Summer 2016

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The Radio Signal
Former Northwestern president publishes memoir about life in Nazi Germany

Also
Coly Alums Hang Out on Google
Campus Ministry’s New Leader
Intramural Games and Names
Students keep fit and let off steam through participation in an extensive schedule of intramural sports.
Arguing for Faith in Science

Five Northwestern professors—Dr. Laura Fajlong, Dr. Byron Nuechterlein, and Dr. Sara Sylstra ‘84 Tolsma, as well as Biology professors Dr. Laura Fajlong, Dr. Byron Nuechterlein, and Dr. Sara Sylstra ‘84 Tolsma each wrote essays arguing that faith and science are not in conflict—as 59 percent of Americans believe—but rather that each illuminates the other. “… [S]cience and Scripture complement one another and, when integrated, affirm the truth I find in both,” wrote Tolsma.

Northwestern students, faculty and staff. However, perhaps none was more important institutionally than five successful reaccreditations. Four of our five professional programs hosted accreditation site visits, and Higher Learning Commission representatives were on campus for our 10-year institutional reaccreditation in November.

In the fall, the departments of nursing and business successfully attained reaccreditation. This spring we also received successful accreditation reports for our education and social work programs. All four of these programs are graduating students who are highly sought after by employers and graduate schools. Each program has also recently received recognition in Iowa, regionally and nationally for its excellence.

In addition to these successful departmental accreditations, Northwestern College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). Every 10 years, colleges and universities must submit a comprehensive self-study that demonstrates the institution has met the accrediting body’s standards of core components, of which there are 25 criteria.

A work group compiled our self-study report over the past two years, and a team from the HLC was on campus for two days reviewing that work in November. The site visit team makes a recommendation to the HLC, which then makes its final decision regarding reaccreditation. This spring we were notified that we met all criteria with no concerns. The HLC process was a complete success, with the next review slated for 2023/2026.

In this era of heightened accountability for colleges and universities, this is no small accomplishment. It speaks to the quality of our faculty and staff to receive such strong affirmation. The colleagues I am privileged to work with every day take their roles as Christian educators very seriously. We are fully devoted to living out our mission as a Christian academic community with every day take their roles as Christian educators very seriously. We are fully devoted to living out our mission as a Christian academic community with every day take their roles as Christian educators very seriously. We are fully devoted to living out our mission as a Christian academic community with every day take their roles as Christian educators very seriously. We are fully devoted to living out our mission as a Christian academic community with every day take their roles as Christian educators very seriously. We are fully devoted to living out our mission as a Christian academic community with every day take their roles as Christian educators very seriously. We are fully devoted to living out our mission as a Christian academic community with every day take their roles as Christian educators very seriously. We are fully devoted to living out our mission as a Christian academic community with every day take their roles as Christian educators very seriously. We are fully devoted to living out our mission as a Christian academic community with every day take their roles as Christian educators very seriously. We are fully devoted to living out our mission as a Christian academic community with every day take their roles as Christian educators very seriously. We are fully devoted to living out our mission as a Christian academic community with every day take their roles as Christian educators very seriously. We are fully devoted to living out our mission as a Christian academic community with every day take their roles as Christian educators very seriously. We are fully devoted to living out our mission as a Christian academic community with every day take their roles as Christian educators very seriously. We are fully devoted to living out our mission as a Christian academic community with every day take their roles as Christian educators very seriously. We are fully devoted to living out our mission as a Christian academic community with every day take their roles as Christian educators very seriously. We are fully devoted to living out our mission as a Christian academic community with every day take their roles as Christian educators very seriously. We are fully devoted to living out our mission as a Christian academic community with every day take their roles as Christian educators very seriously. We are fully devoted to living out our mission as a Christian academic community with every day take their roles as Christian educators very seriously. We are fully devoted to living out our mission as a Christian academic community with every day take their roles as Christian educators very seriously. We are fully devoted to living out our mission as a Christian academic community with every day take their roles as Christian educators very seriously. We are fully devoted to living out our mission as a Christian academic community with every day take their roles as Christian educators very seriously. We are fully devoted to living out our mission as a Christian academic community with every day take their roles as Christian educators very seriously. We are fully devoted to living out our mission as a Christian academic community with every day take their roles as Christian educators very seriously. We are fully devoted to living out our mission as a Christian academic community with every day take their roles as Christian educators very seriously. We are fully devoted to living out our mission as a Christian academic community with every day take their roles as Christian educators very seriously. We are fully devoted to living out our mission as a Christian academic community with every day take their roles as Christian educators very seriously. We are fully devoted to living out our mission as a Christian academic community with every day take their roles as Christian educators very seriously. We are fully devoted to living out our mission as a Christian academic community with every day take their roles as Christian educators very seriously. We are fully devoted to living out our mission as a Christian academic community with every day take their roles as Christian educators very seriously. We are fully devoted to living out our mission as a Christian academic community...
Husbands Takes Baton for Academic Program

When Mark Husbands enrolled at Toronto’s York University as a freshman, he was a talented trumpet player seeking a career as a professional jazz musician. Then he took a class called Jesus and Interpersonal Relations. “I was introduced to the larger thinkers of Christianity—Augustine, Luther, Calvin—and realized they had the same questions I had,” he says. “I saw the Christian faith as an invitation into a large conversation with the past and developed an intellectual life that was fully grounded in the church.”

Husbands’ experience led him in one direction that included master’s and doctoral degrees in religion and a career as a theology professor. And it gave him a desire to help others offer their whole selves to God as an act of worship. “God seeks and needs everything put under the discipline of grace. There’s immense joy in seeing one’s life as an integrated whole,” he says.

