

today

magazine

HESSTON COLLEGE ALUMNI MAGAZINE
SUMMER 2016



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IN LAW
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Hesston College

NURSING FACULTY
MEMBERS RETIRE
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today magazine

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CONNECTING TO OUR PAST, LIVING IN TODAY, CHANGING WITH THE FUTURE

The 2016-17 school year marks my 32nd year at Hesston College in various capacities: student, admissions, financial aid, teaching, church relations, alumni relations, special events and advancement. I'm grateful for the wonderful opportunities

the college has provided me. I'm blessed in many ways with relationships developed over the years. The Hesston College family is simply an amazing group, and we are all connected to and tied together through the Hesston Experience — that subjective feeling that transcends time, unique in definition to each of us, and sometimes hard to define and quantify.

We hosted two significant events this summer that gave alumni an opportunity to reconnect with their Hesston Experience. The first in Lancaster, Pa., honored former President Laban Peachy, and the second in Goshen, Ind., honored former faculty and staff member Bill Mason, both of whom are enjoying life in their 80s. What a wonderful opportunity for them to interact with alumni, former students and friends and share out of their current context!

This issue of *Today* simultaneously brings joy and sadness. What a joyous group of new graduates who have contributed so much to Hesston College! We celebrated with two outstanding nursing faculty members as they entered retirement after many contributions to students, the college and their profession. Then we grieved the tragedy of lives cut far too short upon losing student Justin Velazquez '17 soon after spring term ended, and alumna Sheralynn Neff '11, who died as the result of a skydiving accident in Oklahoma shortly before *Today* went to print. We continue to offer prayers for their families in the days and months ahead.

Now we look with anticipation to the coming year under the leadership of Interim President Ben Sprunger as we create new definitions of the Hesston Experience. We hope to see many of you for **Homecoming 2016: Home Sweet Hesston**, which will bring alumni from across the globe to celebrate a collaborative Hesston community homecoming event. We look forward to integrating this broader community homecoming effort to future Hesston College homecomings!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dallas".

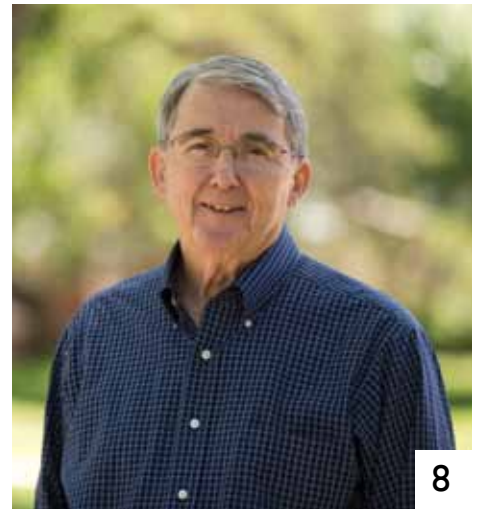
Dallas L. Stutzman '76, Alumni and Church Relations Director

**HESSTON
COLLEGE** 
START HERE, GO EVERYWHERE

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*F*inding
ministry in law

Adrienne Derstine '16

started here. Now she's taking
her first steps to everywhere.



Adrienne Derstine's initial first step – spending the summer in Mennonite Church USA's Ministry Inquiry Program (MIP) – may seem a bit unconventional for her “go everywhere” plans of a career in law, but she views it as practical preparation for the kind of law she hopes to practice.

“I've been challenged to view ministry as a lifestyle that transcends more than just one aspect of our daily lives, but instead transforms an individual to live out the gospel that is radical,” said Derstine (Harleysville, Pa.), who next plans to study peacebuilding and ministry at Eastern Mennonite University (Harrisonburg, Va.). “Today and in the future, I will dedicate myself to incorporate justice for humanity and the environment in everyday actions.”

Since May, Derstine has been working with and learning from the ministry team at Albuquerque (N.M.) Mennonite Church. Her responsibilities have included leading worship during Sunday morning services, preaching and participating in day-to-day tasks and meetings with the church's ministry team. She's also had ample time to expand her faith, explore what ministry means to her personally and find ways to connect her call to ministry with her career aspirations.

“I am exploring a variety of topics through books, including environmental sustainability, the Christian response to pain and what it means to live simply,” said Derstine. “I enjoy having free-

dom to explore the mysterious ways in which God works. Much of what church ministry consists of is putting it in the hands of God and allowing the Spirit to work. I have enjoyed learning about this process and been challenged to consider it as my first response every morning.”

“I've learned so much and been inspired by example by so many different people at Hesston. Each person's influence helped me find a trajectory for my life.”
– Adrienne Derstine '16 –

Derstine's interests, passions and curiosity are broad, fitting well with an undergraduate degree in pre-law, which lends itself to exploration in a variety of academic areas.

During her two years at Hesston, Derstine focused much of her course load on history classes, but she was also able to develop her writing skills by serving as a Writing Fellow (a peer writing tutor) during her sophomore year, as well as assist Marissa King '05 in teaching a Basic Writing class, and even co-present on “Responding to student intentions through annotation” at a conference with King.

As a high school student making the college decision, she



wasn't quite ready to commit to a school or a major, so she first did a year of Service Adventure in Albuquerque through Mennonite Mission Network. She chose to start at Hesston because she felt more comfortable making a commitment to a place for two years rather than four.

Hesston provided her with the right combination of people and experiences that gave her direction for her passions and future. Derstine noted influences from instructors across various disciplines as being inspirational to her Hesston Experience.

"I've learned so much and been inspired by example by so many different people at Hesston," said Derstine. "Marissa King (education instructor) demonstrated to me passion for work and insight into how a career can influence society. David LeVan (business instructor) and Karen Sheriff LeVan (English instructor) exemplified passion for connecting subject areas and encouraging broad content exploration. Andre Swartley '99 (English instructor) and Kendra Burkey '00 (communication instructor) encouraged strong, powerful women. Each person's influence helped me find a trajectory for my life."

An assortment of experiences and ideas has carried her into her time with MIP as well. As should be the case with exploration, some experiences have stretched her beyond what is comfortable and challenged her with new perspectives.

"I participated in a week-long retreat in the Pecos Mountains of the Santa Fe wilderness where I was the youngest in the group by nearly 20 years, and there were long periods of tumescent in silence and reflection," said Derstine. "This experience was difficult as I enjoy being surrounded by others and engaging in conversation often. But I came away with new insights and a tremendous amount of growth that I could never imagine in our consumption-driven world."

With the end of summer break in sight and a focus beginning to be pulled back toward the world of academia, Derstine reflects that she wants her experiences with ministry to be life changing – not just for her, but those she works with as well.

"I came into this experience believing I wasn't cut out for ministry – that I would not become a pastor," she said. "However, while I don't know that I will become a pastor, I don't believe I'm not cut out for ministry. Much of what I've learned I hope to incorporate into my life, not just my career. I have come to understand ministry as day to day actions that we all choose to take. We may be contributing to the ministry of God or the ministry of the world, but we are always contributing." HCT

Left: Adrienne Derstine serves as a Writing Fellow peer tutor and helps guide a student through the writing process.

Right: Derstine at Commencement in May.

SPRUNGER NAMED INTERIM PRESIDENT

Benjamin E. (Ben) Sprunger, Ph.D., started as interim president of Hesston College August 1. A longtime education faculty member and administrator, Sprunger has been active in leadership of several Mennonite organizations. His appointment comes as President Howard Keim '72 transitioned out of the role on June 30 after an eleven and a half year tenure.

With the announcement of the appointment, the Presidential Search Committee also 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.

"We are pleased that Dr. Sprunger has accepted the call as interim president of Hesston College," said Kelvin Friesen '73, chair of the Hesston College Board of Directors. "Ben comes to us with a wealth of experience in higher education, non-profits and business. His leadership will provide continuity during this time of transition and he will be of support to the administrative team in continuing to develop strategic priorities for Hesston College."

"It is an honor and a privilege to serve Hesston College and the larger work of the church," Sprunger said. "It is my hope that there will be no loss of momentum, and newly planned initiatives can go forward during my interim service with Hesston."

Sprunger launched his career in higher education at Wheaton (Ill.) College in 1966 where he served over the span of six years in various roles including associate dean, director of Learning Resources, Libraries and Academic Computer Center, assistant to the president and associate professor of education.

He served as president of Bluffton (Ohio) College – now Bluffton University – from 1972-78. Under his leadership, Bluffton was able to stabilize finances, eliminate deficits and launch a successful capital campaign for the construction of a new science center.

From 1978-84 he served as president and CEO of the Ohio Foundation of Independent Colleges, the association representing the 35 private colleges and universities in Ohio.

In 1984, Sprunger transitioned into the non-profit and business worlds, serving as the first chair of the Board and first COO for Quest International, Inc., at the time the largest provider of school drug and alcohol prevention programs in the world. During his tenure, he led the company in international expansion, creating seven language editions from eight international offices.

"It is an honor and a privilege to serve Hesston College and the larger work of the church."

– Benjamin E. (Ben) Sprunger, Ph.D. –

Sprunger created his own company, Life Skills International Consulting, Inc., which he headed until 1994, training curriculum writers and trainers in Life Skills Drug Prevention programs in six countries.

From 1994-2003, he served as president and CEO of Mennonite Economic Development Associates, Inc., (MEDA), a business-based economic development organization. With a staff of 200, MEDA and its partners in 27 countries served 200,000 beneficiaries.

