Sharing good news in unprecedented times.
The Full Worth of Lutheran Education

The most important times of our lives are those in which the kind of people we are matters more than the kind of skills we’ve attained. This is not to say that skills are unimportant. For instance, it matters deeply to me that the doctor who operates on me is a skilled surgeon. But by the time those skills had become well-honed, the life of my hypothetical doctor had already been defined to a great extent by her character. The same is true of everyone.

The COVID-19 pandemic has put all of us in a situation in which it’s obvious that the kind of people we are matters more than the skills we have. Many millions are now teleworking, for instance. For them to focus on their work when no one can directly supervise them is a matter of character. Many others work to provide essential services, which puts them at risk of infection daily. For the nurse, the food deliverer, and the grocery checker, the will to show up despite those clear risks is a demonstration of character. Our leaders in government and industry have never faced circumstances like those society faces today, yet it is in those circumstances that they must make decisions that affect large numbers of people in innumerable ways. Their ability to make good decisions rests at least as much on character as on skill. We are all being called upon to make choices about fairness, from congresspersons allocating government aid, to shoppers deciding whether to stock up on another pack of toilet tissue. Our ability to choose fairly depends mainly on our character, not our skill.

These are examples of what the ancients referred to as the four cardinal virtues—the first example demonstrates temperance, the second courage, the third wisdom, and the fourth justice. Whether formally in the classroom or informally through family, church, and public life, the development of these virtues constitutes an education. If an institution of higher education is worth its salt, the entirety of the university experience can play an important part in such an education—and this is true even if the virtues are never called out by name. Our alumni know this from their Concordia-Chicago experience, when their professors, coaches, music directors, and others helped to form their character. Besides providing important training for specific careers, a university is doing its job if it helps to form a person through education.

Concordia-Chicago, however, isn’t just a university, it’s a Lutheran university. What does being Lutheran mean for the role of our University? It means that students are invited into the fullness of Ultimate Truth as revealed in Scripture and expounded over two thousand years of reflection on Scripture. For instance, humanity’s creation in God’s image sheds light on the importance of virtue, and our subsequent fall into sin puts the deficiencies in our virtue into perspective. In addition, Christ’s redemption of humanity provides unfailing reason for hope in the face of our deficiencies. Furthermore, Christ’s emptying of Himself for us unworthy sinners provides the invitation to a life of self-sacrifice—a life of service for the good of all neighbors, not just those who seem worthy.

Thus, a time of crisis like the one we now face makes even clearer the importance of a Concordia-Chicago education. When character is so obviously imperative and reasons for hope are hard to find, the full worth of Concordia-Chicago’s Lutheran education stands out. From job skills to character formation to a life of grace lived in the hope of the resurrection, Concordia-Chicago has equipped tens of thousands of people for the best and the worst of times. Society needs more Concordians, and needs them now more than ever.
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MISSION
As a distinctive, comprehensive university of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, centered in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and based in the liberal arts, Concordia University Chicago equips men and women to serve and lead with integrity, creativity, competence and compassion in a diverse, interconnected and increasingly urbanized church and world.

VISION
Rooted in its Christian heritage of engaging knowledge and faith, Concordia University Chicago aspires to be the destination university for all who seek to develop their full individual potential through a distinctive, innovative and dynamic environment of exploration, creativity and discovery for leading lives of servant-minded leadership.

CORE VALUES
We at Concordia University Chicago embrace these Core Values as essential to living together in a vibrant and influential Christian academic community and as productive citizens of the Church and world.

CHRISTIAN FAITH.
The Christian faith is an integral part of our community.

THE INDIVIDUAL.
As a member of God’s creation, each person is unique and is blessed with inherent worth.

EXCELLENCE.
We strive for excellence in who we are and what we do.

INTEGRITY.
Our community demonstrates the accord between our beliefs and practices.

SERVICE.
Recognizing and addressing the needs of others is a response to God’s love for us, and a reflection of God’s love for them.

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Computer Science Students Win ACCA Competition

Concordia-Chicago computer science students took part in the Associated Colleges of the Chicagoland Area (ACCA) programming competition in February, capturing first place in the Advanced division and second place in the Novice division. Novice teams were to consist only of students in their first year of computer science study, while Advanced teams could consist of any mix of students.

Continuing CUC’s tradition of excellence in programming were students Marcos Duran, Collin Pearce, Eric Tapia and Jacob Stec (Advanced division), and Jesse Broxton, Joseph Sivits, Ashley Kennedy and Vasil Bixheku (Novice division).

“Congratulations to all the computer science students who have always represented the computer science program and the University with class and humility,” says Associate Professor Dr. Victor Govindaswamy. “More importantly, they do amazing outreach to help the younger generations with weekly mentoring clinics, robotic camps and other STEM activities at middle schools, high schools and colleges throughout the year. I am so proud of them.”

Doctoral Student Earns NSCA Foundation Scholarship

Justin Kilian, a PhD candidate in Health and Human Performance at Concordia-Chicago, was one of 14 students awarded the Challenge Scholarship by the National Strength and Conditioning Association (NSCA), out of hundreds of applicants.

Kilian is working on his dissertation, which focuses on profiling the activity level and physiological loads experienced during women’s lacrosse, with data collection carried out through wearable GPS/accelerometers. Kilian serves as the sports scientist for the NCAA-Division I women’s lacrosse team at Liberty University as well as the MCLA-Division I men’s lacrosse strength and conditioning coach and goalie coach.

The Challenge Scholarship “is very competitive and is given to students who show excellence in their pursuit of evidence-based strength and conditioning work and/ or student research,” says Dr. Kristen Snyman, assistant professor of health and human performance at Concordia-Chicago. “It is given to those who demonstrate this excellence as well as to those who are active in the NSCA.”
Awarding these scholarships and grants fulfills the NSCA Foundation’s mission of supporting the organization by providing funding for educational and research endeavors that enhance the practical applications of strength and conditioning.

$220,000 Grant to Aid in Research, Service and Advocacy for Older Adults

The Russell & Josephine Kott Memorial Charitable Trust awarded Concordia-Chicago’s Center for Gerontology with a $220,000 grant at the end of 2019. The grant underwrites the Center’s mission to serve older adults through research, education, service and advocacy. The Center has been at work recently through its “Summer Camp for Seniors,” which brought older adults to campus for a week of learning and social connection. The Center is also working with mayors across the region to create “age-friendly” communities, among other initiatives.

Through all of its programs, the Center aims to change the conversation about what it means to age in our local communities, our country and globally. The Center was established in 2014 with support from the Kott Trust and has received significant support from the organization every year since then. Kott’s mission is to fund “charitable organizations that improve the livelihood of individuals, especially through education or medical services, with an emphasis on such services for the elderly.”

University Ranked as a Leader in Financial Aid and Online Education

In recognition of its commitment to decreasing student dependency on loans, Concordia University Chicago made LendEDU’s “Best Colleges for Financial Aid” rankings in the categories of Need-Based, Non-Need-Based, International Students and Overall. Concordia-Chicago is among the top third of colleges in Illinois with the lowest average student debt upon graduation.

The University was also recognized again as a leader in online education, ranking in the U.S. News & World Report lists for Best Online Bachelor’s Programs, Best Online Bachelor’s Programs for Veterans, Best Online MBA Programs and Best Online Graduate Education Programs. Online bachelor’s degree programs were evaluated on factors including graduation rates, financial benefits available to people with military experience, and academic and career support services. Online MBA programs were evaluated based on admissions selectivity and reputation for excellence among peer institutions, among other factors. Online graduate education programs were evaluated on factors such as accreditation, accessibility of instructors and student engagement.

“We cater to the needs of our students no matter their geographical location, so that they graduate from this University with a competitive advantage, well prepared to lead in their chosen field,” said Dr. John Zillman, senior vice president for academics at Concordia-Chicago.

1. Concordia-Chicago computer science students had great success at the Associated Colleges of the Chicagoland Area (ACCA) programming competition in February.

2. CUC’s Center for Gerontology continues its mission to serve older adults, with such programs as last year’s “Summer Camp for Seniors.”

3. The University was ranked for its high-quality online programs, and recognized for its low student debt upon graduation.
Register today!

Let's Get Social!

CUC VIRTUAL SUMMER PREVIEW

Friday, July 17, 2020

- Chat with us LIVE! Admission counselors will be standing by to answer all your questions.

- Visit the Admission Instagram page! Live events on the admission process, academic programs, financial aid, student panels and much more will be running all day long.

- Tour campus in your pajamas! Our in-depth tour will transport you to our beautiful 40-acre campus in the heart of one of Chicagoland’s most beautiful neighborhoods and just minutes away from downtown Chicago.

- Connect with your counselor! Zoom, phone, live chat, email — whichever method works for you, we look forward to getting to know all about you!

Concordia University Chicago
AN INSTITUTION OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

Register online at CUCHicago.edu/visit or call 877-CUCHicago (877-282-4422)

facebook.com/ConcordiaUniversityChicago @CUCHicago CUC_admission
Continuing in God’s Word During Uncertain Times

BY: REV. DR. JEFFREY LEININGER, University Pastor and Dean of the Chapel

Surely you desire integrity in the inner self, and you teach me wisdom deep within.
—Psalm 51:6 (CSB)

Our lives have been placed on an unsettled pause. The raging of a worldwide pandemic has meant tragedy for some, inconvenience for most—but, I would hope, introspection for all. Confronted by his own sin and shortcomings, and while oppressed on all sides, King David cried out to the Lord: “Surely you desire integrity in the inner self, and you teach me wisdom deep within” (Psalm 51:6; CSB). The Spirit of God uses the most difficult of circumstances to shake our assumptions, reshape our hearts and draw us closer to the Lord and to one another. Surely this is inner integrity and deep wisdom—to know our frailty and mortality but also to know God’s gracious hand still at work.

God continues His gracious work at Concordia-Chicago in and through our students. As I’ve become accustomed to saying, “God is bigger than this bug, and mightier than the months and miles of separation.” We changed the daily chapel format to an online and interactive setting called “Alive@11,” interviewing special guests and using pre-recorded Wind Symphony and Kapelle music. We launched new Bible study groups on social media, staying connected as the body of Christ, which extends beyond space and time. We continued ministry meetings with students, praying for each other and encouraging one another. Pastoral care and counseling, although not ideal online, continued uninterrupted. More than ever, our students need to be reminded that the Lord Jesus who went to the cross for them also lives for them. The message of the Gospel has not changed, cannot change, and in fact, takes on new meaning and importance in times when it feels our foundations are crumbling.

Throughout its many chapters, Concordia University Chicago has endured world wars, worldwide pandemics, three major fires and several periods of economic distress. God has remained faithful to us amid all of this. We are confident that He will continue to be with us, as we, for our part, “continue in his word” (John 8:31).

“Lord God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.”

1. Pictured is the stained-glass window which faces east in the chancel (pulpit side). Although more difficult for worshippers to view, the window is particularly meaningful for its depiction of the work of the Holy Spirit active in those who leave CUC to serve and lead in a variety of ways. The flowing of red color throughout the window, represents the presence and guidance of the Holy Spirit in the lives of God’s people.
Your Gift Impacts Lives.

How will you be remembered?

Do you want to make a difference in students’ lives through scholarship, program or improved campus facilities? **You have the opportunity to impact students success and shape Concordia’s future by including the University in your estate plans.**

Many of our friends have made a difference through a charitable bequest. With our help and the help of your attorney, you can include language in your will or trust specifying a gift to be made to your loved ones and Concordia-Chicago. You can also designate Concordia-Chicago as a beneficiary of your 401(k), life insurance policy or IRA.

Your plan administrator or life insurance agent can provide you with a beneficiary form. Whichever option you choose, your financial position won’t be affected until your estate is settled.

We are here to help you create your legacy

Begin creating your legacy today. You can be a crucial part of – and have a lasting impact on – our mission by leaving Concordia-Chicago in your legacy plans.

Contact: **Sandra H. Nelson**
Vice President, Concordia University Chicago Foundation
866-288-3026

Golden Celebration 2020 moves to Homecoming Friday – Sunday, October 9 – 11

We’re not canceling. We’re adjusting events in order to provide the best experience for our Golden Alumni, those celebrating 50 years or more since graduation.

Save the date to celebrate with classmates and Cougars of every generation during Homecoming 2020. Complete schedule of events and registration will be announced this summer at CUChicago.edu/Homecoming.

Questions? Contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 888-258-6773 or alumni@CUChicago.edu.
CUC Alumni Elected as LCMS Vice Presidents

Two proud Concordia University Chicago alumni were recently elected to the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod’s Praesidium. In addition to President Matthew C. Harrison, six vice presidents make up the praesidium and are responsible for various administrative duties within the church body.