As Northwestern’s new vice president for academic affairs, Husbands seeks to find the right balance between renewing, collaborating and improving to make the academic program hit its highest notes. Those who worked with him during the last nine years at Hope College say he’ll be up to the task. “Mark will bring a professionalism and a deep care for each person,” says the Rev. Dr. David Arnett, chemistry, and Dr. Sara Sylvania ’94 Tolzma, biology, each a student research assistant. Arnett studied how a signaling protein activates an enzyme involved in the dilation of blood vessels; Tolzma explored the genetic relationships between mayfly populations in California.

Husbands says he’s impressed by Northwestern’s considerable academic strengths and lead the college to new levels of excellence.”

A member of the Reformed Church in America’s Commission on Theology who has edited seven books, Husbands says he’s impressed by Northwestern’s faculty and staff. “I have deep respect for what is happening here,” he says. “It is a privilege to promote an academic program that is happening here,” he says. “It is a privilege to promote an academic program that is happening here.”

“Mark is an accomplished academic—we all feel comfortable in the world of ideas, and engaging with people. He is both transparent and trustworthy. He is a great listener who seeks consensus but is not afraid to make decisions and to implement them. I admire his ability to listen to those with whom he disagrees and to proceed without rancor from the past.”

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Props for Programs

Northwestern College’s actuarial science, economics and nursing majors received impressive recognition this summer.

The actuarial program is ranked 28th out of the top 40 best value colleges and universities by online-accounting-degrees.net, based on metrics like graduation rate, quality of curriculum, student appeal and net price. Northwestern is the highest-rated member of the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities (CCCU) in the ranking, with the only other listed CCCU member institution being Olivet Nazarene University, ranked at 38th.

The economics program is included among Iowa’s top 10 programs by zippi.com, based on such factors as graduates’ career results, the percentage of economics majors compared to all other majors, graduation rates, cost and average amount of debt. The study ranks NWC 10th. The website highlights Northwestern’s affordability and says the college ranks second in the state for the percentage of graduates working in the field of economics up to five years after graduation.

And Northwestern’s nursing program is ranked among the nation’s top 10 percent, as well as 35th out of 50 in the Plains region, by nursingholddimensions.com. The rankings are based on the institutions’ academic prestige and perceived value; the breadth and depth of nursing programs offered; and student success, particularly on the NCLEX national licensure exam. One of only seven colleges on the list, Northwestern is also the only institution not located on the eastern edge of the state.

Summer Funds

Eleven professors were involved in research and special projects this summer with funding from the Northwestern Scholarship Grants program.

Three worked with students: Dr. David Arnett, chemistry, and Dr. Sara Sylvania ’94 Tolzma, biology, each a student research assistant. Arnett studied how a signaling protein activates an enzyme involved in the dilation of blood vessels; Tolzma explored the genetic relationships between mayfly populations in California.

Theatre professor April Hubbard performed her two-person adaptation of Shakespeare’s Macbeth with department colleague and fellow grant winner Robert Hubbard at the Kansas City Fringe Festival. A student theatre major did the sound design for the show.

Karen Barker, another theatre professor, performed a one-woman musical about Mary Magdalene in churches across the country. Dr. Chris Hausmann, sociology, continued research that integrates insights from studies of social psychology and exponential learning in order to propose new strategies for civic learning.

Dr. SeungHyun Hong, mathematics, studied how Weyl’s law extends into the realm of quantum geometry. English professor Dr. Michael Kugler researched how terms describing cultural differences and cultural relativism took on their modern meaning in the generations between Chaucer and Shakespeare.

Dr. Michael Kugler visited the National Library of Scotland in Edinburgh to continue work on his book about Adam Ferguson, a Presbyterian minister in Scotland during the early Enlightenment period.

And finally, art professors Yun Shin and Emily Strikes used their grants to create new artwork for future exhibitions and art competitions.

Northwestern Scholarship Grants range up to $2,250 for individual projects and up to $5,000 for collaborative research with students.

A Karl Barth scholar with experience in teaching and administrative roles at Hope and Wheaton colleges, Dr. Mark Husbands is Northwestern’s new vice president for academic affairs.
Rather than telling us the ‘right’ answers, Dr. VanDerWerff challenges us to think about how
it requires a well-rounded fitness. You need to be strong, but because play never stops, you need to be fit.”

Only three members of the men’s team had played rugby before, while none of the women had experience with the game.

Several of Northwestern’s players are also on the wrestling team. “Wrestlers are often
fond of rugby because they have strength and leverage, which are very important,” says
Scott. One of the wrestlers, Ray Schueller, who played in high school, says he likes the opportunities rugby gives big men like him. “I get to carry the ball and score, so it’s more
exciting than being a lineman in football.”

“College is the size of Northwestern often
have a limited number of human resources mostly devoted to teaching in the general
degree curriculums,” says Dr. Rebecca Mong,
director of Northwestern’s Graduate School
& Adult Learning. “The consortium enables students in humanities majors to access a
broad range of upper-level courses online.”

What is Rugby?
The sport from which American football originated, rugby features
teams trying to advance an oval-shaped ball across their opponents’ goal
during fifteen minute halves.

Course Sharing
Students at liberal arts colleges across the country will have the opportunity to take online
courses developed by philosophy professor Dr. Randy Jensen and English professor Dr. Michael
Kernell in 2017–18.

The NWC professors will receive stipends
to develop the online courses Philosophy and
Science Fiction and History of the English
Language, respectively, for the Council of
Independent Colleges (CIC) Consortium for
Online Humanities Instruction. Northwestern is
among 21 institutions selected to participate in the
group, which will also enable NWC students to
enroll in an extra charge in courses taught by
professors at the other colleges.

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Singer Showcase
Six NWC students were awarded prizes when
the music department hosted auditions for the
National Association of Teachers of Singing
competition in April.

Amanda Vander Stelt won the Upper College Women’s Division, and Matthew Shulak, Mark
Vos and Eric Wasson finished first, second and
third, respectively, in the Lower College Men’s
Division. Finishing in second place were Brenna
Ellingson in the Lower College Women’s Division
and Jacob Van Huisen in both the Upper College Men’s and Upper College Men’s Musical Theatre divisions.

