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THE CLASS OF 2018'S

# CLASS LETTER

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HELLO!

Greetings, Class of 2018!

I was looking at my greeting from 2021, and I must say, things continue to be difficult and weird in 2022, too. I find myself grateful for the little things like that first cup of coffee in the morning, long walks outside, and Wordle group chats.

As Cobbers do, we forge forth, and I really do believe you are all out there doing your part to make the world a better place. It's hard to believe next year will be our 5-Year Reunion -- where does the time go?

Sending you the sincerest wishes of good health and wellbeing,

Your class agent,

- Corinne Burrell





## UPDATES FROM CONCORDIA



### 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.



## UPDATES FROM CONCORDIA

### 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](https://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.





## UPDATES FROM CONCORDIA

### 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](https://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](https://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.

**cobbersgive**

### 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 1975 can truly make a difference in the lives of current students.

**Learn more or give online at [ConcordiaCollege.edu/giving](https://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](https://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](https://ConcordiaCollege.edu/news/news-and-notes)



## UPDATES FROM CONCORDIA

### 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](https://ConcordiaCollege.edu/alumni/awards-and-recognition)



## UPDATES FROM CLASSMATES

I have continued to work at Sanford health in the adult ICU. I have been there for the last 2.5 years. In the next couple months I will be starting to travel nurse. In the last year I completed my first half Ironman. I have two more scheduled for 2022. My parents moved into their new house at the lake and are loving it. My mom gets to continue to work from home and my dad continues to own his own company.

- Brandon Quibell

I am currently working as an Associate Attorney at Wilson Law Group in Minneapolis, Minnesota. I specialize in immigration matters and represent clients seeking asylum and other humanitarian forms of relief in the United States. I enjoy fighting for my clients and being a part of their journey toward safety and justice. I am proud to be serving our immigrant community through legal representation and building relationships with people from all over the world!

- ShelbyKate Maly





## UPDATES FROM CLASSMATES

I was ordained in the ELCA as a Minister of Word and Service (deacon) on November 13, 2021! I have been called to serve Peace Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls, SD to work with their high school program and families!  
- Amanda Randall







## UPDATES FROM CLASSMATES

Over the past year I've had a few changes come about. One of those changes was from working as an inpatient RN in Medical Oncology at the University of Washington Medical Center to a Clinical Nurse at the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance Proton Therapy Center. It's a lot different from being in a hospital setting but I love what I am doing, I love the patients I interact with, and glad I made the switch. This past fall I was also able to pass my Oncology Certification Nurse Exam, which is a nursing specialty exam to certify your knowledge in that specialty area.

In non-job related news, I had a few different friends and family visit over the past year. It's always fun to play tourist as well as take them to places I've been able to discover in my short time here. I moved into a new apartment in the spring, which allowed for more comfortable accommodations for my guests who visited and more space for my 2 cats and growing plant collection. I was able to visit MN/ND again for the first time in 1 1/2 years this past January with my partner and show him around my parent's farm and the Fargo-Moorhead area, from which I learned I don't miss the cold lol!

Overall, this year has been a time of change and growth in my personal and professional career and I can't wait to see what the next year brings!

- Micah Ferden





## UPDATES FROM CLASSMATES



We moved to Wisconsin and got married! We got married last summer in Minneapolis. My husband is working as a flight instructor and working on gaining hours for a commercial pilot job. I'm working as a paramedic and volunteering with my local fire department. Our dog, Schmutz, is the most spoiled dog and living his best life.

- McKenzie Norgard





## UPDATES FROM CLASSMATES

I bought a house! It's a little home not too far from Lake Nokomis in South Minneapolis. It's been fun hosting friends and family here as well as learning the lessons that come with homeownership, haha. I also am halfway through my Master's of Library and Information Science, which I'm completing at St. Kate's, where I also work with young alumni and students! Life is busy and sweet, and I'm grateful for each new chapter, both expected and unexpected.

- Corinne Burrell

