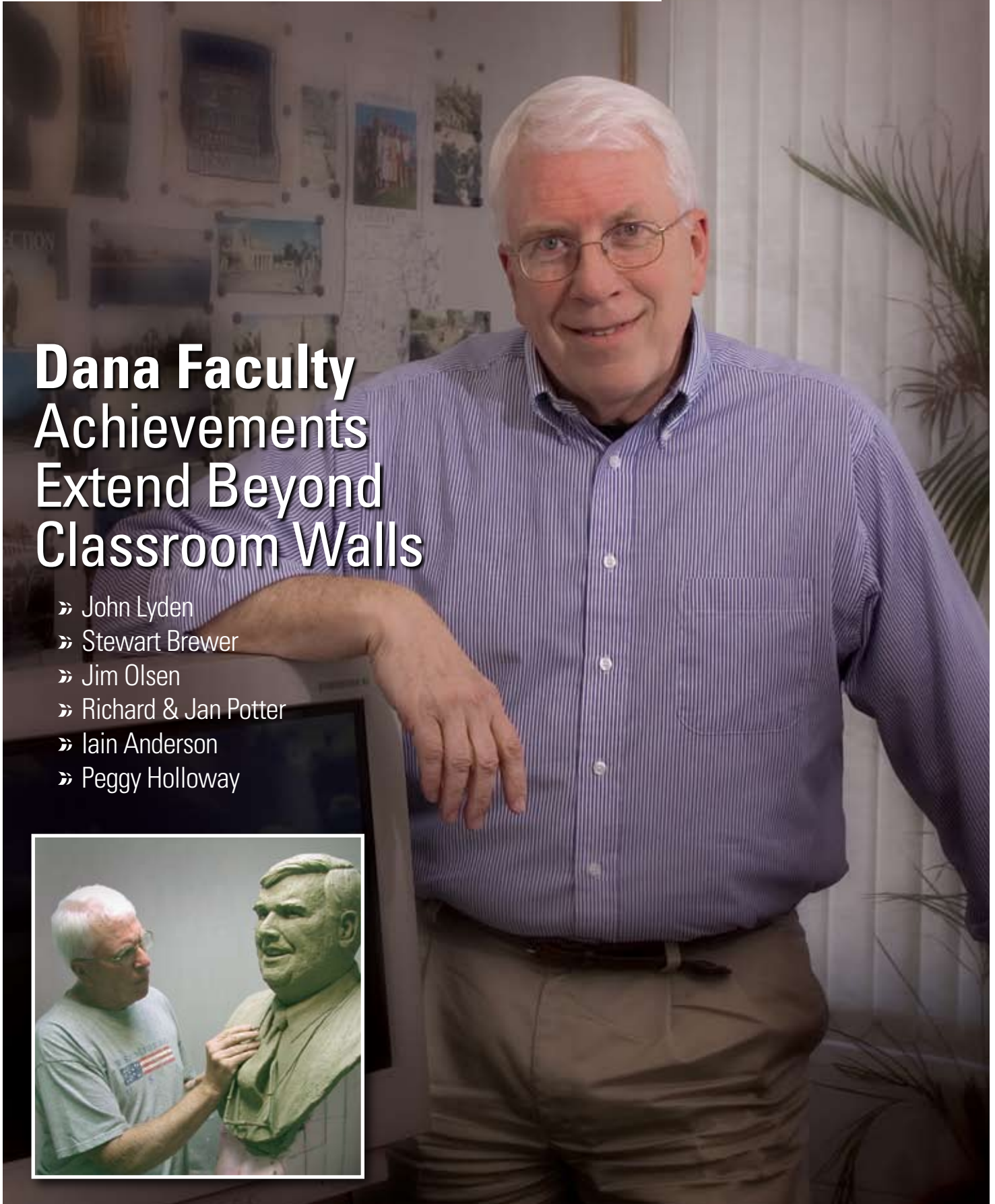




Dana Faculty Achievements Extend Beyond Classroom Walls

- » John Lyden
- » Stewart Brewer
- » Jim Olsen
- » Richard & Jan Potter
- » Iain Anderson
- » Peggy Holloway



Dana Review

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A GREETING FROM PRESIDENT PHILIPP

Star Wars, Alexander Hamilton, Katrina victims and Hallmark? What does a popular science fiction movie, a founding father, those in need of help, and greeting cards for all occasions have in common?

In this issue, we feature Dana students, faculty and alumni who are leading the way, as a featured expert in a documentary film on the legacy of Star Wars, educating young people and business leaders alike about the founder of modern banking, giving up a break from college for the third time to assisting Katrina victims, and creating a new line of greeting cards for those in need.

Religion professor Dr. John Lyden has long studied the religious foundations that inspired the George Lucas' saga. The Kevin Burns documentary will be aired in May. Over a year ago, Dana was selected as one of only colleges and universities in the country to host a national traveling exhibit of Alexander Hamilton. An exciting schedule of events is being planned for the August and September exhibition dates.

Thirty-five Dana students spent their spring break this March working once again with Hurricane Katrina victims in Slidell, La., through Operation Blessing, an international non-profit humanitarian organization. This is the third trip for many of the students. Not only do they grow through service to others but also discover a close community that forms when doing this work together. And, one might guess that a Dana graduate would take the lead in designing a new line of greeting cards focused on those with difficult health situations.

Dana College and Midland Lutheran College have been in the news the past several months following the comments of a donor about the need for the two institutions to work together in administrative and academic functions. Dana and Midland currently share two faculty members, students take classes at either campus at no additional charge, and discussions about additional cooperative efforts have been ongoing between the academic deans since last summer. There will likely be ongoing conversations when Midland appoints a new president. We are anxious to explore additional areas of common interest and need.

Keeping you, the alumni and friends of Dana, in contact with each other and informed about the college is vital. Our first-ever Dana After Hours in Omaha this spring was smashing success with over 125 of you in attendance. Renewing acquaintances and reminiscing with classmates, as well as connecting with former faculty members, kept the group buzzing for over two hours. The next Dana After Hours will be held May 24, 2007. Look for details in this issue.

This summer, Frank and I look forward to hosting a group of alumni and friends on a tour through Switzerland, Germany, and Denmark under our able tour guide, Professor Jim Olsen. The grand finale will be our attendance at a performance of the Dana College Chorale in Odense, Denmark. It is an exciting time!




Dr. Janet Philipp
President, Dana College



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Campus Digest

There's always a lot happening here at Dana. Get caught up on all the most recent events and achievements of the Dana College Community.



Prof. Carol Haussermann (physical education) will be serving as chair of the Faculty Athletic Representative Association of the NAIA in 2008. She has previously served as chair-elect, vice president and for two terms as secretary of this national organization made up of faculty athletic representatives from each NAIA member institution. Faculty athletic representatives are responsible for certifying the eligibility of all student athletes on campus.

Dr. Janet Philipp, president, has been named to the Board of Trustees for the Mid-America Council, Boy Scouts of America. It is the largest youth-serving agency in Nebraska, Iowa and South Dakota.

Dr. Claire Bushong and Dr. Peggy Holloway (music) presented the world premiere of *Four Shakespeare Songs* by Dr. Randall Snyder, composer-in-residence at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, in March. The performance was part of a special career retrospective for Dr. Snyder in honor and celebration of his retirement from UNL. The songs were written for Dr. Holloway, who has performed other world premiere performances of Dr. Snyder's music for solo voice.

Rev. Dr. Andrea Ng'weshemi (religion) presented a paper at the Missouri Valley History Conference in March. The title of the paper was "Enthusiasm in African Christianity: The Impact of the 20th c. East African Revival Movement on Church and Society."

Dr. John Lyden's (religion) essay, "Apocalyptic

Determinism and Star Wars," was published in "Culture, Identities, and Technology in the Star Wars Films: Essays on the Two Trilogies," eds. Carl Silvio and Tony M. Vinci (Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Co., 2007). The essay compares the ways in which the two Star Wars trilogies make use of apocalyptic themes in different ways and so suggests an increasingly deterministic worldview in contemporary American culture and politics.

Dr. Iain Anderson and Dr. Stewart Brewer (history) attended the American Historical Association annual conference in Atlanta in January. Both professors attended panels, networked with colleagues and publishers, and caught up on the latest scholarship in the vast book exhibit.

