



Class of '87 Newsletter March, 2022

**Can you believe that this fall we will be celebrating our
35th Reunion during Homecoming Weekend?**

The dates for Homecoming have been set for the weekend of October 6 – 9, 2022 and it will be wonderful to be able to get together IN PERSON to reconnect, share stories, and catch up on on life. The Alumni Office will be sending out a "Save the Date" in the spring, so watch your mail for that.

In the meantime, will you consider helping plan our reunion? I will be sending out an email with more information, but help is needed with outreach, communications, and coordinating the various programs and parade. If you're interested, shoot me an email or text and I'll be sure to include you in the process.

Solei Deo Gloria,

Chris & Joni Bonnell
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763-656-8810

Campus Updates

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 Lorentzsen 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.

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.

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

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 in athletics.

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.

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!

The class of 1987 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

2021 Alumni Achievement Award Recipients



Co-CEO Burrell
Communications
Group

Fay Ferguson '73



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

Dr. Gwen (Wagstrom) Halaas '75



Senior counsel at
Dykema Gossett, PLLC

Harold D. Pope '77



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

Dr. Corey Teigen '86

2021 Sent Forth Recipients



Founder, Executive Director
Able Artist Foundation

Stephen Letnes '00



Clay County Courthouse
Seventh Judicial District

Judge Jade Rosenfeldt '05

Nominations Always Open

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

'87 Class Updates

It is with a heavy heart
that we mourn the
passing of:

Kirsten Anne (Montgomery)
Johnson

Please Send Updates!

It would be wonderful if
you would share your
life's news for upcoming
newsletters!

Email:

jonibonnell@gmail.com

Update Your Information

To update your
information or submit a
class note, please go to:
[https://www.concordiacollege.edu/alumni/class-
notes/](https://www.concordiacollege.edu/alumni/class-notes/)

Help Up Locate:

If you know any of the classmates listed
below, please ask them to update their
information by going to
ConcordiaCollege.edu/classnotes or
send an email to alumni@cord.edu or
call 218-299-3734. We would love to
update their records.

Blakstad, Maren

Chan, Kwei-Fa

Clark, Ron L.

Forkner, Jonathan E.

Fornes Drop, Guri J.

Johnson, Kirsten M.

Kelley, Peter D.

Kessler, Darren R.

Kjellesvig, Connie M.

Lambert, Peter A.

Larsen, Mark D.

Larson, Aaron E.

Nara, Charles M.

Overman, Denise R.

Pence, Charles R.

Plucker, Rochell K.

Schwarzlander, Suzanne M.

Sharp, John K.

Smedas, Ellen M. (Johnstad)

Sollom, Richard A.

Strand, Don M.

Stushnoff, Shawna M.

Taallerud, Mary Sue

Weir, Margaret H.

Wenck, Christine M. (Jahn)