

FEB. 2021

1988 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 or 218-299-4335



CLASS UPDATES

Rebecca (Hoogenakker) Ness

In 2020, I remain the office manager for Shoecase Lawn Care, in my 5th year, hanging up my teaching career in 2015 after 25 years. This year my second grandchild, Soren Ember, was born on June 1st, in the middle of the George Floyd riots and they had to evacuate their birthing center to a more secure location. In June, my older daughter Anissa and her husband Roope purchased their first home and left the "nest" for good. On July 31st, my youngest daughter Kara, married her husband DJ. On August 26, my mom, Marianne Ness, lost her battle with Acute Leukemia at the age of 88, after her initial diagnosis in February. It has been an eventful year in SO many ways.



Lisa Schalla

I moved back to Minnesota in 2020, after living in other countries for the past 32 years. My son Sebastian is a freshman at Cornell University. After a career in teaching at international schools and then moving into community foundation management, I am now the Project Director for the Connecting Communities in the Americas (CCA). This is an initiative and network of community foundations from Canada down to Argentina, sharing and learning how to better engage our transnational communities - those that have high levels of migration, diaspora and transnational identity.

Phillip Assis

In August, 2020, I moved from life on the Mediterranean in Tunisia, where I was the U.S. Embassy spokesperson, to being the Deputy Cultural Attaché at the much larger U.S. Embassy to Pakistan. Covid-19 is a reality here, too, of course, but I am honored to connect the American and Pakistani people through a wide range of cultural and exchange programs. In a first for my diplomatic career, I also now work with another Cobber, Amy Christianson, from the class of 1989.



Jill Jensen

I am currently a Client Advisor with Alternatives, Inc, in Billings, MT. We provide alternatives to jail in Yellowstone, Stillwater, & Carbon counties, as well as a drug & alcohol treatment program. My fiancé & I have postponed our wedding on the island of Kauai, 2 times because of COVID-19. This year we WILL tie the knot -somehow, somewhere!

Lizanne (Pearson) Larsen

Hello fellow Cobbers. We, my husband Scott ('87 grad) and I, moved this past year to a house on a lake in Maple grove. Our 25 year old adult children are enjoying the lake activities with us. ~Feeling blessed. Happy 2021 all :)

Eric Holland

Here at work at the Fairbanks North Star Borough, Health & Social Services Division we have been busy facilitating the pass through of Federal CARES funds to Health Care organizations. Pandemic life has kept us hunkered down, lighting the sauna often and getting out for short walks in the sub zero temps. Summer and Fall had a lot of wilderness time included as it is safe and wonderful. This summer and fall will have a lot of wilderness time in it as well. I will finish traveling the Tanana river and start work on the Yukon....hopefully with Family and Friends! Have a great 2021!

Michael Ritland

Michael and Leah (Hardy) Class of 1990, moved from Grand Forks ND to Duluth MN in the Fall of 2020. Michael is a Senior Wealth Advisor with Frandsen Investment Services. He has been with the firm for 14 years and moved to Duluth to pursue an opportunity within the company. Leah has been a 4th grade teacher the last 14 years. Their daughter Karly will graduate this Spring with a Masters of Music from the Peabody Institute of John Hopkins University and their son Brady will soon finish his Bachelors of Music Education from NDSU.

Kristen (Kerns) Haakenson

Kristen is working as Director of Research & Development at Kapra Cosmetics in Brooklyn Park, MN leading the product development, quality control and chemical purchasing groups. She continues to live in New Brighton, MN with her husband and daughter.



Homecoming 2021

Make plans to attend Homecoming Oct. 1-3. Watch our website for updates. ConcordiaCollege.edu/homecoming



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 if you are interested in hosting. Costs up to \$200 are reimbursed.



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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 1988 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?

| | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
|  ORIENTATION |  SCHOLARSHIPS |  SUSTAINABILITY |  CAREER READINESS |
|  AREA OF GREATEST NEED |  STUDENT LEADERSHIP |  STUDENT CARE AND SUPPORT |  ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE |

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

WE REMEMBER

Steven Connelly passed 8/18/2020



HELP US LOCATE

If you know any of the 1988 graduates below, please ask them to update their information by going to concordiacollege.edu/classnotes or email alumni@cord.edu.

We would love to update their records.

