

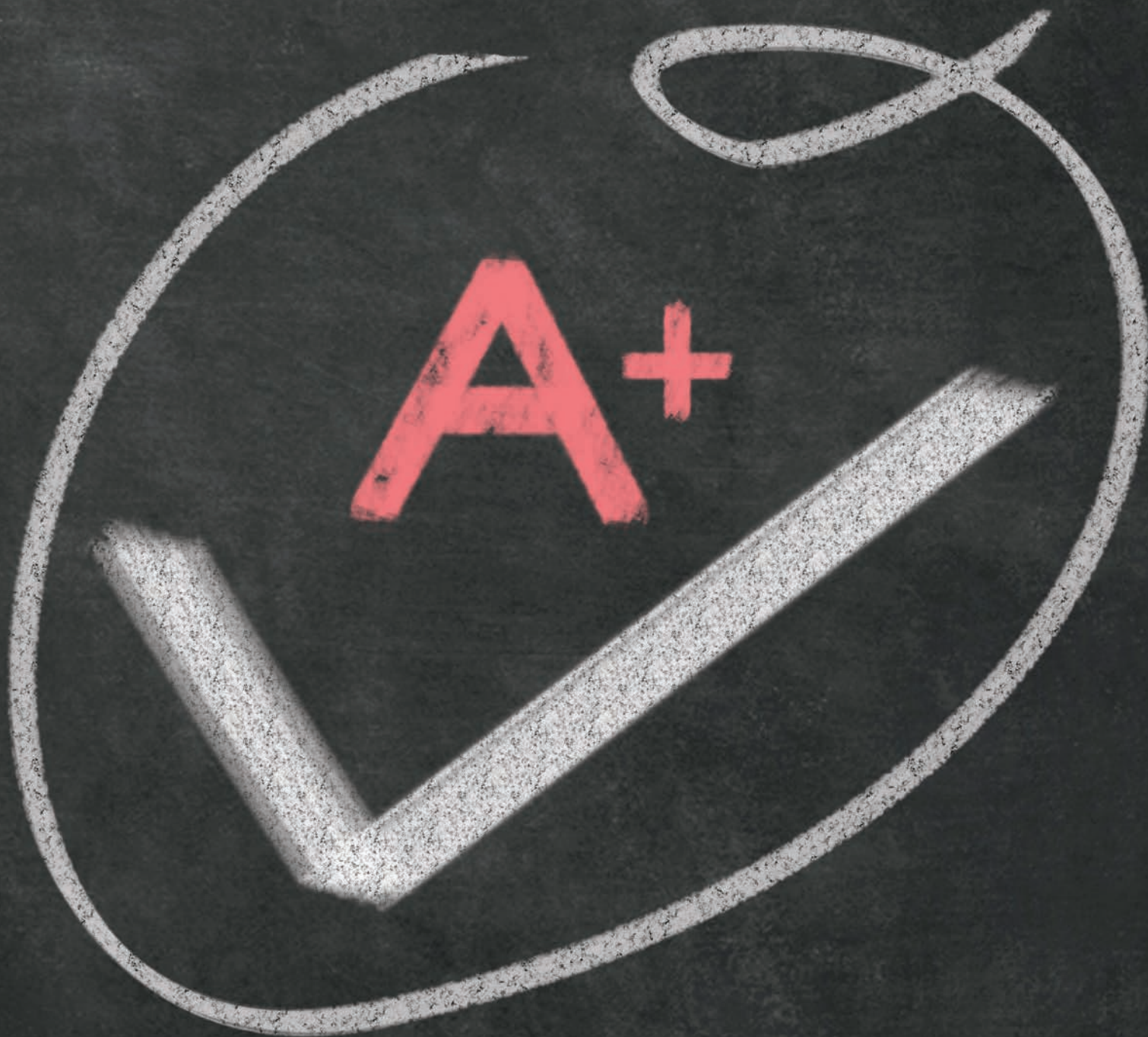
PUBLIC SERVICE One of Governor Walker's top aides helping others.

SCHOLAR-ATHLETE Award-Winning quarterback excels off the gridiron.

FULL PLATE A Business Scholar student's extraordinary gift of making time.

Concordian

THE MAGAZINE OF CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY WISCONSIN



Above the Grade

Outstanding CUW Students

SUMMER 2015



Above the Grade

Occasionally, I wonder whether grades might actually be an impediment to learning. Obviously, that is not always true. No self-respecting college president would ever discourage students from striving to get good grades and doing well in their courses. To the extent that grades reflect student learning, they may serve a useful purpose. Perhaps the incentive to score high on tests, write excellent papers, and perform well in other graded activities can be a productive incentive. However, grades—even good grades—are not the ultimate goal or aim of our academic endeavor. Indeed, as this issue of the *Concordian* emphasizes, we are looking for something ***Above the Grade***.

As our leadership team has rolled out “Mission and Vision Themes” to guide our strategic thinking and decision-making, we have included this among our highest priorities. We are a Learning-Centered Community. Of course, most colleges and universities would emphasize student learning as a critical target. At Concordia, our commitment to this objective is framed within the context of our Lutheran Christian distinction. Defining more explicitly what Learning-Centered Community means within our Lutheran higher education community, under this Mission and Vision theme we state:

- Students learn in innovative and Christ-centered environments.
- Concordia employees are role models and servant leaders.
- Christian faculty are outstanding teachers, active in scholarship and service, and successfully connect faith to learning.

Good students typically earn good grades. Better students learn a lot in their courses. The best students take what they have learned inside and outside the classroom and translate it into a meaningful living that makes a difference in the lives of others. In the pages that follow, you will see examples of shining stars whose learning experiences have helped to prepare them not only to do well in class, but also to go far ***Above the Grade***. We celebrate their inspiring fulfillment of Concordia’s mission in the many ways that they are “serving Christ in the Church and the world.”

REV. PATRICK T. FERRY, PH.D.
President

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CUW quarterback proves success on and off the field.



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New graduate is ready to make her mark.



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CUW and CUAA come together in service. Fighting through a tough trip to Guatemala. An eye-opening mission trip to Appalachia. AlumNotes.



@ QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? Email us: Concordian@cuw.edu
or tweet us: @CUWisconsin

Campus News

Why Are You Here?

Advance Your Career – Discover Your Calling was the powerful theme for the March Career Night held at all of Concordia University’s 13 Accelerated Learning Centers. The purpose of the evening was to inspire individuals to find something more meaningful in their careers. As a Christian university, part of the mission is not only to teach, but to empower people to gain a better understanding and richness of life.

At each of the Centers, the community was invited to hear about and engage in that mission of making a difference in people’s lives. The goal was to show that a successful career doesn’t always equate to the size of the paycheck, but rather that the sense of satisfaction and enlightenment are all part of the mix. The speakers provided some guidance as to what it means to work and live a life that is significant and rewarding. Some of the advice shared included:

- #1 Find out what you are good at; what you love to do.
- #2 Come up with a compelling “why” for your work.
- #3 Invest in the art and science of what you do.
- #4 Build your personal learning network.
- #5 Find a mentor.
- #6 Stand up for your convictions.
- #7 Commit to being great at execution.
- #8 Admit and learn from your mistakes.
- #9 Don’t doubt your worth.
- #10 Consider Concordia as a partner.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CUW'S MADISON CENTER

The public visited CUW’s Madison Center to listen to the message *Advance Your Career – Discover Your Calling* during March’s Career Night event.

The speakers also talked about how the programs offered through Concordia’s Accelerated Learning Centers are designed around the working adult and that the University is founded on Christ-like principles and ethics, tying these facts back to the enrichment of knowing that CUW students will be able to use their gifts and talents to make a real difference in the world.

“Concordia University cares about people and the quality of their work because we believe that work is an amazing opportunity to benefit other people,” said Dr. Bernard Bull, assistant vice president of Academics at CUW.