Dr. John Mark Nielsen (English) served on the Council for International Exchange of Scholars on the India Peer Review Committee for the Fulbright Scholar Program. Peer review committees evaluate applications and recommend candidates for further consideration in the selection of U.S. Fulbright scholar candidates. Dr. Nielsen was a senior Fulbright Lecturer in American Literature in India in 2000.

Dr. Kate Joeckel (communication) has been elected Secretary of the Executive Board of the Blair Chamber of Commerce. Her term began in February. Dr. Joeckel serves as Dana's Community Outreach Coordinator.

The National Convention of the American Orff-Schulwerk Association was held at the Qwest Center in Omaha in November. (Orff-Schulwerk is one of the

primary methods used in teaching music in the elementary school). Dana students served as session monitors for part of the conference, and in return received free admission to the remainder of the conference, allowing them the opportunity to observe clinicians and musical groups from all over the world. Participants were: Tommy Brandon, Ryan Dinkelman, Nick Harms, Natalie Hearn, Molly Polk, Luther Simon, Nicole Taylor, and Paige Vaughan. Dr. Peggy Holloway (music) served on the organizing committee for the convention, working primarily as co-chair for the committee responsible for recruiting student monitors.

The annual meeting of the Nebraska Music Educators Association was held in November in Lincoln. Joy Augustine, Megan Reppert, Molly Polk, Paige Vaughan, Ronnie Kellogg, Tommy Brandon, Kirk Schjodt, Sara Andrews, Nick Albrecht, Natalie Hearn and Nicole Taylor attended from Dana's chapter of CMENC (Collegiate Chapter of the National Association for Music Educators). Dr. Peggy Holloway (music) attended as advisor to the organization. Kirk Schjodt, who was selected from a competitive recital at Dana in September, represented Dana on the Collegiate Recital, performing "The Erlking," by Franz Schubert.

Dr. John Lyden and Rev. Dr. Andrea Ng'weshemi (religion) attended the American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., in November. Dr. Lyden co-chairs the group on Religion, Film, and Visual Culture. The conference is the largest annual international meeting of religion scholars, attracting about 11,000 participants from around the world, and dealing with every area of the study of religion.

Dr. Paul Schneider (English) was nominated by the Omaha Entertainment Awards for Best Acting Performance by a Visiting Actor for performing Mr. Bennet in "Pride and Prejudice" at Brigit Saint Brigit Theatre in Omaha. Other nominees with Dana ties include Schneider's wife and frequent Dana theater performer Connie Lee who was nominated for Best Local Actress in a Leading Role (Play) for her role in "The Graduate" at the Omaha Community Playhouse; 2006 alumnus Eric Grant-Leanna who was nominated for Best Local Actor in a Supporting Role (Play) for "A View From A Bridge" at Brigit Saint Brigit Theatre; and frequent Dana theater director Brandon Higdrem for Best Local Actor in Supporting Role (Musical) for his performance in "Ragtime" at the Omaha Community Playhouse.

Dr. Myrvin Christopherson, president emeritus, retired from the Board of Directors of the Nebraska Educational Finance Authority (NEFA) after 15 years on the board. Nebraska Governor Dave Heineman recognized Christopherson with an Outstanding Public Service Award "in recognition of his public service, leadership and dedication to the State of Nebraska and its private colleges and universities through 15 years of faithful service as a member and Chairman of the Board of Directors of NEFA..."



Dana One of Forty to Host National Exhibit

Alexander Hamilton Exhibit

Aug. 24-Oct. 5, 2007

Alexander Hamilton (1757-1804) by John Trumbull (1756-1843). New-York Historical Society, Gift of Thomas Jefferson Bryan

Dana College is one of only 40 sites across the country selected to host a traveling panel exhibit, "Alexander Hamilton: The Man Who Made Modern America." The exhibit will appear in the C.A. Dana-LIFE Library from Aug. 24-Oct. 5, 2007.

"We are honored to have been chosen to host this exhibit," said Dr. Kay Ferguson, professor of education at Dana and coordinator of the event. "Alexander Hamilton is an impressive figure in the history of the United States. His powerful thoughts and actions as an architect of the Constitution and designer of American capitalism has largely shaped our nation today."

The exhibit examines Hamilton's central role during the Revolutionary War and Founding period in creating the economic, constitutional, social, journalistic, political and foreign policy templates for modern America.

Several special events are planned surrounding the exhibit. A lunch-and-learn session is planned for Sept. 15 from 12-3 p.m. Heritage clubs, quilting clubs, historical societies, art groups, educators, museum curators, book club members and the general public will be invited to view the exhibit and a quilt show and attend guest lectures on art and literature. During lunch, guests will enjoy a fashion show of popular styles worn during the Hamilton era. The final event will be a reenactment of the debates and duel of Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr.

Dana College will also be hosting the Alexander Hamilton Research Conference on Sept. 29 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Undergraduates and secondary students are invited to compete for scholarships and cash prizes. The event will include presentations by competitors as well as the screening of several films.

More information is available at www.dana.edu/hamilton.

"Alexander Hamilton: The Man Who Made Modern America" is a national traveling exhibition organized by the New-York Historical Society, the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, and the American Library Association. The traveling exhibition has been made possible in part through a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, dedicated to expanding American understanding of human experience and cultural heritage.

*It will be open to the public during regularly scheduled library hours:
1-10 p.m. Sundays;
8 a.m.-10 p.m., Mon-Thurs;
8 a.m.-5 p.m. Fridays;
closed Saturdays.*

Presiding Bishop of ELCA Visits Dana

Mark S. Hanson, presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), was the keynote speaker at the Opening Convocation at Dana College in January.

The title of Hanson's address was "Unquenchable Curiosity and Evangelical Persistence." He spoke specifically to the students in attendance about their role as a Christian in today's world.

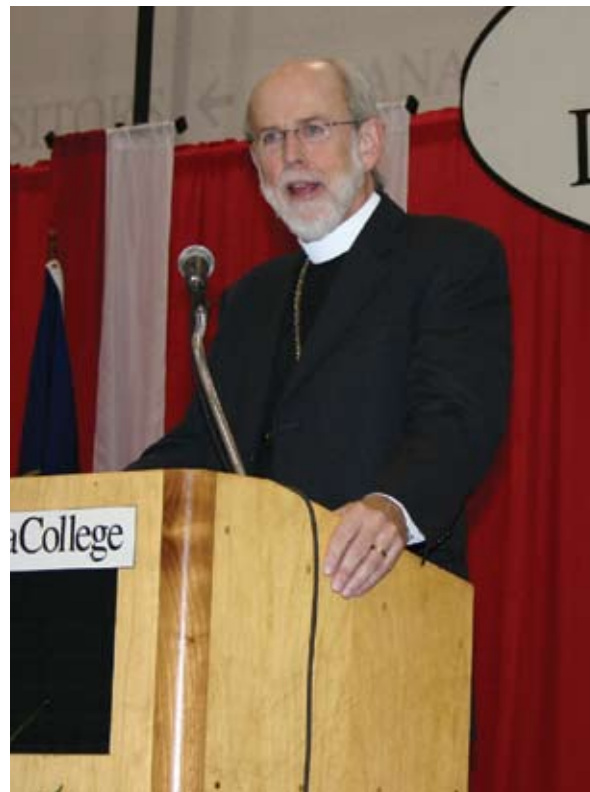
"The vocation of a Lutheran college is to plant within you students an unquenchable curiosity about God, an unquenchable curiosity about the centrality of the faith, about the vastness of the universe..." he said. "I hope that when you leave Dana, you can say on graduation day, 'Thank you, Dana, for giving me an unquenchable curiosity about God, about the cosmos, about myself, about my faith, about my neighbor.'"

"Being a Christian for me means I am set free in Christ for a life of service to my neighbor. I think that is what Dana exists for...It's an unquenchable curiosity and a persistent faith that becomes a sign of hope for the world and you are that," Hanson told the students at convocation.

The event also highlighted Dana's commitment to service by our faculty, staff and students.

"We were honored to have Bishop Hanson visit our campus," said Dana College President Janet Philipp. "This was an enormous opportunity for our students to hear from a speaker with a national influence and international influence."

Bishop Hanson sat in on classes throughout the day, and



Dana students had the opportunity to join him for lunch in the college's cafeteria.

Dana College is one of 28 colleges of the ELCA.

Hanson was elected to serve presiding bishop of the ELCA in 2001. He previously served as bishop of the Saint Paul (Minnesota) Area Synod and served as pastor of three Minnesota congregations.

