



Class Letter

SPRING 2022

CLASS OF 1968

CONCORDIA COLLEGE

CAMPUS UPDATES



President Craft to Retire

President Craft announced his upcoming retirement at the end of his second presidential term, on June 30, 2023. The Board of Regents has already started seeking Concordia's next president with a presidential search committee and national consulting firm.

New Executive Director for Faith and Learning

Dr. Michael Chan will be welcomed in June 2022 as the new Executive Director for Faith and Learning. He will direct the Lorentzen and Dovre Centers, guide Concordia's interfaith relationships, and oversee the work of Campus Ministry.



Learn. Work. Lead.

A Concordia College education is rooted in college's deep commitment to providing a transformational experience for every one of our students. Development has continued on our academic framework through **Three Schools, One College**:

- Sanford Heimarck School of Health Professions
- Offutt School of Business
- School of Arts and Sciences

Concordia will begin renovation in the summer of 2022 on the Sanford Clinic building adjacent to campus to provide expanded laboratory, classroom, and centralized office space for its freshly named Sanford Heimarck School of Health Professions. The project will include a nursing simulation lab and a human performance lab. It will be a remarkable advancement to the program.

Dr. Gwen Wagstrom Halaas '75 named new dean of Sanford Heimarck School of Health Professions

Dr. Halaas brings more than four decades of research, teaching, program development and administrative experience to Concordia. She grew up in the Fargo-Moorhead area and is a 1975 graduate of Concordia. Dr. Halaas will assume the role on July 1, 2022.



Advancing the Mission | Cobber Ambassador Program

A new initiative was officially launched to invigorate the unique network and relationships among alumni, friends, and students of Concordia College. Cobber Ambassadors are people who care about the students and mission, believe in the college, and help spread the word about Concordia's life-changing education.



Learn more or sign up to become an Ambassador at ConcordiaCollege.edu/alumni/cobber-ambassador-program

COVID Response/Planning



We continue to monitor guidance from the Minnesota Department of Health and the CDC to keep our campus as healthy as possible amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Students, faculty, and staff are updated regularly and encouraged to engage in risk-reducing practices to prioritize in-person learning and working through the academic year.

Around Campus

- Renovation was completed in Christiansen Recital Hall to provide a higher quality and more modern experience for students and guests
- A gas firepit was installed near the 8th Street entrance of the Knutson Campus Center
- An Indoor Performance Center for golf was added in Olson Forum using the latest simulator technology to provide year-round training for the men's and women's golf programs
- Olson Forum's workout balcony will be expanded this summer



Concordia Recognized for Women in Coaching

The University of Minnesota's Tucker Center for Research on Girls & Women in Sport gave Concordia an "A" grade on its 2020-21 report card. The college was highlighted for having female head coaches for 70% of its women's sports. Concordia was the only MIAC school to receive an "A" grade in the report. Compliments to Athletic Director Rachel Bergeson for her leadership.

Homecoming

100 Years of Homecoming was celebrated in October 2021. The college was happy to successfully welcome back over 700 alumni and friends to partake in this strong Cobber tradition.

We look forward to celebrating with YOU **October 7-9, 2022!**
Watch for updates at ConcordiaCollege.edu/homecoming



Corn Feed Season is around the corner!

We will continue the tradition of hosting corn feeds in the summer and hope to see you!

Updates can be found at
ConcordiaCollege.edu/cornfeeds

Giving Update

We can pay forward the generous scholarships we received as students by supporting this new generation of Cobbers. Together, we help ensure that a Concordia education is possible for every student.

cobbersgive

In 2021, more than 5,000 people came together to raise **\$2.6+ million** for The Cobber Fund.

THANK YOU TO THE MEMBERS OF OUR CLASS WHO MADE A GIFT IN 2021!

Be on the lookout for the Cobbers Give campaign **March 7-18**; a generous alum will add an additional \$100 to each of our gifts to The Cobber Fund. The class of 1968 can truly make a difference in the lives of current students.

Learn more or give online at ConcordiaCollege.edu/giving

Travel the World with Concordia



Each year, the Alumni Relations Office offers opportunities for alumni and the Concordia family to partake in global travel experiences led by our in-house experts. From wine tastings in the French countryside, participating in Northern Spain's rich culture from the seat of your bicycle, or traveling as a companion to our top vocal and instrumental ensembles as they share their music with the world, there's an excursion catered to every interest.

Explore the trips at ConcordiaCollege.edu/alumni/global-travel



News & Notes

Stay up to date on news throughout the year and subscribe to our weekly email newsletter.

ConcordiaCollege.edu/news/news-and-notes

Alumni Awards

Concordia has three categories of awards presented each year.

- **Called to Serve Award** is conferred upon alumni who have demonstrated notable commitment to the mission of the college through lifelong service to their faith communities, education, arts or other not-for-profit activities. Alumni of any year are eligible.
- **The Sent Forth Award** is conferred upon young alumni who have distinguished themselves early on in their careers and service to others. For graduates of less than 20 years, this award is reserved for alumni who have shown vocational precociousness.
- **The Alumni Achievement Award (AAA)**, the college's highest honor, is conferred upon alumni who have distinguished themselves in their careers and service to others. For graduates of 20 years or more, the AAA is reserved for alumni at the pinnacle of their vocational life.