Dr. Sara Sybesma ’84 Tolsma, professor of biology, has been appointed to the Northwestern College Endowed Professorship. The professorship will provide annual funds to support her scholarly work.

A member of the faculty since 1995, Tolsma received the Northwestern Teaching Excellence Award in 2017. Her research efforts in cancer genetics and cell biology have been widely published in scientific journals and she has won a number of awards. Her current research has included a study of myeloid genetic variations in northeastern Iowa residents and the anti-
proliferative effects of plant extracts on human tumor cells in vitro.

The co-editor of Perspectives: A Journal of
Religious Thought, Tolsma has written
a cell and molecular genetics textbook for non-science majors, as well as an adult
Sunday school curriculum on the ethics of
genetic technologies. She is also the director
of a new one-year graduate genetics and
genetics online program Northwestern is
beginning this school year.

Tolsma earned a doctoral degree in
microbiology, immunology and virology
from Northwestern University. Her five-year appointment will begin in fall. Among previous recipients of the professorship
are Dr. Laird Edman, psychology; Dr. Keith
Fynan, English; and Jeff Barker, theatre and
speech.
Most Valuable Employee

Amanda Kundert had a decided edge in the voting for this year’s Staff Inspirational Service Award: She works for three offices on campus—simultaneously—and does so in a way that makes others eager to hire her whenever there’s an opening or a need.

Kundert joined Northwestern’s staff in 2011 when her husband, Cory, was hired as the resident director of West Hall. Her education and experience led to a half-time position as an administrative assistant in the public relations office, but soon she was writing news releases and articles for the Classic, helping with Northwestern’s social media presence, setting up photo shoots and doing design.

Kundert’s productivity, efficiency and organizational skills were recognized by staff in the PR office as well as in both the education department and Northwestern’s Graduate School & Adult Learning, who hired her to work additional hours in their offices. In the education department, Kundert helped prepare for an accreditation site visit, lead data collection and organizing travel and schedules for 13 reviewers.

“The site visitors recognized her as one of the assets of the department,” says Dr. Adrienne Forgette, former dean of the faculty. “She exudes competence and care, and her service is truly exceptional and inspirational.”

Dr. Rebecca Hory, director of the Graduate School & Adult Learning, says Kundert consistently exceeds expectations. During the Northwesterners Leadership Series last August, there was an attendee who had difficulty with mobility. “Amanda took it upon herself to accompany that registrant to every session,” says Hory. “She ate lunch with her, lent her arm up stairs and made small talk with this participant both days. It was the most caring, human, kind act.”

One of inspirational service.

Supporting Role

Mary’s Swap Helen Miren, Julie Dorn

Students have their photos taped to the inside of the DeWitt Theatre office door of Professor Karen Bohm Barker. These rows inspire new and returning students and colleagues, making Barker a deserving recipient of Northwestern’s 2016 Faculty Inspirational Service Award.

A member of the college’s theatre faculty since 1988, Barker is known for her commitment to Christ, to art, and to Northwestern’s mission of educating students, in particular, and the needs of students, in particular, and the college, in general, always in my mind,” added Jongerius. “I am inspired. I hope one day someone says the same about me.”

In addition to teaching in Northwestern’s theatre department and directing productions, Karen Barker directs and alongside theatre students and community members, as she did in Godspell last February. Barker received the college’s Faculty Inspirational Service Award this year.

Continuing Education

Making good on its promise to promote lifelong learning, Northwestern is offering continuing education opportunities through the college’s Graduate School & Adult Learning. This spring and summer Northwestern hosted a youth trauma training course and discussion and offered a Dysthene Institute for teachers. Medical interpreters participated in a licensure test preparation workshop.

Upcoming continuing education opportunities include an ethics conference for social workers and an opportunity for teachers to earn graduate credit by attending an Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children Institute.

Visit online.nwciowa.edu for continuing education information and registration.

Serving Over Summer

Fourteen Northwestern students spent their summers as summer camp missionaries through the college’s Center of Service program. Students served with mission agencies and churches in western United States, including Ghana, Greece, Ireland, the Netherlands, Spain, Uganda, the U.S., and villages in Asia and eastern Europe.

For at least six weeks, students served in whatever capacity was needed, including assisting physicians, working with children, teaching English, distributing food or hosting after-school programs for children.

Eric Anderson

Committed to Campus Life

What first brought you to Northwestern?

While training my bachelor’s degree at Taylor University in Indiana, a staff member who knew I was looking for a resident director (RD) position after graduation recommended Northwestern. I think I was the third Taylor grad to become an RD at NWC, and there have been seven more since. Before I moved here, I knew nothing about Northwestern or Orange City. In fact, when I came for my interview, I looked all over the Iowa map trying to find the Sioux Falls (S.D.) airport.

What is your favorite memory from your time in residence life?

Watching a freshman who was on the verge of getting kicked out for behavior give his life fully to Christ and later become the hall chaplain. My years in West Hall were rich, and I still keep in touch with a number of former students. Having a front-row seat to spiritual transformation in so many lives displayed the power of a residential Christian college setting.

What are some of your hobbies?

Fishing and hunting pheasant and deer top the list, but I love anything outdoors. My favorite place is the Boundary Waters, which was introduced to me by Dave Nonnenmacher while I was an RD. I also like to read, garden and play with my kids. And I enjoy athletics, with baseball at the top of that list.

You’re a big fan of the television show Survivor. What’s the most rewarding part of working in leadership during this season?

I used to gather with fellow RDs to watch the show ER. I believe it was Emily (Gosselink ’00) Ford who introduced me to Survivor in season two, and since then, 30 seasons and 15 years later, our family still watches every episode with a group of current RDs. In fact, I proposed to my wife (Carrie Oddell ’01) during a Survivor-themed evening. The show has been a weekly highlight for my family, and it helps us stay connected to some of the residence life staff.

