

# WITTENBERG

*magazine*



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*Teaching Kids To Thrive*

### Big Data

*Driver of Global Change*

### Scream For Ice Cream

*Graeter's French Pot Process*

### The Future of Medicine

*Meet a Wrestling Cardiologist*



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# Energy Made Visible

There are times as a writer and editor when a chill runs down my spine after finishing certain stories. It’s a good chill, the kind that makes me realize that maybe—just maybe—this story will have an effect on the person reading. Maybe the reader will pause, step back, take a breath. Or maybe it will inspire.

Now take that chill and magnify it by 100, and that will give you a mere glimpse of what happened as we reimagined our beloved alumni magazine.

For years, we have shared the Wittenberg story, but now we want to show the Wittenberg story. We want to introduce you to fellow alumni in each issue who are asking deep questions, creating solutions for navigating our world and inspiring others with their energy, their light, their passion.

But we didn’t stop there. We ensured that the magazine still reaffirms our commitment to teaching excellence, reflects our mission and values, and provides a platform for renewed understanding and engagement. Some elements may surprise you. With the long passing of time between this issue and the last, we decided to publish an all-class notes booklet this summer, which means that this issue has fewer notes than previous issues. In addition, rather than being limited to a short faculty note listing, our faculty will now be featured more over time, providing insight, sharing their expertise and offering perspective.

Together, with some new writers, a new editorial partner and a reinvigorated design, this *Wittenberg Magazine*—your magazine—now stands out in the sea of alumni magazines, reminding both readers and peers of the power of Wittenberg to change lives, all while inspiring generations of students and alumni to pass their light on to others.

With gratitude,  
  
Karen Saatkamp Gerboth '93



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Articles are expressly the opinions of authors and do not necessarily represent official university policy. We reserve the right to edit correspondence for length and accuracy. We appreciate photo submissions, but cannot promise to run every submission due to space limitations.

**AA/EEO Statement** -- Wittenberg is committed to attracting and retaining highly qualified individuals who collectively reflect the diversity of our student body and society at-large. We believe it is educationally imperative to further our students' appreciation and understanding of a culturally diverse society, and we are committed to ensuring a diverse environment for all individuals, regardless of race, gender, religion, nationality, ethnicity, sexual orientation, physical ability, or disability.



## WITTENBERG AMONG THE ELITES

*The Fiske Guide to Colleges 2017* has named Wittenberg a “Best Buy.” The recognition places Wittenberg on an elite list of only 26 private and 21 public colleges and universities in the U.S., Canada and the U.K. The guide notes how Wittenberg’s founding by German Lutherans in 1845 helps the university remain “true to its faith by emphasizing strong student-faculty relationships.” Wittenberg’s commitment to community service is also cited, as are the university’s learning goals, “ranging from experience with writing and research to exposure to the natural sciences and foreign languages.”

The university has also been affirmed as an incubator for start-up success as per a recent *Forbes* ranking that lists the university among the Top 50 Most Entrepreneurial Colleges in the nation. Entering at No. 46, Wittenberg joins Middlebury, Vassar, Colby, Smith, Amherst and Villanova in this distinction.

## RECORD-SETTING SUCCESS

Wittenberg’s class of 2020 is the largest in more than a decade at 603 students. The incoming class, which has an average GPA of 3.5, represents 30 states and seven countries. Sixty students in the class are the children or grandchildren of alumni, 15 hold the prestigious half-tuition Martin Luther Scholarship, and multiple students earned the Provost Scholarship, awarded to students ranked in the top 5 percent of their graduating classes.

Over in Advancement, the fiscal year 2016 closed with the college’s total cash-in standing at \$9.1 million, which is up \$1.5 million from 2015. Annual giving raised \$3.3 million, and cash into the endowment is at \$4.1 million.



## CURRICULAR INNOVATION

From cyber security to analytics, Wittenberg continues to update its curriculum to meet the evolving interests of 21st-century learners, as well as market demand. In partnership with Springfield’s Advanced Technical Intelligence Center (ATIC), the new cyber security track, offered through the university’s popular computer science program, allows students to dive into hacking techniques and malware, as well as explore various defense and intelligence careers, among other areas.

Within the computer science program, students can choose from two tracks: general computer science, designed for those moving on to graduate school or industry employment; and cyber security, which will include coursework at ATIC to train students in defensive network security and analyst skills. Highly motivated students may be able to complete either program in three years.

“The department of math and computer science is extremely excited for the opportunity to partner with ATIC,” said Adam Parker, department chair and assistant professor of mathematics.

“The access to technical resources and expertise will be very valuable for our students. Each time you see in the news that a company had personal information stolen means that there will be more demand for the graduates of this program.”

In the cyber security track, students will also be sponsored for security clearance through ATIC, created as a training center in 2006 in Dayton, Ohio. ATIC is an independent 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization established to aid in the technological development needs within the United States defense and intelligence agencies and other related industries.

Wittenberg has partnered with ATIC to send students to a training facility for a semester once prerequisites are met, typically during the junior or senior year. The in-class training is 10 weeks long with a five-week internship to follow.

Recognizing the impact of big data in solving real-world problems, Wittenberg has also launched an M.S. in Analytics program through its School of Community Education. With its first enrollees arriving this fall, the new program meets the nationwide demand for employees who understand the intricacies and complexity of big data.

## CHANGING CAMPUS CULTURE

Sexual violence on college campuses is a national problem, and Wittenberg is leading the way in helping to keep its campus safe. Already recognized by the state for its innovative healthy relationship and bystander intervention program, Not Without Consent, the university is also a new participant in the national Green Dot Violence Prevention Strategy.

To further promote a healthy campus culture, Wittenberg has partnered with the Ohio Department of Higher Education on a benchmark study tied to the state’s \$2 million broad-based Changing Campus Culture Initiative to end sexual violence on college campuses.

Launched in fall 2015, the Changing Campus Culture Initiative is “designed to help all of Ohio’s colleges and universities—public and private, two-year and four-year—prevent and better respond to incidents of sexual violence,” according to the ODHE. Phase one of the comprehensive effort involved administering a campus climate survey in addition to collecting common data points, or benchmarks, for ODHE.

“We want to thank the Ohio Department of Higher Education and Changing Campus Culture Initiative for leading this benchmark study,” said Casey Gill, Wittenberg dean of students. “These are excellent data points that we can use in our evidence-based planning and response efforts at Wittenberg. As an institution of higher education committed to lifelong learning, we also look forward to using this data to educate our community even more about the resources available to them and to further improve the quality of our training prevention programs, as well as enhance our policies and procedures.”



## LASTING LEGACY

Members of the Wittenberg community gathered in Weaver Chapel, Aug. 17, to remember Richard P. “Dick” Veler, distinguished professor of English, senior administrator, editor, writer and 1958 alumnus, who passed away Aug. 4. In her remarks during the memorial service, Robin Inboden, professor of English, shared her own fond memories of her former colleague, as well as a tribute by Amy Dunham Strand ’92, now a professor herself at Aquinas College. An excerpt of Strand’s letter follows.

“I had a lovely telephone conversation with Dr. Veler a few weeks ago . . . I am grateful that we were able to have an honest exchange by phone, and that I was able to tell him then how much his mentorship and friendship have meant to me over the years: Dr. Veler has been one of the very few people who has had a major impact on my life—not only on my becoming a professor, but also on the kind of person I’ve tried to become in that role. He has provided a consistent model of kindness, generosity, and humanity for me.

“Indeed, when I first met him, I did not know Dr. Veler as a professor. I knew him as a kind, joyful person, and a swimmer. I was a first-year student at Wittenberg in 1988, and I rolled out of bed to walk up the hill to the first lifeguarding shift at the pool several mornings a week. I was often running late, and Suzanne and Richard Veler would be patiently waiting for the doors to open. I would apologize frantically. Yet, rather than show any sign of impatience or annoyance, they would laughingly acknowledge the late-night stressors of college life and cheerfully thank me for being there to watch over them while they swam their laps together! They even brought me cookies one time, with a thank-you note for being their morning lifeguard!

“A couple of years later, I finally met Dr. Veler in the classroom rather than at the pool doors. After I had switched from pre-law to an English major, I took a course on the American novel, taught by Dr. Veler, who impressed me not just with his famous, dapper wardrobe of seersucker suits, but with his ability to balance attention to students’ voices with clear classroom leadership and thorough knowledge of American literature. I still remember something he said then about a core value of fiction: that reading fiction exposes us to all kinds of people we will meet in our lifetimes. Dr. Veler impressed upon us, then, something that has since been shown by multiple psychological studies: reading fiction increases empathy. And his observation underscored his own humanistic approach to teaching and learning, an approach that vibrated through his courses.

“Dr. Veler, alongside Mrs. Veler, when she was alive, has remained a key touchstone for me ever since my Wittenberg years, celebrating not only my professional markers, but also personal ones. He has always affirmed my own peculiar balance of work and family, and he has invited me to witness his mix of work and family. And in doing so, he has offered me an invaluable model of how to be present to others in the many spheres of one’s life—with kindness and generosity and humanity—and particularly in one’s role as a teacher and mentor.

“Last week, I received a ‘Save-the-Date’ invitation for a wedding on New Year’s Eve for one of my own former students. I initially thought, ‘Hmmm, that’s a tough date; I’m not sure about this.’ But reflecting on Dr. Veler’s presence at the milestones of my life, I’m now inclined to go. His life has indeed borne out the message of the Wittenberg motto: ‘Having light, we pass it on to others.’”

*For more on Veler’s legacy, visit [www.wittenberg.edu](http://www.wittenberg.edu).*

# Don't Forget *To* Vote

As the CEO of the non-partisan League of Women Voters of the United States, Wylecia Wiggs Harris '82 didn't take sides in the U.S. election during her address at our 166th Commencement. Instead, she reminded us:

*"The ability to exercise our right to vote is one of the great things about being an American citizen."*



Photo credit: Getty Images

**WITTENBERG:** What campus, political or world events influenced your worldview or political perspectives while you were a student at Wittenberg?

**WWH:** My understanding of engagement as a strategy of having power to make a difference was birthed at Wittenberg and still serves as one of the guiding principles for my life. During my time at Wittenberg, I gained an appreciation for the willingness to listen to different perspectives, focus on the issues and seek common ground as a way to address issues.

**WITTENBERG:** When and how did you realize the importance of exercising your right to vote?

**WWH:** A fundamental shift in my understanding of voting as a responsibility occurred several years ago when interviewing one of my mentors for a project I was working on. She recounted the first time that she voted, during the days of Jim Crow, with a shotgun aimed at her head. As I listened to her vividly tell her story, I thought about the sacrifices that were made so I could vote. I pay attention differently [because of her story]; I show up differently at elections. I want to understand not just the high-profile federal and state elections, but the down-ballot elections related to judicial selections, the school board and the local ballot issues that directly impact my community.

**WITTENBERG:** What influenced you to pursue work in the nonprofit sector and specifically with the League of Women Voters?

**WWH:** My transition from the healthcare sector to the League of Women Voters and the democracy space was driven by my continuing desire to make a difference, the challenges of leveraging my skills to lead an iconic organization into the 21st century and an ever-growing understanding of the importance of the power of the vote.

**WITTENBERG:** What does the women's vote mean in this year's elections?

**WWH:** The League of Women Voters was founded on the belief that armed with the power of the vote women could help create a more perfect democracy. In 2012, women comprised more than half of the electorate. According to the Center for American Women and Politics, Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers University, "in every presidential election since 1980, the proportion of eligible female adults who voted has exceeded the proportion of eligible male adults who voted." If these statistics hold true for the 2016 elections, women will play a pivotal role in the outcome of the 2016 elections.

**WITTENBERG:** Any predictions regarding this year's elections?

**WWH:** The League is a nonpartisan organization; thus, it would not be appropriate to offer predictions on the election. Rather, what I will offer is that it is a critically important election with much at stake. It is important that individuals exercise their responsibility to vote for the candidates they believe will continue to move us in the direction of a more perfect, representative democracy. Voting is more than a right; it is a responsibility to lend our voice through our actions and to help Make Democracy Work®. The ability to exercise our right to vote is one of the great things about being an American citizen.