Rev. Peter K. Lange BA ’84

As first vice president, the Rev. Peter K. Lange serves to assist the president in carrying out his responsibilities and oversees the colloquy program. Lange was elected to this position in 2019.

He previously served as president of the LCMS Kansas District (2015–2019). Prior to that, he served as senior pastor at St. John’s Lutheran Church, Topeka, KS (1999–2015), and associate pastor at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Concordia, MO (1990–1999).

Born in Houston, TX, Lange graduated from Concordia University Chicago in 1984 and from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN, with a Master of Divinity in 1988. Lange earned a Master of Sacred Theology degree in 1998 from Concordia Theological Seminary.

Lange has also served the church as secretary of the Council of Presidents (2018–2019), a member of the 2016 Resolution 13-01A Task Force “To Exalt and Equip the Blessed Partnership between the Royal Priesthood and the Office of the Public Ministry,” a chairman for Synod floor committees in 2016 and 2019, and a member of numerous boards and committees for the Missouri and Kansas districts from 1992–2015. Lange has participated in short-term mission trips to England, Czech Republic, Germany and South Africa.

Lange and his wife, Marcia, live in St. Louis. They have four daughters.

Rev. Benjamin T. Ball BA ’95

The Rev. Benjamin T. Ball, sixth vice president, was elected in 2019 and represents the church’s Central Region.

Ball is the senior pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church and School in Hamel, IL, where he was called in 2012. He previously served St. Luke’s Lutheran Church, Dedham, MA (1999–2004), and St. Paul’s Lutheran Church and School, Brookfield, IL (2004–2012).

He is currently the chairman of the Synod’s Committee on Nominations. He served as the second vice president of the LCMS Southern Illinois District (2018–2019), and he served several terms as a circuit visitor in both the Northern Illinois and Southern Illinois districts.

Ball has been a member of the Board of Directors of Metro-East Lutheran High School of Edwardsville, IL (2017–2019), and he is an editor of Gottesdienst—The Journal of Lutheran Liturgy (2016–present). Ball has been a frequent presenter at conferences discussing preaching, liturgy, the fraternal bonds of pastors and the pastoral task in the Lutheran school.

Originally from Richmond, MI, he is a product of LCMS schools since kindergarten. He received a Bachelor of Arts from Concordia University Chicago in 1995, and in 1999 was granted the Master of Divinity from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.

An avid outdoorsman, he resides in the church parsonage with his wife, Serena, and their four children.
University Sees Dramatic Growth in Accelerated Degree Program

BY: MARTINA REESE, Director of Marketing and Communications for Graduate and Innovative Programs

Ranked among the top 100 Best Online Bachelor’s Programs in the nation by U.S. News and World Report, Concordia-Chicago’s Accelerated Degree Program (ADP) is designed for adults desiring to advance their careers by earning an associate or bachelor’s degree while maintaining commitments to work and family. The fast-moving curriculum design, composed of 5- and 8-week courses, and delivered 100 percent online, allows for degree completion in as little as 16 months, depending on the number of transfer credits accepted at the time of admission. Enrollment trends indicate that Concordia-Chicago’s suite of online undergraduate degree programs provides an ideal combination of convenience and career advancement potential for today’s busy adult students.

“The Accelerated Degree Program has shown outstanding growth over the past five years,” reports Tina Lilly BA ’96, MBA ’15, director of enrollment for ADP. “With a diversity of program offerings and community college partnerships, we have been able to meet the demands of adult students, who in turn enrich the academic experience for all by bringing their years of work experience into the online classroom.”

ADP students typically place a high value on expanding their career opportunity. “I have been a Concordia-Chicago student for three years now and it has been by far one of my best educational experiences,” observes Claudia Cattouse, who received her BA in organizational management in Spring 2019, and is currently in the second semester of the dual degree MBA program. “By earning my BA and continuing immediately into the MBA program, my job opportunities expanded. I went from being a program coordinator to executive director for one of the largest hospitality unions in the country.”

The BS in kinesiology has shown tremendous growth since its launch in Fall 2018. “The ADP all-online kinesiology program is attracting growing numbers of
Choose the path to achieve your career goals

Concordia-Chicago’s undergraduate accelerated degree programs are designed to open doors and promote career advancement in high-growth employment sectors:

- AA, Organizational Management
- BA, Health Care Management
- BA, Organizational Management
- BA, Sports and Recreation Management
- BS, Human Resource Management
- BS, Kinesiology

Enrollment Surges in Online Undergraduate Degrees

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>AY 2018-19</th>
<th>AY 2019-20</th>
<th>Growth ▲</th>
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<tr>
<td>New Program Registrations</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>34%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enrollment in Key Programs*</td>
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<tr>
<td>College of DuPage 3+1</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>60%</td>
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<tr>
<td>BS, Kinesiology</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>114</td>
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*total number of students currently enrolled

highly motivated students,” observes Desiray Langston, admission and advising specialist for ADP. “This popular program prepares students to enter careers in which they serve others by applying the principles of kinesiology to enhance their clients’ wellbeing and quality of life.”

Community College 3+1 Partnerships

Concordia-Chicago’s 3+1 partnerships with two area community colleges deliver the benefits of ADP’s streamlined approach to students beyond the River Forest campus. College of DuPage students who have completed a two-year Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degree are eligible to apply up to 96 credit hours earned at COD toward a Bachelor of Arts degree in health care management from Concordia-Chicago. Taught by Concordia-Chicago faculty either online or on the College of DuPage’s campus in Glen Ellyn, third- and fourth-year courses are offered at COD’s tuition rate.

Similarly, the 3+1 partnership with Triton College provides a pathway for students who have earned a three-year associate degree in health, sport and exercise science to earn a BA in sports and recreation management from Concordia-Chicago by taking a fourth year of online courses taught by Concordia-Chicago’s exceptional faculty.

Dual Degree: Fast Track to Master’s

Students who earn a Bachelor of Arts through Concordia-Chicago’s Accelerated Degree Program are eligible for the dual degree pathway toward a master’s degree. Dual degrees save students both time and money: the admission process is simplified and up to two graduate-level classes are waived. Concordia-Chicago offers three dual degrees, a BA to MA in leadership studies; BA to MA in sports leadership; and BA/BS to Master of Business Administration (MBA).

Tamara Smith earned her BA in organizational management through Concordia-Chicago’s ADP in Fall 2018. She was attracted to the program because its online delivery made it possible for her to work at her own pace while maintaining a full-time work schedule. Bachelor’s degree in hand, Tamara decided to proceed immediately toward the dual degree MBA with a specialization in finance. “My transition into the MBA program was seamless,” she says. “I am excited to begin this next chapter.”

Concordia-Chicago’s Accelerated Degree Program looks forward to continued enrollment growth as students seek out programs that allow them to pursue career advancement while managing other life demands. “Having the flexibility of being able to plan out study time and virtual school time is a great option with my and my family’s schedule,” reflects Jose Olvera, who proudly earned his AA in organizational management in 2019.

1. Concordia-Chicago ADP students can complete their degrees 100 percent online, on a flexible schedule that allows them to maintain commitments to work and family.
Creating a Best-in-Class Website

CUC Debuts New, Comprehensive Online Presence

The digital landscape continues to evolve at an unprecedented pace, offering prospective students an infinite and ever-changing pool of resources to learn about universities. Students view official university websites as the de-facto, trustworthy source when researching college choices, which is why providing them with one that cuts through the clutter of online resources is a priority.

But just having a website doesn’t mean that students are finding the information they are seeking. According to a recent article in Inside Higher Ed, “Websites are the most important digital tool colleges have to reach potential students, so they need to be clear, easy to navigate and mobile-friendly.”

Concordia University Chicago introduced its last major website redesign in 2012. “Since the debut of our last website, the way people navigate the internet has changed drastically,” says Eric Matanyi, CUC’s Associate Vice President for Communications and Marketing. “Today, a majority of visitors to CUC’s website are using tablets and smartphones. And while our previous site was mobile friendly, our new one is designed with a mobile-first strategy in mind.” Matanyi also noted that expectations for content have changed. “Today’s most successful websites are decidedly visual, focusing on high-resolution photography and presenting written content in a more concise format than in the past.” In short, it was time for a change.

Nearly 18 months in the making, the University launched a complete and comprehensive new website on April 21. The new best-in-class digital property combines content from two websites: CUC’s former main site and a separate one focused on graduate programs. In order to tackle this monumental project, CUC worked with two outside consultants: Ologie, a nationally recognized name in higher education marketing, oversaw the discovery, design and creative portions of the project; and Blend Interactive, a top award-winning organization, was tapped to manage the IT development and web implementation.

“The most important part of the project was ensuring that we built a site around our users’ needs,” notes Matanyi. CUC and a team of research experts from Ologie began the project by executing an intensive, multi-week series of one-on-one interviews, focus groups, competitor audits, surveys and fact finding to gather as much data as possible.

The new site accomplishes five primary goals that were developed as a result of the discovery research:

• Unify the institution’s online presence by combining two separate, non-congruent

A Brief History

1995 - Present

1995 – First website launched
2000 – News-focused homepage design

Your World Opens Up From Here

170+ areas of undergraduate, graduate and doctoral study

45+ student clubs and organizations

10 miles from downtown Chicago

2001 - Site redesigned to support recruitment

2005 - University status represented on homepage

2007 - New homepage layout introduced
One of the primary challenges of combining two, dated websites was ensuring that all content on the new site had a single voice and focus. As a result, much of the copy on the new website is either new or rewritten with a tone that expresses a common set of traits—compassionate, ethical, dedicated, approachable and straightforward. Content was also created with four key components in mind:

- **Vocation** – Dedication to helping students discern their vocation and develop their innate talents to take out into the world and be of service to others.
- **Community** – Cultivating community in many ways, internally and externally, supporting and serving community members and all students, including those studying online.
- **Empowerment** – Equipping students with lifelong skills, helping them gain employability, find career trajectories and reach their full potential.
- **Learning** – Empowering students to become ethical servant leaders through a holistic and personalized experience with academic options to suit the needs of each individual.

None of this would’ve been possible without the support and hard work of the University’s digital team, which oversaw the project from start to finish and handled the final five-month, hands-on build out of the site. The team, which is chaired by Director of Digital Content Jon Cecero, consists of Director of Web Services Aaron Schalk, Social Media and Digital Marketing Coordinator Marlene Calderon, and Matanyi. In addition, the project was guided by an internal core advisory team comprising individuals from the University’s many constituent groups, to ensure that constant feedback was received throughout the project. “We would also like to extend deep gratitude and thanks to the Board of Regents and President’s Cabinet for making this project an institutional priority and for their strong support and guidance,” Matanyi says.

1. The University’s new website features a highly-visual, mobile-first approach focused on the needs of end users.
Growing Our Mission

BY: JEFFREY C. HYNES, Senior Vice President for University Advancement and Foundation President and CEO

Greetings, Friends of Concordia-Chicago,

Our spring semester was in full swing when the world as we know it shifted radically. The coronavirus outbreak meant that students who had been attending class on campus started learning remotely. Athletic teams had their seasons end abruptly. Seniors who were looking forward to graduating would have to postpone their celebrations.

Perhaps it’s an understatement to say that this was a strange time to start a new job. I became president and CEO of the Concordia University Chicago Foundation in January. In April my position expanded when I received the additional title of senior vice president for university advancement.

I’ve been at CUC for 17 years, beginning in 2003 as head football coach. For most of my tenure, I have served as dean of students and senior vice president for student life. I cherished these roles. But when our new president, Dr. Russell Dawn, asked me to step into a new position, I saw it as an opportunity for a different kind of service.

I could not have anticipated that our work would soon focus on guiding this institution through a crisis. There is much we still don’t know about the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak. But we are sure of a few important things. We know that we can respond quickly, flexibly and strategically to meet the needs of our students. Our faculty, staff and students are doing an admirable job teaching and learning in this new context.

Our ministries supporting the University community continue with a renewed sense of purpose. Services from pastoral care to academic advising are helping our students navigate this uncharted territory. I am proud of the fact that our new dean of students, Kathy Gebhardt, initiated a plan to make personal contact with every single student, graduate and undergraduate. We learned that while our students miss being on campus, they are getting thoughtful, caring guidance from faculty and staff.

We also know that our mission continues. My mandate is the same: to grow the University’s relationships with alumni, friends and supporters (that’s you). After many years serving students directly, I have an in-depth understanding of how this University works and what our students need to succeed.

Right now, your gifts to this University are critically important. With your support and partnership, we will make it to the other side of this crisis. I firmly believe that our community is strong enough to overcome the challenges presented by the coronavirus. We will come out of this better than ever.