2021 Alumni Achievement Award Recipients



Fay Ferguson '73

Co-CEO Burrell
Communications
Group



Dr. Gwen (Wagstrom) Halaas '75

Vice chancellor for Academic
Affairs and professor,
Washington State University
Health Sciences



Harold D. Pope '77

Senior counsel at
Dykema Gossett, PLLC



Dr. Corey Teigen '86

Vascular and interventional
radiologist, researcher, and
developer, and Chief Scientific
Officer, Penumbra, Inc.

2021 Sent Forth Recipients



Stephen Letnes '00

Founder, Executive Director
Able Artist Foundation



Judge Jade Rosenfeldt '05

Clay County Courthouse
Seventh Judicial District

Nominations Always Open

To read more about these recipients or to nominate a deserving alumni, go to
ConcordiaCollege.edu/alumni/awards-and-recognition

Message from Class Agent and Class Member Updates



Greetings class of 1968 Cobbers!

A couple of weeks ago I was on campus for the National Alumni Board of which I have been a member. I could feel the spirit of Concordia as I walked around, spoke with numerous students, and read the Concordian. Learn. Work. Lead. Opportunities abound at Concordia—demonstrated by the fact that a student friend from my own town helped found a new organization on campus which focuses solely on women's rights and empowerment. Hats off to her and to our alma mater!

- Sharon Buhr, Class Agent



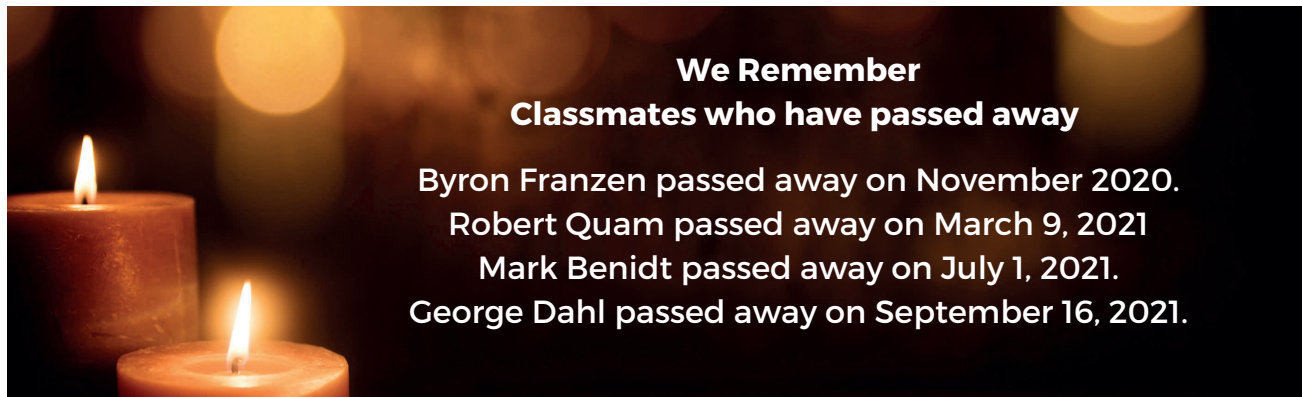
Murray Sagsveen from Bismarck, ND continues to volunteer as the Western ND Synod attorney and is also serving the second of a four-year term on the Luther Seminary Board of Directors. His wife, Kristi, was in the class of 1969.

Joan Ledin Gard and husband Terry, just sold their Novato home of 37 years and have moved to a one-story home in St. Helena, California. The home is a quick 10 minute drive to her husbands vineyard in Calistoga. Joan enjoys her yellow lab, who loves the new big back yard with lots of different birds to watch.

Paul Rogness, and wife Noreen, live in Pleasant Hill, Iowa. Paul states that "life is good with all kids and 6 grandchildren performing admirably in school and activities. So much fun to watch. We are blessed!"

Renee Setnes Walz and husband Jerry (class of 1967) are happily retired after long careers; Renee with the Lignite Energy Council and Jerry with TrueNorth Steel. They are active in their LCMC congregation, Charity Lutheran, in Bismarck, ND. Their two poodles, Baily, and Dixie make life interesting.

Al Marotta and wife Monika have a new address: 3064 Herb Garden Drive, Frederick, Maryland 21704. Both retired, they recently moved into an active senior community.





If you know any of the classmates listed below, please ask them to update their information by going to **ConcordiaCollege.edu/classnotes**
Send an email to alumni@cord.edu or call 218.299.3734
We would love to update their records.
Thank you if you've already done so.

Dennis R. Anderson
William Barrett
Janet (Simpfenderfer Bjorklund)
Donna (Berge) Bodensteiner
Karen Borchert
William Brathwaite
Cheryl Gandrud
Beverly (Hensel) Gaveland
Carla Heins
Saundra Henderson
Linda Hogenson
Kenneth Holmes
Karen (Frisch) Horn
Lyle Kivisto
Mark E. Larson
Loy Lauster
Janis Lilljenberg
John Lindell
Robert Lupient

John Matthewson
Frank Melton
John Nygaard
Mary Ellen (Olson) Ohnstad
Ernest Peitso
Janet (Richter) Pekney
Dennis Rebers
Jane (Bruskrud) Roark
Sharon (Stoltenberg) Schon
Mary Ann Sedey
Kenneth Sheldahl
Diane (Marten) Siebrecht
Thomas Sullivan
Janis Thorkelsson
Nancy (Madson) Van Moorlehem
George White
Amine Wohlers



CONCORDIA COLLEGE
MOORHEAD, MINNESOTA

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