Born in Minneapolis on December 2, 1946, he graduated from Augsburg College with a B.A. in sociology. He was a Rockefeller Fellow at Union Theological Seminary, New York City, and received a Master of Divinity degree there in 1972. He also attended Luther Seminary, St Paul, Minnesota, and was a Merrill Fellow at Harvard Divinity School in 1979.

In 2003, he was elected president of the Lutheran World Federation, a position he holds concurrently with his position as presiding bishop of the ELCA. In this position, Bishop Hanson has the opportunity to speak with Lutherans throughout the world about the social, economic, and political injustices that we, the people of God, are called to confront.

The son of a Lutheran evangelist, Hanson is by reputation an advocate for social justice, especially issues that impact the poor, including racial justice, housing, welfare rights, and immigration rights.

He is the author of *Faithful Yet Changing, the Church in Challenging Times* and *Faithful and Courageous, Christians in Unsettling Times*, both from Augsburg Fortress, Publishers.



Eleven online courses highlight the summer school offerings at Dana College this summer.

Online courses are planned in accounting, communication, criminal justice, English, history, mathematics and psychology.

"Select summer classes have been offered at Dana in an online format in the past," said Dr. Ray Russin, vice president for academic affairs and academic dean, "but this is the first time Dana has provided so many opportunities for off-campus study."

"Both traditional and nontraditional students will find that online delivery provides more freedom in scheduling, something everyone seems to need in the summer months," Russin said.

All of Dana's online courses will be taught by regular, full-time faculty members, ensuring the academic integrity expected in a Dana College course.

Dana College is also offering a slate of traditional on-campus courses. These courses are popular among Dana's current and incoming students to pick up extra credit hours toward their degree.

They are also a smart way to take care of some general education requirements for students currently enrolled or planning to enroll at other colleges and universities. Students who plan to transfer credits are advised to check with their college's registrar's office prior to enrolling.

Summer courses are offered at a special reduced tuition rate. The first summer session of classes begins May 30.

For a full listing of Dana's summer offerings and for more information, see www.dana.edu/summer or call 402-426-7209.

Dana Part of Historic Campus Architecture Project

Dana's Pioneer Memorial and Unter den Linden (the trees) are listed in the new CIC Historical Campus Architectural Project list. The CIC Historic Campus Architecture Project (HCAP) is the first nationwide architecture and landscape database of independent college and university campuses (www.cic.edu/hcap).

The CIC HCAP website provides extensive information about

www.dana.edu

significant buildings, landscapes, campus plans, and heritage sites of American higher education. Through a user-friendly search engine and a rich set of bibliographic materials, it also guides viewers to a wide variety of sources that they can use for further study. Supported by two generous grants from the Getty Foundation, the HCAP website documents nearly 2,000 campus sites of historical significance that have been provided by nearly 370 institutions.

"CIC expects that people with a variety of interests in independent colleges and universities will find new and valuable materials here. Campus planners, alumni, admissions officials and prospective students and their families, to name just a few of the audiences for HCAP, can choose to look at the most prominent features on one college campus or one hundred of them," said CIC President Richard Ekman. Web users can search the collection by building style and type, architect, time period, state or region, and in many other ways.

First GPAC-Christopherson All-Academic Award presented



Mount Marty College in Yankton, S.D. was named the first recipient of the Great Plains Athletic Conference annual GPAC-Christopherson All-Academic Award in January. Mount Marty had a combined GPA of 3.296 among all of their student-athletes.

"I couldn't be more excited for Mount Marty College to claim this prestigious honor," said GPAC Commissioner Corey Westra. "This award is important for two reasons: It recognizes a strong academic program as a whole at Mount Marty and it honors a great person in Dr. Myrvin Christopherson."

"We are honored to receive the award at Mount Marty College," said Mount Marty Athletic Director Chuck Iverson. "It means a lot to our college to earn this award for the academic excellence it stands for and for the person it is named after in Dr. Christopherson. This is an exciting event for Mount Marty College and our athletic program."

The Christopherson All-Academic Award is named in honor of former Dana College President Dr. Myrvin Christopherson's faithful and long-term service to student-athletes in the GPAC. Dr. Christopherson retired following the 2004-2005 academic year after 19 years at Dana College.

President Christopherson served as the first chair of the GPAC Council of Presidents, which was formed in 2004. Dr. Christopherson was very active with the NAIA serving on the Council of Presidents for many years up until his retirement. In the late 1950s and early 1960s, Christopherson was a Viking student athlete himself, playing for the men's basketball and baseball teams.

Ambassadors for the Birds



Dana College biology professor Dr. Carla Delucchi and senior Tony Palmer participated in this year's Great Backyard Bird Count from Feb. 16-19. DeLucchi served as an "ambassador" this year for the count, and Palmer, of Dennison, Ohio, is a student in her class.

This year was the 10th year for the annual event, sponsored by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and the National Audubon Society. It allows people of all ages, from across the United States and Canada, the opportunity to tally the birds they see over a set period of time.

"By submitting their counts online, bird-watchers can quickly see how the dots they put on a map form new patterns that tell new stories about the birds that share the world in which we live, including our own backyards and parks," said Paul Green, Audubon's director of Citizen Science.

This is the second year Delucchi and Palmer have participated in the count. Delucchi also has participated in "Project Feeder Watch," also sponsored by Cornell University, for approximately four to five years, keeping watch twice a week of the visitors to her home feeder and the area around her home.

While the information from the GBBC isn't used for formal papers, data tracked through Project Feeder Watch and similar projects, such as those through www.ebird.org, will be used.

"There's just no way that scientists can collect this much information," Delucchi said. "This data is very valuable."

In addition, for those who have made "birding" their hobby, ebird allows them to record bird observations, such as personal bird "life lists."

"It also plots what you've seen and the frequency," Delucchi added. "I've been doing that for two years, and that data is available for scientists to use."

Last year, participants turned in 60,000 checklists in the Great Backyard Bird Count, comprising approximately 7.5 million birds overall. For the past three years, Nebraska has scored among the top 10 states for the highest number of birds counted, said Dave Titterington, of Wild Bird Habitat in Lincoln, Nebraska's 2007 ambassador for the Great Backyard Bird Count.

Delucchi said much of the information obtained during the weekend's count is used for long-term data, such as the increase - or decrease - of certain bird populations, or range expansion for certain types of birds.

"Certain birds are expanding their northward migration," Delucchi said. In addition, the data also look at "eruptive" movements, such as birds normally found in Canada that may be found moving into areas in the United States.

Excerpted from "Ambassadors for the Birds," an article which appeared in the Blair (Neb.) Pilot-Tribune on Feb. 20, 2007. Used with permission.

Five Retired Dana Faculty and Staff members Celebrate Golden Wedding Anniversaries



Five couples who have had long associations with Dana College celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversaries last summer. Each couple celebrated individually in a manner they selected with their families, but all celebrated together with a gala dinner together at Brother Sebastian's in Omaha on Aug. 25, followed by more celebrating, picture sharing, and reminiscing at the home of Dr. Delvin and Trudy Hutton in Blair.

The couples were as follows: Professor Emeritus of Biology (1962-97) Dr. Larrie '57 and Norma (Nelson '58) Stone, who were married June 17, 1956; Professor Emeritus of Chemistry (1963-96) Eugene and Nancy '68 Lindblad, who were married June 30, 1956; Professor Emeritus of Physics Arvin and former school nurse Betty Hermes, who were married August 19, 1956; Professor Emeritus of Religion (1964-99) Dr. Delvin and Trudy '85 Hutton, who were married August 19, 1956; and former director of development Eugene and Susie Meyer, who were married August 26, 1956.

It would appear that long-term associations with Dana College make for stable relationships!

New Alumni Directory Set For 2008 Publication

Reconnect with memories and catch up with old friends and former classmates with the upcoming Alumni

Directory. This exciting and invaluable resource will include personal, academic and business information about all Dana College graduates.

The book is being researched and compiled by Harris Publishing, the leading publisher of alumni directories in the U.S. When you receive your directory questionnaire by email or U.S. Mail, don't miss your opportunity to be part of the important project. Take a few minutes to update and return your information — and be sure you're included so old friends can find you.

The directory will be published in 2008. For more information, contact Julie Rohlfing, director of alumni affairs, 402-426-7235, jrohlf@dana.edu.