Most importantly, our faith is constant. Nothing can shake our belief in the mercy and goodness of Jesus Christ. From this we gain the strength to see this pandemic as an opportunity to serve others with compassion and love. That’s at the heart of our mission as a University. That’s what we send our students out into the world to do. And that’s what we’re doing now, with every tool available to us.

Stay strong, Concordia-Chicago. We’ll get through this together.

God’s Blessings,

Jeffrey C. Hynes

Spring 2020 Forester 15
Growing Our Mission
CU CELEBRATES!
Together, We’re 100% CUC!
Concordia-Chicago Community Sets New Giving Day Record

BY: PAIGE CRAIG BA ’99, MBA ’14, Senior Director, Alumni Relations & Annual Giving

CU Celebrates, Concordia-Chicago’s fourth annual giving day, occurs each spring and brings the entire University community together to show the world we are 100% behind the CUC mission and the students we serve. This year’s theme demonstrated a unifier that every gift matters, no matter the size.

On March 3, nearly 300 shared more than $100,000 supporting every area of the University. Multiple partners stepped forward to ensure CU Celebrates 2020 was a record-breaking day. Pledges from $1,000 to $10,000 offered dollar-for-dollar matches to gifts for scholarships, music programs, athletic initiatives and capital renovations.

“We knew our team set an ambitious goal, but we also knew many alumni and friends have stepped up in the past,” says President Russell Dawn. “We feel blessed that God led and provided for our students in this momentous way.”

These alumni and friends are just a few of the supporters who are 100% CUC and share the core belief that regular giving is paramount to securing Concordia-Chicago’s future.

Tim Bayer BA ’05 has a passion for music investing much of his undergraduate time in Kretzmann Hall as a four-year VOICE in the Kapelle, CUC’s premier touring choir.

“As a non-music major, I appreciated the opportunity to be part of the Kapelle family,” says Bayer. “Kapelle provided a space outside of my focus of study to develop lifelong friendships while sharing a mutual love for music and faith.”

Tim and his wife, Beth, have already taken steps to ensure future “Kapellicans” can have a similar experience by including Concordia University Chicago in their estate plan. Their bequest gift will create a Beyond Measure scholarship for another non-music major in the choir.

The Bayers also helped today’s students with their CU Celebrates gift to the Choir Room Renovation project. Alumni and friends shared more than $15,600, including a generous match from an anonymous alumnus, which will improve acoustics and add state-of-the-art technology. “We are 100% behind this project so that future generations of students can find their place at the intersection of music and faith,” said Bayer.

An internationally recognized scientist, Dr. Alvin Czanderna spent his career studying surfaces. However, he’s not a superficial guy. Czanderna’s leadership in his local congregations and service on the LCMS’s Board for Higher Education (1973-1986) provided firsthand opportunities to learn about the financial need of students at our LCMS universities.

These efforts inspired Czanderna and his late wife, Lucile, to share $1,500 in 1976 to create a scholarship fund at Concordia-
Chicago that supports students preparing for full-time church work. The Czanderna Educational Endowment Fund has since been fully funded and will soon provide $1,500 in financial aid annually.

“The Bible is so powerful, and I’m grateful that Concordia-Chicago uses biblically based doctrine in its curriculum,” says Czanderna, “I’m continuing to give to ensure doctrinally trained teachers are readied for the classroom”

This inspiration is one reason Czanderna pledged a challenge to fellow CUCelebrates supporters. His matching gift was able to generate more than $16,300 for professional church work scholarships.

For Meghan Sleezer, assistant professor of mathematics, participating in CUCelebrates is quite logical. “Mathematically (giving) makes sense! Every little bit adds up,” says Sleezer.

During the first CUCelebrates three years ago, Sleezer pledged her support of CUC’s Pillars Fund and scholarships for professional church work students and continues to give each month. “We are blessed with amazing minds God made for each of us,” Sleezer notes. “It’s my vocation to instill the love of math concepts and problem-solving in future teachers so that their students will in turn see math as a worthwhile venture.”

Sleezer also recognizes that faculty and staff participation has a long-term effect, “When a University can say 100% of employees financially support their organization, corporations and foundations take note. For the sake of the church, we each must demonstrate this passion for our mission.”

Still Want to CUCelebrate? Return your CUCelebrates pledge card, call the Foundation Office at 866-448-3867, or give online at CUCHicago.edu/CUCelebrates.
As any Concordia-Chicago alum knows, the Concordia Invitational Tournament (CIT) is a very special event, especially once every four years when it is hosted in River Forest. That was the case in January 2020 as many alumni were welcomed back to renew acquaintances, relive memories and celebrate 60 years of women’s athletics.

Halftime of the Friday night CUC women’s game saw many female athletes gathered at center court, representing all eras from the earliest pioneers to present-day athletes. As a brief history was read to the crowd, the newest banner in Geiseman Gymnasium, representing the 60-year milestone, was marched onto the floor and unveiled for the honorees and the packed house.
Women’s athletics was also celebrated with a pictorial display of highlights from each decade, and a video featuring conversations with several athletes from the early years (watch it [here](#)).

The weekend served to remind everyone how far women’s athletics has come since 1959-60, when Fran (Becker) Koenig greenlighted “extramural” play for women’s sports, and approximately 75 Concordia women would begin playing other schools in badminton, basketball, field hockey, softball, tennis and volleyball. The ’60s would see gradual increases in participation and interest, thanks to organizations such as the Women’s Athletic Association and the Illinois Association for Athletics and Recreation Federation of College Women, the latter an event that Concordia had opportunity to host in 1961 and 1965.

The decade was also notable for the arrival of Dr. Lois Klatt in 1963 and Professor Judy Kretzschmar in 1968. Between the two of them, they would serve Concordia-Chicago a combined 75 years and coach most of the women’s sports available. In 1965, when Klatt was coaching the “Kittens” basketball team (as the Cougar women were once called) and Kretzschmar the “Lady Bulldogs” at Concordia Seward, the two had the idea to introduce women’s basketball into CIT, and the two sides would play a single game at that year’s tournament. The idea would evolve through the ’70s until, in 1977, women’s basketball at CIT established its current four-team format, complete with all-tournament teams.

The ’70s was a crucial decade for women’s athletics, not only at the University but across the land with the advent of Title IX in 1972. At Concordia-Chicago, the increased opportunity for women was a contributing factor to the rising success of some of the programs. Volleyball placed third in the state tournament in 1975 and won its first three conference titles in 1978, 1979 and 1980. Basketball earned two conference championships in the 1978-79 and 1979-80 seasons. Gymnastics made its debut and won the state meet at the beginner level. Track and field began in 1977 under the direction of Linda “Chick” Lillis BA ’77. By only its second year, they had won the State Small College meet in Champaign, IL. Coach Lillis herself was a unique example of finding opportunities in sport, as she was a member of USA Team Handball during her undergraduate days while also lettering in four sports.

The ’80s saw the dominance of women’s tennis, with Tom Faszholz’s teams winning eight straight conference titles from 1982 to 1989, to this day a record for any of Concordia-Chicago’s programs. Two programs enjoyed a special year in 1984, with women’s basketball winning CIT, under Coach Al Hermann BA ’64, and later a conference title (repeating those feats in 1986). The softball team went 18-6 with their first conference title and a No. 14 ranking in the nation. This group, under the direction of Conrad Aumann, would become the University’s first women’s team to be inducted into the CUC Athletics Hall of Fame in 2019.

The ’90s brought about a number of firsts for Cougar athletics: the first women’s athletic director in Janet Fisher BA ’76 (who also served as head coach for basketball and softball); Concordia’s first women’s All-American athlete in track and field star Davina (Polk) Lausen BA ’93, who won for the triple jump at the 1992 indoor nationals; and first female coach to win 200 games (for volleyball) in Mara (Rautenberg) Schmidt BA ’79. Schmidt’s run of success included a program-best 26-8 record in 1993 and a conference title in 1995 behind the play of conference MVP Kathy (Krohe) Gebhardt BA ’96.

The first decade of the new millennium ushered in soccer for both genders, and the women’s program would be led in its early days by Kristin (Prange) Veldhuizen BA ’07 and Kari (Zielke) Brennan BA ’09 MA ’13, both of whom won all-conference honors all four years and continue to hold career records. The cross-country team would earn a conference championship in 2003 behind Jayme (Hardy) Wier BA ’05, who finished first and won conference Runner of the Year honors.
The decade of the 2010s was marked by the addition of lacrosse, and CUC’s newest program for women began to blossom with its first winning season in 2019. Cougars’ softball flourished, led by Melissa Balkema BA ’19 being awarded a third-team All-American in 2018 and a per-season All-American in 2019 by the National Fastpitch Coaches Association. Women’s track and field has earned an abundance of All-American honors in recent years, led by Kayla Armstrong’s four. Simone Wilson has two awards, while Chelsea Wilson BA ‘18, Courtney Lofink BA ‘18 and Jessica (Wilson) Brandt BA ‘19 have won one each.

The history of women’s athletics at Concordia University Chicago is indeed a rich one, steeped in tradition. One can only wonder how many more chapters will be added to the story as we enter the decade of the 2020s.

Competitive Fire: Dirvelys Allen Leads the Way for CUC Cheer/Dance

Wherever you find schools with athletics programs, you will almost always find cheerleaders. At Concordia-Chicago, even before women began participating in intercollegiate athletics (see accompanying story), cheerleaders roamed the sidelines for football and basketball games and were instrumental in revving up the crowds. But over the years, some argued that cheerleaders couldn’t be considered athletes.

Since her early days at Concordia-Chicago, Dirvelys “Dee” (Velasquez) Allen BA ’07, MBA ’10 has been on a mission to change that way of thinking. And looking at the CUC Cheer & Dance teams, you would have to say that she is succeeding tremendously. This year’s CIT Cheer/Dance competition and the Illinois Collegiate Dance Invitational are perfect examples of a new form of sports competition among us.

Allen grew up in Chicago and became involved in both softball and cheer/dance from an early age through high school and college. When it was time to make a college choice, she was partially influenced by the example of her father, who is a pastor. “The faith-based aspect was a big reason why I chose Concordia-Chicago,” says Allen. She enrolled as a physical education major but soon changed to exercise science with the thoughts of becoming an athletic trainer. Allen also became a member of the dance team on day one, first under the direction of Leanna Butterfield, Liz Cearlock BA ’04 and finally Wendy (Given) Perusich MA ’07.

When Allen was in her senior year, she learned that Given would be leaving. Having coached in high school and served in leadership positions in middle school through high school, Allen saw an opportunity for what the program could grow to be. Knowing that the program “could bring more value to the University and the student experience,” Allen indicated her interest in the position to director of athletics Pete Gnan.

In the fall of 2007, Allen took over as coach for the program. By 2008, she was getting requests for information about Concordia-Chicago, and would have a good ally in the admissions office, her sister Diliana (Velasquez) Nolan BA ’08. Eventually, Allen was making high school visits and attending local competitions, hitting the “recruiting trail” much like any other coach.

Meanwhile, Allen was already at work making changes within the program. In 2008, the team voted on a new name for themselves—The Dazzlers—and they would test the competitive waters with the Xtreme Spirit event in Elgin. “This was a chance to put our name on the map,” remembers Allen, and the team would eventually begin making plans to add more competitions. Dance teams from member Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference schools began hosting competitions in 2014, and that same year would see the Cougars travel to the Wisconsin Dells for the Kalihari Xtreme Spirit competition. The following year gave the cheer portion of the team one of their first opportunities with the Cheer LTD Nationals in Myrtle Beach, SC.

As competitions were being added, the addition of an assistant coach was necessary. One of Allen’s former Dazzlers, Sarah Mounger BA ‘13, had come on board in 2013 and stayed for two years. After one year without an assistant, Allen was searching again in the fall of 2016, looking for “someone who loved the program as much as I did and saw the potential for growth.” She found her
assistant in Molly Maas BA ’12, another of her former charges who had captained the team her sophomore through senior years. When the Dazzlers made the move during the 2017-18 year to split into two distinct teams, Maas would oversee the cheer team while Allen would focus on the dance team.

The last few years have not only seen the competitive opportunities increase for the team, but they have also given the CUC faithful chances to see the team up close and appreciate the skillfulness and technique that accompany it. In 2014, 2018 and 2019, the team qualified for the National Cheerleaders Association (NCA) and the National Dance Alliance (NDA) Collegiate National Championship in Daytona Beach, FL. In 2020, the team also received a bid to the NDA before the COVID-19 crisis caused a cancellation of their plans. Hopefully, another opportunity awaits the team in the near future.

In 2018, the CIT cheer/dance competition was first incorporated into the tournament. The CIT event has now been a part of the weekend’s events for three years, with the crowd at CUC having the chance to experience the excitement of CIT’s newest tradition. Cougar fans supported their teams avidly and backed both the cheer and dance teams to second-place finishes.