# Geo Summer

John Ritter is a geomorphologist. In other words, the 2016 recipient of the Alumni Association Distinguished Teaching Award studies the characteristics, origin and development of landforms. So who better to select five top geological sites for outdoor recreation?

**GLACIERS IN THE CANADIAN ROCKIES** – for a cool summer vacation. I wanted my wife, Debbie, and our children, Daniel and Mary Grace, to experience glaciers before they were unrecognizable as such. The Columbia Icefield, Athabasca and Agnes Glaciers, and every bend on the Icefields Parkway don’t disappoint.

**MAMMOTH CAVE NATIONAL PARK** – close and surprising. I swore off caving in spaces so tight that I had to worry about being able to go backward if I couldn’t go forward, so Mammoth sounded about right during my first field seminar with geology students there. The cave itself is worth the trip, but it was the surface hikes that blew me away. Days’ worth. Turnhole Bend on the Green River, Cedar Sink and Mammoth Dome.

**ADIRONDACK MOUNTAINS** - pick an area to set up camp and enjoy the surroundings. Debbie introduced me to the Adirondacks when we first started dating. Hiking Blue Mountain, playing in

Buttermilk Falls, exploring the extraordinary Adirondack Museum, and letting the bears have our chicken dinner the first night out said enough about her grit.

**CANYON DE CHELLY**, in the heart of the Navajo Nation in Arizona, or Chaco Canyon, in northwestern New Mexico, to experience some of the earliest cultures in the U.S. In my opinion, these sites are best in the fall, to enjoy changing aspen and brilliant sunsets against the canyon walls. And if you are coming from Albuquerque, the trip includes the roasting of Hatch green chiles on street corners. A Navajo taco from the Country Kitchen in Gallup or Navajo fry bread from any roadside seller is a must.

**SIERRA MOUNTAINS OF CALIFORNIA** – for humility. Hike or trek far enough that you know you are on your own. The higher up you are, the purer the water and, as John Muir wrote, “Between every two pines there is a door to a new way of life.”



Photo credit: Caleb Murray '13

John Ritter is a professor of geology and department chair. He directs the Environmental Science Program.

**EDUCATION**  
Ph.D., Geosciences,  
Pennsylvania State University,  
December 1990

M.S., Geology,  
University of New Mexico,  
May 1987

B.S., Geosciences,  
Honors Degree,  
Pennsylvania State University,  
August 1983

**RESEARCH INTERESTS**  
A geomorphologist who specializes in small watershed hydrology and soils geomorphology, Ritter’s most recent research is on restoration of urban streams, with a focus on Buck Creek, and the natural capital of urban areas, including the ecosystem services provided by urban river corridors.

**WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT GEOLOGY AND TEACHING GEOLOGY?**  
It’s grounded in the other natural sciences but also distinctly different from them as a historical science. For example, the stoichiometry of weathering processes that produce soil isn’t different from what chemists do in the lab, but because the process of soil formation occurs over time, it limits direct observation of the processes and requires instead evidential reasoning, reasoning through evidence.

Students in geology courses then, whether science majors or not, are taught to make the observations and measurements that become the evidence to make the argument for our landscape changes over geologic time, whether our use of resources is sustainable, or whether we live at risk from some hazard. What I love about teaching geology is that however well they learn to do this, students in these courses do tend to be more observant of their surroundings. And years later, they continue to appreciate this.

# The *Write* Stuff

Wittenberg's Writing Center celebrates 35 years.

WRITTEN BY Leigh Hall '13

Jeremy Glazier '97 loves words.

An associate professor of English at Ohio Dominican University, Glazier teaches literature courses in poetry as well as courses in creative writing, composition, and the art of the essay. When he prepares first-year students for taking on the challenge of collegiate-level writing, he draws on skills picked up more than 20 years ago in what was then called Wittenberg's Writer's Workshop.

"I started working in the old Writer's Workshop in 1994," he says, "and that experience continues to inform my own teaching, particularly in freshman composition courses. Learning to talk with other students, getting them to ask the right questions, helping allay their fears, building their confidence in their own writing—these are skills I developed in the writing center."

What originally opened as a grammar lab in 1979 in the basement of the [Joseph C.] Shouplin Center [for Lifelong Learning] was passed into the hands of professor of English Mimi Dixon and Maureen Fry at a time when Wittenberg's Writing Across the Curriculum Program was in its inception. The workshop maintained its independence from any one particular academic department, a rarity among writing centers at the time, and began to grow in its role as a positive, supportive environment in which writers could feel free to take risks and explore their thinking and writing processes.

Over the course of 35 years, the workshop underwent several major revisions, including a move to Hollenbeck Hall, where it reopened in 2000 as the Wittenberg Writing Center. But one critical element hasn't changed: the center remains a space in which students with diverse perspectives come together as writers and advisors to talk about writing at every stage of the writing process.

"There is perhaps nothing more valuable to a writer than the chance to talk with a reader who is focused on the piece of writing," says Mike Mattison, the center's director. "Writers need readers, and the Writing Center provides just that. We constantly tell students that we are not here because they can't write, but because they do."

Equipped with sharpened skills for critical thinking, collaboration, and conversation, advisors have been accepted to law school, medical school, graduate school, Teach for America, the Peace Corps, Actors Theatre of Louisville and teaching positions at all levels and around the world. In all of these pursuits, they have been able to connect the work they've done in the center with what they will be expected to do in their new positions.

"The Writing Center helped me refine my writing and editing skills and to recognize the importance of clear communication," says Eric Rusnak '00, who worked in the center while a student.



Photo credit: Wittenberg archives

Rusnak is an intellectual property lawyer at K&L Gates, LLP. The company represents technology companies in patent infringement matters.

"The center taught me how to write for different audiences. This is important in our patent infringement matters, in which we have to present complicated technical and legal issues to readers who often lack related technical expertise.

"Our clients rely on us to draft clear and persuasive briefs that will help them win cases."

In a world where nuance is often shunned and there is a call to write faster, the center focuses on helping students write better, a vital skill for professionals like Rusnak and Glazier.

"In the 'real world,' wherever that is, there's a conspicuous

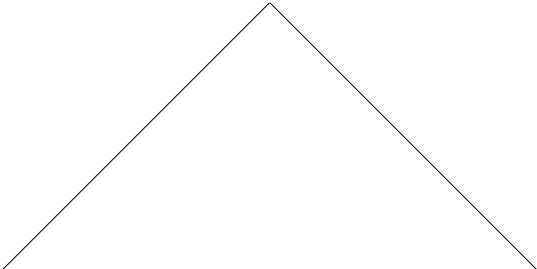
lack of attention paid to the nuances of language, syntax, punctuation—let alone careful argumentation, thoughtful articulation of ideas, and, perhaps most importantly, clarity and grace," Glazier says.

"The workshop was a kind of utopia for us language nerds, where clarity and grace were as essential as salt and pepper at the dinner table."

Today, both student writers and advisors find the same atmosphere, characterized by a hum of chatter between peers attempting to master the artful representation of complex ideas—an invaluable skill, according to Rusnak.

"No matter your future profession, your credibility will be assessed on the quality of your written communication skills," he says.





# If You Build It

Students forgo the spring break party scene to help build homes with The Fuller Center for Housing.

WRITTEN BY Patricia Grandjean

The term “spring break” fills most people’s heads with clichéd images of college-aged students heading for points south to frolic on the beach and party wildly. At least 50 Wittenberg students took another path, traveling to the warm climes of Florida and Georgia during spring break 2016 to make a difference.

These undergrads spent vacation week last March fixing leaky roofs, replacing rotting trellises on mobile homes and doing yard work for people in need under the aegis of The Fuller Center for Housing, an international Christian nonprofit organization—based in Americus, Georgia—that has spearheaded homebuilding and renovation projects in locations from all across the United States to farther-flung destinations such as Haiti, Peru, Armenia and Sri Lanka.

Established in 2005, The Fuller Center is the brainchild of celebrated humanitarian Millard Dean Fuller and his widow, Linda, who previously co-founded Habitat for Humanity International in 1976. “Millard was a millionaire who gave up all his worldly possessions to start that organization,” says Dave Holly, operations manager for The Fuller Center in Clark County, Ohio. “He was known for only taking \$70,000 a year as CEO.” As Habitat expanded, however, some of its directors thought that

more money should be spent on overhead and salaries. His refusal to go along with them earned Fuller a pink slip. “In 2005, after Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans, he felt the need to get back to his roots,” Holly says. “So he started the whole idea all over again, under his own name this time.”

Wittenberg had a long relationship with Habitat, reaching back to the late 1980s when Kristen Collier ’92, currently director of community service at the university’s Hagen Center for Civic and Urban Engagement, worked for the nonprofit as an undergrad. At that time, Habitat became one of the linchpins of Wittenberg’s community service graduation requirement, for which, she says, “every student must complete 27 hours of volunteer work in the field and three hours of ‘reflection,’ including a written essay about their experiences.” It’s all part of a course called Community Service (CMSV) 100, which earns 0 credits, but hopefully helps create a student population with heightened awareness of and compassion for the needs of others.

All students fulfill at least a few hours of their service requirement by working in Wittenberg’s local community, the Springfield/Clark County area. Certain nonprofits have also offered undergrads the opportunity to fulfill most of their volunteer time farther afield during weeklong semester breaks, in what’s



photos by: Fuller Center



” YOU GET TO MEET SO MANY DIFFERENT PEOPLE AND HEAR SO MANY DIFFERENT STORIES—AND KNOW THAT THE WORK YOU’RE DOING FOR A WEEK IS CONTRIBUTING TO SOMETHING BIGGER THAN YOURSELF.

called an “immersion experience.” So it was with Habitat. For over two decades, students who chose to help the organization could focus all their energies on projects spearheaded by its Clark County chapter—or broaden their horizons by working in another location entirely. Some participants enjoyed this so much they made it an annual tradition beyond the need to complete a graduation requirement, such as Maggie Kramer ’16, who has worked with Habitat in Tupelo, Mississippi; Lexington, Kentucky; and Monroe, North Carolina.

“One of the most amazing things you can see on a trip is a house dedication,” she says. “It warms your whole heart, seeing a house going to someone who really deserves it. You get to meet so many different people and hear so many different stories—and know that the work you’re doing for a week is contributing to something bigger than yourself.”

A year or so ago, Clark County shifted its allegiance. After it decided to partner with The Fuller Center instead of Habitat, a student-led transition team instigated a similar shift at Wittenberg—making the university the first to join Fuller’s mission. “That marked the inaugural opportunity for Fuller to develop what Habitat calls the ‘Collegian Challenge,’ which involves universities all over the world,” Holly says. “It’s kind of awesome. Hopefully, it will also become a huge thing.”

Creating the kind of “immersion experiences” that Habitat’s student volunteers had enjoyed quickly became a priority for Fuller supporters. One unique aspect of Habitat’s spring break trips had always been that they were totally student-led—the only student-led project, Holly says, that Wittenberg allows on campus. Students drove themselves to and from each location, managed their own finances and planned activities for the week with minimal assistance from college administrators or nonprofit officials. Still, in planning Wittenberg’s first spring breaks on behalf of The Fuller Center, student coordinator Kramer relied

heavily on input from Collier, Stacy Driggers, U.S. Director of Covenant Partner Support, and Holly. There were applications to review—which students submitted last fall—locations to scout and accommodations to set up. “Because Fuller is a Christian organization, students generally stay in a church, temple or some facility associated with a church,” Kramer says.

Ultimately, 50 of the 55 who applied for last March’s spring break immersions were accepted, and by Christmas break 2015, three destinations had been selected: Tallahassee, Florida (which accepted 10 students), Perry, Georgia (another 10) and Albany, Georgia (which welcomed the lion’s share of 30, divided into two project groups of 15 each). Then Kramer had to train two student leaders to manage each group. One was Jessica Walters ’18, who works with Kristen Collier as community service coordinator at the Hagen Center.