What’s the most rewarding part of working in financial aid?

I enjoy helping students make the NWC experience a reality from the financial aid, and I also find it rewarding to serve families in crisis. I’ve had many meaningful conversations and opportunities to pray with families, who have other times. I’m thankful to be in a place where we can often do something to help.
Bill Minnick, director of career development, is the new president of Career Professionals of Iowa (CPI). In his new role, Minnick will provide vision and strategic planning for an association of career development professionals at all of the state’s public and private colleges and universities—from community colleges to four-year institutions. He will also work with a five-member leadership team to plan future events and professional development for CPI members.

Minnick has been a member of Career Professionals of Iowa since 1999, the year he joined Northwestern’s staff after serving as assistant director of career services at the University of Sioux Falls.
New Major in Music and Worship Leadership

In an effort to better prepare musicians for worship leadership roles in the church, Northwestern will launch a major in music and worship leadership this fall.

The major will include a variety of courses in music, religion and theatre to help give graduates a strong understanding of biblical worship, the creativity to frame and shape worship services, and the ability to work with worship, the music of the church, and the practice of music ministry. Graduates will be expected to demonstrate proficiency in either piano or guitar and to receive training in voice and piano, as well as to complete a worship ministry internship.

The new major replaces the music worship ministry internship.

In addition to nurturing students at breakfast and lunchtime, Meendering also regularly served up hugs, "I'm so homesick, I could die," he whispered. After that, the two embraced before every meal.

In the nine years Meendering worked for the college's food service provider Sodexo, students knew the hall wings and Red Raider teams in the form of hugs, "I dispense hugs," she said, recounting one story of a football player who resisted until one day when he needed a hug too. "I'm so homesick, I could die," he whitepapered. After that, the two embraced before every meal.

In addition to nurturing students at breakfast and lunchtime, Meendering also regularly served up encouragement for campus ministry groups, residence hall wings and Red Raider teams in the form of home-baked cookies and treats. Acknowledging her food-for-the-soul role on Northwestern's campus, former chaplain Harlan VanOort '82 once referred to her as "the real chaplain of Northwestern College."
GAME TIME

When classes are out, it's time to school opponents in intramural. Casual athletes team up to play around 20 sports, including old favorites like flag football and slow-pitch softball and new trends like spike ball and Kanjam (horseshoes with slotted cans and Frisbees). They get sweaty playing racquetball and strategic playing Rock. They get creative coming up with clever team names like "How I Set Your Mother," "Hoop, There It Is" and "Scared Villains."
Alum aims to keep Northwestern students trained on Jesus

Mark DeYounge ’08 is Northwestern’s new director of Christian formation. In addition to leading chapel worship and providing pastoral care to students, he will work alongside campus ministry staff to plan and lead discipleship and mission opportunities that contribute to students’ Christian growth and calling. A business administration major and captain of the Red Raider basketball team while at Northwestern, DeYounge served in parachurch ministry in Colorado Springs and Sioux Falls before becoming director of discipleship at Sioux Center’s First Reformed Church. He earned a graduate certificate in youth and family ministry from Fuller Theological Seminary and is enrolled in Western Seminary’s distance learning Master of Divinity program. He plans to graduate in May 2017 and pursue ordination in the Reformed Church in America. The Classic interviewed DeYounge to learn more about his vision for college students and their faith development.

Clatzie: In what ways are you a good fit for your new role at Northwestern College?

DeYounge: I have a real passion for the next generation. I love Northwestern’s mission: to equip the next generation to not be disen-gaged from the world, not reactive, but to be confident—courageous and faithful, as we say—to really trust that Christ in them has the power to transform the world. Christ staked it all on the church, and today’s church isn’t abounding in 20-somethings. I’m excited by that opportunity for growth.

What unique challenges is this next generation facing? And are they different than those faced by previous generations of teens and 20-somethings?

I’m not sure the issues are so unique or different, but the pace at which—and “spaces” in which—today’s youth have to interact with their culture are very different. We’re created with a deep desire to be known and to belong. Social media has changed the landscape for being known and belonging in ways no previous generation has experienced. Today’s young people are more connected than ever—and yet statistics suggest many of them are anxious and feel deep loneliness.

What do Gen Z-ers want from corporate worship—and what do they need?

We’re a consumeristic culture. Not just young people. Most of us are. We show up for worship with the same consumeristic, “market-to-me” expectations we bring to Best Buy or television programming. We want me-centered worship that caters to our individuality and entertainment preferences. But when it comes to worship, the greatest satisfaction comes when it’s not about us. When we lose ourselves in experiencing the height of God’s glory in worship, we experience the height of our design as humans. And we get what we need.

Unlike some Christian colleges, Northwestern continues to require students to attend chapel. What is your view on the value of that requirement?

Worship is one of the necessary rhythms in the Christian life. We’re sent out to live worshipfully in our daily lives; we’re gathered regularly to worship as a community. Sent and gathered, sent and gathered. Chapel is so vital because the community needs to gather. And students may not realize or always appreciate it, but they’re so privileged that the rhythm at Northwestern includes regular chances to gather for worship. They have to show up—which is a big deal, a demonstration of faithfulness—even when they don’t feel like it. Faithfulness includes holding each other accountable to the things we value, and at Northwestern we value worshiping as a community because it’s part of the call of Christ.

At a Christian college like Northwestern, students’ understanding of their academic discipline is challenged in order to lead to growth; likewise, their understanding of the Christian faith might be challenged to provoke growth. How will you guide and counsel students who come to you because they’ve encountered new learning that makes them uncomfortable?

