

# CLASS LETTER

## Concordia College Class of 1965

### Classmates Re-membered

We remember three of our classmates who have died in the past year:

Harold Hellekson

Elwood Isley

Barbara Jordahl

### Giving to Concordia

Our class has given nearly \$3 million to Concordia and 29% of our class participates in this philanthropy.

Consider how you can contribute to student scholarships and campus projects to ensure educational enrichment for current and future students



### New Class Agent

Thanks to Ray Bailey who served as our class agent for 20 years.

I, Paul Spilseth, have been volunteered to be this year's class agent. My job is to coordinate sharing, write a newsletter and encourage you to come to our next reunion homecoming which is coming in just 2 more years. You might consider making plans now to attend.

There are a number of alumni events coming up where you might consider participating: Homecoming Sept 27-30, corn feeds at various places, golf tournaments, Cobber Night at the Twins Aug 16, Cobber Night TCF stadium United Soccer Sept 22, Offutt School Presents Oct 30, Choir and Band concerts, and Christmas Concerts





## Sharing

If you would like to share updates, events, or happenings, please email them to [alumni@cord.edu](mailto:alumni@cord.edu).

I suggest we share with each other projects we are working on. For example, my current project is restoring 2 acres of buckthorn to native prairie.

Tell me about your project at: [spils@mac.com](mailto:spils@mac.com).

## Memories

As we look back on our experiences at Concordia in the mid-60s, I think many of us appreciate Concordia more now than at the time we were experiencing them.

I am sure you remember some of the wonderful student productions during our years at Concordia. Below is a picture of the Student Productions staff in 1964. The production was “Brigadoon” and I am sure many of you still remember the music and the production. Our 1965 production of “My Fair Lady” is still memorable.



## **CAMPUS UPDATE – SUMMER 2018**

### **CLV:**

The summer of 2017 continued a three-year trend of strong enrollment with over 4,580 villagers and families attending a Concordia Language Villages' program. Registration for the summer of 2018 continues that upward trend in enrollment, demonstrating the value placed on world language and culture education.

Concordia Language Villages received the largest gift in its history from Simone Corporation and its CEO Kenny Park: \$5M to support the first phase of construction of the Korean Language Village on Turtle River Lake. The gift was given in celebration of 30 years of language and culture at Sup sogŭi Hosu, the Korean Language Village. Additionally, the Language Villages will recognize and celebrate 35 years of Sēn Lín Hú, the Chinese Language Village, with a special program prior to International Day on August 10.

### **Music:**

- This May, the Concordia Orchestra spent two weeks on a cultural immersion trip in Greece, visiting eight cities and performing several concerts.
- The 2016 Concordia Christmas Concert "Gather Us In, O Child of Peace" earned a regional Emmy award for special event coverage. This is the second time a Concordia Christmas Concert has received the Upper Midwest Regional Emmy award.
- Dr. Rene Clausen was honored with the Weston H. Noble award for Lifetime Achievement at the 2018 ACDA Central and North Central Conference this year. Clausen is in his 32<sup>nd</sup> year at Concordia College as the conductor of The Concordia Choir.

### **Athletics:**

- Senior Bailey Hovland broke several throwing records this year, winning the MIAC Championship and breaking the conference meet record in the hammer throw. Hovland's hammer mark qualified her for the Women's Track and Field Nationals Meet this spring.
- Brandon Zylstra '15 signed a reserve/futures deal with the Minnesota Vikings for the upcoming season, after two successful seasons with the Edmonton Eskimos. Zylstra caught 100 passes for a league-best 1687 yards in 2017.
- Head tennis coach Joseph Murrey was named 2018 MIAC Coach of the Year after leading the team to the conference postseason for the first time since 2011.
- Becca O'Shurak has been hired as the first female head coach of women's soccer. O'Shurak has previously served as assistant coach at Youngstown State and Tennessee Tech University.
- Chad Johnson was named the Bobby Bell College Impact Player of the Year by the Minnesota Chapter of the National Football Foundation. He is only the second athlete from the MIAC to receive the honor. This honor is in addition to his MIAC All Conference Awards (3 years) and the 2017 MIAC MVP Award he received earlier this year.
- Rachel Bergeson has accepted the offer to serve as Concordia's athletic director. Rachel has served as the interim athletic director since April. Prior to that role she was deputy athletics director, the senior woman administrator, and compliance officer for Concordia and also served as interim athletic director during the 2016-17 athletic season. Before taking on her role as the top women's administrator in the athletic department, Bergeson was the assistant coach for the Cobber women's basketball team from 2007-11.

### **Other Updates:**

- Concordia has been awarded a \$1,000,000 grant from the Andrew Mellon Foundation in honor of former Mellon Foundation president Earl Lewis '78. This grant will be used for faculty development, scholarships for diverse students, program support for the Office of Diversity and support for the National Book Awards. This grant is in addition to the \$800,000 grant from the Mellon Foundation the college received earlier this year to support PEAK and diversity initiatives across campus.
- Rachel Schaefer '18 was named a Fulbright Scholar and will be working at the Universidad Nacional de Colombia next year.

- This past fall, Concordia College launched the RISE Campaign, a comprehensive fundraising campaign with a goal of raising \$150,000,000 by December 2019. These funds will be used to support three pillars of the Concordia experience: integrative learning, inclusive learning, and innovative learning. For more information, head to [www.riseforconcordia.com](http://www.riseforconcordia.com)
- The Department of Chemistry celebrated 100 years in early March (Chemistry has been at Concordia 102 years, but the event was postponed until the completion of the new Integrated Science Center). The day-long celebration included talks from chemistry alumni from across the country, a career networking event for students and a banquet in the evening with Robert Homann, Professor Emeritus and Past Dean of the College, as the keynote speaker.
- Over spring break, 130 students served out the mission of the college all over the country, participating in 8 volunteer opportunities including: Habitat for Humanity Trips to Louisiana, Florida and the Carolinas, a hurricane relief trip to Dallas, Justice Journey Trips to New Orleans and El Paso, and High Impact Leadership Trips to Milwaukee and Pittsburgh.

### **Alumni Awards:**

The National Alumni Board voted on the 2018 Alumni Achievement, Sent Forth and Called to Serve Awards. To learn more about each award, visit [Cord.edu/alumniawards](http://Cord.edu/alumniawards).

#### **2018 Alumni Achievement Award Recipients**

Charles Beck '48

Dr. Richard Sibley '67

Darnell Carter '75

Claudia Swendseid '78

#### **2018 Sent Forth Recipients**

Dr. Tammy Frisby '99

Arday Ardayfio '02