

eature

Thank you for helping us pass our \$175

million goal and raise over \$187 million.

Had I made a decision to attend a different college than Wheaton, my life would have spiraled in a totally different direction and God only knows where I would be now.

It's a realization that has made me fall deeper into love with the providence and sovereignty of God."

- Paul Vermeesch '18

As alumni and friends of Wheaton, you play a critical role in helping us identify the best and brightest prospective students. Please continue this investment in kingdom work by referring students who will take full advantage of the Wheaton experience at wheaton.edu/refer.



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instagram.com/ wheatoncollegeil **† THANK YOU: FROM** THE HEART, FOR THE KINGDOM / 21

**WELCOME CENTER** / 30

WHEATON.EDU/MAGAZINE

ART: MUSIC BY SHAWN E. OKPEBHOLO

**ARMERDING CENTER** / 34

## Because of the Wheaton Fund

Wheaton students have access to:

A World-Class Education that is affordable

State-of-the-Art Facilities where they can live, learn, and play

A Christ-Centered Community of faculty, staff, and peers to encourage them in their faith

**Real-World Work and Ministry Experiences** to prepare them for their calling



Because of

The excellence of a Wheaton
College experience is possible

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Wheaton College



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"WHATEVER GOOD WE ARE ABLE TO ENGENDER IN OUR SOCIETY IS THE RESULT OF THE LORD WORKING THROUGH US."

DR. H. WILBERT NORTON JR. '63

VOLUME 21 // ISSUE 3 AUTUMN 2018

WHEATON



### **President's Perspective**

"THIS IS A GOOD

THE PROGRESS

WE HAVE MADE.

**REALITY?"** 

HOW HAS OUR VISION BECOME A

TIME TO CONSIDER

DR. PHILIP G. RYKEN '88 PRESIDENT

IX YEARS AGO Wheaton College introduced a new set of strategic priorities. A year later we launched a capital campaign—From the Heart, For the *Kingdom*—in which we invited friends of the College to support these academic and spiritual priorities through generous financial giving.

With the campaign having ended in June, this is a good time to consider the progress we have made. How has our vision become a reality?

Wheaton has become more deeply committed to the liberal arts. At a time when many colleges are turning to more professional education, we continue to believe that we are called to lay a broad foundation for Christian leadership through excellence in the liberal arts and sciences. The centerpiece of this commitment is our new Christ at the Core curriculum, which gives our students a stronger introduction to liberal arts education, with shared intellectual experiences that shape their calling and enable them to understand themselves and their world in Christian perspective.

Wheaton has become a more diverse community, with more students of color on campus and more diverse leaders at every level of the College. We now have a Chief Intercultural Engagement Officer serving on the Senior Administrative Cabinet, a thriving Office of Multicultural Development in a new location in Lower Beamer, and a more coherent approach to understanding ethnic and cultural diversity embedded within our general education curriculum.

At the same time, Wheaton has become more globally connected. There are more international undergraduates on campus, and they are better supported through the new International Student Programs office. Our office for Global and Experiential Learning makes it easier than ever for students to study abroad, with fully portable scholarships. We also have new institutional partnerships with Handong University and Tokyo Christian University. The world is coming to Wheaton, and Wheaton is going out to the world.

Wheaton now has a new home for making music in the Armerding Center for Music and the Performing Arts. Our world-class music programs—and our whole student body-have ample studios and a stateof-the-art small recital hall for developing and sharing the gifts of vocal and instrumental music.

All of this has happened in the last six years—praise God! And it has all been generously supported by more than \$187 million in total giving towards campaign priorities and over \$225 million to all funds—another reason for grateful praise.

EMAIL EDITOR@WHEATON.EDU WITH FEEDBACK AND

STORY IDEAS. TO ACCESS ADDITIONAL CONTENT, VISIT WHEATON.EDU/MAGAZINE

CAMPUS NEWS CONGRATULATIONS **CLASS OF 2018** 

#### **CAMPUS NEWS**

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### CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2018



READ BILL POLLARD'S
GRADUATE SCHOOL
COMMENCEMENT
ADDRESS AND
GARY HAUGEN'S
UNDERGRADUATE
COMMENCEMENT
ADDRESS AT WHEATON.
EDU/MAGAZINE





#### **COMMENCEMENT**

→ Wheaton College graduated 565 undergraduate students and 98 graduate students during the 2017-2018 school year. PHOTOS BY GABI SATOLA



### **Dr. Sheila Caldwell**

1 1

Wheaton's First Chief Intercultural Engagement Officer

**DR. SHEILA CALDWELL** began in June as Wheaton's first Chief Intercultural Engagement Officer, a role established as a result of Wheaton's strategic prioritization to deepen ethnic diversity.

"Sheila Caldwell is a dynamic leader with a proven track record for inspiring all students to pursue racial unity and helping faculty, staff, and students of color to flourish in the context of higher education," President Ryken says. "Her expertise, personal warmth, and vibrant Christian faith will enable her to make strong connections across Wheaton's campus and to serve as a key member of the Senior Administrative Cabinet."

Dr. Caldwell will serve alongside President Ryken and provide key leadership for defining and meeting campus-wide goals to deepen ethnic diversity, promote racial reconciliation, and advance intercultural understanding.

Dr. Caldwell has about two decades of experience in higher education. Most recently she served as Advisor to the President on Diversity at the University of North Georgia (UNG), where she secured grants that helped economically disadvantaged students achieve college success, increased the number of faculty of color, and facilitated the creation of UNG's first Diversity Leadership and Vision Statement.

"I am honored and humbled to join a Christ-centered community filled with talented and innovative leaders in higher education," Dr. Caldwell says. "As the inaugural Chief Intercultural Engagement Officer, I will collaborate with faculty, staff, and students to create structures that will enhance equity and inclusive excellence in the classroom, with the end goal of fortifying Christians and advancing the kingdom of God." PHOTOGRAPH BY GABI SATOLA

W



BENJAMIN HESS '19
RECEIVED A GOLDWATER
SCHOLARSHIP, THE
PRESTIGIOUS AWARD IN
THE NATURAL SCIENCES,
MATHEMATICS, AND
ENGINEERING



JUSTIN HETH, DEAN
OF RESIDENCE LIFE,
RECEIVED THE TRACY
L. DAVIS OUTSTANDING
EMERGING RESEARCH
AWARD FROM
THE AMERICAN
COLLEGE PERSONNEL
ASSOCIATION FOR
HIS DISSERTATION ON
SPIRITUALITY AND
MASCULINITY



READ MORE WHEATON
STORIES AT WHEATON.
EDU/NEWS



"Our centers and institutes deepen Wheaton's commitment to be at the forefront of evangelical thought and action by producing interdisciplinary scholarship and by hosting academic and ministry conferences, events, and lectures."

MARGARET DUPLISSIS DIDDAMS '83, **PROVOST** 

### **WHEATON'S** INSTITUTES

Global research, exclusive resources, and community enrichment from worldclass scholars and students.

#### **Humanitarian Disaster Institute**

Director: Dr. Jamie Aten, Founder, and Blanchard Chair of Humanitarian & Disaster Leadership

HUMANITARIAN DISASTER INSTITUTE (HDI) hosted its fifth annual Disaster Ministry Conference in June at Wheaton Bible Church in West Chicago, IL. The theme was "Do Justice. Love Mercy. Walk Humbly." Keynote speakers included Miriam Burnett, Eugene Cho, Jo Anne Lyon, and Richard Stearns, among others.

The first cohort of the newly launched M.A. in Humanitarian & Disaster Leadership arrived on campus in August. This cohort is made up of full-time, on-campus students as well as part-time, hybrid students who will complete the degree in a mix of in-person and online coursework.

With the launch of this new M.A. program, HDI became its own department and Kent Annan joined the staff as Director of the M.A. in Humanitarian & Disaster Leadership. In this fulltime role, he will support, mentor, and train students enrolled in the program, and will also teach various courses. Founder and Executive Director Jamie Aten's faculty title also changed from Arthur P. Rech and Mrs. Jean May Rech Associate Professor of Psychology to Blanchard Chair of Humanitarian & Disaster Leadership.

1 1

LEARN MORE AT WHEATON.EDU/HDI

### The Wheaton Center for Faith. Politics & Economics

Director: Captain David Iglesias '80, Judge Advocate General's Corps, United States Navy (Ret.)

THE WHEATON CENTER FOR FAITH, POLITICS AND **ECONOMICS** (FPE) is pleased to announce new board member Greg Adams, who now serves as the Chief Operating Officer for the State of Tennessee, after serving with IBM for 37 years.