Learning can be messy. It takes some serious courage to integrate faith and learning—to not be afraid in the face of new information or questions you can’t answer yet. As the students’ pastor, I hope my presence and counsel is of great comfort. I think of Peter walking on the water. Nothing Peter had previously been taught or experienced would have led him to believe he could walk on water. But when Jesus invited him to come, Peter stepped out of the boat. Throughout their four years at Northwestern, students will be asked to “step out of the boat” into uncharted waters. When Peter looked away from Jesus, the waves overwhelmed him. He needed to keep his gaze on Jesus. We don’t have to have boxed-up, perfect Christian answers for everything, because the Christian journey isn’t about having water-tight explanations or arguments. God isn’t a problem to solve; he’s a person to fall in love with.
TODAY MORE PEOPLE ARE LIVING AS REFUGEES than at any time since World War II. In 1945, Friedhelm Radandt was one of them. The man who would serve as president of Northwestern from 1979 to 1985 was a boy of 12 when his family fled their home in Neustettin, Germany, to escape the advancing Russian army. Radandt’s newly published book, *The Radio Signal*, tells the stories of his family and that of his future wife, Elizabeth, as they struggled to survive while staying true to their Christian faith.

As the book begins, Friedhelm’s father, Ernst, is stationed in Italy with the German army; his 16-year-old sister, Gisela, is in another village serving as a nanny; and his 14-year-old brother, Ernst-August, has been drafted and is serving as a soldier with Germany’s National Socialist Motor Corps. When the Russian army advances on Neustettin, Ernst-August brings Friedhelm, his mother, Gertrud, and his little sister to a public square where buses are waiting to evacuate a small, privileged group of people.

As soon as they were seated on the bus, Gertrud remembered the bag she had packed for her husband. In their hurry to evacuate, they had forgotten to bring it along.

“Your father’s suitcase,” she murmured. “We cannot leave it behind.”

Gertrud didn’t know if the Radandts would ever return to Neustettin or how much of the town would even survive the onslaught of the oncoming Russian soldiers. If Ernst were going to have any personal effects when he returned from the war, they would have to go back for that suitcase.

The officer in charge at the Hindenburgplatz assured her that, despite the apparent hurry, they still had plenty of time.

Gertrud turned to Friedhelm. “I need you to go back for the case.”

Feeling a rush of fear mingled with excitement, Friedhelm nodded. He hopped out of the bus and started half-walking, half-running back to his home.

He found the suitcase exactly where his mother had said it would be. Back outside in the bitter cold, Friedhelm placed the suitcase onto his sled and pulled it behind him through town, across the snow and ice.

Thoughts of the bus made him a little fearful. Where would the bus take them? What would become of his family? At least he wasn’t alone.

The war had a way of ripping families apart, and Friedhelm was thankful to have his mother, brother and younger sister close.

But when Friedhelm turned the corner into the Hindenburgplatz, the square was empty and utterly silent. The icy, deserted street glistened in the moonlight.

The buses were gone.

Family members of Elizabeth Job, who would meet and marry Friedhelm Radandt after the war, listen to the news on a Philips radio. Both Elizabeth’s grandfather (front, in top left photo) and father (not pictured) worked for the Dutch electronics firm Philips in Warsaw, Poland, where the latter was in charge of the development and manufacturing of radio tubes.
FRIEDHELM WAS JUST THREE MONTHS OLD when Adolf Hitler was appointed chancellor of Germany and the Nazi Party came into power. With a growing family, Ernst Radandt takes a part-time job with Kraft durch Freude (KdF), an organization designed to help build the German economy. The KdF also encourages the purchase of a Volksempfänger, or people’s radio, so Hitler and the Nazi Party can reach into the homes of as many Germans as possible. Ernst does well in his job—even purchasing a Volksempfänger radio for his family—and as a result, is offered a promotion. But first he must complete a questionnaire detailing his lineage in order to prove his Aryan descent. He must also help identify the town’s Jewish shop owners and join a troop of Nazis in parading them around town while calling on its citizens to boycott Jewish businesses.

BECAUSE OF HIS REFUSAL to send his sons to Hitler’s boarding schools, Ernst receives word he is to be stationed on the Eastern Front. But thanks to a friendship with a high-ranking military officer, he is instead assigned a desk job in Italy. It is while Ernst is in Italy that Friedhelm is left behind when his family is evacuated from Neustettin. The boy heads north on foot, away from the approaching Russian army, and is eventually reunited with his mother and little sister. Older sister Gisela, in the meantime, has her own experience with Russian troops.

ERNST’S DECISION RESULTS in reprisals. He loses his job. Needing to make a living and to provide safety for his family, he joins the German army—the one part of German society that maintains some autonomy from the Nazis—and is stationed in Neustettin as a recruiting officer. Then, one Sunday, while worshiping with other Christians in their home, the Radandts hear two Nazis knocking on their door.

"No," he told them. “No, I will not. These are my sons, and I am responsible for their education.”

"The two Nazis looked at one another. They weren’t used to being turned down. ‘Are you quite sure?’

“My sons will not attend your school.”

The Nazis stood up—‘That is a regrettable answer, Herr Radandt—as you will no doubt discover.’"

Because, Ernst knew, it is easier to indoctrinate a younger boy.

"But [Ernst] could not bring himself to persecute the Jews. His faith wouldn’t allow it. It was clear to him that the Bible’s dictates were not compatible with what the Nazis asked of him.

He had to decide whether to be true to his Christian faith or to actively support the anti-Semitic stance of the Third Reich. [Ernst] felt a tingle of fear for himself and for his family, but he had no doubt about what to do. He left the questionnaire incomplete and told the Nazis he didn’t want their job. As for what would come next, Ernst could only put his trust in God.

Top photo: The Radandt family in 1943. Friedhelm is on the far right. Middle photo: Friedhelm’s future wife, Elizabeth, and her siblings get a ride in the two-wheeled wagon used to transport their few belongings from barracks where they had lived as refugees. Right: A postcard Friedhelm sent in 1945 from Kolberg to his brother, Ernst-August, who was stationed with his military unit in Neustettin.
After the family boards a small boat under cover of night.

