

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO Forester

CUChicago.edu

Winter 2017





PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

This year, 2017, holds very special significance for Lutherans as well as other Christians and members of all faiths. Five hundred years ago, Martin Luther posted 95 theses to a church door in Wittenberg, Germany and changed the world. Last fall I was honored to lead a group of friends of the University to that very church. There we reflected on Luther's legacy then and now. As a university professor himself and as a strong supporter of a broad liberal arts education, Luther's ideas about the intersection of faith and education continue to inform all aspects of Concordia University Chicago to this day.

The need for a strong Christ-centered education is, perhaps, more urgent now than ever. The recognition of that need is evidenced by Concordia University Chicago's record enrollment this year. In fall 2016, CUC enrolled 1,530 undergraduates and 4,073 graduate students, representing our largest graduate enrollment and our third-largest freshman class of all time.

It is important to note the growing prominence of the University's doctoral programs in which 1,200 students are currently pursuing the highest degrees in their fields. In this issue of the *Forester*, you'll read about the new Doctorate in Business Administration (DBA) program, which provides students with a competitive advantage as they seek to improve the global society they serve.

Our faculty continue to lead both in and outside of the classroom. As an example, Dr. Rekha Rajan recently co-published ground-breaking research that links attendance at arts performances with a slowdown in cognitive decline among older adults. On another front, Dr. Michelle Turner Mangan is working closely with the Illinois Governor's Office to develop a new funding model for the state's education system. These are but two examples of Concordia-Chicago faculty making a difference in our world.

Influenced by committed faculty, our students continue to make their own mark. The first graduates of our joint nursing degree program with Resurrection University recently shared their stories about how they plan to serve their communities through vocations in health care.

You are undoubtedly aware that the construction of CUC's first new residence hall in nearly five decades is in progress. I'm pleased to report that project remains on schedule for completion before the beginning of the next academic year. This building is one of many commitments we are making to ensure that our students have the best educational experience possible. I look forward to the possibility of seeing you at the grand opening later in the year. In the meantime, you can keep an eye on construction progress via the live webcam feed available through the CUC website.

Please also plan to join us for our events commemorating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. You will have the opportunity to view Johann Sebastian Bach's personal Bible along with other genuine Reformation-era documents, hear lectures and enjoy the arts. On October 30, you will have the opportunity to witness a historic discussion of the Reformation by LCMS President Matthew Harrison, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Chicago, Cardinal Blase J. Cupich, and Reformed theologian and Wheaton College President Dr. Philip Ryken. You will also have the opportunity to rejoice with us during our family day festivities. (See page 12 for more information and learn more online at CUChicago.edu/Reformation.)

As *the* Concordia of choice for all students, we remember Luther's words, recorded by a student in *Table Talk*, in this year of celebration: "Your parents cannot prepare a more dependable treasure for your children than an education in the liberal arts. House and home burn down and disappear, but an education [you always carry with you.]" *Soli Deo Gloria!*

Table of Contents

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, ENROLLMENT AND MARKETING

Evelyn P. Burdick

ASST. VICE PRESIDENT, UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING

Eric Matanyi

DESIGNER

Andi Whipkey

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Paige Craig BA '99, MBA '14

Jim Egan BA '82

Rev. Dr. Jeff Leininger

Eric Matanyi

Rev. Todd Niebling BA '02

Martina Reese

Anna Seifert

PHOTOGRAPHY

Emily Adkins

MISSION

As a distinctive, comprehensive university of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, centered in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and based in the liberal arts, Concordia University Chicago equips men and women to serve and lead with integrity, creativity, competence and compassion in a diverse, interconnected and increasingly urbanized church and world.

VISION

Concordia University Chicago is the university of choice for those seeking a Christian institution in the Midwest which provides a broad, liberal arts based undergraduate education, as well as graduate and professional programs in areas of demonstrated competence, which serve a particular need of society and advance the mission of the Church.

CORE VALUES

We at Concordia University Chicago embrace these Core Values as essential to living together in a vibrant and influential Christian academic community and as productive citizens of the Church and world.

CHRISTIAN FAITH.

The Christian faith is an integral part of our community.

THE INDIVIDUAL.

As a member of God's creation, each person is unique and is blessed with inherent worth.

EXCELLENCE.

We strive for excellence in who we are and what we do.

INTEGRITY.

Our community demonstrates the accord between our beliefs and practices.

SERVICE.

Recognizing and addressing the needs of others is a response to God's love for us, and a reflection of God's love for them.

NEWS AND COLUMNS

- 4 CUC News
- 8 University Events
- 9 College of Business Offers New Doctoral Program
- 10 Presidential Honors Scholars
- 12 Reformation @ 500: Concordia-Chicago Celebrates
- 16 Alumna Inspires Kindness Across Generations
- 17 Aging Research Shows Positive Effect of Performing Arts
- 26 CUC Researcher Takes on Education Funding in Illinois
- 28 Athletics
- 30 Faculty/Staff News
- 31 Alumni Relations
- 32 Class Notes
- 35 CUC by the Numbers

FEATURES



14 From Chi-Town to La-La Land: Ministry on the West Coast



18 First Graduates of Joint Nursing Degree Program



22 New Initiatives, New Construction, New Opportunities

ON THE COVER

The first graduates of the CUC and Resurrection University joint nursing degree program are embarking on their careers. Read more on page 18.

CONTACT US

Forester Magazine: c/o University Communications & Marketing
Concordia University Chicago, 7400 Augusta St., River Forest, IL 60305-1499
708-209-3111 | forester@CUChicago.edu

ESL Faculty Recognized Nationally by CAEP

The ESL faculty within the Department of Teaching, Learning & Diversity has received national recognition from the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP). The department, led by Dr. Carolyn Theard-Griggs, associate professor of curriculum and instruction, demonstrated that it meets the standards set by CAEP as well as TESOL (Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages), the academic organization responsible for setting standards for the ESL discipline.

"I am proud of all the ESL faculty who worked on the institution report, led by Drs. Yurimi Grigsby, Anastassia McNulty and Michael Wannah," Theard-Griggs said. "This is a true testament to the dedicated work of our faculty on behalf of our students."

All CUC education programs have received CAEP's prestigious "Continuing Accreditation of all Education Programs Without Condition." The University's education programs received their first recognition by CAEP/NCATE in 1962, and the colleges in which these programs are housed have received continual accreditation since that time.

Women's Soccer Captain Earns Leadership Award from Northwestern Mutual

Natalie Weinhold, senior soccer player for the Cougars, was selected to receive the Northwestern Mutual – Chicago Leadership Award for her outstanding community service, academic excellence and sports leadership. A passion for helping others and a strong faith have guided Weinhold throughout her life. "I was very honored to receive the award—it made me feel like all my hard work didn't go unnoticed!" she said.

In recognition of Weinhold's achievements, Northwestern Mutual donated \$250 to Diana's Grove Dog Rescue. Weinhold, who hails from St. Peters, MO, selected the charity in honor of her sister's birthday. Her family had adopted a dog from the shelter, which now serves her sister as a service animal. "Diana's Grove means a lot to me and my family. My sister's rescue dog has changed her whole life around," Weinhold said.

"Natalie embodies the spirit of the award through both her actions and words," said Tom Canale, managing director at Northwestern Mutual – Chicago. "We are pleased to partner with Concordia University Chicago in presenting this award and helping students grow personally and professionally."

Alum Receives Presidential Award for Math and Science Teaching

Last fall, President Obama named Mike Fumagalli MA '10 a recipient of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. The Presidential Award is given to outstanding K-12 science and mathematics teachers from across the U.S. Fumagalli is one of only two grade 7-12 educators in Illinois to earn the award.

Fumagalli earned his Master of Arts in School Leadership—now known as the Master of Arts in Principal Preparation—from Concordia-Chicago. He is currently a dean at Glenbard East High School in Lombard, IL. Prior to accepting his position, Fumagalli was a science teacher at East Leyden High School in Franklin Park, IL.

Winners of this presidential honor are selected by a panel of distinguished scientists, mathematicians and educators. Each recipient receives a \$10,000 award from the National Science Foundation and are invited to Washington, D.C. for an awards ceremony.



Gateways to Opportunity Credential Awarded for Early Childhood Education Program

Early Childhood Education graduates in both the teacher-licensure and non-licensure track were granted eligibility for the Illinois Gateways to Opportunity credentials this year. The credentials open doors for graduates who do not pursue teacher licensure to have careers in federal and state-funded early childhood education centers.

"The faculty at Concordia University Chicago has worked diligently to align their courses with the Gateways to Opportunity competencies. In a time when early childhood education is defining itself as a field that promotes professional development, Concordia University Chicago has become entitled to help further this goal by graduating students ready to provide quality care and education to young children," Gateways to Opportunity said in a press release.

For CUC students who major in Education Studies, which does not lead to teacher licensure, the credential is required in order to work at early childhood education centers funded by government agencies, such as Head Start. Melissa Smith, assistant professor of early childhood education, and Dr. Kevin Brandon, dean of the College of Education, worked to secure the Gateways Credential by demonstrating that Concordia-Chicago's early childhood education program holds rigorous standards and meets all requirements.



Canadian Radio Listeners Treated to Wind Symphony Recordings

Faith FM in Kitchener, Ontario featured the CUC Wind Symphony on its "Music for the Soul" broadcast, playing selections from the ensemble's recordings "Banners of Concord" (2015), "Expressions of Faith" (2001), "Light of My Soul" (2007) and "Sinfonia Voci" (1995).

"It is exciting to know that a Christian broadcaster liked the music and the performance of the music enough to share these pieces with the listeners, in this case both Canadians and Americans," said Dr. Rich Fischer, CUC's wind symphony director and the Fred and Jane Wittlinger Endowed Chair in Music Performance. "Over the years the students have been very excited about having the CDs played on radio."

Recorded performances by the Concordia-Chicago music ensembles date back to 1989. The Wind Symphony has recorded 14 CDs of sacred music, with its 15th to be released in May 2017 in time for the Wind Symphony's South Africa tour. The new recording, which commemorates the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, will feature a commissioned work by Balint Karosi called "The Reformation Symphony," a four-movement work for organ and wind symphony, with each movement based on a different hymn.

President Gard Retires from Navy

Rear Admiral Rev. Dr. Daniel Gard retired from his role as Deputy Chief of Chaplains for Reserve Matters in the U.S. Navy after a career of 28 years. He was honored at a ceremony on Sept. 22 at the United States Navy Memorial in Washington, D.C., as well as at a special service of thanksgiving at CUC on Sept. 26.

During his naval career, President Gard was responsible for overseeing military chaplain operations in Navy, Marine and Coast Guard Reserve units around the world. He served during the 9/11 Pentagon recovery operations in Washington D.C., was deployed with the Amphibious Task Force East during Operation Iraqi Freedom, and served as a member of the Joint Task Force - Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

"We give thanks to God for Dr. Gard's service to his country and to the church," said university pastor Dr. Jeffrey Leininger at the service of thanksgiving. "On this day we recognize the important ministry and mission work of chaplains in our armed forces who serve throughout the world." Dr. Gard will continue in his role as president of Concordia University Chicago.

