

A person is rappelling down a rope in a vast, blue-tinted ice field. The person is silhouetted against the bright, textured ice. The scene is dramatic and emphasizes the scale of the environment.

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WITTENBERG

magazine

Chasing Ice

*Sarah Fortner
talks climate change*

The 15th President

Dr. Michael L. Frandsen


A Taste of Honey

A beekeeper's tale

China

The new worldview





The inauguration of Wittenberg's 15th president, Dr. Michael L. Frandsen, is scheduled for April 5, 2018 as part of a comprehensive celebration of the totality of the Wittenberg experience, including the university's commitment to academic excellence, engaged learning, service, athletics, and the arts. More information will be forthcoming.

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First Things First

I always find New Student Days to be one of the most energizing and emotional times in the Wittenberg experience. Remember moving in—with our big boxes, suitcases, mix-matched crates of items we all thought we would need? Meeting your roommate for the first time? And then saying goodbye to your families as you began the journey that was before you?

These same feelings were present during our latest New Student Days in August, but so was another one, which we also all quickly discovered during our first few days—Wittenberg would have our backs. First and always.

Dr. Michael L. Frandsen, our 15th president, understands that firsthand, having witnessed this sentiment in his conversations with students, faculty and staff since starting July 1. He also saw it up close and personal on Move-In Day, when all of campus joined together to make the physical act of moving into the residence halls as fun, easy and as helpful as possible for our newest students.

Dr. Frandsen and the class of 2021 will forever be linked as they start their first year together, and what an exciting year it will be. The energy is visible, engaged learning is everywhere, service continues, and the transformational power of the Wittenberg experience is evident.

And yes, Wittenberg has our backs, and we support our university—not just for the first year but well into our lives as alumni. As Dr. Frandsen stated in his first campuswide address during the traditional Opening Convocation, “We all have a role to play in the learning, growth and discovery that will mark our students’ times here.”

We also all have a role in our collective future, one that you will enjoy learning more about when you engage with our new president this year in a series of special events. Dr. Frandsen, or Mike as he prefers, and wife Sharon are fully committed to our alma mater, and they look forward to getting to know you and to the “unfolding of our first year together.” I cannot wait for you to meet them.

With fall nearing, may you find yourself fulfilling your passion, and may you continue to put the important things first in your own lives and pursuits.

Happy reading,


Karen Saatkamp Gerboth '93



**VICE PRESIDENT OF MARKETING
AND COMMUNICATIONS**
Karen Saatkamp Gerboth '93

EDITOR
E.M.W.

ART DIRECTION
Helga G. Theodors

CLASS NOTES EDITOR
Debbie Ritter

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Daniel F. Le Ray
Julie Vitto

**ADDRESS CORRESPONDENCE
AND LIFE UPDATES TO:**
Wittenberg Magazine
P.O. Box 720
Springfield, OH 45501-0720
Email: wittmagazine@wittenberg.edu

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Mission -- Wittenberg University provides a liberal arts education dedicated to intellectual inquiry and wholeness of person within a diverse residential community. Reflecting its Lutheran heritage, Wittenberg challenges students to become responsible global citizens, to discover their callings, and to lead personal, professional, and civic lives of creativity, service, compassion, and integrity.



CLASS OF 2021

At 588 strong, the Class of 2021 shines in its academic profile. Filled with entrepreneurs, musicians, athletes, environmental advocates and servant-leaders, the incoming class hails from 29 states and eight countries. The class includes 57 students who graduated in the top 10 percent of their classes, 105 National Honor Society inductees, multiple Provost Scholars with 4.0 GPAs, 155 multicultural students, 37 music scholars, 16 Martin Luther Scholars and 42 legacies – those whose parents or grandparents attended Wittenberg. Additionally, seven out of 10 participated in community service in high school, and several held leadership positions. About 75 percent played sports. Many also founded organizations and committees to combat bullying, veteran suicide rates, sexual assault and drug abuse.

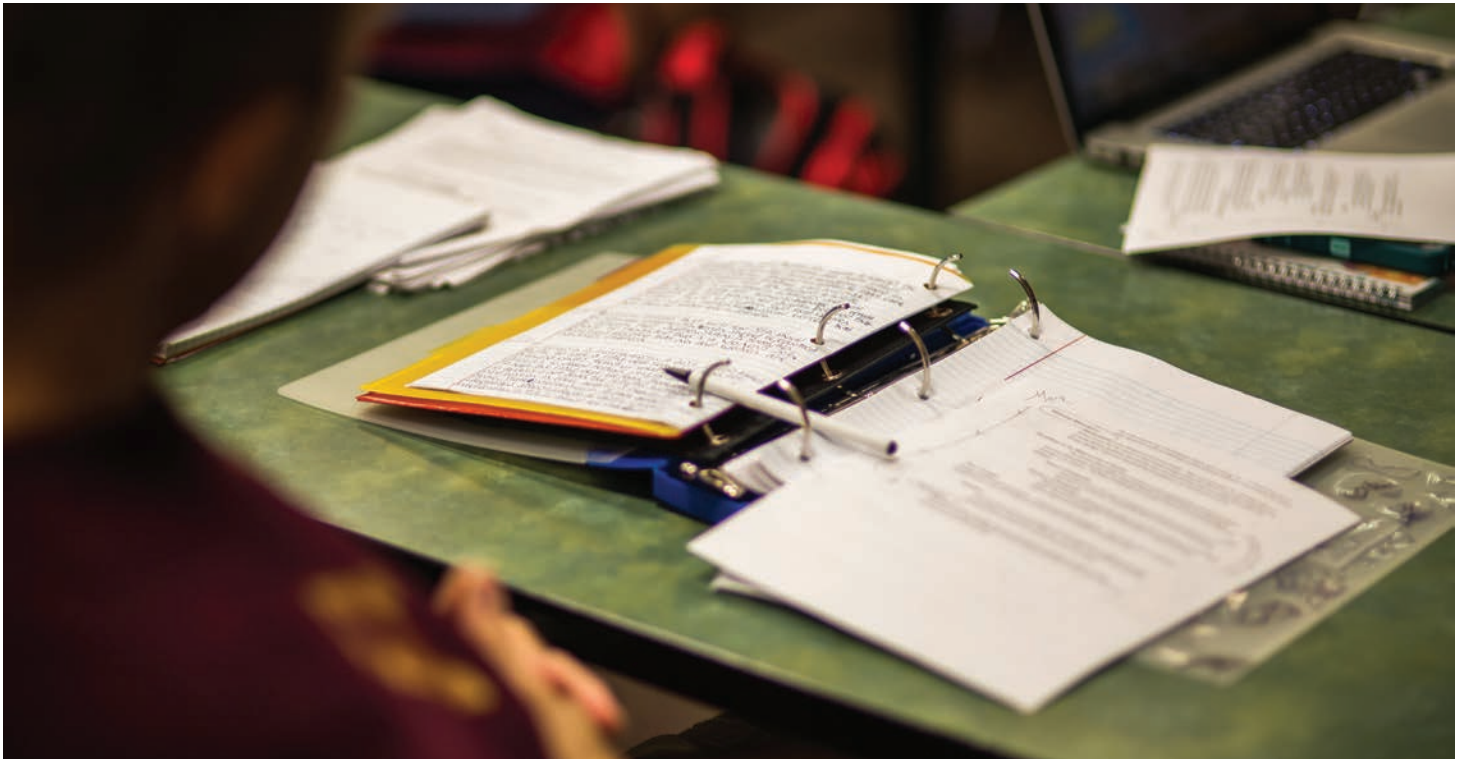
RENEWING THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

The start of school is an exciting time. New books. New classes. New friends. But this fall returning students also enjoyed a few newly renovated spaces, as well as an expanded curriculum.

The Central Dining Room in the Benham-Pence Student Center received an overhaul this summer in partnership with Parkhurst Dining. The transformation has turned the space into a contemporary, technology-rich setting for dining, gathering, presenting and programming.

In addition to revitalizing the student experience with renovations, enhancements were made to the curriculum. Majors are now available in Educational Studies and Data Science, and a new minor in Justice, Law and Public Policy is available.

The School of Community Education has also been renamed and repositioned as the School of Graduate and Professional Studies, which now houses two new graduate programs, the M.S. in Analytics and the M.A. in Athletic Coaching.



NURSING PROGRAM GAINS NATIONAL ACCREDITATION

Wittenberg's nursing program was recently accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. The designation means the program has been nationally recognized for meeting the standards of its profession. The accreditation will allow more opportunities for students and add prestige to the university's current nursing program, which Wittenberg is working to expand even further.

BEST OF THE BEST

Wittenberg's men's golf team won the first national title in program history at the NCAA Division III Championships in May 2017. Led by individual runner-up Garrett Brickley '17, the Tigers rallied on the final day for a thrilling victory over the teams ranked 1 and 2 in the pre-championship polls. The Tiger women's team also achieved tremendous success, posting a top-three finish for the third consecutive year as Macy Hubbard '17 earned runner-up honors individually for a third straight year.

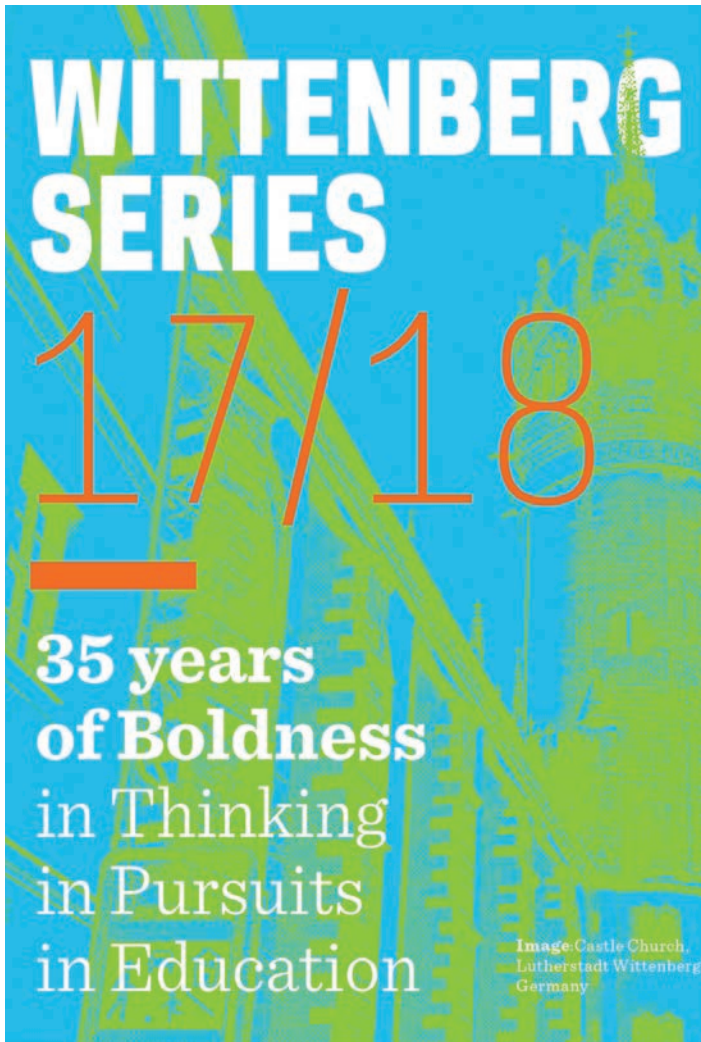
NEW MEMBERS OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Wittenberg has named Robert "Bob" Merzweiler '76, Ronald M. Szuch '87 and James "Jim" Wade '69 to the university's Board of Directors. Their terms of service began July 1, 2017.

Merzweiler is the chairman and C.E.O. of Landmark Plastic Corporation, an Akron-based firm he founded in 1984. The company focuses primarily in horticultural plant packaging and actively participates in sustainability efforts, including collection and usage of recycled plastics. He is a member of the Ohio Foundation for Independent Colleges and has been a member of the Akron Roundtable, the Akron Community Foundation, the Akron General Medical Center Board of Trustees and the Info Line Inc. Board of Trustees. He and his wife, Vicki, live in Akron.

Szuch is president and C.E.O. of Union Capital Mortgage Corporation in the Cleveland-Akron area. The mortgage firm focuses mainly on providing residential loans to individuals. A member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity, he is a steward of the current Health, Wellness and Athletics Restoration and Expansion Initiative. He lives near Sarasota, Florida.

Wade spent most of his career as a senior broadcast journalist with the *BBC World News* in London, England. He worked in the BBC London newsrooms, as well as locations around the world, including Peru and Japan. Since returning to the United States two years ago, he has volunteered with the Wittenberg Offices of University Communications, Admission and Advancement, serving as chair of the Cincinnati HWA committee and with the Tiger Career Network.



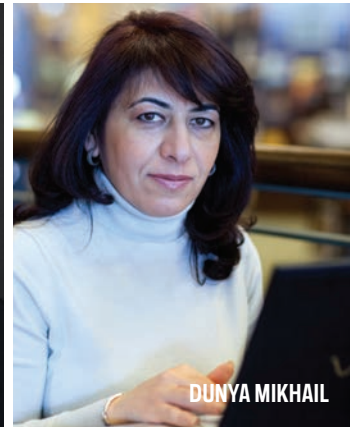
THE WITTENBERG SERIES

Thirty-five years of boldness is the theme of this year's Wittenberg Series, which has brought the liberal arts to life in Springfield and beyond through speakers and performers of national and international prominence.

The annual series of cultural activities kicked off with new Wittenberg University President Michael L. Frandsen serving as the keynote speaker at Convocation on Aug. 22. Frandsen, who began his tenure July 1, 2017, discussed "First Things First."

The Wittenberg Series runs until March 26, 2018, welcoming such distinguished guests as J.D. Vance, author of *Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis* and Annette Gordon-Reed, author of *The Hemingses of Monticello: An American Family*, as well as Iraqi poet Dunya Mikhail, documentary filmmaker Elisabeth Haviland James, community activist Bernadette Evans '89, evolutionary biologist Sean B. Carroll, theologian Joy Schroeder and the Seraph Brass quintet.

For more information on the Wittenberg Series visit:
www.wittenberg.edu/wittseries





Global Water Project

Conservationist Sandra Postel '78 sees a silver lining
in the fight for water conservation.

WRITTEN BY Julie Vitto

There was a time when early explorers described the vast Colorado River Delta as “nowhere and everywhere” with “a hundred green lagoons” offering pleasant paths to the Gulf of California.

Today, however, one of the largest desert estuaries in the world is virtually depleted from decades of dam construction along the river’s southwest route.

This spring, Sandra Postel, director of the independent Global Water Policy Project, addressed the challenges surrounding water conservation in an inspiring Commencement speech, which recognized the silver lining around global issues of change.

She identified the unique opportunity the Class of 2017 has to reimagine human society: “what it looks like, how it functions and, perhaps most importantly, what it values.”

For the past 30 years, Postel has been at the forefront of freshwater conservation efforts in the United States. She says that by the age of 15, it became clear that her strong interest in the environment would call her to do something on behalf of the Earth. This calling led her to pilot the freshwater conservation and restoration initiative, *Change the Course*, which has restored around 8 billion gallons of water to rivers and wetlands in the U.S.

Postel’s forthcoming book, *Replenish: The Virtuous Cycle of Water and Prosperity*, is a solution-oriented guide that addresses how working with nature, rather than trying to control it, helps us negotiate times of rapid change.

“It’s a very optimistic book,” says Postel. “It tells the story of what farmers and ranchers and communities are doing not only in this country but around the world to use water better, and to show how working with nature is the way to build resilience and improve water security for the future in a cost effective way.”