In co-leading the Tallahassee trip, Walters says, “I definitely got my ‘mom’ experience for the week. It was one of the most stressful but rewarding things I’ve ever done, because I had to make sure everyone was in the van when they were supposed to be and everyone understood the code of conduct they were supposed to follow. I had to be a motivator for the team and encourage them to really digest the experience, not just live it.” She also had to share the 15-hour drive from Ohio to Florida’s capital city and back. “The work was very strenuous, but the Tallahassee-Fuller Center for Housing was the most welcoming group of people I ever met.”

Without a doubt, the biggest beneficiary of Wittenberg’s volunteer effort was the town of Albany, Georgia, which didn’t even have a Fuller chapter before this spring break was planned. Driggers, an Albany native, established one on the spot—with a little help from her church. “It really was a case of divine intervention,” she says, “spurred on by the fact that when we first talked with Wittenberg about the volunteers coming to Georgia, we just couldn’t find enough locations that could take them all.



Now we’re working on two new construction projects here this summer, and we have the university to thank.”

Upon arrival, students became engaged in a range of home renovation projects. In Perry, Georgia, volunteers embarked on a trio of roof replacements, replacing rotten, leaky boards with metal panels and shingles. The Tallahassee group worked on transitional housing. “We replaced termite-infested wooden latticework on the bottom of a group of mobile homes with nice white plastic latticework,” Walters says. “We finished about 10 of them in that one week.”

One of the Albany groups worked on the home renovation of a townie named Mark, who Driggers describes as “an introvert who had had some really hard knocks. It was a very big deal for him to be around people.” Yet, he developed a really tight bond with his student helpers. In addition to repairing several house problems, “they just took over his yard, which was a jungle, and turned it into

a beautiful landscape,” she says. “One of our Fuller board members bought Mark a new mailbox, which the students decorated with painted cats in honor of this cat he had that he really loved. It was a wonderful surprise for him.”

For extra enrichment, all 50 Wittenberg students spent one day together at The Fuller Center’s home base in Americus, Georgia, learning more about the organization’s mission and meeting with Linda Fuller, known as the “First Lady of Affordable Housing.” They also spent time getting to know each other, playing card games and board games at night in their various residences.

“These experiences really help you build friendships with students you might not otherwise meet,” says Sabrina Davis ’18, who worked with the roofing group in Perry. “You get very close, because you have to collaborate and trust each other while you’re working.”





## Inside Scoop

Graeter's Ice Cream has more than 145 years of history providing a sweet escape. Fourth-generation members of the Graeter family, Chip, Bob and Richard, ensure that the artisanal company sticks to its roots: using the French Pot process to produce ice cream in two-gallon batches.

WRITTEN BY Karen Saatkamp Gerboth '93

Just two gallons at a time. That's the way the Graeter family has been producing its French Pot-processed ice cream for more than a century.

"We could have gone another direction and pursued a mass production mode, but then it wouldn't be Graeter's," says Louis "Chip" Graeter '86, the fourth-generation owner of his family's business along with his brother, Bob Graeter '78, and cousin, Richard Graeter. "It's just the way we do it."

It's a handcrafted tradition that harkens back to 1868 when Louis Graeter, Chip's great-great grandfather, sold ice cream on the Cincinnati, Ohio, street markets. More than three decades later, Louis would marry Regina Berger, and together the couple moved to McMillan Street to make ice cream in the back room and sell out front.

By the time the Roaring '20s rolled around, mass-produced, cheaper ice cream had made its debut, but Regina would have none of it. Instead, she stuck to her tried-and-true, old-world French Pot freezers.

Today, Graeter's is the only commercial ice cream manufacturer anywhere in the world to use French Pot freezers, and its two-

gallon batches are the smallest in the industry. The company's signature scoops of happiness have also impacted history, brightening the mood of many during the Great Depression and bringing a sweet escape for weary families during World War II.

"My family has worked incredibly hard, and we have been fortunate to partner with amazing people committed to making a great product and who are passionate about our brand," Chip says. "By using only the best ingredients, the best chocolate and the best fruit, we also ensure a happy guest every day."

One guest, in particular, rocked the Graeter's world back in 2002. During her popular "My Favorite Things" episode of her syndicated talk show, Oprah Winfrey called Graeter's "the best ice cream I ever tasted." Internet sales soared, and the company soon found itself feeding sweet teeth around the globe.

"It was hugely surprising," Chip recalls.

Perhaps it was Graeter's special chocolate chunks, a throwback to the Baby Boom era when one of Regina's sons and business partner, Wilbur, snuck some chocolate from his mother and poured it into a pot of frozen ice cream, that made Oprah smile.





Interestingly enough, that sneaky move led to the company’s best-selling signature flavor, Black Raspberry Chip, made with Oregon black raspberries and Peter’s® Chocolate chips. It’s an “absolute must-try” for Graeter’s newbies, according to the family. The reason, Chip says: “We use more black raspberry puree than anyone else.”

With 44 stores—three new ones opened this summer—Chip, Bob and Richard Graeter are indeed staying true to Regina’s stubborn passion for quality. Despite going from the original four French Pots at its Mt. Auburn, Ohio, facility to 32 French Pot freezers running day and night to meet demand in its newer Bond Hill plant, the company insists on never compromising its roots. It also insists on supporting the communities that have helped Graeter’s thrive.

Since 1870, the Graeter family has believed strongly in giving back. On a daily basis, the company donates bakery items to local soup kitchens in the Cincinnati area. Store teams also give their time to Adopt-a-Class, donating school supplies and time to inner-city youth. Additionally, Graeter’s is a major sponsor of The Rusty Ball, which has generated nearly \$2 million in support of 333 charitable organizations throughout the Cincinnati area. It also contributes heavily to The Cure Starts Now Foundation, which fights to find a cure for children with brainstem glioma, as well as cancer survivors everywhere, among other philanthropic pursuits.

“We are blessed to be a part of Cincinnati and to grow beyond it,” Chip says. “My grandparents and parents taught us to come in every day and work hard, and we will continue to do just that.”



Photo credits: Graeter's.





## Michelle in the Middle

From middle-school misfit to an appearance on NBC's *Today* show, celebrated speaker, author and educator Michelle Icard helps kids, parents and teachers navigate the tricky middle school social world.

WRITTEN BY Patricia Grandjean





In the 7th grade, Michelle Icard '94 suffered from being what she calls the typical “middle-school misfit,” complete with oversized glasses, a lopsided coiffure and all the wrong clothes. A relative newbie at Buckingham Brown & Nichols, a pre-kindergarten to grade 12 private day school in Cambridge, Mass., she describes herself as “an insecure kid whose family had moved around a little bit, and who wasn’t really confident making new friends.”

“I had the classic experience of being friends with a girl who became friends with someone else, then I got booted out of the relationship entirely,” Icard says. Other kids teased her about her awkwardness. “So, middle school for me felt disconnected, lonely and a little confusing. I remember that all I wanted was to be invisible because I felt like I kept making mistakes in public.” Then, in her freshman year of high school, she built up her courage and won a place in the chorus of the BB&N school musical *Sweeney Todd*. Suddenly, she had become part of a team, with friends who shared her interests. Though her self-doubts started to evaporate, she never forgot the misery they’d created for her.

Thirty years on, Icard has become the master of the *Middle School Makeover* (to borrow the title of her popular and critically acclaimed 2014 advice guide for parents, subtitled *Improving the Way You and Your Child Experience the Middle School Years*). Focusing on these years as a period of intense growth for children—in the physical and chemical developments of their brains, the complexity of their relationships with peers and their academic/familial responsibilities—she has forged a career devoted to teaching these kids, and their parents, how to navigate sometimes treacherous waters. This instruction takes many forms: public speaking dates and TV appearances, parent-child workshops, school curricula, summer camps and a personal website, [michelleinthemiddle.com](http://michelleinthemiddle.com), all coordinated from Icard’s longtime home base of Charlotte, N.C.

She hadn’t always planned to be a middle-school maven. An English major during her undergraduate years at Wittenberg, she loved modern American literature and hoped to teach it at

the college level herself. “But in applying to graduate schools, I aimed too high,” she says—one of her dream targets was Duke University—“and I didn’t get in anywhere.” Having minored in education, she became certified to teach English for grades 7 through 12, which she did for a time in the Springfield school system. This experience, too, made her feel awkward and inadequate.

“I mostly worked with high school juniors and seniors, but because I had always been a little young for my school grade, the age gap between me and my students was tiny, just a couple of years,” Icard says. “I felt like I had no authority. I thought maybe I shouldn’t teach—I really second-guessed myself.”

After graduating from Wittenberg, she drifted a bit—deciding, on a whim, to visit Charlotte with friends. To her surprise, she fell in love with the locale and decided to stay, embarking on a series of odd jobs from hotel front-desk representative to cocktail waitress. “Then, I decided a career in public relations might be interesting, so I literally opened a phone book and cold-called every firm in alphabetical order, or knocked on doors and handed out my resume.”

Ultimately, her flirtation with PR shifted to a fascination with consulting. In 1997, she landed a position in Atlanta, Ga., as “knowledge manager” at the accounting firm Arthur Andersen—more notoriously known as the firm that criminally mishandled the books for the energy company Enron. In the wake of the 2001 Enron scandal, Icard became one of 80,000 Andersen employees to lose their jobs when the company folded. “At the time, I had a 1½-year-old child and was seven months pregnant,” she says. “I realized I had to get very creative, and this is where the real story begins.”

Her new entrepreneurial spirit took root with a home-based business as a middle-school tutor. Within a few years, she found herself more interested in her students’ social development than teaching them academics. “These kids were telling me stories that were gut-wrenching, and I related to them because of my own experiences,” she says. “I remember one girl telling me she would



take her lunch and eat it in the bathroom, because the kids in the cafeteria were so mean. Meanwhile, the parents would say, ‘We can’t figure out what’s going on—things seemed fine in elementary school, now she’s not talking to us.’ They typically assumed it was an academic issue; that their kids’ grades were slipping because no one taught them how to prepare for a test or manage their study time efficiently.”

Icard decided that what these kids needed was a kind of “It Gets Better” campaign. Initially, she teamed up with two other self-employed professionals—one a psychologist, the other an occupational therapist—to set up such a program for middle-school girls. “We thought we should take these girls aside and say, ‘Look, we all had a miserable time in middle school; but we’re happy now, we all have our own businesses,’” she says. When her colleagues dropped away from this plan, Icard remained committed. “I ended up doing a ton of research. I had friends who gave me psychology textbooks, and I read everything I could. I consulted with psychologists. I wanted to focus at first on self-esteem because a key component of high self-esteem is knowing where you fit in within your community. And that’s a really difficult concept for a middle-schooler to get.”

With the goal of presenting these ideas in a form that middle-school agers could relate to, she developed a program for girls—now known as “Athena’s Path”—that began with a lesson on the middle-school social structure. “I decided, let’s name the cliques in school and talk about social power and perceived social power,” Icard says. This grew into a 10-lesson series that she introduced in two week-long summer camps in 2004. She begged parents to send their kids to those first camps, and let a lot of girls come for free. “We had one camp with 20 girls and another with 12, and we ran sessions from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. each day,” she adds. The following summer, demand had grown enough to fill eight camps. Currently, she oversees 15 to 17 camps in Charlotte every summer—incorporating both an “Athena’s Path” program for girls and an equivalent for boys called “Hero’s Pursuit”—each of which hosts 15 kids and is run by a combination of 10 trained teachers and a group of high-school interns.

She also developed “Athena’s Path” and “Hero’s Pursuit” classroom curricula—complete with teaching manual—that middle schools can purchase and implement during the school year. To date, Icard estimates nearly 40 schools around the country have used her programs, which are best described as a combination of open conversation, socialization and having fun. “I call them leadership programs,” Icard says. “They’re really about how to be a social leader. My favorite parts of the curriculum focus on how to be a creative problem-solver. We take kids through a six-step process for any issue that can come up in their lives, including brainstorming, visualization, critical thinking and analysis. It’s great fun to watch because kids’ first impulsive reaction to solving a problem is really kind of cuckoo.”