Sprunger has worked in 51 countries and served on 13 national and international board of directors, including 12 years with the General Conference Mennonite Church General Board, Commission on Education and Faith and Life Publishing, Inc. He also served as interim president of Mennonite Publishing Network.

Sprunger co-authored *Handbook on College Administration* (1978, Council for the Advancement of Small Colleges) and *Faith Dilemmas for Marketplace Christians* (2006, Wipf & Stock Pub).

He earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Ball State University (Muncie, Ind.) and a Ph.D. from Michigan State University (East Lansing).

Sprunger is married to Sue Berlien-Sprunger and has three adult children and five grandchildren. The Sprungers are members of Bahia Vista Mennonite Church in Sarasota, Fla. HCT



START HERE STUDENT *profile*

Nicole de Jesus-Roetlin '16

Kalona, Iowa

PARENTS: JT '84 and Tess Roetlin

MAJOR: Biology/Pre-Medicine



NICOLE'S STORY

My dad and then my older sister paved the way by coming to Hesston. Every time I visited, I loved the feeling of community around campus. I wanted a school where I could be challenged academically while also being part of a supportive community. Hesston gave me both of those things.

I plan on getting my undergraduate degree in biology at either the University of California, Irvine or Scripps College (Claremont, Calif.). Eventually, I hope to go to medical school and become a doctor. I'd like to find a career in pediatric oncology.

WAYS TO SERVE

One of the highlights of my Hesston Experience was serving as a patient-care volunteer with Good Shepherd Hospice (Newton, Kan.). I love helping and getting to know people.


I had never thought about being a hospice volunteer until we had a chapel presentation about volunteer opportunities. After a month or two of debating whether or not I should volunteer, I decided to sign up and begin the process. I wanted to volunteer for hospice and learn how to be in a setting where death is possible. For me, it was exposure to situations that will be part of my career as a doctor someday, and I learned to be more compassionate.

My favorite part of the experience was building relationships with

people. I really enjoyed watching patients interact with their family members. But it was also the hardest part. It is a mix of emotions. They are happy for the time they have with one another, but they are also sad because they know it is going to come to an end soon. In my interactions with patients and observations of them with the people they love, I was encouraged to value the people in my own life more. I've tried to be better about making time for strengthening and building relationships. It's also made me more present in situations instead of being on the phone or being distracted, but really focusing.

Serving in a hospice setting carries a stigma of being overwhelmingly sad and depressing. While there is sadness that people are in the end stages of life, it's also such a blessing to be able to connect with them and learn from their life experiences and stories. I coped with the hard times by knowing I got to spend time with people who are going through a very difficult thing and I could be a source of light in an otherwise dark situation.

LEARNING FROM EXPERIENCES

I am someone who likes to do things for myself and I don't like asking for help. My time as a hospice volunteer and my time at Hesston College with so much support from instructors, fellow resident assistants and others, has prepared me for the future by showing me that being independent doesn't mean you don't need support from others. I've grown more comfortable looking to other people for help. 



STUDENT ATHLETES HONORED AS ATHLETES OF THE YEAR

ANDREW SHARP '99

Christy Swartzendruber '16 (Shickley, Neb.), a member of the volleyball team and women's tennis team, and Jake Hansen '16 (Effingham, Kan.), a basketball player, were named 2016 male and female Student Athletes of the Year at the annual athletic banquet in April.

Swartzendruber, a two-time all-region player and Hesston Volleyball's all-time leader in digs, was a huge contributor the last two seasons in which the Larks won 21 games each year.

"Playing volleyball at Hesston has allowed me to connect with people and broaden my friend circle," Swartzendruber said. "Seeing how the community and the students came to support us was amazing. We had amazing team chemistry this year and I'm going to miss all the great times we had."

"Christy had a huge impact on our team on and off the court," said coach DeeDee (Martin) '02 Landes. "She is well respected by her teammates and peers and is the epitome of a fantastic Hesston College student athlete."

Hansen was twice awarded the men's basketball team's Defensive Player of the Year award. He contributed more than 450 points and 300 rebounds in his career at Hesston.

"Throughout my two years here I've been put in situations that have set me up for success," Hansen said. "I've learned a good work ethic in the classroom and have gained a strong base to work from. The most important take away for me has been the family that I made with my teammates and also the friends I've made off the court."

"Jake is a winner on and off the floor," said coach Dustin Galyon '04. "He's played a vital role in elevating our program. Jake was a team captain this year and was a big part of our run to the national tournament as a freshman in 2015. More importantly, Jake is a phenomenal representative of our program and college. He is a selfless leader who has impacted many on our campus." HCT



CHESSTON COLLEGE
COMMENCEMENT
CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2016





Based on the college's 2015-16 theme verse of Mark 12:28-34, Hesston College graduates were encouraged by Commencement speaker Kevin Wilder, to frame their lives with love for God, others and self. President Howard Keim conferred 166 degrees at the May 8 graduation exercises.

The 2016 graduation looked different from those of the past 45 years, as graduates donned the traditional caps and gowns for the first time since 1971. President Keim shared the history of the decision, noting that the class of 1972, under then Student Body President Howard Keim, voted with overwhelming majority to discontinue the practice. The class of 2016 voted by overwhelming majority to reinstate the practice. Keim noted in both instances, the administration reasoned that "graduation is a time to honor the graduates, so the request was granted."



Top row, left: Maelyn Loch '16 (Wichita, Kan.) receives her nursing pin from instructor Joyce Huber during the 49th Nursing Pinning Ceremony on May 7, that honored 51 nursing graduates. Lisa Harrelson '09, RN, delivered the message. Harrelson is a critical care nurse at Wesley Medical Center (Wichita), and was honored with the 2015 Kansas Hospital Associate Health Care Worker of the Year award.

Center: Parker Eberly '16 (Narvon, Pa.) receives a certificate of completion for the aviation program from academic assistant Suzanne Burch at a May 7 ceremony honoring 10 graduates of the professional pilot and air traffic control tracks. Ron Kilmer '85, father of aviation graduate Michael Kilmer '16 (Glendale, Ariz.) delivered a reception address.

Right: Shelby Miller '16 (Archbold, Ohio) receives her diploma from President Howard Keim.

Middle row, left: Student speakers Isaiah Crosby '16 (Ponca City, Okla.) and Emily Kauffman '16 (Pettisville, Ohio) were nominated by faculty and staff and chosen by students to speak at Commencement.

Center: Psychology and Bible instructor Kevin Wilder presented the message "Ultimate Questions," encouraging graduates through scripture to love God with your whole being, love your neighbor and respect yourself enough so you can show empathy.

Right: President Howard Keim '72 celebrates with (from left) Yuki Torii '16 (Nishio, Japan), Satoshi Hoshino '16 (Saitama-ken, Japan) and Shimon Shike '16 (Iwaki, Japan).

Bottom row, left: Graduates Bryce Nitzsche '16 (Lincoln, Neb.), Kiara Boettger '16 (Harrisonburg, Va.), Casey Perez '16 (Kalona, Iowa) and Meredith Spicher '16 (Belleville, Pa.) take a final Hesston College photo together while Molly Bruner '16 (back) jumps in late.

Right: RaeLee Hightower '16 (Tulsa, Okla.) takes a selfie with English instructor Donovan Tann. HCT



WELCOME TO THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION CLASS OF 2016

Many members of the Hesston College Class of 2016 shared their future plans at the New Alumni Dinner hosted by the Advancement Division, which includes offices of Development, Alumni and Church Relations and Marketing and Communications. Congratulations Class of 2016 and best wishes as you go everywhere! This list includes the plans shared by those who chose to respond, and does not represent the entirety of the exciting places the Class of 2016 will go.

Jacque Anderson, *Newton, Kan.*

- Wichita (Kan.) State University

Alaina Beatty, *Washington, Iowa*

- Drake University (Des Moines, Iowa)

Andrew Berry, *Mulvane, Kan.*

- University of St. Mary (Leavenworth, Kan.)

Brady Bilderback, *Boise, Idaho*

- Michigan Technological University (Houghton)

Kiara Boettger, *Harrisonburg, Va.*

- Northwestern College (Orange City, Iowa)

Austin Braddock, *Baldwin City, Kan.*

- internship at Clinton State Park (Kan.)

Lindsey Brazil, *Hillsboro, Kan.*

- RN in Neonatal Intensive Care Unit

Molly Bruner, *Wauseon, Ohio*

- teaching with early childhood education degree

Johanna Burkholder, *Warden, Wash.*

- Eastern Mennonite University (EMU) (Harrisonburg, Va.)

Anthony Chalupka, *Flower Mound, Texas*

- University of the Ozarks (Clarksville, Ark.)