FPE held its inaugural Data Driven Debates this past spring on climate change, mass incarceration, and the Affordable Care Act. Students competed for a final spot in the debates through research papers and oral presentations. Also this spring, FPE Scholar Lydia Granger '19 presented her research, coauthored with Assistant Professor of International Relations Timothy Taylor, at the Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) 2018 Conference.

FPE looks forward to an exciting fall when Steve Preston, former Secretary of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), will lecture on "The Financial Crisis of 2008: A View from the Inside," on September 24.

During the summer of 2019, FPE will run its Iron Sharpens Iron: Southeast Asia program, in which students earn eight credits as they learn about the relationship between public policy and business, with travel to sites in Indonesia, Cambodia, Vietnam, and Singapore.



LEARN MORE AT WHEATON.EDU/FPE

### **Opus: The Art of Work** Director: Dr. Chris R. Armstrong Opus awarded 11 Wheaton students with scholar-

ships to attend Praxis Labs' week-long Redemptive Entrepreneurship training program which took place during summer 2018. In spring 2018, Opus hosted three Lunch and Learns, featuring conversations between an interdisciplinary group of faculty and one author of an Opus Vocation Scholars paper on the intersection of vocation and human flourishing within Wheaton faculty's academic disciplines. In February 2018, Assistant Director Ben Norquist organized and led a panel at the CCC&U's 2018 International Forum representing four Council for Christian Colleges & Universities (CCC&U) schools on different institutional approaches to vocational programming. Opus partnered with the Intercollegiate Studies Institute to host a March 2018 colloquium for 17 Wheaton undergraduate students exploring the Christian and Enlightenment roots of the American Dream. The Kern Family Foundation awarded a grant to Opus to continue its work at Wheaton College into its fifth year. Opus, in partnership with the Acton Institute, hosted a colloquium in May 2018 on populism with 13 Wheaton College faculty from an array of disciplines. Lastly, Opus supported the Wheaton in Washington program in summer 2018 with a classroom presentation and curricular support in the area of vocation.



LEARN MORE AT WHEATON.EDU/OPUS

### **Billy Graham Center**

LEARN MORE AT WHEATON.EDU/BGC

### **Center for Applied Christian Ethics**

LEARN MORE AT WHEATON.EDU/CACE

#### **Center for Urban Engagement** LEARN MORE AT WHEATON.EDU/CUE

### **HoneyRock - Outdoor Center** for Leadership Development

LEARN MORE AT WHEATON.EDU/HONEYROCK

### **Institute for Cross-Cultural Training**

LEARN MORE AT WHEATON.EDU/ICCT

#### Marion E. Wade Center

LEARN MORE AT WHEATON.EDU/WADE

SOUND BITES FROM WHEATON FACULTY QUOTED IN MAJOR MEDIA OUTLETS

"Even in naming evil, we're to be guided by love for the suffering and those who cause suffering."

→ KENT ANNAN, senior fellow of the Humanitarian Disaster Institute, from "Words Still Matter," Sojourners, May 21, 2018.

"The gospel revolutionizes our attitude toward those who harm. Not only do we treat others differently because of our own experience of God's mercy and grace, but he has called us to be part of the restoration process."

→ <u>DR. KAREN SWANSON</u>, Director of the Institute for Prison Ministries, from "God is Not a God of Second Chances: The Church & Formerly Incarcerated Persons," *Christianity Today*, April 2, 2018.

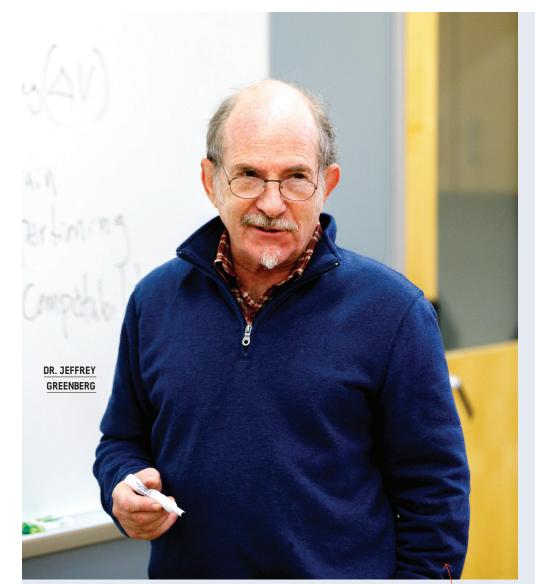
"Severing family bonds through deportation should be resisted, because it causes incredibly deep pain and trauma to the parents and their children, but even more significantly, because it strikes against the core of the meaning of our life as humans in God's world. Families matter."

→ DR. M. DANIEL CARROLL R., Blanchard Professor of Old Testament, from "Family Matters in the Deportation Discussion: A Theological Orientation," Public Justice Review, Vol. 8, 2018.





FOR MORE FACULTY ONEWS AND TO READ BLOGS FROM WHEATON EXPERTS, VISIT WHEATON.EDU/NEWS



### **Honoring Faculty Emeriti:**

Faculty who have served 18 years or more

Mark Amstutz
PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
HIRED IN 1972
46 YEARS OF SERVICE

Mark Niemczyk
PROFESSOR OF CHEMISTRY
HIRED IN 1975
43 YEARS OF SERVICE

Lynn Cooper M.A. '74
PROFESSOR OF COMMUNICATION
HIRED IN 1978
40 YEARS

Bruce Howard '74.

PROFESSOR OF BUSINESS & ECONOMICS

HIRED IN 1980

38 YEARS OF SERVICE

Jeffrey Greenberg
PROFESSOR OF GEOLOGY
HIRED IN 1986
32 YEARS OF SERVICE

Cynthia Neal Kimball
PROFESSOR OF PSYCHOLOGY
HIRED IN 1990
28 YEARS OF SERVICE

James Clark
PROFESSOR OF GEOLOGY
HIRED IN 2000
18 YEARS

Gary Burge
PROFESSOR OF NEW TESTAMENT
HIRED IN 1992
25 YEARS
(AWARDED IN 2017)



### **FACULTY PUBLICATIONS**



DR. TREMPER LONGMAN III
and DR. JOHN H. WALTON
M.A. 75, professor of
Old Testament, with
contributions by DR.
STEPHEN O. MOSHIER,
professor of geology. The
Lost World of the Flood:
Mythology, Theology, and
the Deluge Debate (IVP
Academic, 2018)



DR. JILLIAN N.
LEDERHOUSE, professor of education. Teach Like a Disciple: Exploring Jesus Instructive Relationships from an Educational Perspective (Wipf & Stock, 2016)



DR. GEORGE KALANTZIS
and DR. MARC CORTEZ,
professors of theology.
Co-editors of Come,
Let Us Eat Together:
Sacraments and
Christian Unity (IVP
Academic, 2018)



DR. TERRI S. WATSON
M.A. '86, associate dean
of psychology and
associate professor of
psychology. Developing
Clinicians of Character:
A Christian Integrative
Approach to Clinical
Supervision (IVP
Academic, 2018)



DR. DANIEL I. BLOCK,
Gunther H. Knoedler
Professor of Old
Testament Emeritus, and
DR. RICHARD L. SCHULTZ,
Blanchard Professor
of Old Testament.
Co-editors of Sepher
Torath Mosheh: Studies
in the Composition
and interpretation
of Deuteronomy
(Hendrickson Publishers,
2017)

### 2018 External Grant Recipients

VISIT WHEATON.EDU/MAGAZINE

TO DISCOVER MORE WHEATON FACULTY PUBLICATIONS,

DR. SCOTT ICKES, associate professor of applied health sciences, received a National Institutes of Health grant to identify risk factors for sub-optimal breastfeeding and opportunities for breastfeeding promotion among working mothers in Kenya. The grant also funds professor-mentored student research in Kenya and on campus.

DR. ENOCH HILL, assistant professor of economics, received an Acton Institute grant for his course, Comparative Economic Systems.

DR. NÉSTOR IVÁN QUIROA, associate professor of Spanish, along with colleagues from Olivet Nazarene University and Whitworth University, received a CCCU grant for "The Music of Social Protest: An Intersection of Politics and Faith in Latin America," a research project on Latin American

1 1

social protest songs in their historical, social, and religious contexts as well as exploring the themes that emerge in light of biblical teaching.

DR. SALLY SCHWER CANNING, professor of psychology, along with colleagues from Belhaven University and University of South Florida, received a CCCU grant for "Creative Dance to Foster Resilience in K-12 At-Risk Youth," a research project that seeks to cultivate resilience through a creative dance intervention.