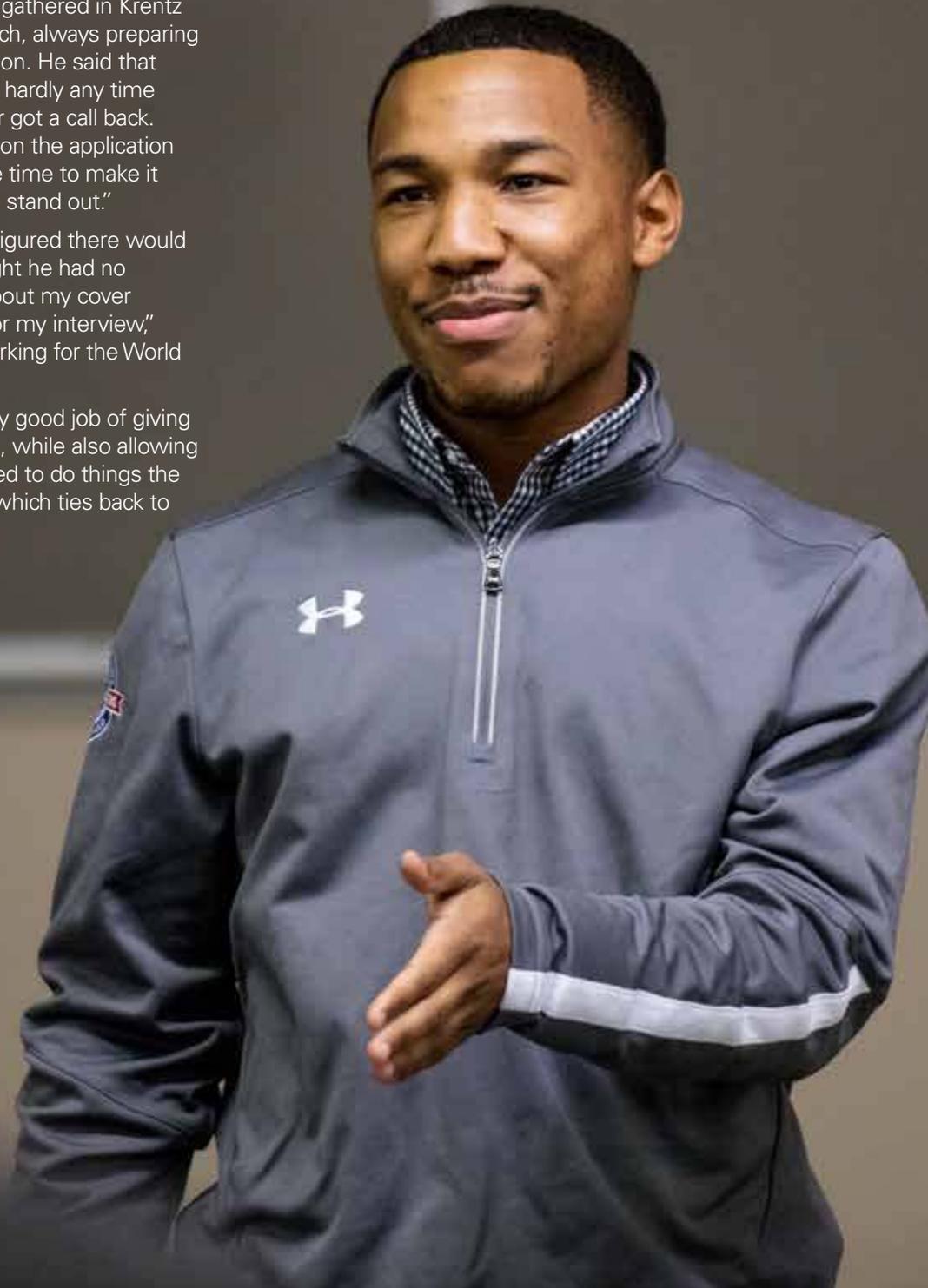
Aaron Key BSBA '14 Shares Experience as Chicago Cubs Front Office Member

Aaron Key, BSBA '14, returned to campus to discuss his journey from CUC to working for the 2016 World Series champion Chicago Cubs. In the relatively short time since his graduation, Key has gained experience working for LiftMaster/Chamberlain, Yelp, and is now a Service Excellence Program representative for the Chicago Cubs.

Key passed along advice to students gathered in Krentz Hall about staying positive in the job search, always preparing questions and communicating their passion. He said that the first time he applied to Yelp, he spent hardly any time on his cover letter and resume, and never got a call back. He reapplied, spending much more time on the application process. "It was so much better. Take the time to make it good, because that is your opportunity to stand out."

When the Cubs had an opening, he figured there would be millions of other applicants, and thought he had no chance. "But again, I was very diligent about my cover letter and resume. I prepared for hours for my interview," he said, and ultimately landed the job working for the World Series champions.

"I think Concordia-Chicago did a really good job of giving me a great education and a starting point, while also allowing me to grow in my faith," he said. "I wanted to do things the right way and work extremely hard at it, which ties back to my personal values."



Theater Alum Stages Immersive Show at University of Hawaii

Kevin C. K. Berg, BA '12, debuted his play "A House Divided" at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, where he is an MFA in directing candidate. The play, which he wrote and directed as his innovative thesis project, immerses the audience in the action. Set in a fundraising gala 10 years in the future where the Native Hawaiian community has split into two different factions, a person armed with a gun takes the whole gala hostage. Using a bilingual script of English and Hawaiian, the story deals with the subjects of Hawaiian sovereignty, self-determination and domestic terrorism.

Many hours were spent ensuring the safety of the audience. "We're not here to surprise anyone," Berg told Hawaii Public Radio. "When they come in the door they are given a role... They are told very clearly that they will go through a simulated hostage situation, and there will be a prop gun." Berg, who is Native Hawaiian but grew up in the Midwest, hopes to spark a conversation about the political climate in Hawaii to take a stand against violence.

Grad Named Semifinalist for GRAMMY Award

Dr. Roosevelt Griffin MA '11, President and CEO of the Griffin Institute of Performing Arts and Director of Bands at Harvey School District 152, was named a semifinalist for the 2017 Music Educator Award by the GRAMMY Foundation and The Recording Academy. Griffin was the only semifinalist from the state of Illinois. He manages music programs for his district over seven locations with more than 250 students. He is also the elementary jazz band director for the Chicago Jazz Philharmonic and an instructor with Blues Kids of America, an interdisciplinary artist-in-residence program that helps students improve literacy through music.

After earning a master's degree in school leadership at Concordia University Chicago, Griffin earned a doctorate in organizational leadership at Argosy University. He was born and raised in Harvey, IL, where he attended elementary school in District 152.

The GRAMMY Foundation award recognizes current music school educators who have made a significant and lasting contribution to the field and who demonstrate a commitment to the broader cause of maintaining music education in schools. Griffin was chosen as a top-25 semifinalist out of 290 quarterfinalists. As a semifinalist, Griffin will receive a \$500 honorarium with matching school grants.

Center for Gerontology to Provide Training to Home Care Aides

The Center for Gerontology has been awarded a \$30,000 contract by Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI). According to the terms of the agreement, the University's Center for Gerontology will work with LSSI to develop and implement a suite of customized resources for aides who deliver home care to older adults.

"The relationship is a win-win for all parties, as LSSI's improved care delivery will enhance its competitiveness in the marketplace relative to other care providers, and the older adults served by LSSI's staff will benefit from improved quality of care," said Dr. John Holton, director of the Center for Gerontology and visiting associate professor of gerontology.

Concordia-Chicago's consultancy with LSSI will be directed by Dr. Holton and Dr. Lydia Manning, associate professor of gerontology.

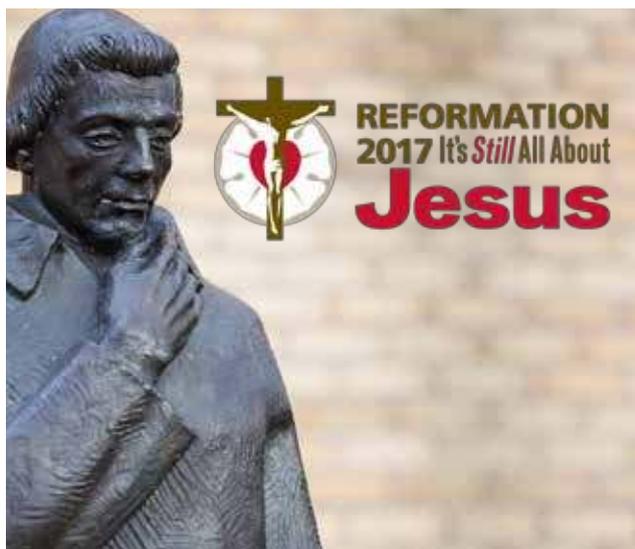
"Care providers who work with older adult populations are empowered to better serve their clients' needs when they adopt a whole-person approach to the individual," said Manning. "We are delighted to embark on this joint project with LSSI that will directly impact the quality of life for older adults in the Chicago area."

-
1. Mike Fumagalli MA '10, a winner of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.
 2. President Gard at the service of thanksgiving commemorating his retirement from the U.S. Navy with, left to right, Rev. Dr. Thomas Korcok, Captain, Canadian Army; Chaplain Raymond Ayers, U.S. Army; Rev. Craig Muehler, U.S. Navy (retired), Director of Ministry to the Armed Forces LCMS; Dr. John Wohlrabe, U.S. Navy (retired), 4th Vice President LCMS; Rev. Timothy Oswald, U.S. Navy (retired), Pastor, Hope Lutheran Church Twin Lakes, WI.

2017 University Events

February 27- April 2	Ferguson Art Gallery Show: Student Art Invitational	April 29	Undergraduate Visit Day
March 3-12	Kapelle & Wind Symphony Spring Tours	April 30	Spring Music Festival
March 17	Wind Symphony Home Concert	May 6	Spring Commencement
March 18	Kapelle Home Concert	June 24	University Band Patriotic Pops Concert
March 20	Reformation 500 – A Scholars’ Symposium	July 14	Undergraduate Visit Day
March 31	University Band Concert	August 20	Opening Service
April 1	Undergraduate Admitted Student Day	September 25- October 1	Homecoming Week
March 31- April 9	The Collective presents “The Fantasticks”	October 28	Reformation 500 – Family Celebration Day
April 9	Chamber Orchestra Concert		
April 10- May 6	Ferguson Art Gallery Show: Graduating Senior Art Show		

For additional details and a full list of University events, visit CUChicago.edu/events.



◀ The Reformation at 500: An Interdenominational Conversation

Contemporary Christian leaders discuss denominational divergence and convergence at this historic mile marker. Featuring Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison - LCMS president, Cardinal Blase J. Cupich of the Archdiocese of Chicago and Rev. Dr. Philip Ryken - President of Wheaton College. Moderator: Many Brachear Pashman - Chicago Tribune religion correspondent. RSVP required.

October 30 at 7:30 p.m.

Location: Chapel of Our Lord

Information: CUChicago.edu/Reformation



◀ Let the Books Tell the Story: J.S. Bach's Bible and Reformation Treasures

This unprecedented opportunity to view Johann Sebastian Bach's personal Bible from 1733 along with a number of authentic 16th-century documents will chart the Reformation's impact through a remarkable presentation of rare books.

Throughout October 2017

Location: Kretzmann Hall

Information: CUChicago.edu/Reformation



College of Business set to offer doctorate

The College of Business at Concordia University Chicago now offers a Doctorate in Business Administration (DBA). The new program was recently approved by the Higher Learning Commission, the regional higher education accrediting organization in 19 Midwest and South-Central states. The College of Business, founded just 10 years ago, now offers a complete program of business studies to its students.