With a B.A. in geology and political science, Postel has realized the value of a liberal arts education in her work. She says the caring and accessible faculty at Wittenberg prepared her for the kind of thinking she wanted to do in order to communicate with the broader public about how society uses, manages and values freshwater.

“The interdisciplinary nature of learning at a liberal arts school just made a huge difference for me because you don’t get silos in your thinking,” she says. “Water, the issue I have studied and worked on and researched and written about for so many years, is a very interdisciplinary subject.”

At Duke University, Postel first explored her interest in freshwater conservation in her master’s thesis on wetlands and their economic value. After graduate school, she did some project work related to freshwater and groundwater for a small, natural resources company in California. Her work “crystallized” for her when she conducted research at the Worldwatch Institute in Washington, D.C., which focuses on global environmental issues.

“I just sort of got bit by the freshwater bug and never let it go,” she says.



After serving from 1988 to 1994 as vice president for research at the Worldwatch Institute, Postel founded the independent Global Water Policy Project. She describes the organization as the “umbrella” under which everything she does around freshwater falls, including Change the Course.

In 2010, Postel was appointed Freshwater Fellow of the National Geographic Society where, under her leadership, National Geographic and its partners piloted Change the Course in the Colorado River Basin. The initiative began as a way to promote water stewardship across North America with the intent to bring the general public, the business community and the conservation community together to use water more wisely and to conserve and restore rivers and wetlands.

As a result, the initiative restored billions of gallons of water to the Colorado River Basin from its headwaters in the Rocky

Mountains to the Colorado River Delta in Mexico. Postel says watching the once depleted segment of the Colorado River flow to its home in the Gulf of California was a highlight of her life.

Change the Course is currently working on 30 different projects in the U.S. and has expanded to California and Georgia. Postel’s vision is to make a difference on an international level, but she is eager to focus on opportunities at the local level, as well.

“There are so many water challenges to meet right here in the U.S. and North America. So it feels good to me to make a difference here, and really understand what our capacity and potential is,” she says.

“It’s disheartening to see the attempts to back away from the gains we’ve made on protecting land and water and the atmosphere,” she adds. “But people are stepping up and getting more engaged. That is the silver lining.”

“Pura Vida” in Costa Rica

Along the path to Poás, the active volcano located 35 kilometers northwest of Costa Rica's capital city of San José, coffee grows from nutrient-rich soil before the temperature cools to make way for strawberry fields and dairy pastures ahead.

WRITTEN BY Julie Vitto

Students attending Wittenberg's newest study-abroad program experienced Costa Rica's diverse range of climates and vegetation as they explored the compressed geography of steep elevations, rapidly changing coastlines and the convergence of tectonic plates. And an immersion into the local culture.

“My Mama Tica, as we called her, was so sweet and welcomed me into her home with open arms,” says Chelsea Steffes '18, an environmental science major.

“From the different foods to the local pace of life, I gained a new perspective about the world outside my classroom.”

The program, Beyond Wittenberg, provides a comprehensive, cross-cultural experience with intensive language instruction, general education courses, community service, weekend excursions, and training for student athletes.

In partnership with Veritas University in San José and Beyond Sports, an international program focused on education, athletics and community service, the Costa Rica experience appealed to students in diverse majors, such as international business, exercise science and biology.

Seven students from Wittenberg attended the program as part of an international group of approximately 200 studying at Veritas. All Wittenberg students lived with host families in a residential area south of the university's campus, where an immersive Spanish-speaking environment brought the language to life.

“The most rewarding part was adjusting to the language

barrier,” says Brandon Daniels '18, a business major and Spanish minor.

For each student, the country was the classroom. Exercise science major Lisa Campolongo '19 says a conservation biology class introduced her to a team that worked with sea turtles as they tagged, weighed, measured and collected blood samples before releasing them back into the wild.

“I learned more than I was expecting,” says Campolongo. “The hands-on experience I had in my classes was a huge benefit.”

The course taught by Professor of Geology and the 2013 Ohio Professor of the Year John Ritter, who served as the program's inaugural director, explored Costa Rica's unique geological makeup. A visit to Volcán Poás, one of Costa Rica's most popular national parks, offered an up-close view into the active volcano's crater before it would erupt just four weeks later in April. Another topic that came to life involved a trip to Panama, where the entire group felt a 5.3 magnitude earthquake. Ritter says, thankfully, there were no injuries and that these unplanned teaching moments couldn't have been more perfectly timed.

Through the travel agency at Veritas, students arranged guided and independent travel to different parts of the country, as well as to Panama. With the Caribbean and Pacific coasts just a few hours away from San José in either direction, students frequently explored beaches, volcanoes, waterfalls and national parks throughout the country by way of university transport and public bus.



The program’s community service component proved to be deeply rewarding to the group. Students interacted with local children in daycare and after-school settings, as well as with the Special Olympics. Other services involved helping to build an irrigation system for a community garden.

“The most challenging and rewarding part was with the Special Olympics,” Steffes says. “I had no experience working with children with special needs before, so it was all very new. It was so rewarding, though. It was fun to see how excited the kids would get when they scored a goal while playing soccer.”

Beyond Wittenberg plans to continue the Costa Rica program with a new faculty member directing and teaching a course each year. Ritter says Costa Rica is rich with opportunities to learn and teach through active engagement with the country, its culture, its geology and its biology—what’s known as ethical engagement.

“It’s very laid back,” Ritter says of the country’s way of life. He adds that the tagline used by the students was “Pura Vida,” meaning, “pure life”—an expression used to say, “Hello,” and to suggest, “Oh well,” “It happens,” or “That’s the goodness of life.”

A New Worldview

From a draftee in China's massive army in the 1960s to a professor of East Asian Studies, Bin Yu is helping Wittenberg students see the world in new ways.

WRITTEN BY Daniel F. Le Ray

Wittenberg's East Asian Studies Program—one of the first of its kind among four-year colleges in the United States—has been providing an increasingly global perspective on politics and culture in China and beyond for nearly five decades.

“It started in 1970, at the height of the Vietnam War, when the U.S. government found that there were few people in the U.S. who actually knew and understood anything about Asia,” said Bin Yu, Wittenberg's professor of political science and East Asian studies.

Wittenberg's focus on China is important. Since the Reagan presidency in the 1980s, China's economy has soared from just 10 percent the size of the U.S. to 115 percent this year.

Since then, EAS has grown into a comprehensive interdisciplinary major with courses covering everything from foreign languages and political science to religion, sociology, philosophy, theatre and business.

Yu has been instrumental in supporting EAS since he came to Wittenberg in 1991. He has contributed to grant proposals that have brought in millions of dollars in funding, including a Freeman Grant of \$2 million and a U.S. Congressional earmark and a Japan Foundation grant for the development of East Asian business curricula. More importantly, Yu has been a mentor to many EAS students.

His interest in the world beyond China began as a young man in the 1960s when he was drafted into the Chinese army and served on the country's border with the Soviet Union. A radio amateurist

since the second grade, Yu accidentally picked up an English-teaching program on his homemade pocket radio in July 1971 when U.S. National Security Advisor Henry Kissinger was secretly in Beijing to prepare for President Nixon's visit months later.

“It started my curiosity about international relations, which still intrigue me today. I never imagined, let alone planned, my current job when I served in the infantry at the height of the Cold War,” said Yu, who has written on topics including China's relationship with the U.S., American foreign policy and Soviet and Russian politics.

It's hoped that programs like Wittenberg's EAS can educate global citizens. The opportunity to live and study in China is invaluable for U.S. students, according to Yu, who has developed exchange programs with multiple institutions in Asia, including Fudan University in Shanghai.

“Those who study abroad tend to be better students with more curiosity than others,” he said.

Over the past 15 years, Yu has worked most closely with East China Normal University, which has the best Russian studies program in China.

One of the top universities in Shanghai, ECNU began offering foreign master's programs in 2015; Yu has advised several Wittenberg graduates who have gone on to attend graduate school there, including Tim Hughes '15.

Arriving at Wittenberg, Hughes had little exposure to Asian



” THE VIEW OF CHINA PRESENTED IN AMERICAN MEDIA REPORTS IS OFTEN MISLEADING OR INACCURATE, SO IF YOU DO NOT READ THEM, YOU ARE LESS INFORMED. IF YOU DO READ THEM, YOU ARE MISINFORMED.

cultures. But he decided to pursue Chinese language classes at Wittenberg and Yu, along with Professor of Chinese Language and Cultural Studies Shelley Chan, later introduced him to the EAS Program.

“Both of them inspired me to continue with my education and in the study of Chinese,” Hughes said.

Now enrolled in ECNU’s master’s program in international relations, Hughes has experienced the world from a different perspective.

“As an American student studying at a Chinese university, I have found an opportunity to spend time with and communicate with people from all across the world, specifically the developing world,” Hughes said.

“If I were working in the U.S. or even working for an American company in China, I would most likely seldom spend time with individuals from Sudan or Laos.”

Professor Liu Jun, dean of ECNU’s school of international affairs, called the Wittenberg graduates “the best foreign students we have ever had.”

A shift in worldview is one of the most important things that a Wittenberg student can take away from studying abroad, according to Yu.

“Almost all American students would find that China is a very different universe and has a lot more than the mainstream U.S. media is willing or able to report,” Yu said. The view of China presented in American media reports is often misleading or inaccurate, so “if you do not read them, you are less informed. If you do read them, you are misinformed.”

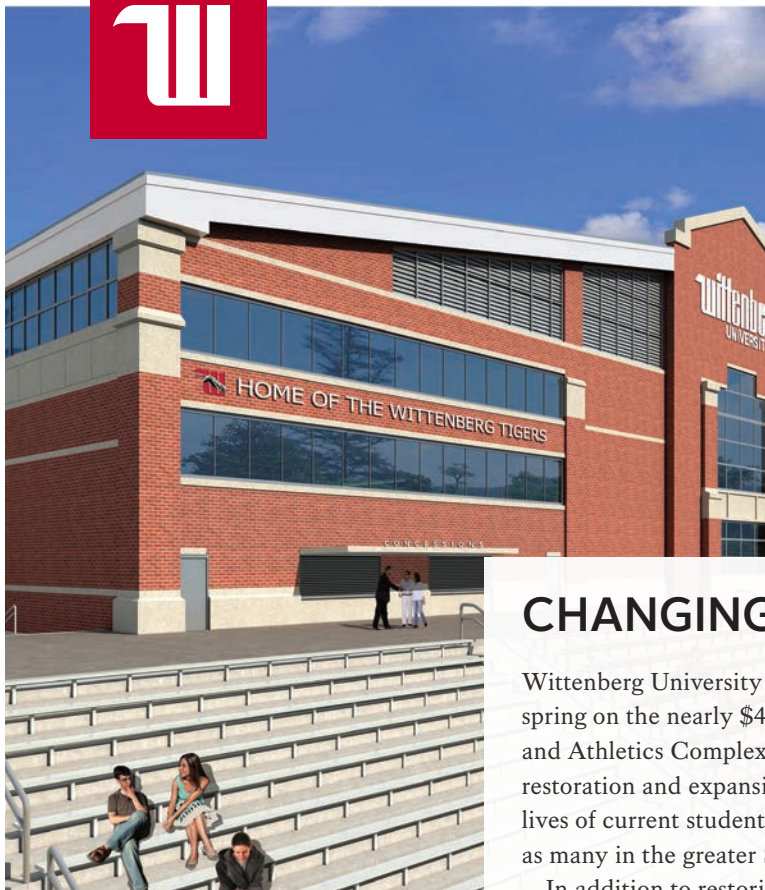
The natural solution: find ways for Western students to work and study in China and get to know the country from the inside. And what students find is rarely what they expected.

“China’s steady...rise in the past 38 years has been unprecedented in world history,” Yu said. While the rise of the West was predicated on colonial expansion, China’s growth has been one of peaceful engagement with the world.

Because this perspective on the political and economic growth of a nation is so alien to most Western audiences, “the rise of China has been described in Western media and academia as a ‘threat,’ as Graham Allison of Harvard insisted in his new book, *Destined for War*. Most Chinese, however, do not understand why Westerners did not stay where they were when the West was rising.”

Yu has come a long way since his time on the Soviet-China border as an infantry soldier. Now, he is a senior fellow of both the Shanghai Association of American Studies and ENCU’s Russian Studies Center, and has worked closely with think tanks such as the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, D.C., and the Strategic Studies Institute of the U.S. Army War College. Yu also travels around the world to engage in research and talks about China and its relations with Russia, the U.S., Japan and Korea.

As China continues to grow its economic and geopolitical standing, future Wittenberg students will continue to benefit from the bridge between East and West that programs like EAS provide. And, perhaps more importantly, they too will move beyond the borders of their homeland and begin to see the world from a new perspective.

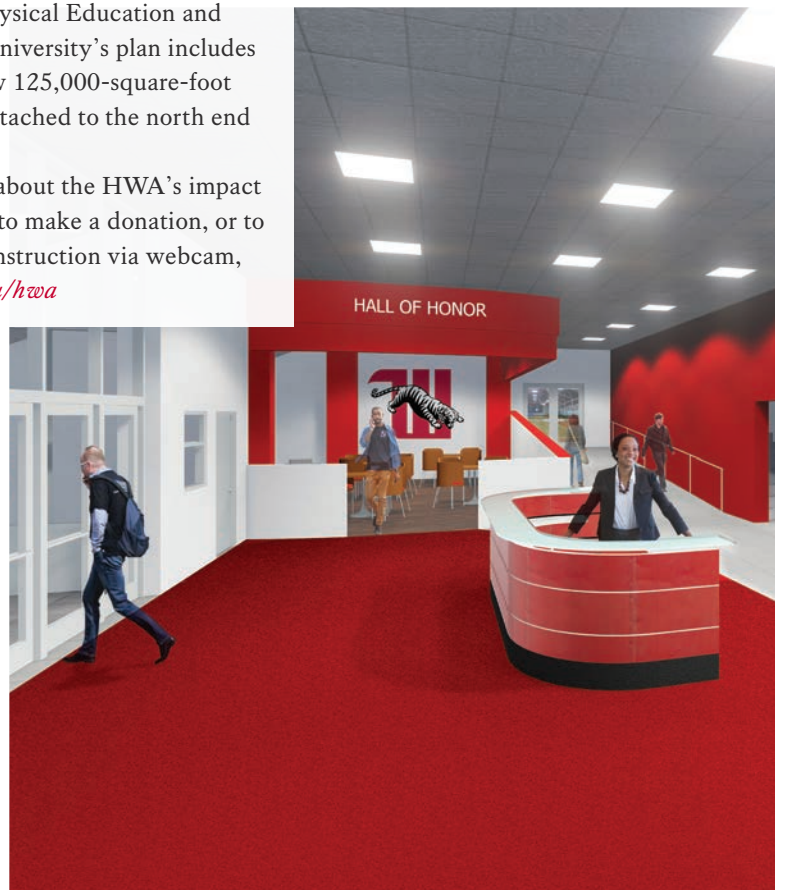
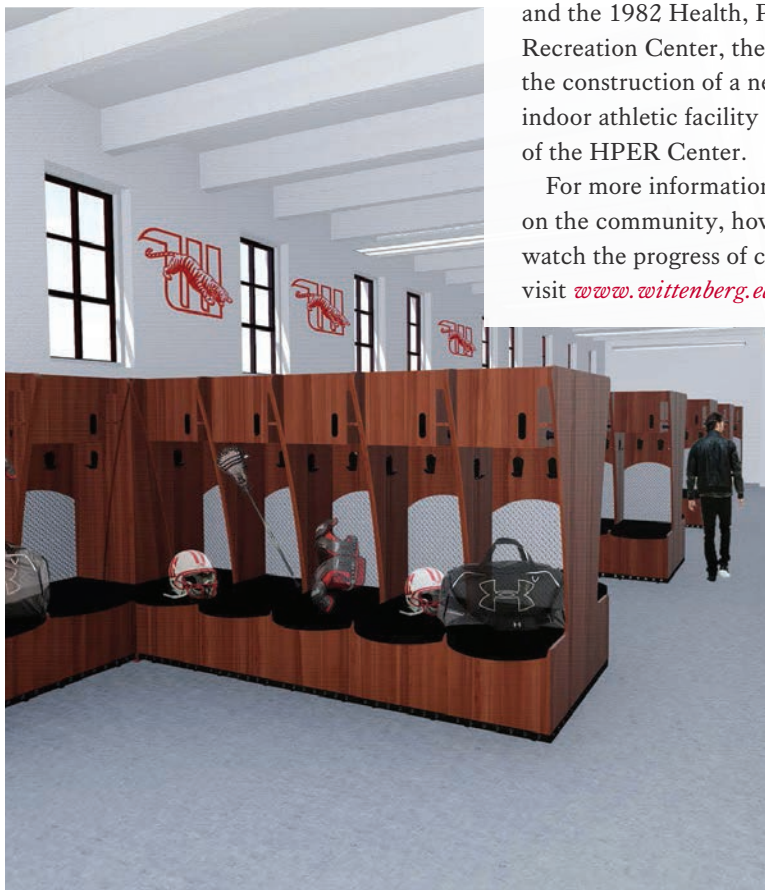


CHANGING THE GAME

Wittenberg University officially broke ground last spring on the nearly \$40 million Health, Wellness and Athletics Complex. The university's historic restoration and expansion project will touch the lives of current students, staff and faculty, as well as many in the greater Springfield community.