### Faculty Achievement Awards

The Faculty Achievement Award Program recognizes and encourages excellence among faculty. Faculty may be nominated for this award by students, faculty colleagues, or administrators of the College, and takes into account their contributions as teachers, colleagues and mentors.

Junior Faculty
Achievement Awards

CHRISTA TOOLEY
Urban Studies
Sociology & Anthropology
NATHANIEL THOM
Biology

Senior Teaching
Achievement Awards
JAMES BEITLER
English
HENRY KIM
Sociology & Anthropology

Senior Scholarship Achievement Award DAVID HOOKER Art

Senior Service Achievement Award TIFFANY KRINER

English

#### STUDENT NEWS

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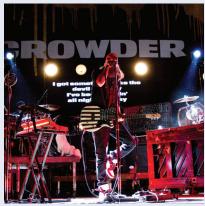
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### **#MYWHEATON**























2018 STUDENT PHOTO COMPETITION WINNERS AND HONORABLE MENTIONS (PHOTOGRAPHERS IN SEQUENCE FROM TOP CENTER): 1) SOPHIE KILLEEN '18, 2) KEENAN DAVA '18, 3) ANNA ERICKSON '18 4) BATLEY HTLL '18 5) KATLTN RTCHARDSON '20 6) FRANCESCA TSO '18 7) NTCOLE KENNEDY '18 8) RTSSA HO '19 9) JOE ENGEL '20, 10) DYLAN SOSSO '19,



"To realize that people would use what I'd produced in their own future research was an affirmation of the hard work I had put into the pump that summer."



### **PUMP IT UP**

One student's innovative contribution to hydrologic field studies

BY BECKY THIELMAN '18

LAST SUMMER I began a research project with Dr. Samuel Smidt in Wheaton's Geology and Environmental Science Department that started out as a typical environmental research project should: analyzing the health of a stream in Campton Township, not far from Wheaton.

The stream was designated as part of a wetland restoration site, so an analysis of its health before the restoration began was important. Our research involved injecting a saline tracer into the stream, which required a pump that could sustain a constant flow rate of tracer injection without rapidly draining battery power, and preferably one that was durable enough to work in a wet field setting.

Most pumps used in field intensive studies are expensive, require heavy batteries, and are not suited for hydrologic studies. So, we opted to design our own. Designing a pump took me into an area of study I was unfamiliar with and required a lot of out of the box thinking, tinkering, and extensive patience when the pump continually did not work. But I experienced the greatest feeling of success when I finally got the motor turning and was able to get water pumping at a rapid rate.

I had the opportunity to present our innovation at the Geological Society of America's main conference. To realize that people would use the pump and the set of instructions I'd produced in their own future research was an affirmation of the hard work I had put into the pump that summer.

I was thankful I hadn't given up on creating my pump even when it seemed like a sidetrack from my initial research, because it ended up fulfilling a need in hydrologic field studies that will help future researchers in environmental science.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT WHEATON'S ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE PROGRAM, VISIT WHEATON.EDU/ENVSCI





CARFER SAVES FOR PITCHER NICK JOHNSON '18, A NEW CAREER SAVES RECORD FOR WHEATON BASEBALL. HIS SIX SAVES IN 2018 SET A NEW SINGLE-SEASON RECORD.

"I CAN SEE AND AFFIRM THE

GOOD IN OTHER PEOPLE WITHOUT

THINKING LESS OF MYSELF AND

WHO I AM IN THE LORD."

DOUBLES BY JUNIOR KELLY THORNTON '19 IN 2018, A NEW SINGLE-SEASON RECORD FOR THUNDER SOFTBALL

### **Batting** Alongside the King

How the CCIW's 2017 batting champion Kelly Thornton'19 discovered her true identity

BY KATHERINE BRADEN '16

KELLY THORNTON '19 KNOWS JESUS LOVES SPORTS. The Illinois native always envisioned him in the stands, cheering her on.

It wasn't until the summer after her freshman year that Kelly realized Jesus wasn't only her biggest fan-he was playing right alongside her.

"It became a daddy-daughter thing, doing something we both love. I wasn't doing it for him, but with him," says Kelly, who played volleyball, basketball, and softball her freshman and sophomore years at Wheaton, dropping basketball

A third generation Wheatie, Kelly played infield her freshman year with her sister, Katie Thornton '18, who pitched.

At the time, Kelly felt she was surrounded by "people who are smarter and prettier," and she began to struggle with her identity. But her involvement with sports helped her realize her performance did not define her.

"I can see and affirm the good in other people without thinking less of myself and who I am in the Lord," she says.

Her ultimate identity? As a daughter of the king.

1 1

During Kelly's junior year, her softball teammates named her team captain, and her batting average of .458 won her recognition as the 2017 CCIW batting champion.

1 1

"As a coach, you could not ask for more," says Coach Ellen Radandt-Stremler, who calls Kelly a leader who is consistently the first to practice and the last to leave. "Having your best player be your hardest worker changes a program."

Double majoring in math and secondary education, Kelly hopes to one day become a high school teacher, encouraging girls who might also struggle with identity.

"Having that kind of platform fires me up," says Kelly. "My dream job is to teach them where their worth comes from."



TO WATCH THE WHEATON THUNDER COMPETE LIVE IN HD ONLINE, VISIT ATHLETICS.WHEATON.EDU

YEARS FOR THE OLDEST RECORD IN WOMEN'S OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD TO BE BROKEN BY FAVOR EZEWUZIE '20 IN THE 100 METER HURDLES WITH A TIME OF 14.37 SECONDS.

## **ATHLETIC**



was team MVP and Best Tackler his sophomore year with 109 tackles. Now a professor of counsel ing at Columbia International University Wagner is the author of Help Me Help Others (Redemption Press, 2016). "Wheaton football taught me that the kingdom of heaven is best advanced through supportive communities where members are committed to bringing out the best in others.

#### LARRY WAGNER '78 HEIGHT: 6'

ORIGINALLY FROM:

SAXONBURG, PA

DEGREES: PH.D., TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY; M.ED., GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY; B.A., WHEATON (IL)

SPORTS: FOOTBALL

POSITION: LINEBACKER

AWARDS: HALL OF HONOR 1993, ALL-STATE, ALL-CONFERENCE, CO-CAPTAIN, MVP, ALL-AMERICAN

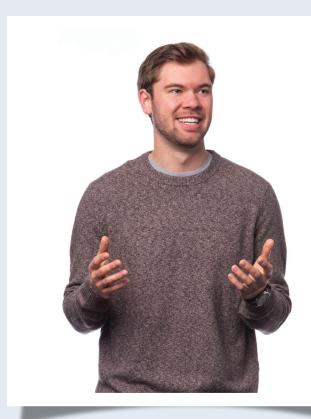
#### **PROFILES**

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### **James Sorensen '19**



### UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT PROFILE

HOMETOWN:
MINNEAPOLIS, MN
MAJORS: ECONOMICS
AND INTERNATIONAL
RELATIONS
FUN FACT: HIS FAVORITE
PASTIME IS READING

ABOUT NATIONAL

SECURITY

BY ASHLEY RYDBERG BRIGHT '10 JAMES SORENSEN'19 did not expect competitive Scrabble to be a key part of his Wheaton College experience, but the Minneapolis native is learning to keep up. "Monday night is Scrabble night at Windsor Park," James says. "It's always fun, although Dorothy smoked me by 60 points last night. She's 94."

James is one of ten Wheaton students who gather weekly at Windsor Park, a retirement community in Carol Stream, Illinois. It was the first student activity James participated in as a freshman, and it continues to be one of his favorite places to spend his time.

That's saying a lot for the student leader who has been involved in more than 20 student activities and leadership roles before entering his senior year. His other top experience thus far has been Orientation Committee, a leadership group that organizes the orientation experience for incoming students.

James has been involved in everything from the snow removal crew, to Ultimate Frisbee, to student government leadership roles. In addition to these activities, James is a double major in economics and international relations. In his spare time, he enjoys reading on legal issues and national security. "Someone has to do it," he says with a laugh. "I just really love learning about national security, and I have Captain (Professor) David Iglesias to thank for that."