“Our goal is to prepare students to improve the global society they serve through an academically rigorous and relevant business education,” said Dr. Claudia Santin, dean of the College of Business, who spearheaded the development of the degree. “Offering the doctoral program in business administration improves the abilities of our students to handle more complex assignments and attain additional recognition associated with their increased professional capacities. This, in turn, will lead to improved recruitment and greater satisfaction among our faculty and students.”

Like the University’s existing MBA, the DBA has a global focus. Students may select from two specializations: Leadership and Innovation or Healthcare Administration. The program will be delivered both in-person and online. The College currently offers bachelor of science and bachelor of arts degrees in Business Administration in addition to the MBA. Students pursuing the DBA will have a competitive advantage when looking for careers

in consulting, teaching or serving in senior leadership positions within global organizations.

The DBA is unique in that students will have access to a faculty mentor from the beginning of their program of study. The mentor will work with them throughout the program. The goal is to help advance students’ academic and professional goals, research agenda, and to encourage candidate retention and program completion.

Students will attend three residencies to help them develop their research plans, and to give them the opportunity to engage with peers and faculty in their learning community. Residencies are four-day experiences that provide blended learning. The first residency occurs in the first term of the student’s DBA enrollment.

The curriculum was designed by distinguished faculty from the College of Business who have experience working with doctoral business students, and will be chaired by Dr. Gary Robinson. The program launch is scheduled for spring 2017. Full program information is available now at:

Gradschool.CUChicago.edu/academics/doctoral/doctorate-in-business-administration

1. College of Business Dean Dr. Claudia Santin, right, with recent doctoral graduate Jennifer Groh MBA '10, PhD '16.

Five Freshmen Named Presidential Honors Scholars

Full-tuition scholarships to attend Concordia University Chicago are awarded each year through the President's Honors Scholar program. For the 2016-2017 academic year, the program recognized five exceptional freshmen. To qualify, these students had to maintain a 3.75 GPA for no less than six

semesters in high school and earn a composite score of 30 on the ACT, a 1340 on the SAT (Critical Reading and Math) or be designated a National Merit Semi-Finalist. To remain eligible for the University's top academic honor, these scholars will continue to meet rigorous academic standards throughout their time as undergraduates.



BENJAMIN HEINZ

Benjamin Heinz, of Chicago, IL, enjoys studying the role of the hero in fiction, and has found great subjects in *The Avengers* comic books and films. As a group of people with different talents who come together to make the world a better place, these characters have taught Ben that it is OK to have flaws, as long as those struggles don't get in the way of doing what is right.

At Luther North College Prep, Ben participated in drama productions and the improv comedy team, worked on collaborative comic book art and served as assistant head usher and Sunday school teacher

at St. John's Lutheran Church—experience that will prove useful as he pursues an elementary education major.

Ben got an early start on college life by participating in the CUC Premier Advantage program, gaining college credits while still in high school. He also joined the CUC Wind Symphony as a high school senior, when Dr. Richard Fischer from CUC invited Ben to audition for the collegiate group. "In addition to training me musically, being a member of the Wind Symphony has helped me grow spiritually," he says.



BETHANY HOEHNE

Bethany Hoehne, of Livonia, MI, knows that she can be a positive role model to others, even at a young age. "The apostle Paul addresses this in 1 Timothy 4:12, when he says, 'Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity,'" she quotes. Bethany laments that young people are held to low standards for responsibility, and aims to live her life not being bound by those expectations.

At Lutheran High School Westland, Bethany was a devotion

group leader, played varsity basketball, volleyball and soccer all four years, participated in student council, choir and was first chair clarinetist in band.

Bethany doesn't limit herself to learning in a classroom; rather she views everyday life as full of opportunities to learn something new, especially by leading or serving. She hopes to be a secondary education teacher and to continue her passion for basketball by becoming an athletic director and coach.



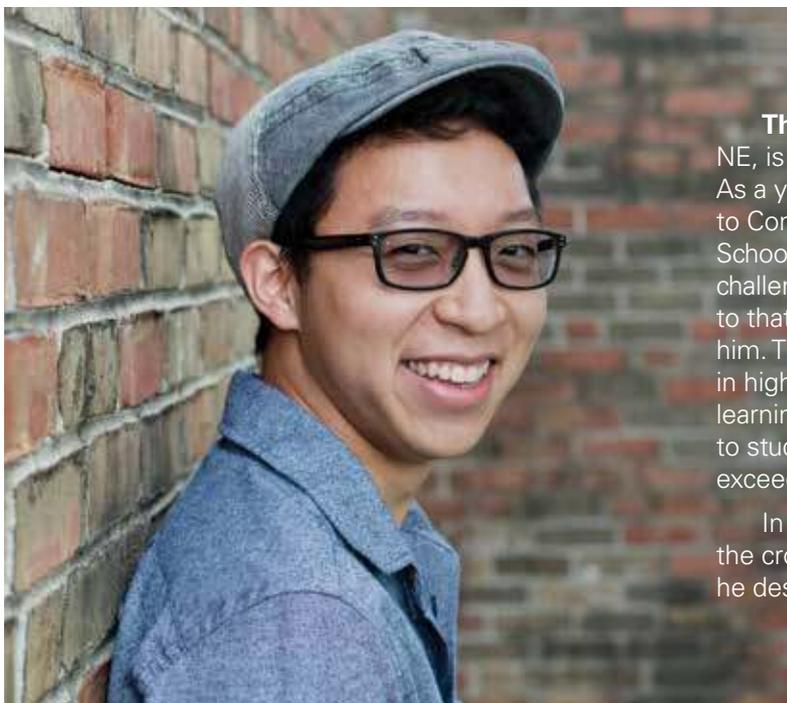
FAITH KORTE

Faith Korte, of Saginaw, MI, knew she wanted to lead a life of service after participating in four mission trips to remote parts of the world during her high school years. "My faith has grown by leaps and bounds since each trip," she says. "God works in mysterious ways. I saw His hand in the work we did during each trip," which included working with villagers in Guatemala and the tundra of Alaska.

Faith was tied for first in her class at Valley Lutheran High School, with a 4.0 GPA. She founded the Global

Awareness Club, a service club where she served on the executive board. Faith also was a euphonium/baritone player in band, participated in Key Club and sang in the music worship team at church.

She looks forward to one day becoming a teacher in a Lutheran school, so she can share the story of God's love with future generations. She draws inspiration from her grandparents, who have taught her that no matter your age, you should always seek out new things to learn.



THOMAS JOHNSON

Thomas Johnson, of Omaha, NE, is a person who doesn't quit. As a young student, he transferred to Concordia Junior/Senior High School where he found himself truly challenged for the first time. Prior to that, schoolwork came easy for him. Through the rigor of academics in high school, Thomas adapted to a learning environment where he had to study and work hard, eventually exceeding a 4.0 cumulative GPA.

In high school, he also joined the cross-country team. Although he describes it as one of the most

difficult activities he took part in, Thomas learned from his parents never to give up on something halfway through, so he persevered. "I gained invaluable friends and learned what it really meant to be pushed to a breaking point," he says. "I definitely benefited from the hardships I faced."

Thomas was also jazz band section leader, an Eagle Scout, served as student council president and started a film club called Concordia Live. He loves music and working with children, and is excited to see where God's plan takes him.



SHELBY SPITZ

Shelby Spitz, of Paxton, IL, was exceptionally active during her four years at Christ Lutheran High School, and hopes to follow that same path in college. She served on the altar guild, as a lay reader, Sunday school assistant and choir member at church, played on the volleyball team, and participated in 4-H, school band, handbell choir and student council.

Going above and beyond expectations is a normal part of life for Shelby, and she seeks out ways to help others do the same.

Scholars, she says, don't hoard their knowledge. Rather, they want others to know the joy of pursuing wisdom and attempt to bring that joy to everyone they meet.

Shelby, a secondary education major, has known she wanted to be a teacher since fifth grade. "In addition to teaching, I believe that God has put it on my heart to be involved in mission work," she says. "Spreading the Gospel has become one of my main goals, and the basis for that goal began in a Lutheran school."

The Reformation @ 500: Concordia-Chicago Celebrates

Rev. Dr. Jeff Leininger has a Ph.D. in Ecclesiastical History from Cambridge University and is the Chair of Concordia University Chicago's Reformation 500 activities. He currently serves as University Pastor and director of the pre-seminary program. Here, he discusses the university's Reformation celebration with CUC's Assistant Vice President for Communications and Marketing.

Eric Matanyi: People throughout the world have begun a year-long celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. Talk to us about some of the activities planned at Concordia-Chicago throughout 2017, since it's such an important year.

Pastor Leininger: Sure. I'd like to start with the Bach Bible, which will be coming to campus, October 2017.

EM: It sounds incredible. So it's actually Johann Sebastian Bach's personal Bible?

PL: Yes. Technically known as the "Calov Bible," it's the very book Bach had in his hands while composing his sacred works. It has his famous monogram (signature) and hand-written notes in it. We're hosting a volume of it courtesy of Concordia Seminary - St. Louis. The discovery of the book has an incredible story, which you can explore further on our website.

EM: I understand that this unique treasure will be featured alongside a number of other rare books on campus as well. What else can visitors expect to see?

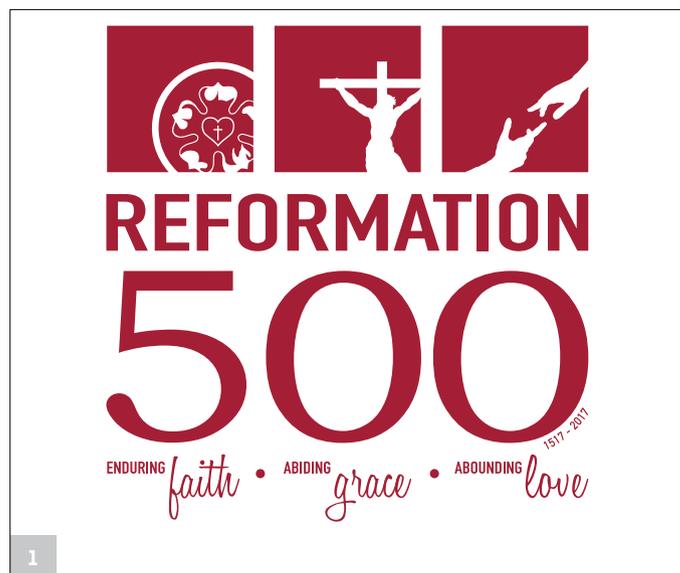
PL: We're really excited about this. A couple dozen Reformation-era rare books will be at Concordia-Chicago throughout October 2017. There will also be some beautiful facsimile editions, but the real attractions will be authentic, 16th-century first editions. The display is called "Let the Books Tell the Story," and it will chart the Reformation legacy through the fields of theology, scripture, education and the fine arts.

EM: Give me a couple of highlights of some of the original pieces we'll have.

PL: A leaf from the Guttenberg Bible. Erasmus' New Testament. The 1531 Augsburg Confession. Some of Luther's famous works. The 1580 Dresden Edition of the Book of Concord. The Geneva Bible—just to name a few.

EM: How did this all come together?

PL: It's a collaboration of several other institutions, including the Newberry Library, Wheaton College,



Concordia Theological Seminary - Ft. Wayne and Concordia Seminary - St. Louis.

