

## INTERIM PRESIDENT

The Hesston College Board of Directors and Mennonite Education Agency Board have appointed Benjamin E. (Ben) Sprunger as interim president starting August 1. His appointment comes as President Howard Keim transitions out of the role after an 11-1/2 year tenure. Dr. Sprunger's past roles include six years as president of Bluffton (Ohio) College (now University)(1972-78) and nine years as president and CEO of Mennonite Economic Development Associates, Inc., (MEDA) (1994-2003). The Presidential Search Committee reported that the search for Hesston's ninth president is proceeding as scheduled. Sprunger's interim arrangement is to last at least through Dec. 31, 2016, and no longer than June 30, 2017, to allow adequate transition time for the college's next president.



## A NOTE FROM PRESIDENT KEIM



As I conclude my time as President, I want to express my gratitude for the work you as a pastoral leader do in preparing people for lives of faithful service. Thank you for your leadership and care for all of your students in higher education settings. I understand that the pastoral role is sometimes delicate in terms of advocating for particular colleges or organizations, but I appreciate the trust that you, parents and students have placed in Hesston College. It has been a privilege to speak in many of your churches and I have always appreciated the opportunity to share with you and get better acquainted with the churches that our students come from. I can, without reservation, continue to commend Hesston College to you, and I know that the college will continue on a good path as a new President is found.

## COMMENCEMENT 2016

The 2015-16 academic year came to a close with Commencement exercises May 8. President Keim conferred 166 degrees for the Class of 2016. Kevin Wilder, Hesston College psychology and Bible instructor, delivered the commencement address "Ultimate Questions," encouraging graduates to frame their lives with love for God, others and self. Special ceremonies on May 7, honored graduates in Disaster Management, Nursing and Aviation.



## PREPARING FOR SERVICE

During Hesston College chapel April 27, 37 students, faculty and staff were commissioned for Christian ministry and service for summer and fall placements by campus pastor Todd Lehman. The service assignments are world-wide, including 2016 graduate Adrienne Derstine (Harleysville, Pa.) in the Ministry Inquiry Program at Albuquerque (N.M.) Mennonite Church, five Disaster Management students and one faculty member working at the Detroit, Mich., Mennonite Disaster Service site and five students/graduates, led by 2016 Bible and Ministry graduate Gracie Tijerina (Brownsville, Texas), leading Vacation Bible School on the Road in churches throughout Kansas and Texas.

Read these full stories and more at [hesston.edu](http://hesston.edu). For more information, contact Dallas Stutzman, director of Alumni and Church Relations, toll free at 866-437-7866.

## RN TO BSN



Starting in January 2017, Hesston College will launch an RN to BSN program for registered nurses looking to complete a bachelor's level degree. The associate degree program (ADN) expanded in August 2015 to include a four-year bachelor of science in nursing (BSN) program. The RN to BSN program will be offered with full-time, one-year or a part-time, two-year options. Courses will

be a hybrid of online and on-campus as a way to promote the balance of work, school and family life for students. The program will also be offered at a special two-year RN to BSN tuition rate with the price locked for a student's duration in the program. Learn more about all of Hesston College's nursing track options by watching the new nursing video at [hesston.edu/nursing](http://hesston.edu/nursing).

## LARK ATHLETICS FIND POST-SEASON SUCCESS

For the second year in a row, the Men's Tennis team qualified for the NJCAA Division I National Tournament in Plano, Texas, May 16 to 20. The Larks finished 17th of 24 teams. Singles players and doubles teams competed well, with the doubles team of freshman Riley Kingsley (North Newton, Kan.) and sophomore Keegan LeFevre (Woodland Park, Colo.) advancing to the consolation bracket final match.

The Baseball team captured the 2016 NJCAA Division II Region VI title to advance to the district level in Lee's Summit, Mo., May 19, before dropping games to Western Oklahoma State College (Altus) and Metropolitan Community College-Longview (Lee's Summit). The Larks finished the season with a 21-36 record.



## INTERNATIONAL CHORALE

Following Commencement, 26 students and three music faculty members departed on a three-week European tour of the Netherlands, Germany and Switzerland through May 30. They performed several concerts in churches as well as learning European history and the history of Mennonites in Europe.

## ANABAPTIST VISION & DISCIPLESHIP SERIES

Shane Claiborne, a Christian author and speaker, headlined the 2016 Anabaptist Vision and Discipleship Series conference at Hesston College in February. "Not Just On Sunday" encouraged participants to embody a 24/7 faith. **Save the date for AVDS 2017** in February, which will focus on the many faces of trauma in communities and congregations and explore strategies for healing and hope. Look for more details coming this summer.



## CONGREGATIONAL STUDENT AID

Hesston College offers a match grant for scholarships provided by students' churches. During the 2015-16 year, 65 churches contributed \$176,880 in student scholarships to 108 recipients. Hesston College matched a total of \$112,885. The average church aid per student was \$1,637 while the average church-and-college aid per student was \$2,683. If your congregation is interested in providing a scholarship program to support Mennonite higher education, contact the Church Relations Office at **866-437-7866**.

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