1 1

### "It's beautiful to try to make sense

### of how God interacts with us."

## Tuwa Mea Karnley M.A. '20



### GRADUATE STUDENT PROFILE

HOMETOWN: SANDY SPRING, MD

DEGREES: M.A.,
SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY,
WHEATON COLLEGE (IL);
B.A., INTERNATIONAL
STUDIES, SPELMAN
COLLEGE

FUN FACT: "I'M A HUGE CARD MAKER. I LOVE MAKING THINGS WITH MY HANDS"

BY JEREMY TUWA MEA KARNLEY M.A. '20 came to Wheaton College to study the Bible because of her study Bible. Literally.

She wanted a master's degree after attending Spelman College, a historically black school for women in Atlanta, where she studied international development largely because her parents are from Liberia and talked often about politics.

"It was very natural," she says. "Those were our dinner conversations."

But Tuwa couldn't decide between studying theology or African history.

"I was reading my study Bible—and I never do this, and I haven't done it since—but I looked at the list of editors and almost all of them were from Wheaton," she says. "I had never heard of the College, but thought I'd look it up. I came to visit, and loved it. The rest is history."

Tuwa enjoys studying theology formally: "It's beautiful to try to make sense of how God interacts with us." And she enjoys her professors: "They are really invested in you as a person, and they are at the top of their fields."

She now works for the Office of Multicultural Development as its graduate resident assistant overseeing Shalom House, a multiracial living and learning community. Her advice to students: "Stay prayerful. Stay organized. Don't stress."  $\qquad$ 

#### **PROFILES**

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### **Tory Gum**



#### STAFF PROFILE

OCCUPATION: SENIOR
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT
DIRECTOR

YEARS: 5
EDUCATION: M.A.,
HUMAN RELATIONS,
NORTHERN ILLINOIS
UNIVERSITY; B.A.,
PSYCHOLOGY AND
RELIGION, WAYLAND
BAPTIST UNIVERSITY
FUN FACT: ONCE WHILE

HOMETOWN: PUEBLO, CO

FUN FACT: ONCE WHILE TRAVELING, TORY WORE BASKETBALL SHOES BUT FORGOT TO PACK HIS DRESS SHOES—THE REST OF THE STORY IS HILARIOUS, HE SAYS. (GO AHEAD AND ASK!)

TORY GUM didn't even know the name of Blanchard Hall before he applied to work at the College. Interviewing against others with a Wheaton background, Tory faced some serious competition, but "something about him was so warm and inviting that we couldn't say no," says Director of Development Kevin Engel '84.

Tory connects donors, alumni, and parents in the Southeastern states to Wheaton. He prays with and encourages them in life challenges, brings campus news, and presents giving opportunities. He also gets to sample some local specialties (such as shrimp and grits in Durham or gator in Louisiana) along the way.

"The sweet part of Wheaton," Tory says, "is that it's not a transactional exchange that happens on a business level. It's such a thrill to hear alumni stories and to hear how God is taking them from this campus and touching people around the world."

Back on campus, Tory taps into Wheaton's heartbeat by going to chapel, playing basketball some mornings with President Ryken and others, and getting to know students. Working in the Development Department is incredibly meaningful, Tory says: "You get up every day knowing you're going to help build a new performing arts center, or help a student—who doesn't know they're coming yet—with affordability."

1 1

"In ways small and large, ordinary and dramatic,
personal and professional, we all have endless

opportunities to be peacemakers."

### Dr. Laura S. Meitzner Yoder



#### FACULTY PROFILE

HOMETOWN:
SPINNERSTOWN, PA
TITLE: DIRECTOR AND
JOHN STOTT CHAIR
OF HUMAN NEEDS AND
GLOBAL RESOURCES
AND PROFESSOR OF
ENVIRONMENTAL
STUDIES

DEPARTMENT: HUMAN NEEDS AND GLOBAL RESOURCES

YEARS: 5

EDUCATION:
PH.D., FORESTRY &
ENVIRONMENTAL
STUDIES (SOCIAL
ECOLOGY), YALE
UNIVERSITY; M.P.S.,
INTERNATIONAL
AGRICULTURE AND
RURAL DEVELOPMENT,
CORNELL UNIVERSITY;
B.A., NATURAL SCIENCE-

FUN FACT: "I LOVE
WALKING IN FORESTED
MOUNTAINS!"

BIOLOGY, MESSIAH

BY ADRIANNA

DR. LAURA S. MEITZNER YODER is a peacemaker. Whether in remote villages or urban centers in Southeast Asia and Latin America, Dr. Yoder draws on her knowledge of agriculture and rural development to understand socioeconomic inequity and chronic poverty, and to seek the shalom of people and the environment.

In Timor-Leste, for example, Dr. Yoder has researched how rural farmers use land, water, and forest resources and then represented their interests to policymakers.

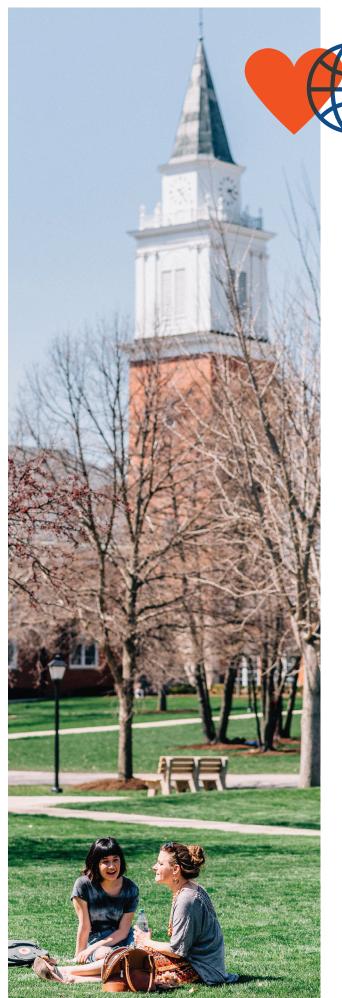
"In all the places where I have worked, I would like to see the priorities, needs, and aspirations of people who live and work in these communities be incorporated into government policy and practice," Dr. Yoder explains.

Dr. Yoder has also helped others address humanitarian and environmental disasters. Responding to the December 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami in Aceh, Indonesia, she led a social research methods training program at the local state university for over 700 Acehnese professionals, an initiative that contributed to societal healing.

In the face of conflict, the resilience and joy of the people she serves give her hope. Dr. Yoder is quick to note, however: "In ways small and large, ordinary and dramatic, personal and professional, we all have endless opportunities to be peacemakers."

W H E A T O N . E D U / M A G A Z I N E





### DEAR FRIENDS,

As I look back at our recently concluded five-year From the Heart, For the Kingdom capital campaign, I find myself at an uncharacteristic loss for words in expressing my gratitude to all of you. Though "thank you" seems inadequate for all of the prayers, encouraging words, and dollars you have contributed to this vital campaign, "Thank You!"—from the bottom of my heart—will just have to do.

When we established the scope of this campaign, setting our overall goal at \$175 million, some observers thought our dreams were too big. Over the course of the campaign, however, and especially as we surpassed that target in the final weeks of *From the Heart, For the Kingdom*, it became clear that our gracious God and our generous supporters thought otherwise. As the following pages will attest, you have converted big dreams into exciting realities that have already blessed our current students and will benefit generations of students yet to come.

In the midst of the campaign, I recall overhearing two of our devoted benefactors discussing their philanthropic endeavors. One of them said, "Giving away money is a lot harder than many people think." His fellow conversationalist agreed. They went on to discuss the seriousness with which they took the task of being faithful stewards of the blessings God had given them, and how important it was to be thoughtful in investing in kingdom work. I was reminded of the words of the industrial magnate and philanthropist Andrew Carnegie, who reached a point in his life when he "resolved to stop accumulating," and began what he called "the infinitely more serious and difficult task" of "wise distribution."[1]

We know that Wheaton people are serious about the "wise distribution" of their blessings. Whether you are at a point in your life when you are just trying to make ends meet or you are at a point when you have chosen to "stop accumulating"; whether you have much to give to many causes or your philanthropic efforts are at a more modest level in amounts and recipients; whether you are trying to discern your calling in life or are contemplating the legacy you wish to leave behind—we celebrate the importance so many of you place on generosity. We are humbled that so many of you have channeled that generosity *From the Heart, for the Kingdom*, for the benefit of Wheaton and its mission.

Be assured that your support has blessed every student on this remarkable campus. Be assured that your support is never taken for granted.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kirk D. Farney M.A. '98 Vice President for Advancement, Vocation, and Alumni Engagement

[1] Olivier Zunz, *Philanthropy in America: A History* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2012), p. 1.