At some of the Center locations, a panel discussion also took place in which participants were able to engage with one another, asking questions and talking with working professionals from a variety of industries. Stories, insights, and advice were shared as a means of encouragement to those in attendance. —*Craig McCarthy, Editor*

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Upcoming Campus Events

July

09
Concordia Servant Roundtable, Lake Shore Room, 7:30 a.m.



15
Undergraduate Visit Day, 8 a.m.

August

08
Lake Moon Festival, 4-10 p.m., CUW Bluff



Bring your family and friends to this free community festival and enjoy food, a scenic 5K race, the work of artists inspired by the beauty of a summer night, live music, and much more. LakeMoonFestival.com

Dramatization Apologetics Conference



PHOTO BY DARREN HAUOK

The Gospel of Mark took center stage at CUW the evening of April 10. The University hosted *An Evening Featuring a Dramatic Presentation of the Gospel of Mark* in the Chapel of Christ Triumphant.

The free event included six “interpreters,” all from either the Concordia Seminary, St. Louis or a Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS) congregation, who each presented a portion of the Gospel.

Rev. Dr. Ronald Mudge, who teaches at CUW and saw the presentation last fall in Chicago, was not only instrumental in getting the performers to come to Wisconsin, but also helped organize the event.

“This particular presentation makes the audience feel as if they’ve somehow walked into the Gospel of Mark and are witnessing the words and works of Jesus firsthand,” said Mudge.

Audience members had a chance to interact with the six performers following the presentation during a “meet and greet.”

—Craig McCarthy, Editor

The University was the site for the Inaugural Concordia Apologetics Conference on April 24 and 25. Christian apologetics (the defense of the faith) is a broad topic which allowed for the conference to offer discussions and sessions on a variety of topics, including the Resurrection of Jesus, the problem of suffering, the history of human thought, the reliability of Scripture, and healthcare. More than 100 CUW students and faculty joined pastors and laypeople for the weekend, which was organized by the Undergraduate Pre-professional Church Work Organization of Concordia (UPCO).

—Craig McCarthy, Editor



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARA FERENCSON

New Dean Announced

The School of Business Administration has a new Dean. Dr. Daniel Sem took up his new role at the University on July 1 after working as a Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences in CUW’s School of Pharmacy for several years. Sem has a diverse background in healthcare innovation startups, having been through the process of building a venture-capital-financed company from the ground up.

“In my view, business is about profit, but it is just as much about solving problems in a sustainable way,” said Sem. “Concordia blends the mission of service and business education, preparing the next generation of servant leaders who will bring about positive change throughout the world.”

Sem replaces Dr. David Borst who stepped down as the longtime dean of the School last year. —Craig McCarthy, Editor



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13

Concordia Servant Roundtable, Lake Shore Room, 7:30 a.m.



30

Opening Service, Chapel of Christ Triumphant



31

First Day of classes



Campus News

And Then There Were Three

The 4th Annual University Challenge, part of Milwaukee's Lakefront Marathon, is expanding. Marquette is the third school to join the mix, along with CUW and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. This year's competition takes place on Oct. 4 consisting of faculty, staff, students, and alumni from each university. The university with the best overall marathon time will take home the traveling trophy for the year, currently held by CUW. The friendly competition began back in 2012 as the Claws vs. Paws Challenge.

—Craig McCarthy, Editor



PHOTO COURTESY OF PRESIDENT FERRY

CUW President Rev. Dr. Patrick T. Ferry (right) was among the thousands of runners at the 119th running of the Boston Marathon on April 20. This was Ferry's third time running the event and his 18th overall marathon. He finished the race in just under four hours and was cheered on by the Falcon Nation, via social media, before and after the race. Two CUW alumnus were also among the runners, Kevin Gries ('12) and his sister Samantha ('11).

—Craig McCarthy, Editor

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September

9
Graduate Information Session, 6:15 p.m.

10
Concordia Servant Roundtable, Lake Shore Room, 7:30 a.m.



18
Undergraduate Visit Day, 8 a.m.

18/19/20
Church Vocations Weekend
High school sophomores, juniors, and seniors will meet some of CUW's present church-work students and professors as they learn about Lutheran careers. cuw.edu/churchvocations

25
Sampler Concert, 7:30 p.m., Chapel of Christ Triumphant
All seating is general admission. Tickets are \$8 for adults, free for 17 and under and may be purchased at the door.



25/26
Family Weekend

Take Back the Night



PHOTO COURTESY OF KYLERIE

CUW students, staff, faculty, and community members gathered together at the end of April for the University's first *Take Back The Night* event. This national observance strives to create awareness and bring a stop to sexual abuse and violence. The events started in the Chapel Courtyard with a few guest speakers, which included former Concordia President Dr. R. John Buuck. International students presented global statistics from their countries and music was performed by Haven, a CUW student musical ministry group. Participants then assembled on the beach for a time of remembrance and testimonials, ending the evening with 100 prayer balloons floating over Lake Michigan.

"It was an amazing moment," said student Mary Karsten. "It was hard to hear the testimonies and know these types of things happen, but it was also inspiring to see everyone coming together in the name of Christ to take a stand against this violence."

Take Back The Night was planned and run entirely by CUW Psychology students under the guidance of Professor Tracy Tuffey.

—Josiah Buss, Class of 2015



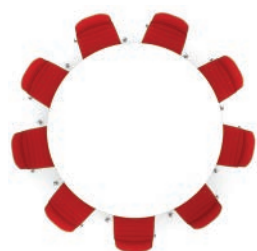
PHOTO COURTESY OF KYLERIE

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October

08

Concordia Servant Roundtable,
Lake Shore Room, 7:30 a.m.



09/10

Homecoming



12

Undergraduate Visit Day, 8 a.m.

15-18

"The Importance of Being Earnest," a classic British comedy by Oscar Wilde, Todd Wehr Auditorium

7:30 p.m. 10/15, 10/16, and 10/17; 1:30 p.m. 10/17 and 10/18

Special 10 a.m. School Matinee on 10/16

Tickets: \$10 Adult, \$8 Seniors and Children over 12, \$5 Veterans, Under 12 free.



Campus News

Welcome Veterans

The University is committed to serving those who served.

By **Gary Achterberg**, *Contributing Writer* Photography by **Jeffrey Phelps**

On a chilly, early April evening, veterans and others filled a room at Concordia University Wisconsin to celebrate a new relationship.

The group of about 100 witnessed the birth of Wisconsin's newest American Legion Post, which is calling the Mequon campus home.

"For us, being a Christian-based institution of higher learning, 'For God and Country' pretty much says it all," said Eduardo Garza, who was elected the first commander of Post 1881. He is also the newly appointed director of Veteran Services for CUW.

"When we enter the service, we thank God for what we've been able to do to protect our country," said Garza, who spent six years on active duty in the U.S. Navy. "Here at Concordia, it's the same mission—we serve others."

Post 1881 bears added significance because that is the year CUW, formerly Concordia College, was founded in Milwaukee.

The installation ceremony for the new post attracted veterans from all over Wisconsin, including the American Legion's state commander and the assistant secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs. Other nearby posts, particularly the Peter Wollner American Legion Post 288 in Cedarburg, Wis., welcomed their new brother with open arms.

"I can't see a better fit for a post than Concordia University," said Bob Shappell, the American Legion's state commander, a



graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy who served more than a quarter century on active duty. He has been in the American Legion since his retirement in 2001.

Shappell said CUW is one of the best supporters of veterans in institutional higher learning. "The association with the campus will create a special situation where the Post's boundaries extend to the hometowns of its students," he said.

Garza said an initial goal for the new post is to establish a veterans resource center that will give veterans a place to visit, call their own, and serve as a welcome center for their families.