In addition to restoring the 1929 field house and the 1982 Health, Physical Education and Recreation Center, the university's plan includes the construction of a new 125,000-square-foot indoor athletic facility attached to the north end of the HPER Center.

For more information about the HWA's impact on the community, how to make a donation, or to watch the progress of construction via webcam, visit www.wittenberg.edu/hwa





The 15th President

Unanimously selected by the Wittenberg University Board of Directors,
Dr. Michael L. Frandsen officially takes the helm, ushering in a
new era of excellence that will unite and inspire.

WRITTEN BY Karen Saatkamp Gerboth '93 PHOTOS BY Erin Pence '04

Michael Frandsen remembers the conversation well. It was in the mid-2000s when he was directing the Carl A. Gerstacker Institute for Business and Management—a 220-member honors undergraduate management program—at Albion College. It was here Frandsen became acquainted with an Albion student who was struggling academically.

“He wasn’t doing well, and he was on the verge of being dismissed from the program,” said Frandsen. The student “had a dream, but it wasn’t connected to how he was spending his time at Albion.”

So Frandsen stepped in to help. Together, the two talked through what was happening and why, discussed career paths and how to better connect the dots between the student’s aspirations and his studies. Frandsen then offered to be a partner in the student’s success, a move that would alter the student’s trajectory.

“He went from almost being asked to leave the program to being a top student with a top career,” Frandsen said. “He now works as an analyst for an investment firm that manages a multibillion-dollar portfolio.”

The simple gesture—an extension of hand and heart—proved life-changing for the student and reaffirmed Frandsen’s own passion for the liberal arts, where strong faculty-student relationships thrive.

The experience also placed Frandsen on a path that would ultimately lead the former Albion interim president and Oberlin vice president of finance and administration to the presidency of Wittenberg.

THE JOURNEY

Originally from State College, Pennsylvania, Frandsen grew up in Happy Valley, as locals and Nittany Lions’ fans call it. The Pennsylvania State University was his childhood playground. His father served on the speech communication faculty, and his mother handled special events for the president, so it was no surprise that Penn State became his only choice.

“My blood ran blue and white,” Frandsen said. “I went to sporting events on campus. I helped sell hot dogs and soda at football games. My parents’ friends were almost all associated with the university. It’s what I knew,” he said.

Once at Penn State, Frandsen decided to focus on business, specifically finance. He also furthered his interest in coaching, having worked for years with the State College Area YMCA swim program. In hindsight, he admits that working in higher education was probably somewhere in the back of his mind because, at the time, a different career track called to him.

After earning his B.S. in finance with distinction, Frandsen decided to pursue swimming. He coached at clubs in Colorado and Tennessee, where he worked with athletes from novices to Olympic Trial qualifiers. His work was recognized with invitations to staff U.S. Swimming national age group development camps at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs and the University of Alabama. The experience proved both demanding and inspiring as Frandsen partnered with top-level athletes to help them achieve their dreams. It also honed in him a teacher-coach mindset, which continues to influence his life and career.

“Today, I am still a teacher-coach who is energized by having a hand in helping others succeed,” he said. “I also understand that a successful leader does not achieve results alone.”

His first foray into corporate finance brought the latter sentiment into sharp focus. After coaching swimmers for several years, Frandsen returned to Happy Valley to serve as a financial specialist with HRB-Singer (now Raytheon). Recognizing his potential from day one, the company selected him for a special leadership development program with assignments across all areas of the finance division.

“I was fortunate in that I was able to interact with senior leaders at a young age and learn from them,” Frandsen said. “Being exposed to many different facets of a company’s operations helped me develop a broad perspective of an organization and its people. It also taught me to think broadly.”

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WITTENBERG IS A VIBRANT COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS THAT PLACES TEACHING EXCELLENCE AND THE SUCCESS OF EVERY STUDENT AT THE FOREFRONT OF ITS MISSION.

For the next 10 years, Frandsen excelled in corporate finance, working for global companies in the telecommunication, chemical and electronics industries, leading teams to success and at one point managing a \$1-billion-dollar sales unit. During that time, he also married the love of his life, Sharon Thompson. Their houses were two miles apart as the crow flies, though they never knew each other in their shared State College hometown of 40,000 until a mutual friend connected them his freshman year at Penn State. Sharon, a tri-athlete, pursued a B.A. in physical education at Penn State followed by a M.S. in kinesiology at Michigan.

Frandsen went on to earn his M.B.A. with honors from Penn State in quantitative business analysis, as well as an award for excellence from his last corporate stop, Canadian giant Nortel Networks, for his ability to guide, streamline and align an organization to achieve its goals. Then the teaching bug hit.

BACK TO CLASS

From the start of Frandsen's faculty career, the former business executive brought an innovative spirit to his teaching as he helped students to see the big picture in his finance, entrepreneurship, statistics, accounting, and project management courses at Penn State, St. Edward's University, Juniata College, Colorado College and Albion College.

Like the supervisors who saw Frandsen's potential early in his corporate career, Frandsen saw the same in his students. He also saw the benefits of his industry background playing out in his classes and in his professional advancement in higher education, which included attaining his Ph.D. in management with a concentration in strategic management from the University of Texas at Austin.

"We can learn from both directions in each industry," he said.

Frandsen believes the corporate world can learn to be more deliberate and inclusive in its decision making, while higher education can learn to be more nimble. His thinking stems from

the opportunities he has had to view an organization from the ground up and at 30,000 feet. Like a needlepoint in progress, Frandsen knows that the mess of threads from underneath the canvas can seem chaotic, yet the view from above shows the beautiful pattern that will eventually unfold.

In many ways, the picture describes the liberal arts, which Frandsen quickly came to embrace in his teaching career, having seen the power of the educational approach to enrich a student's life.

"Learning should take place through comprehensive educational experiences occurring in the classrooms and laboratories, the residence halls, on stages and athletic fields, in communities, and everywhere else on and off campus," he said.

"This kind of holistic learning provides the best way to equip today's students for a dynamic, diverse, and interdependent world. A well-crafted, well-taught, and well-integrated residential liberal arts education prepares students for careers, for vocations, for citizenship, and for fulfilling lives."

His seven years as a full-time faculty member also honed in him a firm belief that what happens in the classroom must be at the center of any college or university enterprise.

"A residential experience goes beyond the academic core, but it is the academic core at the center," he said, adding that he would never trade his faculty experience "because I would not be able to do well what I am doing now without it."

According to Jonathan Eilert '93, chair of the Wittenberg Board of Directors, Frandsen's unique path to the 15th presidency of Wittenberg has informed him of the importance of shared governance, the power of an integrated residential experience, the art and science of enrollment, marketing and fundraising and the role of community-building in an institution's long-term sustainability.

"President Frandsen clearly sees the big picture, finds the intersections that create opportunity, seeks out creative solutions



and collaborates and communicates effectively with constituents, all while staying focused on students and their personal and professional success,” said Eilert, who chaired the presidential search committee that selected Frandsen following a six-month national search.

“We are thrilled to have attracted such a distinguished leader, and we are convinced that he will take Wittenberg to new heights of excellence.”

A NEW ERA BEGINS

Whether talking face-to-face or leading a group session, Frandsen has already immersed himself in Wittenberg, listening and taking in everything he can about the university over which he now presides. A self-described introvert, he approaches conversations with a respectful demeanor that exudes quiet confidence and accessibility. Even now, just a few months into his tenure, it is clear that stability will form the cornerstone of his presidency, as will authenticity, integrity, vision and exemplary leadership.

“My vision of a 21st-century liberal arts education focuses on teaching, learning, and community,” he said. “Each of us at higher education institutions, led by the faculty, but including many others, must see teaching as part of our role and responsibility.”

And see Wittenberg will.

Just as the student back at Albion experienced firsthand, so, too, will Wittenberg find in Frandsen a collegial, collaborative partner, as well as a genuine leader who will recharge the Tiger spirit, make students and families feel proud, reach out to alumni, and stay the course in making the university even more distinctive.

“Wittenberg is a vibrant community of learners that places teaching excellence and the success of every student at the forefront of its mission,” Frandsen said.

“It is a place where students learn by doing and a place that has welcomed Sharon, me and our grown daughters, Janie and Kate, from the start. Sharon and I will be present. We will be involved, and we are looking to be partners with Wittenberg and Springfield for the long term.”

As Frandsen shared with the campus on his first day, the chance to lead and, more importantly, to “steward this amazing university,” is an opportunity he accepts with gratitude and excitement.

“I am deeply honored to have been chosen to lead Wittenberg during this important time in its distinguished history, and I am confident that together with the Board, students, faculty, staff and alumni, we will be able to connect more students to our story, re-engage more alumni in our future, and redefine excellence for generations.”



Chasing Ice

Climate change scientist Sarah Fortner contemplates whether we can slow the devastating effects of a warming planet.

WRITTEN BY Daniel F. Le Ray





“When I was really young, I was interested in traveling the world. I always thought I would be a writer and travel that way.”

But Sarah Fortner’s high school chemistry teacher saw in her the spark of a scientist—and encouraged the 16-year-old to go on the Juneau Icefield Research Program, which takes high schoolers on scientific research expeditions in the Coastal Mountains of Alaska and British Columbia.

“I spent the summer skiing more than 100 miles across the Juneau Icefield, and that really solidified everything I’ve chosen since then,” said Fortner, now an associate professor of geology and environmental science at Wittenberg.

Fortner is currently choosing to promote and research earth resource sustainability—a broad term that covers environmental issues ranging from food security and pollution to soil sustainability and water health.

“When I was born, there were 4 billion people on the planet. By the time my kids are [grown-ups] there will be 9 billion.”

Though population growth is slower in the industrialized West, “there’s still a lot of pressure on the resources we have on Earth, and we need a plan to use them wisely and to create environments that are healthy and that will last into the future.”

Communicating these complex, interrelated issues—and thinking about their potential solutions—is a focus of Fortner’s work both in the classroom and in the field.

ANTARCTIC DREAMS

The most important question to ask is: How are we going to manage our resources in a sustainable manner so that we have food, water and diverse habitats to support current and future population growth.

During her graduate studies, Fortner measured and compared glacier chemistry around the world, from the Pacific Northwest to the tropics to Antarctica.

Last winter, she returned to the Antarctic to gather samples from melting glaciers at the McMurdo Dry Valleys Long Term Ecological Research (LTER) site. Fortner hopes these samples will reveal the chemistry at work within that glacier melt. These ice-free desert valleys are one of 30 or so LTER sites in different ecological and physiographic settings around the world.

Getting to Antarctica isn’t easy. It takes nearly a day and a half to travel from the U.S. to Christchurch, New Zealand. Then your gear is checked to make sure it meets military standards and weight requirements. Next, you get your issues: “A big red parka and what they call bunny boots—basically they inflate a little bit so there’s a layer of air to insulate your feet,” Fortner explained.

Finally, around 100 passengers bundle into a Lockheed C-130 for the flight from Christchurch to Antarctica, which takes eight hours—that is, unless you get “boomeranged,” or sent back after flying halfway there due to adverse conditions.



The station at McMurdo is a broad community where you get to know mechanics, cooks, fire fighters. Everyone is at the end of the Earth supporting science,” Fortner said.

The continent is relatively unchanged since Fortner’s first trip in 2001, but some things have changed. In June, multiple news outlets reported that a 120-mile-long crack in the Larsen C ice shelf was growing at such a rate that the shelf was about to break off, creating an iceberg the size of Delaware.

“Climate change manifests in different ways across the Antarctic. In the McMurdo valleys, we see increased wind intensity in the valleys, and that drives delivery of sediments to the glaciers, which then enhances the melt.”

But these conclusions alone are not enough to predict patterns of climate change. Comparing ecosystems around the world—in other LTER sites like the Florida Everglades or Central Arizona, for example—is vital, too.

“The complexity of climate change means that you might have multiple drivers of change and multifaceted responses.”

AN INTEGRATED APPROACH

Given the complexity of climate science, Fortner takes an interdisciplinary approach to teaching resource sustainability and climate change.

She has been involved with the National Science Foundation-

funded InTeGrate project, which supports the teaching of geoscience in the context of societal issues across university and college curricula, since its inception.

“The project as a whole seeks to increase geoscience literacy, especially around these challenges of managing water, climate, soil—these critical issues that are faced by humanity,” Fortner explained.

The first step was bringing together faculty members from across the country to design modules that might work at any kind of institution, from a research university to a community college or a liberal arts school.

Fortner partnered with Martha Murphy, environmental science adjunct instructor at Santa Rosa Junior College, and Hannah Scherer, research assistant professor at Virginia Tech. The trio created an agricultural sustainability module that concluded with students writing a factsheet “with recommendations for local farmers on how to address climate change challenges into the future at their farm—how to reduce erosion that is accelerated by climate change, that kind of thing.”

The next step was leading the implementation of InTeGrate modules into Wittenberg’s curriculum. Fifteen departments and programs took part, ranging from political science to geology, business to chemistry, with Fortner’s team building complex issues of food, water, climate and mineral resources into

classes across campus. The project has doubled the number of sustainability course offerings at Wittenberg and created a first-year activity.

Some of the outcomes included an analysis of CO₂ levels in campus buildings with Associate Professor of Biology Michelle McWhorter; and designing a sensory garden at a local elementary school with Assistant Professor of Education Amy McGuffey.

That kind of local connection became even more prominent as the project progressed.

“I ask my students which place they want to explore, because caring about a place makes the exploration more meaningful,” Fortner said.

The principal investigator for the InTeGrate project is Cathryn Manduca, director of the science education resource center at Carleton College.

“Living sustainably and justly on the planet is one of the most fundamental challenges facing civilization today,” Manduca said. “A liberal arts education aspires to prepare students to be engaged and informed citizens ready to tackle challenges like this one.”

Manduca called Fortner—who received the Lou Laux Environmental Sustainability Award—“an inspiration.”