The boat slipped quietly out of the dock and into the cold, black water of the Baltic Sea. When they were about a mile from shore, it lined up next to a large freighter. One by one, the passengers climbed up a ladder to the freighter’s deck, and from there, they were shepherded back down, determined to stay strong for the sake of her children. She didn’t know where to take her next step. The ship was too uneven; there was no way to guess the state of the ice underneath.

Then she heard the voices of the Russian men behind her, and she stumbled to her knees. It was better to fall through the ice, she thought to herself, than to wait here and be captured. She took a step, and then another, until she reunited with the rest of the Schütze family at the line of trees along the far side of the lake.

The Russians stood at the opposite bank, watching the fleeing family and stepping their feet tentatively onto the frozen slosh. Deciding it wasn’t worth the risk, they turned around and went back into the house. Gisela and the Schützes were safe—for now.

THE WAR AGAIN CATCHES UP with Friedhelm, his mother and little sister, who have taken refuge in Kolberg with Gertrud’s parents. With the city surrounded by the Russians, the family boards a small boat under cover of night.

The boat slipped quietly out of the dock and into the cold, black water of the Baltic Sea. When they were about a mile from shore, it lined up next to a large freighter. One by one, the passengers climbed up a ladder to the freighter’s deck, and from there, they were shepherded back down, determined to stay strong for the sake of her children. She didn’t know where to take her next step. The ship was too uneven; there was no way to guess the state of the ice underneath.

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IN THE WANING DAYS OF THE WAR, Ernst Radandt’s unit is called back to Germany. Scanning his office one final time before heading out, Ernst discovers a sack of mail delivered that day—and in it, miraculously, letters from both his wife and his oldest daughter telling him where they had found refuge. After Germany surrenders, Ernst is reunited with his wife and learns from Ernst-August’s former commander that the Radandts’ oldest son is trapped in Russian territory. Ernst sends word he will be waiting for Ernst-August on the British side of the border.
**FIVE GUYS**

*Technology helps alumni hang out long after their years in Coly*

by Amy Scheer

John was resident assistant (RA) of 2E Colenbrander Hall from the fall of 1997 to spring of ‘99. He noticed a certain four men always attended the events he organized, from Bible studies to a Kool-Aid drink-off. The four soon developed a special bond and began planning activities for themselves, such as a road trip to Galveston, Texas, to sing karaoke and drive right back—adding oil at every gas stop to the van they had borrowed from an Orange City family.

Trips often involved a “dare”—hence the bicycle helmet worn while driving a car, or Scott's mission to walk to the counter of a vitamin store, flex his biceps, and ask, “What have you got for them?”

John's two years went by quickly, when he graduated, he chose a teaching position in Omaha over one in Wichita to be closer to the guys. Troy took over as RA. Just before the last of the men would graduate, John's infant nephew died unexpectedly. The funeral was held in Minnesota.

To John's surprise, Scott and his future wife, Lyndsay (Henderson '02), walked in. “We had to be here for you.”

“Even though we didn't share the same devotion that bonded them through the heartaches of adulthood with the procedures along the way. The men stood by each other through the miscarriages and stalled adoption paperwork, knowing these guys weren't going anywhere.”

A season of weddings would follow. Stan had married while still in school. Craig walked Troy's sister down the aisle at Troy's wedding, and eventually married her.

Scott married Lyndsay the week after John's wedding, and John didn't think twice about interrupting his honeymoon in Estes Park, Colo., to head back to Orange City for the ceremony. (His wife, Celeste, knew what he was getting into; one by one, the guys had walked John down the aisle to her, solemnly playing off what was only partly a joke: “I wanted them to have a big part in my wedding,” he says.)

There would be 18 kids born to this group of friends, but with miscarriages and stalled adoption procedures along the way. The men stood by each other through the heartaches of adulthood with the same devotion that bonded them to each other in their youth.

The men would become teachers (John and Stan), a hospital IT manager (Troy), Northwestern's head cross country and track and field coach (Scott), and a senior implementation manager in finance (Craig). And now, when jobs and families make road trips harder to manage, technology comes to the rescue. They meet on Google Hangouts on the third Tuesday of each month to stay accountable, just as they did late nights in Coly.

“We go to them for advice on being a better husband, parent and leader in my church,” Scott says. “We pray for each other and the things that are on our hearts. Our Google Hangout has kept me from a spiritual rut many times.”

“God uses them to help form me, these men have been a living example of Proverbs 27:17: ‘As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.’ ”

Throughout the years, we have realized the strength and encouragement we provide each other is something that is rare. To me, these men have been a living example of Proverbs 27:17: "As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another."
Rachel (Starr ’05) Heath was in Osaka, Japan, when missionaries she was working with during her Summer of Service encouraged her to return and teach English after she graduated. “I thought getting involved with the Summer Institute would be a great way to see if teaching English was a good fit for me,” she says. Northwestern’s Summer Institute for International Students was established in 1985 by the late Dr. Lyle Vander Werff in order to help students improve their English skills and learn about American culture and Christianity. For more than 20 years, the institute helped students improve their English skills and prepare for college-level study in the United States. The Summer Institute annually attracted as many as 40 students, who came from countries that included Bahrain, Brazil, Cameroon, China, Côte d’Ivoire, Cyprus, the Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Ghana, Hong Kong, Hungary, India, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, South Korea, Sudan, Taiwan and Ukraine. In Orange County they experienced the American Midwest through paintings with host families and field trips to a local farm, the Iowa State Fair, a Native American powwow, and a camping trip to the Black Hills to see Mount Rushmore. The Summer Institute is best known for its 10-week-long program. In addition to an English as a Second Language (ESL) course, Summer Institute students took classes from New Mexico State University, Whitworth University and Northwestern, where he coached basketball, baseball, football and golf in the 1970s and 1980s.