EM: When will the exhibition be open to the public?

PL: These treasures will be on display throughout October 2017. We'll have a number of public events related to the items (concerts, lectures, children's programming) but people also will be able to schedule private viewings.

EM: In addition to the Reformation Treasures exhibit, I see we'll be having other scholarly activities at Concordia-Chicago.

PL: On Monday, March 20 at 7 p.m., we're inviting nationally known experts to campus for an informed discussion on the Reformation's impact on religion, history, politics and culture. It will be a remarkable collection of scholars from different backgrounds. They're really going to help us engage in the far-reaching significance of the anniversary year.

EM: Tell me about the Family Celebration Day.

“It’s important that we don’t let this pass us by—it only comes about once every **500 years!**”



PL: This will be the Reformation event for Lutheran schools, congregations and families throughout the region. On Saturday, October 28, hundreds of people will be take part in a day-long celebration. I’m especially excited about all the children’s activities. There will be a massive children’s choir, falconry and armor from the Reformation era, live actors playing different important characters from the period, and a Reformation Walk—an interactive way for kids to learn about the Reformation.

EM: What’s in it for the adults?

PL: There’ll be seminars on topics related to the Lutheran heritage and Lutheran future, a chance to see the rare books, lunch with “Martin Luther,” and a closing festival worship service.

EM: Sounds amazing. There’s one final event I’d like to ask about: I hear that the Archbishop of Chicago is going to be on campus on the eve of Reformation Day.

PL: That’s right. Cardinal Blase Cupich will join President Matthew Harrison of the LCMS, and Dr. Phil Ryken, president of Wheaton College in a principled conversation about denominational divergence and convergence at this historic mile marker. That event will take place on Monday, October 30, at 7:30 p.m.

EM: It sounds like a “where are we at after 500 years” conversation that appeals not only to Lutherans, but to all Christians. What still separates us and what, perhaps, unites us?

PL: That’s it, exactly. The major strands of Christianity emerging from the Reformation controversies will

all be represented. Roman Catholic and Lutheran, of course. But President Ryken is a noted Reformed pastor and scholar, and heads a prestigious evangelical college. We think the conversation is necessary on this momentous occasion, and are pleased that the religion correspondent for the Chicago Tribune, Manya Brachear Pashman, will be moderating the discussion.

EM: Will attendees be able to participate in the discussion?

PL: Yes, they’ll have an opportunity to comment and ask questions after the formal discussion. There will also be a meet-and-greet reception afterwards.

EM: It sounds like the university has planned something for everyone.

PL: It’s a big year for big events. Area congregations, students, community members, scholars, children and families will all find something that is meaningful and impactful to them. It’s important that we don’t let this pass us by—it only comes about once every 500 years!

This interview has been edited for print. View the video conversation in its entirety online at

CUChicago.edu/Reformation.

1. The theme of the Reformation 500 celebrations at CUC: Enduring Faith, Abiding Grace, Abounding Love

2. Rev. Dr. Jeff Leininger, University Pastor, in the Chapel of Our Lord.

From Chi-Town to La-La Land:

Christ through Listening, Immersing, Neighboring and Collaborating

BY: **REV. TODD NIEBLING BA '02**, Guest Columnist

Though the skyscrapers of Chicago and the palm tree-lined streets of Los Angeles may seem a world apart, they are closer than they appear for Rev. Dominic Rivkin BA '02. His journey between these two cities could have only had Concordia-Chicago as a catalyst, leading Rivkin to what he does today as the founder and Executive Director of LINC-Los Angeles, a faith-based incubator for local leaders starting new ministries, churches and businesses.

As a young man, Rivkin had become discouraged by the church he grew up in. By the time he was 13, he had left the church altogether, never to darken the door of a sanctuary until he met his wife, Cassie. She convinced him to start attending her home congregation, Trinity Lutheran Church in Roselle, IL. Through her steadfast witness and the teaching, preaching and patience of the people of Trinity, Rivkin's heart was ignited. He had finally heard the Gospel that he'd always hoped was true. Hearing of God's boundless love and care for everyone, including those on the margins, was a breath of fresh air.

As a young father with a promising and lucrative career with Siemens, Rivkin traveled the world and climbed the corporate ladder. "In the fall of 2001, I needed to finish up a degree in communications for Siemens, and I started looking for schools in Chicago," he says. "I landed at Concordia-Chicago because of the university's strong Communications department, small classroom size and connection to the church."

Just weeks into his first semester, the September 11 terrorist attacks happened. As the Twin Towers fell and a nation wept, something powerful happened on the CUC campus. Not only were students crowding around the public TVs trying to get the latest news, they were also crowded together in prayer, asking God for help, wisdom, peace, comfort and protection. As the heartbreaking events unfolded, he found his soul stirred as the faculty and staff at Concordia-Chicago engaged the hurt and sadness of the students. This was the church engaging culture in a way that encouraged him just as much as his first days at Trinity Roselle. What began as a day of national tragedy ended with the Holy Spirit stirring a new calling for Rivkin. After graduation, he went on to attend Concordia Seminary in St. Louis and then began his journey to the west coast.

His time in Southern California began in 2005 when he planted a church in Temecula, CA, about 80 miles outside Los Angeles. While he loved that congregation, the Lord was calling him toward the city. In 2014, he set out on a new adventure in Los Angeles to continue engaging culture



with the Gospel. In LA alone, a city of over 4 million people, there are only 800-900 members of LCMS congregations. Numerous churches struggle to stay alive with their aging and shrinking communities. The harvest is truly plentiful, but the workers are few.

Rivkin had a seemingly insurmountable task ahead of him, but, as in the past, could not be deterred. "My goal is to impact the community with Christ through Listening, Immersing, Neighboring and Collaborating (LINC)," he says. "To achieve this goal, we are committed to forming partnerships that creatively discover unique solutions that best proclaim peace, justice and equity of our God in Jesus and improve lives in the diverse communities of LA."



This approach helps especially because LA is a city of transients, where a neighborhood can change ethnically from Japanese, to Anglo, to African-American, to Mexican all in the blink of an eye. Languages and incomes can vary from block to block, leaving a church unsure of how to connect with its culture—that is where LINC helps. They work to put ministry back into the hands of the local people. "Most of my day is spent one-on-one coaching and mentoring local leaders," notes Rivkin. "They're already doing amazing things that God has put upon their heart and I simply give them a voice for it."

With its urban environment, engaging culture and opportunities to serve those in need, CUC proved to be the key element leading to Rivkin's work in LA's underserved communities. "Concordia-Chicago has an immersed urban culture where the students are forced to respond," he says. "When you do, you learn. There is no other educational experience like it."

The task that LINC has is monumental. People from every nation and every social class exist in the City of Angels, yet Rivkin knows exactly where to go. He likes to say, "I go where nobody else is paying attention." In a city full of movie stars, musicians, immigrants, homeless people, teachers, gangs, stay-at-home moms and everything in between, Rivkin spends his days seeking out those who are overlooked, and he has a heart for each of them. This is his version of the church engaging the culture that he experienced at Concordia University Chicago. From Compton to Beverly Hills, LINC raises up grassroots ministry efforts with local leaders to bring the love of Jesus to Los Angeles. So far, churches have been replanted, new starts have arisen, old congregations have received a breath of new life, and the Lutheran church in LA is bringing light into neighborhoods and homes.

To learn more about LINC-Los Angeles visit lincla.org.



1. LINC participated in the renovation of Hope L.A., a replanted church in the West Adams neighborhood of South Los Angeles.
2. Rev. Dominic Rivkin and his wife Cassie Rivkin. Cassie is a representative for Thrivent Financial, heavily involved with nonprofits such as Habitat for Humanity, Covenant House and Two Wings.
3. At the Labor of Love concert, multiple congregations from diverse areas of the city came together to celebrate Christ's work in music and spoken word.
4. The Intentional Discipleship Community, Culver House, connects young people chasing their dreams in the entertainment industry with Christ.
5. A LINC Christmas party for local seniors in Inglewood, Los Angeles.



Alumna Inspires Kindness Across Generations

“In some families, tradition means preparing a special recipe...In other families, tradition means a trip to Wrigley Field every spring...In the Kloess family, tradition means a Concordia education and a calling to teach in Lutheran schools.”

– Sue (Backsmeier) Kloess BA '79, MA '07

The Kloess family was featured in the winter 2008 edition of the *Forester* to highlight their legacy and the achievements of their daughter, **Katie L. Kloess BA '09, MA '11**, at Concordia University Chicago. No one foretold the lasting effect the article would reflect.

The Concordia-Chicago community was shaken when Katie was called to heaven on December 15, 2016. She was killed while driving to coach her 7th & 8th grade basketball team from Zion Lutheran School in Marengo, IL.

Katie's Christian Faith was her life, love and light. It carried her to a heavenly homecoming, spilled into every aspect of her life, and shone in her and through her. Known for her silly personality, Katie uniquely celebrated individuality in her classmates and students. University Pastor Jeff Leininger remembered, “You couldn't stick Katie in a clique and keep her there.”

In and out of the classroom Katie strove for excellence. Her activities included volleyball and track & field, FCA, CYM, and sports editor of *The Spectator*. Katie graduated cum laude earning the A.W.Gross Scholar-Athlete Award. Integrity was key in Katie's role as residence hall assistant in Mary-Martha Hall. She also carried this value as track & field graduate assistant. Katie was honored for her goodwill with the Terry-Schubert Christian Service Award.

One significant investor was inspired by Katie's life story. He said, “Katie symbolizes all the best of Concordia. A champion for CUC, she was also a champion for Jesus bringing all the good that He provides for us, all without a price tag.”

With the blessing of her parents, **Sue (Backsmeier) BA '79, MA '07** and **Gary Kloess BA '75, MA '83**, and sisters **Katrina BA '05** and **Kristin BA '05, MA '10**, this anonymous donor will honor Katie in CUC's newest residence hall.



The space linking Trusheim Hall and the new hall will be named the “Victory Lounge.” It will serve every student, resident or commuter, symbolizing Katie's gift to include friends and strangers alike. The lounge will reflect the hope that is our Victory in Jesus Christ, just as it was for Katie.

Additionally, the Katie L. Kloess Memorial Scholarship will provide a \$1,500 scholarship for a student who, like Katie, exemplifies the Concordia experience. More than \$6,300 has already been given funding the first scholarship. The goal will be to raise at least \$30,000 to endow the scholarship and, as more is given, to add additional scholarships in the future.

“Our family is extremely honored that Katie is being recognized in these very special ways,” said Kristin Kloess, “Even in our deep sadness we rejoice in the true Victory we have in Christ! As Concordia did for us, we pray future students would be molded into the willing servants God has designed us to be.”

Friends and family are working with Concordia-Chicago to honor Katie's impact. For more information, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations at Alumni@CUChicago.edu or 888-258-6773.

1. Katie Kloess BA '09, MA '11 coaching her team at Zion Lutheran School in Marengo, IL.

2. Early architectural rendering of the Victory Lounge that links Trusheim Hall to the new residence hall.



New Aging Research Shows Positive Effect of Performing Arts

BY: **ANNA SEIFERT**, Communications Associate

In the summer of 2015, Dr. Rekha S. Rajan, visiting associate professor of research, received a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) to study the effects of passive arts participation—such as attending a concert, play or musical—on cognitive decline in older adults. The study was conducted in collaboration with Dr. Kumar Bharat Rajan, associate professor of internal medicine at Rush University Medical Center, Dr. Denis Evans of Rush University Medical Center, and Dr. Lydia Manning, associate professor of gerontology at Concordia University Chicago. Their first year of results, soon to be published in the *Journal of Aging and Health*, show a positive association between attending live performing arts and slower cognitive decline.