Erika Byler, *Shipshewana, Ind.*

- Bluffton (Ohio) University

Desiree Corona, *Newton, Kan.*

- Goshen (Ind.) College

Tori Craw, *Goshen, Ind.*

- Goshen College

Nicole de Jesus-Roetlin, *Iowa City, Iowa*

- University of California, Irvine

Jeremy Delly, *Franklin, N.J.*

- work for Hesston Fire Department

Darian Derstine, *Telford, Pa.*

- work as a pilot

Abbie DeWild, *Kalona, Iowa*

- University of Iowa (Iowa City)

Parker Eberly, *Narvon, Pa.*

- Kansas State University (Manhattan)

Colton Eby, *Fisher, Ill.*

- Bluffton University

Maria Entz, *Whitewater, Kan.*

- work as RN

Miyu Fukuda, *Date, Japan*

- State University of New York-New Paltz

Caleb Geary, *Scottsbluff, Neb.*

- Hastings (Neb.) College

Conner Gillihan, *Spring Hill, Kan.*

- Missouri Valley College (Marshall)

Jeremy Good, *Rantoul, Ill.*

- EMU

Crisentia Gregor, *Banyuwangi, Indonesia*

- work as RN, RN to BSN program at Hesston College

Jacey Guy, *Meriden, Kan.*

- Ottawa (Kan.) University

Cody Halvorson, *Temple, Texas*

- Northwestern Oklahoma State University (Alva)

Chinatsu Hanada, *Kawagoe, Japan*

- volunteer work

Jake Hansen, *Effingham, Kan.*

- Ottawa (Kan.) University

Zachary Headings, *Hutchinson, Kan.*

- EMU

RaeLee Hightower, *Tulsa, Okla.*

- Bluffton University

Kyndell Hightree, *Harper, Kan.*

- EMU

Lydia Holland, *Russell, Kan.*

- service

Kendra Honeycutt, *Lincoln, Calif.*

- Hesston College BSN program

Daulton Horton, *Denton, Texas*

- University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff

Hannah Hostetter, *Harrisonburg, Va.*

- Goshen College

Kenzie Johnson, *Olathe, Kan.*

- Hesston College BSN program

Ty Jordan, *Houston, Texas*

- Malone University (Canton, Ohio)

Hidehiro Kaminaga, *Tokyo, Japan*

- Goshen College

Deborah Kankolongo Tshidimu, *Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo*

- Hesston College BSN program

Catie Kauffman, *Goshen, Ind.*

- Goshen College

Emily Kauffman, *Pettisville, Ohio*

- Bluffton University

Michael Kilmer, *Glendale, Ariz.*

- Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (Daytona Beach, Fla.)

Dakoda Lee, *Boise, Idaho*

- Hesston College BSN program

Keegan LeFevre, *Woodland Park, Colo.*

- University of Kansas (Lawrence)

Elliott Leichty, *Harrisonburg, Va.*

- work as flight instructor

Michael Lindauer, *Sugarland, Texas*

- University of the Southwest (Hobbs, N.M.)

Emma Lindner, *Rose Hill, Kan.*

- work as RN

Rince Longo Kabondo,

Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo

- West Virginia University (Morgantown)

Collin Loutensock, *West Valley City, Utah*

- Newman University (Wichita, Kan.)

Alice Maldonado, *Fort Myers, Fla.*

- EMU

Luis Marinez, *Santo Domingo, D.R.*

- Ecclesia College (Springdale, Ark.)

Anna Martin, *Harleysville, Pa.*

- service

Andy McMaster, *Moundridge, Kan.*

- RN in surgical/trauma unit

Linda Miller, *Hutchinson, Kan.*

- RN at Rice County District Hospital (Lyons, Kan.)

Shelby Miller, *Archbold, Ohio*

- Bluffton University

Natsuki Mizutani, *Yokkaichi, Japan*

- volunteer work

Abby Musser, *Newport News, Va.*

- EMU

Bryce Nitzsche, *Lincoln, Neb.*

- Northwestern College (Orange City, Iowa)

Lorren Oesch, *Caldwell, Idaho*

- EMU

Anna Penner, *Haviland, Kan.*

- Emporia (Kan.) State University

Hayden Pentecost, *Wichita, Kan.*

- Benedictine College (Atchison, Kan.)

Alex Perez, *Justin, Texas*

- Sterling (Kan.) College

Casey Perez, *Kalona, Iowa*

- Northwestern College

Micah Raber, *Millersburg, Ohio*

- voluntary service with REACH

Alicia Ramirez, *Albuquerque, N.M.*

- Hesston College BSN program

Danielle Rhoades, *Bryan, Ohio*

- Huntington (Ind.) University

Caroline Riggbach, *Lafayette, Ind.*

- Tabor College (Hillsboro, Kan.)

Karli Rodriguez, *Denver, Colo.*

- McPherson (Kan.) College

Emma Roth, *Goshen, Ind.*

- EMU

Uriah Sauder, *Lititz, Pa.*

- EMU

Lane Schrock, *Parnell, Iowa*

- work with custom harvest crew

Caleb Schrock-Hurst, *Harrisonburg, Va.*

- EMU

Zahira Shafeeq, *Morrison, Colo.*

- RN in medical unit

Jake Shelby, *McKinney, Texas*

- Tarleton State University (Stephenville, Texas)

Rachel Shenk, *Waynesboro, Va.*

- EMU

Shimon Shike, *Iwaki, Japan*

- Shinshu University (Matsumoto, Japan)

Brandon Shoemaker, *Tomball, Texas*

- Bethany College (Lindsborg, Kan.)

Justin Short, *Corry, Pa.*

- Slippery Rock (Pa.) University

Irenea Soetjoadi, *Depok, Indonesia*

- University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Yui Shoshizaki, *Kohoku, Japan*

- Minnesota State University, Mankato

Andry Stutzman, *Harrisonburg, Va.*

- EMU

Christy Swartzendruber, *Shickley, Neb.*

- Goshen College

Yuki Torii, *Nishio, Japan*

- Hawaii Pacific University (Honolulu)

Dirk Troth, *Mound City, Kan.*

- work as air traffic controller

Jenna VonBargen, *Baldwin City, Kan.*

- service

Weston Warner, *Kechi, Kan.*

- Kansas State University

Lorae Weaver, *Goshen, Ind.*

- Goshen College

Hannah Wheeler, *Hesston, Kan.*

- Bethel College (North Newton, Kan.)

Cody Widman, *Olathe, Kan.*

- University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff

Gabby Willis, *Rusk, Texas*

- Hesston College BSN program

Amanuel Wondimu,

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

- study aerospace engineering

Irena Xhari, *Lezbe, Albania*

- Bluffton University

Jimmy Yandell, *Moore, Okla.*

- Bethany College (Lindsborg, Kan.)

Rose Yoder, *Bellefontaine, Ohio*

- EMU

Michaela Zook, *Millerburg, Ind.*

- EMU

Ali Zuercher, *Phoenix, Ariz.*

- EMU **HCT**



IN SUPPORT OF THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Donor giving to Hesston College is not a cookie cutter model, but rather can happen through a variety of ways and is often fueled by donors' interests and passions. For Myrl and Phyllis (Liechty) '69 Nofziger, their giving to Hesston College is fueled by steadfast faith in Christ and in this institution that has been a place of growth and inspiration for many of their family members.

"Our family history with Hesston is probably as deep as with any institution," said Myrl.

Myrl noted that his daughter Renee (Nofziger) '94 Hernley's time at Hesston helped her develop direction and meaning for future endeavors. Likewise, Hesston gave Phyllis a start to her nursing career and established a foundation for her to eventually pursue a second path and earn a law degree from Valparaiso (Ind.) University. Later, Phyllis served 12 years with the Hesston College Board of Overseers. Several of Phyllis' siblings and brothers-in-law also attended Hesston College, as well as Myrl's brother Roger Nofziger Ac53, along with Myrl's first wife's (deceased) father, William John Helmuth.

"The quality of education at Hesston College and the dedication of not only faculty but staff is incredible," said Myrl. "We want other students to consider Hesston as well."

The importance of Mennonite education was stressed to Myrl and his brothers early in life.

"My parents had formal education through junior high school and then were needed at home," said Myrl. "But they




had a strong belief in higher education; particularly Christian education, and specifically Mennonite education. When I was 10 years old, my parents moved the family from Archbold, Ohio, to Goshen, Indiana, so their three sons would grow up in a Mennonite college community."

It is this history and these experiences that encourage the Nofzigers to fund an endowment at Hesston College that provides scholarships for minority nursing students. Their gift makes it financially possible for many to start at Hesston and pursue their dreams.

The Nofzigers operate by a philosophy of giving that is simple and poignant: The more you give, the more you will receive. The more you help someone else achieve their goals, the sooner you will achieve your goals.

It's a message that can also serve as inspiration to those students who benefit from the nurturing, supportive education and atmosphere that Hesston College provides. Start here to learn from faculty and staff who recognize each student's value and encourage students to be the best they can be. Start here to connect your passions and your life's work.

"Once students are on campus and can experience the Christ-centered, student-focused community that is Hesston College, they're hooked." 

Partner Program

Hesston College depends on alumni, friends and the church to support the costs of educating students. The Hesston College Partner program is made up of individuals who make ongoing annual contributions to the Hesston College Annual Fund to provide institutional scholarships and grants as financial aid for students.

About 880 individuals from more than 40 states and three countries are Hesston College Partners. On average, a student receives more than \$10,000 in institutional aid each year, which includes money from the Annual Fund. About 80 percent of the total Annual Fund amount comes from Partner contributions.

Partnership with Hesston College can happen at different giving levels.

- Associate Partner – \$42 to \$83 per month (\$500 to \$999 annually)
- Founding Partner – \$84 to \$166 per month (\$1,000 to \$1,999 annually)
- Sustaining Partner – \$167 to \$417 per month (\$2,000 to \$4,999 annually)
- Sponsoring Partner – \$418 to \$833 per month (\$5,000 to \$9,999 annually)
- President's Partner – \$834 and more per month (\$10,000 and more annually)

To find out more about the Partner Program, visit www.hesston.edu or call the Development Office toll free at 866-437-7866.