Dr. Bob Reeser, commissioner of the Mid-American Intercollegiate Athletics Association (MIAA) since 2006, will retire Jan. 30. Prior to joining the MIAA, he served as director of athletics at the University of Missouri John C. Kissinger, director of the Athletic Hall of Fame for the Iowa High School Athletic Association, died Jan. 22. A native of the Muncie area, he served on the IHSAA’s Board of Directors and the Board of Trustees. He was an active supporter of student-athletes at the high school and collegiate levels. He was a strong advocate for the academic success of student-athletes and was passionate about providing opportunities for athletes to receive a quality education. He will be greatly missed by his family, friends and all who knew him. Northwestern College in Orange County they experienced the American Midwest through paintings with host families and field trips to a local farm, the Iowa State Fair, a Native American powwow, and a camping trip to the Black Hills to see Mount Rushmore. The Summer Institute is best known for its 10-week-long program. In addition to an English as a Second Language (ESL) course, Summer Institute students took classes from New Mexico State University, Whitworth University and Northwestern, where he coached basketball, baseball, football and golf in the 1970s and 1980s.

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CLASS NOTES

Mark Stadlander’s Foster Group has been recognized as one of Iowa’s best places to work.

Workplace Investments

So far in 2016, Mark Stadlander ’74 and his team at Foster Group in West Des Moines have done more than 60,000 pushups. While this may seem like an unusual activity for a bunch of financial planners, it is part of the team philosophy that Stadlander, longtime CEO, says has always set them apart.

The team of just over 40 employees discusses client situations and decisions weekly, shuts down the office to complete service projects together, and, yes, prays for (optional) pushups each day at 2:30 p.m. Foster Group also emphasizes generosity in all aspects of its business. This year all employees are being encouraged to use some of their six weeks of annual paid vacation to serve the community, with teams vying to see who can tally the most volunteer hours. The company even started a challenge with its local credit union to see who can reach the most service hours in a given month.

Steve Perkins ’97 is serving as the campus pastor for Meredith Drive Reformed Church in Des Moines. Previously he served as the senior pastor at Bethel Reformed Church in Little Rock and co-pastor of Faith Christian Reformed Church in Polk. He and his wife, Margo (Ross ’95), have two children, Haley (12) and Sylar (9).

Don’t Lose Sight of the Future

It may be hard to see now, but she’ll be ready for college before you know it. Make sure you’re ready, too, with the Private College 529 Plan.

This national plan lets you pay today’s rates for tomorrow’s tuition at Northwestern and more than 270 other private colleges.

Don’t Lose Sight of the Future by Beth (Nikkel ’02) Gaulke

Private Colleges 529

Dr. Alethea Stubbe, president of Northwest Iowa Community College, received the 2015 Outstanding Chief Administrator Award from the Iowa Association of Community College Trustees.

Presidential Potential

Dr. Alethea (Steenhooven ’87) Stubbe never set out to become a college president. In fact, she didn’t even intend to go to college. Though she was the valedictorian of her high school class, Stubbe had wedding plans and a job at the local Ford dealership, deeming college simply unnecessary. But when her father died in the early ’30s, she, her younger brother and mother of two started to wonder about her purpose.

That’s when Northwestern College entered the scene. Enrolling as a commuter in 1982, Stubbe pursued degrees in business and accounting, which, as it turns out, also became an education in her own potential and passion.

Her nearly 30-year career as a teacher and administrator in higher education has been focused on helping students realize their own potential and passion.

Andy Norris has been named president of the Private College 529 Plan.

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by Beth (Nikkel ’02) Gaulke

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In Memoriam

The Rev. Dr. Chester Dorsey ’42 of Afton, Calif., died on Feb. 2 at age 94. He served in the U.S. Air Corps during World War II and earned degrees from Hope College, Western Theological Seminary and the California Graduate School of Theology. He ministered at Hope Reformed Church in Spencerville, Ind., Fifth Reformed Church in Grand Rapids, Mich., and Belhel Reformed Church in Buffalo, N.Y. He also served as a denominational executive secretary overseeing established churches and starting new ones in new Western states and two Canadian provinces. He also was a board member for Northwestern and Hope churches. He received the Church Growth Leadership Award in 1980 from the Institute of American Church Growth and the Distinguished Alumni Award from Western Seminary in 2003. He is survived by his wife, Jacqueline (Bonthuis ’43), whom he met on the steps of Zwemer Hall, and four daughters.

Lydia Whitebeaver ’44 of Winnebago, Neb., died March 21. She graduated from the Sage Memorial Hospital School of Nursing in Grand Forks, N.D., and pursued an extensive career in health and public service, holding positions as a staff nurse and emergency room supervisor. She was both a staff member and director of the Winneba- go School Community Health Representative Program, retiring after 26 years of federal service. A former mayor of Winnebago, she also served as chairperson of the Village of Winnebago Board of Trustees, Northwestern Nebraska Family Services and Aberdeen Area Indian Health Board. A member of Win- nebago Reformed Church, she is survived by her sister and five children.

Marnice (Smith) ‘64 Kaiser died March 7 at age 82. She taught in the town commu- nities of Matlock, Archer and Paullina. A member of the Baker Methodist Church and, later, the Archer United Methodist Church, she taught Sunday school, played the organ and sang in the choir. She was a member of the O’Brien County Women’s Chorus, the Delta Kappa Gamma-Alpha Tau chapter and the Phi Delta Chapter F in Paullina. She is survived by her husband, Vernon, and her daughter, Connie Van Deusen ’70.

Dan LaRondeg ’65, age 53, of Orange City died on April 16. He served in the Air Force and earned a degree in fine arts before becoming a graphic designer. He worked for Fox Industries in Edgerton, Minn., Lyle’s K-Products in Orange City, Wells Enterprises in Lee, Iowa, and most recently in the maintenance department at North- western. He was active in the Orange City Tulip Festival and at First Reformed Church, where he served as a deacon and was usually involved in music ministries. Among his survivors are wife, Nancy; his mother, Audrey (Hemstra ’52, ’54); and brothers, David ’70 and Dane ’82.

