

# GOLD GRADUATE OF THE LAST DECADE



**Emily (Royer) Freiberg '14**

**Major:** Business Marketing

**Current Job:** Strategic Account Manager at Cargill

## **What did Concordia mean to you as a student?**

I wasn't in choir or band or sports. I went to Concordia because it felt like where I belonged. It's where I made some lifelong friends. I received a great education and had fun doing it.

## **What does Concordia mean to you now?**

I didn't fully realize it at the time, but one of the main reasons I attended and stayed at Concordia for my college years was due to the community. I moved to Chicago shortly after graduating college, and it wasn't until I moved back to the Twin Cities that I recognized how much I missed the Concordia network. Concordia is small but mighty!

## **Did you have a mentor at Concordia who was influential during your time at college (and/or beyond)?**

Bucky Burgau. He's just the best. His passion for Concordia is unmatched. I met Bucky the spring semester of my freshman year. I was the student baseball manager, and he was the head coach. Bucky immediately welcomed me to the team. Knowing Bucky really showed me there are truly some amazing people in the world.

## **Do you remember a favorite assignment you tackled as a student? Why was it enjoyable? Did you build skills while working on it that transfer to your current work?**

During the spring semester of my senior year, I took International Business with Susan Geib. For the entire semester, we worked with international companies helping them develop a business plan from a marketing perspective. The company my group worked with was KazBeef. They were based out of Kazakhstan. At the end of the semester, we presented our marketing plan. They must have liked it because KazBeef offered to fly us to Kazakhstan for six weeks during the summer.

International Business taught me how to work well with others in a group setting as well as with people from different cultures. No matter where you work, you will constantly be learning how to work well with others. We all come from different backgrounds and experiences. Don't underestimate your background, but also be open to adapting to others.

## **Do you have any favorite Concordia memories you'd like to share?**

I made tons of great memories during my time at Concordia, but jumping into Prexy's Pond postgraduation stands out the most. It's a must! You won't regret it. It's one of the many traditions Concordia has.