"The term 'resource center' is key because we want to be a resource to help veterans and their families get in contact with the people who can help them," he said. "We have established some very good partnerships here at

Concordia with the VA Medical Center, the Vet Center, and all those different facilities that are designed to help veterans and their families."

"Should a veteran or family come to us and need assistance, we know exactly who to call and how to help them," he said.

Another way CUW reached out to veterans was a recent outing that connected the University and others in the community with veterans. Andrew Locke, CUW's senior director of donor relations, worked with Garza to organize a "Take a Vet Hunting" event at The Highlands Sportsmen's Club in Cascade, Wis., about 35 minutes from campus. The club is owned by T.J. and Anne Sommer, who recently established a scholarship endowment for CUW and are strong supporters of the University in many other ways.

The group of 12 vets and 12 supporters spent a day hunting upland birds, including quail, pheasant, and grouse. Locke said it gave University backers an opportunity to say thank you to the veterans, and forge new relationships as they walked and hunted together. The event



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October

22/23
Fall Break



30
Pops Concert,
7:30 p.m.,
Chapel of Christ
Triumphant

All seating is general admission. Tickets are \$8 for adults, free for 17 and under and may be purchased at the door.



30/31
Undergraduate
Visit Days,
8 a.m.

Campus News



also helped show support for Concordia's new veteran initiatives.

The formation of the Legion Post—one of just 10 in the nation on a college campus—underscores CUW's commitment to veterans, which also includes the Veterans Services office that Garza leads. "The University is prepared to help veterans apply credits toward their military transcripts so they can make the most of the 36 months of tuition provided under the GI Bill," he said.

"How do you get a four-year degree with three years of tuition?" Garza asked. "By being able to utilize the credits they do have and apply those to their program. We're better serving the veteran and helping them accomplish their goal of getting a degree."

While the charter members of the Post span a wide age range, Garza said he is honored to have a World War II veteran as one of the Post's 36 charter members. Eugene "Lefty" Ferry, the father of CUW's president, is part of the Post.

Garza said that the Rev. Dr. Patrick Ferry could not have been more supportive and helpful in the process of getting the Post started on campus. During the ceremony, Ferry said he is honored to be associated with the armed services and the American Legion.

"I can't tell you how grateful I am to be your colleague and have the privilege of serving alongside you," he told the students, faculty, and others at the ceremony. "You are among the great heroes in my life."

Ferry said the new Post not only pays tribute to the University's veterans, but also will allow the student population to grow in their appreciation for all that service members have done on their behalf.

"You serve us in order to protect our freedoms," Ferry said. "Because of your service, places like Concordia University Wisconsin are able to do what we do and fulfill our role in Christian higher education."



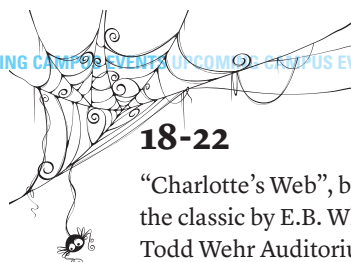
Military veterans that graduated from CUW in the spring each received a special red, white, and blue graduation cord. The cords were generously donated by Cheryle Rebholz, a business owner in Mequon, Wis., to show appreciation to the veterans for their dedicated service to the nation and to advancing their education.

"This is a new tradition that has been created and a perfect example of how community partnerships can benefit our veteran students here," said Eduardo Garza, director of CUW's Veterans Services.

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November

- 12**
Concordia Servant Roundtable,
Lake Shore Room, 7:30 a.m.
- 13**
Undergraduate Visit Day, 8 a.m.
- 17**
Graduate Information Session, 6:15 p.m.



- 18-22**
"Charlotte's Web", based on
the classic by E.B. White,
Todd Wehr Auditorium
Nov 21st at 7 p.m.,
Nov 22nd at 1:30 p.m.
Special 10 a.m. School
Matinees on 11/18, 11/19, 11/20

- 22**
Christ the King Concert,
3:30 p.m., Chapel of Christ
Triumphant
All seating is by general
admission. Tickets are
\$8 for adults, free for 17
and under and may be
purchased at the door.



ABOVE THE GRADE

NO SPOTLIGHT NEEDED FOR THESE STARS
WHO ALREADY SHINE BRIGHT





IN A WORLD COMPETING FOR THE SPOTLIGHT OF FAME AND FORTUNE, THESE OUTSTANDING CURRENT AND FORMER CUW STUDENTS ARE NOT IN IT FOR THE GLORY. WE COULDN'T BE PROUDER TO CALL THESE HUMBLE INDIVIDUALS TRUE FALCONS, LIVING THE UNIVERSITY'S MISSION EACH AND EVERY DAY!



MASTER OF TIME

GETTING AN UNDERGRADUATE AND MASTER'S DEGREE AT THE SAME TIME IS JUST THE BEGINNING.

By **Lisa Hartmann**, *Contributing Writer*

One moment can change the direction of a life. Add up those moments, and they're like a trail of breadcrumbs God left to mark the way.

For Katherine Lewis, a sophomore majoring in Business Management and pursuing her MBA in International Business, those first breadcrumbs appeared long before she was aware of them.

"I learned about management skills from watching my dad organize things at church," Katherine, a pastor's daughter, said. "He was passionate about reaching out to the community and making a difference for the glory of God."

It was by following that example and reaching out to others that Katherine found her career path.

The summer after her junior year in high school, she went on a weeklong mission trip to Haiti. "It was a mind-blowing experience," Katherine recalled. "It was so hard to see all the devastation and the

need. Aside from seeing the piles and piles of trash they live in and next to, the kids in the orphanages and schools would drink water from a bag the size of their own fist with their lunch. That's all the water they got until their next meal."

That mission trip inspired her to pursue international business. "I decided that I wanted to work for a company I believe in that's bettering the lives of other people."

While Katherine had applied to CUW, she had every intention of attending a local technical college up until two months before graduation.

But, one interaction can make a big difference. During a weekend visit to CUW, Katherine met with Dr. David Borst, the former Dean of the School of Business Administration, who asked if she had heard about CUW's Business Scholars program.

The Business Scholars program is a fast-track program for highly



qualified freshmen that allows them to earn their bachelor's degree and MBA in just four years. That's no small task, considering that program qualifications require a minimum ACT score of 25 and an on-going GPA of 3.6. Once in the program, students take 18 credits each semester, plus three additional classes over their four-year education.

"I meet hundreds of prospective students each year," Dr. Borst said. "Those that rise above are notable for their poise, their maturity beyond their years, and their sense of direction and purpose. Katherine was, and is, one of those people."

With her acceptance into CUW's Business Scholars program, Katherine was ready to step into her future. That's when the next breadcrumb appeared.

At a family reunion over the summer, Katherine's cousin, a recent CUW graduate, asked about her interest in campus activities. "I said I was interested in student government, and my cousin introduced me to Evan Beuscher, who got me involved in SGA [Student Government Association]."

Katherine quickly became an organization senator and learned how groups were formed on campus. Then, sitting in class one day thinking about scholarship applications and how much they value volunteer work, she realized there was no single place on campus for students to go if they were interested in volunteering.

Katherine approached her roommate about starting the Volunteer Club, and soon they were connecting CUW students to the community by providing fun, meaningful opportunities to volunteer. The club has helped organizations like Feeding America, Journey House, and Simple Hope. "One of our favorite activities was Soles for Jesus, where we sorted shoes and shipped them to Africa," Katherine said.

Besides founding the Volunteer Club and completing those 18 credit hours every semester, Katherine is also the treasurer of the Concordia Business Club (she was president last semester); chairs the SGA Public Relations Committee; represents commuter students as the SGA commuter senator; and belongs to Beautiful Feet, a campus group that focuses on missions in America and around the world. She also helped several friends start CMAX, a new campus club and business incubator that offers entrepreneurial space for students who want to create their own businesses.

"I love, more than anything, that I have the opportunity and ability to impact a lot of other people," Katherine said. She also realized she doesn't need to travel around the world to make a difference. "You see need in the people right next door."