“The idea that older adults can go see concerts, plays or musicals, and have a chance of slowing their cognitive decline later, is really exciting,” said Dr. Rekha Rajan, whose background includes a doctorate in music education from Teachers College, Columbia University. “To support healthy aging practices, we argue for making the arts more accessible to older populations, who maybe cannot travel because of physical limitations.”

The study analyzes existing data of 5,567 older adults from the Chicago Health and Aging Project (CHAP), a longitudinal study of African-American and white American adults over age 65. Adults in the study were asked how often they attended a live performance, and then were tested on

“The idea that older adults can go see concerts, plays or musicals, and have a chance of slowing their cognitive decline later, is really exciting.

memory recall, perceptual speed and global cognition. The results showed that frequent performance attendance was associated with slower cognitive decline in composite cognitive function.

“The original CHAP study was about 20 years long, and the average follow up was about 10 years, so it was a large longitudinal study,” said Dr. Kumar Rajan, adding that their findings were more global than expected, showing no differences along racial or ethnic lines.

The \$10,000 award received from the NEA is the largest award available for research of this type, and was matched by Concordia University Chicago at the \$10,000 level. Funding continues through 2017.

The researchers plan to set up a hypothesis that can be tested further, so that their findings about performing arts attendance and aging can be used in translational research to perform clinical trials or intervention studies in the future. In year two of this project, they plan to investigate how attending a live performing arts event may be associated with blood pressure and cognitive decline.

1. The researchers and CUC leaders meet with Jane Chu, third from right, chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, at the announcement of the grant in summer 2015.

First Graduates of Resurrection University & CUC Joint Nursing Degree Program

BY: ANNA SEIFERT, Communications Associate

Alek Aguilos hadn't initially considered a career in health care. He enrolled at Concordia University Chicago with the intention of one day becoming a police officer. Aguilos got involved on campus by playing intramural sports during his first two years, and working part time in the Public Safety Department. While glad for the experience, he learned that police work wasn't a career he wanted to pursue after all.



Pictured left to right:
Dan Joseph Gepolio, Raphaela Sacramento & Alek Aguilos

It was his mother who recommended a surprisingly familiar career path. “She is a long-time nurse, and suggested that I consider a degree in nursing. I still remember, when I was young, she would sometimes take me along to her home visits,” says Aguilos, an August 2016 nursing program graduate. “While nursing was sort of my ‘Plan B,’ it became something that I am now passionate about.”

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the need for quality health care professionals is growing due to increased rates of chronic conditions and an aging, but active, baby-boomer population. To help meet that need, Concordia University Chicago is preparing students for a future in that evolving field. In partnership with Resurrection University (ResU) in Chicago, CUC offers degree programs in nursing, and health informatics & information management. The first students to graduate with a joint nursing degree successfully completed their program of study in 2016 and are now embarking on their careers as nurses.

Students who are enrolled in the program spend their first two years at Concordia-Chicago, immersed in pre-professional and general education courses. After applying and being accepted, they complete their final two years at ResU, located within Presence Saint Elizabeth Hospital in Chicago’s trendy Wicker Park neighborhood. The facilities at ResU provide state-of-the-art classrooms and advanced patient simulators, allowing students to practice necessary nursing skills before applying them to patients in clinical settings.

Raphaella Sacramento, a December 2016 graduate, is originally from Tracy, CA. “The best part of the program was being able to be a part of both campuses,” she notes. “Since I am from out of state, this program made it easy for me to adjust to the new living environment.” Sacramento lived on campus at CUC and had a job as a student worker while taking her classes at ResU.

When Dan Joseph Gepolio graduated in December 2016, he, like his classmate Alek, was proud to follow his mother’s footsteps into the nursing profession. “I had always felt that it was too challenging of a field,” he recalls. “But my mom and dad sacrificed so much for me. If they could do that, then I decided anything was possible. I now know that nursing is one of the most rewarding and humbling careers.”

The desire to help others and to learn while serving is what led Sacramento to nursing. “What made me interested in the nursing profession was the kind of service I can provide for people,” she says. “Nursing is all about serving as an advocate for the patient as well as being responsible, compassionate and caring.”

“Whether it’s holding a patient’s hand while they are in pain, teaching a newborn’s parents how to swaddle their baby, or stabilizing critical patients, I really enjoy knowing



A common sentiment heard from nursing students is that getting through their program and training is tough—but ultimately worth it.



that I was able to touch so many different lives, even while still a student,” Aguilos reflects.

A common sentiment heard from nursing students is that getting through their program and training is tough—but ultimately worth it.

“The program was difficult, but I feel that if you are committed and determined to reach your goals, then nothing is impossible,” says Gepolio. “You get a sense of adulthood—many of your classmates already have degrees or are in their second career. You learn to manage your time, your money and your goals better.”

“I believe that going through a nursing program is tough wherever you go,” says Aguilos. “However, I made some good friends and met amazing people along the way who inspired, motivated and pushed me past my own limits.”

Once Sacramento gets licensed as a registered nurse, she hopes to find a job back in California. “The dual degree nursing program provided a lot of opportunities to help me with my career. Being a part of two universities, I had double the amount of resources I could go to for help,” she adds.





5

Gepolio is grateful for the real-world connections he has made. “I’ve been able to meet many people who have my best interests in mind and want me to be successful in my career. I actually met hospital staff and teachers who added me as a Facebook friend. They’re so supportive and happy to be in my corner throughout my journey,” Gepolio says.

Aguilos was able to find employment as a neuro/telemetry nurse at Presence Resurrection Medical Center within three months of graduation. “I feel that the entire program has prepared me so well for my career,” he notes. “It has equipped me for situations you can’t find in a textbook.”

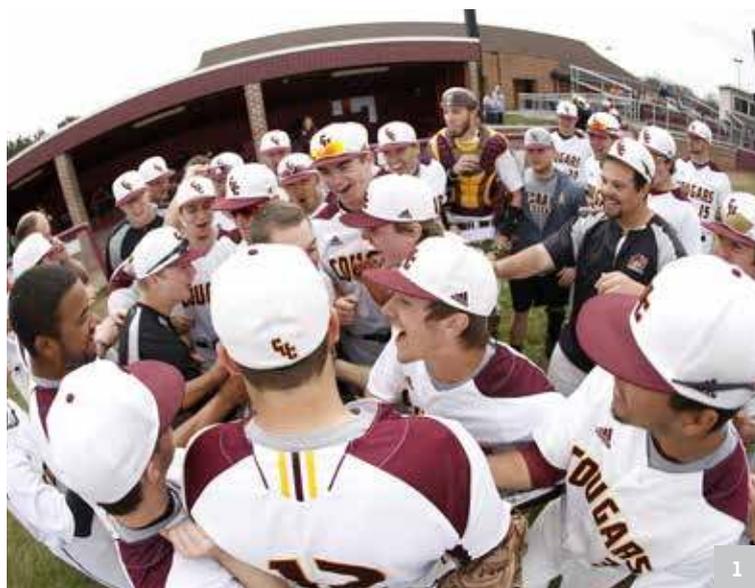
Attending classes at both universities, located within a few miles of each other, proved to be an advantage to all three students. “I got to make lifelong friendships from people at both schools,” says Sacramento. “Concordia-Chicago’s great location was close to hospitals where I did clinical rotations, and also allowed me to explore the beautiful city of Chicago. I was challenged academically and I succeeded in this nursing program.”

“The best part of the program was meeting people I’ll never forget,” says Gepolio. “I can say that Alek and Raphaela will always be friends of mine in the future. I definitely enjoyed my experience, because you surround yourself with people who have similar goals—everyone wants to serve those who are sick and in need.”

Knowing that a nurse’s day-to-day work is unpredictable, these students are ready to continue learning and growing even after graduation, an attitude that was fostered by professors and staff at both universities. “I have had very passionate instructors and great experiences both clinically and academically,” Aguilos adds. “Overall, my college experience was incredible.”

-
1. Students work in the SIM lab at Resurrection University.
 2. The advanced patient simulator mannequins can display neurological and physiological symptoms, creating realistic scenarios for nurses in training.
 3. Gepolio, of Chicago, IL, says being a part of smaller schools like ResU and Concordia-Chicago made him feel more at home.
 4. Aguilos, also of Chicago, enjoyed being able to make a difference in patients’ lives, even while still a student.
 5. Sacramento appreciated not only the convenient location of CUC and ResU, but also the strong friendships she made at both schools.

NEW Initiatives, NEW Construction, NEW Opportunities: Foundation Update



\$1,000,000 Challenge Gift to Launch Athletic Initiative

The Foundation is excited to announce that an anonymous donor has made a challenge commitment to help launch the University's Athletic Initiative.

As CUC develops significant initiatives for the future, a distinct focus has been centered on its Athletics and related Applied Sciences. Expanded degrees and new programs are developing, including occupational therapy, physical therapy, sports management/medicine and gerontology. This will necessitate expanded physical training facilities, improved athletic fields, remodeled locker rooms and more.

Forty percent of Concordia University Chicago undergraduate students are involved in an intercollegiate sport. Expansion of these programs will improve student experiences and increase University enrollment.

New Residence Hall

As you can see by the photos on page 24, progress continues on the new residence hall. In late December 2016, foundation work was completed. The link connecting Mary Martha and the new residence hall is under way. Work inside Mary Martha is continuing through the winter to prepare mechanical connections for the new residence hall. The project is on schedule. Pending good weather in March, the pre-cast concrete structure will begin to be assembled.

Please visit our website at CUChicago.edu/support/new-residence-hall/construction-webcam to view progress via a live construction cam. Contact Vice President Sandra Nelson, CFRE, at Sandra.Nelson@CUChicago.edu for residential hall investment opportunities.

New Annual Giving Campaign

Concordia University Chicago has many reasons to celebrate, including our wonderful donors, students, faculty, staff and all of the amazing programs happening on and off campus. A new residence hall is under construction and new degrees in business, education and applied sciences are developing. Students from around the globe are taking notice of what Concordia-Chicago has to offer based on our solid foundation of arts and sciences, education, music and church work programs. Our Gerontology, Literacy and Christian Early Childhood Education initiatives are all blazing new paths for the future.

Thanks to our many generous donors, the University's major initiatives continue to grow. Thanks to our recent CUCelebrates campaign, additional funds are now available.

CUCel♥brates!
Concordia University Chicago's
New Annual Giving Campaign



Scholarships

Enrollment at Concordia-Chicago is the highest it has ever been. New applications for the Fall semester are outpacing last year's. The Foundation continues to work with individuals who are establishing endowed funds to meet the scholarship needs of present and potential students. Donor interests include: Music, Art, Church Professionals, Applied Sciences, Computer Science, Business, Athletics and others. If you would like to know more on how you can begin to build a Legacy Fund, please visit CUChicago.edu/Support.