## Remarkable

In the novel Silence by Shusaku Endo, the protagonist wrestles with the complexities of calling, suffering, and failure, ultimately finding his way to transformative love. This trajectory is not unlike the journey that *Christ at the* Core instructors envision for their students. Integrating students' majors and passions, Christ at the Core is a remarkable general education model anchored in God's Word that facilitates dynamic peer engagement, faculty mentorship, and interdisciplinary collaboration. The results? Graduates who are deep thinkers, articulate a clear vocational vision, and possess highly marketable skills transferable to a wide range of callings over a lifetime.



## Relevant

Ensuring that a Wheaton education remains relevant to the needs of today's students means increasing opportunities for meaningful cross-cultural learning experiences through Wheaton's Global and Experiential Learning programs and International Student Programs. It also means preparing students for life beyond Wheaton through the Center for Vocation and Career, which systematically integrates vocation and career exploration into the larger curriculum and equips students to articulate a biblical understanding of God's calling in their lives. These efforts are complemented by the College's dedication to fostering a diverse learning community that values cultural differences, includes people of color, and celebrates our multifaceted unity in Christ.



## @ Reachable

Ranked as one of 18 private "Best Buy" colleges and universities by the Fiske Guide to Colleges, Wheaton is committed to keeping its education reachable by remaining affordable to students from the broadest possible range of economic backgrounds. The College strives to reach this goal, in part, by securing scholarship funding, including funding that advances global education and ethnic diversity. The Wheaton Fund is another essential component, helping to ensure that the College's dedication to affordability is matched by its equally unrelenting commitment to excellence.





## THANK YOU

for helping us pass our \$175 million goal and raise over **\$187 million**.

Remarkable

New Performing Arts Center \$49.7M RAISED 711 DONORS Christ at the Core \$7.2M RAISED 3,542 DONORS

### Relevant

Global and Experiential Learning \$11.6M RAISED 344 DONORS

Center for Vocation & Career \$5.3M RAISED 134 DONORS

Deepening Ethnic Diversity \$8.1M RAISED 192 DONORS

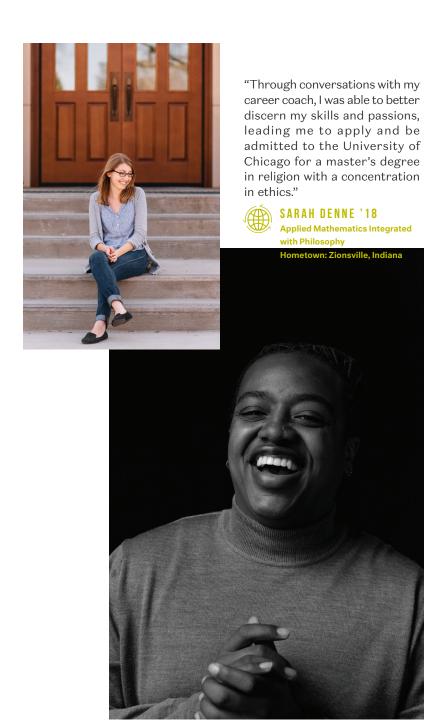
### © Reachable

The Wheaton Fund \$31.4M RAISED 12,817 DONORS

Welcome Center \$4.2M RAISED 59 DONORS

Need-Based Scholarships

\$11.8M RAISED
887 DONORS
Planned Gifts
\$57.9M RAISED



"Attending Wheaton has helped me further understand the narratives being told about Chicago, and my North Lawndale neighborhood. The media highlights any violence while omitting the history of systemic oppression and overall marginalization of these communities. Being an agent of change requires a rewriting of that narrative. I have been encouraged to seek this restorative justice in my neighborhood of North Lawndale."



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#### SAMMIE SHIELDS '20

Economics and Africana Studies, Double Major Don and Ann Church Room and Board Scholarship Endowment Recipient Hometown: Chicago, Illinois



in my professional development. All the skills I learned from the CVC paired with the encouragement to persevere that I received from my professors helped me land a great professional job. I am incredibly grateful for their impact on my life and know that everything I've learned at Wheaton will become a valuable asset in my future endeavors." ANDY BAN '18

"Both the CVC and my professors played a crucial role



Mathematics & Economics Double Major Hometown: Oradea, Romania





### THE WHEATON FUND **A Donor Story**

Richard Springer '78 was born to missionary parents and raised in Japan. As a student at Wheaton, Richard dutifully sat down once a week to type a one-and-a-half page, single-spaced letter to his parents, who served as church planters with TEAM.

Richard's brothers Paul '73 and David '74 preceded him at the College, and his sister Lois Springer Dresselhaus '80 overlapped with him for two years.

With a perfect score on the math portion of the SAT, Richard applied his keen aptitude for numbers to a degree in mathematics. Not long after graduation, he got a summer job working for the Jet Propulsion Lab (JPL) in Pasadena, California, which he soon parlayed into full-time work.

Today Richard continues to work for JPL, serving as mission manager for the Mars Exploration Rover, helping to make scientists' experimental vision a tactical reality.

As Loyal Wheaties, Richard and his wife, Jeannie, have been faithfully supporting the Wheaton Fund since 1984.

"As missionary kids, my brothers and sister and I didn't have a lot of financial help," says Richard. "It was a privilege to attend Wheaton College and not come out with huge debt. We believe in what Wheaton stands for and are committed to helping keep a Wheaton education both excellent and affordable for today's students."

2 7

"During their semester abroad, Wheaton in Mexico students explore how they are shaped by their cultural context. Self-awareness is critical to effectively and appropriately engaging others. Without it, our best intentions can conflate our work in the name of Christ with our cultural biases."

TIMOTHY KLINGLER '93 Associate Lecturer of Spanish

and Wheaton in Mexico Director



"I am thankful that by exploring how statistics intersects with sociology or how theology nuances contemporary English literature, Christ at the Core helps me see God working through different disciplines and vocations."



SARAH YOON '20

Communication (Rhetoric and Culture) Hometown: Plainsboro. **New Jersey** 





"My internship, which I found through the CVC, provided opportunities to gain valuable work experience in multiple sectors and to understand how they function both individually and collaboratively to reach the company's overall goals."

HANNAH JAPP '18 Hometown: Blair, Nebraska





has helped give me different sides of the spectrum that are useful in understanding the way society works."



### MELISSA MONTIEL '21

Sociology/Social Work

Class of 2013 Ramie Harris BRIDGE Scholarship Fund recipient Hometown: Chicago, Illinois



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### DAVID BAKALEMWA '18 **Applied Mathematics**

Hometown: Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

internship with U.S. Bank over the summer. After this experience, U.S. Bank extended me a job offer."



"This past fall, when I began pursuing a highly selective internship with Southwest Airlines, I knew I needed to update my resume, but I was not sure where to begin. I worked with a CVC coach to revitalize and organize my resume to highlight key experiences. The application process also required an essay and my CVC coach again assisted me, providing valuable, unique resources. The CVC helped me land the internship this summer."



"Christ at the Core allowed me to begin my education engaging with the foundational beliefs and controversies of our Christian faith. It allowed me to participate in academic and spiritually rigorous disciplines that furthered my own personal walk with God."



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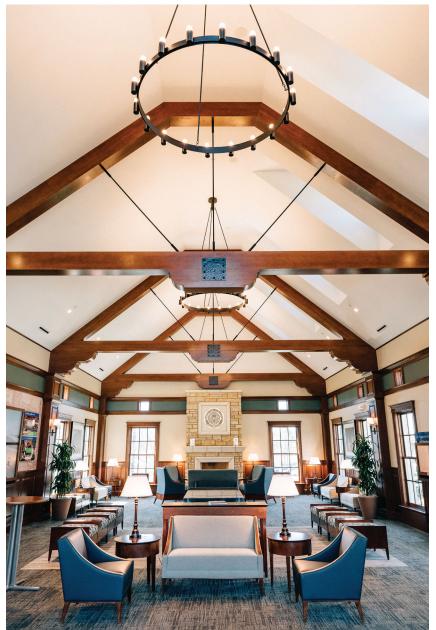


present, and future.

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## WELCOME CENTER



Silvio Vazquez Chief Enrollment Officer

do kingdom work."

future generations to be prepared to

"From my office in the College's magnificent new Welcome Center, I think a lot about how we can best welcome students and families from diverse socioeconomic and ethnic backgrounds. Our focus is rightly placed on identifying gifted, missioncompatible students who represent the rich mosaic of the body of Christ. Our call as admissions and financial aid professionals is to walk alongside these young students and their families as they navigate the college search process, recognizing that we have an obligation to help advance our mission by creating pathways for

The new Welcome Center ensures that all visitors—prospective students, alumni, and conference guests alike—are given the warmest of Wheaton welcomes. The center also houses the Undergraduate Admissions office.