Russin Named VPAA



Dr. Raymond Russin has been named vice president for academic affairs and dean of the college at Dana College. He began work at Dana in March.

Russin most recently was special associate to the president for institutional effectiveness at Kansas Wesleyan University in Salina, Kan. He also served for five years as vice president for academic affairs and academic dean at Kansas Wesleyan. For 18 years prior, Russin was professor of psychology at Bethany College in Lindsborg, Kan., a sister institution of Dana.

"We are pleased to have Dr. Russin join the Dana College community," said Dr. Janet Philipp, president of Dana College. "His teaching and administrative experiences at colleges similar to Dana will be helpful as he guides the academic life of the College."

Russin earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in psychology from the University of Bridgeport in Connecticut. His doctorate in general experimental psychology is from Colorado State University.

"I am delighted to be at Dana," Russin said. "The beauty of the campus and the friendliness of its people have confirmed my earlier impressions of the quality of Dana College."

Alumni Can Join 2008 Discovery Term European Trips

Alumni and friends are invited to join Dana students and their seasoned instructors on cultural excursions in France and Italy with Jim Olsen (Art) and Germany and Denmark with

Sybill Bartels (German) during the 2008 January Discovery Term, space permitting and without academic credit. "From the Eternal City to the City of Light" will introduce or return participants to the cultural treasures of Rome, Florence and Paris, with side trips to Chartres and Versailles. The projected cost of \$3400 includes round-trip airfare from Omaha, ground transportation, breakfast and dinner daily, lodging and admission to all sites and museums, as required. For further information, please contact Professor Olsen at jolsen@dana.edu or 402-426-7206.



Discovery Term trip in Florence, 2005

The cross-cultural experience conducted by Dr. Bartels will be based in Berlin, with trips to Lutherstadt Wittenberg and Dana's exchange sites in Denmark, Vejle and/or Aalborg. In addition to exploring historic and cultural sites and visiting family and friends, participants may request arrangements for other places of interest. The estimated cost of \$2500 includes round-trip airfare from Omaha, ground transportation, breakfast daily, lodging and admission to all required sites. For further information, contact Dr. Bartels at sbartels@dana.edu.

Professors Olsen and Bartels will be awarded emeritus status at the conclusion of this academic year.



*Alumni at Roman Theater in Alexandria, Egypt - January 2007
Left to Right: Jim Olsen '62, Jackie Smith '99, Linda (Money '65) Jorgensen, Jim Jorgensen '66, Marie (Hansen '53) Larsen, Mark Olsen '90*



Women's Basketball Making Strides in GPAC

The Dana College Women's Basketball finished the 2006-07 with a record of 14-15. To most sports fans, a record a game below .500 isn't something to talk about, but for the women's basketball team it verges on history. The Vikings' 14 wins were the most wins of any team since 1992-93. This was the third best record in the program's history. The best record was 17-12 in the 1991-92 season.

The tie between the 1992-93 and 2006-07 teams is Brenda Mechels. Mechels was a freshman guard from Wyoming in 1992-93. She finished out her career for the Vikings in 1995-96 as an Academic All-American. Following graduation, Mechels went onto a career in the business world, returning to coaching as an assistant at College of St. Mary in Omaha in 1999.

In the summer of 2003, Mechels received a call from then Athletic Director and Dana alumnus Mark Clements to return to Blair and the Dana campus. Her task was a monumental one—to revive a Viking basketball program that had gone 0-32 in its first two years in the Great Plains Athletic Conference.

It was not an easy task, but it was one that Mechels was up to. Walking into a program with only eight players on the roster, there was a lot of work for the new coach. The first season was not the best, as the Vikings struggled to an 0-22 overall record, not winning a conference game for the third straight year.

The second year saw a small recruiting class and not a lot of change in the standings. The only bright spot was a win over Haskell Indian Nations at home. Dana finished with a 1-28 record and 0-18 in conference play.

Then an influx of skilled freshmen sparked the beginning of the transformation of the Viking program. The 2004-05

basketball season saw a change on the court. Freshmen Amy Nichol (Des Moines, Iowa), Jennifer Endres (Lincoln, Neb.), Michelle Weinrich (Pierce, Neb.), and Felicia Ellis (Jolley, Iowa) all grabbed starting roles in their first year. Dana started to push the ball up the court and became competitive. Dana went 4-26 overall and was 1-17 in the GPAC. Dana defeated Midland Lutheran at home to earn its first-ever conference win.

“When I took over in 2003, I knew it would take time to move things forward,” said Mechels. “We’re still in that process, and I hope we continue to move in that direction in the coming years.”

In 2005-06 season, the Vikings won more games in one season than in the previous five years combined. Dana brought in three freshmen over six foot and again improved its play. Dana finished 10-20 overall and 3-15 in conference play. This was the first time that the Vikings did not finish at the bottom of the GPAC. Nichol earned second team All-GPAC honors as a sophomore and sped up the career charts in steals and scoring.

Not only were the Vikings improving on court, they were also improving in the classroom. Dana's women's basketball team finished the year with an overall team grade point average of 3.55. The GPA was tops in the nation for NAIA women's basketball teams.

This season, Dana defeated two nationally-ranked teams. Dana knocked off NAIA top ten Ottawa University, 83-78, in Wichita, Kan. The Vikings started off 3-0 for the first time in six seasons. The hoopsters continued to scare nationally rated teams both at home and on the road. Dana was within two points at half against defending national champions Morningside and led Mount Marty at half.

Then late in the season, the Vikings upset NAIA No. 23-rated Doane College 84-81 at home, Dana's first win over Doane since 1992-93. Dana finished in the middle of the conference for the first time and finished the regular season 14-14, before suffering a conference tournament loss at Dordt College.

Nichol was named to the second team All-GPAC team. **Amanda Bryant** (Treynor, Iowa) and **Tricia Trotter** (Treynor, Iowa) each were tabbed to the honorable mention team.

“The credit goes to the players on our steady improvement,” said Mechels. “Amy Nichol has been instrumental in the turnaround that this program has made.”

Mechels has made strides not only in wins and losses, but made the program a model of growth. In the first year, Dana played several of its first games with only seven players, before a few volleyball and soccer players joined after their fall seasons. Now, the numbers have grown and Dana supports not only a solid varsity team, but fielded its first junior varsity team.

“The program has made a complete 180 turnaround,” said Nichol. “We are a well balanced team and the coaching staff has been very positive. It's fun to be part of Dana Women's Basketball!”

Other players have echoed the same sentiment as Nichol. “Over the past few years, the program has really improved,” said Bryant. The women's basketball team is also not just a team, it is a family. The athletes not only play together, they also work out and hang out together.

“We are very close as a team and a great group of athletes,” added Bryant. “Our goal is to be the top in the GPAC.”

The future looks bright for the women's basketball team. There is not a senior on the team and Dana will return all five starters from this season's squad. Nichol cracked the 1,000 point mark and is one of the top ten scorers of all time. She has a chance to break Kim Farmers' ('91) all-time record midway through next season.

Nichol also owns the career steal mark and is in the top ten in blocked shots. Bryant and Trotter led the team in scoring, rebounding and assists.

Beam to lead both soccer squads

Shad Beam '94, head men's soccer coach at Dana College since 2002, has been promoted to also lead Dana's women's soccer team.

Beam earned his bachelor's degree in social science and psychology from Dana College. He is currently pursuing a master's degree in sport management at Wayne State College.

“Coach Beam has been an excellent recruiter for Dana College,” said Dana Athletic Director Bill Danenhauer. “We're asking him to translate the success he's seen on the men's side to the women's squad.”

Beam is excited about the new challenge. “I want to bring this program back to the dominance it once had in the Great Plains Athletic Conference,” he said. “We have a great core of women already here and an outstanding recruiting class.”

At the same time, Beam is dedicated to his men's team. “We look to continue to progress to levels even higher than those we've achieved in the last five years,” he said.

The Dana College men's soccer team finished the 2006 season with an 11-9 overall record and a fifth place finish in the GPAC. The team advanced to the semifinals of the NAIA Region III Tournament.

The Dana Viking women's soccer team was 6-11-1 in 2006 and 10th in the GPAC.

Vikings land three on GPAC Honorable Mention Team

The Dana College men's basketball team landed three men on the Great Plains Athletic Conference Honorable Mention team.