On Feb. 8, the dance team returned to the Geiseman Gymnasium spotlight, hosting the Illinois Collegiate Dance Invitational. The five-team meet showcased not only the full-group routines, which were chosen from among a variety of genres and styles, but also 15 solo performances (three from each school). As was the case at CIT, an appreciative crowd gave positive feedback that there is an audience for this type of event. CUC fans were thrilled when the dance team won first place in the hip-hop division and third place in the jazz division.

As far back as her earliest days in the position, when Allen first presented her vision of the program to Gnan, she has never wavered in her belief that “This is an important program that impacts the lives of students and our university in positive ways.” She is thankful to those in the administration that “see and support the value of what our teams do,” and she continues to look for opportunities to expand the impact of this program.

“ Especially in the last five years, we have seen more growth and innovation in the sports of cheer and dance. The athleticism and skill they take continue to gain more support and interest at all levels, especially in high school and college,” says Allen. With that in mind, Allen looks forward to further strengthening CUC’s program. Like any other coach in any other sport, Allen values those who “want to compete and work hard,” but also those that fit in to the big picture. “We want to always have a program that is purposeful, glorifies God in our performance and builds better leaders.”

1. Sara (Kuske) Dahms BA ’86, MA ’91, Sharon (Gerding) Boos BA ’70, Lynne (Velguth) Zillman BA ’76, Jan Fisher BA ’76, T75 ’06, Prof. Judy Kretzschmar, Chick Lillis BA ’77, Dr. Lois Klatt, Lynn Korff BA ’85, MA ’91, Barbara (Bramstadt) Korntheuer BA ’74, and Dr. Harold Brockberg gather at CIT in January.

2. The CUC dance team doing what they do best, pumping up a crowd in Geiseman Gymnasium.
You’re invited to

Maroon & Gold

Saturday, September 26, 2020

This signature event brings the entire Concordia-Chicago community together to celebrate and demonstrate our ongoing support for the University while benefitting student scholarships.

Join us for a notable evening as Geiseman Gymnasium is transformed into a memorable backdrop for fine dining, entertainment and festive attire as we recognize individuals who have brought honor to their alma mater while impacting future leaders.

2020 Distinguished Awardees

Marva (Gersmehl) Dawn
BA ’70
Spiritus Christi

Donald Christian
BA ’81
Distinguished Alumni, Undergraduate

Theresa Straub
MA ’07
Distinguished Alumni, Graduate

Purchase Tickets, Become a Sponsor and Give to Scholarship at CUChicago.edu/MG2020

Presented by the

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
International Students Seek Globally Aware Business Education at CUC

BY: MARTINA REESE, Director of Marketing and Communications for Graduate and Innovative Programs

In today’s globalized economy, interaction among diverse students and faculty and global competency are essential components of preparing for a business career. Concordia-Chicago is currently home to MBA students from 20 countries spanning the globe. The presence of these students provides a distinctive educational benefit to the entire Concordia-Chicago community.

Over the past six years, Concordia-Chicago’s MBA program has experienced a dramatic increase in enrollment by students whose citizenship and primary residence lie outside the U.S. From a modest 30-student international cohort present during the 2014-15 academic year, the number of international MBA students has grown steadily—for the past four years it has hovered in the vicinity of 200 students. For the 2019-20 academic year, 183 international students are enrolled in the MBA program, a remarkable achievement for the University in light of recent, increasingly restrictive student visa policies that have diminished the flow of international students to U.S. institutions of higher learning.

“CUC attracts international MBA students for many of the same reasons it attracts domestic students,” reports Elisabeth Dellegrazie, chair for international academic programs and assistant professor of marketing and leadership in the College of Business. “Concordia-Chicago’s small class sizes and sense of community allow students to build strong, supportive relationships with the faculty. At the same time, many students—both domestic and international—seek out the program because business ethics grounded in Christian principles are integral to the curriculum.”

Of the 445 students currently enrolled in Concordia-Chicago’s MBA program, 41% are international students. The countries currently represented on campus by the largest numbers of MBA students are, in descending order, Uzbekistan, China, India, Pakistan, Thailand, Vietnam, Mongolia and Turkey.

“I interact with people from different fields, different ages and cultures. I will apply all this to gain new perspectives that will help me become not only a better student and worker, but also a better person.

—Pablo Diaz Prado, international MBA student

Kanwal Irfan, who completed a bachelor’s degree at Forman Christian College in her native Lahore, Pakistan, was drawn to Concordia-Chicago’s MBA program by its credibility and excellent faculty. Now pursuing an MBA with a specialization in business management, Kanwal attributes her enhanced critical thinking and research skills to the written assignments and opinion-based papers required for her coursework. At the same time, she notes, class participation has developed her confidence level and communication skills.

After graduation, Kanwal plans to become an entrepreneur. “During the MBA program,” Kanwal reports, “I have learned how to develop a business strategy plan and how to manage a business along the journey.” Inspired by personal stories shared by program faculty about their own successful careers, Kanwal has been empowered to “strive to achieve what I am passionate about in life.”

After earning two Bachelor of Science degrees—one in mechanical engineering and another in management—then establishing his own printing and sales business, Mussie Gebrecherkos channeled his ambition toward an MBA with a specialization in digital marketing. From his hometown of Mekelle, Ethiopia,
Mussie researched U.S. business schools and settled on Concordia-Chicago because it is, he observes, “a diverse university near one of the biggest cities in the U.S.”

On the University’s River Forest campus, Mussie is learning in classrooms led by faculty he describes as “very qualified and knowledgeable instructors.” On the far side of his MBA, Mussie plans to work in the business world as a private contractor in business analysis, research and strategy. He wants to pay it forward, too. In the years ahead, he says, “I want to be involved in teaching and inspiring more people.”

Pablo Diaz Prado entered Concordia-Chicago’s MBA program with two journalism degrees earned in Madrid, Spain, and professional experience as a sports journalist. Pablo considers Puebla, Mexico, to be home; he also holds Spanish citizenship. With a strong academic and career track already well in place, Pablo sought out Concordia-Chicago for his MBA with a specialization in sports management. Why Concordia-Chicago? Pablo’s answer is short: “It’s one of the best programs in the U.S.”

“Our students learn vital cross-cultural skills when they encounter a variety of international communication styles,” observes Dana Sendziol, associate professor of business. “In the long view, many students benefit over the course of their careers from the personal and professional international connections initiated at Concordia-Chicago.”

The presence of international students is positive not only for educational institutions such as Concordia-Chicago, but for the U.S. economy as a whole. The continued growth in the number of international students seeking higher education at U.S. institutions has a significant positive economic impact, contributing $45 billion to the U.S. economy in 2018, according to the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Pablo Diaz Prado has flourished at Concordia-Chicago. Here, he says, “I interact with people from different fields, different ages and cultures. I will apply all this to gain new perspectives that will help me become not only a better student and worker, but also a better person.”

1. Domestic and international students gather at a meeting of the Graduate Business Student Association in October 2019.
Designation as a President’s Honor Scholar or a President’s Community College Transfer Scholar is Concordia University Chicago’s highest academic honor for new students. Students who earn this full-tuition scholarship have met rigorous academic standards, and will continue to meet them throughout their undergraduate studies at CUC. Incoming freshmen must have maintained a 3.75 GPA in high school, and a minimum ACT composite score of 30, SAT total score of 1360 or designation as a National Merit Semi-Finalist. Incoming transfer students must have a minimum 3.8 college GPA, an earned A.A. or A.S. degree, and Phi Theta Kappa member recognition.
Joy Greco uses her voice in many ways. As a singer, she participated in many choirs in high school, including District Chorus, All-State Honors Chorus and Honors Madrigal Singers. She is majoring in music education at CUC.

At Riverside-Brookfield High School, Joy was involved in Tri-M/Modern Music Masters, an academic honors society with a focus on music-based community service; the Clarion school newspaper; theater; the AP Music Theory Club, which she founded and served as president; National Honor Society; St. Paul’s Lutheran Church vacation Bible school; Best Buddies; Young Life; and volleyball, where she played outside hitter and was named an all-academic athlete.

Joy has enjoyed her first year at Concordia-Chicago, participating in Kapelle, intramural volleyball, the prayer and praise team, and the Honors College Council. “There are so many great opportunities I plan to take advantage of in the years ahead, including studying for a semester in Washington D.C.” she says. “I am so thankful that God placed me here and I can't wait for next year!”

Jordan Holliday faces an ethical dilemma, he tells himself, “God has a reason for everything and has our best interests at heart. Even when it’s hard, He has a reason, and while we might not see it, God really does know best.”

Jordan is a multi-instrumentalist who was highly involved in student activities at Walther Christian Academy. He was a part of jazz band as a trumpet and piano player, praise band as a piano player, Christian Minstrels as tenor section leader, Sinfonietta DuPage as principal viola, Lutheran Youth Choir, and has served as organist at his church. He has also participated in chess club and church youth group. In his senior year of high school, Jordan was recognized as an Illinois State Scholar.

He got an early start on the Concordia-Chicago experience by playing French horn with the University Band his junior and senior years of high school. Jordan's dedication to growing as a musician will serve him well as he studies to become a Director of Parish Music.

At Concordia Lutheran High School, Caleb Martin wasn't afraid to challenge himself with academics and a variety of activities—but he had to work up to that. Initially, pursuing new things like drama and the honors program caused him hesitation. But as he moved forward and succeeded, he found that, “Failure no longer instills fear in me, because I know that…failure often comes before success.”

Caleb's other extracurricular activities included his high school's Honors Academy, peer ministry program, Emmanuel Lutheran Church youth group, Koinonia ministry group leader, National Honor Society and the varsity baseball team. He has also served as a tutor, Little League coach and church office assistant.

“My first year at Concordia-Chicago has been incredible. I am so thankful to be a part of such a warm and welcoming community,” says Caleb, who appreciates the many opportunities on campus to get involved and make lifelong friends. “I am grateful that Concordia-Chicago has become my home and I am excited to grow in my vocation as a future teacher and child of God.”
**Quincy, IL | Deaconess Studies**

Elizabeth Fodor was never going to let anyone think less of her accomplishments because she was home-schooled. Determined to prove herself during junior year of high school, she enrolled in courses at her local community college. She kept taking classes, and ended up with straight As and the ability to graduate high school early.

Elizabeth takes pride in her achievements because they come from hard work. “My strong work ethic is what will follow me into an adult vocation,” she says. “I will remember that getting what I want takes consistency and a positive attitude.”

**Columbia, MO | Theater and Business**

Amanda Thieme appreciates the value of confronting what’s difficult in order to grow. “Overcoming challenges changes a person,” she says. After giving her first big public speech, “I realized it was worth the fear that comes with it, because fear should not stand in the way of doing what is important.” Amanda recognized that being the best public speaker didn’t matter—what mattered was that she tried something new and grew her confidence.

At Calvary Lutheran High School, Amanda’s activities included International Thespian Society, where she served as president, Key Club, speech and debate team, choir, theater, National Honor Society, Trinity Lutheran Church vacation Bible school, Future Teachers of America, God’s People Serving 4 Life and Bags for the Homeless.

Inspired by the play “Every Brilliant Thing,” Amanda keeps a list of everything that makes her happy in life. “Even if the dark seems to overpower the light in the world, there are still brilliant things to keep the light shining,” she says. “I am in the world to help others see that, too.”

**Lenexa, KS | Elementary Education (LTE)**

Jesse Schultz knows how to chase after opportunities and embrace those presented to him. His desire to make a difference leads him to, as he says, “step through the open doors in life.”

At Lutheran High School of Kansas City, Jesse participated in student council, band, choir, drama and National Honor Society. He served on numerous mission trips, as a teacher’s aide at Calvary Lutheran School and as a leader at Camp LuWiSoMo, a camp for developmentally disabled adults. He was a district champion track athlete and four-year all-state medalist in cross country.

After only a year at CUC, Jesse says, “I have been blessed with remarkable friends and professors who daily challenge and encourage me in my efforts to become a Lutheran schoolteacher. I get to attend a university where I hear and learn about God’s Word each and every day, whether it be in chapel, small-group Bible studies or theology classes. I am excited to see how God continues to work through all of us here at Concordia University Chicago these next few years!”

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Association Benefits Grow through Alumni Participation

BY: PAIGE CRAIG BA ’99, MBA ’14, Senior Director, Alumni Relations & Annual Giving

Since first meeting in fall 2018, Concordia-Chicago’s Alumni Association Board of Directors has been working diligently to connect and engage with alumni to inspire greater contribution to the University. The current 10-member team hails from six states representing various generations and disciplines.