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WHEATON.EDU/MAGAZINE

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MUSIC PEDAGOGY—APPLIED
AND ACADEMIC—WHICH
REQUIRE VARIOUS TYPES
OF LEARNING SPACES AND
TECHNOLOGIES. THE NEW
ARMERDING CENTER PROVIDES
ME WITH THESE RESOURCES
(AND MORE), ELEVATING MY
TEACHING, CREATING, AND
MUSIC MAKING. I AM TRULY
GRATEFUL TO GOD."

Dr. Shawn Okpebholo

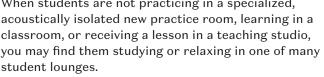
Associate Professor Wheaton College Conservatory of Music Inside the Armerding Center for Music and the Arts' front doors, a beehive of activity awaits. In one chamber music rehearsal room (above left), a string quartet feverishly practices. Three large classrooms offer a digital keyboard lab, a music education classroom with rhythm instruments and the latest digital technology, and a creative classroom facilitating movement, interaction, and song (left). The beautifully appointed Recital Hall (above) seats 108 and is equipped with humidity and lighting control and acoustic flexibility.

WHEATON.EDU/MAGAZINE 35

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The second phase of construction will involve creation of a choral rehearsal room, a 648-seat concert hall, and a lobby connecting both halves of the building.

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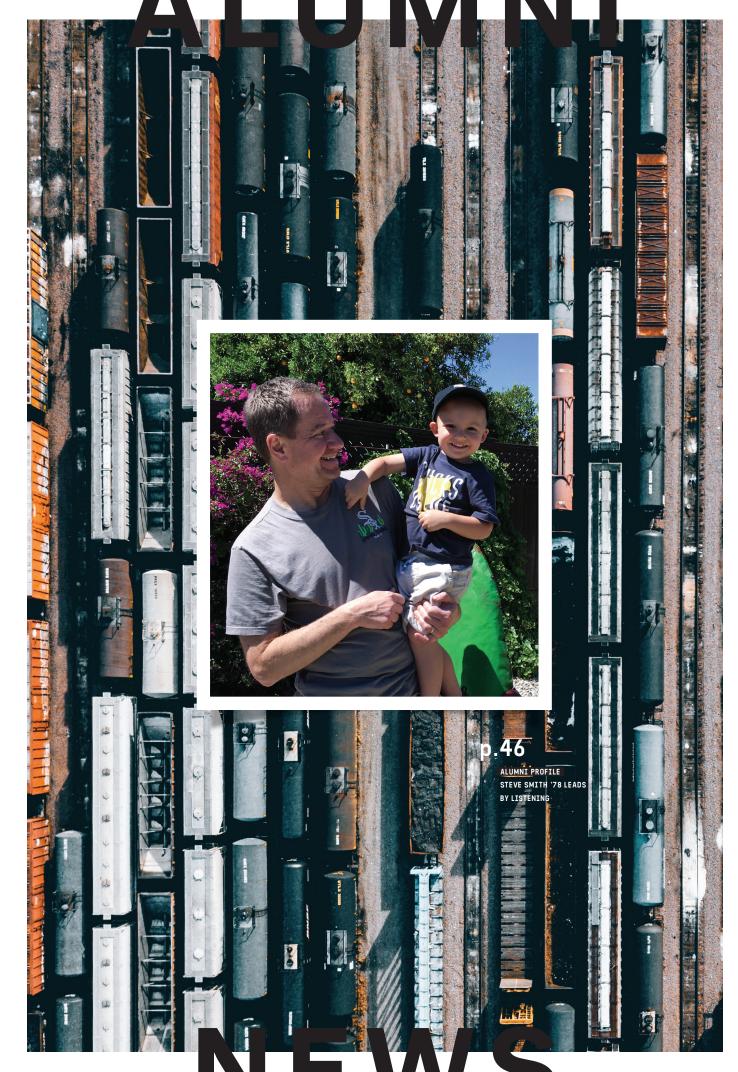


Israel | March 18-28

Register Today! Alumni.wheaton.edu/travel







WHEATON

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N MAY, MY DAUGHTER
Emily walked across the
Edman Chapel stage and
received her diploma
from President Ryken.
She has been diligently

studying for the law school entrance exam, and she hopes to work for a year or two before starting law school. When Emily completed the "first destination survey" given to seniors the week of graduation, she indicated that she is hoping to begin a full-time job in September. A couple of weeks ago, she was pleasantly surprised to receive a phone call from her Wheaton College career coach, Ethan Jones M.A. '17. Although they had already connected well before graduation, Ethan was now following up to see if there was anything he could do to help Emily secure employment after her LSAT.

Yes, Wheaton has come a long way in fixing a problem that has concerned alumni for decades. One of the questions on last year's alumni survey was, "How important are skills/training for career and how well did Wheaton College do at providing this?" You told us there was a significant gap between what you expected and what you received.

Three years ago, Wheaton launched the Center for Vocation and Career

### A Word With Alumni

CINDRA STACKHOUSE TAETZSCH '82

Senior Director for Vocation and Alumni Engagement and Executive Director, Wheaton College Alumni Association (CVC) with a new vision, new leadership, and a solid commitment to helping prepare our students for life after Wheaton. Career coaches are now embedded in academic departments; faculty are partnering with the CVC; over 50 percent of last year's sophomore class attended one or more of the optional "Canvas: Framing Your Vocation and Career" events; we are actively helping students find internships; and hundreds of alumni are volunteering their time and expertise as mentors.

And all our CVC services, including individual coaching, are available to alumni for two full years after graduation. Imagine what a relief it is for our youngest alumni to know they are not alone as they navigate post-Wheaton life.

If the CVC—partnering with faculty, alumni, and parents—is successful, Wheaton graduates can start to "build the church and benefit society worldwide" right away, soon after graduation.

Many of you have prayed for us and given your time, financial resources, and professional expertise to make the CVC what it is today—thank you. If you have questions about the CVC, shoot me an email at alumni@wheaton.edu. I'd love to tell you more.

"IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CVC, SHOOT ME AN EMAIL. I'D LOVE TO TELL YOU MORE."



VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADVANCEMENT, VOCATION, AND ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT Dr. Kirk D. Farney M.A. '98 SENIOR DIRECTOR FOR VOCATION AND ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT Cindra Stackhouse Taetzsch '82 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT Renae Schauer Smith '91 PRESIDENT-ELECT Beverly Liefeld Hancock '84 PAST PRESIDENT Kurt T. Tillman '78 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Cindra Stackhouse Taetzsch '82 ALUMNI TRUSTEE REPRESENTATIVES Renae Schauer Smith '91, Beverly Liefeld Hancock '84, Kurt T. Tillman '78 BOARD OF DIRECTORS SERVING THROUGH 2019 Esther Lee Cruz '06, Morgan Jacob '17, Gary Keyes '63, Lee Eakle Phillips '77 BOARD OF DIRECTORS SERVING THROUGH 2020 Claudia Kraftson Brice '78, Paul Compton '09, Susan Follett Davis '04, Ruth Lageschulte Johnson '67, George Kohl Jr. '76 BOARD OF DIRECTORS SERVING THROUGH 2021 Bruce Gin '83, Jeffrey Golz '89 BOARD OF DIRECTORS SERVING THROUGH 2022 Bryan Eklund '89, M.A. '14, Julie Miesse Feyerer '91, Eric Fowler '81, Christopher Peterson '90

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## 2017-18 CVC Outcomes



CAREER COACHES EMBEDDED IN SPECIFIC ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS 78%

OF 2017 GRADUATES

COMPLETED AT LEAST

ONE INTERNSHIP

(NATIONAL AVERAGE IS 70%)

230

6,453

TOTAL IN-PERSON
POINTS OF CONTACT
WITH STUDENTS

**ALUMNI VOLUNTEERED** 

AT CVC EVENTS







### Recent Graduates are Employed at Organizations Such As:

Allstate

Epsilon

Google

**Government of France** 

**Harvard University** 

**IBM** 

Lawndale Christian Health Center

Minnesota Vikings Football

National Park Service

PwC

Teach for America

Tesla

**US Bank** 

**World Relief** 

Wycliffe Bible Translators

### Recent Graduates are Attending Graduate Schools Such As:

American University

Cornell University

**Emory University** 

Georgetown University

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Northwestern University

Princeton Theological Seminary

Rhode Island School of Design

University of Chicago

Vanderbilt University

\*"Landed" means employed, enrolled in additional education, or have intentionally chosen another path.





