

FEB. 2021

# 1982 CLASS LETTER



## Campus Update 2021

Concordia recently announced three changes to be implemented in Fall 2021: the launch of a new pricing structure for tuition, a change to its academic framework by establishing a schools model within the college, and the introduction of the Cobber Flex Year.

Beginning in Fall 2021, the price for annual tuition will be \$27,500, which is more than \$15,000 lower than current tuition – a reduction of over 35%. The change in the college's pricing model will benefit continuing students as well. Historically, students have seen an average annual tuition increase of 4% or about \$1,700 annually.



In the upcoming year, the increase in the out-of-pocket tuition costs for continuing students will be limited to \$800 and no more than \$1,000 for 2022-23 and 2023-24.

To further prepare students, Concordia implemented an academic reorganization to clearly name three schools. Under the new academic model, Concordia introduced the School of Arts and Sciences and the School of Health Professions. These two new schools join the Offutt School of Business to encompass all areas of the college. The new schools model resulted in the appointment of two new deans. Dr. George Connell is serving as dean of the School of Arts and Sciences and Dr. Cynthia Carver is dean of the School of Health Professions. As school deans, Connell and Carver join Christopher Mason, who was appointed dean of the Offutt School of Business in January 2020.

Concordia also established a Cobber Flex Year option. The Flex Year option offers current students and those enrolling in Fall 2021 two tuition-free semesters of study beyond their anticipated graduation date. The Cobber Flex Year allows students whose college experience has been affected by the pandemic expanded possibilities to learn in ways they find most compelling.

In the midst of a pandemic, Concordia continued its work to support the vitality of our faith and learning mission. In March 2020, as the realities of COVID-19 swept the nation, Concordia transitioned to distance learning. Concordia was able to transition back to campus for the fall 2020 semester. In-person instruction and residential living were offered with modifications to academic and campus life. Each teaching space was measured to determine appropriate occupancy and classes were held in larger spaces when necessary. In addition, some classes were offered as a hybrid approach and virtual learning attendance was available for those who could not meet in-person.





## Want to be a Class Agent?

We are looking for a class agent for your class. As a Class Agent, your primary role is to keep your class connected: connected to the college, connected to each other, and connected to the mission of Concordia programming.

If you are interested and want to know more, please reach out to Karen Carlson at [carlsonk@cord.edu](mailto:carlsonk@cord.edu) or 218-299-4335



## CLASS UPDATES

### Dr. Tom Hamilton

In November of 2020, I resigned my positions in Duluth/Superior in order to move to Berlin, Germany, where I was reunited with my fiancé after an extended separation due to COVID. I and my two cats came to Berlin via Boston to attend my daughter's wedding on November 14. I was in Berlin by the 16th. Now I await the end of the lockdown in Germany while improving my German skills to pass the test so I can stay in the country!



### Sue (Storm) Burt

Well this past year certainly brought on a change in life style. In addition to managing Covid, I dealt with some rather significant events on a personal level. I lost my Mom (best friend) unexpectedly in March 2020. Fortunately she and my Dad moved to Florida a few years ago and live close by, so

husband and I are able help out. Unfortunately, my Dad fell and broke his hip in Nov. which definitely upped the ante regarding our care. It's been an interesting yet rewarding "full circle" experience in caring for my parents. On a cheerier note, both my husband and I retired - me after 33 years as a banking compliance attorney and my husband as an insurance agent. We're enjoying pickleball, golf (executive course only for me, I need to see the flag from the tee box) and biking. We love our farmer's market and cooking (more so now with the virus). Our sons and daughter-in-law are doing just fine and we always look forward to their visits (as do they in February). In 2021, we hope to stay active and healthy - we've had our rear ends kicked on the pickleball court by 80 year old's, so 61 is the new 41 :). Happy New Year to the class of 1982!

### **Laura Elletson**

My twins are 24, both working remotely; one as a product trial manager for Microsoft prospects and one as a Cyber Security Analyst. I have a new ShihTzu puppy Harold who moved to Seattle with my daughter, whom he loves most. I just launched my coaching website, [LauraElletson.com](http://LauraElletson.com) and hope to identify a few new clients looking for focus in the next chapter of their career and finding joy in the journey!



### **Kim (Bjelde) Swanson**

Our big news is that we moved from our split level home in Rogers, MN to a one story home still here in Rogers. We absolutely love our new home which now has plenty of open space for getting around in the home. It has two bedrooms/two baths and a Den with French Doors. We bought a new sleeper sofa for guests. My husband still works at the jail in Elk River as a Correctional Officer. Our oldest lives out East where he works. Our daughter lives in Oslo, Norway and is a school teacher. Our youngest, Christian, works at the FedEx here in Rogers.