What have all these experiences taught her? "That you can do a lot more than you think you're capable of. If you told me as a freshman last year that I'd be involved in all this, I wouldn't have believed you."

She's also learned how to work well with other people. "You have to change your leadership skills with each person you're working with," Katherine said. "To lead them, you have to understand them."

"The other thing I've learned is the amount of people here who want me to succeed. I love being able to talk to my teachers and the administration. They really care. Evan pushed me to be involved in more

things— 'You can do it,' he told me. **I WANT TO BE ABLE TO DO THIS FOR OTHER STUDENTS AND PUSH THEM TO DO MORE THAN THEY THINK THEY CAN TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE AND BE THAT CHANGE,**"

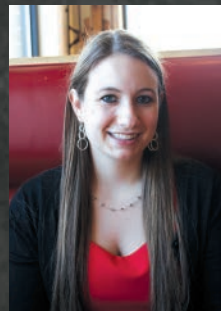
Katherine said.

She has a few ideas about where she'd like all this knowledge and experience to lead. "My dream job is to work my way up in a large corporation and run their philanthropy area. Dream B would be to become an executive director of a non-profit organization," she said. "Whatever path God leads me down, I'd love to run my own company. I have no idea what that company might do yet, but I love the idea!"

The business world may have to wait another two years before they fully reap the benefits of Katherine's energy and dedication, but in the meantime, she'll be following the breadcrumbs and returning to Haiti this summer for another 10-day mission trip.

"The core of where all of this comes from is my faith in God," Katherine said. "We're here for God's plan. It's His story, and I'm here to do whatever He wants. I'm always looking for guidance from Him."

"You will be hearing about Katherine Lewis for years and decades to come," Dr. Borst predicted. "She is just that good of a person."



Megan Kohlwey graduated from CUW's Business Scholars Program in May, 2013. The program allows students to get an undergraduate and MBA degree in four years, saving both time and money. For Kohlwey, this was very attractive.

"It's ultimately why I went to Concordia, because I got accepted into the Program," said Kohlwey.

As a native of Grafton, Wis., it made sense that right after graduation, Kohlwey jumped at a chance to work at Kapco Metal Stamping in her hometown, especially since it was a job in HR, her area of study.

"Manufacturing recruiting is my main goal," said Kohlwey. "So anything from posting positions, looking at resumes, setting up interviews, attending the interviews, or doing the interviewing myself is what I am trained to do. I also run all new hire orientations. I get them from start to finish."

Kapco is a thriving company that continues to grow and expand, which is exciting for Kohlwey. Kapco has also been a big supporter of CUW over the years. Kapco's owner, Jim Kacmarcik, was the driving force behind the Lakeshore Chinooks baseball team. Part of a summer, wooden-bat league, the Chinooks play their home games on CUW's campus at the amenity-rich Kapco Park.

The company's mission of "Making People Our Priority" is something that resonates with Kohlwey, who believes in Kapco's efforts to give back to the community on many different levels. She also sees a lot of parallels with her place of employment and the University that educated her.

A BRIGHT FUTURE

REGGIE NEWSON IS A POWERFUL LEADER IN AIDING WISCONSIN'S WORKFORCE.

By Gary D'Amato, Contributing Writer

As Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development and CUW alumnus, Reggie Newson directs the State workforce agency that has an annual budget that exceeds \$450 million and employs more than 1,600 employees in six divisions.

Newson, however, summed up his job description in two words.

"Helping people," he said. "Public service is helping people."

Newson, who turned 43 this year and lives in Milwaukee, leads the agency charged with building and strengthening Wisconsin's workforce. Gov. Scott Walker appointed him secretary on Oct. 24, 2011; before that, Newson served as deputy secretary for three months.

He described the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) as a "conciierge" to help Wisconsin employers find workers. "The DWD is the lead state agency in developing Wisconsin's talent pool for employers, helping connect employers and job-seekers," he said.

Department of Workforce Development divisions include Employment and Training, Administrative Services, Equal Rights, Unemployment Insurance, Worker's Compensation, and Vocational Rehabilitation.

Newson has an MBA, with an emphasis in corporate communications, from Concordia University Wisconsin. He obtained his undergraduate degree and a master's degree in political science from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and was a product of the Milwaukee Public Schools (Rufus King High School).

He said Concordia's mission and philosophy intrigued him.

"I had attended public schools, so I thought a private school might be interesting," he said. "I was impressed with the Christian teachings at Concordia and how they incorporate the Christian philosophy into business. That was something I wanted to learn. I had my master's in political science, but I wanted to get more of a business perspective. It was one of the best decisions I've ever made. Everything I learned there, I apply in my current job."

Newson said one of the main objectives of the Department of Workforce Development is to prepare Wisconsin workers for 21st century jobs. That means working with high schools, technical colleges,

and private and public universities to "make sure we're aligning our instruction, training degree programs, and program offerings to what the new skill sets are."

"This is a global economy," he added. "It's moving more towards an automation technology structure, so we need to make sure we have the individuals with the right skills and competencies for those jobs."

Though Newson lives in Milwaukee, his office is in Madison, and he spends a good deal of time traversing the State to attend meetings. He said he has put 120,000 miles on his car over the last four years.

An important part of Newson's job entails building bridges between the public and private sectors.

"I believe that when we collaborate public to private, and all the

entities getting together, we can make great progress," he said. "There are a lot of different viewpoints. I support and share the Governor's viewpoints, but then you have to bring people along. So that's probably the most challenging part—when people have a viewpoint that's on the opposite end of the spectrum, how do you bring those folks along? I think the common platform is jobs. A job is not a red job or

"I WAS IMPRESSED WITH THE CHRISTIAN TEACHINGS AT CONCORDIA AND HOW THEY INCORPORATE THE CHRISTIAN PHILOSOPHY INTO BUSINESS."

a blue job. It's a job, and it pays the green."

Prior to his tenure at DWD, Newson served as assistant deputy secretary at the Wisconsin Department of Transportation; before that, he was operations director for the DOT's Southeast Region, managing a \$320 million budget and directing 500 employees.

From 2003 to 2005, Newson managed the State's Disadvantaged Enterprise Program, and in that capacity, he developed leading market management strategies for minority business development.

In 2005, he was honored with the Milwaukee Business Journal's 40 Under 40 Award, which recognizes 40 Milwaukee-area individuals who are making a difference in their professions and communities.

Married, with one son, Newson enjoys traveling and checking out major-league baseball stadiums; the lifelong Milwaukee Brewers fan has visited nearly a dozen from Fenway Park, home of the Boston Red Sox, to Globe Life Park, home of the Texas Rangers.



POSTGAME

THE GAME OF LIFE HAS MANY PATHS FOR THIS SCHOLAR ATHLETE.

By **Gary D'Amato**, *Contributing Writer*

Had Austin Damaschke been a few inches taller as a senior in high school, he might not have attended Concordia University Wisconsin, where he has excelled on the football field and in the classroom.

At an even 6' and barely 175 pounds coming out of Westosha Central High School in Kenosha County, Damaschke was considered too small to play quarterback by most NCAA Division I programs.

"Size was always a thing for me," he said. "I had the talent and the mental aspects of it, but I didn't have the physical size you need. If I would have been maybe 6'3" and a little over 200 pounds, I think I would have gotten Division I offers."

Their loss was Concordia's gain.

Damaschke moved into the starting lineup three games into his freshman season and re-wrote the Falcons record book as a four-year starter.

He finished the 2014 season as the NCAA Division III statistical champion for total offense, with an average of 378.3 yards per game, and threw for a school-record 490 yards in an Oct. 18 victory at Trine University. In that game, Damaschke also set Concordia records for pass attempts (73) and completions (41). One week earlier, in a victory at Aurora University, he broke the school record for total offense in a single game, accounting for 606 of the Falcons program record 792 total yards.