MAKE A CONNECTION

"EVERY ONCE IN A GREAT WHILE, YOU RUN ACROSS PEOPLE WHO YOU HAVE CONNECTION WITH."

- **MARCIA MILLER '65** made a connection with **KARLI RODRIGUEZ '16** in fall 2015 and got the chance to meet in spring 2016



Phonathon raises money for student financial aid. But during Phonathon 2015-16, it was especially evident that Phonathon is about much more – it's also **a chance for current students and alumni to connect and share their experiences with one another.**

Here's how one alumna connected with a student phoner:

"Every once in a great while, you run across people who you have connection with. That's what happened when Karli called for Phonathon. The donation happened within the first minute and that could have been the end of it, but we got to talking and she wasn't in a hurry to try to end our conversation. Through the demeanor of her voice, she seemed to be a listener and a sensitive person. The conversation just flowed as we shared our experiences with one another."

– Marcia Miller '65 (Goshen, Ind.) made a connection with Karli Rodriguez '16 (Denver, Colo.)

YOUR PHONATHON DONATION CAN BE MADE IN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING WAYS:



PICK UP THE PHONE when Hesston College calls. It will be a real Hesston College student on the other end and they'd love to hear about your Hesston Experience and share their own.

DONATE ONLINE at hesston.edu/give. Be sure to note that your gift is a Phonathon contribution.

THIS OCTOBER, PICK UP THE PHONE, VISIT WITH A STUDENT AND MAKE A CONNECTION!

CONTINUING THE LEGACY

67 STUDENTS FROM ALUMNI LEGACY FAMILIES FOUND THEIR START AT HESSTON COLLEGE IN 2015-16

- Scott Baldwin '17 – **Ruby (Mast) '80** and Thomas **Baldwin**, Clarence Center, N.Y.
- Brittany Beisel '16 – **Timothy Beisel '96** and **Valarie (Deyle) '96 Guerrero**, Hesston, Kan.
- Brady Bilderback '16 – **Kathline (Ebersole) '83** and Robert **Bilderback**, Boise, Idaho
- Laura Blosser '16 – **Vernon '76** and Brenda **Blosser**, Hesston, Kan.
- Micah Boyer '17 – **Daniel '86** and Vanessa **Boyer**, East Earl, Pa.
- Joel Brejda '17 – **Janet (Friesen) '85** and John **Brejda**, Lincoln, Neb.
- Andrew Brunner '16 – **Cheryl (Schmidt) '79** and Lester **Brunner**, Newton, Kan.
- Renee Buckwalter '17 – **Thomas '80** and Paula **Buckwalter**, Wellman, Iowa
- Chris Buerge '17 – **Greg '86** and **Amy (Martin) '86 Buerge**, Garden City, Mo.
- Johanna Burkholder '16 – **Glenn '79** and Mary **Burkholder**, Warden, Wash.
- Abby Byler '17 – **Kevin '89** and Sandra **Byler**, Harrisonburg, Va.
- Tori Byler '17 – **Matthew '93** and **Michelle (Moyer) '93 Byler**, Belleville, Pa.
- Tanner Daniel '17 – **Anita (Kauffman) '87** and Wendell **Daniel**, El Dorado Springs, Mo.
- Nicole de Jesus-Roetlin '16 – **JT '84** and Tess **Roetlin**, Kalona, Iowa
- Abbie DeWild '16 – **Jodi (Gingerich) '93** and Mike **DeWild**, Kalona, Iowa
- Silas Driver '17 – **Melody (Bixler) '86** and Rodney **Driver**, Harrisonburg, Va.
- Parker Eberly '16 – **Nancy (Zook) '77** and Jim **Eberly**, Narvon, Pa.
- Allison Ebersole '17 – **Kenneth '71, former faculty** and Meredith **Ebersole**, Lafayette, Colo.
- Colton Eby '16 – **Duane Eby '86** and **Jayne (Oyer) '86 Oyer Eby**, Fisher, Ill.
- Nick Eichelberger '17 – **Jenny (Saltzman) '88** and Scott **Eichelberger**, Geneva, Neb.
- Maria Entz '16 – **Charis (Wiebe) '81** and Charles **Entz**, Whitewater, Kan.
- Rachel Esch '17 – **Rebecca (Derstine) '81, former staff** and Donald **Esch**, Newton, Kan.
- Fred Flores Cano '17 – **Melvin Flores '89**, San Pedro Sula, Honduras
- Alyssa Graber '16 – **Ronald '85** and Lori **Graber**, Wolford, North Dakota
- Emily Griffioen '17 – **Kristine (Bitikofer) '82 '86** and Joe **Griffioen**, Belmond, Iowa
- Zac Headings '16 – **Jeff '82** (deceased) and Cindy **Headings**, Hutchinson, Kan.
- Brooke Hershberger '16 – **Jeff '85** and Juanita **Hershberger**, Goshen, Ind.
- Hannah Hostetter '16 – **Loren '81 Hostetter, former staff** and Glenda Siegrist, Harrisonburg, Va.
- Leslie Hunsberger '17 – **Daniel '88** and Mariela **Hunsberger**, Hollsopple, Pa.
- Jared Hurst '16 – **Valerie (Hurst) '85 Hurst-Tamura**, Sharon, Pa.
- Christy Kauffman '17 – **Jerold '87** and Roxanne **Kauffman**, West Liberty, Ohio
- Catie Kauffman '16 – **Jamie Kauffman '82**, Goshen, Ind.
- Michael Kilmer '16 – **Ron '85** and **Jodi (Duerkson) '86 Kilmer**, Glendale, Ariz.
- Cierra King '17 – **Nolan '91** and **Nori (Bontrager) '90 King**, Cochranville, Pa.
- Keegan LeFevre '16 – **Dennis '83** and **Jen (Friesen) '84, former faculty, LeFevre**, Woodland Park, Colo.
- Christian Martin '17 – **Troy '88** and Paula **Martin**, Milford, Neb.
- Anna Martin '16 – **William '03** and Sharon **Martin**, Harleysville, Pa.
- Brady McDermed '17 – **Tamara (Becker) '95** and Ron **McDermed**, Hesston, Kan.
- Sophia Miller '17 – **Forrest '85, staff** and **Nora, former staff, Miller**, Newton, Kan.
- Shelby Miller '16 – **Eric '90** and **Marla (Gascho) '90 Miller**, Archbold, Ohio
- Meghana Murray '17 – **John C. '81** and **Krista (Miller) '82, staff, Murray**, Hesston, Kan.
- Jessanna Nebel '17 – **Brian '83** and **Brenda (Hooley) '83 Nebel**, Hesston, Kan.
- Bryce Nitzche '16 – **Dave '90** and **Sheri (Gascho) '91 Nitzche**, Lincoln, Neb.
- Lorren Oesch '16 – **Michael '91** and **Jana (Earnest) '90 Oesch**, Caldwell, Idaho
- Trevor Oyer '17 – **Stanley '78** and Vonita **Oyer**, Hubbard, Ore.
- Caroline Riggenschach '16 – **Rita (Yoder) '77** and Kevin **Riggenschach**, LaFayette, Ind.
- Emma Roth '16 – **Tyler '90** and Sarah **Roth**, Goshen, Ind.
- Wyatt Roth '17 – **Jerry '90** and **Wendy (Troyer) '90 Roth**, Canby, Ore.
- Janelle Schmucker '17 – **Rodney '82** and Norma **Schmucker**, Los Fresnos, Texas
- Lane Schrock '16 – **Leon '89** and Robin **Schrock**, Parnell, Iowa
- Emma Schrock '17 – **Bradley '83** and **Katrina (Esch) '86 Schrock**, Lakewood, Colo.
- Weston Schroeder '17 – **Kerry '87** and Donica **Schroeder**, Harper, Kan.
- Quintin Selzer '16 – **Jeff '92** and **Dana (Jackson) '92 Selzer**, Thomas, Okla.
- Jonah Short-Miller '17 – **Eric '85** and **Melody (Short) '85 Short-Miller**, Bellingham, Wash.
- Vanessa Steckly '17 – **Blane '81** and **Nancy (Stuckey) '81 Steckly**, Milford, Neb.
- Ally Steiner '17 – **Brent '86** and Stephanie **Steiner**, Peoria, Ariz.
- Andry Stutzman '16 – **Curtis '84** and **Jeanne (Alger) '84 Stutzman**, Harrisonburg, Va.
- Christy Swartzendruber '16 – **Marge (Kempf) '80, former staff** and Will **Swartzendruber**, Shickley, Neb.
- Logan Swartzendruber '17 – **Calvin '91** and **Karen (LeFevre) '91 Swartzendruber**, Goshen, Ind.
- Kristin Troyer '17 – **Dennis Troyer '70** (deceased) and Mary Troyer Garman, Shickley, Neb.
- Kelsey Unruh '17 – **Jay '89 '99** and **Melissa (Rumsey) '90, staff, Unruh**, Hesston, Kan.
- Lorae Weaver '16 – **Lisa (Nunemaker) '88** and Lonnie **Weaver**, Goshen, Ind.
- Jared Wedel '16 – **Jay Wedel '89** and **Sharon (Ross) '90, faculty, Woodward**, Hesston, Kan.
- Oliver Wisseman '16 – **Darrel '82** and Janette **Wisseman**, Prineville, Ore.
- Brandon Yutzy '17 – **Brian '88** and Tammy **Yutzy**, Hutchinson, Kan.
- Mikaela Zook '16 – **Teresa (Troyer) '89** and Doug **Zook**, Millersberg, Ind.
- Ali Zuercher '16 – **Ed Zuercher '85** and **Sheila Yoder '82, former staff**, Phoenix, Ariz. [HCT](#)



LONGTIME NURSING FACULTY MEMBERS RETIRE

With the close of the 2015-16 academic year, the Hesston College community bid farewell to two beloved nursing faculty members. With a combined 66 years of service to Hesston College, numerous student lives touched and careers inspired, Ruby (Chupp) '73 Graber and Joyce Huber entered retirement.