“She is passionate about working with her students and her colleagues to make the world a better place,” she continued. “She thinks all of the time about how she can engage others in working with her to have a big impact.”

FINDING THE SPARK

Fortner is helping to plan sustainability curricula for science programs across the U.S., so that students get more exposure to the kinds of challenges the planet will face as our population grows and our resources shrink.

A personal mission is reaching students from groups that are traditionally underrepresented in the sciences. In 2006, she co-led the wilderness science education program Girls on Ice with its founder, glaciologist Erin Pettit.

“Girls on Ice specifically seeks students for whom the experience will be most transformative, rather than students that already have some of that skill set that would make them ideal for doing glacier research,” said Fortner.

“To specifically seek to be transformative is important to me, and I choose students to work in my research group that have a spark. They do not have to be the best; they have to be excited.”

And one of the perks of working at Wittenberg is that she sees the effect that mentorship can have.

“It’s [exciting] to see where students go immediately after graduation, and to see them take on these meaningful roles in communities right away.”

One of Fortner’s research students is coming back to the area to start her Ph.D. at Wright State. Her name is Lindsay Starr ’14, and as an undergraduate she attended the Juneau Icefield program on Fortner’s recommendation.

“While the trip was intimidating before I left, I gained confidence in myself and conducting science, which I attribute to Dr. Fortner’s recommendation,” Starr said.

“She is a wonderful mentor, and I would not be where I am today without her. I am forever grateful for her constant support, philosophies and expert advice to a fellow woman in science.”

THE BRIGHT SIDE

At the moment, Fortner is analyzing samples from her field season. And while moving science forward is important, so is communicating the science in a way that affects policy.

“Thinking about how long we’ve known about climate change and how little action there’s been has been really frustrating,” she said.

In InTeGrate project modules and in other classes led by Fortner, students must understand the science, but they are also challenged to think about policy and “current political issues that are being discussed and voted upon,” Fortner said.

“Students are asked to think about the science behind policy and what policy is most important to advocate for?”

At the end of the last semester, for example, her students wrote an op-ed using climate change data to support climate-related policies that should be implemented at the government level.

“I’m happy nerding out on data, but now it feels like I can publish another paper or I can try to move certain policy forward before [climate change is irreversible]. And I don’t think I’m being alarmist,” she added.

But with the Larsen ice shelf breaking apart and the U.S. withdrawal from the Paris climate agreement, how does Fortner avoid the despair of climate change inaction?

“I think that you have to have hope. And that when you’re teaching [the science behind climate change], you have to focus on solutions.”





A Taste of Honey

Wittenberg family grows a beekeeping business, naturally.

WRITTEN BY Julie Vitto

No day is typical in the life of a beekeeper.

“Except for Sunday,” says Isaac Barnes ’99, owner of Honeyrun Farm in Williamsport, Ohio. “Usually, that’s a day off.”

On a recent Sunday, he and his wife Jayne Barnes ’03 took their four young children to visit the university’s campus. They had a picnic, walked around and reminisced.

The couple met through Isaac’s sister Becky, who was Jayne’s college roommate. After receiving a degree in geology in 1999, Isaac headed for the Rocky Mountains of Colorado, where he worked at a ski resort for a few years before moving back home to Ohio. Jayne worked at Wittenberg’s community service office until she completed a degree in sociology in 2003, and then spent the next year teaching urban gardening in Columbus. Three months after the two began dating, Jayne noticed Isaac had a healthy appetite for honey and gave him the perfect gift.

“She got me a hive for Christmas,” Isaac says. “Not even, like, a whole beehive. It was just the parts. She had everything individually wrapped. First thing I unwrapped was a hive tool. I thought it was a paint scraper.”

Isaac says he knew nothing about bees, but by the middle of that summer, something “clicked.” His new hobby led to keeping two beehives on the golf course where he worked as a turf manager. Incidentally, the golf course sits on part of 2,000 acres of farmland still owned by Isaac’s family, who were grain farmers.

In 2005, the couple married and moved to Missoula, where Jayne attended the second year of a master’s program in rural sociology at the University of Montana. Isaac put his name in the classifieds of *American Bee Journal* and within three days of the issue’s release, he received a call from a commercial beekeeper with 5,000 hives in Hamilton, an hour south of Missoula. Isaac worked for a year trucking bees from Montana to California until Jayne finished school, and the couple returned to Ohio to start a family, find work and keep up with the bees.

For the next four years, Isaac taught science at Westfall High School while the beekeeping hobby grew to 50 and then 200 hives, enough to turn a profit from sales of honey, soaps and candles at local farmers markets. Earnings went back into the business and the operation continued to grow.

By 2011, the income generated from sales in larger grocery stores, particularly at Whole Foods Market locations in Columbus, matched Isaac’s teaching income. This allowed him to go “full swing” into beekeeping.

“When Whole Foods asked us, it was a no brainer,” Isaac says. “It was getting into the grocery stores that really made us see that it could be a farm and not this little side hobby.”

BEE STINGS

Today, Honeyrun Farm sells its products in 30 locations throughout the state while keeping 700 hives on 45 bee yards across five different counties in central Ohio. Land is rented for the bees to forage from within his family’s acreage, from willing neighbors, and in areas set aside by the federal Conservation Reserve Program.

Per colony, which consists of a queen, workers and drones, a honey bee population can range between 30,000 and 50,000. Multiply the number of hives by the colony size in each, and it’s safe to estimate Honeyrun Farm currently keeps around 30 million bees.

How many bee stings does this equal? “On a daily basis, about one to five times I’ll be stung just because a bee will climb up through my suit and get me,” Isaac says.

“Last year, I dropped a palate of bees we were moving when the forklift hit a hole in the dark. From about five feet in the air, four hives came crashing down. Everything just shattered. There were bees everywhere. They were all over us, crawling around like ants because they can’t see to fly at night. Lafe, my assistant, was with



me then. He got stung up pretty bad, but I still took about 10 or 20 stings.”

The Barnes family recommends After Bite as the go-to remedy for a sting. The active ingredient, ammonia, acts as a base to neutralize the acid from a sting and helps to relieve pain and reduce swelling.

“Me, I just cuss,” Isaac jokes. “Stinging is way down on the list of things to worry about. You just get your smoker going, you get your suit on and you work the bees. We’re not fair weather beekeepers,” he adds.

“With that many hives, you just have to get out, even if it’s raining. If you’re scheduled to go pull honey, you’ve got to go pull honey. Some days the bees are pretty nasty. But on other days, you could work them with a T-shirt.”

PULLING HONEY

The biggest threat to bees at Honeyrun Farm, says Isaac, is not the headline-making epidemic known as colony collapse disorder, in which bees abscond from the hive and disappear, but a little destructor known as the Varroa mite. Varroa are parasitic mites that reproduce in honeybee colonies, spreading a bee-killing disease called varroosis.

Most commercial beekeepers use pesticides to combat mites. Honeyrun Farm has a chemical-free approach, using formic acid, a naturally occurring acid found in some ants, as well as the

organic compound oxalic acid. Isaac says the decision to not use chemical pesticides is based on customer preference as much as it is the safest way for a small-scale beekeeper to make a quality, consumable product.

“It basically knocks the mites down to a level where the bees are not being eaten alive and not catching diseases,” he says.

Between April and November, honey is pulled from the hives in three harvests. As the seasons change, the honey darkens in color and deepens in flavor. Honeysuckle and black locust blossoms are pollinated for the spring harvest that’s pulled in June. The farm’s biggest harvest of the year comes in August, after clover, soybean and thistle are pollinated in the summer. For the fall harvest, honey from goldenrod, and sometimes buckwheat, is pulled in October. In the winter months, there’s hive maintenance, mite treatment and feeding the bees protein as they cluster up and eat to stay warm until the next spring.

Honeyrun Farm keeps several strains of European honeybees that include Italians, Carniolans and Russians. Each strain is selected for its survival rate and eating habits. The farm breeds up to 200 queen bees every year that are used to start smaller hives called “nucs,” short for nucleus colonies. Isaac describes a recent roadside sign he made to advertise the farm’s sale of these starter hives.

“It was a huge arrow with the word ‘nucs’ underneath. There was some interest, like, ‘Are you selling bombs out here or what?’



It didn't occur to me that not everyone knows what a nuc is."

While Isaac labors in the bees, Jayne takes the next step, turning each harvest into specialty honeys, candles and soaps, creating gift boxes and working with customers. Honeyrun Farm now has two full-time employees: one who works the bees with Isaac and one who works in the honey house with Jayne. Having the extra help has allowed Jayne more time to create new products, market them and spend more time with the family. Jayne manages many different operations on the farm and takes care of their four children, two girls and two boys, ages three, five, seven and nine.

"When we started, I was just thinking about taking our products from the hive and turning them into something more exciting for the customers," she explains. "It's really nice now because I'm able to be with our kids and raise our family, but then also do as much work as possible."

THE HONEY HOUSE

The farm's honey house sees the extracting, bottling and labeling, as well as production of cold-pressed soaps, beeswax candles and specialty honeys infused with lavender or lemon verbena. Other forms of honey produced at the farm include raw honey comb, chunk honey and granulated honey. More and more, the Barnes kids help out by labeling bottles or counting honey sticks.

"We're doing this as a job now, and it's so wonderful," says Isaac. "I can't believe it's actually working out."

Both Isaac and Jayne grew up on Ohio farms and agree that the experience allowed them to imagine working in a similar way as their parents.

"I like being a small business owner," Jayne says. "I love the freedom and flexibility it gives us, and I like waking up every day and getting to choose what I do."

Isaac, who chronicles the life of a beekeeper in an entertaining and informative blog on the farm's website, says he prefers to work with the bees and is thankful to have a partner that enjoys the more social side of the business. Jayne adds that her background in sociology prepared her for the work she does now, which relies heavily on working with people.

"Having a relationship with people from all different backgrounds is a huge part of what studying sociology gave me," says Jayne. "It helped me to enjoy working with people more and to always be thinking about different ways that people might be interacting with us, with our business and our products. Even with social media."

Reflecting on his experience as a geology major, Isaac says he still has relationships with the classmates and professors that broadened his ability to think on a larger scale.

"It's the generalists that really change the world," he says. "Many schools present themselves as a pipeline into your career. Wittenberg teaches you to think. We were able to make what we love a business because of that."



In the Game

For Brian Agler '80, head coach of the WNBA's Los Angeles Sparks, getting fired led to success.

WRITTEN BY Julie Vitto

Sports are in his blood.

The WNBA's Los Angeles Sparks coach, Brian Agler '80, grew up in a small town in Ohio where sports were the main attraction. Wittenberg Hall of Honor inductee and a Prospect native showed promise in basketball and baseball early on, playing under the guidance of his father, who was a coach and administrator at Elgin High School in Marion where Agler flourished as a point guard.

Agler went to Wittenberg to be surrounded by great coaches and teammates whose goal was to top their division. They did more than that. In his freshman year, Agler helped the Tigers win the 1977 NCAA Division III championship. He started all 112 games as a player at Wittenberg, scoring a career total of 1,243 points, was named most valuable player in the Ohio Athletic Conference and was voted an All-American as a senior.

The physical education and special education major, Agler credits the coaches at Wittenberg with instilling the necessary traits he says helped him excel at the professional level. Those traits, he says, are valuable, not just with coaching, but in any leadership position.

"You have to know how to treat and to motivate people," he says. "And you have to understand what it takes to nurture people to work together. I was fortunate enough to be around quality people. Those are the foundation pieces."

Even with a solid foundation, Agler says it's hard to excel at an extremely high level without going through adversity. "How you deal with adversity is a big part of coaching because you don't win every game. You have to learn how to be gracious through success and defeat."

Agler played professionally in England for a year before returning to assist the men's basketball coaching staff at Muhlenberg College in Pennsylvania, and then at Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College.

"I was lucky," says Agler of the transition from playing to coaching. "Former coaches of mine, both at the college level and the high school level, took on new coaching positions, and they both asked me to come and be an assistant. The door opened up for me, and I took advantage of that."

The opportunity to coach women's basketball presented itself at Oklahoma A&M. He was asked, and he accepted, eager to learn and improve with a team of athletes regardless of gender.

"Things timed up for me pretty well," he says. "I was always one who pursued opportunities. I didn't let things stand in my way. It didn't matter where I lived, it didn't matter how much money I was making. What mattered to me was to do something that I was passionate about."

In 1985, Agler received his master's degree in education from Pittsburg State University in Kansas. "My goal was to coach at the college level and then move up into a major college," he says. "At that time, receiving a master's degree was pretty important. The more education you get, the more doors it can open, and the more things that you're prepared to take on."

Agler followed his game plan and moved up the ranks to coach Division I basketball at the University of Missouri-Kansas City in 1988, and then at Kansas State University from 1993 to 1996.

Following the popularity of the women's 1996 U.S. Olympic basketball team, which won gold at the Atlanta games, two rival professional leagues were formed: the now-defunct American

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I THINK OUR LEAGUE IS GROWING, HE SAYS. IT'S BECOMING MORE POPULAR. IT'S SORT OF DEVELOPED ITS OWN NICHE IN THE WORLD OF SPORTS. IT'S WORLD-WIDE. THE ATHLETICISM IS IMPRESSIVE. THE SKILL LEVEL IS IMPRESSIVE. THE COACHING IS IMPROVING.

Basketball League (ABL) and the Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA). Agler was named the first head coach and general manager of the ABL's Columbus, Ohio, franchise, the Quest, and led his team to win the ABL Championship for two straight seasons.

After the ABL dissolved in 1998, Agler joined the WNBA and was named the first head coach and general manager of the newly formed Minnesota Lynx. The team was off to a promising start in its first two years of existence, but injuries slowed its momentum. In 2002, Agler was replaced.

“The best thing that's ever happened to me was probably the most difficult thing to go through,” Agler says of being fired. “If you want to bounce back and become better, you have to self-reflect. When you eliminate all excuses and you reflect on the things that you can control and change, and then you work to improve in those areas, you can come back from adversity.”

Agler might have been down, but he wasn't out. His next opportunity came at the recommendation of his WNBA colleagues. In 2004, he became assistant coach for the Phoenix Mercury and then with the San Antonio Silver Stars in 2005. By 2008, Agler found himself back on top and was named head

coach and general manager of the Seattle Storm, leading the team to win its second WNBA championship in 2010.

In 2015, Agler assumed his current role as head coach of the Los Angeles Sparks. In 2016, he steered the Sparks toward their third championship, defeating the Lynx by one point in Game 5 of the WNBA Finals. That night, Agler became the first head coach to win WNBA titles with two different teams. So far, the 2017 season has ushered in another milestone for Agler as, in June, the Sparks helped him to earn his 300th career win as a coach.

Agler says his approach to coaching has evolved over the years and is something of a hybrid of different philosophies, especially after transitioning from college to professional level basketball. “When you're coaching professionals, you're coaching adults,” he says. “Student athletes are still making that transition.”

He goes on to explain that it's ultimately what the players think that matters. “My job is to figure out a way to get our players to play well together. When it comes down to it, they're the ones that are playing, so they have to bring out the best in each other. Sometimes it falls into place automatically, and sometimes it doesn't. And the times it doesn't, I've got to be behind the scenes



trying to work and push and nurture so it can flourish.”

The future of the WNBA looks bright to Agler for many reasons. One reason, he says, is the name recognition Magic Johnson brought to the Sparks when he became part-owner in 2014.

“I think our league is growing,” he says. “It’s becoming more popular. It’s sort of developed its own niche in the world of sports. It’s world-wide. The athleticism is impressive. The skill level is impressive. The coaching is improving. The attendance and awareness of the public is growing. It’s getting more attention on television and social media. Sponsorships are improving. Across the board, I see a great evolution of how and where this is going.”