The Board of Directors presented updates at the Alumni Association Annual Meeting on Homecoming Saturday, Oct. 26, 2019. Highlights included six objectives developed to serve fellow and future alumni:

- **Grow Alumni Participation** to support the University’s mission
- **Expand Maroon & Gold** to increase student scholarships
- **Enrich Awards Program** to recognize distinguished graduates
- **Augment Affinity Socials** to partner personally and professionally
- **Support Promotions** to amplify reach of University communications
- **Establish Mentorship** to connect students with alumni network

At Concordia-Chicago, alumni is described as anyone who has taken a class at the University, and Alumni Association membership is open to all alumni. Membership benefits are growing out of each of the Board’s objectives, and alumni may have already noticed improvements through the Board of Director’s effort.

For example, Cougars Connect launched in fall 2019 to expand professional networking opportunities. Plans are in process to expand the event across Chicagoland as well as to other regions of the country with a high concentration of Cougars. A new mentorship program is also in the works with a tentative launch schedule for fall 2020.

Alumni participation is the foundation on which the University’s future success is built. This measure (how many alumni give, not how much is given) has a long-term effect and demonstrates Concordia-Chicago alumni are dedicated to the University’s mission, purpose and future initiatives.

Want to get involved? Information about Alumni Association membership and ways to get involved will be shared in the coming weeks. In the meantime, visit CUCHicago.edu/Alumni, email alumni@CUChicago.edu or call the Office of Alumni Relations at 888-258-6773.

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1. Board members pictured with Paige Craig and Jeff Hynes (seated) at October 2019 meeting are (left to right) Paula Wegner, Maritza Medrano, Joel Zielke, Jan Fisher, David Dwyer and Matthew T. Frick.
Class Notes

Congratulations to Concordia-Chicago alumni recognized as Distinguished Educators by the Lutheran Education Association. 2020 awardees include Charles Winterstein BA ’71, MA ’88 (Christus Magister), Roy Stuckwisch CQ ’10 (Early Childhood Administrator), David Bahr BA ’87 (Secondary Educator), Brian Young BA ’67 (Retired Educator “EncourAGING”) and Allyson Hoger BA ’17 (New Elementary Teacher).

1960s

Friends from the Class of 1964, who gather every other year, met in August 2019 in Minnesota’s Twin Cities. Pictured left to right Grace (Petzoldt) Schmit, Susie (Pergande) Meyer, Janet (Socha) Kasper, Marilyn (Stein) Weiser, Eunice (Timm) Miller, and Judi (Schroeder) Capouch. The “Super Eight” missed having Alice (Kratt) Smith and Audrey (Buntrock) Paepke.

1970s

Randy Schroeder BS ’74, released “Simple Habits for Marital Happiness” in March 2020 on Amazon.com. The book suggests skills and tools for seven major areas of marriage to help couples enhance spiritual, emotional and physical oneness.

Arthur Wenzel BA ’74 retired in June 2017 after 20 years as teacher and music director at Emmanuel Lutheran Church in rural Fort Wayne, IN and 23 years a minister of music at St. Peter’s Lutheran Church and School in Fort Wayne. During this time, he earned a master’s in education from Indiana University in 1980. Arthur now enjoys reading, going to movies, and more time with his three children and two grandchildren.

1980s

Michael Carter BA ’86 recently released “Songs of My Soul,” a compilation of poetry praising God for his blessings, on Amazon.com. These poems are intended to encourage and tell the story of God’s love through Jesus Christ.

Adrienne (Muraski) Landgrave BA ’86 received an Award of Meritorious Service by the Illinois State Board of Education in 2019. She was also honored by the Heritage Corridor Business Alliance as SD113a Educator of the year. Adrienne serves as 2nd grade teacher at Oakwood School in Lemont, IL.

1990s

Julie (Schmidt) Dueker BA ’92 recently published “Because of You Old Glory Flies,” which shows God’s loving promises through poetry and artwork for U.S. military and veterans. Books can be ordered at JulieDueker.com.

2000s

Thomas BS ’06 and Amanda (August) Woodruff MA ’11 welcomed their son, Noah Ryland, on Sept. 17, 2019.
Matthew BA ’07, MA ’10 and wife Sarah (Wesemann) Rasmussen BA ’10 welcomed their third child, Micah John, born on Oct. 21, 2019. Siblings, Grace and Elijah, are super excited!

Betsy (Kohl) Lash BA ’08 and her husband, Russ, welcomed their son, Ezra, on Aug. 16, 2019.

Kristen Winsemann BA ’08 and husband, Ryan, welcomed their third child, Cy William, on March 4, 2019.

Jaymes Hayes BA ’10 and wife, Lindsey, welcomed their second child, Lydia, in August 2019.

Ashley (Jensema) Brandmahl BA ’11 and husband, Joshua, welcomed their first child, Josephine Rose, on June 22, 2019. The family lives in Fort Wayne, IN as Joshua completes his second year at Concordia Theological Seminary.

Katrina (Brundage) BA ’13 married Roger Drinnon at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Red Bud, IL on Aug. 10, 2019. Katrina is a data scientist at Cordell Practice Management Group in Chesterfield, MO. Roger serves as pastor at Christ the Vine Lutheran Mission in Aviston, IL and Olive Branch Lutheran Church in Okawville, IL, where the couple resides.

Jaymes Hayes BA ’10, wife Lindsey, and son Lydia (middle) with their new baby, daughter Lydia.

Nick Skala BA ’12 and wife Meagan welcomed future Cougar, Charlie, on June 20, 2019.

Katrina (Brundage) BA ’13 with Roger Drinnon and children Josephine and Ezra.

Michael BME ’13 and Julie (Luber) Weil BA ’11 welcomed their daughter, Eleanor Jane, on July 23, 2018.

Kyle McBee BA ’13 accepted the call to serve as full-time Pastor of Zion Lutheran Church in Atlantic, IA in December 2019. Kyle and his wife Cayleigh (Sharp) BA ’13 are blessed with two children, Emma & Ellie. Previously, Kyle served the dual parish of Zion Lutheran Church in Humboldt and Trinity Lutheran Church in Fort Dodge as associate pastor.
Elena (Bertolucci) Bartolomei MA ’14 was recognized in October 2019 as “Those Who Excel” by the Illinois State Board of Education with a Merit Award in the Classroom Teacher category. Elena teaches 8th grade English language arts at Elm Middle School in Elmwood Park and was one of only 22 classroom teacher winners in Cook County.

John Barber MA ’14 was recognized in October 2019 as Illinois State University’s Department of Technology Outstanding Young Alumnus for his accomplishments and sustained interest in and support of the technology and engineering education program. John has taught technical education (CTE) at Joliet West High School for 11 years.

Dr. Jehad J. Matariyeh PhD ’16 was recently appointed as principal of Brighter Horizons Academy in Garland, TX. He shares, “I owe a debt of gratitude to the amazing professors at Concordia who instilled the value of a great education!” For the past nine years, Jehad served as dean of students at Universal School in Bridgeview, IL.

Amanda (Englehardt) Bowman BA ’16 welcomed a new lil’ Cougar, Loretta, in November 2019. She joins big brother Benjamin (2).

Steffen Siebert EdD ’17 was named first assistant coach for Real Salt Lake, Major League Soccer’s team in Sandy, UT, in January 2020. Steffen, whose studies concentrated in Leadership: Sports Management/Administration, is a soccer coach, educator and author.

Claudia Pitchford BA ’18 was chosen as the 2019 recipient of the Kappa Delta Pi J. Everett and Louise Light Scholarship, an honor for graduate students emphasizing dyslexia and/or autism. Claudia is attends the University of Florida online pursuing a graduate certificate in dyslexia assessment and intervention.

About Class Notes
Information listed reflects details received as of February 21, 2020. The University welcomes news in the lives of our alumni. To ensure accuracy, information should be provided by the featured individual, rather than another party. Photos are welcome, whether prints or electronic files, however we do not return prints. Submission of a Class Note or image does not guarantee publication. The University reserves the right to edit submissions for style, length and content.
Condolences

But thanks be to God, who gives us the Victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.
1 Corinthians 15:57

Faculty & Staff

Kenneth Jeffers BA ’05 – October 28, 2019 Physical Plant
Henry Latzke BS ’56 – October 22, 2019 Professor Emeritus, Education/Library
Wayne Lucht BS ’48 – April 6, 2020 Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Psychology
Raymond Moehrlin BS ’57 – February 6, 2020 Former Professor, Sciences & Mathematics
Mary Pontikes MA ’05 – December 17, 2019 Enrollment & Marketing
Judithe (Day) Schreiner BA ’78, MA ’85 – October 18, 2019 Former Professor, Teacher Education
Rhonda Zacharias – November 1, 2019 University Advancement

Alumni

Donald Ahlman BA ’61, MA ’76 – March 8, 2019
William Ash BA ’67 – September 4, 2019
Robert Berning MA ’63 – October 10, 2019
Edward Bernthal BS ’46 – April 4, 2019
William Bluege BA ’62 – October 8, 2019
H. James Boldt BS ’61 – September 19, 2019
Roger Burgdorf BA ’69 – November 27, 2019
Nancy (Jones) Croom BS ’59 – November 21, 2019
Gilbert Daenzer BS ’52 – December 9, 2019
Roger Fischer BA ’53 – December 18, 2019
Donald Green BS ’55 – February 6, 2019
Vera (Mueller) Hall BS ’57 – November 24, 2019
Ronald Haman BS ’55 – November 8, 2019
Louis Herring BS ’59 – June 30, 2019
Diane (Theilgaard) Hoppe BA ’85 – November 22, 2019
Kenneth Jeffers BA ’05 – October 28, 2019
Daniel Johnson BS ’57 – June 12, 2016
Martin Jungkuntz BS ’61 – August 15, 2019
Donald Knopf BA ’63 – November 10, 2019
Henry Latzke BS ’56 – October 22, 2019
Janaan (Frick) LeMacher BA ’62 – January 14, 2020
Wayne Lucht BS ’48 – April 6, 2020
Selma (Streufert) Mayer BS ’48 – October 6, 2019
Robert Meier BS ’55 – February 13, 2020
Raymond Moehrlin BS ’57 – February 6, 2020
Sue (Hedstrom) Morrow BA ’66 – December 22, 2018
John Mueller BA ’61 – January 24, 2020
Herbert Muench BS ’56 – September 25, 2019
Stephen Ott BA ’78, MA ’83 – October 24, 2019
Shirley (Masch) Pankow BS ’51 – January 14, 2020
Mary Pontikes MA ’05 – December 17, 2019
Donald Ravell BA ’54 – July 5, 2017
James Roseland BS ’40 – August 24, 2019
Donna (Lovich) Rowold BA ’75 – December 5, 2019
Barbara (Beck) Schaefer BS ’61 – September 29, 2019
Orvin Schlegel BS ’59 – December 3, 2017
Orlyn Schlie HS ’39, BS ’43 – July 8, 2019
Judithe (Day) Schreiner BA ’78, MA ’85 – October 18, 2019
Lois Schroeder BS ’51 – November 26, 2016
Jerome Schwab BA ’53 – September 14, 2019
Helen (Godleskie) Sittar BA ’81 – March 3, 2016
Delbert Stegemann HS ’43, BS ’46 – March 18, 2019
Margaret Streder BA ’81 – September 16, 2018
Don Stuckwisch BS ’63 – November 5, 2019
Judith (Jochner) Teylor BA ’70 – October 24, 2019
Margaret Tomastick BA ’63 – November 2, 2019
Donald Voelker BS ’46 – October 1, 2019
Delores (Schollmeyer) Wirgau BS ’56 – November 7, 2019
Donald Wuertz BS ’58 – September 9, 2019
Distinguished Professor of Curriculum, Language and Literacy

Sandra Doering started her teaching career in 1971 as the primary grades teacher at St. John Lutheran School in Baldwin, IL. Dr. Doering earned her master’s degree in elementary education/language arts/reading at Phillips University in Enid, OK, and earned her EdD at Oklahoma State University in 1985. Her first position as an assistant professor of education was at Concordia College in Bronxville, NY. In 1989, Dr. Doering was called to Concordia University Texas as the director of the Elementary Education Program and teacher in the reading/language arts/children’s literature areas.

The move to Concordia-Chicago in 2008 afforded her the opportunity to move into mentoring doctoral students, especially in the Reading, Language and Literacy program. Her research interests are focused on children’s emergent writing and how observation of individual writing skills can be a portal to understanding the child’s literacy knowledge and in developing learning experiences that facilitate their further literacy growth and development.