RUBY GRABER – 25 YEARS

“Retirement brings such mixed feelings for me,” said Graber, who taught nursing students at Hesston for 25 years. “I get to stay home with my grandson now and I know that’s what I’m supposed to be doing, but teaching and watching students develop into holistic caregivers has been such a meaningful thing.”

Graber came to Hesston after working in critical care in a hospital. Despite feeling some burn out with her job, she turned down Director of Nursing Bonnie (Kauffman) Ac65, '67 Sowers' invitation to teach at Hesston twice before finally accepting.

“Nursing is my ministry,” said Graber. “God led me to Hesston so I could teach others that same ministry to patients.”

To her students and colleagues, Graber is a model of gentle care and generosity.

“What I learned from Ruby is how to care for a patient, demonstrating God’s love and kindness to all,” said Heather (Kyburz) '00 Hosford, a former student of Graber’s who served alongside her as instructor for the past two years. “She consistently modeled this in her teaching, going the extra mile for her students.”

JOYCE HUBER – 41 YEARS

As a new nurse, Huber never intended to teach, but she was offered a one semester contract at Hesston College for the spring of 1973 and then decided to stay for the next 41 years.

“Teaching has been a way for me to be creative in helping people learn,” said Huber. “It’s been fun, and now I get to find new ways to express my creativity.”

Students and colleagues alike appreciated her clever memory aids, dedication to professionalism and her care for others beyond the classroom.

“We were not spoon-fed, but Joyce never left us hanging without guidance,” said Linda Miller '16 (Hutchinson, Kan.). “She forced us to increase our knowledge and clinical applications by taking a personal responsibility in the learning process.” HCT

“Nursing is my ministry. God led me to Hesston so I could teach others that same ministry to patients.”
 – Ruby (Chupp) '73 Graber –

INVITE TO SUBMIT THIRD-PARTY COMMENTS FOR BSN ACCREDITATION


From Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education's Public Notice of CCNE Accreditation Visit Invitation for Third Party Comments

Hesston College Nursing will host an onsite accreditation visit by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) Sept. 28 to 30, 2016. The purpose of this visit is to seek initial nursing accreditation of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program.

In accordance with its Procedures for Accreditation of Baccalaureate and Graduate Nursing Programs, CCNE provides the opportunity for program constituents to submit, in writing, third-party comments concerning a program's qualifications for accreditation status. Third-party comments must relate to the CCNE Standards for Accreditation of Baccalaureate and Graduate Nursing Programs (2013). Written and signed third-party comments regarding the Hesston College BSN program will be accepted by CCNE through Sept. 7.

Comments are shared only with the CCNE evaluation team appointed to review the Hesston College BSN program. At no time during the review process are these comments shared with the program the Accreditation Review Committee or the Board. During its review of the program, the evaluation team will consider third-party comments, if any, that relate to the accreditation standards.

Those with comments regarding the BSN program at Hesston College may send them to the CCNE at thirdpartycomments@aacn.nche.edu or:

Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education
ATTN: Third-party comments
One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 530
Washington, DC 20036 

BOARD APPROVES TASK FORCE TO STRENGTHEN SEXUAL MISCONDUCT POLICIES

In a May meeting of the Hesston College Board of Directors, college administrators proposed the formation of a task force to help the college establish policies and procedures to prevent and address all forms of sexual misconduct and to create a culture that seeks to support and empower victims. The board granted approval to continue moving the process forward.


"It is our desire to create a new and better culture that seeks to dismantle sexual misconduct," said President Howard Keim '72. "We recognize that our own history and that of the Mennonite church is not flawless in this regard. We want to create the best possible environment for the safety of our students and employees."

The task force is expected to include a variety of internal and external members, including professionals outside of Mennonite Church USA organizations who can objectively evaluate the college's policies, procedures and culture to help effect change.

The proposal to the board states that the hope is to create an environment where all members of the campus community

feel safe and supported. "In this environment, measures are taken to educate and prevent sexual misconduct. In this environment, there is no shame or fear in reporting acts of abuse or misconduct. In this environment, victims' safety, security and healing will be a top priority, which requires outside help. In this environment, our leaders will act swiftly when allegations arise."

College administrators and board members have begun conversations with organizations that can provide insight and assistance, and are assembling a list of names of potential task force leaders and participants. The task force will begin meeting early in the fall 2016 semester.

"Much of our path forward will be determined after the group is formed and tasks are discerned," said Mark Landes, vice president of finance and auxiliary services, who oversees human resources. "The bottom line is that it's time for Hesston College to move, simply because it's the right thing to do and creating a desired environment is critical to the future we hope for all of Hesston College." 



LARKFEST: SERVE, CELEBRATE, SHOWCASE

Hesston College took a day off from classes April 14, to focus on college values of service and academic and leadership excellence during the annual LarkFest celebration. To start the day, all on-campus students participated in 35 service projects in local communities. During the LarkFest awards ceremony, students, faculty and staff were recognized for their achievements in academics and leadership. The top award, the Lark of the Year award, went to Emily Kauffman '16 (Pettisville, Ohio) for excellence in leadership, academics and service. During the afternoon, students showcased their academic work, including music recitals, directing skills at a short film festival, chemistry and physics demonstrations, speeches and more. [HCT](#)



VBS ON THE ROAD

Led by Bible and Ministry graduate Gracie Tijerina '16 (Brownsville, Texas) (pictured), a group of Hesston students and graduates are spending the summer leading Vacation Bible School on the Road, traveling to churches in Kansas and Texas leading Vacation Bible School for congregations too small to run their own program. In summer 2015, Tijerina was invited to lead VBS at Argentine Mennonite Church (Kansas City, Kan.) for children in the neighborhood around the church. She recruited youth from Iglesia Menonita Buenas Nuevas (McAllen, Texas) to stay in Kansas City after attending the Mennonite Church USA convention to help lead the program. Because of the event's success, South Central Mennonite Conference invited Tijerina to take VBS on the road this summer. Tijerina's team includes Tanner Daniel '17 (El Dorado Springs, Mo.), Abraham Mateo '17 (Fort Myers, Fla.), Micah Raber '16 (Millersburg, Ind.), Lilian Trifena '17 (Tangerang, Indonesia) and Megan Bartley, a member of nearby Journey at South Hutchinson (Kan.) Mennonite Church. [HCT](#)

UPDATES AND CORRECTIONS

Update: The spring 2016 issue of the *Hesston College Today* shared a story about Katie Sowers '06. Shortly after publication of the issue, Sowers announced she was selected to work with the Atlanta Falcons wide receivers through the Bill Walsh Minority Coaching Fellowship, a National Football League (NFL) internship program. Sowers will be with the Falcons from July 24 through the second preseason game on Aug. 20. In 2015, this same program made Dr. Jen Welter famous for being the first female participant. Congratulations, Katie! [HCT](#)

Correction: The spring 2016 issue of the *Hesston College Today* incorrectly reported the service organization with which a group of students, faculty and staff served during spring break in March. The group of 14 spent the week with i6eight in Puerto Penasco, Mexico. The organization's name references Isaiah 6:8 – "Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I. Send me.'" Scott Swartzentruber '91 and his wife Shannon are directors of the program. [HCT](#)

ATHLETICS NEWS UPDATES

STUDENT-ATHLETES EARN ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICAN STATUS

Sophomore student-athletes were recognized as Academic All-Americans by the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) for the 2014-15 year. Earning the Pinnacle Award of Academic Excellence with a GPA of 4.0 were **Adrienne Derstine** (Harleysville, Pa.), women's tennis; **Abby Regier** (Newton, Kan.), volleyball; **Caleb Schrock-Hurst** (Harrisonburg, Va.), men's tennis; **Andry Stutzman** (Harrisonburg, Va.), men's tennis and **Christy Swartzendruber** (Shickley, Neb.), volleyball and women's tennis. Earning the Award for Superior Academic Achievement with a GPA of 3.8 to 3.99 were **Brooke Hershberger** (Goshen, Ind.), volleyball and women's tennis, and **Bryce Nitzsche** (Lincoln, Neb.), men's cross country. Earning the Award for Exemplary Academic Achievement with a GPA of 3.6 to 3.79 were **Austin Braddock** (Baldwin City, Kan.), men's cross country; **Alyssa Graber** (Wolford, N.D.), women's basketball; **Keegan LeFevre** (Woodland Park, Colo.), men's tennis; **Karli Rodriguez** (Denver, Colo.), volleyball; **Meredith Spicher** (Belleville, Pa.), women's soccer and **Oliver Wisseman** (Prineville, Ore.), men's soccer. [HCT](#)