Damaschke finished the season with 2,835 passing yards and 20 touchdowns, while rushing for 570 yards and seven scores. He ranked eighth nationally in passing yards per game (315.0), while CUW finished 20th nationally in total offense (475.5).

Damaschke, who graduated in May, also excelled in the classroom, where he maintained a 3.67 grade-point average as a biomedical science major.

In November, he was named a National Football Foundation (NFF) Scholar-Athlete, another first for the Falcons program. He was one of just two Division III student-athletes among 17 honored, and was a finalist for the William V. Campbell Trophy, awarded to the best football scholar-athlete in the nation.

During finals week in December, he flew to New York City to accept the award, which included an \$18,000 post-graduate scholarship.

Damaschke stayed at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, attended press conferences and banquets, saw a Christmas pageant at Radio City Music Hall, rubbed shoulders with players being inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame, and got to meet Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones and Hall of Fame quarterback Roger Staubach.

"It was the best experience I ever had in my life," he said. "Everybody treated us so great. I got to meet (Hall of Fame running back) LaDainian Tomlinson and Jerry Jones and Roger Staubach. They couldn't have been any nicer. They were proud of us."

In addition to talent, aptitude, commitment, leadership skills, and good old-fashioned elbow grease, it takes some serious time-management skills to pull off what Damaschke accomplished in his four years at Concordia.

During football season, he lifted weights three or four times a week, watched film of upcoming opponents for about an hour every day, practiced on the field daily, and then headed straight to the library for two to three hours of study time.

His class load included everything from organic chemistry and microbiology to physics and advanced anatomy.

How did he do it?

"When you put it like that, I don't know," he said with a laugh. "What helped me is that since freshman year, I had a mindset that it was going to be a heavy course load. So, time management was huge. I just got it in my head that after practice, I'm going to get to the library for two or three hours and get it done."

"I'm happy I was able to deal with it to get me to the point where I am today."

Damaschke has been accepted into the Physician Assistant Program at CUW.

"My mom has always wanted me to be a doctor," he said. "I came to Concordia kind of thinking that. But I shadowed some doctors and some physician assistants back home in Kenosha and realized that physician assistant was the thing for me."

He said the \$18,000 scholarship from the National Football Foundation would go a long way toward paying for his post-graduate studies.

"It pays for a big chunk of tuition," he said. "PA school is expensive. It probably pays for about a third of it, which is big. When you think of graduating and having that much less in debt for student loans, that's really big."

Though Damaschke was scouted on-campus by the Dallas Cowboys and the Minnesota Vikings - he took the NFL's Wonderlic intelligence test and was measured and timed in the 40-yard dash - his football career is over.

He has no regrets.

"Sometimes, I think about what would have happened if I would have gone DII or transferred, but I think I'm better off looking at what I did and what I had," he said, gesturing toward his NFF Scholar-Athlete plaque. "I've enjoyed my time here. I've made so many friends. The teachers and the staff have been just awesome. Coach [Greg] Etter recruiting me-I can't thank him enough."

"Overall, it's been a great opportunity, and I'm glad that I've had it and experienced it. Now, I'm ready to move on to the next stage."



CONCORDIA

5

IN HIS BOARDDOM

THE CREATION OF A KINGDOM OF BOARD GAMES.

By **Craig McCarthy**, *Editor*

Tim Ceman, now 30, admits that when he was younger, he was kind of a lost soul when it came to jobs. But, like a lot of entrepreneurs, he knew he wanted to start something of his own and build it into something special. He may have found it with his e-commerce website Boardgametrader.com

As a 2014 graduate of CUW's MBA program, Ceman came up with the concept for the board game site while brainstorming ideas during one of his marketing classes.

"What initially intrigued me was the capability for users to not just buy board games, but trade them as well," said Ceman.

He stuck with the idea and launched Boardgametrader.com in 2012. Since that time, Ceman has been steadily growing his business, working nights and weekends, while maintaining a full-time job as a procurement team leader for a company in Appleton, Wis.

"I try to meet as many people as I can, get my name out there, get the business' name out there, and drive more traffic to the website," said Ceman.

He accomplishes this by going to a lot of trade shows, with the goal of retiring from his corporate job by 40 and devoting all of his time to building his board game empire, which now includes a physical store that he opened in downtown Appleton in June of 2014.

"I see this as my passion that I could do in my retirement. I wouldn't completely retire, but I'll retire young and not just sit on the couch. I'll be working on something that's a labor of love," he said.

It's a labor of love that Al Lautenslager noticed right away. As an adjunct professor who teaches marketing at CUW's Green Bay and Appleton Centers, Lautenslager is also a marketing consultant, speaker, and author. He recalls one of Ceman's final projects for a class. It was the basis for what is now Boardgametrader.com. Lautenslager was quite impressed, and remembered thinking Ceman seemed more like a seasoned marketer, rather than a student.

"The presentation blew me away. He'd done enough research, and had the passion and knew exactly what he wanted to do. He implemented that with things from the class, and it turned out to be an awesome project."

Ceman admits that he has come a long way since getting his undergraduate degree from UW-Oshkosh back in 2007, when he didn't really have an interest in business. It wasn't until he started taking MBA classes at CUW in 2010 that his passion for business grew. He says it has been an ongoing learning process ever since.

"The most challenging thing is dealing with search engine optimization (SEO), always trying to get your website to rank. You're able to track everything with online analytics, so I can see where my traffic is coming from," said Ceman.

While his sales are very seasonal, on average, Ceman sells approximately 60 games per month. He used to store the nearly 500-game inventory in a spare bedroom in his home—now storing them in his new store—and he packages and ships all the games himself.

"I try to focus more on the games that are hard to come by, ones that you can't just go to Walmart and pick up," said Ceman.

It seems that he has found what he's looking for in board games, creating a bright future for himself and those around him, while honing the business skills that he acquired while attending CUW.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TIM CEMAN

TRUE PERFORMER

FROM STAGE TO CLASSROOM THIS GRADUATE IS READY FOR THE NEXT ACT.

By Lisa Hartmann, *Contributing Writer*

Author Gail Godwin once said, “Good teaching is one-fourth preparation and three-fourths theatre.” If that’s the case, then Sara Pfenning has a very bright future ahead of her.

Sara, a senior from Milwaukee who is double-majoring in Secondary Lutheran Education and English, grew up on CUW’s stage. Literally. “I was homeschooled, and we used to do productions on the stage in the amphitheatre,” Sara said. “My dad works here, so Concordia has always seemed like a second home.”

Her passion for theatre is equally matched by her joy of teaching. “I’ve wanted to be a teacher since I was three,” Sara recalled. “My first memories are of teaching my little sisters to ride bikes, to read, and to swim.”

Her dream job is to combine these two passions as an English teacher and theatre director in a Lutheran school. “They build off each other and make me stronger at both,” Sara said. “Theatre has taught me how to be comfortable in front of a large group of people, how to project and enunciate, and more importantly, how to be passionate about everything I do, even if I don’t always want to do it.”

Sara knows there’ll be days when she won’t want to walk into the classroom. “Being a teacher is a hard job,” she said. “Thanks to theatre, I’m now trained to put aside my own feelings and my own person, and become who I need to be.”

Coming to CUW, Sara was open to teaching any grade. “I picked secondary education because it only required one math class,” she laughed. Ultimately, she chose to teach middle school, and after completing her pre-student teaching, she couldn’t be happier. “I had a chance to completely take over a middle school class for two weeks, and it was the greatest experience. They really responded to me, and our personalities just fit.”

During her time at CUW, Sara has used her multiple talents for teaching and theatre to reach out and share God’s word with others. She’s the co-coordinator for Drama Ministry, a student group that works with other campus ministries to perform for churches and youth groups. She’s also a leader on CMLT (Campus Ministry Leadership Team) and involved with Haven, CUW’s Sunday night contemporary prayer and praise gathering.