7th International Ageing and Spirituality Conference

The 7th International Conference on Ageing and Spirituality is June 4-7 at Concordia University Chicago. This conference will serve as an incubator at CUC for research and develop best practices in the field, fostering new partnerships among academic institutions, health professionals, congregations and caregivers. The University's Center for Gerontology, a leader in aging and spirituality, offers a Gerontology Certificate Program; a M.A. in Gerontology; and an Ed.D. and Ph.D. in Leadership and Gerontology, among other community-based programs. The Center strives to make a difference in the lives of older adults and their families through faith-based research and education.

The topic of spirituality and aging is of vital importance to our communities and in our everyday lives, especially as the number of Americans age 65 and older is projected to nearly double by 2050. This population shift profoundly impacts our nation's economic and health care landscapes as well as the makeup of our congregations and communities.



By bringing together a diverse audience of gerontology professionals, academics, policymakers, caregivers and church representatives, this international gathering will explore how aging presents opportunities for us to navigate life's journey. This year's theme, Transition and Transcendence: Transforming Aging through Spirituality, will explore how the experience of aging and our understanding of it can be transformed.

Please contact Vice President Sandra Nelson, CFRE, at Sandra.Nelson@CUChicago.edu for conference patron and sponsorship opportunities.

-
1. The Athletic Initiative will expand new programs, enhance physical training facilities and improve athletic fields.
 2. CUC's class of 2020 gathers at the Pillars in Fall 2016. Total university enrollment is the highest it has ever been.



NEW RESIDENCE HALL COMING FALL 2017

CUChicago.edu/NewResidenceHall



CUCel♥brates!

Concordia University Chicago's
New Annual Giving Campaign



The Celebration Continues

Make a gift today to the CUC program or initiative you love!

CUChicago.edu/CUCelebrates

Scholarship/Academics

Residence Halls

Church Work

Applied Sciences

Athletics

Fine/Performing Arts

Where Needed Most



Please visit the website for all opportunities.

CUChicago.edu/CUCelebrates



Closing the Gap:

Concordia-Chicago Researcher Takes on Education Funding in Illinois

BY: **MARTINA REESE**, Marketing and Communications Director, Graduate and Innovative Programs

Concordia University Chicago associate professor Dr. Michelle Turner Mangan is currently in the spotlight for her leadership role in developing the Evidence-Based Model for School Finance Adequacy in Illinois. That model is currently a front-runner among several approaches being considered by Illinois Governor Bruce Rauner's Commission on Illinois School Funding Reform. State leaders, under mounting pressure to address the school funding crisis, are eager to replace Illinois' outdated funding system.

While it's generally agreed that the current amount spent per Illinois student is inadequate, policy-makers have failed to agree on an accepted framework for setting a more appropriate figure. Education experts champion evidence-based models because they identify the resources essential to student success based on the demographics of individual school districts.

Mangan, chair of the Concordia-Chicago Department of Research, has been involved in education funding research for more than a decade. Her expertise and ability to gather change agents around the table have made Mangan a widely respected authority in the ongoing debate about how to implement meaningful reform in education funding policy.

While state gridlock continues to impede progress on education funding and other issues, Mangan is helping to propel movement in legislative and judicial arenas, and her initiative has not gone unnoticed. WTTW-Channel 11, Chicago's PBS affiliate, featured Mangan's work with the Illinois legislature on its highly rated news program *Chicago Tonight*. The resulting segment can be viewed online at chicagotonight.wttw.com/2016/09/21/education-funding-illinois-how-evidence-based-model-works.

Diagnosing Illinois' Current Model

Mangan sees an uptick in engagement with the issue among state legislators that may open the way to real progress. "Governor Rauner came into office wanting to address the education issue," she reports. "And bills are being put forward in the legislature, causing revived interest."

Few dispute that the system now in place is broken. The current funding system for public education is a relic of the era before public education became a constitutionally mandated responsibility of the state, when education was delivered by a patchwork of churches and communities. Mangan explains, "States fit something over what was already there, which is how we came up with local property taxes as a means to support education. Any way you cut it, that's not an equitable way to fund education."

The evidence-based model advocated by Mangan and other education experts calls for an approximate average of per-capita funding of \$14,000, more than two times the \$6,000 currently being appropriated in Illinois. The figure is derived by calculating school size, then determining the number of administrators, core teachers and specialist teachers needed to operate with class sizes known to promote student success. Other programs and services factored into the per-capita funding equation include tutoring, extended school days, academic summer school, teacher training and in-school professional development.

A Prescription for Reform

Given the seemingly intractable state budget crisis, Mangan is accustomed to fielding the inevitable question, how can we afford to pay for better education?

"We need tax reform to go along with changes in education financing," she explains. Her prescription for reform is multi-pronged, addressing defects in a tax policy that has been largely unchanged since the 1970s. "The current system is overly reliant on property taxes," says Mangan, who hopes for a new spirit of compromise in Springfield, the state capital. "The anti-tax perspective has become overly politicized."

According to Mangan, the current tax system is out of touch with economic changes that have swept across the U.S. "In recent decades, the manufacturing sector has declined while the service sector has grown dramatically," she reflects. "And yet, as tax revenues from manufacturing have shrunk, we have not sufficiently turned to the service sector as the tax base it should properly be."

Equity, fairness and inclusion are not the only issues at stake. Mangan observes that it is easy to underestimate the high cost of neglecting the education of Illinois' youth. "Even if you only care about money, there's good reason to fix our broken system," she says. "There's a vast amount of money that could be going into the economy



that doesn't, because some people aren't getting the education they deserve."

Training Tomorrow's Leaders

As a finance expert, Mangan recognizes the need for education administrators to fully understand related funding principles. To help meet that need, Concordia-Chicago and the Illinois Association of School Business Officials (IASBO) have partnered to provide school business officials an opportunity to earn both their superintendent endorsement and doctorate in educational administration. It is anticipated that these candidates' dissertation research will make a significant contribution to school finance in the state of Illinois.

"We are training principals, teachers and school business officials to make decisions based on research," notes Mangan. "They need to be knowledgeable about how you allocate resources in an adequate way."

The University's program leaders maintain contact with the Illinois State Board of Education to ascertain which issues are of highest priority for state education policymakers. Provided with suggested research topics that are aligned with actual administrative needs, Concordia-Chicago graduate students are equipped to undertake research that can be applied toward real improvements in the delivery of education.

Looking ahead, Mangan aspires to work with colleague Dr. Craig Schilling, associate professor of leadership, to establish a Center for School Finance at Concordia-Chicago. "It's a big need, and Concordia-Chicago is well positioned with the talent and resources to make it happen," she observes.

"This is a very exciting time, not only for school finance nerds, but for the K-12 students in our state who could benefit from this reform."

1. Mangan speaks at an Illinois state education funding commission meeting in December 2016.

2. Mangan with her students. "We are training principals, teachers and school business officials to make decisions based on research."

There's No Place Like CUC

for New Assistant Athletic Director

BY: **JIM EGAN BA '82**, Sports Information Director

There are at least two schools of thought about home—one comes from a Thomas Wolfe book title: “You can’t go home again,” and the second from the *Wizard of Oz*: “There’s no place like home.” At least one individual at Concordia University Chicago would be found leaning toward the latter point of view. Janet Wolbert BA '96 has returned to her alma mater as CUC’s Assistant Athletic Director, Senior Woman Administrator and Director of Compliance.

“Coming back to Concordia-Chicago in this role was never something I imagined as a student,” admitted Wolbert. “If I ever returned to River Forest, I envisioned it perhaps as a math professor. It’s funny how life goes.”

Wolbert experienced, first-hand, the life of a student-athlete, lettering in women’s basketball for four seasons (98 games). At 6’4”, Wolbert’s rebounding and shot-blocking abilities were keys for those young Cougar teams led by coaches Janet Fisher BA '76 and Tom Faszholz. Both were influential in more than Wolbert’s education on the Xs and Os of basketball. “They would push me to become more than what I was,” remembered Wolbert. “I can do more and accomplish more, and there’s no such thing as having already reached your full potential.”

Graduating with a major in education/math and a minor in exercise science, Wolbert’s first two jobs, at Bethany Lutheran in Houston, TX and Oak Ridge High School in Orlando, FL, allowed her to combine both fields as she taught math and coached basketball. Her proficiency in teaching was noted as she earned a Regional Teacher of the Year honor in 2004. That same year, Wolbert relocated to Freedom



High School in Orlando where, along with continuing to teach and coach, she added the role of assistant athletic director. This sparked an interest in Wolbert that eventually led her to pursue a Master of Business Administration at Rollins College in Winter Park, FL. “The opportunity to glimpse what helping student-athletes from this perspective was all about, I felt that I could make more of an impact,” said Wolbert.

As she finished her MBA in 2008, she began to gain experience on the administrative side, first as an intern with Rollins College and later as assistant athletic director at Ocoee High School and athletic director at University High School, both in Orlando. Wolbert was still at University High when she heard, via friend and former classmate Kathy (Krohe) Gebhardt BA '96, about the open position at Concordia-Chicago.

“At some point, I was looking to take on an administrative role at the college level, and the timing of this opening at CUC was perfect.” Wolbert applied for the position, and the rest, as they say, is history. She began her duties at CUC in August 2016, one week before CUC student-athletes



1. Wolbert, back row center, in a team photo from the 1994-95 season.
2. Wolbert returned to Concordia-Chicago as Assistant Athletic Director, Senior Woman Administrator and Director of Compliance in August 2016.
3. Cougar women’s basketball team in the 1995-96 season, Wolbert’s senior year.



3

began returning to campus for the fall season. She quickly became involved in many different aspects of the CUC Athletics Department.

Although Wolbert had returned to campus a few times since 1996, coming back on a regular basis impressed upon her a few important changes. “Back when I was a student, Concordia-Chicago was still very much thought of as a school mostly for teachers and church workers. Now that CUC has become a liberal arts school, many things have changed. There is a much more diverse student body with more career options and more exposure to those opportunities.”

Wolbert also notes that “athletics has taken on a more important role at Concordia-Chicago over the years, and it’s fantastic to see how student-athletes have affected the enrollment here for the better, to the point where others outside of athletics can see the value of a well-run athletics department to a university. That’s why I’m happy to be back here and help be a part of that.”

Of course, not everything about being back on campus has changed for Wolbert. Along with a few familiar faces and landmarks

“

Now that CUC has become a liberal arts school, many things have changed. There is a much more diverse student body with more career options and more exposure to those opportunities.

(the latter sometimes causing her a feeling of déjà vu), there is the sense of closeness within the CUC community. “Going back to my college days here and then moving through my professional career, building relationships has been a common theme. Being able to communicate with our student-athletes daily has been a very important part of the job, whether it’s about their role on their team, an issue with a class or even a personal problem. I want them to know that I’m here to help them be successful.”

Concordia-Chicago athletics director Pete Gnan adds, “Janet’s passion and enthusiasm for Cougar athletics has been special to see, and I think a big part of that has been

seeing the comfort level she has established with many of our student-athletes. Her previous experience has prepared her very well for this, and being back on campus has made it extra special.”

Twenty years after she left Concordia-Chicago to begin her professional journey, Wolbert is back in familiar surroundings. She remembers the lessons learned from Faszholz, Fisher and other professors—along with some motherly advice: “Mom would remind me of the Bible passage that says God won’t give you more than you can handle. You will have hard things thrown at you, but there is always an opportunity to learn and grow from them.”

Faculty/Staff News

As part of her sabbatical project while living in Slovakia, **Dr. Debra Arfsten**, professor of Christian education, along with Dr. Adrian Kacian of the University of Zilina, compiled and edited "Current Challenges and Perspectives of Confirmation in Lutheran Churches in Slovakia and the USA." The book's chapters were written by four Slovak authors and four American authors, including Arfsten.