Proud moments Agler has enjoyed throughout his winning career are too many to count. Still, he has career goals he’d like to achieve, such as coaching internationally. For now, though, he feels a sense of purpose with the Sparks as he coaches them toward the playoffs this year. “I’m where I’m supposed to be,” he says.

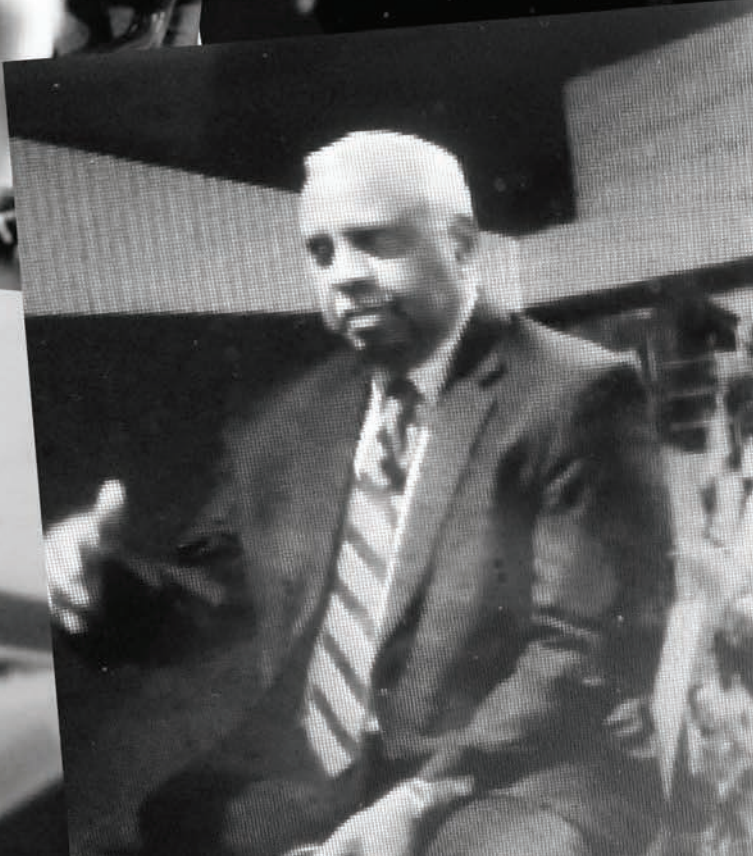
During the off season, Agler lives back home in the Columbus area with his family and makes a point to visit Wittenberg and

its athletic program throughout the year. “I would just encourage all the alumni to come back to campus and spend some time meeting with professors or friends or catching an event,” he says. “It’s always refreshing. After each visit, I just feel good about my decision to attend years ago.”

He frequently offers advice to aspiring athletes that might want to be in his position someday. “Understand that you’re always going to improve, and you should always be looking to improve,” he says. “Whatever that passion is, let that lead you to where you’re going. And be open to opportunities that might present themselves.”

The head of a true basketball family, Agler notes that his wife, son and daughter have all been actively involved in playing and coaching over the years. In fact, his son Bryce currently assists him with the Sparks.

Competitiveness, camaraderie and continuing to improve are just a few elements that draw Agler to a sport in which he’s earned coveted titles and developed invaluable relationships over the years. “All those things can keep you really focused,” he says. “Even if you have longer range goals, it’s good to also have immediate goals. I enjoy living in that. I like that challenge.”





Stop the Presses

From Michael Jordan to Muhammad Ali, Fred Mitchell '69 has interviewed the biggest names in sports. Mitchell explains the art and scrap it takes to be a sports writer.

WRITTEN BY Fred Mitchell '69 PHOTOS FROM Fred Mitchell's scrapbook

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I LEARNED EARLY ON THAT MANY SPORTS STORIES WRITE THEMSELVES, IN A MANNER OF SPEAKING, IF WE ALLOW THE PROPER SEQUENCE OF EVENTS TO UNFOLD FOR THE READER.

I have written newspaper articles on deadline from inside a cramped toll way phone booth during the middle of a snowstorm. Relentlessly, I have pounded out artful prose from the driver's seat of my car, from the middle seat in row 25 of an overseas United Airlines flight, from the dank bowels of a sweaty gym and, of course most frequently, from the overbearing writing quarters of a stadium press box.

During my 41-year career as a sportswriter and columnist with the *Chicago Tribune*, I learned to adapt and focus on the writing process and not the sometimes-uncomfortable venues that beckon. Whether the dateline read: Sydney, Australia or Mesa, Arizona, my job was to tell the stories in the most compelling, accurate and yet succinct manner in order to capture readers' attention and provide insightful information.

Writing remains a work-in-progress for all of us. Yet the more you write, the easier and more comfortable it becomes. As a journalist, I found that I was able to focus more on the reporting and interviewing process as the years went by because the actual writing routine became second nature.

Whether I was interviewing Michael Jordan, Walter Payton, Pete Rose, Mike Ditka, Tiger Woods, Ernie Banks or Muhammad Ali, I realized that above all they were ordinary human beings first who just happened to possess extraordinary athletic skills. And it was up to me also to reveal their vulnerability, their insecurities, their human-interest side for the readers.

Once I conducted the interviews, researched the facts, made the right phone calls and prioritized the information, the stories

pretty much flowed as if I were simply telling a huge audience or a buddy at the bar about a particular game, incident or encounter. You never want to bury the lead. Tell the most important facts first while sprinkling in illustrative anecdotes and additional pertinent information.

In addition to becoming a columnist, I had the privilege of covering the 2000 Summer Olympics, dozens of Super Bowls, World Series and NBA Finals, as well as a couple of Stanley Cup Finals and college football bowl games for the *Chicago Tribune*.

As a beat reporter, I traveled daily with the Bulls, Cubs and Bears before covering local college teams at Northwestern, Northern Illinois, Loyola and De Paul. I have enough old media credentials to decorate several Christmas trees. And I have enough hotel points to be listed as a Lifetime Diamond member. They are tangible reminders of how far I came from my days writing for the *Wittenberg Torch* in the 1960s.

Because sports writing involves the recounting of so many unscripted live events, the drama and suspense created lend themselves to captivating edge-of-your-seat accounts. I learned early on that many sports stories write themselves, in a manner of speaking, if we allow the proper sequence of events to unfold for the reader. It is at that point that we writers should try to put ourselves in the minds of the reader to fill in the blanks.

What questions might they have at this point?

How did the centerfielder feel after he dropped the fly ball?

What was going through the mind of the quarterback after throwing the game-winning touchdown pass?



I received some of the most enlightening, heart-felt answers after asking some of the most basic questions. Capturing raw emotion or general human vulnerability often depends on simply artfully asking the right questions, and then the right follow-up question. And one of the most underrated skills of an effective reporter and writer is being a good, compassionate listener as you draw out that emotion.

There have been times when I was in the middle of writing a powerful human-interest story that I became choked up and had to pause. Those were the types of stories that I hoped would provoke similar reaction from readers.

One such column was about former Chicago Bears lineman Revie Sorey, who had suffered a stroke on March 25, 2012, that left him unable to speak. I visited Sorey, also a longtime personal friend, at a rehabilitation center in Chicago. I wrote that we sat in “comfortable silence for about an hour.”

An important responsibility for a conscientious writer is simply to observe and describe details of the surroundings.

Another heartfelt column evolved from my long phone conversation with former Bears quarterback Erik Kramer, who had lost his 18-year-old son, Griffen, to a heroin overdose on Oct. 30, 2011. A distraught Kramer tried to commit suicide on Aug. 19, 2015, yet somehow managed to survive a gunshot wound to his head.

One of my great challenges as a newspaper man was re-adjusting my style when I wrote 11 books over my career. As a newspaper reporter, we are urged to be very economical with

our words. Get to the point and omit extraneous information. Space in newspapers, especially over the past couple of decades, is precious.

But some of my books were 70,000 or more words at the publisher’s request. That meant that topics that perhaps would be 600 words in a newspaper article would be 6,000 words or more for a chapter in a book. I had to learn to expand on my thoughts as an author.

When I began at the *Chicago Tribune* in 1974, typewriters were still in use, and the internet was unimaginable. Over time, I witnessed the evolution of devices from clunky computers that resembled sewing machines to more sleek equipment that make writing from remote locations more accessible. I was a proud pioneer in our sports department when it came to video-taping interviews on cellphones and flip-cams about 10 years ago. Now all reporters are pretty much required to do so. They called me “Mr. Gadget” because of all the recording devices I packed inside my sport coat and back pockets.

My theory is that anything that can help provide more accurate, illustrative information for the reading audience the better.

I tell young students today that it is impossible to imagine what media platforms might be prevalent 30 or 40 years from now, just as it was unfathomable when I first started in this profession. But what is clear is that there always will be a need for prolific writers who can accurately and effectively chronicle the events of the day.

Class Notes

FALL 2017

LOOK FOR MORE CLASS NOTES IN THE SECOND-ANNUAL SPECIAL BOOKLET SLATED FOR EARLY NEXT YEAR.

1951

Don Ward retired in 2000 and lives with his wife, Cindy, in Prospect, Ky. The couple celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on September 1, 2016.

1960

Kenn Grimes has published a third book, *Strangled in the Stacks* (Cozy Cat Press, 2016), a mystery set in Michigan's Keewenaw Peninsula in 1919-1920. His previous books include *The Other Side of Yesterday* and *Camptown: One Hundred and Fifty Years of Stories* from Camptown, Kentucky.

1961

A. Harding Ganz is an associate professor emeritus of history at The Ohio State University at Newark. He is the author of *Ghost Division: The 11th "Gespenster" Panzer Division and the German Armored Force in World War II* (Stackpole Books, 2016).

Jan Knight hosted **Rev. J. William '60 '63S** and **Helene Ettlinger Pearch** during their visit last fall to Hawaii, where she has lived for 44 years.

1962

Ohio Rep. Jim Buchy, R-Greenville, 84th District, retired from public office in January. In 2011, he was appointed to a seat in the Ohio House, filling the expired term of Jim Zehringer; he was re-elected

in 2012. After serving in the Ohio House from 1983-2000, he served as assistant director of the Ohio Department of Agriculture and later was a member of the leadership council and a policy director at the National Federation of Independent Business.



This group of Kappa Deltas from the Class of 1962 – and one dear friend – held a mini-reunion in October 2016 at the Mills Park Hotel in Yellow Springs, Ohio. Attendees included, from left to right: Jan Shwiebert Wade, Diane McMillan Karp, Laura Conway Gallant, Margaret Llewelyn Hutchison, Ann Walchner Bellisari, Linda Jennings Lodge, Shirley Anderson Tranquill, Barb Viskocil Staley and Pat Brough Conrad.

Jon Larry Palmer is a retired chief judge of Virginia's 6th Judicial District. He has been appointed by Virginia's Supreme Court to men-

tor and evaluate new and sitting judges to assist in Virginia's new Judicial Evaluation Program.

Ralph Pfingsten spoke on the Mahoning Valley's contributions to the World War II supply effort at the World War II Heritage Group meeting in March. He is a historian and author of *The History of the Ravenna Arsenal*.

1964

John E. McLaughlin received the *William Oliver Baker Medal of Achievement from the Intelligence and National Security Alliance (INSA)* in Washington, D.C., in June 2016. The award recognizes sustained contributions and exemplary service to U.S. intelligence and national security affairs. He served as acting director of central intelligence and deputy director of central intelligence during his 32 years with the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). He is the distinguished practitioner in residence at the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) at Johns Hopkins University.

Ruth Seeh Nighswander, a retired school nurse in East Anchorage, Alaska, and her husband, Tom, travel each year to Malawi to bring quality health care to rural areas of the country. Their story was featured in the *Alaska Dispatch News* on Nov. 23, 2016.

1965

Dennis Huey retired after serving for more than 43 years as an assistant professor of biology and later associate professor at Atlantic Cape Community College.

Anne Shutters Krick and her husband, Bud, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Dec. 17, 2016. She is a clinical psychologist and continues to do individual, group and marriage counseling around the issue of sex addition.

1967

Christine Baehren Barabasz retired from the Nemours Fund for Children's Health after serving for nine years as director of communications and foundation relations, capping a 35-year career in health care fundraising. She and her husband, Andy, have relocated to Texas.

Poet **Alinda Dickinson Wasner** is the author of *When You Don't Know Who You Are* (Crisis Chronicles Press, 2016), *Still Burning* (Ex Libris, 2015) and *Kissing the Ikons* (Finishing Line Press, 2013). Her work has appeared in 40 small press print and online journals, and she has won many literary prizes including several Tompkins Awards, Atlanta Review Prize, Mr. Cogito Press Award, Chicago Poetry Center juried prize, and a Prague Writer's fellowship, among others. In 2012, she earned second place in Ireland's International Poetry Prize. She lives and writes in Beverly Hills, Mich.



John E. McLaughlin '64 (center)

1968

Michael Carey has retired from his faculty position in the department of biology at the University of Scranton after 38 years as a behavioral ecologist. He and his wife, Barbara, plan to spend their retirement in Bear Lake, Mich.



Paul R. Lockwood '68

Paul R. Lockwood II, board president of EHOVE Career Center and a board member of North Point Educational Service Center, was presented with the Outstanding Board Member Award in July 2016 from the Ohio Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) at the annual Connections to Education conference. He has served at EHOVE for more than 30 years, with 20 of those years as president. He has received the OSBA Award of Achievement every year since 1993.

1969

After working in the field of developmental disabilities for more than 40 years, **Connie Fry Ament** retired last year as superintendent of the Hancock County Board of Developmental Disabilities.

Mitchell E. Ayer, an attorney at the Houston office of Thompson & Knight LLP, has been recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America*© 2017.

Patricia A. Beckjord has joined The Conservation Foundation as Fox River program manager, which involves managing the Fox River Education and Outreach initiative.

1970

Franklin Brookhart's third book, *Journey with Jesus: Encountering Christ in his Birth, Baptism, Death, and Resurrection*, was published in January by Resource Publications.

Linda Steffel Olson, along with her co-authors Karl Alexander and the late Doris Entwisle, received the 2016 Grawemeyer Award in

Education for their book *The Long Shadow: Family Background, Disadvantaged Urban Youth, and the Transition to Adulthood*. The award brings a prize of \$100,000. **Melissa Evans-Andris '74** was co-chair of the award committee at the College of Education and Human Development at the University of Louisville.

1971

The new Pratt Center at Cleveland State University is named in honor of **Charleyse Smith Pratt**, director of CSU's award-winning Sullivan-Deckard Scholars Opportunity Program. The center will expand higher-education opportunities for youth who have aged out of foster care.

1972

Terence "Terry" Hermesen, associate professor of English at Otterbein University, co-translated and co-presented *The Most Beautiful Cemetery in Chile* by Chilean poet Christian Formoso at the Springfield Museum of Art in Springfield, Ohio, in June 2016.

Carlton Sears is a senior fellow, certified coach with The Harwood Institute for Public Innovation, a nonpartisan, independent nonprofit that teaches, coaches and inspires people and organizations to solve pressing problems and change how communities work together.

1973

Diane Croft has published *The Unseen Partner: Love & Longing in the Unconscious*, which is the winner of the 60th New England Book Show Award, the 2016-2017 Reader Views Literary Award, the 2017 Next Generation Indie Book Award and the 2016 Nautilus Book Award.