Alumni Association Board of Directors ROW 1 (L TO R): Susan Follett Davis '04, Esther Lee Cruz '06, Renae Schauer Smith '91, Kurt Tillman '78, Ruth Lageschulte Johnson '67, Claudia Kraftson Brice '78. ROW 2 (L to R): George Kohl Jr. '76, Morgan Jacob '17, David Doig '87, Bruce Gin '83, Jeffrey Golz '89, Lee Eakle Phillips '77, Daniel Doebler '94, M.A. '00, Howard Curlin '95, Paul Compton '09, Beverly Liefeld Hancock '84, Gary Keyes '63. NOT PICTURED: Cindra Stackhouse Taetzsch '82, Kirk Farney

SEND US YOUR NOMINATIONS FOR ALUMNI BOARD MEMBERS. ALL ALUMNI ARE INVITED TO SUGGEST QUALIFIED CANDIDATES FOR THE ALUMNI BOARD OF DIRECTORS BY SUBMITTING AN ONLINE FORM TO THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE. THE COMMITTEE WILL TAKE INTO ACCOUNT CLASS YEAR, VOCATION, GENDER, ETHNICITY, AND DEMONSTRATED COMMITMENT TO WHEATON. JOB DESCRIPTION AND NOMINATION FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED AND SUBMITTED ONLINE AT ALUMNI.WHEATON.EDU

> WHEATON COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

### 2017-18 **ANNUAL REPORT**

Each year the Alumni Association's Board of Directors awards financial and nonfinancial grants and awards to faculty, students, and alumni. Funds for these grants flow from the annual Wheaton Fund. which also supports every faculty member's salary and every student's academic program.



#### **Faculty Awards**

ALUMNI FACULTY GRANTS AWARDED FOR 2018-19

Dr. Thomas Boehm Education

Dr. Raymond Lewis Biology

Dr. Rodney Scott Biology

Dr. David Van Dyke '91 Psychology

Professor Sara Vroom Fick M.A. '13 Education

Science Division Block Grant for Faculty/Student Summer Research

JUNIOR ALUMNI FACULTY GRANTS

AWARDED FOR 2018-19

Dr. Allison Dick '02 Chemistry

Dr. II-Hee Kim Education

Dr. Timothy Taylor Politics & International Relations

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#### FACULTY MISSIONS PROJECT 2017-18

Dr. Johann Buis Conservatory of Music Tanzania

Dr. Robert Gallagher Intercultural Studies Vietnam & Malaysia

Dr. Hannah Stolze **Business & Economics** Vietnam

Guatemala

**Gregory Halvorsen Schreck** 

Dr. John Walton M.A. '75 Biblical & Theological Studies Taiwan, Japan, & Malaysia

#### Student Awards

JUNIORS AWARDED SCHOLARSHIPS FOR THEIR SENIOR YEAR (L TO R)

Sarah Herning '19 Jonathan Liversedge '19 Yi Yan Heng '19 Veronica Flores '19 W. Leif Van Grinsven '19 Taylor Hartzel '19

#### Alumni Awards

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS 2017-18

Dr. Kathleen Kastner '71 For Distinguished Service to Alma Mater

Dr. H. Wilbert Norton, Jr. '63 For Distinguished Service to Society

Senior Scholarship Award Winners

These award winners are chosen on the basis of academic achievement, campus and community involvement, spiritual growth, understanding of life mission, and future plans.



### Sarah Herning

Chicago, Illinois

MAJOR Interdisciplinary studies (Anthropology, Bible/Theology, and Human Needs and Global Resources)

HOW I SPENT MY SUMMER Starting my Human Needs and Global Resources internship with Amani Ya Juu in Uganda

DREAM JOB Working with former child soldiers; helping them reintegrate into their



### William Leif Van Grinsven

Franklin, Wisconsin

MAJOR Interdisciplinary studies (Disaster Response and International Development)

HOW I SPENT MY SUMMER Researching microfinance with Dr. Paul Lee and interning at Samaritan's Purse, working on the Europe and the Middle East Regional Team



### Yi Yan Heng

West Lafayette, Indiana

MAJOR: Biology MINOR Psychology

HOW I SPENT MY SUMMER Taking the MCAT, applying to med school, working, and

**DREAM JOB** Working as a doctor in a French-speaking country in Africa with **Doctors Without Borders** 



#### Taylor Wesley Hartzel

Lansdale, Pennsylvania

MAJOR Biology MINOR Spanish

HOW I SPENT MY SUMMER Taking the MCAT, applying to medical school, and shadowing my cardiologist at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

**DREAM JOB** Pediatric Cardiologis



#### Veronica Flores

Winona Lake, Indiana

MAJOR Communication: Rhetoric & Culture MINOR Political Science

HOW I SPENT MY SUMMER Participating in Northwestern University's summer study program Engage Chicago

DREAM JOB Serving as an attorney within the Department of Justice



### Jonathan Peter Liversedge

Wilmore, Kentucky

MAJOR History and French

HOW I SPENT MY SUMMER Working, spending time with family back home in Kentucky, and preparing to study abroad in France in the fall

**DREAM JOB** A professor of American or African history, researching the relationship aries and culture change

## Alumni Weekend

ALL PHOTOS BY MIKE HUDSON '89



Liz Nyberg, Paul Nyberg '58, Jim McLennan '58.



Mrs. Sherri Litfin ном, Trustee Jeanette Hsieh M.A. '66, Alumni Association Board President Renae Schauer Smith '91, Provost Margaret DuPlissis Diddams '83, Cindra Stackhouse Taetzsch '82, Marilee Melvin '72. BELOW: Karen Connolly Miller '63, Marilyn Johnson Miller '58, Fred Miller '58, Dean Miller '58, Eric Lindstrom '58, Nancy Lindstrom.





Davids '67, Peter Davids '68, Pat Gamble Utigard '68, Doug Utigard '68, Nancy Crawford Lowe '69, Beth Vroon, Bob Vroon '68.





Bob Dresdow '63 wearing his senior jacket.



Members of Wheaton's only undefeated women's basketball team: Trilby Bloom Salmon '68, Carol "Q" McEwing Harding '68, Sue Vogt '68, Bea Gorton '68, Sharon De Fraites Clark '68, Joan Chamberlain '68.

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Janet Newlin Burgess '73.

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Dr. Jamie Aten, founder and executive director of the Humanitarian Disaster Institute, speaks to alumni about sharing Christ in times of crisis.



President Philip Ryken '88; Alumnus of the Year for Distinguished Service to Society Dr. H. Wilbert Norton, Jr. '63; Alumni Association Board President Renae Schauer Smith '91.

#### **ALUMNI NEWS**

VOLUME 21 // ISSUE 3 AUTUMN 2018
WHEATON

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## Surrendered and Obedient

Spunky nonagenarian shows no signs of slowing down.

BY ADRIANNA LEONA SPRYNCL CHOY '47 wrote her autobiography when she was wright '01 nearly 80. She thought it might be her last.

"Little did I know that I would write and publish a dozen more books," explains Leona, now 93, a grandmother to 10 and great-grandmother to 13.

As an undergraduate at Wheaton, Leona made two choices that proved to be pivotal: she took the only writing course on offer and sat beside a Chinese student named Ted Choy '47 in her anthropology class.

After graduation, Leona and Ted married and planned to serve as missionaries in China. Prevented by Communists from entering the mainland, they served instead in Hong Kong (still a British colony), where Ted pastored a Chinese church while Leona taught child evangelism courses and gave birth to three of their four sons.

Upon returning to the states, Leona and Ted sought to reach Chinese students through campus ministry. In 1963, the couple co-founded Ambassadors for Christ, Inc., a parachurch organization that today has more than 70 Chinese staff in 48 universities in the U.S., Europe, and Asia. After her husband's retirement, the couple entered China at last, making numerous trips to minister to the underground church.

Since Ted's death in 1992, Leona has devoted herself to writing. Along with one of her sons, she founded Golden Morning Publishing and produced her own daily radio program for five years on the Christian station which they also founded. With 45 books in print, Leona now blogs and coaches aspiring writers.

"Because I am well into my final decade, I feel great joy if my books are read by people whom I hope to reach at their point of need," Leona explains. "As long as I remain surrendered to his Lordship and obedient to doors he opens and content with those he closes, I make myself restfully available 'For Christ and His Kingdom."