## **Lois (Carlson) Anderson**

Two years ago we moved my husband's parents in with us to improve their quality of life and honor them. Of course, no one knew that COVID would hit. I have been the primary care giver and my husband did an 82 day stint working in Germany this fall, most of it under lockdown in his hotel room. We are thanking God that my husband has been able to continue working remotely from here in the US. When you are young, you never really think about caring for your parents and memory issues. This is the second time we have done this, the first was for my father (assisting my mother) in 2010 and 2011. Having a job is easy...caring for your parents is a labor of love. Honoring them through it all is a hard privilege. Lessons in empathy and patience are fresh daily. Not being able to freely be with my grandchildren, 2 girls age 5 and 1 boy age 4...heart wrenching. What I look forward to doing in late 2021 or in 2022...first, family and friend gatherings...second, going to my favorite place in the world, Lake Como, Italy, and staying for a couple weeks. I have had the privilege of being there 3 times already...it's beauty and history have melded into my soul. Then on to a number of other countries where we have friends as well as "quasi" adopted children and grandchildren.

## **Dorothy Nielsen**

Most of 202 was spent hunkered down at our home in Silverton, Oregon. During the year I did some work for the Oregon Synod reviewing updated congregational constitutions. In October 2020, I began my 6th interim ministry site, Grace Lutheran Church, Corvallis, Oregon. For the past 8 years I have moved into Intentional Interim Ministry, and enjoy working with congregations in transition. My husband and I have eight grandchildren, who light up our lives, thanks to his four children. We are hoping to travel around the US after I finish my work at Grace, before the next assignment begins.



## Join the Concordia Book Club!

Connect with fellow Cobber alumni, faculty/staff, current students, and current/former parents to read and discuss a variety of fiction novels. To join the group search *Concordia College Fiction Book Club*.

## Host a Corn Feed in your area!

Gather area alumni to strengthen relationships between alumni, parents, and students. Reach out to Marah Moy at [mmoy@cord.edu](mailto:mmoy@cord.edu) if you are interested in hosting. Costs up to \$200 are reimbursed.



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## Homecoming 2021

Make plans to attend Homecoming Oct. 1-3.

Watch our website for updates.

[ConcordiaCollege.edu/homecoming](https://ConcordiaCollege.edu/homecoming)



# GIVING UPDATE

In a year like none other, the generosity of alumni like us has helped propel the college forward while supporting the students it serves. A few of the highlights from this year include:

- More than \$2.1 million was raised for The Cobber Fund for scholarships and support to help make sure a Concordia education is possible for every one of our students.
- During the start of the pandemic, \$59,000 was raised for emergency funding for food, transportation, and other critical needs.
- This fall, 841 Cobber fans gave \$87,890 to make sure our athletes have the resources they need to compete despite COVID-19.
- This holiday season, 1,809 virtual Christmas Concert attendees donated \$68,552 in honor of this Concordia tradition and our student musicians.
- In just ONE day, donors fully funded the Cobber Food Pantry.



Thank you to those who have already given this year! Be on the lookout for the “CobbersGive” Fund-the-Need campaign in March - you are sure to find an area of campus that aligns with your passions. The class of 1982 can truly make a difference in the lives of current Cobbers!

**What area of campus will you champion with your gift to the Cobber Fund?**

 <b>ORIENTATION</b>	 <b>SCHOLARSHIPS</b>	 <b>SUSTAINABILITY</b>	 <b>CAREER READINESS</b>
 <b>AREA OF GREATEST NEED</b>	 <b>STUDENT LEADERSHIP</b>	 <b>STUDENT CARE AND SUPPORT</b>	 <b>ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE</b>

**Between March 8-19, your gift of any size to The Cobber Fund will unlock an additional \$100 for student scholarships – up to \$50,000!\***

\*Thank you to an anonymous alum for providing the generous match.

Together we are preparing Cobbers to lead and serve in a world that needs them. During the challenges of COVID-19, your generosity is needed more than ever.

Learn more or give early at [ConcordiaCollege.edu/cobbersgive](https://ConcordiaCollege.edu/cobbersgive)

## WE REMEMBER

Diane (Nelson) Koznick passed 8/10/2020  
Karin (Johnson) Senstad passed 2/11/2020  
Jill Strickler passed 8/29/2019



## HELP US LOCATE

If you know any of the 1982 graduates below, please ask them to update their information by going to [concordiacollege.edu/classnotes](http://concordiacollege.edu/classnotes) or send an email to [alumni@cord.edu](mailto:alumni@cord.edu). We would love to update their records.