Parents are a crucial factor in helping to develop such skills, and they’re also active participants in Icard’s workshops and public talks. A few years back, Haynes Paschall, a former middle-school counselor (and current professional health coach), participated in a mother-daughter workshop with her then 11-year-old daughter Hannah, as well as attending a session exclusively for parents. “I walked away with a much better understanding of what was ahead of her, and me as her mother,” Paschall says. “We also gained some great tools to teach us to communicate well and navigate the waters.” Her younger daughter, Alice, age 12, has similarly benefited by participating in an “Athena’s Path” school curriculum led by Icard herself.

Open communication between parents and children, Icard teaches, is key. “My girls have had some conflicts with friends that led to hurt feelings and lost friendships,” Paschall says. “But they’ve come to talk with me about them, and let me help them work out the best way to respond. That’s huge—a lot of girls in middle school won’t talk to their moms. Mom is uncool, mom is embarrassing, and the last person you’ll go to because you want to be independent and grown-up.”

Of all the tools Paschall gained, her favorite is one called “botox brow”—involving the ability to remain outwardly calm and steady in the face of childhood crises. Such strategies are particularly important in this era of social media, which many parents still



fear for its perhaps over-publicized risks. Icard, a social-media enthusiast, preaches the virtue of parents and children sharing the experience as much as possible, particularly when it comes to photo-sharing sites that seem to captivate middle-schoolers most: Instagram and Snapchat.

“Parents worry that their kids are going to sext or share nude pictures,” she says. “Some kids do, but not as much as we think. Still, it’s critical for parents to be on these platforms with their kids, using them and understanding their language. That way, they can see what their kids and their kids’ friends post and have conversations about it. Children need help processing the experience.” Icard makes social-media discussions a part of her workshops with middle-schoolers as well, often focusing on news stories about kids who’ve gotten in trouble with one platform or another. “I’ll say, ‘Man, did you see what happened in Oklahoma—that was crazy! Let’s talk about this; what could that kid have done differently?’ Children this age are very empathetic, and they love solving problems.”

Icard’s expertise has brought her to a number of career high points: an appearance on NBC’s *Today* show, speaking

engagements at parenting events across the country, pieces in *The Washington Post* and *Chicago Tribune* and what she calls a “phenomenal” opportunity to conduct her programs in an American International School in Mozambique: “I worked with a very diverse population of kids who live in a country that isn’t always safe for them. That’s a hard way to live when you’re in middle school and want to be a little rebellious.”

Her public relations linchpin, [michelleinthemiddle.com](http://michelleinthemiddle.com), is about to expand to two websites. One will remain a resource for parents with articles, FAQs and information about camps and conferences; the other, [michelleicard.com](http://michelleicard.com), will be a media hub where members of the press—or those wishing to hire her for personal appearances—can make contact. Though she’s happy with her current position in life, she still exhibits a little middle-school-style insecurity from time to time, particularly when she talks about completing her follow-up volume to *Middle School Makeover*. This one will be a manual for kids. “There’s no more vulnerable feeling than putting a book out,” she says. “I get in knots thinking about it—it’s terrifying.”

*For more information visit: [MichelleIcard.com](http://MichelleIcard.com)*





Photo credit: Getty Images

# Why Big Data *is* Better Data

Quick! What is America's favorite pie?  
It's apple, of course. We know this because of data. You take  
supermarket sales of frozen, 12-inch pies and apple wins.  
**No contest.**

WRITTEN BY Kenneth Cukier '91 | *Senior Editor at The Economist*

But then supermarkets started selling smaller, 7-inch pies, and suddenly, apple fell to fourth or fifth place. What happened?

Think about it. When you buy a 12-inch pie, the whole family has to agree, and apple is everyone's second favorite. But when you buy an individual, 7-inch pie, you can buy the one that you want. You can get your first choice.

The point is that when you have more data, you can see things that you can't see when you only have smaller amounts of it. More data doesn't just let us see more. More data lets us see new. It lets us see better. It lets us see different. In this case, it allows us to see what America's favorite pie is. Not apple.

The example comes from the late economist Walter Oi of the University of Rochester. He was a famous prankster and liked to occasionally “invent” facts just to keep things interesting. So the story may not even be true. But it captures the mind about how the “ground truth” of the world changes based on the data we collect.

We have all heard the term “big data.” In fact, we're a bit sick of hearing the term “big data.” It's true there is a lot of hype. This is unfortunate because big data is an important tool by which society is going to advance. The idea is basically this: we can do with a large body of data things that we fundamentally can't do when we're only working with smaller amounts of it. The change in scale leads to a change in state. A quantitative shift leads to a qualitative shift.

Big data is new and important. The only way this planet is going to deal with its global challenges—to feed people, give them medical care, supply them with energy and make sure they're not burnt to a crisp because of global warming—is through the effective use of data.

So what is so new about big data? To answer that question,

consider what information physically looked like in the past.

In 1908 on the island of Crete in Greece, archaeologists discovered a small clay disc that they named the Phaistos disc. They dated it from 2000 B.C. There are inscriptions on it, but we don't know what they mean. Yet this is what information used to look like 4,000 years ago. It is how society stored and transmitted information.

Since then, society hasn't advanced that much. We still store information on discs—only now they're computer disc drives. We can store a lot more. Searching it, copying it, sharing it and processing it are easier. We can reuse the information for purposes that were never imagined when it was first collected. In this respect, the data has gone from a stock to a flow, from something that is stationary and static to something that is fluid and dynamic. There is a “liquidity” to information.

The disc discovered off of Crete is heavy. It doesn't store a lot of information. And the information is unchangeable. By contrast, all of the files that Edward Snowden took from the U.S. National Security Agency fit on a memory stick the size of a fingernail and can be shared at the speed of light.

Why do we have so much data today? One reason is we are collecting more information on things that we've always bothered to record. But another reason is that we're taking things that have always been informational but never rendered into data before, and we are turning it into data.

Take, for example, location. Where someone is at any time is a matter of information. But it's not a matter of data. So imagine that in 1776 I wanted to know where Paul Revere was. Is he in his blacksmith shop, or is he in the pub? Where Paul Revere is, is a matter of information. But it's not data. And if I wanted to record his location at all times, I'd need to constantly write it down with





Photo credit: Getty Images

a feathery fountain pen. Hard to do.

Now, think of our own lives. You know that somewhere there is a record of your location at all times, going back at least a decade. It's in a mobile phone operator's database. In this respect, location has been datafied.

Or, think of posture. The way that we all sit is different. It's a function of leg length and back and the contours of the back. And if one were to put 100 pressure sensors into a chair, it could create an index that's fairly unique, like a fingerprint. So what could we do with it?

Researchers in Tokyo are using it as a potential anti-theft device in cars. The idea is that the carjacker jumps behind the wheel, tries to stream off, but the car recognizes that a non-approved driver is behind the wheel, and maybe the engine stops unless you type in a password into the dashboard. (Parents of teenagers can perhaps think of other uses of this very wise technology!)

What if every car in America had this installed? What could we do then? Maybe, if we aggregated the data, we could identify signs that best predict that a car accident is going to take place—in the next five seconds.

What we would have datafied is driver fatigue. And the service would be that when the car detects that the person slumps into that position, it triggers an alarm to vibrate the steering wheel or honk inside the car to signal: "Hey! Wake up! Pay more attention to the road!" These are the sorts of things we can do when we datafy more aspects of our lives.

There are many technologies around big data. But one of the most impressive is an area called machine learning. It is a branch of artificial intelligence, which itself is a branch of computer science. But at its heart, it's really just about basic statistics. The general idea is that instead of instructing a computer what to do,

we simply throw data at the problem and tell the computer to figure it out for itself.

It will help to understand it by appreciating its origins. In the 1950s a computer scientist at IBM named Arthur Samuel liked to play checkers, so he wrote a computer program so he could play against the computer. He played and he always won—because the computer only knew what a legal move was. Arthur Samuel knew something else: strategy.

So he wrote a small sub-program that operated in the background. It scored the probability that a given board configuration would likely lead to a winning board versus a losing board. He played the computer. He still won.

And then Arthur Samuel left the computer to play itself. It played itself; it collected more data. As it collected more data, it increased the accuracy of its prediction. Then he went back to the computer and played it, and he always lost. Arthur Samuel had created a machine that surpassed his ability in a task that he taught it.

Machine learning is at the heart of many things we do every day: search engines, Amazon's personalization algorithm, computer translation, voice recognition systems. It's the reason why we have self-driving cars.

It's not because we are better at enshrining all the rules of the road into software. No. It's because we changed the nature of the problem from one in which we tried to explicitly teach the computer how to drive, to one in which we said, "Here's a lot of data around the vehicle. You figure it out." The computer makes hundreds of predictions a second—this is a stoplight, that is a bicycle rider—and now we have cars that drive themselves.

Researchers at Stanford and Harvard recently applied computer vision and machine-learning to see if a machine could detect

highly cancerous cells in biopsies, based on patients' survival rates. Sure enough, the algorithm did better than the human pathologists. In fact, the algorithm was able to identify the 12 telltale signs that best predicted the biopsy was highly cancerous. The problem? The medical literature only knew nine of them. Three of the traits were ones that people didn't know to look for, but the algorithm spotted.

Big data will improve our lives. But there are dark sides as well. Yes, privacy. However, just as worrying is "propensity"—the idea that there will be algorithms predicting what we do and we may be held accountable before we've acted. We'll be punished for a prediction. Privacy was the central challenge in a small data era. In the age of big data, the challenge will be safeguarding free will, moral choice and human agency.

There is another problem: Big data is going to steal our jobs. Big data and algorithms are going to challenge white-collar, professional, knowledge-work in the 21st century in the same way that factory automation and the assembly line challenged blue-collar labor in the 20th century.

Think about the pathologist peering into a microscope at a biopsy to determine whether it's cancerous. The person went to university, buys property, votes. He or she is a stakeholder in society. And that person, as well as an entire fleet of professionals, is going to find that their jobs are radically changed or completely destroyed.

We like to think that technology creates more jobs over time, after a temporary period of dislocation. And that was true for the frame of reference for which we're familiar, the Industrial Revolution. Farm jobs became factory jobs and then nicer, office jobs.

But that analysis forgets that there are some categories of

jobs that when eliminated never come back. For example, the Industrial Revolution wasn't very good if you were a horse. It just didn't matter if the horse went to a wonderful liberal arts college in the Midwest: once the tractor and automobile arrived, there were less need for them. Will today's graduates go the way of horses as big data hits the office cubicle?

It's too early to say. But we are going to need to be careful and apply big data to our needs. We need to work with the machine, and bring our very human traits: inquisitiveness, ambition, our sense of daring. We have to be the master of the technology, not its servant.

We are just at the outset of the big data era, and honestly, we are not very good at handling all the data that we can now collect. It's not just a problem for the National Security Agency. Businesses collect lots of data, and they misuse it too. We need to get better at this, and it will take time. It's like the challenge faced by early man and fire. This is a tool, but this is a tool that, unless we're careful, will burn us.

Big data is going to transform how we live, work and think. It is going to help us manage our careers and lead lives of satisfaction and hope, happiness and health.

In the past, we've often looked at information technology and our eyes have only seen the "T," the technology, the hardware because that's what is physical. We now need to recast our gaze at the "I," the information, which is less apparent, but in some ways more important. Humanity can finally learn from the information that it can collect, as part of our timeless quest to understand the world and our place in it. And that's why big data is a big deal.

*This essay was adapted from a TED Talk the author delivered in Berlin in June 2014.*



# Shattered Glass

The presidential election is unfolding with the possibility of the first female president of the U.S. Meanwhile, two Wittenberg women have just finished their first years as first-time college presidents.

WRITTEN BY Karen Saatkamp Gerboth '93

**WITTENBERG:** Only 26 percent of the college presidents in the U.S. are women. Yet, more than 57 percent of the students in colleges and universities are women. Why do you believe this is the case?