SPRING SPORTS 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 Riley Kingsley '17 (North Newton, Kan.) and Keegan LeFevre '16 (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. [HCT](#)



JOOST TO LEAD TENNIS PROGRAMS

Chance Joost has been named as head coach of the men's and women's tennis programs for 2016-17. Joost served two seasons as assistant tennis coach at Washburn University (Topeka, Kan.). He was a four-year varsity player for Washburn while earning a bachelor's degree in kinesiology. He was also the assistant tennis professional at the Topeka Country Club for five years. "I'm extremely grateful for the opportunity to be a part of Hesston College as well as the Hesston community," said Joost. "We'll achieve success through hard work and perseverance while maintaining character, honesty and discipline. I want my players to be prepared for athletics and academics after their time at Hesston." [HCT](#)



JACOBS NAMED HEAD WOMEN'S BASKETBALL COACH

Jeff Jacobs has assumed the role of head women's basketball coach. "Jeff has vast experience in coaching, mentoring, organization and leadership," said Athletic Director Rob Ramseyer. Jacobs holds a 303-117 career coaching record at St. Bernard High School (Eureka, Calif.), including more than 200 wins with the girls' basketball program there. He has also served as an executive director for the Boys and Girls Club in California and in Wichita, and he is active as a deacon at Magdalene Catholic Church (Wichita). Jacobs has a bachelor's degree in journalism from Humboldt State University, Arcata, Calif. [HCT](#)

ALUMNI NEWS

1930-39

DEATH

Edna (Gingerich) '38 Kenagy, Silverton, Ore., Dec. 14, 2015

1940-49

DEATHS

Oren Detweiler Ac40, Hesston, Kan., Dec. 27, 2015

Stella (Bitikofer) Ac40 Sommerfeld, Hesston, Kan., April 20, 2016

Esther (Diener) Ac41 Kroeker, Dallas, Ore., Nov. 3, 2015

Allan Miller Ac43, Camas, Wash., Jan. 21, 2016

Robert Fisher, husband of Gladys (Bender) Ac47 Fisher, Kalona, Iowa, March 24, 2016

Bonnie (Welty) Ac47, '49 Scheid, Hesston, Kan., April 10, 2016

Paul Godshalk '49, Chalfont, Pa., Jan. 16, 2016

Margie (Hostetler) Ac49, '73 Swartzendruber, Hesston, Kan., Feb. 20, 2016

1950-59

DEATHS

Betty (Vogt) Ac50 Oller, Newton, Kan., Feb. 1, 2016

Edna (Guth) '50 Miller, North Las Vegas, Nev., June 3, 2016

Irene (Buller) '50 Becker, Moundridge, Kan., Jan. 26, 2016

Ardyce (Bartz) '55 Bartz-Schmidt, Ulysses, Kan., June 8, 2016

Vernon Unruh Ac56, Colby, Kan., March 19, 2016

1960-69

DEATHS

Phyllis Yoder, wife of Jim Yoder '62, faculty, Hesston, Kan., May 30, 2016

Jim Unruh Ac64, '66, husband of Karen (Lee) Ac64, '66 Unruh, Wichita, Kan., Feb. 27, 2016

1970-79

Lawrence Matthews '76, Bluffton, Ohio, is a development associate for the Bluffton University development office. He has spent nearly 35 years at Bluffton in various roles including director of Marbeck Center and director of Financial Aid. Since 2014 he has served as the Mennonite Disaster Service coordinator for Detroit.

MARRIAGE

Jerre Bontrager '70 and Cheryl (Stutzman) '70 Hostetler, Milford, Neb., Feb. 2, 2016

DEATHS

Gloria (Coblentz) '72 Bontrager, wife of Dan Bontrager '72, Iowa City, Iowa, Dec. 6, 2015

Jerre Snyder '75, Hasbrouck Heights, N.J., March 3, 2016

1980-89

Lisa (Guedea) '81 Carreño, Goshen, Ind., and Gilberto Perez, Jr. '92, former staff, Goshen, were among the select audience at a town-hall event in Elkhart, Ind., where President Obama addressed the state of the economy. Elkhart County, a hub for recreational vehicle manufacturing, has long struggled with high unemployment rates. The town-hall event was aired on PBS *NewsHour*.



A group of '85 grads met for a Hesston College reunion in the Goshen, Ind., area as a follow-up to one held in December 2015. Attending were (pictured above from left) Jeff Hershberger, Myron Yoder, Joe Lehman, Shelley (Troyer) Virgil, Craig Detweiler and Tony King.

1990-99

Teri (Mullet) '92, '94 Banman, Lenexa, Kan., was named The University of Kansas Hospital's Magnet Nurse of the Year. She is the nurse manager of Navigation and Intake at The University of Kansas Cancer Center and was honored at the hospital's Nursing Excellence Awards ceremony.

Marty Troyer '96, Houston, Texas, released the book *The Gospel Next Door: Following Jesus Right Where You Are* in June, and it quickly went to number one on Amazon in the category of Evangelism. Marty is pastor of Houston Mennonite Church and blogs as the Peace Pastor for the *Houston Chronicle*.

MARRIAGE

Beth Swartzendruber '99 and Caleb Yoder, Kalona, Iowa, Oct. 24, 2015

BIRTHS

Ryan Lepp '97 and Jodi Holland Lepp, Eldridge, Iowa: Melissa Joy, Jan. 17, 2016

Rebecca (Sieber) '97 and Jonathan Sieber Denlinger, Ronks, Pa.: Liv Anneliese, Feb. 7, 2016

Chad '98 and Rebecca Hofer, Bridgewater, S.D.: Brynlee Ann, July 1, 2015

DEATH

Clayton Fast, husband of Cheryl (Erb) '90 Fast, Hesston, Kan., Jan. 25, 2016

2000-09

Matt Boshart '01, Omaha, Neb., started a new coffee company called Reboot Roasting. Matt shares about his coffee passion and sells his product at rebootroasting.com.

Emily (Sommers) '02 and Darius Meraj, Hartsville, Ohio, will be moving to Istanbul with Eastern Mennonite Missions to minister among the emerging church with Farsi speakers.

Mike Mendez '03, '08, Newton, Kan., is the sports writer for *Newton Now*, a weekly newspaper. He has previously covered sports for the *McPherson (Kan.) Sentinel*, the *Hesston Record* and the *Moundridge (Kan.) Ledger*. He also worked on staff at *Catch It Kansas*, an affiliate of the local CBS station, as a web producer.



Laurel (Mast) '03 Swartzendruber, Elkhart, Ind., graduated May 21 with a master of divinity from Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (Elkhart). She plans to pursue a healthcare chaplaincy position.

Seth Troyer '07, Wakarusa, Ind., works for Troyer Group (South Bend, Ind.), the architect and contractor for Ark Encounter in Williamsburg, Ky., featuring a full-size Noah's Ark, built according to the dimensions given in the Bible.

Sarah Hooley '08, Filer, Idaho, was named to *The Mennonite's* 20 Under 40 list recognizing young adults under the age of 40 who are committed to following Jesus and find value in Christian faith and community. Sarah designed and built a tiny house as a guest house and place for personal retreat on her family's farm. She also milks and makes cheese from the cows she owns, and has served on the Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference board of directors.

Hope Weaver '09, Nederland, Colo., joined Pacific Discovery, an experiential education program, as an instructor for the Ecuador/Galapagos program.

MARRIAGES

Kendra Boettger '01 and **Yakac Abdulmesih**, Izmir, Turkey, Aug. 29, 2015

Randy Keener '06 and **Emily Mininger**, Lancaster, Pa., Aug. 1, 2015

Cassie Steiner '09 and **Mark Johnston**, Apple Creek, Ohio, Aug. 22, 2015

BIRTHS

Melissa (Pitzer) '00, '03 and **Kris Strait**, Bentonville, Ark.: **Jackson Kelly**, May 17, 2016

Rachel (Swartzendruber) '00, **Swartzendruber Miller**, staff and **Tyson Miller**, Hesston, Kan.: **Ames Swartzendruber Miller**, June 15, 2016

Kaci (Wehrs) '01 and **Justin Nielsen**, Lincoln, Neb.: **Leighton Rene**, March 15, 2016

Mark '01, former staff and **Victoria Trout**, Minot, N.D.: **Dallas Peter**, March 21, 2016

Eve (Aeschliman) '02 and **Rodney Knepp**, Hinton, Va.: **Anneke Joy**, April 27, 2016

Emily (Sommers) '02 and **Darius Meraj**, Hartsville, Ohio: **Parsa Theophilus**, April 18, 2017

Amreitha (Miller) '03 and **Pradeepan Jeeva**, Howell, Mich.: **Obadiah Light**, Feb. 12, 2016

Nathan '03 and **Karla Stoltzfus Detweiler**, Iowa City, Iowa: **Mahala Jubilee**, Feb. 4, 2016

Aaron '04 and **Katrina Aeschliman**, Washington, D.C.: **Corinna Avery**, Nov. 21, 2015

Kyle '04 and **Lisa (Unruh) '04** **Beun**, Park City, Kan.: **Karston Blake**, March 3, 2016

Heather (Guth) '04 and **Jeremy West**, Berwyn, Ill.: **Gideon Daniel**, March 11, 2016