“From the first class she took with me her freshman year, Sara has been a strong leader who exhibited solid faith and served as a good example to her peers,” said Lori Woodall, director of CUW’s Theatre program. “She was always encouraging to other students; loving and showing compassion and affection to any friend in need.”

Sara’s leadership skills have earned her the Women’s Leadership award in 2014, a Lutheran Education Leadership award in 2015, and she recently received word that she will be the recipient of the Theatre Student Leadership award this year, as well.

These leadership skills were notably on display last year when, as president of CUW’s extracurricular theatre club, Concordia Theatrum, the club presented an original play Sara wrote, directed, and produced.

That original work, titled *Backstage Pass*, told the story of a young writer’s growth from being self-focused to thinking about other people. “The main character had an ego that needed to be knocked down, and he found a way to humble himself,” Sara explained. “The message is to take the focus off yourself, and put it on God and the people around you.

In the beginning, the characters are all self-focused, but by the end, it’s about how they work together for God’s glory.”

“Sara took the Theatre program’s mission of upholding strong Christian values and demonstrating the fruits of the spirit while we work very seriously,” Woodall added. “During her leadership, the club grew three-fold. I feel Sara exhibits the CUW mission statement, and I look forward to seeing where God leads her.”

“You become a good leader when you learn how to care about the other people you’re leading,” Sara said. “I also learned that God is bigger than any amount of homework or any length of paper. God is bigger and will help you get through it.”

It’s evident that Sara has the theatre aspect of Gail Godwin’s equation down. And it comes as no surprise to learn she has the preparation aspect well in hand, too. Besides her involvement in campus clubs and ministries, Sara has maintained a 3.8 GPA and finds the time to juggle six part-time jobs, all of which have some connection to teaching children.

Sara walked across the stage at this May’s commencement ceremony and will receive her diploma after she completes her student teaching this fall, when she’ll be ready to start the next act of her life.

“I could teach dance or English or drama or sports and be completely content. I’m excited to see where it all leads.”



Hardships in the Big Easy

How students and faculty brought healing hands to a devastated region.

By **Olivia Johnson**, *Class of 2016*

Students from CUW and CUAA had the opportunity to put their rivalries aside in March as they spent their spring break serving together. The mission team consisted of twenty-two CUAA students, nine CUW students, and four faculty and staff members from both campuses. They traveled to New Orleans to spend the week repairing a home damaged by Hurricane Katrina back in 2005. According to Reverend Ryan Peterson, CUAA campus pastor, the trip gave an opportunity for students to grow in their understanding of the University's greater mission of serving Christ in the Church and the world.

"Throughout every day of the trip, the students from each campus became closer, more trusting, and more involved in the lives of one another," said Reverend Peterson. "Our students lived out 'one university' in a powerful way."

During the trip, the group worked with Operation Nehemiah, a non-profit organization committed to helping the thousands of families that are still displaced from the storm. In addition to rebuilding, the team also focused on providing spiritual guidance to the homeowners by talking and praying with them.

"They were in need of a lot of help with their house, but also a lot of support for them and their family," said CUW student, Amy Formella.

According to Formella, strong connections were made between the mission team and those in need.

"We saw a lot of pain, but we also saw a lot of hope and strength," she stated. "All of this happened because we were in the same family of Christ."



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ASHLEY DORRLEY

A Heart for Serving

A trip to the Appalachian Mountains changed one student's perspective.

By **Olivia Johnson**, *Class of 2016*

Earlier this year, Jade Wilds, a CUW student, spent her spring break working to meet the needs of the people of Gary, W.Va. as part of a mission trip. Wilds, now entering her junior year, is studying Lutheran elementary education in hopes of one day becoming a middle school math teacher. On campus, she is part of the education club, works two jobs, and even played J.V. volleyball her freshman and sophomore year, all while maintaining her spot on the honor roll. However, what sets Wilds apart is not her involvement at the University, or her strive for academic excellence. Rather, it is her heart for helping those in need, like the residents of poverty stricken Gary, an ex-mining community.

"I didn't prepare myself for what I was going to see, but it was really sad," she said. "It almost looked like a different country."

Through her participation in the University's mission trip, Wilds, along with 34 of her fellow students, traveled to the Appalachian Mountains to bring aid to the residents of Gary. The once-booming region was formerly owned by U.S. Steel until the mid-1980's, when all mines were shut down, leaving behind generations of families to live in poverty. It is now considered by many to be one of the poorest areas in the country.

To bring aid to this community, Wilds and her peers worked with an organization called Experience Mission. Upon arrival, the students were split into groups, and then received a task to work on for the week.

"Our job was demolition," said Megan Cassidy, a student in Wilds' group. "It was very dirty, and the house had rotten floors that many of us fell through."

According to Cassidy and the team's construction leader, Roy Meinzer, the team relied on Jade's ability to find the best solution to handle problems that came their way throughout the week.

"She earned the nickname 'Think Tank,' as she was always the one we would look to for advice when we needed the best approach to handle numerous situations," stated Meinzer.

“Right from the start, she was thinking of how we could get our job done,” added Cassidy.

In addition to completing service projects, Wilds and her peers also worked to build relationships with community members by visiting the local nursing home, participating in a basketball game against some local youth, and talking with neighbors of the buildings they were fixing. For Wilds, one of the strongest emotions of the trip came from seeing the differences they made in just one week, while still recognizing how much was left untouched.

“It was really rewarding to see our finished work, and to see how much the people appreciated us, but it was also sad to see how much more they needed that we couldn’t give them,” remembers Wilds.

By participating in this mission trip, Wilds’ eyes were opened, not only to the harsh reality of poverty in the Gary area, but also to the joys that come from serving others. She stated that she started the trip feeling nervous, but quickly realized what a rewarding opportunity was in front of her. When asked if she would like to participate in another mission trip, Wilds was quick to answer “yes.”



PHOTO COURTESY OF JADE WILDS

“I really want to go on another one,” she said. “We have spring break, and what better way to spend it than by helping people.”

As for her future as a teacher, Wilds said she

is waiting to see where God leads her. In the meantime, she will remain busy with studying, working, and lending a helping hand wherever one is needed.

In Sickness and in Health

With God’s will, passionate students persevered.

By **Olivia Johnson**, *Class of 2016*

While many of their peers traveled somewhere tropical during spring break to spend the week on a beach, one group of students headed south to give back. In March, 21 students from CUW traveled to San Raimundo, Guatemala to spend several days building a home for a family in need. During their travels, differences in public health between the two countries took a toll on the team’s overall well-being, as many of the members fell ill. According to Kyle Re, a student on the trip, these challenges, however, made the experience more fulfilling in the end.

“It was a great example of how God’s strength is made clear and evident in our weakness,” said Re. “Though some of us were feeling pretty faint the rest of the trip, God worked through that weakness and used it for His greater purpose and plan.”

During their trip, the team joined forces with Casas por Cristo, an organization that serves to reach the people of Guatemala, Mexico, and the Dominican Republic by bringing physical and

spiritual hope to impoverished areas through the building of safe and secure homes for families. In just three days, the mission team was able to build a house from the ground up.

Traveling alongside the students was Assistant Vice President of Academics for Student Success Dr. Randall Ferguson, who saw the mission trip as a great experience on several levels. Although the team experienced health problems, he is proud that the group never stopped working hard.

“Half of them got sick, some of them really sick, but they persevered and never complained,” said Dr. Ferguson. “What a privilege it was to serve with them.”