“It’s very exciting to watch how the Lord works in our lives, even when we don’t ask for it,” Dr. Doering says. “I learned a long time ago that prayer is more about listening to God than telling Him what we want to do.”
Dr. Robert Hayes
Distinguished Professor of Political Science and Philosophy

After teaching social studies and religion, and coaching baseball and cross country at Luther High School North in Chicago, Dr. Hayes joined the Concordia-Chicago faculty in 1978. From 1987 to 2004 he acted as vice president and dean of students. Over the years he has served on many committees, councils and task forces, and has chaired the Arts and Sciences Policies Committee and the Faculty Senate. Since the early 1980s he has been active in the Association of Lutheran College Faculties and has been the secretary of that organization for over 30 years. In 1999, he arranged for Concordia-Chicago to join the Lutheran College Washington Consortium and serves on its board of directors. Since coming to Concordia-Chicago he has taught 40 different courses in political science and philosophy, two honors courses, and both the first-year and senior capstone courses. In recent years he has been teaching various courses in law and philosophy.

“Without question the best thing about Concordia-Chicago for me has been the amazing students and colleagues I have been honored to work with,” he says. “There are so many stories and memories but they all revolve around the people.”

Dr. John Zillman
Distinguished Professor of Psychology

Dr. Zillman is a two-time alumnus of Concordia University Chicago, earning his BA in elementary education in 1976 and his master’s in school counseling in 1979. Prior to his service on the faculty of Concordia-Chicago, he served at St. Paul Lutheran School in Melrose Park, IL as fifth-grade teacher, youth co-director, and coach and at Walther Lutheran High School as Director of Guidance. Since joining CUC’s Psychology Department in 1989, Dr. Zillman has taught both undergraduate and graduate courses while also serving students as a counselor. He earned his PhD in curriculum and instruction with an emphasis in educational psychology from the University of Illinois at Chicago in 1997.

Along with classroom teaching, Dr. Zillman held a number of directorships and administrative appointments including Assistant Director of Field Experience, Psychology department chair, Director of Educational and Synodical Placement, Dean of the School of Graduate Studies, and Editor of the Lutheran Education Journal. He was appointed in 2015 as the Senior Vice President for Academics, and has announced he will be retiring from the University in August of 2020. Dr. Zillman and his wife Lynne—also a dual CUC alum—have two adult daughters and reside in Maywood, IL.

“It has been a privilege to serve five presidents and alongside scores of extraordinarily talented faculty and staff members—both present and past—in my time at Concordia University,” he says. “One cannot ask for a better group of people with whom to have spent the majority of my teaching ministry. I trust that by God’s grace my students over these 31 years have found joy and purpose in their vocations and that in some small way I helped to prepare them to do so. Onward, Concordia!”
Commitment and Leadership Characterize Lincoln Laureate Abigail Deddens

BY: ANNA SEIFERT, Communications Associate

Not all students have heard of the Abraham Lincoln Civic Engagement Awards—and sometimes that includes the awardees themselves. "I was honestly very surprised," says Abigail Deddens, CUC’s Lincoln Laureate for the 2019-2020 academic year. "When I got the email and learned about it, I thought, 'That can’t be me!'"
Her humility displays the spirit of service that a student laureate must embody, in addition to excellence in both curricular and extracurricular activities. The Lincoln Academy of Illinois was established by the governor in 1964 to celebrate the state’s most distinguished, civic-minded residents. The mission of the academy was expanded in 1975 to include the student laureate program, which annually honors an outstanding undergraduate senior from each of the four-year degree-granting colleges and universities in Illinois.

In November, Deddens and student laureates from all across the state traveled to Springfield, IL for a ceremony at the Old State Capitol, at which each was awarded an official medallion and $1,000 education grant.

“All of the student laureates and everyone in the Lincoln Academy were very kind and interesting people, and it was a lot of fun to meet students I otherwise wouldn’t have the opportunity to meet!” she says. “It was an encouraging ceremony that celebrated student leadership and commitment, and I appreciated the experience very much.”

Deddens, who is originally from Owensboro, KY, but whose family now lives in Toledo, OH, majored in biology with a minor in music. During her time at CUC, she has sung in Schola Cantorum and Kapelle, has been part of Spiritual Life, and worked on campus at the Academic Center for Excellence and at the library.

“One of my favorite parts about Concordia-Chicago is the opportunity for worship on campus. I have loved being able to attend chapel almost daily and participate in Spiritual Life, whether as a participant or leader,” she says. “I have also been blessed with the opportunity to be involved in many different areas of academics. I love that I have been able to work closely with faculty in both the science and music departments.”

After her May 2020 graduation, she is taking a year to get experience working in the medical field before applying to physician assistant programs. She is also looking into the possibility of volunteering in medical missions.

1. Ron Spears, Vice Chancellor of the Lincoln Academy (left), Abigail Deddens BS’20 (center), Frank M. Clark, Chancellor of the Lincoln Academy (right).
Celebrating Spring 2020 Graduates

This spring semester has presented unexpected challenges, to say the least, yet our students have persevered to complete their degrees. The hearts of CUC’s faculty, staff and administration join them, along with their family and friends, in grief over having to postpone the face-to-face celebrations of their achievements. In this difficult time that tests our patience and resilience, we encourage each of our graduates to learn from their experiences and continue to grow as individuals and children of God.

The following pages list the names of all Spring 2020 graduates as a special tribute to their perseverance and recognition of the many challenges they faced to complete their degrees in the face of adversity. A commemorative program from the virtual ceremony is also available for download at CUChicago.edu/Commencement. You will also be able to access a livestream of that ceremony on Saturday, May 9, and an archived video after that date.

And we look forward to welcoming these graduates back to campus in December to participate in a full, in-person ceremony—they’ve earned that walk across the stage in the presence of their classmates, friends and family.

Congratulations to the class of 2020!
The symbols SCL (Summa Cum Laude 3.9-4.0), MCL (Magna Cum Laude 3.7-3.89) and CL (Cum Laude 3.5-3.69) identify academic honors bestowed on candidates. A Concordia Scholar has completed the requirements for the Concordia Honors Program.

CANDIDATES FOR THE BACCALAUREATE DEGREE

CANDIDATE FOR THE ASSOCIATE OF ARTS
College of Innovation and Professional Programs

Bonjovi Davenport
Organizational Management

CANDIDATES FOR THE BACHELOR OF ARTS
College of Arts and Sciences

Abigail Aleman MCL
Criminal Justice

Hannah Anglea
English

Julia Baker
Graphic Arts

Allison Balden
Political Science

Alexander Bjoraker
Christian Ministry

Earl Bondoc
Exercise Science & Fitness Management

Annabel Calderon CL
Spanish

Anastasiya Camp SCL
Art and Biology

Catherine Cardenas SCL
Spanish

Giovanna Carrillo
Political Science

Caleb Casey MCL
Exercise Science & Fitness Management

Shemar Casteel-Payne
Psychology

Danielle Chekel CL
Psychology

Crystal Corr
Communication

Madison Di Silvio CL
Psychology

Toni Diaz
Social Work

Nicole Dobbs
Theater

Corey Dooley
Political Science

Oralia Duarte
Communication and Graphic Arts

Teagan Dunning MCL
Christian Ministry

Brandon Ellis
Theater

Matthew Fauth MCL
Criminal Justice

Kimberlyn Gadawski MCL
Exercise Science & Fitness Management

Alfredo Galvan
Psychology

Brenda Garcia
Social Work

Reyna Garcia
Natural Science

Catherine Gerue
Theater

Leslie Gonzalez
Psychology

Julian Harrald
Art

John Hein
History

Michelle Hennig
Theology

Bo Hernandez
Exercise Science & Fitness Management

Lauren Hiatt-Wilson MCL
Strategic Communication

Samantha Hiatt-Wilson MCL
Human Communication & Culture, Psychology and Women & Gender Studies

Tamesia Hoard
Social Work

Jaylynn Johnson
Psychology

Neydi Juarez
Psychology

Elizabeth Koester SCL
Theology

Jason Kohm MCL
English

Karina Kosmala SCL
Journalism and Strategic Communication

Lauren Kuras MCL
Graphic Arts

Joanna Lelek
Exercise Science & Fitness Management

Talia Lewis
Social Work

Holly Little
Psychology

Jessica Lococo CL
Strategic Communication

Amanda Lopez
Exercise Science & Fitness Management

Angel Lopez
Chemistry

Ashley Luhm MCL
Criminal Justice and Social Work

Gisela Martinez
Social Work

Zoe Martinez
Social Work

Paige Matijevich
Theater

Jared McGee
Psychology

Calvin Milas
Criminal Justice

Lance Moise
Exercise Science & Fitness Management

Katherine Mucerino
Psychology

Aileen Padilla
Psychology

Diana Perez
Psychology

Magdalena Piazza
Psychology

Erica Pineda-Romero
Social Work

Spring 2020 Graduates

CANDIDATE FOR THE ASSOCIATE OF ARTS
College of Innovation and Professional Programs

Bonjovi Davenport
Organizational Management

CANDIDATES FOR THE BACHELOR OF ARTS
College of Arts and Sciences

Abigail Aleman MCL
Criminal Justice

Hannah Anglea
English

Julia Baker
Graphic Arts

Allison Balden
Political Science

Alexander Bjoraker
Christian Ministry

Earl Bondoc
Exercise Science & Fitness Management

Annabel Calderon CL
Spanish

Anastasiya Camp SCL
Art and Biology

Catherine Cardenas SCL
Spanish

Giovanna Carrillo
Political Science

Caleb Casey MCL
Exercise Science & Fitness Management

Shemar Casteel-Payne
Psychology

Danielle Chekel CL
Psychology

Crystal Corr
Communication

Madison Di Silvio CL
Psychology

Toni Diaz
Social Work

Nicole Dobbs
Theater

Corey Dooley
Political Science

Oralia Duarte
Communication and Graphic Arts

Teagan Dunning MCL
Christian Ministry

Brandon Ellis
Theater

Matthew Fauth MCL
Criminal Justice

Kimberlyn Gadawski MCL
Exercise Science & Fitness Management

Alfredo Galvan
Psychology

Brenda Garcia
Social Work

Reyna Garcia
Natural Science

Catherine Gerue
Theater

Leslie Gonzalez
Psychology

Julian Harrald
Art

John Hein
History

Michelle Hennig
Theology

Bo Hernandez
Exercise Science & Fitness Management

Lauren Hiatt-Wilson MCL
Strategic Communication

Samantha Hiatt-Wilson MCL
Human Communication & Culture, Psychology and Women & Gender Studies

Tamesia Hoard
Social Work

Jaylynn Johnson
Psychology

Neydi Juarez
Psychology

Elizabeth Koester SCL
Theology

Jason Kohm MCL
English

Karina Kosmala SCL
Journalism and Strategic Communication

Lauren Kuras MCL
Graphic Arts

Joanna Lelek
Exercise Science & Fitness Management

Talia Lewis
Social Work

Holly Little
Psychology

Jessica Lococo CL
Strategic Communication

Amanda Lopez
Exercise Science & Fitness Management

Angel Lopez
Chemistry

Ashley Luhm MCL
Criminal Justice and Social Work

Gisela Martinez
Social Work

Zoe Martinez
Social Work

Paige Matijevich
Theater

Jared McGee
Psychology

Calvin Milas
Criminal Justice

Lance Moise
Exercise Science & Fitness Management

Katherine Mucerino
Psychology

Aileen Padilla
Psychology

Diana Perez
Psychology

Magdalena Piazza
Psychology

Erica Pineda-Romero
Social Work

Spring 2020 Graduates
CANDIDATES FOR THE BACHELOR OF ARTS
College of Arts and Sciences, continued

Annika Rae SCL
Strategic Communication

Demetrious Rufus
Sport, Fitness & Recreation

Maria Sanchez MCL
Social Work

Josiah Schultz
Theology: Christian Studies

Jackson Scofield SCL
Theological Languages and Theology: Professional Studies

Sara Scungio MCL
Theology
Concordia Scholar

Olivia Sobieraj CL
Strategic Communication

John Stocco
Media and Communication

Collin Sugg
Media and Communication

Irene Swift
Theology: Professional Studies

Tanner Swonson
Exercise Science & Fitness Management

Sydney Szot
Pre-Art Therapy

Michael Thomas SCL
Theological Languages

Jahari Thompson
Art

Melissa Train
Criminal Justice

Jamal Turner
Sport, Fitness & Recreation

Meghan Vasseur
Pre-Art Therapy

Sarah Vergara
Graphic Arts

Ryan Vilanova
Social Work

Madeline Vojacek
Exercise Science & Fitness Management

Gabriella Wagoner
Natural Sciences: Biology & Chemistry

Samantha Wozniak SCL
Psychology

Panagiotis Zervas
Sport, Fitness & Recreation

CANDIDATES FOR THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
College of Arts and Sciences