The three Viking selections were **Teddy Cox** (SR, Hawley, Minn.), **Jared Kitzelman** (SR, Fremont, Neb.), and **Eric Maassen** (SO, Hancock, Iowa). Cox was one of the two team captains for the 2006-07 season. He led the team in scoring with 12.6 points per game. Kitzelman entered the starting line-up midway through the season and averaged 9.9 points per game. Maassen was the third leading scorer with 9.6 points per game and was the Vikings leading rebounder with 5.1 per game.

The Vikings ended their season at 8-22 overall. Maassen returns to Dana next season along with fellow starters point guard **Doug Huston** (SO, Olathe, Kan.), **Jon Person** (SO, Olathe, Kan.), and **Gabe Bross** (SO, Omaha, Neb.).

Vikings fourth at National Wrestling; Barnes takes second

The Dana College defending National Champion wrestling team finished fourth in the overall team scoring at the NAIA National Wrestling Tournament in March. The Vikings scored 100 team points with seven All-Americans.

Burke Barnes (JR, Lake Stevens, Wash.) rolled through the championship bracket at 133 pounds, before squaring off against three-time All-American Mike Miller of McKendree in the finals. Barnes took an early lead with two takedowns, but fell via pin in 2:59 to finish as National Runner-Up.

Other All-Americans for Dana were **Eric Graham** (FR, Kansas City, Mo.), 133 (6th); **Terrence Almond** (SR, Pelham, Ga.), 141 (4th) - first-ever four-time All-American Viking wrestler; **Dan Pray** (SO, St. George, Kan.), 157 (8th); **Jason Bilinski** (JR, Pitts Grove, N.J.), 157 (5th); **Ryan "Bulla" Tuzon** (FR, Wailuku, Hawaii), 165 (5th); **Wade Jordan** (JR, Coulee City, Wash.), 197 (6th).

"Obviously our goal was a second national title, but we will have to be content with our results," said Dana Head Coach Richard Fergola. "For a young team, these guys performed at a very high level, only finishing ten points out of second place. A couple more matches go our way and we would have finished in the top two."

Dana also had three NAIA-Daktronics Scholar-Athletes **Jordan, Pray** and **Webster Farris** (Nebraska City, Neb.). The Vikings will graduate only two wrestlers from this year's National Tournament squad.

Dana coaches and players on winning team in All-American Bowl

The Dana College football coaching staff helped lead a team of Division II, Division III, and NAIA players to a 41-10 victory over a team of top minor league and semi-pro players from the Midwest in December at the Metrodome in Minneapolis, Minn., in 2006 All-American Bowl.

Dana Head Coach Bill Danenhauer and his staff were selected to conduct practices and coach the college squad. Dana's seniors **Rick Lebeda** (Omaha, Neb.), **Javon Bell** (McArthur, Fla.), and **Mitch Bowhay** (Bellevue, Neb.) were selected to participate in the game and also had the opportunity to work out for professional scouts prior to the contest.

Dana's Lebeda selected First Team All-American

Dana College kicker **Rick Lebeda** (SR, Omaha, Neb.) has been selected as a First Team NAIA All-American by the American Football Coaches Association. Lebeda, who was also a two-time First Team All-GPAC selection, made 16 of 23 field goals this year for Dana (6-5, 5-5 GPAC). Lebeda was 6 of 9 on field goals between 40 and 49 yards and also made a 51-yard field goal against Hastings this season.

Lebeda holds multiple season and career records at Dana, including total points in a career (240 points) and longest field goal made (57 yards).

Lebeda is the 21st NAIA Football All-American in Dana history and the first to be selected since Will Collins in 1995.

17 named NAIA Scholar Athletes

Seventeen Dana College fall sports athletes have been declared NAIA Scholar Athletes. They are: women's soccer players **Aimee Grosinske** (Wausau, Wis.) and **Heather Fischer** (Gretna, Neb.); men's soccer players **Shelby Bliss** (Parkville, Mo.) and **Kelly Grant-Leanna** (Omaha, Neb.); cross country runners **John Kaup** (Grand, Island, Neb.), **Eric Bane** (Oakland, Iowa), and **Greg Rickenbacher** (Tacoma, Wash.); volleyball players **Darcy Gross** (Earling, Iowa) and **Kira Presler** (Omaha, Neb.); and football players **Trevor Ketelsen** (Bloomfield, Neb.), **Kyle Peterson** (Blair, Neb.), **Greg Wilmes** (Creighton, Neb.), **Joe Stump** (Grand Island, Neb.), **Clayton Timm** (Glenwood, Iowa), **Alex Hook** (Omaha, Neb.), **Aaron McClun** (Louisville, Neb.), and **Chris Vacek** (Omaha, Neb.).

Recipients of the award must be a junior or above in academic standing who have earned a varsity letter while maintaining a grade point average of 3.5 or higher.

Dana Alumna Inspired to give back



Brenda (Meyer '86) and Tom Accola

The quality education **Brenda (Meyer '86) Accola** felt she received at Dana College has inspired her to continue to give back.

As a young alumna, Accola has established herself as a consistent giver to Dana. Her giving has increased as she has succeeded further in her career at Harris Corporation. It is further enhanced by matching gifts by both Harris and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

"When I first graduated, I couldn't afford much, but I wanted to give something," she said. A few years ago, she chose to divert some of her charitable giving from another organization to Dana and she has maintained that level.

"Donors at all levels are vital to the success of Dana College," said Chrystal LeGrand, director of annual giving. "Consistent gifts from alumni, such as Brenda, help today's Dana students enjoy some of the same life-building college experiences that the alumni remember."

Accola graduated from Dana with majors in accounting, business, and economics. She was involved in campus life, playing flute in the Concert Band, serving on Student Senate, participating in Forensics and performing with the Clown Ministry.

www.dana.edu

The personal relationships she was able to establish with her professors, especially the late Prof. Gil Ragan, were among the highlights of her college years. "I liked the fact that you could go talk to your professors outside of class and you saw them at different campus activities," Accola said. "They cared about me as a person, not just a student."

Now, Accola works in Melbourne, Fla., as a program financial analyst for Harris Corporation, an international communications and information technology company serving government and commercial markets in more than 150 countries. She started with the company in Omaha 11 years ago and made the move to Florida to work for Harris' government division in 2002.

"It's important to me to support private colleges like Dana," she said. "Everyone thinks, 'oh, the big universities, you get the best education there.' I disagree. I believe I got a great education from Dana. I hope others also will think about what they got out of Dana and give back."

The faculty at Dana College are outstanding teachers. They are not hired with pressures to research or publish, although many do. In many cases, the work of the faculty in the national realm is pursued to enhance their work inside the classroom.

The following pages outline the achievements of faculty whose work has been produced in the last year and their inspirations for it.

Religion in Big Screen Sci-Fi

Dr. Lyden speaks on religion in film for "Star Wars: Legacy"

Dr. John Lyden first saw the movie "Star Wars" as a teen-ager. "I was quite taken with it," he said. "When a film like that captures the imagination of the whole world, it clearly has deeper themes."

Now the professor of religion at Dana College is seen as an academic authority on the subject. He has been quoted in *USA Today* and other national publications about the significant impact of Star Wars to our culture. In May, he will appear in a documentary on the History Channel entitled, "Star Wars: Legacy."

"Star Wars: Legacy" is scheduled to premiere on the History Channel on Memorial Day, May 28. The two-hour documentary, commemorating the 30th anniversary of the original film, will explore the sociological, religious, mythic, and political foundations that inspired George Lucas' saga—from Arthurian legend to the fall of the Roman empire; from Buddhism and Christian faith to the influence of 20th century demagogues on Darth Vader and his stormtroopers. It is produced by Emmy Award-winning filmmaker Kevin Burns and will be available for purchase on DVD.

Lyden flew to Washington, D.C., and later to California to be interviewed for the program. "It's pretty exciting," Lyden said. "I've been interviewed by newspapers before, but nothing like this. It's kind of unusual for a religion professor to be entered into the world of pop culture in this way."

His recognition as an authority on "Star Wars" began in 2000



with an article in *The Journal of Religion and Film* titled "The Apocalyptic Cosmology of Star Wars" and was heightened in 2003 with the publication of his book, *Film as Religion: Myths, Morals, and Rituals*, a book about much more than a single film.

"About 10 years ago, religion scholars began looking at film more seriously," Lyden said. "I found an opportunity to connect my love of movies to my religious training. I've grown interested in how movies affect us, as analogous to how religion affects us."