**DR. JOIANNE SMITH:** I think it mirrors what we see in leadership roles across the country, across the workforce. At community colleges, more women are in leadership roles—not enough yet, but there are more. Part of the reason for that, I think, is our commitment to open access in general, along with our openness to having women leaders. I also believe women mentors play a huge role in helping other women take on leadership roles. My predecessor was a woman who served for a long time here, and I was fortunate that she saw in me the potential to be a president.

**REV. LOUISE JOHNSON:** I believe it has to do with the fact that society still doesn't see women in these roles. It's systemic—from how girls are socialized and how they are treated in schools. I'm the first woman to serve as president in the history of Wartburg

Theological Seminary, and only the fourth in the entire history of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

**WITTENBERG:** What do you see as the barriers to more women becoming college or university presidents?

**JS:** People still see men as leaders. Because of that, I think women often don't expect other women to become leaders, so both of these notions contribute to that barrier. In addition, research suggests that people naturally like to choose people who are like them, which may be why there are more male presidents selected by largely male boards. I have been lucky because I have received considerable encouragement and support. On my board, three out of seven members are women. That being said, ensuring that we don't always select people just like us is something I am intentionally working to change on our campus. Furthermore, we know that women in dual-career relationships who want to have families are often the ones who end up stopping their careers. Lastly, there is this persistent notion that as women we have to

Photo credit: Wartburg Seminary



Rev. Louise Johnson,  
president of Wartburg Theological Seminary,  
Dubuque, Iowa.





Dr. Joianne Smith,  
president of Oakton Community College,  
Des Plaines and Skokie, Illinois.

prove ourselves more, which is why it has always been important to me to state my priorities upfront.

**LJ:** I think that even if women have the capacity for the job, many of these leadership positions have been structured in ways that are unhelpful to women. Women have difficulty claiming their gifts in this system. I talked to a friend of mine who is a pastor at one of the largest ELCA congregations. Every other large congregation has a male pastor. She is married with little children, and she reached out to me a while back to say she wasn't sure how much longer she could do this. That isn't right. I told her it's time to change the game. Building trust is also essential. Throughout my career, I have been very open about my thinking in terms of leadership, and I have learned that I am a much better leader when someone trusts me. It's empowering, and when you have a higher level of trust, you are far more collaborative.

**WITTENBERG:** Can you describe a typical day-in-the-life of your presidency?

**JS:** I would say there is no real typical day, but I do make it a daily priority to stay connected with students, including having monthly lunches with groups of them. If I lose touch with our students, it is a problem, so it's important that I consistently show campus what is the core of our mission. It stems from my 15 years as a student-affairs professional; they are why I am doing this job. I even encourage our students to call me Joi or President Joi so as to remove those hierarchical barriers. I am also in a mix of meetings with administrators, as well as in conversations with Board members and legislatures most days. I meet with direct reports and external stakeholders, too. Another thing I insist on doing each day is walking the halls and being visible on campus, so I stay connected with our entire community.

**LJ:** If there is a typical day, I have not found it yet. Because my predecessor did such a phenomenal job of positioning Wartburg Seminary for success, my job has a different focus. I would say that nearly half my time is spent working on developing innovative initiatives in theological education. We need to learn, understand and discover ways of doing things differently. Fundraising is another big part of my job.

**WITTENBERG:** What are the best parts of your job?

**JS:** Hearing how grateful students are for Oakton Community College and how the college is truly transforming their lives.

**LJ:** The community at Wartburg, the strength of the students and faculty, my board and the conversations about church and education that draw us together as we work to figure out our desired path and future.

**WITTENBERG:** What are the biggest student and faculty misconceptions of your job?

**JS:** The biggest misconceptions are that I can make unilateral decisions and chose whatever I want to accomplish. That is simply not the case. We have shared governance at Oakton, and there is no way I would ever operate like that. Faculty, staff, and student voices matter, and I must make sure that I listen, understand their needs and value their insight. It is so important for people to feel valued by an institution because when they do, they will do their best work.

**LJ:** In this time of rapid, unprecedented change in theological education, the role of the president necessarily has to change. My role is much more about discovering key partners and new ways to do and deliver theological education. This work takes me out of the seminary much more than it did my predecessors. That is a tough adjustment for all of us, myself included. I love the church, but I also believe it has to change to address the needs of the world around us. These changes are both structural and substantial. We need to enter into challenging conversations about how we form leaders to build new faith communities that reach new people. We must also address the failing systems within. Communication is key to these shifts and I want to do a better job of it, especially to a staff and faculty that I respect and trust.

**WITTENBERG:** Since taking the job, what have you learned about yourself that you didn't already know?

**JS:** I have learned that an introvert can be a leader and even among the best leaders. It was something that I found myself realizing as I read the book *Quiet* by Susan Cain. I have to be out in public a lot, but I have learned that I can do the things my job requires in public as long as I take the quiet time I need to reflect and think. The book also reaffirmed for me the need to create spaces for such reflection if I am to be the leader I want to be.

**LJ:** Nothing can truly prepare a person for this job. Even though I had considerable leadership experience, there was still so much I didn't know, and the learning curve is still steep at times. But as part of my journey, I learned to trust my instincts. We live in an era that wants immediate expertise in a fast-paced world. What voices do you trust? Elders? Boards? I trust them, but in the end, the voice I have to trust the most is mine.





# Bio Star

Louis Cannon '80 is a world-class cardiologist; he's listed in Who's Who in American Medicine; and he established one of the largest privately owned research centers in the country, the Cardiac and Vascular Research Center of Northern Michigan. However, his crowning achievement, BioStar Ventures, has created a new model of physician-hood: the doctor as not just practitioner, but also investor in the future of medicine.

WRITTEN BY Patricia Grandjean

**WITTENBERG:** BioStar gathers prominent physicians and researchers in cardiology and orthopedics who seek out, help develop and eventually sell new medical technologies to leading medical device companies worldwide. It's the only initiative of its kind in the world. Was this on your mind when you were pre-med at Wittenberg?

**LOUIS CANNON:** My story is not a typical doctor story. I struggled in high school, and got accepted to Wittenberg—I thought—mainly to wrestle and play baseball. When I got there, I buckled down a little, started doing really well, and decided to go pre-med in my junior year. I wish I could tell you I always wanted to be a doctor because my dad was a doctor. But wrestling is really the force that guided my early life. I was actually the first in my family to go to college, and Wittenberg gave me a break.

**WITTENBERG:** So, what caused the change?

**LC:** A lot has to do with my wife, Sally, who I met at Wittenberg. She was a much better student than I, and I used to go to the

library to hang with her—where there's nothing else to do but study.

**WITTENBERG:** What attracted you to cardiology as a specialty?

**LC:** After I finished medical school, my goal quickly became to make a difference in people's lives when it matters the most. For a time, I specialized in both emergency medicine and internal medicine. I thought emergency medicine was great, but if someone was having a heart attack, you still called a cardiologist who swept in and saved the person's life—so that's why I went into cardiology.

**WITTENBERG:** Is there something in particular about the heart that fascinates you?

**LC:** It's not only the heart seeming to be the basis of the soul, but it's a complicated organ system that deals with plumbing and electricity and muscle power. And 50 percent of everyone in the United States is going to die of cardiovascular disease. So that's where I felt I could make an impact. The other part of that is



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I WANTED TO BRING RESEARCH TO THE COMMUNITIES WHERE MOST OF MEDICINE IS PRACTICED, RATHER THAN JUST CENTERING IT ALL IN WHITE-TOWER INSTITUTIONS.

that all of the males in my family have suffered from heart and vascular disease at an early age.

**WITTENBERG:** You founded the Cardiac and Vascular Research Center of Northern Michigan in 1994. What was the goal for that?

**LC:** I wanted to bring research to the communities where most of medicine is practiced, rather than just centering it all in white-tower institutions. Much of the time major studies are done at the Cleveland Clinic or Mayo Clinic or major universities that have medical students and resident fellows, but 80 to 90 percent of actual medical practice lies outside those research institutes.

**WITTENBERG:** What’s being practiced at the center?

**LC:** We currently do a lot of FDA-based research in collaboration with leading medical device companies, including Boston Scientific, Covidien-Medtronic, and Abbott Laboratories. We also do research protocols with high-powered institutions—our center is a member of Harvard Clinical Research Institute and Duke Clinical Research Institute. But we’re also a practicing community hospital, so I think our data becomes very important because it’s patient-centered.

**WITTENBERG:** You’ve become renowned as an “interventional” cardiologist. What is your personal research focus in this area?

**LC:** One of the areas I’ve worked on recently is ultrasound: sound wave guided openings of arteries that are totally closed. I became

the national principal investigator for a large study involving all the high-tower research centers. Then I actually went to the Montreal Heart Institute five years ago and performed a procedure live on medical TV, on a 14-year-old girl who had Kawasaki disease. She had total occlusion of almost all her coronary arteries. I utilized ultrasound to find the true opening in her arteries. I then put a wire through them and opened them up with a balloon and stent.

**WITTENBERG:** You own a couple of patents in this field, don’t you?

**LC:** Yes, but no one is using the innovation anymore. The original patent was for the hemocannon—something that was used 15 to 20 years ago. The idea was that when a patient had a heart attack, you’d inflate a balloon in the affected artery, which blocked the blood flow. What the hemocannon allowed us to do was push blood through a catheter beyond the blockage, so we could save heart muscle. That patent was licensed to Boston Scientific; another patent was licensed to Medtronic.

**WITTENBERG:** And these developments led to the foundation of BioStar Ventures?

**LC:** Right. After licensing these patents, I went on the advisory boards of some of these big medical device companies, and was able to see that there were certain areas where doctors know better than anyone what technologies we use and what’s possible. We could start companies around these physician-

sponsored innovations that we would then sell to the Boston Scientifics and Medtronics. And we could develop them swiftly, without getting caught in the bureaucratic machine—because these companies are really sales and distribution centers now, not centers of new technology. They’re Fortune 500.

So in 2002, I started working with physicians around the country—now it’s around the world—with the goal of accelerating the development of new technologies that can improve the quality of healthcare. Right now, we deal only in cardiovascular research and orthopedics. I have medical partners I work with at Stanford, at Columbia, at Baylor University. I’ve got an orthopedics partner at the Cleveland Clinic—Alan Davis—who is the physician to the U.S. Olympic Hockey Team. When a new doctor comes up with an idea and takes it to one of these research centers, those places will say, “Hey, if you need early funding, BioStar can help—and they’ll bring together the domain expertise you’ll need to conduct research in that area.”

**WITTENBERG:** What has the outcome been?

**LC:** We now manage more than a quarter-billion dollars in medical device assets. We’ve sold eight of 13 companies. One we just sold, to NuVasive Inc., is Ellipse Technologies. In this case, the inventor was able to develop a way to flux metal—nickel titanium rods—through a magnetic field and make the metal grow. What we can use it for is heart valves, as a medium to dilate the valve to grow with the heart. You can see where this would be very useful in pediatrics, not just in heart surgery but in cases where kids have traumatic orthopedic injuries, where they need repeated surgeries and may end up with one limb shorter than the other.

Another recent company that was sold to Covidien-Medtronic is Cardiovascular Ingenuity, which developed a pharmacological compound—which you put on the balloon when doing balloon angioplasty—that prevents the regrowth of tissue and keeps blockages from coming back, typically a big problem.

**WITTENBERG:** What are the nascent technologies that you’re most excited about right now?

**LC:** One we just invested in, along with major venture capital firms like Kleiner Perkins, is a company called TransMedics. Currently, when we do organ transplants throughout the world—whether you’re dealing with a heart, kidney or lungs—basically what happens is, we remove a donor kidney and pack it in an Igloo cooler, with dry ice. That limits the amount of time an organ can stay alive, which, in turn, limits the donors you can use. If a donor heart can only last four hours, you can’t match a donor in Hawaii with a dying heart patient in Michigan.