Submit by Sept. 5 to:
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101 7th Street SW • Orange City, IA 51041
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by Amy Scheer

Courtroom Drama

You’re indented in the same apartment for 20 years, and bedbugs now infest the building. You blame the landlord; he blames you. Eviction l ooms.

A participant in the Chicago Semester his senior year, Hulstein, a 2008 theatre and writing/rhetoric major, has stepped into a starring role in the lives of Chicago’s powerless. A staff attorney with Chicago Volunteer Legal Services (CVLS), Hulstein, a 2008 theatre and writing/rhetoric major, has stepped

The stakes are really high. It might be a long shot, but it’s worth the effort.

“The stakes are really high. It might be a long shot, but it’s worth the effort.”

Instead, he was assigned an internship at CVLS and initially took an exception to the lack of drama.

“I’m helping with evictions,” he thought to himself, “but I want to liberate people from slavery!”

Yuika Ida is carving out an acting career in Tokyo, including her role as “Hermia” in a modern adaptation of Shakespeare’s A Midsummer Night’s Dream.

Tokyo Roles

Yuika Ida ’11 may come across as quiet, but that hasn’t stopped her from staging a career as an actor in one of the largest cities in the world.

Since graduating from Northwestern and returning to Japan, Ida has worked steadily on Tokyo stages, in TV and, most recently, in a movie, ‘Elephant. She supports herself with part-time work, currently at a restaurant, and also takes acting classes twice a week. Ida’s first love is theatre, which she credits to her time at Northwestern. While a student, she had roles in such NWC productions as Asian Folk Tales and Picassos at the Lapin Agile. Theatre professor Karen Barker remembers that Ida “came in pretty tentative, but few people worked harder than she did.”

“She jumped in with both feet,” Barker says. “She was easy to direct. The humility of her spirit allowed for hand-won growth as an actor.”

Ida says her favorite part of acting is sensing the audience’s enjoyment. Her advice to other theatre majors is to take every opportunity to see plays, especially in theatre-rich cities like Chicago and New York.

“I really quickened this is human rights stuff; it’s just here, in your life.”

by Sherrie Barber Willson ’98
A vision I have
Of earth’s inhabitants
The world made whole
Humanity healed
Sons and daughters reconciled
To God and their neighbors
Brothers and sisters gathered
Round the Messiah’s banquet.

In 1984, on a plane en route to Japan, our father, the late Dr. Lyle Vander Werff ’54, wrote this first stanza of a poem titled Vision.

This past March, we had the opportunity to travel to Japan as part of a nine-member delegation from Northwestern and Orange City. Our purpose was to rekindle and strengthen relationships with people, churches, a sister city and sister colleges. And for the two of us, it was the chance of a lifetime to witness some of the impact of our father’s pioneering work as Northwestern’s longtime director of international programs—and to carry on his passion.

As our father understood decades ago, God’s kingdom is all about relationships and is built as Christians around the world unite. Japan has a deep history with rich arts and culture that is absolutely fascinating. Japan’s people are hospitable and go the extra mile to ensure visitors are welcomed. Japan has lost much of its spiritual heritage, and youth today do not hold to any religion. There is room for God’s kingdom to spread in Japan.

Our team soaked in the ancient temples, pristine gardens, food that is a work of art, kabuki theatre, restored castles, traditional hot springs, efficient trains, modern shopping streets and a bamboo forest. Even better, we met the most welcoming church leaders, teachers and principals of our sister schools, as well as the mayor and business people of our sister city. These people relished reconnecting with Northwestern and Orange City. We all felt the strength of exchanging ideas, learning from one another and gaining hope for future interactions.

One special connection was with Keiwa College in Shihata City on the western coast of Japan. This is a sister college in our sister city built on the friendship of our father and Muneharu Kitagaki—two kindred spirits. They both served at Christian colleges and shared the same vision for students. With our team and Keiwa’s staff, we were all delightfully surprised by the synergy among us. We shared a passion for enabling college students to grow from international friendships. Our three days together were a gift.

Another ordained meeting was with Dr. Kitagaki. We spent an evening with him, sitting on a tatami mat floor, enjoying a traditional meal and talking for hours. Karen Barker read our dad’s poem. It captured the heart of what our team hoped to accomplish.

In a letter sent after our visit, Dr. Kitagaki wrote, “It was indeed such a special pleasure for me to meet with the visitors from NWC and Orange City. Though I met all of them for the first time, I felt as if I had met them before. During our pleasant conversation, I felt the figure of Lyle Vander Werff looming behind us, looking down affectionately. I remembered Lyle’s biblical faith and his broad vision. I do hope the friendship between NWC and Keiwa College will continue long. I also hope the friendship between Orange City and Shihata City continues long. But I especially wish our personal friendships live on forever on a Christian basis.”

Dr. Kitagaki expresses the importance of Christians around the world fostering those partnerships. We have so much to offer one another, and we cannot afford to lose our ties in this increasingly interconnected world. It was an honor to travel through Japan and meet people who love NWC and Orange City.

Kathy Gabel and Kristyn Howe are the daughters of Lyle Vander Werff, a professor of religion at NWC from 1967 until 1998 who established several sister college relationships with institutions in the Pacific Rim. Gabel and Howe both live in Orange City and are part-time members of Northwestern’s faculty—in ESL and education, respectively.
For a number of future Northwestern students, their first experience on campus is a summer sports camp. In addition to being a fun time with friends and teammates, Red Raider camps are a great chance to learn from—and maybe impress—Northwestern coaches you hope to play for someday.

This summer, during June, July and early August, nearly 1,400 campers from second grade to seniors in high school spent one to several days in the Bultman Center gymnasium and on Korver Field’s newly refreshed turf. While being instructed by Raider coaches and select players in athletic fundamentals and specialized skills, they were also encouraged to see sports as a way to honor God and learn valuable life lessons.

To learn more about Raider sports camps, visit nwcraiders.com/camps.