Still a movie buff, Lyden confesses that he cannot view a movie for simple entertainment's sake, because he believes all of us are affected by movies in ways we don't always recognize.

"The more you study movies, the more analytical you become," he said. "It doesn't take away from the enjoyment of the film."



Borders and Bridges

A History of U.S.—
Latin American Relations

His first research interest was Altaic Studies (Asiatic Russian history), but the language barrier urged Dana College history professor Dr. Stewart Brewer into the study of another culture a bit off the beaten path, Latin America.

In his first book, *Borders and Bridges: A History of U.S.-Latin American Relations*, (published by Praeger Security International (PSI) in the spring of 2006) Brewer discusses the diplomatic and historical connections between the United States and the countries of Latin America.

The self-described obsessive reader said he enjoys writing. "I found as I put together information for my classes I had something to say," he said.

The concept for Brewer's book came about after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. "The U.S. government deals with Latin America through necessity or convenience," Brewer said. This became all the more evident following September 11th as President George W. Bush's campaign promises concerning Latin America, made less than a year before, all faded away. Only in the past few months have they resurfaced.

His book explores the "boom and bust" cycle of U.S.-Latin America relations. "We only pay attention when we need them," he said.

Brewer chose to write *Borders and Bridges*, in part to fill a

gap in his own curriculum. "There were areas in my teaching that needed books, or better books, that were more appropriate for my classroom," he said. *Borders and Bridges* serves as the foundation for his senior research and writing seminar course, "U.S.-Latin America Relations."

His appointment as the Leitha K. and Willard A. Richardson Professor in Liberal Arts at Dana for 2007-08 will give Brewer a two-course release to continue his writing and research. Brewer's next project is a book on Latin American history through feature film, another topic he has found to be sparse regarding published material.

He is also working on a chapter for an anthology entitled *The Ch'orti' Region Past and Present*, which will be published by the University of Florida Press in 2007.

For more information about Brewer's book, visit: http://www.praeger.com/psi/book_detail.aspx?sku=C8204

Not Just Another Pretty Face

Jim Olsen Completes Bust for Omaha Community Playhouse



The Omaha Community Playhouse features artwork by Dana College art professors inside and out. In November, Dana art professor Jim Olsen completed a bronze bust to commemorate longtime Playhouse director Charles Jones.

Dr. Milt Heinrich has enjoyed a long-time relationship with the Playhouse.

His work can be seen in bronze reliefs on the outside of the Playhouse and on a donor wall inside the building. When Heinrich was asked to sculpt a bust of Jones, he referred the Playhouse staff to Olsen.

Olsen said he was honored to take on a project that would pay tribute to Jones, someone who has stood as a symbol of excellence in the performing arts in the region.

Olsen began sculpting the bust in clay last summer, working from photographs of Jones and visiting with Jones' widow, Eleanor, to capture not only Charles' appearance but also his personality.

"He was a great subject," Olsen said. "He has such an animated face and projects a kind of personal energy." Olsen tried to capture this energy in a number of subtle ways — slightly tousled hair, glasses askew and energetic modeling of the surface.

Olsen completed the clay bust in August and delivered it to a bronze foundry in Loveland, Colo. The slightly-larger-than-life-size piece was delivered back to him in October,



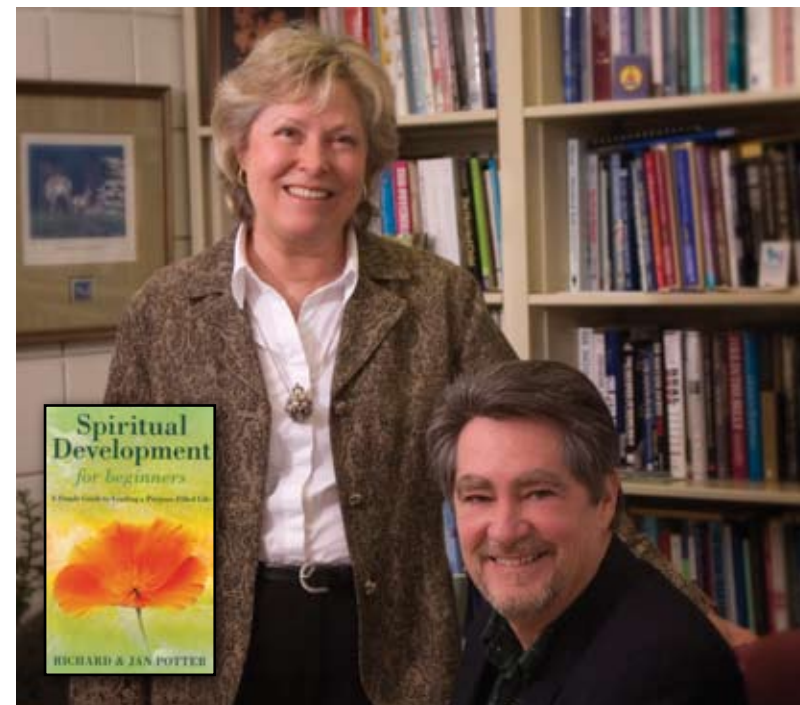
mounted on a 40-inch block of black granite and dedicated at the opening night of the production of "The Christmas Carol," on Nov. 17. It can be seen in the lobby of the Playhouse.

This is not the first life-like sculpture that Olsen has been commissioned to do. You can find likenesses of Clifford and Florence Hansen and others at Good Shepherd Lutheran Home in Blair, newspaper founder Gilbert Hitchcock at the *Omaha World-Herald*, social reformer Grace Abbott in the Hall of Fame at the Nebraska State Capitol and explorers Lewis and Clark near Eppley Airfield.

"I enjoy the challenge of capturing a reasonable likeness and the personality of the individual," Olsen said. "It's like working a puzzle—a three-dimensional puzzle. You start with an idea and see it evolve in your hands.

"That's what art is all about—solving creative problems."

After 42 years of teaching at Dana College, Olsen will receive professor emeritus status at this May's commencement ceremony as he assumes part-time teaching status in the fall.



Spiritual Development for Beginners

A Simple Guide to Leading a Purpose-Filled Life

Their own paths to spiritual consciousness were quite different, but Dana College social work professors Jan and Richard Potter joined together on their newest book, *Spiritual Development for Beginners: A Simple Guide to Leading a Purpose-Filled Life*.

Richard had what you might call an alternative spiritual upbringing. His grandmother, daughter of a Lutheran pastor and a lifelong Lutheran herself, was widely known as a natural healer. People would come to her to pray for them. "I grew up with that sort of background where I knew as much about natural spirituality as religious spirituality," he said. He continued to pursue that interest further as a young man.

Jan, on the other hand, was brought up strongly in the Methodist Church where her father served as church organist and her mother was the Sunday School superintendent. But she always had a desire to know more, to know what lay beneath Christ's teachings.

It was the influence of a summer she spent in Mexico while in college that sparked Jan's spiritual quest. "I saw people who were deeply spiritual and were all so very, very poor," she said. "That changed my life on several levels."

Later, Jan worked as a social activist, "trying to change the world," she said. It was during that social struggle of the 1960s that she realized the limits of activism and had what she calls a spiritual awakening.

At the root of both of their spiritual journeys one can find a common thread. "There has been this thing in me all my life that I want to know the truth," Richard said. "We both share that," echoed Jan.

The book the Potters have penned together is one in a series for "beginners" by Llewellyn Press, also the publisher of Richard's first book, *Authentic Spirituality: The Direct Path to Consciousness*, published in 2004.

Spirituality is increasingly becoming an interest of the social work community. The Potters have presented their work at a number of conferences and have proposed a new book on social work and spirituality.

"Although social work is historically rooted in spirituality, it used to be that social workers were very careful not to let those two worlds meet," Jan said. Now content on spirituality is required as part of the standard curriculum.

Spiritual Development for Beginners became a joint project to help broaden the scope of the book and its audience. The Potters found it valuable to give both a male and female perspective.

The Potters described the process of writing together as fun. One would have a seed thought for a chapter, write a couple of pages, share with the other, share and expand again. "I was sad when we were done," Jan said.

Although the book is termed for beginners, the Potters say it is really for anyone of any religion at any stage in their spiritual development. For more information, visit www.amazon.com or www.boundlessheart.com.

This Is Our Music

Free Jazz, the Sixties, and American Culture

As a college freshman in England, Dana College history professor Dr. Iain Anderson saw the movie "The Blues Brothers." The aspiring musician was inspired by the music he heard to join a friend's band, which was going to play jazz and rhythm and blues.