Dr. Kevin Borchers, assistant professor of Christian education, presented "Who are these kids? A look at Generation Z" at the Best Practices for Ministry Conference in Carmel, IN.

William Ewald, associate professor emeritus of business management and accounting, presented "Lutheran Schools During World War I: Traitors or Patriots?" at the Lutheran Education Association (LEA) Convocation in Grand Rapids, MI.

Dr. Richard Fischer, distinguished professor of music, conducted the LCMS Youth Gathering Wind Symphony for the closing service at the Superdome in New Orleans. He chose 55 high school students from LCMS churches across the nation to participate. Fischer also presented "Completing the Circle in the Music Classroom & Rehearsal Hall" at the LEA Convocation in Grand Rapids, MI.

Dr. Victor Govindaswamy, associate professor of computer science, was the keynote and closing ceremony speaker at the Conference in Information Science in Cochin, Kerala, India. Govindaswamy was also nominated for the Hind Rattan ("Jewel of India") Award, one of the highest awards granted annually to non-resident persons of Indian origin for outstanding services, achievements and contributions to their respective field.



Dr. Christian Hauser, associate professor of music, presented "Mind, Music & Ministry" at both the LEA Convocation in Grand Rapids, MI and at Lectures in Church Music at Concordia University Chicago. He also presented "Psychology of Music" at Oak Park District 97 in-service teacher training.

Debra Herman, professor of art, presented "Artists and Their Art: Sharing Visual Stories," an online art history resource for grades 1-8, at the LCMS Florida/Georgia District Educators Conference in Orlando, FL. The free, online art history resource is available at CUChicago.edu/artlessons.



Dr. Kathryn Hollywood, professor of leadership, was reappointed to the Editorial Advisory Board of the *Journal of Leadership Education*—the publication of the Association of Leadership Educators—for another two-year term. She was also elected to the Advisory Board of the International Mentoring Association.

Dr. Jamie Kowalczyk, assistant professor of curriculum & instruction, published "Homo pontem: Teachers as bridges to a multicultural Italy" in *Paedagogica Historica*, the International Journal of the History of Education.

Dr. Amanda Mulcahy, director of academic research, presented "Assessing Research Climate and Improving Scholarly Productivity at a Growing University" at the Association of Lutheran College Faculties Annual Meeting in Mequon, WI, as well as at the Midwest Educational Research Association Annual Meeting in Evanston, IL.

Joy Mullaney, assistant professor of education, and **Melissa Smith**, assistant professor and coordinator of early childhood education, presented "Academic Language in Lesson Planning" at Bethany Lutheran Church & School in Naperville, IL. Mullaney also presented "Professional Learning Communities" at St. Peter Lutheran Church & School in Arlington Heights, IL.

Dr. Ardelle Pate, associate professor of instructional design and technology, presented "Technology Tips for Infusing Lutheran Identity into an Online Academic Course" to the Association of Lutheran Faculties at Concordia University



Wisconsin, and presented "Considering the Ethics and Feedback of Emerging Technologies" at Supporting Learning and Technology and Education (SLATE) in Naperville, IL.

Dr. Barbara J. Phillips, professor of leadership, and **Dr. Paul Sims**, associate professor of educational leadership, presented "Learning targets that result in increased student engagement" at the Joliet Diocese Catholic Schools Institute.

William Pierros, assistant professor of political science, received a professional nomination to attend The Council on Foreign Relations "College and University Workshop" in New York, NY, to consult on their "Model Diplomacy" curriculum for undergraduate and graduate students. While there, he was invited to role-play a cabinet member in a National Security Council decision-making simulation led by Dr. Stephen Sestanovich, former ambassador-at-large to the Soviet Union.

Dr. Claudia Santin, dean of the College of Business, and **Elisabeth Dellegrazie**, assistant professor of marketing, co-presented "The Internationalization of Higher Education" at the juried proceedings of the Symposium on International Human Capital Management at Hebei University of Economics and Business (HUEB) in Shijiazhuang, China. While there, Dellegrazie also presented "Internationalizing a University Campus," and Santin presented "How to Facilitate Learning for International Business Students" and "Creativity as a Catalyst for Innovation."

Dr. Daniel Tomal, distinguished professor of leadership, published "Leadership Caveat Dispositions: 10 Negative Characteristics of School Leaders and Approaches to Resolution" in the *Lutheran Education Journal*. He was also elected to continue on the Editorial Committee for the *American Technical Education Association Journal*.

Athletics Hall of Fame Celebrates Cougars' Tradition, Pride and Excellence

BY: **PAIGE CRAIG BA '99, MBA '14**, Director of Alumni Relations

Each year, the Athletics Department and Office of Alumni Relations partner to celebrate the tradition, pride and excellence of Cougar alumni athletes. Events like the Concordia Invitational Tournament and the Celebration of 50 Years of Women's Athletics (2009) allow alumni to relive great moments in CUC athletics' history and recognize individuals that helped make those achievements possible.

The Athletics Hall of Fame has become one tradition for celebrating such accomplishments. Established in 2002, this annual gathering honors athletes, coaches and the supporters that have made significant contributions to the school's athletic legacy. Two individuals were inducted as part of Homecoming 2016 (see sidebar), bringing the total number of inductees to 93 from various sports and generations.

According to Keith Peterson BA '75, Director of Athletic Development at the time of the Hall of Fame's formation, the seeds for the Athletic Hall of Fame were planted as early as 1988. "I remember Bob Preloger BA '74, former admissions director, and I talking about (the idea). We believed it was proper to highlight the athletes that contributed to Concordia-Chicago's history and (creating the Hall of Fame) was something that needed to be done."

To begin the process, a Board of Champions was formed as the original oversight committee. Paul Bahr BA '73, Chick Lillis BA '77 and Norm Young BS '56 worked with Peterson to develop the criteria, eligibility and process for choosing honorees. With the knowledge that CUC traces its athletic roots to baseball and basketball on the Addison campus, one issue addressed was how far back to go in history.



Armin Gutekunst BS '32 became the earliest graduate included with the inaugural class of 2002, which honored athletes from 1969 and earlier. Last year Marche Smith BA '11, MBA '12, who holds the all-time career scoring record for women's and men's basketball, became the youngest graduate inducted in her first year of eligibility.

The Board's established selection criteria continues more than a decade later and includes:

- Five years since athlete's graduation or five years of continued service and two since departure
- Participation or coaching with distinction and honor
- Demonstrated citizenship and care for teammates and athletes
- High esteem by colleagues, coaches and teammates
- Ongoing contribution to the University, Church and community

The Athletics Hall of Fame was launched thanks, in part, to over 20 Cougar Champions who shared more than \$64,000 to fund the effort. These gifts covered wall plaques in Geiseman Gymnasium, inductee champion rings and annual celebration. Once the initial investment was depleted, the Office of Alumni Relations adopted the Hall of Fame in order to continue the tradition while it seeks new partners.

CUC Athletic Hall of Fame 2016-17 Induction Class



Julie (Johnson) Pate BA '04
Volleyball and Track & Field



Fred Pawelk BA '89
Football

For more information and to nominate an athlete, coach or supporter, visit CUChicago.edu/HallofFame

Each year Director of Athletics Pete Gnan and I agree this celebration is one of our favorite weekends. Connecting alumni with current student-athletes is necessary to honor tradition, grow Cougar pride and ensure excellence for generations to come. We look forward to inducting the first athletes from our newest sports, like lacrosse, in the future.

To partner with the Office of Alumni Relations in continuing this tradition, please visit CUChicago.edu/support or call 888-258-6773 to discuss giving options.

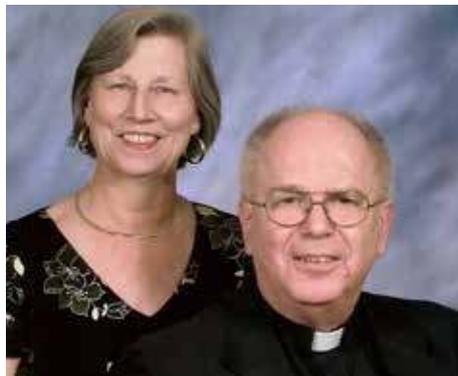
1. Chick Lillis BA '77, former Board of Champions President, in front of the Athletic Hall of Fame in Geiseman Gymnasium

Class Notes



Mrs. Irma Koehneke, wife of Dr. Martin L. Koehneke, University president 1954-72, celebrated her 100th birthday on Nov. 30, 2016 in Neenah, WI. More than 50 alumni and friends participated in the card shower in her honor, and the University sang "Happy Birthday" via the chapel webstream. She is pictured with family members Rod and **Jan (Koehneke) Bathke BA '71** and **Christopher Johnston BA '98, MA '02**.

1960s



Arthur H. Baisch BS '63 celebrated his 25th anniversary of pastoral ordination on Sept. 4, 2016. During his ministry, Art served in Concordia-Chicago's Development Office as well as St. John's (Mayfair) Lutheran Church in Chicago, IL; Ascension Lutheran Church in East Peoria, IL; Concordia Lutheran Ministries in Cabot, PA and Faith Lutheran, Fairfield Bay, AR. Art and his wife, **Evelyn (Netz) BA '69** plan to now "fully retire" and relocate near their younger son in New Castle, PA.

1970s

Susan (Rosin) Longmire BA '76 was named to the 2016 Class of National Distinguished Principals by the National Association of Elementary School Principals and honored at a celebration in Washington, D.C. in October 2016. Susan is Principal at St. James Lutheran School in Shawano, WI.



1980s

David Bever MA '80 retired from the teaching ministry, including 27 years at St. Thomas Lutheran School in Eastpointe, MI and 16 years at Faith Lutheran Middle School in Las Vegas, NV. David served all 43 years in the 6th grade classroom. His wife, **Peggy (Hoffman) BA '72**, currently serves in the finance office at Faith Lutheran.

1990s

Paul Wheelhouse BA '85 served as an adjunct instructor in World Religion at Tallahassee Community College from 2009 -2012, matriculating to adjunct professor in 2012. He then taught at Lake-Sumter State College in Leesburg, FL from 2013-2015. Paul earned a Museum Theory and Practice Certificate from Florida State University in 2014 and a MSLIS degree from the University of Illinois with a Special Collections Certificate in August 2016.



Marc Freiberg, Sr. BA '96 and his wife, **Pamela (Brutlag)**, welcomed Theodore William Martin Luther on Nov. 17, 2014 and Magdalene Amanda Grace on Aug. 26, 2016. They join siblings Jason, Emilie, Marc II, Joel, Elisabeth, Nathan, Katherine, Susanna, Adelaide and Pamela. The family resides in Ogilvie, MN where Marc serves as Pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church.

2000s

DeWan White BA '00 has completed his first season as head football coach for Proviso East High School in Maywood, IL after coaching the sophomore team the previous two seasons. DeWan teaches at Lincoln Elementary School in Bellwood, IL and resides with his family in Montgomery, IL.

Sara Knigge MA '00 has co-authored a Spanish reading workbook for bilingual and dual language classrooms through her company, READ en Español, Inc. She presents at educational conferences and consults school districts with high Spanish-speaking populations. More information can be found at www.readenespanol.com. Sara lives in Aurora, IL with her family.