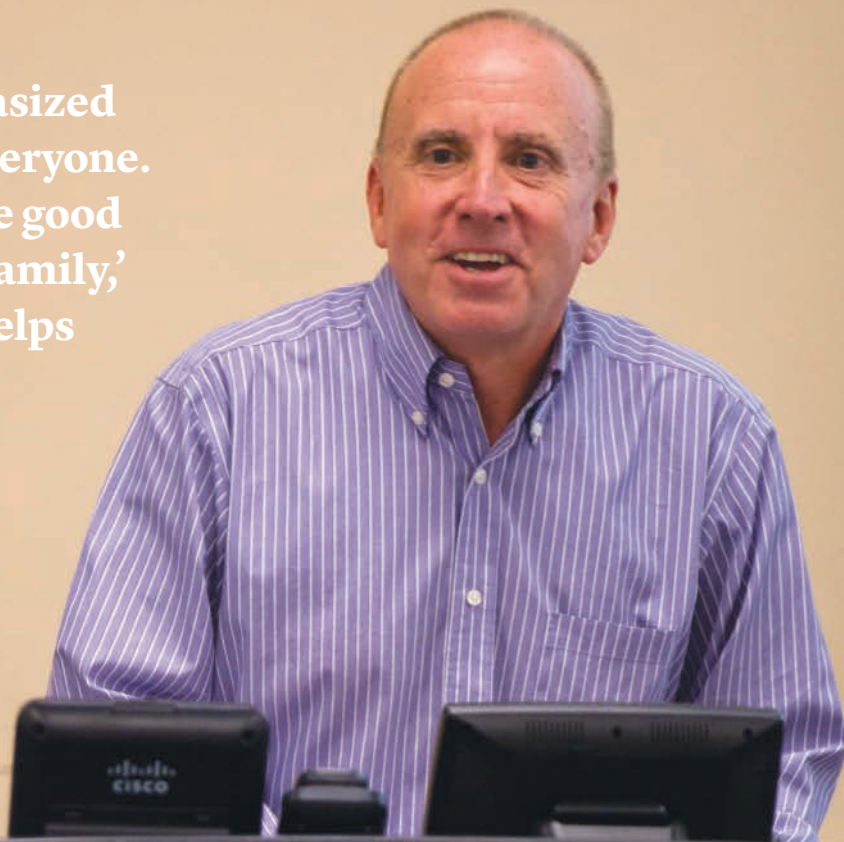
PHOTO COURTESY OF KYLE RE



PHOTO COURTESY OF KYLE RE

Alumni Profile

“The Christian values emphasized at Concordia are good for everyone. [The Sargento] motto is ‘hire good people and treat them like family,’ and Concordia University helps develop good people.”



Bob Peiffer

Director of Creative Services
Sargento Foods
MBA '07

Much More Than Cheese 2000s

“Anyone not like cheese?”

(Silence)

“Anyone?”

“Silly question,” says a student from the back of a full classroom.

By **Lisa Liljegren**, *Director of Community and Corporate Relations*

Photography by Jeffrey Phelps

Bob Peiffer likes cheese, extra sharp cheddar if you please, but it’s the people—not the perk of daily cheese—that have kept him happy at Sargento Foods, in Plymouth, Wis., for 26 years. Peiffer earned his MBA from CUW in 2007. He also teaches advertising management online and is a parent of a graduating senior at the University. He recently spent time on campus speaking with students about successful interview strategies and shared information about the Sargento corporate culture which has contributed to significant growth of the Wisconsin family business.



Q: What is your role at Sargento?

A: I’m the Director of Creative Services. In addition to packaging design and promotional creative, my area is also responsible for digital media. We also oversee the activities of the Sargento sports marketing partnerships. If you live in Wisconsin, you may know Sargento as the official cheese of both the Green Bay Packers and the Milwaukee Brewers. Both partnerships have been successfully developed over the years.

Q: Why did you decide to complete your MBA at CUW?

A: I was already working at a director level when I decided to enroll in CUW’s MBA program as a way to challenge myself personally and refresh my business knowledge and expertise. Many of my colleagues were CUW alumni already, or were completing their MBA’s at the time, so I knew the quality of the education was a fit with Sargento.

Q: What specifically about CUW’s School of Business Administration attracted you?

A: CUW’s Business School has a terrific blend of passionate instructors who genuinely care about the outcomes of their students. A great many of us at Sargento have gone through the program, so we have a strong connection to the ethics and principles that are staples of a Concordia education.

Q: Can you talk more about the connections between Sargento and CUW?

A: Our corporate culture is what keeps me excited to come to work each day. People, Pride, & Progress are the key principles that drive our company. When we meet with CUW grads, we already know that their education is rooted in ethics and service, so we will speak the same language.

Q: What language is that exactly?

A: The Christian values emphasized at Concordia are good for everyone. Our company motto is ‘hire good people and treat them like family,’ and Concordia University helps develop good people.

Achievements

Johanna (Hanche) Anderson (’13) is in her second year of teaching band and orchestra at Perry A. Tipler Middle School in Oshkosh, Wis. She started a 7th and 8th grade pep band this year that was recently featured in the Oshkosh Northwestern.



Michael Spoke (’12) graduated from Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, Calif. with a Masters of Divinity and soon will go to Fort Jackson, S.C. for Chaplain School with the U.S. Navy.



Susanne (Lauer) Fenske (’04) has accepted the position of vice president of student affairs at Clarion University located in Clarion, Pa. She and her husband, Ron, have two daughters, ages 7 and 5.



Karen L. Hardecopf (’03) joined the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS) Health Ministries Team serving as the Parish Nursing Program Coordinator.



JohnRae Stowers (’03) was recently promoted to the position of Assistant Director of the Office of Student Educational Services at Marquette University.



Becky Matson (’02) is currently teaching first grade at Grace Lutheran School in Sandy, Utah. She moved there in July of 2014 and enjoys hiking in the mountains around the area.



AlumNotes



Christopher Canapa ('01) will soon complete his third year of coursework for the DM

degree at Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music. He recently wrapped up a recording of 17th century Italian music in New Brunswick this past February (to be released by ATMA Classique this fall), and was a featured artist for a production of Monteverdi's Vespers at the Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music in November 2014.

Marriages

1 Lyndsey Hyde ('11) and **Kevin Sheridan** ('11) were married on October 25, 2013. Both are CUW staff members, Kevin with the human resources department and Lyndsey in the School of Pharmacy.

2 Kristin L. Priem ('10) married Jeff Kluge on October 4, 2014 in Madison Wis. Kristin currently teaches 7th and 8th grade Spanish in Fort Atkinson, Wis. Jeff works as a pipeline safety engineer for the state of Wisconsin. Jeff and Kristin reside in Madison, Wis. Other CUW alumni in the wedding were **Elyse (Racklyeft) Johnson** ('10) and **Kayla (Racklyeft) Rosin** ('10).

3 Julie Normann ('09) married Jason Carbon on October 24, 2014 at St. Andrew Church in Verona, Wis. Both are police officers serving in the Madison, Wis. suburbs. Other CUW alumni who were part of the wedding party included **Amanda DeGarmo** ('09) and **Cathy Vandoske** ('09).

4 Laura Jeseritz ('00) married Bradley Baker on June 28, 2014 in Key West, Fla. A small group of guests attended the beach-side wedding as well as the couple's two children. The bride's mother, Norma, was her matron of honor,

and the groom's father, David, was the best man. The couple honeymooned in Montego Bay, Jamaica. They both reside in Watertown, Wis., where Laura is a teacher at Good Shepherd Lutheran School.

Welcome

5 Marshal R. ('11) and **Kolyssa T. (VonDeylen)** ('12) **Frisque** announce the birth of Felicity Dawn on April 14, 2015 at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne, Ind. Felicity weighed 7 lbs. 15 oz. and her height was 19-3/4". She joins big sister, Cadence Pearl.

6 David ('10) and **Kerrie (Kelling) Roesler** ('11) welcomed their first child, Genevieve (Vivie) Rochelle, on June 21, 2014. She joined God's family through baptism on July 27, 2014. Sponsors included **Lori (Rever) Kelling** ('10).