Chad Abbadessa CL
Pre-Athletic Training

Abigail Deddens SCL*
Biology
Concordia Scholar

Maria Diaz SCL
Mathematics: Pure Math
Concordia Scholar

Alyssa Evans SCL
Mathematics: Actuarial Science

Ashley Guzman
Nursing

Matthew Hinchley
Emergency Medical Services

Robert Hixson
Biology

Natalia Jandura SCL
Mathematics: Actuarial Science
Concordia Scholar

Angel Lopez CL
Biology

Fernando Ocampo
Biology

Jonathan Schaefer
Mathematics: Natural Sciences

CANDIDATES FOR THE BACHELOR OF ARTS
IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
College of Business

Shining Aixinjueluo
Management

Jingxuan Chen
Marketing

Trey Dille
Church & Non-Profit Management Pre-Seminary

Runtian Han
Management

Lin Hao
Marketing

Gerardo Heredia CL
Sports Management

Emily Hynan SCL
Management

Leah Lamar**
Accounting

Dezexin An
Management

Qingyang Chen
Management

Huaxin Du
Management

Gerardo Heredia CL
Sports Management

Alyssa Baratta
Marketing

Yumeng Chen
Marketing

Jiawei Fang
Management

Emily Hynan SCL
Management

Jessica Burzawa
Management

Aaron Cook
Management

Mengyu Gao
Management

Leah Lamar**
Accounting

Yang Chao
Marketing

Kareem Dabney
Sports Management

Ruohan Gao
Marketing

* 2019-2020 Student Laureate of The Lincoln Academy of Illinois

** Participant in Tomorrow’s Promise, an innovative public-private partnership with Fifth Third Bank to provide a path for academically-talented students from the Bellwood, Illinois school district.
## CANDIDATES FOR THE BACHELOR OF ARTS
### IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
#### College of Business, continued

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Major</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kristen Landon</td>
<td>Management and Marketing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zhuoqi Li</td>
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<td>Yi Zhang</td>
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## CANDIDATES FOR THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
### IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
#### College of Business

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hassan Basbous</td>
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<td>Matthew Henning</td>
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## CANDIDATES FOR THE BACHELOR OF ARTS
### College of Education

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CANDIDATES FOR THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
College of Education, continued

Elisa Austin
Organizational Management

Gabrielle Blinick
Organizational Management

Ivy Carter
Organizational Management

Emily Detzel
Healthcare Management

Angela Gonzalez
Organizational Management

Shelby Gumz
Organizational Management

Jose Mendez
Organizational Management

Toni Ross
Healthcare Management

Julia Bogusz SCL
Special Education and Middle Grades Literacy (SPED)

Annabel Calderon CL
Middle Grades Literacy Education and Middle Grades Social Science Education

Catherine Cardenas SCL
Early Childhood Education

Maeve Connelly
Middle Grades Math Education and Middle Grades Science Education

Daniella Cozzi MCL
Elementary Education and Middle Grades Literacy Education

Hannah Gallup
Special Education and Middle Grades Literacy (SPED)

Olivia Halverson SCL
Elementary Education and Middle Grades Literacy Education

Chloe Hrabusicky
Elementary Education

Faith Korte SCL
Elementary Education and Middle Grades Literacy Education

Abigail Kulak SCL
Math Education and Middle Grades Math Education

Courtney Luciano MCL
Elementary Education

Vanessa Martinez CL
Science: Chemistry Education

Stephanie Messina
Elementary Education

Daphne Meyer
Elementary Education and Middle Grades Literacy Education

Griselda Mora
Education Studies

Gabriela Morales MCL
Early Childhood Education

Emily Poholik SCL
Elementary Education

Morgan Pullia SCL
Elementary Education and Middle Grades Literacy Education

Erik Purcell SCL
Elementary Education and Middle Grades Literacy Education

Yosselin Ramirez CL
Elementary Education

Leilani Rebolledo
Special Education and Middle Grades Literacy (SPED)

Keara Sabin
Elementary Education

Rosa Salinas CL
Physical Education

Nicholas Smith
Education Studies

Hannah Thompson SCL
Elementary Education and Middle Grades Literacy Education

Anna Werling MCL
Science: Chemistry Education and Middle Grades Science Education

CANDIDATES FOR THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
College of Innovation and Professional Programs

Joshua Amaral
Kinesiology

Eduard Antal
Kinesiology

Brittney Clements CL
Kinesiology

Jennifer Lau
Kinesiology

Rachel McDonough
Human Resource Management

Margaret Omulindi
Kinesiology

Rocco Pascente
Kinesiology

Candice Serrano
Kinesiology

Dariusz Szydłowski
Management Information Systems

Paula Velez CL
Human Resource Management

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Kinesiology

Candice Serrano
Kinesiology

Dariusz Szydłowski
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Paula Velez CL
Human Resource Management
CANDIDATES FOR THE MASTER’S DEGREE

CANDIDATES FOR THE MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

College of Business

Muzaffar Abduraimov
Finance

Nurislombek Abduvokhidov
Business Management

Isolmbek Akbarov
Business Management

Cassandre Alexis
Business Management

Dilmurod Allaberdiev
Finance

Ruben Alomari
Business Management

Ahmad Alshuquiri
Business Management

Anmol
Business Management

Amanda Ashmann
Business Management

Sobitkhon Azamov
Business Management

Romeo Lim Balasabas
Business Management

Sara Balgoyen
Church/Not-for-Profit Management

Victor Balundis
Business Management

Kiara Banister
Healthcare Management

Adam Bernstein
Accounting

Pushpinder Bharti
Sports Management

Aratta
Boonwattanasoontom
Business Management

Supamat
Boonwattanasoontom
Business Management

Nicole Cecchini
Business Management

Mehami Dasharathbhai Chaudhari
Healthcare Management

Alexis Corley
School Business Management

Francesca Therese Mendoza Dalida
Business Management

Egor Degtiarev
Business Management

Gaurav Dhody
Business Management

Chauncey Edmonds
Business Management

David Eichie
Leadership & Change Management

Anthony Estrada
Business Management

Romina Sarah Formanes
Business Management

Suzette Fuliga
Business Management

Danielle Gariglio
Business Management

Samantha Gaster
Business Management

Joseph Giatras
Leadership & Change Management

Steve Haderlein
Business Management

Christina Harris
Church/Not-for-Profit Management

Michael Hintz
Business Management

Kevin Hurley
Business Management

Kanwal Irfan
Business Management

Archana Jange
Business Management

Sai Krishna Jemburi
Business Management

Karenah Clara Jemenia
Business Management

Wanaphong Jitphungham
Business Management

Jacqueline Johnson
Healthcare Management

Nivedita Kadambi
Business Management

Jamoliddin Karimov
Business Management

Savneet Kaur
Finance

Matthew Keamey
Sports Management

Sirojiddin Khamdamov
Finance

Sardorjon Khasanov
Business Management

Altansukh Khasbat
Business Management

Asliddin Khusniddin-Zoda
Business Management

Ilona Khusniddin-Zoda
Business Management

Swarna Prasanna Kumar
Business Management

John Lemieux
Entrepreneurship

Kedao Lu
Business Management

Dilfuza Madirakhimova
Business Management

Mallory Marach
Business Management

Dilmurod Matkarimov
Finance

Rochelle McClure
Finance

Jessica Muniz
Finance

Azizbek Naraliev
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Tyler Newman
Sports Management

Hoang Phuong Hien Nguyen
Business Management

John Nguyen
Business Management

Cunegonde Nyiengono
Accounting and Finance

Aziz Ortikov
Digital Marketing

Solongo Otgonbayar
Business Management

Joel Yael Pedronan
Business Management

Jason Pereles
Sports Management

Duc Tam Phi
Finance

Amit Ramaiya
Business Management

Sushilkumar Rami
Healthcare Management and Leadership & Change Management

Zafar Rikhsiev
Business Management

Verenice Sanchez
Finance

Tiffany Sartin
Business Management

Leonick Saulog Servida
Business Management

Shirina Shatemirova
Business Management

Shokhrukh Shokirov
Business Management

Alina Sirazetdinova
Business Management

Sardor Sotiboldiev
Digital Marketing
CANDIDATES FOR THE MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
College of Business, continued

Sreenithya
Business Management

Jane Swibel
Digital Marketing

Dinh Loi Ta
Business Management

Lizhen Tang
Business Management

Nitiporn Thongsombat
Business Management

Ryan Tripp
Digital Marketing and Church/Not-for-Profit Management

Neelesh Naresh Vasnani
Business Management

Jose Zuazo
Sports Management

CANDIDATE FOR THE MASTER OF ARTS
College of Education

John Gorman
Education Studies

CANDIDATES FOR THE MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING
College of Education

Julio Alvarez
Secondary Education

Alejandra Andrade
Elementary Education

Megan Bielawa
Secondary Education

Julie Fox
Secondary Education

Kelly Johlie
Secondary Education

Rebecca Lian
Secondary Education

Christine Lott
Secondary Education

Amber McNeil
Secondary Education

Martha Torres Silva
Elementary Education

CANDIDATES FOR THE MASTER OF ARTS
College of Graduate Studies

Danielle Acheampong
Principal Preparation

Scott Alderson
Educational Technology: Leadership

ShaRita Alexander-Hall
Curriculum and Instruction: ESL

Sara Ali
Educational Technology: Leadership

Sherzod Amanbaev
Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages

Sheryl Anderson
Principal Preparation

Jose Arreola
Principal Preparation

Ellen Bailey
Curriculum and Instruction: ESL

Chelsea Baker
Differentiated Instruction

Lasha Baker
Principal Preparation

Maria Balata
Teacher Leadership

Agatha Barbato
Principal Preparation

Nicholas Barkan
Principal Preparation

Paulette Barnes
Principal Preparation

Nicholas Barnhill
School Counseling

Holly Barr
School Leadership: Initial Leader

Britni Barrino
School Leadership: Initial Leader

Bridget Barry
Principal Preparation

Rodney Bedinghaus
School Leadership: Initial Leader

Laura Behnen
Principal Preparation

Nancy Bell
Principal Preparation

Stevee Bellas
Principal Preparation

Nichole Belline
Educational Technology: Curriculum & Instruction

Latoya Benally
Grant Writing Management & Evaluation

Michaelene Bender
Principal Preparation

Mandy Beniac
Curriculum and Instruction: ESL

Melissa Benton
Principal Preparation

Brooke Bernardoni
Principal Preparation

Louise Bertaud
Principal Preparation
## CANDIDATES FOR THE MASTER OF ARTS

College of Graduate Studies, continued

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<td>Joshua Jennings</td>
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CANDIDATES FOR THE MASTER OF ARTS
College of Graduate Studies, continued

Benjamin Johnson
School Leadership: Initial Leader

Emily Johnson
School Counseling

Jacqueline Johnson
Special Education Leadership

Nikisha Johnson
Principal Preparation

Aja Jones
Principal Preparation

Allison Jones
School Leadership: Initial Leader

Lasharon Jones
Gerontology

Tiffany Jordan
Principal Preparation

Lukas Karch
Educational Technology: Leadership

Jason Keenon
Principal Preparation

Patrick Kennedy
Initial Administrator Leader

Juliane Kenny
Principal Preparation

Madeline Kerr
Curriculum and Instruction

Justin Kerwin
Principal Preparation

Bethany Kincer
School Leadership: Initial Leader

Elizabeth King
Principal Preparation

Linsey Kirby
Principal Preparation

Kourtney Knox
Principal Preparation

Alyssa Kocher
Principal Preparation

Irina Kogan
Principal Preparation

Jordan Kohut
Principal Preparation

John Koschnitzky
Principal Preparation

Angela Koumi
Curriculum and Instruction: ESL

Jill Kragseth
Principal Preparation

Laura Krasny
Principal Preparation

Karolyn Krol
Curriculum and Instruction: ESL

Audrey Krueger
Principal Preparation

Jana Kubicki
Principal Preparation

Richard Kurek
Principal Preparation

Benjamin Kwedar
Principal Preparation

Yolanda Lamourt
Principal Preparation

Maya Lane
Teacher Leadership

Tyler Lauber
School Leadership: Initial Leader

Amy Ledvina
Principal Preparation

Hyerim Lee
Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages

Asuka Lempke
Principal Preparation

Helaine Levin
Curriculum and Instruction

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Tina Lira
Special Education Leadership

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School Counseling

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Principal Preparation

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School Leadership: Initial Leader

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Quan Dieu Luong
Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages

Matthew Lutz
Principal Preparation

Ashley Luzietti
Principal Preparation

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Curriculum and Instruction

Kaitlin Mahoney
Teacher Leadership

Simone Main
Curriculum and Instruction: ESL

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Principal Preparation

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Differentiated Instruction

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Educational Technology: Leadership

