aug. 31, 2022, Raleigh, North Carolina

Robert Vanderberg '70

Oct. 27, 2022, Castle Rock, Colorado

Fern Frank '71 Sterk

Dec. 10, 2022, Byron Center, Michigan

Joyce Lambert '72 Kievit

Dec. 9, 2022, League City, Texas

Janet Cioffi '73 Workman

Dec. 31, 2022, Tucson, Arizona

Robert Jones '74

Nov. 14, 2022, Ocean Isle Beach, North Carolina

Marjorie DeKam '75 Boerman

Oct. 8, 2022, Tinton Falls, New Jersey

Stephen Donnelly '75

Jan. 12, 2023, Falls Church, Virginia

Carol Nykerk '76

Dec. 11, 2022, Holland, Michigan

Tharlo Klaver '78

Jan. 7, 2023, Grand Rapids, Michigan

Paul Osburn '78

Dec. 16, 2022, Allegan, Michigan

80s

Alan Kieda '80

Oct. 21, 2022, Cedar Springs, Michigan

Deborah Warnaar '81

Oct. 15, 2022, Rockingham, Virginia

Andrew Bloemers '86

Nov. 13, 2022, West Palm Beach, Florida

Linda Ruiter '87 Verellen

Feb. 9, 2023, Traverse City, Michigan

90s

Amy Haveman '92 DeKruyter

Dec. 20, 2022, Holland, Michigan

Janet Grant '95

Jan. 15, 2023, Spring Lake, Michigan

Julie Jaasma '96 Slezak

June 30, 2022, Hudsonville, Michigan

00s

Clayton Trapp '02

Feb. 20, 2023, Grand Rapids, Michigan

Sympathy to the family and friends of

Kathy Lundy

Oct. 24, 2022, Holland, Michigan

She worked more than 27 years in the physical plant department. She retired in May 2020.

G. Larry Penrose

Feb. 22, 2023, Rathdrum, Idaho

Larry retired from the history faculty in 2005 after teaching at Hope since 1970.

Leslie Wessman

Jan. 24, 2023, Holland, Michigan

She retired from Hope in 2005 as the Arnold and Esther Sonneveldt Professor Emerita of Education after serving on the faculty since 1990, also having chaired the department since 1996.



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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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