1975



The holidays brought together this group of alumnae from the mid-1970s. Top row, left to right: Rita Zoia Brown '75, Kathie Jenny Stayrook '75 and Laurel Putnam Clouse '75. Middle row, left to right: Deborah Fullerton Kingsboro '75, Sue Hawken Murphy '76, Pam Snyder Taylor '75 and Cheryl Witzky McCormick '74. Bottom row, left to right: Linda Powers Miely '76 and Janet Jackson '75.

Jeffrey M. Brown is a Common Pleas Court judge for Franklin County, Ohio. Previously, he was managing partner for Crabbe, Brown & James. He earned his law degree from Ohio State University in 1979. He and his wife, **Rita Zoia Brown**, live in Clintonville.

Rebecca Gummere's essay, "Cooper's Heart," appeared in the April 2017 edition of *O, The Oprah Magazine*.

The Hon. **Janet E. Jackson** received the 2017 Democracy In Action Award from the League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Columbus in May.

Christine Langner, director of communications and technology services at Longwood University in Farmville, Va., was co-lead of the IT team for the vice presidential debate held at the university in October 2016.

1976

Mark S. Algren is the 2017 recipient of the James E. Alatis Award for Service to TESOL International Association for outstanding and extended service at international, regional and local levels. Former president of TESOL, he has been an ESL/EFL instructor and program administrator since 1979, including 21 years at the University of Kansas and currently as executive director of the Center for English Language Learning at the University of Missouri in Columbia. He also was named to TESOL's "50 at 50" list for significant contributions to the profession.

Mark Richards and his wife, Kay, have settled in Scottsdale, Ariz.

1977

Kevin O'Neil has been named vice president, assistant general counsel, for Phillips Edison & Company.

1978

Mark L. McCombs was installed as Grand Monarch of The Grottoes of North America at the 126th Annual Supreme Council Session on July 23, 2016, in New Orleans, La. He is a physician's assistant at Bay Park Hospital and lives in Bellevue, Ohio, with his wife, Joan.

1979

Tanya West Anderson has published *Gunpowder Girls: The True Stories of Three Civil War Tragedies* (Quindaro Press, 2016), which has been endorsed by Pulitzer-Prize-winning author and historian James McPherson.

1980

Brian Agler won his second WNBA Championship as head coach last October. The championship makes Agler the first coach in WNBA history to lead two franchises – the Los Angeles Sparks and the Seattle Storm – to a league title.

Liz Felker Farmer teaches fourth grade at the Universal American School in Kuwait.

Steven R. Pyles began his position as Granville, Ohio, village manager in July 2016. He previously served for 10 years as village administrator for Wellington, Ohio, and replaced **Steve Stilwell '76**, who had served as Granville's village manager since 2011.

Stathene Varvisotis earned a doctorate in special education leadership from Capella University in March 2014 and is now employed as an assistant professor of teacher education and special education at the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

1981

The Sharon Weiss Gallery in Columbus, Ohio, recently held a solo painting exhibition titled "In the Brushstrokes" by **Brian Ballenger**, a bereavement counselor at OhioHealth Hospice.

Dr. Tim Kremcheck led off the 2017 Enquirer High School Sports Awards at the Aronoff Theatre in Cincinnati, Ohio, in May. He and Beacon Orthopaedics & Sports Medicine serve as the major presenters of the high school awards.

1982

Philip Dorn has been appointed Fort Walton Beach (Fla.) High School athletic director and head football coach. Previously, he had spent two seasons as offensive coordinator and offensive line coach at Alabama A&M University, and prior to that, he spent eight seasons as head coach and athletic director at Bishop Verot High School in Fort Myers, Fla.

Timothy Jarm has been selected as president and CEO for the Center for Health Affairs and its business affiliate CHAMPS Healthcare.

Janis Rhea Worley is president of the Board of Trustees of the Ronald McDonald House Akron.

1983

T. Michael Pangburn was honored with a Burton Foundation 2017 Distinguished Writing Award, one of the most prestigious distinctions in the legal profession. He currently handles litigation defense and franchise employment and contract issues for Thor Motor Coach Inc., Airstream Inc., Postle Operating LLC and the motorized divisions of Jayco Inc.

1984



Class of 1984 alumnae gathered on Lake Michigan in June 2016. Back row, left to right: Linda Sharp Tulley, Jane Davies Gulas and Jodee Titmas Hunger. Front row, left to right: Carole Myser, Kim Dougher Doyle, Kim Hogan, Jenny Delaney Workum and Mary Wisnom.

Gordon "Chip" Lund married his long-time partner, Matthew Mayer, on April 22, 2017, at St. Mary of the Harbor Episcopal Church in Cape Cod, Mass. The couple lives in Yarmouth Port, Mass.

Adelaide "Addie" Luchetti Olander is serving on the Rocky River (Ohio) City School District Board of Education. She has worked for 20 years in human resources communications consulting.

1985

John K. Cunningham is an executive vice president for JLL in Parsippany, N.J. He has more than 30 years of experience in New Jersey's commercial real estate sector and specializes in representing corporate office and life sciences clients across the globe.

Martin J. Uhle is interim superintendent with the Cleveland Lutheran High School Association (CLHSA). He also is executive director of the Pierstorf Memorial Fund in Cleveland and a member of the Wittenberg Board of Directors.

Tim Wertime '85 MSM has served as the organist of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Mercersburg, Pa., for 22 years.

1987

Susan Hasler is assistant dean for business programs at Loyola University Maryland's Sellinger School of Business. She has more than 25 years of experience in the areas of student development and enrollment management.



James McLean '87

James McLean, associate general counsel at Duke Energy in Cincinnati, Ohio, is co-chair of the Board for the Greater Cincinnati Minority Counsel Program (GCMCP), whose mission is to increase the diversity of the legal profession in Cincinnati and assist minority attorneys in obtaining opportunities to perform legal work for corporations in Cincinnati. He earned his law degree from the University of Cincinnati in 1990.

1988

Terry Coutsolioutsos leads the marketing, sales operations and communications function at Siemens Healthineers North America and is a member of the senior leadership team. He joined the company in 2016 with 25 years of medical device experience across multiple market segments.

1989

Stephanie Zonars is assistant athletic director for marketing and sponsorships and senior woman administrator at Cedarville University.

1990

Mark Jedow was selected as Girls Swimming All-America Awards Program Chair of the National Interscholastic Swimming Coaches Association (NISCA) and re-elected as the Region VII-6A representative to the Texas Interscholastic Swimming Coaches Association (TISCA) Board of Directors. A resident of San Antonio, Texas, he is a teacher and swim coach for Winston Churchill High School.

1991

Shuly Cawood has published a memoir, *The Going and Goodbye* (Platypus Press, 2017), which is an examination of loss and leaving and the search for meaning in the memories that remain.



Peter Tyksinski '91

Peter R. Tyksinski and his law firm, Momo-o, Matsuo & Namba, hosted the 2016 Interlaw Annual Global Meeting at the Imperial Hotel in Tokyo, Japan, last October. The firm is the sole Japan member of Interlaw, the top-ranked international law firm network comprised of independent law firms around the world.

1992

Stephen Abbott, a film, television and stage actor, has a role in the upcoming movie *Marshall*, scheduled to be in theatres in October.

Charles E. McFarland, assistant vice president for finance and administration at Wittenberg University, was selected for the inaugural National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO) Fellows Program, a one-year leadership development program.

Amy Ray is the founder and co-owner of Sofizztication LLC, a bath and body product business that focuses on using healthy ingredients and raising awareness about environmental toxins.

1993

Robert Dziech, partner in The Farrish Law Firm in Cincinnati, Ohio, was named to the National Trial Lawyers Top 100 Trial Lawyers, an invitation-only organization composed of the premier trial lawyers from each state or region.

Kirstin Wolfe Flores, executive director of Arizona's Office of Victim Services, was recognized in April by the U.S. Department of Justice Office for Victims of Crime with the prestigious Crime Victims'

MEET THE PRESIDENT

The Office of Advancement is pleased to announce the following events where you can meet Wittenberg's new president, Dr. Michael L. Frandsen. Information about each event can be found online at www.wittenberg.edu/alumni, including how to register.

We look forward to seeing you at one of the following events near you.

Sept. 27, 2017 Indianapolis, Ind.
Oct. 12, 2017 Springfield, Ohio
Oct. 24, 2017 Akron/Youngstown, Ohio
Oct. 25, 2017 East Cleveland, Ohio
Oct. 26, 2017 West Cleveland, Ohio
Nov. 15, 2017 Washington, D.C.
Nov. 29, 2017 Cincinnati, Ohio
Dec. 6, 2017 Columbus, Ohio

Jan. 23, 2018 Dallas, Texas
Jan. 24, 2018 Houston, Texas
Feb. 8, 2018 Atlanta, Ga.
Feb. 20, 2018 San Diego, Calif.
Feb. 21, 2018 Los Angeles, Calif.
March 6, 2018 Sarasota, Fla.
April 17, 2018 Philadelphia, Pa.
April 18, 2018 Rochester, N.Y.

May 15, 2018 Chicago, Ill.
May 24, 2018 Louisville, Ky.
June 5, 2018 Boston, Mass.
June 6, 2018 Connecticut
June 7, 2018 New York City, N.Y.
June 20, 2018 Pittsburgh, Pa.
July 10, 2018 San Francisco, Calif.
July 12, 2018 Seattle, Wash.



“I’m confident that together we will inspire even more students to choose Wittenberg, re-engage more alumni in our future, and redefine excellence for generations.”



Brian Reed '97

Rights Award. The team that Flores leads has created programs that advance and enforce statewide uniformity and efficiency in following victims' rights in Arizona.

Kara M. McComb married Greg Schaefer on July 1, 2016.

1994

Lance Himes, an attorney with the Ohio Department of Health, has been appointed by Ohio Gov. John Kasich to serve as acting director of the department.

Taver Johnson has been named defensive coordinator at Temple University. Previously, he was a defensive backs coach and cornerbacks coach at Purdue University.

Kate Lund has published *Bounce: Help Your Child Build Resilience and Thrive in School, Sports and Life* (Best Seller Publishing, 2017).

1996

Elizabeth Dempsey Horstman was awarded the Franklin B. Walter Outstanding Educator Award for Ohio's State Support Team Region 6. She is an intervention specialist at Bath Middle School in Lima, Ohio, and holds a master's degree in education from the University of Findlay. She resides in Ottoville, Ohio, with her husband and five children.

Hal G. Ostrow has joined the Grand Rapids, Mich., law firm Rhoades McKee as a shareholder. He provides general business counsel to numerous small and medium-sized businesses throughout Michigan with an emphasis on software and design professionals. The National Association of Distinguished Counsel named him to its list of the "Nation's Top One Percent" of attorneys.

1997

Jeremy Glazier received a 2016 Ohio Arts Council excellence award for a criticism piece he submitted. His work has appeared in the Los

Angeles Review of Books.

Amy Pye Kochensparger has been selected to represent Ohio as a PBS Digital Innovator, a program that recognizes classroom change-makers who integrate digital media and resources in a way that sparks a love of learning for their students. A LEED Green certified teacher, she teaches science at Eaton High School in Eaton, Ohio.

Brian C. Reed is a partner with the law firm *Reese, Pyle, Drake & Meyer P.L.L. in Newark, Ohio.*

Henry "Layne" Schwier has been named track & field and cross country head coach at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington.

1998

Christal Morehouse, senior program officer for Open Society Foundations and policy specialist, presented the keynote address, "Open-



Debbie Lenarz '02

ing the Door to the World," at Wittenberg's Opening Convocation in August 2016.

Katie Ward Setty recently received the Battelle for Kids 2017 Celebrate Teaching Distinguished Educator Award. She teaches seventh- and eighth-grade science and social studies at Graham Local Schools in Ohio.

1999

Deborah Cassell has been named associate director of marketing and communications for alumni relations and development at Northwestern University, where she earned her master's degree from the Medill School of Journalism. She previously served as deputy editor for the University of Illinois Alumni Association. She also writes and directs for the Woman's Club of Evanston's annual revue and sits on the board of directors for the Evanston Community Tennis Association.

2000

Tiffany Tynes Curry, a third-grade teacher at Weinland Park Elementary in Columbus, Ohio, received the Milken Educator Award

and \$25,000 cash prize in January for her contributions to the personal development of students and teachers alike.

Katrina Klettke-Straker is the director of development and communications for International Orthodox Christian Charities. She lives in Baltimore, Md., with her husband, Louis, and their two sons.

2001

Emily Rogalski is a research associate professor at the Cognitive Neurology and Alzheimer's Disease Center at the Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, where her research focuses on dementia and aging.

Tim Schlak was promoted to dean of the university library at Robert Morris University. He lives with his wife and two children in Pittsburgh, Pa.

2002

Justin Bitner is the director of the Office of Institutional Effectiveness for Webster University in St. Louis, Mo.

Debbie Lenarz, a first-grade teacher and K-2 language arts coordinator for the Rocky River City Schools, married **Jeremy Jenkins** on July 25, 2014. *The couple resides in Strongsville, Ohio.*

Amanda Thomas McMeans is founder and president of TwoScore, a consulting company that works with credit unions to maximize their marketing efforts and develop their teams. She writes a regular column on the daily e-zine *CUInsight* for credit union professionals.



Stacy Pollock '02

Stacy Pollock has been named to *The Best Lawyers in America® 2017* for her work in education law. An attorney with *Mazanec, Raskin & Ryder* in Columbus, Ohio, she is a certified specialist in labor and employment law and a member of the *COSI Community Board.*

2003

Theodore Jackson is operations manager at Multilingual Connections, based in Evanston, Ill., that offers translation, tran-



Imogene Isle Jones, born Jan. 1, 2016, daughter of Jennifer Chenault Jones '03 and husband Griffin

scription and interpretation services in more than 75 languages.

Jennifer Chenault Jones and her husband, Griffin, welcomed their daughter, Imogene Isle Jones, on Jan. 1, 2016. The family resides in Atlanta, Ga.

2004

Jeff and Sarah Unerti Domingus announce the birth of their fourth child, Theo, on May 3, 2016.



Theo Domingus, born May 3, 2016, son of Jeff '04 and Sarah Unerti Domingus '04, with his siblings Naomi, Asher and Jonah

Michael T. Weller received the Springfield (Ohio) Symphony's Music Educator of the Year award in February. He is the music teacher at Ridgewood School in Springfield and the music minister at Memorial Presbyterian Church in Xenia, Ohio.

Jennifer Wilen Rosenstein graduated in May 2016 from Cleveland State University with a M.S. in chemistry. She works at AkzoNobel as a polymer chemist. She and her husband, Michael, live in Mayfield Heights, Ohio.

2005

Colleen Herzog Walters has been named vice president and chief

mission integration officer for the Mercy Health Network. She had served as the vice president of regional mission integration for the Trinity Health Iowa Region since 2013.

2006

Elizabeth Eshelman received a 2016 Ohio Arts Council excellence



Carter Keriazes, son of Kyle '05 and Kristyn Russell Keriazes '06



Kristyn L. Russell '06 married **Kyle T. Keriazes '05** on July 25, 2015.

award for her fictional short story "When the Aged are Reverently, Passionately Waiting."

David Herzog has been doing film and voiceover work, including an EE Mobile Phones commercial with Kevin Bacon, a music video for the band Rudimental that features Ed Sheeran, and a promotional video for Head and Shoulders Shampoo.

Kristyn L. Russell married Kyle T. Keriazes '05 on July 25, 2015. They welcomed a baby boy, Carter, in 2016.

Eric Shonkwiler is the author of three critically acclaimed books: *Above All Men* (MG Press, 2014), which won the Coil Book Award, *Moon Up, Past Full* (Alternating Current Press, 2015) and *8th Street Power & Light* (MG Press, 2016), a sequel to his first novel.