**WITTENBERG:** Dr. Sanjay Gupta has done a segment on CNN about a device that helps extend the life of an organ before it’s donated.

**LC:** Transmedics has developed its own Organ Care System, a technology that allows an organ to continue functioning once it’s removed from the human body. In the case of the heart, it’s given a profusate that provides it with the electrolytes and sugars it needs to continue beating. This way, we can keep the heart—or the kidney, lung, maybe even the brain—working for hours and hours. We’re hoping for at least 12 hours, but we’re thinking even longer. It’s transformational. It’s not FDA-approved as yet in the U.S., but we’re doing studies in all the major centers.

**WITTENBERG:** How do you balance your life? What do you do to decompress?

**LC:** I love to work out, to bike, to garden. I was a botany major at Wittenberg, and still love that, so I’m constantly planting annuals and perennials. My favorite flower is the foxglove—not only because that’s where we get digoxin, but because we have a lot of deer, and they know enough to know it’s a poison and can’t be eaten!

**WITTENBERG:** Do you still harbor dreams of being a wrestling coach?

**LC:** You know, my elder son Ben ended up being a state wrestling champion in Michigan, and wrestled on the U.S. National Team. We had a wrestling room in our house from the day the kids were born to the day they left. So, you can say wrestling has always been a major part of our family.



# Class Notes

FALL 2016

## 1952

**Janet Hart Heinicke**, Simpson College professor emeritus of art, received the 2016 Artist AWE (Arts Within Everything) Award in April from the Metro Arts Alliance of Greater Des Moines, Iowa. The award recognizes excellence in the field and contributions to the community. She has had more than 100 one-person shows, and her work has been displayed worldwide. She also has diligently promoted art and artists in Iowa through her volunteer work as the Iowa State Fair Fine Arts Superintendent for the past 15 years.

## 1954

**Donald K. Henderson** was recently named a 2016 recipient of the Ohio High School Basketball Coaches Association's (OHSBCA) Hall of Honor, an award given to individuals who provide exemplary service to high school basketball. He was nominated for his work as director of the OHSBCA's District 9 from 1976-87 and organizing the District 9 All-Star Game for nearly 30 years.

## 1960

**John D. Holm** has published *Botswana Essays: Four Decades of Immersion in an African Culture* (Amazon, 2016), a collection of essays that critically examines common perceptions the developed world has about Africa. For each essay, Holm, professor emeritus of political science at Cleveland State University, draws upon his 35 years of

field research in Botswana and his four-year tenure as the first director of international programs at the University of Botswana.

## 1965

**Charles G. Rhyan** was inducted into the Sidney (Ohio) City Schools Hall of Honor in April. He served as superintendent at Anna Local Schools from 1991-97, where his tenure included many technological advancements along with the advent of the Anna Education Foundation to fund scholarships and other programs. His success in helping to pass a \$6 million bond issue to construct a new elementary building caught the attention of Fanning/Howey Architects and Engineers of Celina, Ohio, and he has served as a consultant for them on 27 separate successful campaigns that resulted in new school facilities.

## 1970

**George Galster** was awarded the Contribution to the Field of Urban Affairs Award at the 46th Annual Conference of the Urban Affairs Association in San Diego, Calif., in March. According to a press release, his body of work includes 140 peer-reviewed journal articles, five authored or co-authored books, four edited or co-edited books, six authored or co-authored monographs, 34 book chapters and 52 research reports. The Clarence Hilberry professor of urban affairs at Wayne State University, he has been a consultant to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the U.S. Department of Justice.

## 1975

**Janet E. Jackson**, president and CEO of United Way of Central Ohio, has announced that she will retire from her position once a successor is named. Jackson has been the agency's leader for more than 13 years.

## 1979

**Rachel M. Harter**, a senior research statistician at RTI International, has been named an American Statistical Association Fellow. Harter is being recognized for accomplishments in the advancement of sample design protocols, survey statistics, and small area estimation in support of research for the public good; for outstanding

managerial leadership, mentoring, and collaboration; for effective communication of statistical developments; and for service to the profession. Her current projects include the National Survey on Drug Use and Health, the Residential Energy Consumption Survey and the National Science Foundation-National Institutes of Health Survey of Graduate Students and Post-doctorates in Science and Engineering. She received her master's and doctoral degrees, both in statistics, from Iowa State University.

**Barry A. Zulauf** is deputy chief of analytic integrity and standards for analytic integration in the Office of the Director of National Intelligence. He is the primary advocate for programs to integrate analysis across the intelligence community, as envisioned in the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Protection Act.

## 1980

**Elizabeth Schultz Ayers**, executive director of gift planning at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, was named to the Partnership for Philanthropic Planning National Board in 2015 for a term that runs through December 2017.

**Lynda K. Hall** has been appointed as Ohio Wesleyan University's first-ever associate dean for student academic success and will work to develop, implement and enhance programs to help students successfully earn their degrees. A psychology professor who joined Ohio Wesleyan in 1985, she holds a master's degree and doctorate from the University of Notre Dame.

## 1982

**Douglas F. Cromwell**, Marine Corps Junior ROTC instructor at Oxford High School, will assume new duties in his position as Oxford (Miss.) School District (OSD) director of personnel, operations and planning. Cromwell has worked for OSD since 2013, and his previous professional experience includes a variety of high-ranking military positions, such as chief of staff and senior operations manager at Camp Lejeune, Jacksonville, N.C. He has a master's degree in strategic studies from the U.S. Army War College.

**Doug P. Holthus** has been appointed administrative partner of the Columbus, Ohio, office of Mazanec, Rasking & Ryder Co. LPA (MRR). His practice focuses on civil rights and government liability, corporate law, employment and general liability matters. Prior to joining MRR, he was in private practice and had also served as general counselor for Kokosing Construction Company and its affiliated entities. He serves as chair of the Columbus Bar Association's Professional Committee and is a member of the board of directors of the Professional Liability Defense Federation and the Ohio State Bar Association.



Members of the 1983 NCAA Division III National Runner-Up team joined former men's basketball coach Larry Hunter on his induction into the Ohio Basketball Hall of Fame in May. From left to right: Jeff Arnold '83, Tim Casey '85, Hunter, Mike Elfers '86 and Brian Timm '83.

## 1983

**Carl W. Levander** is the executive vice president of regulatory policy and corporate affairs for NiSource Inc. In this role, he is responsible for policy, corporate communications, federal government affairs, regulatory strategy and human resources.

## 1984

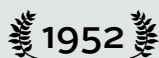
**Frank Wood**, a clinical psychologist and founder and CEO of Thriving with Stress, was a featured speaker at the March 2016 TEDxUCincinnati Cosmopolitan.

## 1987

**Patricia Schreiber Hanlon** recently achieved certification as a National Board Certified Teacher. She lives in Scottsdale, Ariz., where she is a second-grade teacher at Copper Ridge Elementary School.

## 1992

**James F. Bridge** joined the Duke University staff in January as assistant head football



Jerry Janosek '52 is sporting his original hand-knitted letter sweater from his football days. He met his wife, the late Susann Lugibihl Janosek '54, at Wittenberg in 1950, and pinned her at the Phi Gamma Delta formal later that year. Jerry currently resides in Chagrin Falls, Ohio.



coach and special teams coordinator. He had spent the last three seasons as the offensive line coach at Purdue University. He holds a master's degree in sports administration from Bowling Green State University.

1993

**Amy Taylor** has been hired as senior vice president for community and youth engagement for Truth Initiative, a national youth tobacco prevention organization. Previously, she spent more than two decades with Planned Parenthood and Planned Parenthood Action Fund, where she served in several senior leadership roles, most recently as chief external affairs officer. She has a master's degree in business and public policy from George Washington University.

1994

**Paul M. Otten** has been named superintendent of Beavercreek City Schools in Ohio. Previously, he had spent 19 years with the Fairfield, Ohio, school district as a teacher, principal, assistant superintendent and most recently, as superintendent.

1996

**Kevin S. Aldridge** is deputy opinion engagement editor for the *Cincinnati Enquirer*. He also is senior pastor at St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church in Milford, Ohio, and an adjunct professor at Miami University Middletown.

1998

**Greta Hochstetler Mayer** has been named CEO of the Mental Health and Recovery Board of Clark, Greene and Madison Counties in Ohio.

1999

**Marc D. Richards** received a doctor of osteopathic medicine degree from Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine in May. One of the first five graduates of the Heritage College's Rural and Urban Scholars Pathways Program, he is a resident in family medicine at Ohio Health O'Bleness Hospital in Athens, Ohio.

2001

**Apryl Walker Pope** returned to Wittenberg in March to present "The 3 Mistakes College Students Make and How to Avoid Them: Finances." The program was sponsored by the Office of Alumni Relations, the department of business, Career Services and the Student Alumni Board (SAB).

2003

**Sarah Bragdon Bucher** and her husband, Eric, announce the birth of Lydia Jane Bucher on April 1, 2015.



2006

**Lamarr E. Lewis** presented "Life Lessons about Your Education, Getting a Job, and the Business of Mental Health" at Wittenberg in April. His talk was co-sponsored by the department of sociology, The Office of Multicultural Affairs, Concerned Black Students, and the Faculty Endowment Board. Lewis has a master's degree in clinical mental health counseling from Argosy University.

2008

**Matthew J. Steinke** married Jena Zwolski on Sept. 12, 2015, in Kettering, Ohio.



The artwork of **Eric A. Bess**, who holds a master's degree in painting from the Academy of Art University, was displayed in the Ann

Miller Gallery in Koch Hall at Wittenberg from Feb. 24-March 25. Bess presented a lecture on his work to mark the opening of the gallery show.

2011

**Brady S. Christensen** received a doctor of osteopathic medicine degree from Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine in Athens in May. He will begin a transitional year in obstetrics and gynecology at the Naval Medical Center in Portsmouth, Va.

2012

**Keaton M. Hannon** married Andrew T. Koukis '13 on Aug. 22, 2015.



**Adrienne R. Liefeld**, first grade teacher at Lincoln Elementary School in Springfield, Ohio, received the Excellence in Teaching Award from the Springfield Rotary Club in April. She has been deeply involved in the Springfield Promise Neighborhood project at Lincoln.

2013

**Eva N. Cahill** has published the article "Nasolacrimal System Aeration on Computed Tomographic Imaging: Sex and Age Variation" in the January/February 2016 issue of *Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery*. She is a nursing student in Mount Carmel's SDAP program, a secondary accelerated BSN program.

Alumni Events

CHOIR REUNION 2017

As the world prepares to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, the renowned Wittenberg Choir is looking to reunite Sept. 28-Oct. 1, 2017. Interested?

Let Linda Beals, director of alumni and parent engagement, know at [lbeals@wittenberg.edu](mailto:lbeals@wittenberg.edu).

ALUMNI COMMUNITY

Download the free alumni app powered by EverTrue now. Designed to improve how alumni connect with one another and with Wittenberg, the app features searchable access to the alumni directory and a "nearby" function for mapping alumni by business address at any location in the world.

Visit [www.wittenberg.edu/alumni](http://www.wittenberg.edu/alumni) to download it today.

A gift today leads to a life-changing tomorrow

Planning one's legacy at any age or stage in life provides unprecedented opportunities for student success and continued excellence at Wittenberg. The names of those alumni and friends who decided to remember Wittenberg in their estate plans are echoed for generations through endowed scholarships, academic facilities and institutional initiatives, ensuring that their time at Wittenberg is remembered forever.



Plan now to change countless lives tomorrow. Make a planned gift today. For more information, contact Chris Nelson, director of leadership giving, at [937-591-1479](tel:937-591-1479) or via email at [nelsonc20@wittenberg.edu](mailto:nelsonc20@wittenberg.edu)



# In Memoriam

FALL 2016

## 1930

**Lois Hagelberger Huebner**, Springfield, Ohio, died Dec. 17, 2015. She was an accomplished organist who played at many state fairs and Lions National Conventions.