7 Lindsay (Arnot) Smith ('07) and her husband, Stephen Smith, announce the birth of their daughter, Eliana Terry Lynn Smith, born on March 16, 2015.

8 James W. Baker ('03) and his wife Amber announce the birth of their 3rd child, Lincoln James. He joins big sisters Eleanor and Josephine.

1990s

Achievements



Jenny (Corey) Clemens ('95) was awarded the Educator Mentor Award by the Wisconsin Association of

Colleges for Teacher Education on April 12, 2015. Jenny was, until recently, a Lutheran Special School & Education Services (LSSES) resource room teacher at St. John's Lutheran Church, Glendale, Wis.

and now will be serving LSSES in a new capacity as the 6-8 grade stand-alone classroom teacher located at the LSSES headquarters on the Milwaukee Lutheran High School campus.

1980s

Welcome

9 Peter Jundt ('85) and **Heidi (Hagedorn) Jundt** ('87) will be traveling to China to adopt 2 children. Emma (age 11) and Joshua (age 12) grew up in an orphanage in Chifeng, Inner Mongolia, China with Lucas (age 11) whom the Jundts adopted in 2011. Learn more about their journey by visiting their webpage: www.jundtfamily.com

1960s

Achievements



Alvina (Geigle) Federwitz ('68) celebrated her 40th anniversary of working in Liberia, West Africa on Valentine's Day, 2014. Alvina and her late husband, **Rev. Dale Federwitz** ('65 & '67) have served with Lutheran Bible Translators

since 1973. All four of her children, left to right, Jonathan, Becca, David, and Paul and their families, also work with LBT.

Arthur Baisch ('61) and **Evelyn J. (Netz) Baisch** ('67) Rev.

Baisch, Pastor of Faith Lutheran, Fairfield Bay, Ark., along with his wife, Evelyn, will be serving as "Pastor-in-residence" at Wittenberg English Ministry in the Lutherstadt, Wittenberg, Germany, from September 8-22, 2015. Pastor Baisch will lead worship services in English at the Wittenberg Stadtkirche St. Marien, where Dr. Martin Luther preached over 2,000 times.

1950s

Achievements

Roger Laesch ('54) was selected to receive the Lutheran Education Association (LEA) Distinguished Retired Lutheran Educator EncourAGING award. He was selected by the leadership



team of LEA's Retired Lutheran Educators Network, known as EncourAGEnet. His previous honors include LEA and U.S. Department of Education National Distinguished Principal awards, Concordia University Wisconsin's Christo et Ecclesiae Award, as well as inclusion into the CUW Athletic Hall of Fame.

CUW wants to hear from you!

What are you up to? Did you marry recently or give birth to a child? Did you receive a big promotion or travel the world? We want to know! Please email your update, with a high-resolution photo if possible, to alumni@cuw.edu or via our Web link at cuw.edu/alumni/stories With your permission, your update may appear on the CUW Website, and in the print and online versions of the *Concordian*.

Go to cuw.edu/alumni/events for Alumni resources, programs & information on upcoming events including:

- Fireside Theater - throughout the year
- Alumni Chinook Games - summer
- Servant Leader Roundtable - second Thursday of each month
- Lutherland Trip - May of 2016

Advance



Our nation is blessed with many wonderful universities where students can receive a great education. But, when you consider how many universities offer a great education that is also Christ-centered and not simply “faith based,” where students learn not just how to earn a living, but how to live, the number becomes shockingly small. Today, very few universities bring together the unique combination of an excellent education and an overt focus on Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Thankfully, Concordia University is one.

Our reputation for high academic standards, along with a safe and nurturing Christian environment, has attracted students we are all proud of—students who are succeeding academically and preparing for lives of service to Christ in the Church and the world.

But, a high-quality education can be expensive, especially when a school is not supported by taxpayer dollars to the same extent as state schools. While the tuition at Concordia is midrange for a non-public school, the dollars are still significant. Without financial aid, many of our students would not be able to attend Concordia. In fact, roughly 98% of our traditional undergrad students receive some level of financial aid, in most cases, amounting to more than \$10,000 a year. In the past academic year, nearly \$30 million of aid was awarded. Although this aid comes in many forms, it still would not be possible without the aid and support of endowed scholarship funds.

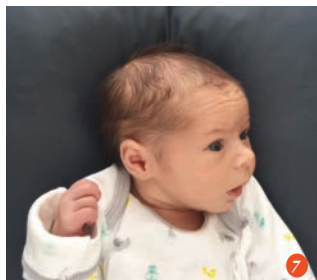
As Concordia has grown, so has the need for increasing levels of endowment scholarship support. And thankfully, faithful friends and alumni have responded with generous endowment gifts. Many of them make periodic contributions during their lifetime to one of our general endowments or to one that supports a specific course of study such as church work, education, or nursing, to name a few.

Additionally, some choose to make a more significant endowment gift through their estate. The process for doing so is very simple and involves including Concordia in your estate plan as a beneficiary. This can also be done with a life insurance policy in a similar way.

For those who wish to leave a lasting legacy that gives testimony to their support of Christian higher education, a named endowment is also an option. A gift of \$25,000 or more allows you to name an endowment and specify the type of student that you will support, while also giving thanks to God for His blessings during your lifetime and into perpetuity.

If you would like to learn more about the specifics of including Concordia in your estate plan, or need more information about creating a named endowment, please contact Greg Fictum at 262-243-4540.

REV. DR. ROY PETERSON
Vice President of Advancement



Hidden Treasure

“We have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us” (2 Corinthians 4:7).

Have you ever watched *Antiques Roadshow*? I confess that from time to time I have channel surfed and landed squarely on PBS. I have to also confess to a bit of *schadenfreude*—to take pleasure in somebody else’s misfortune—at the pompous person who thinks they have something of great value, only to be told by an expert that it’s a reproduction. But so much more, I love the unsuspecting, ordinary people who have something interesting that their grandparent gave them or they found at an auction that is wildly valuable. They guess it might be worth several hundred dollars, only to be told it’s worth \$10,000-\$15,000. It’s a treasure they didn’t know they had.

I sometimes think that about Concordia. It is such a wonderful place that has grown even more wonderful, blessed by God with growth and success in many ways. It is tucked away—not intentionally hidden—on the shore of Lake Michigan, and some people who are just miles away don’t know how great a treasure

it is. I’ve heard many comments, after visiting our campus, “I never knew how great a campus and school CUW is.”

We’ve never tried to keep it a secret, but I think there’s something about the Christian practice of humility in trying not to “toot your own horn” that doesn’t always bring great achievements to the forefront. Yet, once you’ve been around Concordia for a while, you realize what an amazing place it is; not so much for

the buildings or the setting, but for the people. Many of us look, for lack of a better term, pretty ordinary.

Tom Brady and Gisele Bündchen look-alikes don’t often walk the hallways of Concordia. Emma Watson is not a student. That’s not to say that our community is not made up of many bright and/or attractive people, but the things that the world takes note of—physical beauty, flashiness, vast financial wealth—are not always associated with CUW.

“We have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us” (2 Corinthians 4:7). We are ordinary clay pots, holding the greatest treasure in the world. Our faith and our Savior—Jesus, the priceless treasure—are in the end what matter. But so many fascinating personalities and accomplishments can go along with our faith that it’s nice, on occasion, to delight in what eccentric, fascinating, intriguing, interesting people and accomplishments surround us. That’s true here, as you have seen in this issue of the *Concordian*.

REV. STEVE SMITH
Campus Pastor



Then



BENEDICTION

&



NOW

Concordian Summer 2015

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Above
Then:
Daily Chapel on CUW's old campus in downtown Milwaukee. *Photo courtesy of CUW archives.*

Now:
Daily Chapel on CUW's current campus in Mequon. *Photography by Jeffrey Phelps.*

CUW

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