Eileen Mazanek
Principal Preparation

Gerit McAllister
Principal Preparation

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School Leadership: Initial Leader

Annette McBride
Principal Preparation

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School Leadership: Initial Leader

Jeremy McCulloch
Preliminary Administrator

Anika McGee
Principal Preparation

Kati McGowan
Curriculum and Instruction: ESL

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Principal Preparation

Lori McNabb
School Leadership: Initial Leader

Quiana McNeal
Principal Preparation

Wendy McNeal
School Leadership: Initial Leader

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Curriculum and Instruction

Domenica Mijal
Educational Technology: Leadership

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School Leadership: Initial Leader

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Zac Minelli
Principal Preparation

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Principal Preparation

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Principal Preparation

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Principal Preparation

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School Counseling

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Principal Preparation

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Principal Preparation

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School Leadership: Initial Leader
CANDIDATES FOR THE MASTER OF ARTS
College of Graduate Studies, continued

Jennifer Neumeyer
School Leadership: Initial Leader

Huynh Thao Nguyen
Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages

Bridget Nolan
Special Education Leadership

Angela Norcik
English as a Second Language

Lily Olson
Principal Preparation

Caleb Oppong
School Leadership: Initial Leader

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Principal Preparation

Dorcas Owusu
Reading Education

Katie Ozimek
Educational Technology: Curriculum & Instruction

Valerie Painter
Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages

Crystal Palmer
Educational Technology: Leadership

Kaylen Palmer
Principal Preparation

Brenda Pantoja
Principal Preparation

Olga Papaioannou-Prappas
Principal Preparation

Caren Pardol
Early Childhood Education

David Parolin
Educational Technology: Curriculum & Instruction

Michael Parton
Principal Preparation

Valerie Paskert
Reading Education

Jill Patterson
Special Education

Abigail Paulson
Special Education Leadership

Rebecca Payleitner
Educational Technology: Leadership

Diamond Perkins
Principal Preparation

Marybeth Peterson
Principal Preparation

Sarah Peterson
Educational Technology: Curriculum & Instruction

Morgan Phillips
School Leadership: Initial Leader

Yvonne Phillips
Principal Preparation

John Pickering
Preliminary Administrator

Erin Pilotte
Differentiated Instruction

Alyssa Pisano
Educational Technology: Leadership

Cindy Placko
Principal Preparation

Monique Porter
School Counseling

Kerry Pozulp
Principal Preparation

Genevieve Price
Differentiated Instruction

Jennifer Pustelnik
Principal Preparation

Sara Pustz
Curriculum and Instruction

Jason Quint
Educational Technology: Leadership

Julia Radasevich
Principal Preparation

Alyssa Rahe
School Leadership: Initial Leader

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Principal Preparation

Erika Ramirez
Early Childhood Education

Josefina Ramirez Acevedo
Early Childhood Education

Kathryn Rauen
Teacher Leadership

Sam Reisman
Educational Technology: Leadership

Natalie Reisner
Curriculum and Instruction: ESL

Daniel Rettinger
School Leadership: Initial Leader

Rayeann Reynolds
Preliminary Administrator

Robert Ridley
Special Education Leadership

Angela Riggio
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Soraida Rivera
Curriculum and Instruction: ESL with bilingual

Corie Rivera
School Counseling

Emma Robillard
Differentiated Instruction

Alexis Robinson
Principal Preparation

Stacy Rocco
School Leadership: Initial Leader

Tenika Rockwood
Principal Preparation

Melissa Rodriguez
Educational Technology: Leadership

Maxzine Rossler
Special Education Leadership

Megan Russell
Principal Preparation

Mickey Ryall
Teacher Leadership

Kimberly Rybicki
Principal Preparation

Marvin Salalilia
Curriculum and Instruction

Amanda Sansone
Curriculum and Instruction

Isabel Santori
Principal Preparation

Alyson Schlauder
Differentiated Instruction

Tanya Schmidt
Principal Preparation

Kelly Schnipke
School Leadership: Initial Leader

Kathryn Schultz
Early Childhood Education

Niki Schuster
Educational Technology: Leadership

Jenna Schwarz
Reading Education

Brooke Seger
School Leadership: Initial Leader

Rebecca Selk
Principal Preparation

Marissa Sexton
Differentiated Instruction

Tyler Shackelford
School Leadership: Initial Leader

Deidra Shannon-Harris
Principal Preparation

Emily Sharkey
Differentiated Instruction

Meenjung Shin
Reading Education

Helena Shirley
Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages
CANDIDATES FOR THE MASTER OF ARTS
College of Graduate Studies, continued

Jami Shlensky
Principal Preparation

Madison Shook
Reading Education

Matthew Shreve
School Leadership: Initial Leader

Jennifer Skala
School Leadership: Initial Leader

Eboni Slaton
Principal Preparation

Ryan Slattery
Principal Preparation

Chaqual Smith
Psychology

Patricia Smith
Human Services

Teresa Smith
Early Childhood Education

Theresa Snyder
School Leadership: Initial Leader

Kellina Sokolowski
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Aphrodite Spanos
Principal Preparation

Anna Spiers
Grant Writing Management & Evaluation

Christine Srp
School Leadership: Initial Leader

Kathryn Stachowiak
Principal Preparation

Lindsay Staten
Reading Education

Amy Steepleton
Principal Preparation

Melissa Stenzel
Differentiated Instruction

Desiree Stratis
Educational Technology: Leadership

Hunter Stuckemeyer
Curriculum and Instruction

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Principal Preparation

Meghan Sullivan
Principal Preparation

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Differentiated Instruction

Emily Swartzlander
Teacher Leadership

Kevin Sweetland
Principal Preparation

Ashley Sword
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Jeanne Tanaka
Principal Preparation

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Educational Administration

Megan Thompson
Reading Education

Robert Thompson
Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages

Megan Tocknell
Curriculum and Instruction: ESL

Valerie Tomkiewicz
Principal Preparation

Danielle Townsend
Principal Preparation

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Religion

Jaime Trischan
Educational Technology: Curriculum & Instruction

Jennifer Turn
Differentiated Instruction

Ashley Turner
Reading Education

Jared Turocy
School Leadership: Initial Leader

Greg Urdal
Teacher Leadership

Amy Urquhart
Differentiated Instruction

Rene Valdez
Principal Preparation

Laura Valentine
Teacher Leadership

Cara Vandermyde
Principal Preparation

Katerina Vaselopulos
Principal Preparation

Yvette Vazquez
Principal Preparation

Diane Villarreal
Principal Preparation

Jaclyn Villasenor
School Leadership: Initial Leader

Mary Visteen
School Counseling

Margaret Von Glahn
Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Sue Ellen Vozza
Teacher Leadership

Leanne Walker
Reading Education

Colleen Ward
Principal Preparation

Amanda Warwick
Principal Preparation

Aubrey Watson
Differentiated Instruction

Cara Weinberg
Principal Preparation

John Wessel
School Leadership: Initial Leader

Erik Westerberg
Principal Preparation

Ryan Weyers
Grant Writing Management & Evaluation

Amy Wiggins
Principal Preparation

Brian Williams
Educational Technology: Leadership

Lydia Wilmoth
School Leadership: Initial Leader

Malea Wilson
Educational Technology: Curriculum & Instruction

Brandie Windham
Curriculum and Instruction

Diedre Wyman
Curriculum and Instruction: ESL

Emelia Zarenana
Principal Preparation

Nichole Zipprich
Curriculum and Instruction: ESL

Alyssa Zuravel
Educational Technology: Curriculum & Instruction

Kate Zydlo
Principal Preparation
CANDIDATES FOR THE EDUCATION SPECIALIST
College of Graduate Studies

Timothy Crider
Superintendency

Michael Karner
Superintendency

Debora Pletzke
Superintendency

CANDIDATES FOR THE MASTER OF ARTS
College of Innovation and Professional Programs

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Sports Leadership

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Higher Education Leadership

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Sports Leadership

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David Williams
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Chanel Wilson-Stewart
Sports Leadership

CANDIDATES FOR THE MASTER OF SCIENCE
College of Innovation and Professional Programs

Anthony Acevedo
Applied Exercise Science

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Xavier Baez
Applied Exercise Science

Garrett Bailey
Applied Exercise Science

Andrey Balykov
Applied Exercise Science

Ashley Bartkowiak
Applied Exercise Science

Ilana Bell
Applied Exercise Science

Hima Bindu Bevara
Applied Exercise Science

Victor Brankovich
Applied Exercise Science

Daniel Brown
Applied Exercise Science

Megan Butke
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Tim Calderon
Applied Exercise Science

Thomas Campbell
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Jacob Carr
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Taylor Carr
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Zachary Carson
Applied Exercise Science

Justin Casipit
Applied Exercise Science

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Samaria Cozart
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Applied Exercise Science

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Applied Exercise Science

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Applied Exercise Science

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Applied Exercise Science

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Applied Exercise Science

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Applied Exercise Science

Robert Hartenfels
Applied Exercise Science

Davis Hendricks
Applied Exercise Science

Calvin Henry
Applied Exercise Science

Calista Hickman
Applied Exercise Science

Kristen Holland
Applied Exercise Science

Britney Howard
Applied Exercise Science

Jeffrey Huot
Applied Exercise Science

John Joseph
Applied Exercise Science

Andrew Kalb
Applied Exercise Science

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Applied Exercise Science

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Applied Exercise Science

Finn Mohawk Knebusch
Applied Exercise Science

Christopher Kromer
Applied Exercise Science

Taylor Kuehl
Applied Exercise Science

Nicole Labeck
Applied Exercise Science

Taliashia LaGuerre
Instructional Design & Technology

Paul Lane
Applied Exercise Science
CANDIDATES FOR THE MASTER OF SCIENCE
College of Innovation and Professional Programs, continued

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CANDIDATES FOR THE DOCTORAL DEGREE

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
Doctor of Business Administration

Jeffrey Brosowski
Business Administration
Dissertation Title: Examining the Relationship Between Servant Leadership and Institutional Corporate Social Responsibility
Dissertation Committee: Charlene Dunfee, Chair; Roberto Castaneda, John Schwarm

Rey Lao
Business Administration
Dissertation Title: Leadership Strategies for the Successful Implementation of Health Care Innovation
Dissertation Committee: Charlene Dunfee, Chair; Roberto Castaneda, John Schwarm

CANDIDATES FOR THE DOCTORAL DEGREE

COLLEGE OF GRADUATE STUDIES
Doctor of Education

Rhoda Arrington
School Leadership
Dissertation Title: Shared Leadership: Examining Principal’s Perspectives on Implementing the Ohio Improvement Process
Dissertation Committee: A.D. Hendricks, Chair; Rekha Rajan, Arthur Safer

Thomas Bailey
School Leadership—Experienced Leader
Dissertation Title: The Culture of Expectations of Teachers in Rural Ohio
Dissertation Committee: Craig Schilling, Chair; Rekha Rajan, Julie Davis

Kara Jackson
School Leadership
Dissertation Title: Veteran Teachers’ Perceptions of Effective Principal Leadership Styles
Dissertation Committee: Rebecca Hornberger, Chair; Julie Davis, Paul Sims

Archangelo Joseph
Educational Leadership
Dissertation Title: A Case Study of Mathematics Teachers’ Perceptions of Haitian Students Solving Constructed-Response Questions in New York Middle Schools
Dissertation Committee: Daniel Tomal, Chair; Daniel Smith, Arthur Safer

David Lawrence
School Leadership
Dissertation Title: The Perceptions of Northcentral Illinois Principals Regarding the Impact of the Performance Evaluation Reform Act
Dissertation Committee: Daniel Tomal, Chair; Daniel Smith, Mary Zaharis

Helen Maksimowicz
Educational Leadership
Dissertation Title: Making Sense of Character Education
Dissertation Committee: Pamela Konkol, Chair; Mary Crabtree, Evelyn Nedderman

Marjory Matthieu-Kodjovi
Educational Leadership
Dissertation Title: How do K-8 Principals Cultivate Leadership in Their Assistant Principals?
Dissertation Committee: Paul Sims, Chair; Maja Miskovic, William Spears

Sarada Murchison
Educational Leadership
Dissertation Title: An Examination of the Role of Assistant Principals in an Adult Education Program in a Large Urban School District
Dissertation Committee: Brenda Graham, Chair; Daniel Tomal, Paul Sims

Amanda Spychalski
School Leadership
Dissertation Title: An Examination of School Climate and Culture Relating to Illinois K-5 Elementary Teacher Retention
Dissertation Committee: Maja Miskovic, Chair; Anne Traynor, Denise Glasgow

Nashunda Stevens
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