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### LEADING BY LISTENING

The secret of this CEO's success is his ears.

### WHEN STEVE SMITH '78 WAS A KID,

he dreamed of becoming a Chicago White Sox shortstop. His dad, a legally blind piano and music theory teacher at Moody Bible Institute, wanted him to hone his musical career. Even after law school and ten years with a Chicago law firm, no one would have predicted that Steve would jump into the world of business and advance to become the CEO of a \$4 billion manufacturing company.

Steve is proud to stand at the helm of Amsted Industries, whose 50 facilities around the world supply to freight rail, trucking, automotive, and other heavy industrial users. Amsted is 100 percent owned by its employees through an employee stock ownership plan.

"It is rewarding to be working for our employees, who are also our owners," Steve says. "My job is simple: making sure we have the right people in the right places, a culture in which they can all prosper, and focused business strategies so that we are all aligned."

Steve also sees his role as part of a "mission to create jobs that allow people to provide for their families," by employing 15,000 people around the world.

At Wheaton, Steve gained a global mindset from Professor of Political Science Mark Amstutz and economics professor Bob Bartel. Steve recalls the value of Dr. Amstutz insisting assignments be limited to a single page.

"This, along with my weekly column for *The Wheaton Record*, were foundational in learning how to express myself succinctly and engage others in my vision," Steve says.

What's Steve's secret? His ears.

"When I meet with leaders within Amsted, I can't pretend to know how to do their jobs, but I ask penetrating questions, which is how I confirm leaders are being strategic and assess progress," Steve offers. "You learn a lot more by listening than you do by talking."

Steve's listening ears and business acumen landed him a seat as Board Chair of the Grant Park Music Festival, which captivates Chicagoans every summer. This is the same festival where Steve's dad was often asked to tune pianos years ago. While Steve is far from the days of practicing scales with his dad, he has, in a way, come full circle. WMARISA FOXWELL DUTTWEILER '13

After a college internship, Rachel "got excited by cancer

research and cancer biology."



### WHEN COLLABORATION CHANGES THE WORLD

Rachel Rienstra Liao '07 helps scientists share data for genomics research.

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BY WHITNEY BAUCK '15

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FOR RACHEL RIENSTRA LIAO '07, facilitating data sharing in genomic research means seeing the future of medicine changed for the better.

When Rachel first set foot on Wheaton's campus as a freshman, she knew she wanted to study biology. But it was an internship at Brigham and Women's Hospital offered through an alumnus of the College the summer after her sophomore year that cemented her current path.

"I really got excited by cancer research and cancer biology," Rachel says.

That excitement landed her back at the same hospital after graduation and propelled her into researching how inherited genetic traits affect cancer. Eventually, Rachel went on to receive her doctorate at Harvard before landing at the Broad Institute, an independent nonprofit with strong ties to Harvard and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

Rachel has stepped into roles facilitating projects that help genomics researchers from all over the world share data and collaborate in unprecedented ways. She recently transitioned to become a Scientific Advisor for the Broad Institute's director, Eric Lander, to help the Institute continue to expand its focus on these efforts.

"When we think about using genomic data, there are usually a lot of access constraints on it," she notes, citing the sensitive nature of information about people's DNA. But sharing that data means the possibility of understanding human genetics on a deeper level than ever before.

For scientists looking to address genetic diseases like diabetes, heart disease, and cancer, that's good news indeed. The hope, as far as Liao is concerned, is that scientists will soon be able to go beyond just recognizing which genetic variants are associated with which diseases, to actually being able to change the ways those diseases are managed or treated.

"There's been a translational piece missing for as long as the field has existed," she says. "One of the goals of my work is to make the necessary connections so that effective medical treatments for genetic diseases can be developed."

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LEADERSHIP AND INNOVATION INMEDIA

The Alumni Association's 2018
Distinguished Service to Society Award
recipient Dr. H. Wilbert Norton Jr. '63
has improved and expanded media
education across the globe as a longtime
dean at the University of Mississippi
and the University of Nebraska.

BY ANDREW THOMPSON '13 PHOTO BY MIKE HUDSON '89

AS ONE OF THE NATION'S longest-serving media education deans, Dr. Wilbert Norton '63 has received numerous awards and has helped launch more successful careers than he can count. The fruit of his labor, at least in part, continues to grow on other people's trees. That fruit includes multiple former students winning Pulitzer Prizes and journalists working

at *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and many other media outlets. His work also extends across the globe, as over the years he has developed partnerships with institutions from Addis Ababa in Ethiopia to Pristina, Kosovo, among others.

Will has served as dean of the Meek School of Journalism and New Media at the University of Mississippi since 2009. Norton considers his work a calling with unique opportunities to effect change and influence students. Prior to his work at Ole Miss, he was dean of the College of Journalism and Mass Communications at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln from 1990 to 2009.

At the highest levels in journalism academia, Norton has an accomplished career. He served as president of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) from 2000 to 2001 and as

president of the Association of Schools of Journalism and Mass Communication from 1989 to 1990. In 2005, the Scripps Howard Foundation named Dr. Norton Journalism Administrator of the Year. He serves as a trustee of the Freedom Forum, the Diversity Institute, and the Newseum in Washington, D.C.

Despite all of his personal achievements and those of his protégés, he remains humble and grounded.

"What is fascinating is to see students develop and become more talented and more knowledgeable than their teachers. It is what keeps me full of hope," says Will. "These students have made a huge difference in my life, helping me to grow and become a more effective professional."

When people try to call him "Doctor," he can be quick to respond, "I'm Will, by the way. I don't take out kidneys." His wit and sense of humor can be disarming. He is also quick to point to the true source of his success: "God does everything. We just get to participate," says Norton, quoting Wheaton's Gunther H. Knoedler Professor of Theology Dr. Daniel Treier.

Will gives significant credit to his

Wheaton experience, calling it the toughest place he ever went to school, including obtaining a master's degree in mass communication at Indiana University and a Ph.D. at the University of Iowa. He studied history at Wheaton and worked as a sports publicist for the Athletics Department. Two memories still stand out from the rest. The first was Wheaton football's victory over Northern Illinois University, after coming back from a 2-0 deficit late in the game, representing a major upset. The other was a grueling loss to Wabash College, in what amounted to a five-quarter game due to a timekeeper's error. "I will never forget a quiet Coach Jack Swartz '52 with head bowed and tears running down his cheeks, standing outside the locker room while his team showered and dressed," says Will.

Most of his work in the field of jour-

nalism has been spent equipping the next generation, but Will began as a practitioner working for *The Daily Journal* in Wheaton and at the *Chicago Tribune*. His favorite interviews included African American church leaders Rev. John Perkins HON and the Rev. Bill Pannell.

"Both taught me a great deal about the Civil Rights movement and the major writers on racial equality, justice, and equity," says Will. "The two of them have an incredibly well-integrated orthodox theology in terms of culture and society."

After working as a reporter, he transitioned into teaching and later served as a dean. According to Will, five professions are vital in most communities: the ministry, law, teaching, medicine, and journalism.

"With the exception of journalism, these professions tend to have the same percentage of believers as our society does," he says. "However, journalism seems to be a more secular profession than our society."

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Will is a staunch advocate for training Christians to work in media. He also notes the importance of maintaining a free and open press for society to function properly.

"Americans seem to criticize the press when it reports what they do not agree with or what they do not believe are facts," says Will. "They think it is a terrible world with the media we have, but they have avoided preparing media professionals for that world. Moreover, many Americans do not seem to realize what it is to be in a world where communication is censored. It is a stifling existence."

Having taught in Wheaton's former graduate communications program, Will sees Wheaton's mission of equipping students to enter into diverse professions for Christ and his kingdom as vital.

"There wasn't a single student in that classroom that wasn't better than any of my other students, and I've taught Pulitzer Prize winners," says Dr. Norton. He is hopeful that Wheaton's current Journalism Certificate Program will launch more believers into the media landscape and sees their work as equally important to the work of those entering the mission field or other vocational ministries.

Born in the Belgian Congo as a missionary kid, Will is the eldest son of former Wheaton College Graduate School Dean Dr. H. Wilbert Norton '36 and is married to Susan with two grown children. His life and career can be summed up in one of his favorite verses: "But thanks be to God, who always leads us as captives in Christ's triumphal procession and uses us to spread the aroma of the knowledge of him everywhere" (2 Cor. 2:14, NIV). His father used to write the reference at the bottom of his letters to Will.

"Through the years, I have realized that whatever good we are able to engender in our society is the result of the Lord working through us," says Will.



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