## 1934

**Kathryn Sanders Rieder** of Wooster, Ohio, and formerly of Orrville, Ohio, died Feb. 16, 2016. She taught piano, voice and violin and directed church choirs. She also was a freelance writer and music composer; more than 500 of her articles, fiction, serials, songs and operettas for children were published in more than 100 different publications. She was a member of Christ United Church of Christ in Orrville and Alpha Xi Delta. She received the Wittenberg Alumni Citation Award in 2000.

## 1935

**Elizabeth Wheadon Pifer**, Greencastle, Ind., died June 22, 2014. She retired as a school teacher in 2001. She was past president of the Wittenberg Guild Indianapolis and the Lutheran Hospital Auxiliary and served on the board of Lutheran Social Services. She was a member of Kappa Delta sorority and Trinity English Lutheran Church.

## 1940

**Ethel Boomershine Vogel**, Dayton, Ohio, died Feb. 18, 2015. She was a member of Shiloh United Church of Christ.

## 1942

**Paul L. Weaver Jr.**, Columbus, Ohio, died Jan. 7, 2016. After serving in the Army Air Corps during World War II, he held several sales positions, primarily in fundraising and in the modular home industry. He was a lifelong member of Ascension Lutheran Church. A member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity, he received the Wittenberg Alumni Citation Award in 1978 and the Wittenberg Class of 1914 Award in 1990.

## 1943

**Vera Davis Hauer** of Loveland, Ohio, and formerly of Leetonia, Ohio, passed away Dec. 13, 2015. She worked for more than 30 years as a special education teacher in Salem, Ohio. She was a member of Chi Omega sorority.

## 1944

**Bernard C. Revoir** of Santa Rosa and formerly of Monterey, Calif., died Jan. 24, 2016. During World War II, he served as a pilot in the Army Air Force and then in the Air Force Reserve for 28 years, retiring as a lieutenant colonel. He taught business administration at Monterey Peninsula College for 30 years, developed the school's aviation program, and was a flight instructor.

## 1946

**R. Josephine Lutz Miller** of Reading, Pa., and formerly of Wayne, Pa., passed away Dec. 18, 2014. She was a member of Christ Episcopal Church of Ithan in Villanova.

## 1948

**Richard S. Bowman**, Hillsboro, Ohio, died Feb. 25, 2016. He served in the 324th U.S. Army Band until 1946. He later was employed by Davon Inc. of Columbus, retiring in 1992 after 36 years. He was a member of Hillsboro First United Methodist Church in Sun City, Fla., participated in Highland County Community Chorus, and served as vice president of the board of governors of Highland District Hospital.

**Nathaniel E. Johnson**, Livingston Manor, N.Y., died April 3, 2016. He was a retired chemist for Union Carbide in Indianapolis, Ind. In New York, he worked in homeless shelters for 10 years before retirement.

**Maxine Vlahos Stamas** of Akron, Ohio, and formerly of Dayton, Ohio, and Naples, Fla., died Jan. 7, 2016. After working as a dental assistant, she was employed in the family business, Sta-Lite Inc. She was a member of Kappa Delta and the Greek Orthodox Church, serving as choir director and member of the Philoptochos Society.

## 1949

**Richard E. Boye** '52S of Devon, Pa., and formerly of Radford, Va., passed away Oct. 25, 2014. For 41 years, he was in active ministry, serving as a Lutheran pastor in Illinois, Pennsylvania, North Carolina and Minnesota before retiring in 1993. He published numerous sermons and collections of sermons, including *As the Shadows Lengthen: Sermons Preached on Special Occasions*.

## 1950

**Carolyn Pridgeon Congdon**, Fort Wayne, Ind., died April 6, 2016. She worked as an accountant for Peter Eckrich & Sons and Do It Best Corp., from which she retired in 2000, and for EPCO Accounting & Tax Services during tax season.

**Doris Pfeifer Muckley**, Tucson, Ariz., died March 19, 2016. A member of Alpha Delta Pi, she was a teacher and worked for 10 years with a national tax firm. She contributed 10 years of service to Neighbor for Neighbor, a nonprofit organization that helped the working poor in Tulsa, Okla.

## 1951

**Joanne Benn Brown**, Cataract, Wis., died Jan. 19, 2016. She was a teacher and a member of Alpha Delta Pi. In retirement, she co-founded the Little Falls Railroad and Doll Museum, of which she was the doll curator for 20 years.

**Paul R. Huntzman** '74S, Uniondale, Ind., died April 19, 2014. During his ministry, he served the following Lutheran congregations in Indiana: St. Paul's, Frankfort; Second English, Richmond; Our Saviour, Princeton; St. Mark's, Uniondale; St. Paul's, Bluffton; Eberhard, Columbia City; as well as St. Matthew's in Paducah, Ky.

**Robert Lynch** '54BS '57MED of Punta Gorda, Fla., and formerly of Springfield, Ohio, died Nov. 10, 2015. A U.S. Army veteran, he served in the Counter Intelligence Corps as a special agent/investigator from 1951-1953. He was a teacher, guidance counselor, assistant principal and principal in the Springfield City Schools. He was a member of Covenant Presbyterian Church and Rotary Club of Springfield and Punta Gorda and served on many boards.

## 1952

**Charlotte Teeter Henderson**, Springfield, Ohio, passed away Jan. 18, 2016. She was an elementary school teacher in the Springfield City Schools for 27 years, retiring in 1989. She was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority, High Street United Methodist Church and the Audubon Society.

**Joan Knasel Thornburg** of New Albany, Ohio, and formerly of Fairborn and Springfield, Ohio, passed away Jan. 14, 2016. She was a retired Fairborn, Ohio, school teacher. She was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority and a former member of Abiding Christ Lutheran Church and Zion Lutheran Church.

## 1953

**Richard G. Frazier** '71H, Fort Wayne, Ind., died May 7, 2016. He retired from Trinity English Lutheran Church, where he spent 11 years as assistant pastor and youth minister, then 32 years as senior pastor. He was an emeritus member of Wittenberg's Board of Directors, served on the boards of Vincent House, Cancer Services of Northeast Indiana and Baker Street Station, and was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha.

**Marvin W. Kobelt** of Cape Coral, Fla., and formerly of Ulrichsville, Ohio, died March 26, 2016. He served in the Army during the Korean War and was a high school art teacher for 30 years.

## 1954

**Martha Mallett Ajango**, Fort Atkinson, Wis., passed away March 25, 2014. She was a first grade teacher at St. Joseph's Catholic School for 31 years and a tutor for the Jefferson County Literacy Council. She established and served as president and volunteer for The Thrift Shop and was an active member of the Fort Atkinson Woman's Club and First United Methodist Church. A member of Kappa Delta, she also published two books—*Messages Everywhere* and *Glimpses of Guidance*.

**Marcia Anderson Meyer**, Springfield, Ohio, died Dec. 28, 2015. A member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority, she taught at Snowhill Elementary School for more than 30 years, retiring in 1997. She taught Sunday school at Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church and was a member of P.E.O.

## 1955

**Walter L. "Bud" Childress**, Port Orange, Fla., died April 10, 2016. For 40 years, he worked with McCrory Stores Corporation in Texas,

New Mexico, Pennsylvania and Florida, retiring in 1996. Upon retirement, he worked at Publix Grocery Store in Bradenton, Fla., for 10 years. He was a member of Delta Sigma Phi fraternity.

**Thomas G. Fluke**, Sevierville, Tenn., died Feb. 18, 2016. He was a member of First Baptist Church and Alpha Tau Omega fraternity.

## 1956

**Elinor Bartsch True Butehorn**, Cambridge, Md., died April 12, 2016. She taught elementary and special education in Cincinnati, Ohio, and Fort Wayne, Ind. She later had a varied career in Howard County, Md., serving as executive director of Howard County Mental Health Association, group sales manager at Toby's Dinner Theatre, and director of marketing for Historic Savage Mill. She sang in the choirs of Saint Mary's Episcopal Church in Woodlawn, Christ Church in Cambridge, and Intergrace Fairhaven.

**Lois Heller Clay**, Oxford, Ohio, died Oct. 1, 2014. She was a member of Kappa Delta sorority.

**John K. "Jack" Hawken**, Spring Hill, Fla., died March 28, 2015. He had a 35-year career teaching and coaching high school students in the Cleveland, Ohio, area. A member of Beta Theta Pi, he was inducted into the Wittenberg Hall of Honor in 1988 for his accomplishments on the basketball court.

**Regan "Randy" Shields**, Kettering, Ohio, passed away March 23, 2016.

## 1957

**Robert L. Buchy**, Springfield, Ohio, passed away July 14, 2015. For 18 years, he worked in alumni relations and development for Wittenberg University, including as director of development from 1972-1976. From 1976-1988, he was a sales representative for Shaw-Barton and from 1999-2002 owned and operated Corporate Recognition. He then worked in sales for Randd and Associates. He was a member of Phi Mu Delta fraternity, North Hampton Community Church, Rotary



# In Memoriam

Club of Dayton, Elks Lodge #51 and Antioch Shrine, among others, and served on the executive committee of the Clark County Republican Party.

**Hazel Tullos Stacy**, Crawfordsville, Ind., died Oct. 13, 2015.

## 1960

**Gerald E. “Jerry” Yoder**, Salem, S.C., passed away Jan. 20, 2015. He served in the Army National Guard and had a 30-year career with The Cincinnati Insurance Co. He was a member of Alpha Tau Omega.

## 1962

**Joan Gravelie Starline**, Franklin, Ind., died Jan. 24, 2016.

## 1963

**Betty Glass Nightingale**, Springfield, Ohio, died March 8, 2016. During World War II, she worked as a riveter at Consolidated Aircraft. She taught school in Springfield and Clark County and retired from Wright Patterson Air Force Base in 1987 as a data manager. She was a member of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Norris Chapter of the Eastern Star, and Oesterlen Home Ladies Auxiliary and volunteered at Mercy Medical Center.

## 1965

**Harold J. Cummings**, Washington Court House, Ohio, died Dec. 1, 2015. He was a retired educator for Upper Arlington City Schools and probation officer for Franklin County Municipal Court. He co-founded the Tri-Village Mental Health Association, now known as Northwest Counseling.

## 1966

**William C. Stroud**, Delaware, Ohio, died Feb. 27, 2016. He co-owned The Brown Jug restaurant from 1977-2008. He served as board member and president of the Delaware Area Recovery Services Board and the Delaware/Morrow Mental Health and Recovery Services Board and as founding president of Celebrate Delaware. He was recognized in 2003 by the Delaware Area Chamber of Commerce with their Community Service Award. A member of Phi Kappa Psi, he served on Wittenberg’s Phi Kappa Psi Chapter House Corporation from 1984-2001.

## 1967

**Linda Gold Readey**, Upper Arlington, Ohio, passed away March 26, 2016. She held a variety of positions in community relations and public affairs, including education director for the Ohio Historical Society, in the city manager’s office for Upper Arlington, with the Franklin County Convention Facilities Authority, as a member of the Upper Arlington School Board, as vice president of marketing and sales for the Miranova building, and as executive director of the Upper Arlington Community Foundation. A member of Delta Gamma, she was an active volunteer with the Junior League, the Childhood League and Master Gardeners and served on the boards of Nationwide Children’s Hospital Foundation, First Community Church and Rotary Club, among others.

## 1968

**Randall S. Simon**, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., passed away Nov. 14, 2015. He was the owner of Continental Investments.

## 1969

**Arnold C. Saunders IV**, Waterville, Maine, died Feb. 6, 2016. He worked for the Holiday Inn in Waterville for 35 years.

## 1972

**Susan M. Walker**, Lakewood, Ohio, died Oct. 23, 2015. After teaching in a vocational school for five years, she moved to New York City, where she enrolled in an intern program for non-finance majors at American Express, leading to a lifelong career in banking with positions around the world, including Puerto Rico, New York City, Chicago, Minneapolis, Charlotte, Toronto, Cleveland and Washington, D.C.

## 1974

**Deborah McCormack Terry**, Westerville, Ohio, died March 29, 2016. During her career, she held positions at the Rotary Club headquarters in Evanston, Ill.; WSMV-TV in Nashville, Tenn.; in the environmental field in Columbus, Ohio; and as a teacher. A member of Sigma Kappa, she volunteered with animal rescue groups.