Joel Anderson

Ross Anderson

Ingebjorg (Smyllingsaas)

Bergsholm

Kjetil Bergsholm

Hans Brekke

Terrell Carr

Christine (Stockard) Christ

Nancy Colattur

Joel Dunham

Carsten Engebretsen

Angela Ericson

Paul Gade

Renae Galbrecht

Darla (Lumley) Greyston

Paul Hoium

Mary Jameson

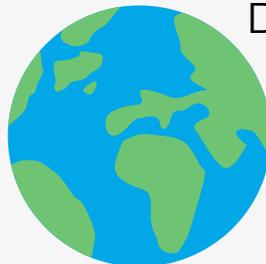
Karen Michael

Carrie Nath

Oystein Nilsen

John-Egil Stromvoll

Kristin Tollefson



Alumni can send in life updates throughout the year.

Go to: 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



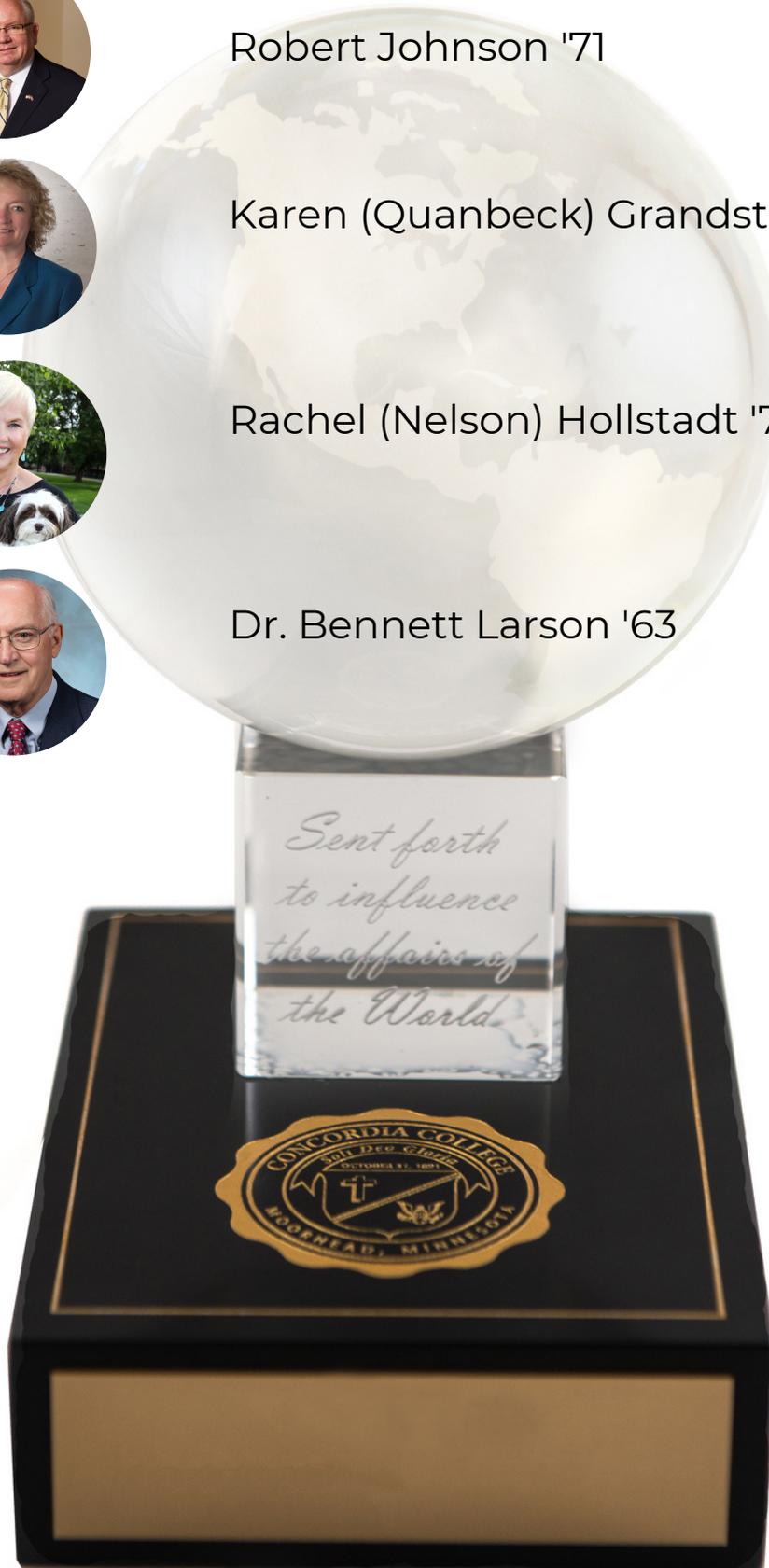
Karen (Quanbeck) Grandstrand '77



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