Sharon (Asp) Anderson  
Richard Camerer  
Jill (Sawyer) Grohs  
Dawn Guitierrez  
David C. Hanson  
Stacy (Hanson) Kilgore  
Karl Kjer  
James H. Knutson  
Craig Kracht  
Dawn M. Landberg



Gunhild (Weiberg) Mansell  
Neda Moussavie  
Lorie (Pederson) Callen  
Richard Quamme  
Daniel Sheridan  
Mary Stutrud  
Karla Swan  
Grace Tosi  
Emillia (Marimanzira) Zawaira  
Charles Zigler



Alumni can send in life updates throughout the year.  
Go to: [www.ConcordiaCollege.edu/ClassNotes](http://www.ConcordiaCollege.edu/ClassNotes)

# ALUMNI AWARDS

## 2020 Sent Forth Award Recipients



Cmdr. Brian Kesselring '00



Tara (Stueber) Wilson '06

## 2020 Alumni Achievement Award Recipients



Robert Johnson '71



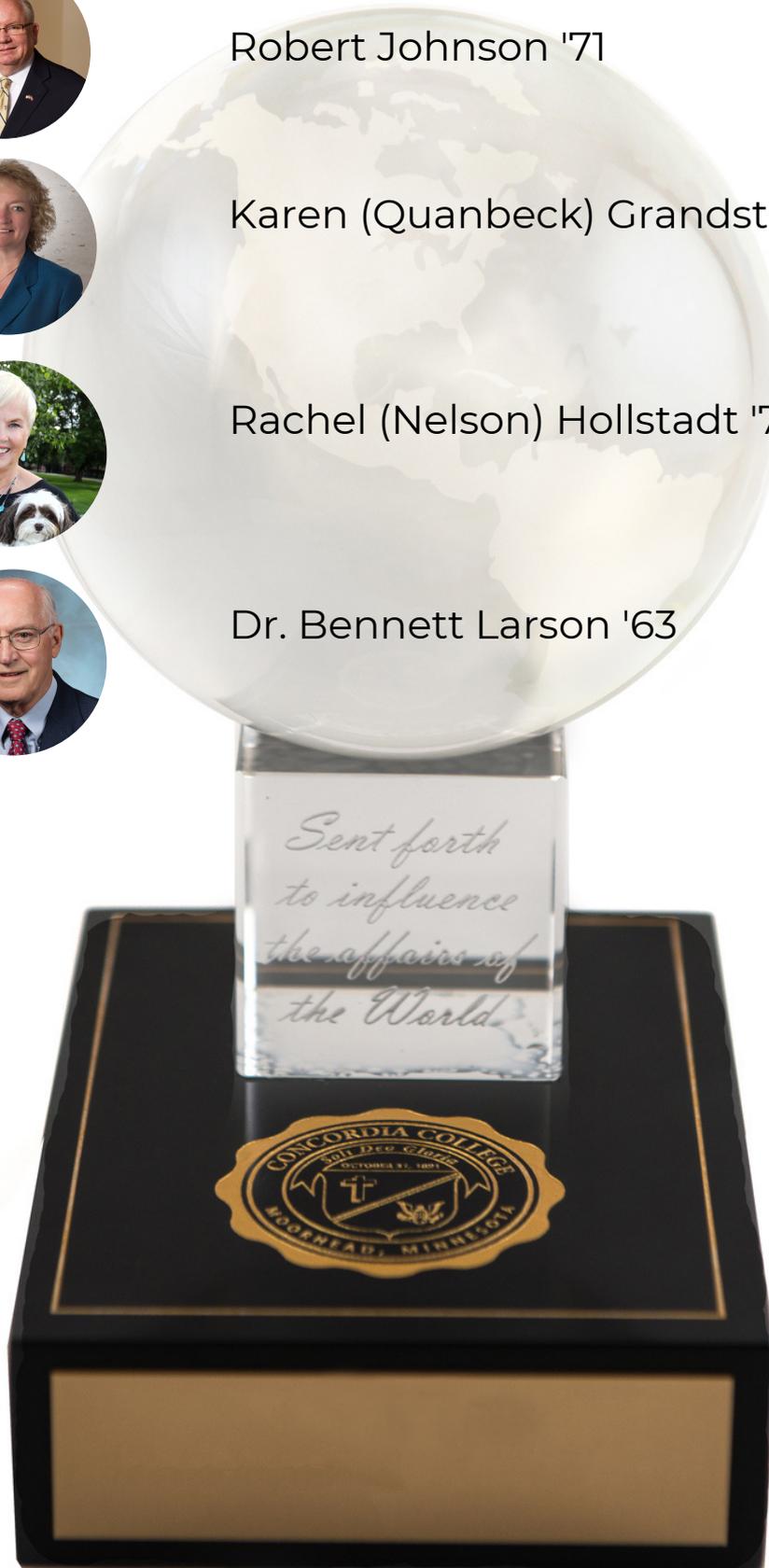
Karen (Quanbeck) Grandstrand '77



Rachel (Nelson) Hollstadt '70



Dr. Bennett Larson '63



To read the bios of the 2020 AAA and Sent Forth Award Recipients or if you would like to nominate a deserving Alum, please go to [ConcordiaCollege.edu/AlumniAwards](https://ConcordiaCollege.edu/AlumniAwards)