Elisa (Eberspacher) '05 and **Patrick Clark**, Colorado Springs, Colo.: **Corbin Wayne**, Nov. 4, 2015

Bobby '05 and **Britney Kempf**, Hellertown, Pa.: twins, **Ella Joy**

and **Ian Thomas**, May 29, 2016

Morgan (Sayles) '06 and **Patrick Einspahr**, Siebert, Colo.: **Otto Curtis**, March 8, 2016

Matt '06 and **Kierra Freed**, Engadine, Mich.: **Liam James**, May 10, 2016

Aaron '07 and **Maria Billings**, Hesston, Kan.: **Daniel Guy**, May 20, 2016

Chris '07 and **Eliza Burkholder**, Danbury, Conn.: **Judah Quinn**, May 10, 2016

Abby (Miller) '07 and **Andy Findley**, Elkhart, Ind.: **Miles Everett**, April 12, 2016

Seth '07 and **Abby (Steury) '07** **Troyer**, Wakarusa, Ind.: **Ronan Thomas**, May 22, 2016

Jonathan '08 and **Beth Gallop**, Connell, Wash.: **Paul David**, March 5, 2016

Aaron '08 and **Midori Gingerich**, Kalona, Iowa: **Harrison Kenseth**, May 22, 2016

Kayla (Short) '08 and **Ty King**, Archbold, Ohio: **Tucker Lynn**, Nov. 26, 2015

Adam '08 and **Justine Troyer**, Ephrata, Pa.: **Greyson James**, March 12, 2016

Evan '09 and **MaraJane Heusinkveld**, Kalona, Iowa: **Zoey Nycole**, May 18, 2016

Jafeth '09 and **Conny Bruinink**, Salatiga, Indonesia: **Naomi Jane**, March 8, 2016

Kenyon '09 and **Darcy Lederman**, Middlebury, Ind.: **Jackson Daniel**, March 25, 2016

Abigail (Roth) '09 and **Kevin Von Seggern**, Grand Island, Neb.: **Amos Robert**, Jan. 27, 2016

2010-16

Dmitry Bucklin '10 and **Rachel (Weaver) '11** **Bucklin**, Hesston, Kan., taught the last three years at Saint John

Catholic School in Beloit, Kan. – **Dmitry** in K-12 music and **Rachel** in third grade. Starting in August, **Dmitry** will teach K-2 vocal music and 5-12 instrumental music at USD 408 Marion-Florence, and **Rachel** will teach at Hesston Elementary School.

Hans Hess '10, Goshen, Ind., is a teacher in the English Learners program at Goshen Community Schools.

Erin Hershey '12, Lancaster, Pa., works as an intern and residence assistant with Steeple View Lofts through the Shalom Project, which provides college graduates exposure and experience in a field they are interested in pursuing as a career while living in intentional community. Steeple View Lofts is an urban adaptive reuse project for adults age 55 and over.

Peyton Olden '13, Rose Hill, Kan., a RN at Wesley Medical Center (Wichita) received a 2016 Hospital Corporation of America (HCA) Excellence in Nursing Award for Compassionate Caring.

Logan '13 and **Rebecca (Eichelberger) '14** **Orpin**, Lindsborg, Kan., completed undergraduate degrees in May – **Logan** from Kansas State University-Salina and **Rebecca** from Tabor College (Hillsboro, Kan.). **Logan** began working as a machine design engineer at Bradbury Company (Moundridge) and **Rebecca** will teach fifth grade at Smoky Valley Middle School (Lindsborg).

Eyan Roth '14, Hesston, Kan., and **Hannah Weaver '14**, Inola, Okla., were named Outstanding Senior Biology Students at Eastern Mennonite University (Harrisonburg, Va.). They completed their undergraduate degrees in April.

Wesley Wilder '14, Hesston,

Kan., was a student pastoral assistant at Eastern Mennonite University (Harrisonburg, Va.) for the 2015-16 year, and started a men's ministry group. He completed his undergraduate degree in April.

Carley Wyse '14, staff, Hesston, Kan., spent her last semester at Goshen (Ind.) College on Study-Service Term in Cambodia, where she taught English to children. She started working at Hesston College in June as an admissions counselor.

Oliver Denlinger '15, Denver, Pa., served for six months in 2015 in Nepal through YWAM (Youth With A Mission), Bethlehem, New Zealand. He works for Mast-Roth Farms, Hubbard, Ore., and Stevens (Pa.) Feed Mill.

Quinn Katherineberg '15, Salina, Kan., and **Elisabeth Wilder '15**, Hesston, Kan., were chosen to serve as co-presidents of Eastern Mennonite University's



(Harrisonburg, Va.) Student Government Association for 2016-17.

Malcolm Mann '15, Plano, Texas, scored the last-second

game-winning layup to secure the NAIA Division I National Championship as a member of the Mid-America Christian University (Oklahoma City) men's basketball team on March 22. The play earned the day's number three spot on ESPN *SportsCenter* Top Ten. Malcolm was a member of the Hesston College team that made a trip to the NJCAA Division II national tournament in 2015.

Karli Mast '15, Hubbard, Ore., served for six months in 2015 in Fiji through YWAM, Bethlehem, New Zealand. She is a graphic design intern at Ashley Lippard Design, Newberg, Ore.

MARRIAGES

Cynde Postma '12 and **Lance Patrick**, Columbia, Mo., Aug. 1, 2015

Karl Buller '13 and **Emmali Lapp '13**, Hesston, Kan., Dec. 19, 2015

Luke Ropp '13 and **Kenda Ely**, Inman, Kan., March 19, 2016

Kendal Slabach '15 and **Robin Morris '15**, Hesston, Kan., May 21, 2016

BIRTHS

Hans '10 and **Melina (Hunsberger) '10** Hess, Goshen, Ind.: **Mikel Eden**, May 18, 2016

Cory '10 and **Kaitlyn Hiebert**, Peabody, Kan.: **Addilyn Marie**, March 25, 2016

Jason '10 and **Sarah (Jantzi) '10** Kuhns, Goshen, Ind.: **Emery Mae**, July 25, 2015

David '10 and **Jena (Schwartzentruber) '10** Plaster, Middlebury, Ind.: **Elaina Grey**, May 22, 2016

Weston '10 and **Collette (Weaver) '10** Troyer, Goshen, Ind.: **Tessa Linn**, March 3, 2016

Andrea (Zahn) '11 and **Wesley Busenitz**, Oshoto, Wyo.: **Reed Allen**, Jan. 30, 2016

Harvey Brow '13 and **Jamie Henderson**, New Paris, Ind.: **Sebastian Harvey**, March 4, 2016

Tihani (Palomares) '15 and **Lucas '16 Caywood**, Hutchinson, Kan.: **Isaac Scott**, Nov. 11, 2015

DEATHS

Sheralyn Neff '11, North Newton, Kan., July 23, 2016

Wesley Rhodes, husband of **Tieyce Rhodes '13**, Newton, Kan., March 31, 2016

Justin Velazquez '17, Barceloneta, P.R., June 4, 2016

Faculty/Staff

Bradley Kauffman, former faculty, Cincinnati, Ohio, was named project director for the

new song collection for Mennonite Church USA and Mennonite Church Canada slated for print release in 2020. He served at Hesston as choral and instrumental music instructor from 2007-15.

Duane Miller, faculty, Newton, Kan., began the doctor of nursing practice program at the University of Kansas (Lawrence) in June with an anticipated completion date of spring 2021.

Rita Peters, faculty, Hesston, Kan., completed the national certification exam in spring 2016 to become a Certified Nurse Educator. She is also working on a Ph.D. in nursing education at the University of Northern Colorado (Greeley).

BIRTHS

Jessica, former staff and **Rich Alexander**, Newton, Kan.: **Lacey Joy**, April 21, 2016

Courtney, staff, and **Katie**, staff, **Spitz**, Newton, Kan.: **Ellanore Grace**, July 19, 2016

DEATHS

Carolyn Byler Roth, wife of **Roy Roth**, former president, Eugene, Ore., Feb. 12, 2016



REMEMBERING JUSTIN

The Hesston College community was saddened by the loss of student Justin Velazquez '17, on June 4. Justin, who had just finished his freshman year at Hesston and was also a member of the baseball team, passed away suddenly while playing baseball in his hometown in Puerto Rico, on his 19th birthday.

A funeral was held June 10 at Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe Church at Camp Alegre in Hatillo, P.R., followed by a tribute at his hometown baseball field.

"Losing Justin is a loss for the college and anyone who knew him," said head baseball coach Kyle

Howell. "He was an energetic kid and an infectious personality."

"It was like we were brothers the first day we met each other," said teammate Andrew Berry '16 (Mulvane, Kan.). "He gave everything he had, and if he wasn't playing that game, he was always cheering on his teammates. He was the best teammate you could ever ask for."

The college community will hold a service in Justin's honor at the beginning of the 2016-17 school year.

HCT

A Hesston College Homecoming: Home Sweet Hesston

Homecoming 2016 will be a shared celebration between Hesston College, alumni and the greater Hesston community. Hesston High School (HHS) is celebrating its 50th anniversary the same weekend. Plenty of activities are planned for everyone on campus to enjoy! There are more than 500 dual alumni of HHS and Hesston College, and several will resource the weekend. College events will feature a dozen class reunions and presentations, music performances and an art show from dual alumni experts. Noted conflict transformation professional, author, Notre Dame professor and peace practitioner John Paul Lederach '75 will serve as keynote speaker. Other dual alums will share Go Everywhere Seminar career presentations about their work and lives. (See presenter/performer/artist information and bios online at hesston.edu/homecoming.)