2007

Tosha Johnson Bell holds a master's degree in nuclear engineering from the Air Force Institute of Technology. She is a nuclear engineer for MELE Associates Inc.

Melinda "Mindy" Clark, a math teacher at Roosevelt Middle School in Springfield, Ohio, received a 2016-2017 Excellence in Teaching Award, sponsored by the Springfield News-Sun, Springfield Rotary Club, Ohio Edison, Springfield Foundation and Chamber of Greater Springfield.

Christine D. Maddox married Lucas Martorana on June 9, 2012. She earned a doctorate from Florida State University and is an assistant professor of English at the College of Staten Island.

2008

Dylan Baun is an assistant professor of history at the University of Alabama Huntsville. He holds a Ph.D. in Middle Eastern Studies from the University of Arizona.

Christina Fetherolf completed a doctorate in Biblical studies from the Graduate Theological Union in August 2016. She previously received a dual master's of divinity and theological studies from the Methodist Theological School in Ohio in 2012, during which she was a visiting graduate student at Rothberg International School at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem (2010-2011). She is currently an adjunct instructor of religion at Wittenberg.



Betsy R. Brown '09 married **Kraig W. Reiber '09** on Sept. 10, 2016

Dan Foreman is a consultant for Fuel Education LLC, an organization that brings digital learning tools to public schools. He returned to Wittenberg in March to present a series of talks that shared his experiences working in education technology.

Sarah Matesich Schwab, assistant vice president at Matesich Distributing, was named to The Newark Advocate's "20 Under 40" 2016 list.

2009

Betsy R. Brown married Kraig W. Reiber on Sept. 10, 2016, in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Jessica L. Kimble married David T. Burr on June 14, 2014, in Ludington, Mich.

Manny Lamarre is the executive director of the state of Nevada's Office of Workplace Innovation.

Roxie J. Patton recently accepted the position of associate director of the Center for Student Diversity at the College of William



Jennifer Dick '10 married Travis Moore '07 on March 19, 2016.



River Josephine Frank, born July 16, 2015, daughter of Kori J. Gunther '10 and Michael Paden Frank '10

and Mary. There she will be combining her passions working with marginalized students and creating original theatre pieces with the Inside Out Theatre program.

2010

Lindsay C. Beckman is a Peace Corps Volunteer Trainee in Kosovo, where she met Peace Corps Country Director **Darlene Grant '82**.

Jennifer Dick married Travis Moore '07 on March 19, 2016, in Columbus, Ohio.

Kori J. Gunther and Michael Paden Frank were married in Weaver Chapel on March 9, 2013. They welcomed a daughter, River Josephine, on July 16, 2015.

Hollie Hongosh married Alex Knight on March 18, 2017.

Lydia Kisley was named to the annual *Forbes* 30 Under 30 list in the healthcare category in January. She is a Beckman-Brown Interdisciplinary Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She received a Ph.D. in chemistry from Rice University in 2015.

Katherine A. Yuskewich married Jeffrey J. Boucher on Jan. 16, 2016, in Columbus, Ohio.



Hollie Hongosh '10 married Alex Knight on March 18, 2017. From left to right: Jessica Bruce Malagisi '10, Alex and Hollie Hongosh Knight '10, Alex Potapenko '09, Dan '09 and Marueen Walsh Buchan '09, and Allie Persinger '10

2011

Anna Beach has undertaken a new project that explores the use of narrative and speculative fiction to effect transformational change in the life of the individual.

Anna H. Strecker completed a year of AmeriCorps service at Providence Children's Museum from September 2015 – August 2016. She was part of a team that designed and implemented play-based STEM enrichment activities for 200 low-income elementary school-aged children in afterschool and summer "Learning Clubs."



Amanda M. Sweeney '11 and Kevin Frick '11 were married on July 12, 2014, in Weaver Chapel.

Amanda M. Sweeney and Kevin Frick were married on July 12, 2014, in Weaver Chapel. They reside in Hilliard, Ohio.

Karsten Treu has achieved certified consultant status of the Association for Applied Sport Psychology (CC-AASP). He has a private consulting business, Northeast Ohio Sport Psych Consulting, and serves as a mental skills coach. He holds a master's degree in counseling from Adler University in Chicago.

2012

Darcy Dubuc graduated in May 2016 from medical school at the University of Alabama-Birmingham. She has been accepted into a family practice residency at Camp Pendleton Naval Hospital in Oceanside, Calif. She was commissioned as a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy on June 4, 2016.

Andrew "Drew" Fisher graduated from The Ohio State University College of Optometry in May 2016. He is employed by Thoma and Sutton Eye Care in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Lewis Hebert is the owner of Advanced Water Works in Sunderland, Vt.

Kali Lawrence, executive administrator for the Springfield (Ohio) Promise Neighborhood, recently received the Extraordinary Woman of Clark County award for outstanding leadership.

Rachel Lee earned her MBA and M.S. in sport management from the University of Massachusetts Amherst in May and currently works for the United States Olympic Committee in Colorado Springs, Colo.



Ashley Zkiab '12 married Justin Byers on September 24, 2016.

Ashley Zkiab, an analytical scientist in research and development at Wockhardt in Chicago, Ill., married Justin Byers on September 24, 2016.

Ben Zoeller is working in the mortgage lending business with Century Mortgage in Nashville, Tenn.

2013

Aly Michaud co-created, directed and produced *Clara*, which debuted with five performances last June at the 2016 Cincinnati Fringe Festival. Michaud's team included **Sarah Fickling '13**, who designed costumes; **Anna Kirkland '13**, who designed lights; and **Mary Jo Eisenbraun McClain '93**, who took promotional photos for the production.

Breanne Ziegler works as an on-air talent at Classic Hits KOOL 101.7 and Buckeye Country 107.7 FM, located in Newark, Ohio.



Tiana Cherry '14 graduated from the American University Washington College of Law in May.



Doreen Hipp '14 married Andrew Jajack '14 on May 27, 2017, in North Canton, Ohio.

2014

Tiana J. Cherry graduated in May from the American University Washington College of Law. She will work in the equity and debt markets division of Linklaters LLP in London, England.

Doreen Hipp married Andrew Jajack on May 27, 2017, in North Canton, Ohio.

Nicole Perry, a doctoral student in the department of pharmacology at Vanderbilt University, was one of 100 doctoral students in the United States and Canada selected to receive a \$15,000 Scholar Award from the P.E.O. Sisterhood. Recipients are selected for their high level of academic achievement and their potential for having a positive impact on society.

2016

Caitlin Lobl '16 was a runner-up in the Archaeological Landscapes category of the Archaeological Institute of America's Sixth Annual Photo Contest for a photo she submitted of Trim Castle in Trim, Ireland.

Brea L. Medlock was inducted into the Big Walnut High School (Ohio) Athletic Wall of Fame, in recognition of her school records in the 4x200 relay, sprint medley, indoor 400-meter dash, indoor 4x200 relay and indoor 4x400 relay and for qualifying for the indoor state meet seven times. She ranks ninth in most points scored in district meets with 97 and is the seventh all-time leading scorer in Big Walnut girls' track history.



Nicole Perry '14 has received a \$15,000 Scholar Award from the P.E.O. Sisterhood.

Madelyn "Maddy" Miller is a doctoral student and graduate teaching assistant in the Burnett School of Biomedical Sciences, College of Medicine program. She received a Dean's fellowship from the school.

Choir Reunion

NOVEMBER 9 - 12, 2017

Register now at www.wittenberg.edu/choir-reunion

- Celebratory Reunion Dinner
- Alumni Reunion Concert
- Chapel Service
- Special Activities

In Memoriam

FALL 2017

1939

Florence Arnovitz Tannenbaum, Dayton, Ohio, passed away Oct. 6, 2016, at the age of 100. She taught school in Springfield and Cincinnati, Ohio. She was a member of Beth Abraham Synagogue, Temple Israel and Temple Shalom in Springfield. She also was a longtime member of the Order of the Eastern Star (Harvest Chapter) and Hadassah.

1940

Eloise Feller Butts, Bay Village, Ohio, died Sept. 30, 2016. She was active in the Alpha Delta Pi alumni association, the Bay Village Women's Club, PTA and Girl Scouts. She was a member of Bethesda-on-the-Bay Lutheran Church.

Frances "Fran" Lamos Fritsche, Lima, Ohio, died July 26, 2016. A member of Gamma Phi Beta, she served as Wittenberg's sorority campus advisor and with the local Lima chapter. She opened Kiddie Korner, a children's store, in 1951. She then worked as a dietician for Lima Memorial Hospital and later for St. Rita's Hospital, where she volunteered in retirement. She was a member of Market Street Presbyterian Church.

1942

Paul L. O'Brian, Lexington, Ky., died Aug. 2, 2016. He was an elder at First Presbyterian and a member of Second Presbyterian. He was co-owner of Travel Headquarters after retiring from IBM. A member of Phi Mu Delta, he was active with Meals on Wheels, Experiment in International Living, Torch Club, Lexington Art League, Citizens for Ethical Government and Lexington Chamber Chorale board.

Robert J. Shepfer, Indianapolis, Ind., passed away May 26, 2016. He was the organist choirmaster at Forest Park Methodist Church in Ft. Wayne, First Presbyterian Church in Royal Oak and Second Presbyterian Church in Indianapolis for 30 years. He studied organ in Paris with Marcel Dupré.

1944

Martha Feldkircher Hartje of Oak Ridge, Tenn., and formerly of Springfield, Ohio, died Jan. 23, 2017. She opened and directed the Happy Time Play School in Springfield, teaching and singing with preschoolers for more than 25 years, and was choir director at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. In retirement, she was an active member of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church in Oak Ridge. A member of Alpha Xi Delta, she served on the Alumni Council, was

secretary of the Wittenberg Guild, and received the Wittenberg Class of 1914 Award in 1988.

1945

Katherine "Betty" Gehr Keck Jordan, New Haven, Ind., died July 1, 2016. She taught fourth grade at New Haven Elementary School for more than three decades.

Lois Snyder Joviak, Grafton, Ohio, died July 1, 2016. She worked for Columbia Gas Company and served as the president of the Elyria Women's Club.

1946

Betty Doughman Dillahunt, Springfield, Ohio, passed away March 26, 2017. Founder of Wittenberg's field hockey program, she coached nine different sports programs and served as the university's women's director of athletics from 1972 until her retirement in 1982. An accomplished athlete in softball, golf and field hockey, she was inducted into the Wittenberg Athletics Hall of Honor in 1985, received the Ohio - National Association for Girls and Women in Sports Pathfinder Award in 2008, and selected as one of Springfield High School's Alumni of Distinction in 2009. She co-founded the Sauk Valley Farms Field Hockey Camp in Brooklyn, Mich., and wrote the book, *Field Hockey for Teachers*. She was a member of Delta Zeta sorority.

1947

Norma Jones Mozier, Livonia, Mich., died May 25, 2016. At one time, she was an art teacher in Springfield, Ohio. She volunteered with school and PTA activities and the Girl Scouts. She was an active member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority.

Bettie Hiserman Voress, Raleigh, N.C., passed away Aug. 28, 2016. A member of Chi Omega sorority, she volunteered with Meals on Wheels, Gaithersburg Help and Community Ministry.

1948

Rev. Edward L. Gard '51S, Zanesville, Ohio, died Nov. 18, 2016. He served parishes in Hillsdale, Mich., and Columbus, Lancaster, Amanda and Canal Winchester, Ohio. For 23 years, he served as a chaplain in the U.S. Air Force, retiring as a lieutenant colonel in 1975. He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion and Phi Mu Delta fraternity.

1949

Margaret "Jean" Keyser Armstrong, Naperville, Ill., passed away

Aug. 6, 2016. A member of Chi Omega sorority, she worked as a dietician and preschool teacher. She was a member of Palos Park Presbyterian Church, where she volunteered as Sunday School administrator.

Milan A. Bendik, Elyria, Ohio, died July 1, 2016. He served as a first lieutenant with the U.S. Marine Corps from 1942-1946 and 1950-1952. His career included director of human resources at Colson Corporation from 1949-1957 and vice president of industrial relations at General Industries from 1957 until his retirement in 1989. He was a member of Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Phi Kappa Psi and Elyria Elks Lodge #465, and a former member and past president of Elyria Kiwanis Club.

Virginia C. Hiserman, Charleston, W.Va., passed away May 28, 2016. She was a member of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church and Chi Omega sorority. She was a guidance counselor at George Washington High School from its opening until she retired in the early 1990s.

Stephen M. Kovacic, Walnut Creek, Calif., died Jan. 31, 2015. A member of Lambda Chi Alpha, he retired after 27 years as office manager of Hobart Corporation's Oakland branch.

Jean A. Trout, Cedar Falls, Iowa, died June 5, 2016. She was a professor of educational psychology at the University of Northern Iowa for 21 years, retiring in 1991. She was a member of Nazareth Evangelical Lutheran Church and Delta Zeta.

Rex M. Zimmerman, Virginia Beach, Va., died Dec. 11, 2015. During World War II and the Korean War, he served in the U.S. Navy as a third class fire control officer. His career included positions in sales for Smuckers, IBM, Tracor, SBC and RCA/Univac. He then opened Yarn Haven with his wife and later worked in real estate. He was a member of the Broad Bay Sailing Association.

1950

Joanne M. "Jodi" Ball Archer, Tyler, Texas, died June 16, 2016. A member of Chi Omega sorority, she started her career in 1983 with the YMCA. In 1997, she began working for Tyler Junior College, retiring in 2010. She volunteered at First Christian Church.

John H. Geils, Southbury, Conn., died May 14, 2016. He served in the U.S. Air Force until 1946 and worked in industrial sales for Sun Oil Company. In 1966, he purchased Columbia Manicure and Flowery Beauty Products, located in Bronx, N.Y. A member of Beta Theta Pi, he volunteered as a Boy Scout leader and church elder.

Walter O. "Bug" Koch, Lima, Ohio, passed away May 10, 2016. He served in the U.S. Navy as an aviation boatsman, third class petty officer. He was a driver's education teacher and athletic trainer for Lima City Schools from 1952-1979 and was inducted into the Ohio Athletic Trainer's Hall of Fame in 1991. He was a member of Alpha Tau Omega, Family of Faith Church, VFW Post 1275, American Legion 96 and several education associations.

Robert M. Lasalle, Louisville, Ky., died Jan. 17, 2016. He served with the First U.S. Army during World War II, earning a citation from the French government for meritorious service. He founded South Standard Enterprises Inc., opening several Gingiss Formal stores in Ohio, Indiana and Florida. He was a member of the VFW, Masons, Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, the Aero Club of Louisville and The Temple.

M. JoAnn Spielhauer March of Columbus, Ohio, and formerly of Chagrin Falls, Parma, Medina and Westlake, Ohio, passed away July 12, 2016. She worked as a secretary, sang with the Cleveland Orchestra Chorus and performed leading singing roles with local performing arts groups. She was a member of Chi Omega and St. Paul Lutheran Church and School in Westlake.

Carl R. Withers, Hudson, Ohio, died Sept. 10, 2016. During World War II, he was a pilot and first lieutenant with the U.S. Army Air Corps. He was an attorney and partner with Van Aken, Withers & Webster. A member of Beta Theta Pi, he served as president of the fraternity's Cleveland chapter. He was former president of the Wittenberg Cleveland Alumni Association and a trustee and former president of the Shaker Historical Society.

1951

Betty Cool Edwards, Rockford, Ill., died Aug. 27, 2016. She worked as a literacy tutor and was a member of Spring Creek United Church of Christ. She was active with the Heifer Project International, Wild Ones, Natural Land Institute and Severson Dells Environmental Education Center.