So Anderson could learn more about the jazz genre, one of his English professors lent him records of such jazz greats as Louis Armstrong and Bessie Smith. He was soon hooked.

As a senior undergraduate at Loughborough University, Anderson had already started specializing in American history. His senior thesis was to be about the 1920s. "It was the first time I read something about jazz as cultural history, not just music," he said.

That deepened understanding of jazz as more than music has continued. In October 2006, Anderson published his first book, *This Is Our Music: Free Jazz, the Sixties, and American Culture* with the University of Pennsylvania Press.

This Is Our Music explores the production, presentation and reception of the free jazz style of the late 1950s and 1960s by such artists as Ornette Coleman, Cecil Taylor, and John Coltrane.

"The book uses jazz as a lens through which to explore issues of cultural worth and cultural value," Anderson said. "It asks the question, 'who makes decisions about the value of a cultural form, and on what basis?'"

Anderson's published work informs his teaching. He teaches



courses in "Jazz and American Culture" and "America in the 1960s." He used the book for his Discovery Term course this January, and will continue to assign chapters in his classes.

Although this is Anderson's first book, it likely will not be his last. "It's fascinating. It's intellectually stimulating," he said of his research. "It's a way to stay connected to networks of people who are interest in similar things to me.

"It also benefits my teaching, modeling the process of the capstone project," Anderson said. Senior history majors must complete a major research project based on primary sources.

Anderson is currently completing entries for the Oxford *Encyclopedia of African-American History* and exploring a possible collaboration on a documentary film project about jazz in Omaha.

This Is Our Music is part of the publisher's series on "The Arts and Intellectual Life in Modern America." For more information about the book, visit <http://www.upenn.edu/pennpress/book/14267.html>. It will be published in paperback this fall.



Sharing the music and story of under-recognized early 20th century American composer Marion Bauer has become the mission of Dana College music professor Dr. Peggy Holloway. Holloway came closer to her goal with the production of a CD of Bauer's music last summer.

Send Me a Dream: The Songs of Marion Bauer features the voices of Holloway and Dr. Janet Morrow King, associate professor of voice at Colorado State University; and David King on piano.

Bauer, who lived between 1882 and 1955, was the subject of Holloway's doctoral dissertation and remains a continuing area of scholarly research. Holloway contributed the biographical information on Bauer to the series *Women Composers: Music Through the Ages*, which included Holloway's editions of six of Bauer's previously unpublished songs.

Holloway developed an interest in female composers when she realized that all of the composers she knew about were European men. She looked to Nadia Boulanger, the most prominent teacher of composers in the 20th century. In her research on Boulanger, she found out about Bauer, who had been Boulanger's first American student.

Only one of Bauer's songs had ever been recorded. As Holloway worked on her doctoral dissertation, she traveled to New York, the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., and wrote letters to private citizens who had acquired Bauer's personal papers to find copies of Bauer's printed music.

Send Me A Dream

The Songs of Marion Bauer

"It all just opened Pandora's box," Holloway said. "It has been very rewarding."

In 2004, Holloway was invited to make a presentation on Bauer at a conference in Boulder, Colo., commemorating the 25th anniversary of the death Nadia Boulanger. Her co-presenter was Janet King, and King's husband, David, played piano for both singers.

"At the end of all that, I said, 'I've always wanted to do a CD on this project,' Holloway said. The Kings jumped at the opportunity, and the process began with choosing music for the CD. The CD was recorded in the summer of 2005 and produced in the summer of 2006.

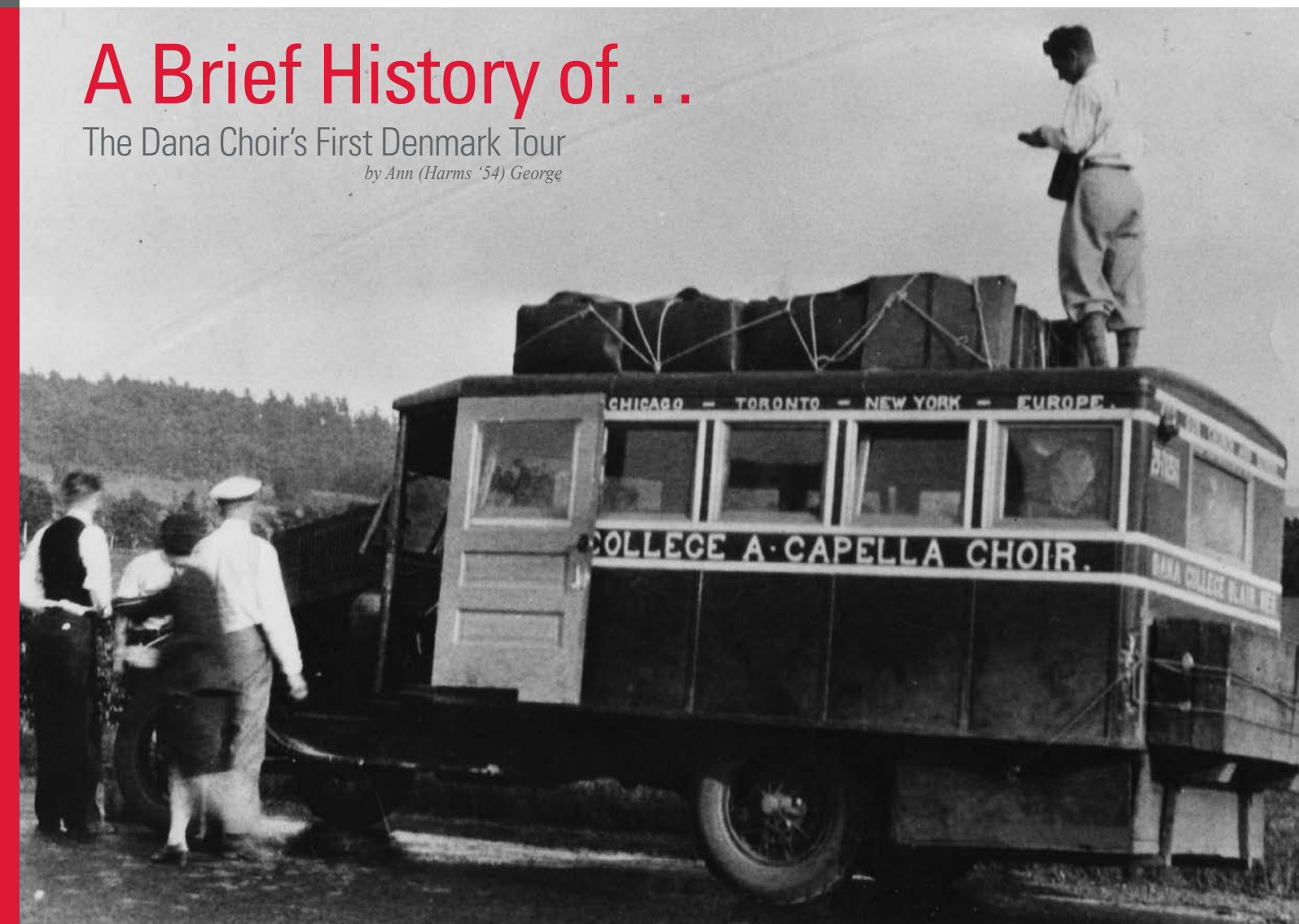
Holloway said she has enjoyed spending time this past year promoting the finished product. "You can talk about this music all you want, but you really need a recording," she said.

In addition to Bauer, Holloway is committed to the research and promotion of women composers and living composers. "I've really enjoyed bringing it to the students' attention that music is still alive and people are still doing music," she said. "It's in the spirit of Marion Bauer to promote living American composers and women."

A Brief History of...

The Dana Choir's First Denmark Tour

by Ann (Harms '54) George



The bus that choir members rode to New York City and back announced some of its destinations along the roofline.

An unexpected headline in a 1927 issue of the *Luthersk Ugeblad*, a Danish-language church publication, led to the decision to take the Dana College Choir on a concert tour of Denmark in 1929.

The tour would be the first of many European concert tours by the choir—another is planned for this summer—and, although the choir (now called the Dana College Chorale) has sung in other European countries, all of the tours have included Denmark.