Diana (Tarant) Schmidt MA '06 recently published *Remember For Me*, a novel through which she is raising awareness and funds for Alzheimer's, a disease her grandmother is battling. When not writing, Diana teaches Advanced Learning at Old Orchard Junior High School in Skokie, IL.



Lori (Homuth) BA '07 married Paul Agne on June 25, 2016. The couple resides in St. Louis, MO.

2010s



Christina (Diers) BA '11 and **Derek Kieninger BA '10** were married July 16, 2016. Chrissy serves as computer technology teacher at C.E. Rose PreK-8 School in Tucson, AZ, and Derek is an 8th grade social studies teacher at Anza Trail K-8 School in Sahuarita, AZ. The couple currently resides in Tucson with their dog Piper.



Catherine (Mick) BA '10 married Karl Hochfellner on Oct. 15, 2016. She serves as marketing manager at AHI Travel. The couple resides in Elk Grove Village, IL.

Susan Tiemstra MA '10 was named the 2016 Elementary Art Educator of the Year by the Illinois Art Education Association. Susan has taught 21 years for District 181 in Clarendon Hills, IL, 12 of them at Prospect Elementary. She resides with her family in Woodstock, IL.



Katie (Leitemann) BA '11 married Matthew Meinzen on July 30, 2016. **Colleen Mullaney BA '10** served as maid of honor, and **Michelle (Seris) Dwyer BA '11** served as matron of honor. The couple lives in Milwaukee, WI, where Katie teaches math, physical education and coaches women's basketball at Milwaukee Lutheran High School. Matthew serves as a store manager for Walgreens.



Melisa (Suda) MA '11 married Jim Creighton on Aug. 6, 2016. Melisa serves as a teacher in School District U-46 of Elgin, IL, and Jim is a police officer in South Elgin. The couple resides in Elgin.

Lindsay Paluch BA '12 was named 2016 Teacher of the Year by the Indiana District of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Lindsay teaches 4th grade at White Creek Lutheran School in Columbus, IN.



Amanda (Pasche) BA '12 married Colin McFerran on June 25, 2016. Amanda teaches 5th grade at Grace Christian School in Escondido, CA. Colin serves as a helicopter pilot in the United States Navy. The couple currently resides in San Diego, CA.

Joseph Hall EdD '15 has been appointed assistant professor of education at Wilmington College in Wilmington, OH and will assume the position of area coordinator (department chair) in spring 2017. Joe previously served in Lebanon City Schools where he was the district supervisor of special education. He resides with his family in Franklin, OH.



Jason Crean EdD '16, biology teacher at Lyons Township High School in Western Springs, IL, received a 2016 Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching. Jason was chosen from more than 400 nominations in Chicago and its suburbs and was honored as part of a televised ceremony in May 2016.



Kristin (Allen) BA '16 married Zach Harman on Aug. 13, 2016. Kristin serves as Youth Ministry Leader at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Arlington Heights, IL, and Zach is in sales at C.H. Robinson. The couple resides in Roselle, IL.

About Class Notes

Information listed reflects details received as of December 31, 2016. The University welcomes news of milestones in the lives of our alumni. To ensure accuracy, information should be provided by the featured individual, rather than another party. Photos are welcome, whether prints or electronic files (high resolution jpgs only, please). We are unable to return photos. Submission of a Class Note or image does not guarantee publication. The University reserves the right to edit submissions for style, length and content.

Condolences

*I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace.
In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.
John 16:33*

Faculty

R. Allan Zimmer BA '54, MA '60, Professor Emeritus of Education – November 9, 2016

Alumni

Louis H. Abel, Jr. BA '72 – August 18, 2016

Ellsworth K. Anderson BA '66 – March 27, 2016

Marcie (Reid) Anetsberger BA '00 – July 20, 2016

Roy A. Austensen BA '64 – August 12, 2016

Randal D. Baganz BA '72 – November 22, 2015

Linda M. Becken BA '72 – November 23, 2015

A. Kenneth Bruenger MCM '82 – November 25, 2016

Lynn M. (Dejmal) Danielsen BA '71 – October 7, 2011

Aaron C. Dohrmann BS '53 – November 24, 2016

John W. Doyel, Jr. BA '65 – August 10, 2016

Darwin C. Dubke BA '59 – September 11, 2016

Elizabeth A. (Belencak) Duda HS '48, BS '52 – December 24, 2016

Prudence S. Fogle MA '78 – May 7, 2016

Zelma E. (Wilson) Fritz BA '82 – October 20, 2016

Mary E. (Christian) Geil BA '66 – December 9, 2016

Paul C. Gerlach BS '62 – October 4, 2016

Lois M. (Schmidt) Gogl BS '59 – September 14, 2014

Norbert A. E. Going BA '51 – January 18, 2016

Ralph F. Granger BS '57 – July 11, 2016

Magdalene M. (Knoll) Gruenhagen BA '63 – August 8, 2016

Robert L. Haase BS '55 – November 26, 2012

Rhoda M. (Mundinger) Heidinger BA '68 – December 16, 2012

Richard J. Heschke BS '61 – October 1, 2016

Allan H. Jahsmann HS '33, BS '37 – December 13, 2016

Kathryn G. (Kunkel) Klintworth BA '61 – October 29, 2016

Katie L. Kloess BA '09, MA '11 – December 15, 2016

Elmer H. Kuech BS '61 – March 22, 2016

Joanne F. Kuhlman – October 5, 2016

Kenneth M. Kulow BS '61 – December 15, 2016

Eleanor (Peterson) McGuan-Boza MA '87 – February 20, 2016

Victor Messerli BS '50, MA '65 – December 29, 2015

Martin B. Mueller HS '44, BS '48 – January 11, 2016

Carol I. Nagle BS '54 – October 24, 2016

Audrey H. Noftz BS '49 – December 7, 2016

John D. Oppermann, Jr. BA '71, MA '77 – February 9, 2012

Mark H. Reddel BA '71 – November 8, 2016

F. Donald Reder BS '53 – December 21, 2015

Glenn W. Rick BS '54 – December 27, 2010

Fay R. Richert BS '54 – December 21, 2015

Walter C. Rubke BS '46 – July 7, 2016

Ruth D. (Scheidt) Irwin BA '74 – October 23, 2016

Lou Anne (Ford) Seegers BA '70 – August 30, 2016

Gerald A. Seevers MA '73 – June 7, 2016

David G. Thurn BA '69 – April 15, 2015

Michael E. Weiss BS '64 – July 23, 2016

Janice M. (Miller) Wendling BA '85 – June 21, 2016

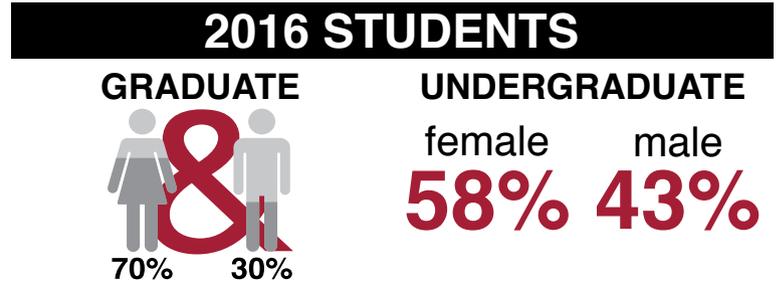
Gertrude R. Williams-Foster MA '72 – October 22, 2016

Judith A. (Bruns) Witt MA '79 – August 14, 2016

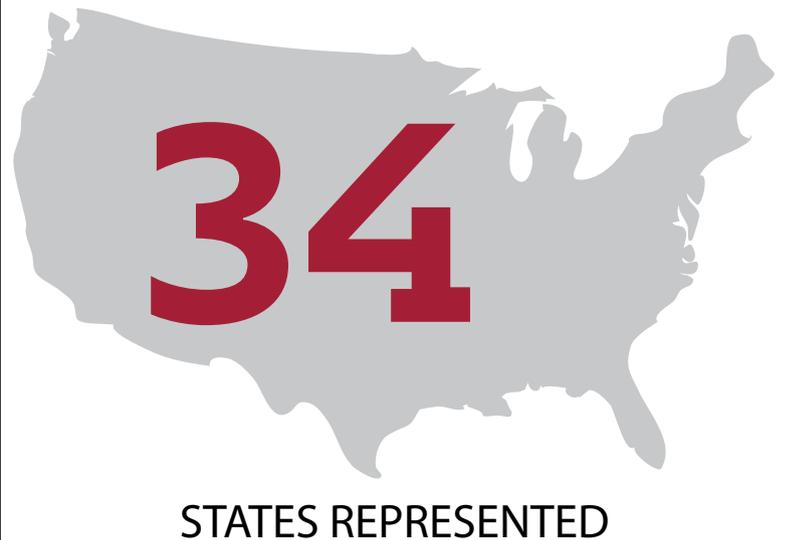
R. Allan Zimmer BA '54, MA '60 – November 9, 2016

CUC by the Numbers

8 consecutive years
total enrollment exceeded
5,000 students



Fall 2016 – Record enrollment **5,603**
1,530 Undergraduate
4,073 Graduate



Financial Assistance
\$31,300
average financial aid package
for full-time traditional freshmen



1,200
Doctoral
students enrolled

16 men's & women's
NCAA III athletic teams

391
participating
student athletes

90% of bachelor's degree graduates are
employed or attending graduate school
within **6 months** of graduating

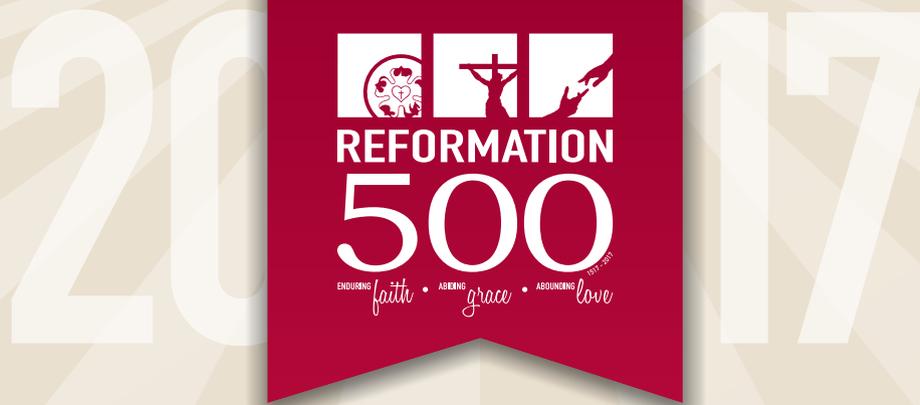


CONCORDIA
UNIVERSITY
CHICAGO

1864

7400 Augusta Street
River Forest, IL 60305-1499

Non-Profit
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Oak Park, IL
Permit No. 2015



The Reformation at 500: AN INTERDENOMINATIONAL CONVERSATION

MONDAY, OCTOBER 30 | CHAPEL OF OUR LORD | 7:30 P.M.

Join **Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison**, president of the LCMS, **Cardinal Blase Cupich**, archbishop of Chicago and **Rev. Dr. Philip Ryken**, president of Wheaton College, as they discuss denominational divergence and convergence at this historic mile marker, and engage in a principled conversation about the historic and theological divisions emerging from the reformation controversies, as well as points of shared concern and common cause among Christian churches.

Details on this and related events at CUChicago.edu/Reformation.