Register online at hesston.edu/homecoming or by returning the attached registration form. Registration ends Sept. 23, with early bird discounts ending Sept. 2. Upon arrival on campus, stop for your Homecoming packet at the Erb Hall Information Center from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday.

Child care will be available Saturday from 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., and 8 to 9:30 p.m. Indicate child care needs in registration.

Homecoming is a great visit time for the next generation of Hesston students. Explore interests, attend Go Everywhere Seminars, stay in the dorm, meet instructors and attend classes. Call Admissions at 800-995-2757 to register prospective students.

Need a place to stay? See the full area **lodging** list online or call toll free at 866-437-7866 for other options.

2016 Homecoming weekend events schedule

Thursday, Sept. 29

Afternoon

Fourth Annual Homecoming Golf Benefit

Hesston Golf Park, 520 Yost Drive

Enjoy 18 holes of golf in support of students. The 2016 event will honor the Excel Industries family for more than 50 years of connection to, partnership with and support of Hesston students. Dinner and program to follow. **Register through separate brochure or online at hesston.edu/ksgolf.**

Friday, Sept. 30

11 a.m.

Forum *Hesston Mennonite Church*

The campus and Hesston community officially welcome all alumni to campus and to kick off homecoming with speaker John Paul Lederach '75.

11:45 a.m.

Golden Gables Lunch *Community Center, Hesston Mennonite Church*

Alumni from any college/academy class from 50 years ago or more will join hosts Interim President Ben Sprunger and faculty member and historian John Sharp '73 for a complimentary lunch. Sharp will share stories of the mid-60's transition time of the Academy to the establishment of the Hesston public school district. Class reunions celebrating 50 years and greater anniversaries will be recognized. Those celebrating their 70th and 75th reunions are also invited to attend.

Alumni are invited to the snack shop in the Larks Nest or the dining hall for lunch and fellowship before afternoon **Go Everywhere Seminar presentations.**

1:30 to 4 p.m.

Home Sweet Hesston: Go Everywhere Seminars

Hesston Mennonite Church

Presentations in career fields of athletics/coaching, aviation/business, physicians/medical professionals and social work/psychotherapy.

4 to 5:30 p.m.

Dual alumni art show and reception

Regier Friesen Gallery, Friesen Center for the Visual Arts

View art exhibition by dual alumni and visit with artists.

6 p.m.

Evening meal and Hesston High School Homecoming activities

Hobbs Stadium, Hesston High School, 150 N. Ridge Rd.

Barbecue chicken meal for all college and high school alumni (nominal charge at the event). The Hesston Swathers football team will take on Smoky Valley at 7 p.m. with half-time royalty coronation and recognition of Hesston High School alumni and 50th Anniversary. Fireworks following the game. *Class reunion groups are invited to gather at 1) the barbecue meal, 2) individual gatherings/meals in the community or 3) at the college dining hall. (Classes will be notified in advance by their Class Team Representatives of plans).*

8:30 p.m.

Student/Alumni coffeehouse and entertainment *Northlawn*

Cap the day's community activities with late-night student and dual alumni entertainment. Refreshments include *Reverse Drubers Run* doughnuts and coffee/hot chocolate. Meet and visit with author and pastor Marty Troyer '96 and learn about/purchase his new book ***The Gospel Next Door***. The new first edition Bib Lit book, *The Bible as Story: An introduction to Biblical Literature* by Marion Bontrager '57, Michele (Schrock) '81 Hershberger and John Sharp '73, will also be available. The book is the culmination of 30 years of Bib Lit!

8:30 p.m.

Alumni vs. Varsity Softball game *City Diamond (Hess Avenue and Knott Street)*

Saturday, Oct. 1

8 to 8:45 a.m.

Pancake and sausage breakfast *Campus Activities Center*

Start your homecoming day memories off right with complimentary all-you-can-eat pancakes by Chris Cakes of Wichita.

9 to 9:45 a.m.

Northlawn renaming ceremony

Northlawn Center for Performing Arts Education

The college's newly renovated (2015) home for performing arts and campus worship will be renamed in honor of former president Howard Keim '72 and his wife and education faculty member Tami (Birky) '72 Keim.

10 a.m.

Volleyball vs. Friends University JV *Yost Center*

Free admission for alumni.

10 to 11:30 a.m.

Go Everywhere Seminar keynote address *Hesston Mennonite Church*

Noted conflict transformation author, Notre Dame professor and peace practitioner John Paul Lederach '75 will present, with a Q&A time to follow.

11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Lunch with alumni and friends at the snack shop in the Larks Nest or local restaurants before afternoon reunions.

11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

Partner Appreciation Luncheon *Dining Hall, Bontrager Student Center*

This annual event thanks Partners for their ongoing financial support. Alumni interested in becoming Partners are invited to attend the complimentary meal and program with alumni and student presenters. Indicate your interest on the registration form. Current Partners receive a separate invitation and reservation form. Child care provided.

1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Class reunions *Hesston College campus*

See list of reunion locations and class team representatives. Connect with classmates through class Facebook groups in advance.



For the first time ever, the college and entire Hesston community will gather on campus to celebrate Homecoming together and to recognize that we are....*Home Sweet Hesston.*

2 p.m.

Volleyball vs. Barton County CC *Yost Center*

Free for alumni

5 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Women's and Men's Soccer vs. Garden City CC *Soccer Field*

5 to 8 p.m.

Kids' Festival *South of tennis courts*

6 to 7:30 p.m.

Tailgate Picnic *Campus Activities Center and Lawn south of tennis courts*

Complimentary picnic meal including homemade ice cream from the Water's Edge restaurant. Seating available in Campus Activities Center or on lawn/bleachers.

8 p.m.

Entertainment Gala *Hesston Mennonite Church*

Top off the evening with musical entertainment featuring Hesston College choirs, student/community orchestra, HHS choirs and jazz band and outstanding dual alumni who got their performing arts START at HHS and HC! Complimentary event with child care provided.

Sunday, Oct 2

7 to 10 a.m.

Alumni Advisory Council annual meeting

Community Center, Hesston Mennonite Church

9 to 9:45 a.m.

Coffee and cinnamon rolls *Dining Hall, Bontrager Student Center*

The tradition continues! Enjoy complimentary continental breakfast before the worship service.

10:30 a.m.

Alumni Homecoming Worship Service

Sanctuary, Hesston Mennonite Church

The campus community, alumni and Hesston Mennonite Church will gather for worship to culminate the weekend. Former Hesston Mennonite Church youth pastor Marty Troyer '96 will bring the message and the Bel Canto Singers will perform. Offerings for the college support student assistance.

11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Lunch buffet *Dining Hall, Bontrager Student Center*

Gather informally by class or with friends following worship.

Payment accepted at the door.

Class reunions and representatives

Academy '51: *Scheidel, Kropf Center*

Academy '56: *Lambright Hall, Lemons Center – Jan (Sommerfeld) Dyck & Marlin Kym*

Academy '61: *Lounge, Lemons Center – Betty (Graber) Hartzler*

College '56: *Room 105, Smith Center – Bill & Joyce (Gingerich) Zuercher*

College '61: *Room 119, Smith Center – Becky Roth*

College '66: *Mininger Classroom, Northlawn – Sharon (Reist) Kennel & Dave Osborne*

College '76: *Room 125, Friesen Center – Lowell & Rita (Eash) Peachey*

College '86: *Troyer Hall, Kropf Center – Bruce Weaver*

College '91: *Room 15, Smith Center – Gil Oliva*

College '96: *Campus Worship Center, Northlawn – Derek Yoder*

College '01: *Northlawn Lobby – Brent Brockmueller*

College '06: *Larks Nest Patio – Leslie (Giesen) Gerber*

College '11: *Hess Hall, Kropf Center – Omar Reyes*



See full event descriptions and presenter bios at www.hesston.edu/homecoming.



**4th Annual Homecoming
GOLF
BENEFIT**

Join alumni and friends at the Hesston College Homecoming Golf Benefit, Thursday, Sept. 29, at Hesston Golf Park.

This event is underwritten by Excel Industries, Inc., allowing 100 percent of proceeds to benefit student financial aid.

Register online by Sept. 26, at hesston.edu/ksgolf.

EXCEL
INDUSTRIES

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUGUST

19 to 21 – Opening Weekend

22 – Start of fall semester

SEPTEMBER

4 – Explore KS! Orchestra on the Oregon Trail, featuring Hesston College choirs with the Topeka Symphony Orchestra, Alcove Spring Historic Park, Marysville, Kan.

5 – Prospective student open house (Labor Day)

29 – Homecoming Golf Benefit

30 to Oct. 1 – Prospective student visit weekend

30 to Oct. 2 – A Hesston College Homecoming: Home Sweet Hesston, featuring dual alumni who are graduates of both Hesston High School and Hesston College

OCTOBER

4 – Campus visit by Joshua Davis, author of the 2016-17 community read selection *Spare Parts*

9 – Bel Canto Singers home concert

14 to 18 – Bel Canto Singers fall break tour to Colorado

20 to 22 – Hesston College Board of Directors meeting

21 to 22 – Prospective student visit weekend and performing arts scholarship auditions

22 – Prospective student open house