Norma Bell Hagler, Charlotte, N.C., died Aug. 25, 2016. A member of Chi Omega sorority, she was an abstract artist.

1952

Lloyd J. Piatt, Springfield, Ohio, passed away Oct. 21, 2016. He was a certified auto technician for 41 years, retiring in 1992 from Monte Zinn Chevrolet. A U.S. Navy veteran of World War II, he was a member of St. Teresa Catholic Church.

Hugh "Perk" Robins, Statesboro, Ga., died Sept. 1, 2016. He served in the U.S. Army, where he was named to the All-Army basketball team, and played one year of professional baseball with the Cincinnati Reds. He began a long career in alumni relations and development at Wittenberg University, followed by positions at Ball State University, University of Georgia and Georgia Southern University, retiring in 1996. A member of Delta Sigma Phi, he was inducted into the Wittenberg Athletic Hall of Honor in 1986.

1953

Alice Whipple Caton, Dayton, Ohio, died March 12, 2015.

Rev. Ernst G. Schmidt, Hatboro, Pa., died Jan. 15, 2016. He was the founding minister of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Hunting-

don Valley, Pa., and founder and CEO of Gloria Dei Communities Corporation. He also hosted the television ministry *Make it Happen* and a weekly radio ministry on WFLN-FM. A member of Dorm League, he received the Wittenberg Alumni Citation Award in 2001.

1954

Joseph A. Cole, Delaware, Ohio, died May 11, 2017. A member of Alpha Tau Omega and ROTC, he served in the U.S. Marine Corps, attaining the rank of first lieutenant. He was a realtor and broker for Century 21, a member of Rotary, Symposiarchs, Elks and the Delaware County Board of Realtors, and was a board member of the Delaware Theatre Association and the Central Ohio Symphony Orchestra.

Barbara Bodenberg Stover, Gold Beach, Ore., died Sept. 12, 2016. A member of Gamma Phi Beta, she had a 30-year career in education as a teacher, librarian and school board member. She served in leadership roles for Community Concerts, American Lutheran Church Women and the American Association of University Women. She was a member, Sunday School superintendent and teacher at Bethany Lutheran Church, and volunteered with the Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Curry General Hospital, 4-H, League of Women Voters and Soroptomist Club.

1955

Mary Anne Lyders Felker, Penfield, N.Y., died Dec. 23, 2016. She began her career at Eastman Kodak as a chemist and later became an eighth-grade science teacher in the Fairport School District. A member of Delta Zeta, she served as president of the Wittenberg Alumni Board and was active in recruitment efforts in the Rochester, N.Y., area.

Sondra Nelson Folsom, Paducah, Ky., passed away Aug. 27, 2016. She was a retired educator for the Walled Lake (Mich.) School system, where she taught home economics, English and history for more than 30 years. She was a member of Delta Zeta sorority, St. Matthew Lutheran Church and Paducah Moose Lodge.

Dale A. Hufziger, Miamisburg, Ohio, died May 30, 2016. He was a self-employed dentist and member of Dorm League.

Earl F. Shields Jr., Naples, Fla., died Oct. 3, 2016. He founded the heart and cardiovascular surgery program at Akron General Medical Center in Akron, Ohio, now part of the Cleveland Clinic. He was inducted into the Distinguished Physicians Society in 1991 and was a member of Phi Mu Delta fraternity.

A. Catherine Oldham Werst, Springfield, Ohio, died Aug. 24, 2016. She retired from Springfield City Schools as an elementary teacher and was a member of Faith United Methodist Church, Kiwanians, New Dimensions Travel Club and Daughters of the American Revolution.

1956

Richard H. Abraham, Bellefontaine, Ohio, passed away June 28, 2014. He served with the U.S. Army Finance Corp. while stationed in Ft. Knox, Ky. He held positions such as treasurer for The J.M. Abraham Company, vice president and treasurer for Citizens Federal Savings and Loan, and chief executive officer for Colonial

Federal Savings and Loan. He also was a broker and owner of Century 21 The RHA Group Realty Inc. for more than 20 years. A member of Beta Theta Pi, he was active with the Mary Rutan Hospital Association and Foundation and the Logan County Area Chamber of Commerce.

Esther May Schuerman, Gilbert, Ariz., died July 18, 2015. She was a member of Chi Omega sorority.

1957

William R. Blank, Corydon, Ind., died Jan. 1, 2016. He was a farmer and a member of the Harrison County Farm Bureau where he served as treasurer for Webster Township and a member of St. Peter's Lutheran Church.

Ronald L. Frederick '62MA, Ogdensburg, N.Y., passed away April 22, 2016. He had a 34-year career as a teacher and guidance counselor, retiring from Ogdensburg Free Academy in 1992. He was a member of the VFW, the American Legion and Phi Mu Delta fraternity.

1958

Rosemarie Olson Dautenhahn, Lima, Ohio, died June 7, 2016. She attended New Life International Church in Lima and was active in ministry.

Phillip K. Hardwick, Indianapolis, Ind., died Jan. 18, 2015. He was a member of Phi Gamma Delta.

1959

William A. Troth '61MED, Rockwall, Texas, died Sept. 12, 2016. At one time, he was a professor of counseling and guidance at East Texas State University.

1960

Bruce T. Barkley, Ocean View, Del., died Aug. 30, 2016. A member of Phi Gamma Delta, he was president of Barkley & Associates.

Dorothy Friend Vorpe, Troy, Ohio, died Sept. 1, 2016. She was a member of First Baptist Church in St. Paris, where she taught Sunday school for more than 50 years and was choir director. An accomplished pianist and organist, she taught piano lessons.

1961

Robert W. Roberts, Grove City, Ohio, passed away June 10, 2016. A member of Delta Sigma Phi, he worked for 33 years as an educator, retiring in 1994. In retirement, he worked as a tax professional and instructor.

1962

Donna Cunningham Hussung, Lanesville, Ind., died Jan. 30, 2016. She was a retired teacher at New Albany High School and Floyd Central Jr./Sr. High School. She was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church, the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, the Lutheran Laymen League/Thrivent for Christians, and the Indiana Retired Teachers Association.

Martha "Marty" Mills Goliver, Elida, Ohio, died May 8, 2016. She worked as a cook at the Apollo Career Center for five years and was a member of the Lima Baptist Temple and its hospitality ministry.

Rev. David B. Stacy, Fort Myers, Fla., died Feb. 6, 2006. He served a tour in Vietnam with the U.S. Army. An ordained Lutheran minister, he served churches in Manchester, Conn., Providence, R.I., and Virginia. In retirement, he served as executive director of diakonia.

1963

Terrence B. O'Keefe of Lake Oswego, Ore., and formerly of Eugene, Ore., died May 25, 2016. A Woodrow Wilson Fellow, he was a professor at the University of Oregon and the University of Queensland, Australia. He competed as a 4.5 ranked USTA player and was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity.

1964

Donald W. Birgersson, Grayslake, Ill., passed away Sept. 22, 2016. He worked as a microsystems sales consultant and retired from Leica Microsystems after 40 years. A member of Christ the Victor Lutheran Church, he was active with the church choir, Rotary Club, CB Radio Club, Ship Model Club, Bridge Club and the Girl Scouts.

1965

Carol Buechler Farmer, Hartsville, Ohio, died Feb. 11, 2016. For nearly 30 years, she worked for C.P.C. She also owned and operated Carol's Mini-Fabrications.

Raymond E. Fleig, Springfield, Ohio, passed away Sept. 4, 2015. He was a retired associate professor for Clark State Community College. A tank commander in the U.S. 28th Infantry Division, he was regarded as one of the best tank operators and commanders in World War II. In 1994, the Army dedicated a tank gunnery range to him in Fort Indiantown Gap, Pa.

Larry R. Froebe, Mission Viejo, Calif., died April 19, 2016. He was a scientist, consultant, instructor and mentor in human health risk assessment and vapor intrusion. He was a member of the Single Action Shooting Society and Phi Mu Delta fraternity.

1966

Edward M. Stanko, Cleveland, Ohio, died Aug. 12, 2015. A member of Phi Kappa Psi, he was an agent for Royalton Financial Group.

1967

George E. Dearth '67MED, Troy, Ohio, died Aug. 29, 2016. He was an educator with the Troy City Schools for more than 35 years, serving as a math teacher, guidance counselor and athletic director. In retirement, he sold insurance with Primerica. He was a member of First United Methodist Church, Troy High School Class of '55 Club and Civil Service Commission. He served on local boards of education and as the Basketball and Tennis Tournament Director for over 40 years with the Southwest District of Ohio.

Nancy Walcutt Doemel, Crawfordsville, Ind., died June 18, 2016. She was an English teacher for the Bartholomew Consolidated School District in Columbus, Ind., before working from 1977-1979 as a research associate at Indiana University. She then served Wabash College as director of corporate and foundation relations until her retirement in 2010, raising more than \$30 million for

the college. She was a founding member of the Montgomery County Community Foundation, a member of Kappa Delta and the League of Women Voters, and advised the Montgomery County Free Clinic Board.

C. Thomas Folkemer of Freeport, Maine, and formerly of Gibson Island, Md., passed away Dec. 26, 2016. He practiced medicine in Maryland for more than 40 years.

John A. Hajnik, Springfield, Ohio, passed away June 7, 2016. He worked for Chakeres Theatres and was inducted into the Clark County Bowling Hall of Fame.

1968

Elaine Harper Grover '68MSM, Plymouth, Mich., died Dec. 15, 2016. She was an instructor in piano at Wittenberg before working as a professor of music at Marygrove College in Detroit. A member of St. John Episcopal Church, she served as organist and worked with the handbell choir and children's choir from 1972-1992. She also was a member of the American Guild of Organists.

1969

James A. Cover, Monroeville, Pa., died Nov. 29, 2016.

Amelia Howe Kritzer, St. Paul, Minn., died June 16, 2016. She was retired from the University of St. Thomas.

John E. Swank '69MDiv, Piqua, Ohio, died May 31, 2015. Prior to working as a licensed professional clinical counselor in Troy for nearly 30 years, he served as pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in Convoy, Ohio, from 1974-1984.

Nancy McNutt Welch, Springfield, Ohio, died Aug. 6, 2016. After teaching in Springfield and Yellow Springs, she became principal for Morgan and Mills Lawn schools in Yellow Springs. She ended her career at West Carrollton Middle School, where she started the school's first year-round program.

David J. Zumbrunnen, Marietta, Ga., passed away Dec. 3, 2016. From 1969-1971, he served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam. A member of Phi Kappa Psi, he owned the Royal Marble Co. He was active with Indian Guides and the YMCA and volunteered with the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games.

1971

Michael J. Bennett, Lakewood, Ohio, passed away Feb. 13, 2016. He served in the U.S. Army and ran his own business for 28 years. He was a member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity and Grace Presbyterian Church.

1973

Carol Evans Rugh of Buckeye, Ariz., and formerly of Monroe, Conn., and Mentor, Ohio, passed away May 1, 2016. She worked in video production and as a freelance corporate writer for many Fortune 500 companies over a 27-year career. She was the vice-sheik of the One Good Turn Tent of the Sons of the Desert, and served as publicity and membership chair for the Friends of the Buckeye Public Library.

1974

Timothy T. Peterson, Culver City, Calif., died March 12, 2016. He was a scientist with Hughes Aircraft Co. in Los Angeles, Calif.

Constance "Connie" Sheffer, Grayslake, Ill., died Sept. 15, 2016. She was a former employee of Abbott Laboratories and Hospira. She was a member and sang in the choir at the United Methodist Church in Libertyville, sang with the Chicago Master Singers, and volunteered at Save-A-Pet.

1980

Joan Nash Rizer, Springfield, Ohio, died July 15, 2016. She taught at Clark State Community College and The Ohio State University and worked in development for the University of Dayton. She was a member of St. Teresa Catholic Church, the Springfield Country Club and Mensa and chaired the Clark County Mental Health Board.

1981

Thomas A. "TR" Robinson, Rochester, N.Y., died June 19, 2016. He was president and co-founder of two technology start-ups, including Blue Lobster Software, and was a member of Alpha Tau Omega.

1982

Donald M. Horton, Raleigh, N.C., passed away May 28, 2016.

His career as a football coach spanned three decades, six states and 10 schools, including Wittenberg and most recently Boston College and North Carolina State University. He was named the Top Assistant Coach in 2005 and ESPN Coaches Poll's Best Offensive Line Coach in 2006. He created a clothing line for people with limited mobility and helped to bring awareness to Parkinson's disease.

1984

Christine Diehl Geiss, Granville, Ohio, died May 28, 2016. She was a member of Alpha Delta Pi and Spring Hills Baptist Church, and was instrumental in the supportive staff of Granville Christian Academy.

1990

Craig E. Freshour, Springfield, Ohio, passed away May 7, 2016. He worked as the first general manager of Applebee's in Springfield and as general manager for Game Works in California, Michigan and Columbus, Ohio, as well as at Movie Tavern in Hilliard, Ohio. A volunteer at Wilson Road Golf Course in Columbus, he was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity and the former Oakland Presbyterian Church.

Mark A. Seng, Lafayette, Ind., passed away Sept. 4, 2016. He was employed at Wabash National Trucking Co. as a materials planner.

2005

Jenna Weitkamp Maddux, Louisville, Ky., died March 14, 2017. A member of Chi Omega sorority, she was employed at the Speed Art Museum for eight years. More recently, she was an employee at RedTree Albums.

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The IRA charitable rollover permits individuals who are 70½ to roll over up to \$100,000 from their IRA to non-profit organizations free from federal income tax. An IRA rollover gift also qualifies for your required minimum distribution, permitting you to lower your income and taxes for this year while Wittenberg advances its mission.

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ASK OFFER

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OFFER by Lawrence '78 on August 1st 2017 in Other
Business Financing & Credit Building Assistance
I am taking this opportunity to let all of my fellow tigers know that, following my retirement from corporate life in 2016, I...

OFFER by Lukas '09 on July 23rd 2017 in Advice
Marketing, PR & Communications Advice
I've worked in PR/integrated marketing agencies for about 8 years now, having graduated as a Communication major in...

OFFER by Bret '05 on May 15th 2017 in Job / Internship
Mental Health frontline workers needed
My name is Bret Olson, Witt grad '05. I work for S.U.N. (Solving Unmet Needs) Behavioral Health located in Northern...

A photograph of two young women sitting on stone steps. They are both wearing red sweatshirts. The woman on the left is smiling and covering her mouth with her hand, while the woman on the right is laughing heartily. The background shows a stone wall and a metal railing.

Lending a Heart & Hand

Wittenberg has a long history of inspiring service in its students who routinely connect with the greater Springfield community—and beyond—through Wittenberg’s community service requirement. To serve is to transform oneself, so we strive to create in our students an awareness of the needs of others and to develop more compassionate human beings who can respond to those needs.

www.wittenberg.edu/servingtheworld

Thank you!



Atolani "Victoria" Ladipo '19 from Chicago, Ill., has embraced every facet of the Wittenberg experience, thanks to the generosity of others. An English major, she has served as president of Shades of Pearl, as an adviser in the Writing Center, and as secretary of Common Ground, among other activities.

"I chose Wittenberg because when I first visited, I felt welcomed by the students. I stayed because of the relationships I have forged with professors, students and even staff at the university. I come from a single parent household so every dollar counts and goes a long way in ensuring that I continue to receive the quality education and experience that Wittenberg offers. I'm eternally grateful, so again thank you!"

THANK YOU to the 8,122 alumni, parents, friends, faculty, staff, and students who made a financial commitment to the university this past academic year. You helped make the Wittenberg experience extraordinary for Victoria and more than 1,800 students.

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