## 1975

**John W. Stelling**, Staunton, Va., died Dec. 28, 2015. Prior to retirement, he was self-employed in wholesale provisions. He was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity, a youth leader at Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church in Waynesboro, and served in Virginia Synod Youth Events.

## 1978

**Kathleen Hartley Wold Anderson**, Loranger, La., passed away March 28, 2016. She previously worked as a director of church music at several local churches and most recently as a music instructor at the Louisiana Academy for Performing Arts.

**Donald R. Quigley**, Springfield, Ohio, died Jan. 23, 2016. A Vietnam veteran, he served in the U.S. Air Force. He retired from Wright Patterson Air Force Base after 38 years of service in the National Air Intelligence Center, where he was an intelligence analyst and then chief of engineering and software development.

**Vicky Webster Rosser**, Herndon, Va., passed away Sept. 13, 2015. At one time, she worked as a program analyst for the U.S. Department of Labor’s Bureau of Labor Statistics. She was a member of Alpha Delta Pi.

## 1983

**Harry G. Cashy**, South Russell, Ohio, died April 13, 2016. He was a registered CPA who served on the board of accountancy at Case Western Reserve University, Saints Constantine & Helen Parish Council & Foundation, and the Chagrin Falls School Board. He was a member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity.

## 1985

**Martha DeFord Carnes**, Liberty Township, Ohio, passed away March 6, 2016. She was a registered nurse for Edison State College for nine years, as well as a seminar trainer for the Ohio Department of Health.

# A GRANDFATHER’S TRIBUTE

Two years ago we were on campus visiting our grandson, Chase Gage, who is a fifth-generation Wittenberg student from our family. We encountered two senior girls who were participating in the service dog training program. It led to a conversation about what they intended to do after graduation. One of the girls stated that she had been accepted to medical school.

“What kind of doctor do you want to be?” I asked her.  
“I will specialize in family practice so that I can go back home where there is a great need for medical service.”

“And where is home?” I asked. “I’m from a very poor area of Appalachia. There is high unemployment and extreme poverty. Many of the men are retired from the coal mines and have severe breathing problems. I want to go back there and make a difference in their lives.”

“Doesn’t sound like that will be a very lucrative place to practice medicine,” I told her.

“Oh, I understand that. That’s not my motivation at all. I want to bring comfort and security to the families where I grew up. I want my life to make a difference,” she said.

Since this was written, our grandson, Chase Gage, was killed in a car accident. He died in a farmer’s field 40 minutes after being ejected from his car. His passenger, another Wittenberg student and close friend, was uninjured and remained by Chase’s side until medical emergency help arrived. Chase had just completed his sophomore year at Wittenberg. He was a boy who worked hard and loved to give and share whatever he had earned. His parents, sister, grandparents are still experiencing the screaming silence from his absence in our lives: shock, depression, guilt, anger.

Living through this kind of loss, which many of you have shared, creates such emptiness that sentiments such as pleasure and gaiety seem frivolous and superficial. That’s when I think about the young Wittenberg girl and the service dog she was training. I recall her mission for which she is preparing to bring healing to others. I think of her response: “I’m not going into medicine for the money. I just want to give back, to make a difference with my life.” If Wittenberg is inspiring students like that, with the conviction that a life worth living is more about giving than greed, that character is more important than charisma, then it has accomplished a noble mission.

*Marty and Tom Lentz, along with Chase’s parents, Laura and Quint Gage, have established the Chase Gage Memorial Scholarship Fund. This fund will benefit future students with entrepreneurial or business majors. Marty Lentz has also donated Chase’s Springfield home to Wittenberg to help fund this scholarship. To contribute, visit [www.wittenberg.edu](http://www.wittenberg.edu) and click giving link.*



# In Memoriam

WRITTEN BY Tom Stafford '76



VIRGINIA LUCAS  
1930–2016

After praising his colleague’s knack for calming students’ anxieties at the very time she was pushing them to excel, Professor Emeritus of Education Chuck Novak said he hoped his remarks might be “of some help (in) perceiving the grace that was Virginia Lucas ’52.”

The deep-thinking, fun-loving, multi-talented and stylish professor emeritus of education who graced the Wittenberg campus as a student from 1948-52 and faculty member 1973–1992, died Jan 14, 2016, of Alzheimer’s disease.

She was 85.

Born and raised in Springfield, Lucas entered Wittenberg in 1948 and, upon graduation, launched a 61-year marriage with Tigers football player Rudy Lucas ’52, whom she met while jitterbugging at a Panhellenic Council dance.

While teaching elementary students in several Ohio districts, Lucas earned a master’s from Miami University and a Ph.D. from Ohio State University.

Joining Wittenberg’s faculty in 1973, she excelled, garnering the Omicron Delta Kappa Award for young professors in 1978 and the Alumni Association’s Distinguished Teacher Award in 1982. The Class of 1914 Award, Wittenberg’s most prestigious, followed in 1990.

A pioneering researcher in learning disabilities, special education and gifted education, Lucas defined teaching as connecting and building bridges with learners included professors she mentored as education department chair.

Professor Emeritus Robert Welker called Lucas a “great leader” who “advocated and was unafraid to confront” but “no matter the outcome ... kept alive friendships and partnerships,” a quality called on when she served on and led the university’s most powerful committees.

Lucas also actively advised student groups and pursued a prolific writing career with Zaner-Bloser, publisher of educational materials and *Highlights for Children*.

In a moving tribute, Professor Emeritus of Education Claudia Cornett marveled at the “unquenchable thirst” for profound ideas, “inclusive disposition” and “exuberant, fun-loving” spirit that so gracefully commingled in her good friend.

Predeceased by husband Rudy and a son, Scott, Lucas is survived by her son, Mark, a brother, half-brother and four grandchildren.

Contributions may be made to Wittenberg University.



PETER CELMS  
1930–2016

Erudition, integrity and humility; perseverance, firmness, grace. The terms used to describe Peter Celms resonate like notes of the Richard Strauss compositions the professor emeritus of history so loved.

Celms, whose former student and Dartmouth Professor Emeritus of History Michael Ehrmarth characterized as “a sustained commitment to opening up the life of the mind,” died June 6, 2015 in his Springfield home with beloved wife, Babro, at his side.

In a well-crafted eulogy, President Emeritus William A. Kinnison said Celms, who taught at Wittenberg for 37 years, “lived an amazing part of Modern European History, his area of specialization.”

Birth in Riga, Latvia, June 23, 1936, put Celms in path of first Hitler’s, then Stalin’s armies during World War II. When Lutheran leaders concluded his philosopher father might not survive Russian occupation, 8-year old Peter and his family fled through the woods to avoid strafing, eventually landed a ship’s passage, and endured harrowing rides through bombed-out railroad stations of a disintegrating Third Reich.

In 1949, Lutheran World Relief brought the family to Rock Island, Ill., where Theodore taught at Augustana College and Peter began learning a new culture after standing at attention next to his desk the first day of school.

Celms excelled as a student and tennis athlete, and a bachelor’s at Augustana led to masters and doctoral degrees at Northwestern University, before his arrival at Wittenberg in 1967.

During his career, he earned a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship and flourished despite a decades-long struggle with Parkinson’s, an accomplishment colleague Jim Huffman calls “sage-like.”

Students Carol Camper ’70 and John Hartje ’70 credited Celms with “the most brilliant single hour of teaching” they experienced when a student’s rote answer led Celms “to recount the entire history of Western philosophy from Aristotle to Kant ... in a seamless continuum.”

In addition to his wife, Celms is survived by a daughter, son-in-law and two grandchildren. He was preceded in death by cherished son, Paul.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Wittenberg University History Department.



JEFFREY YUN AN MAO  
1916–2016

“What a good and kind man he was, with a lifetime of contributions in making the world a better, more understandable place.”

It is difficult to imagine a more artful tribute to Jeffrey Yun An Mao in the Chinese tradition of elegant understatement than the one Yu Ru Yuan and Audrey Ling posted after the professor emeritus of political science’s death Feb. 2, 2016, in Mishawaka, Ind.

Born April 18, 1916, in Shanghai, Mao was valedictorian at China’s Central Political Institute in 1939, the year he married Mona Pao and entered Nationalist China’s diplomatic corps.

Surviving the Japanese invasion and a civil war, he went on to serve as secretary of China’s delegation to the first United Nations General Assembly in 1946.

After Communists led by another Mao took power, he earned master’s degrees from the University of Ottawa and Harvard University, then a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago.

Mao came to Wittenberg in 1962, taught Asian, Chinese and American politics and accompanied members of Wittenberg’s award-winning delegation to the Harvard Model U.N., all in an endearing fashion.

Just as student Mark Shaffer ’72 made sure his “caring teacher” and “patient adviser” was named an Honorary Alumnus in 1995, Wittenberg employee Betsy Dean praised Mao for the equal respect he showed to faculty and staff.

Colleague Eugene Swanger appreciated Mao’s diplomatic skills and artful use of humor, which helped to resolve impasses that arose during the creation of the East Asian Studies program.

Political Science colleague William Buscemi also appreciated Mao’s diplomatic resolve: “He usually spoke in much quieter and calmer language, but, in the end, you knew what he had to say.”

Retiring in 1984, Mao traveled widely with wife Mona, supporting her passion for duplicate bridge. Following her death in 2007, he happily lived with son, Richard, and daughter-in-law, Helen, who accompanied him on his final trip to China and survive him.

Mao was 99.

Memorial contributions may be made to Wittenberg’s Jeffery Y. Mao Scholarship Fund.



DR. ELIZABETH  
"BETTY" POWELSON  
1924–2015

When Dave Gerard DeMarco ’78 visited Dr. Elizabeth “Betty” Powelson’s office, every surface was so profusely piled with journals, papers, books and pictures that “in order for her to actually see me, something had to be moved.”

From Powelson’s 1957 arrival until her retirement in 2001, however, one thing was clear to DeMarco and others: “She would stop whatever she was doing and give me whatever time she had.”

Wittenberg’s first full-time female professor in the sciences, winner of the university’s Medal of Honor and an honorary alumna, Powelson, 91, died in her sleep May 28, 2015, at Springfield’s Forest Glen Health Campus after a decade-long battle with Alzheimer’s.

When early dreams of a career in music collided with reality at the Oberlin College Conservatory, Powelson shifted to a subject she found far easier: biology.

A master’s from Wellesley College and Ph.D. from Indiana University brought her to Wittenberg with genetics’ latest knowledge just as the field was coming to the fore.

Keeping current during summers spent at Johns Hopkins University with Helen Tausig, a close friend and pioneer in cardiology, Powelson had a knack for connecting with students’ hearts.

“She made everyone feel they were her favorite,” said Dr. David Hopper ’63. “You wanted to do well because she wanted you to do well.”

She went to bat for students, banging on the doors of graduate and medical schools while cementing Wittenberg’s reputation in the sciences and she even once hired a student from another major to do yard work so he could stay in school.

Off campus, she was an accomplished golfer and so impressed women in Springfield’s Altrusa that the service club named a regional award for her.

An only child, she embraced the Wittenberg community as family, endearing herself to many with a personality former Biology Department Chair Tim Lewis captured in a fond obituary: “Even after her diagnosis with Alzheimer’s, she maintained a joyful and optimistic attitude ... an inquisitive mind, a spirited and determined disposition and a love of chocolate.”

Memorial contributions may be made to the Elizabeth Powelson Endowed Chair in Biology at Wittenberg.





## Peace Corps

Wittenberg has a rich history when it comes to global citizenship and peace studies. Continuing in this tradition, we became only the second liberal arts college in the U.S. to offer a Peace Corps Preparation Studies program when we signed an agreement in 2011 with the Peace Corps. Schools are selected for the program based on their demonstrated interest in promoting international learning and service opportunities to their students.

*For more information: [www.wittenberg.edu](http://www.wittenberg.edu).*



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