What happened 80 years ago is this: Lutherans in this country learned, in 1927, that a Lutheran World Convention would be held in the summer of 1929 in Copenhagen. Soon after this announcement, members of the United Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church (UDELC—later the UELC), the synod that founded and supported Trinity Seminary and Dana, received news that those wishing to attend the convention—there'd be time for travel and visiting relatives, too—could go to Denmark together by booking passage with the Scandinavian-American Line. Church members soon called the chartered ship, the "United States," their "church ship."

At Dana an idea was bandied about: Why not use this opportunity to take the choir to Denmark?—but no decision was made.

An article in the May 15, 1929, *Hermes*, the campus newspaper, written shortly before the choir left for Denmark, described the origins of the tour and some of the preparations for it. The *Luthersk Ugeblad* had "surprised the director [Waldo B. Nielsen]," the *Hermes* reported, "by stating directly in big head-lines that the Dana Choir was to go along on the church ship.

"The matter having gone this far," the article continued, "no harm could be done to make a survey of the possibilities of such an undertaking. There was really nothing to be lost and much to be gained if the proposed tour could materialize."

Prof. Nielsen set to work. He began by recruiting current and former Dana Choir members and prospective students for the tour. In the January 25, 1928, issue of *The Ansgar Lutheran*, the UDELC's weekly English-language publication (the *Luthersk Ugeblad* was its Danish equivalent), he gave two conditions

for those joining the tour choir: "The one is that they have had some experience in choir singing or solo singing. . . . The other condition is a guarantee of \$100 towards expenses on the trip..."

Because the choir would give concerts on its trip to the East Coast as well as in Denmark, correspondence concerning concerts, housing and transportation began early.

Prof. Nielsen and choir members also started to raise funds. They sold tickets for the voyage and a "special Denmark stamp." (Is there a reader who can tell us what this was?) The *Hermes* article cited above reported that the choir had given approximately 40 concerts in Iowa and Nebraska and that friends and UDELC congregations, their youth groups and other church organizations had contributed generously to the tour.

There was especially much to do during the 1928-29 school year, and a column headed "Dana Choir and the Denmark Tour, 1929" describing preparations for the trip became a regular feature in *The Ansgar Lutheran*.

By Commencement, choir members were well-rehearsed and the two itineraries—one for the trip east, the other for Denmark—and the concert programs for both tours were in place. The travelers left the campus on a small bus and in five cars, giving concerts along the way in nine states and Canada. With them were featured soloist Ida Hansen, the voice instructor at Dana, and Marie Rasmussen, a first chair violinist with the Omaha Symphony.

After 18 days on the road, they reached New York City. Reports from passengers appeared on page one of the July 17, 1929, *Ansgar Lutheran* under the banner, "Letters from our Travelers."

Choir member Martha Juhl described their departure: "Thursday morning, June 13th, we are in the subway. . . . We arrive five minutes past seven. . . . Now we get a glimpse of the steamship. . . . At 10:45 the choir members board the ship and gather at one end of the deck. . . . We sing 'Der er et yndigt Land' [Denmark's national anthem] and 'The Star Spangled Banner.' The gangways are then drawn in. . . . The boat starts moving and the choir sings our Alma Mater song. . . ."

On June 23rd, the eleventh day out, and after a calm but sometimes foggy voyage, "M.J." (Martha Juhl again?) wrote that the "United States" had sailed up the fjord to Oslo, that passengers landed for sightseeing, and that at noon the next day the ship left for Copenhagen.

The choir's first concert was in Aarhus. A letter signed "Dana Colledge a Capella Choir" and written on July 5 from Aalborg also appeared in the July 31 *Ansgar Lutheran*. "Dear Friends," it began, "Monday, July 1, we gave our first regular concert in Aarhus Cathedral. We sang for a large audience. The stillness, the magnificence, and large surroundings could not but inspire everyone to do his or her part.



The 1929 Dana Choir, under the direction of Waldo B. Nielsen, sang at Denmark's Rebild Festival, which celebrates America's Fourth of July.

"Yesterday we sang at the great 'Rebild Fest' to about 20,000 people. [This is Denmark's annual celebration of America's Fourth of July.] In the morning of the same day we sang in the Cathedral of Aalborg at a welcome festival given in honor of the Danish-American church people. . . ."

The end of the tour was described in an August 12 letter signed "Dana College Choir" that was written at sea. Laurits Pedersen, a choir member, sent it to *The Ansgar Lutheran* with clippings of reviews from Danish newspapers. The letter and translated reviews appeared in the August 28 issue.

The letter began: "Our Denmark tour came to an end at Odense on Wednesday, July 17th. At that time the members of the choir were at liberty to spend the remaining time in Denmark as they pleased."

Continuing, the letter reported that on August 4 choir members returned to Copenhagen for an evening concert in Elias Kirke, and it quoted a review in the *Kristelig Dagblad*: "The candles were lighted in the church; the evening was a source of real pleasure to the thousands gathered. Prof. Waldo B. Nielsen had arranged a program of English and Danish music, and the choir quickly sang its way into the hearts of all."

The letter noted that part of the choir's program was subsequently broadcast over the state radio station in Copenhagen.

Finally, in late August, after a long summer of concerts and travel, choir members returned home. The tour, the October 1 *Hermes* reported, had been "a great success."

This summer's European concert tour by the Dana College Chorale, under the direction of Dr. Richard Palmer, is set for May 30-June 10. (In recent years, to give all members an opportunity to participate in a European tour, the Chorale has given concerts in north Germany and Denmark every four years.)

President Janet Philipp invites alumni and friends to join her and her husband, Frank, on a tour led by Prof. Jim Olsen that coincides with the Chorale's tour. Tour participants will visit several countries as well as Denmark, where they'll attend a concert by the Chorale. Those interested can contact Olsen at 402-426-7206 or jolsen@dana.edu.

Acting to a New (Old) Beat



Alumni Orchestra members were (back row, from left) David Manley '09, Adam Martin '01, Curtis Isaacson '02, (front row) Susan Steinke '03, Desiree Andersen '02, Clare Cowing and Sonny Larsen '96.

The pit band for Dana College's spring musical, "Violet," featured some familiar faces. Five recent Dana College graduates, Desiree Andersen '02, Curtis Isaacson '02, Sonny Larsen '96, Adam Martin '01 and Susan Steinke '03, joined with sophomore David Manley and Dana College accompanist Clare Cowing to form the "Alumni Orchestra."

"It was great to bring all of these talented alumni back to the Dana stage," said Dr. Paul Schneider, director of the Dana College Theater.

This is not the first time alumni have been asked to be a part of Dana College Theater. In fact, Anderson has continuously performed on the Dana stage since being a student. "I started playing bass guitar for the musicals with the show 'You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown.' I've played in the pit for every musical since. 'Violet' was my 13th show," she said.

As students, this group of alumni held various roles in Dana College Theater — pit band member, behind the scenes and starring on stage. "It really prepared me for a career as a music educator," said Isaacson, now choral director at Omaha Northwest High School. "I'm currently involved in the

workings of all three areas in our performing arts department (instrumental and choral direction and set construction)."

The alumni said they enjoyed returning to the Dana stage to see the talented performers of today and to relive their own memories.

"I got to see a lot of familiar faces in a setting that still holds a big place in my heart," Isaacson said. "Dana is where I met not only my wife (and best friend), but also those people whom I will be lifelong friends with."

"I haven't done any theater since I graduated, and it was good to be a part of it again," Larsen said. "I had forgotten how important it was to me over the years."

Several theater graduates also returned to Dana for an alumni revue at this year's Sights and Sounds concert, something Schneider plans to make an annual tradition.

"Dana College has had many talented performers on its stage over the years," Schneider said. "It is rewarding to see them return and join with our current talent."

What's in a Card

Alumna Directs New Hallmark Line



Have you ever stopped to think who makes these cards? Who are these folks who can figure out how to say what you feel in your heart better than you can?

One of them is Dana College alumna Cynthia (Homes '73) Musick. The English, French, and Education major has worked at Hallmark since 1990 and now serves as Editorial Director for the industry leader.

"I've always enjoyed greeting cards," Musick said. "When I was growing up, I made them for my family."

Musick is the leader of the introduction of Hallmark's new "Journeys" line of greeting cards, a line of 176 encouragement cards covering some tough topics that had never been addressed by the marketplace, including cancer, divorce and miscarriage.

"This line is my pet project, so to speak," Musick said. "I've built it from the ground up using consumer insights."

Although Musick does write cards occasionally, her main task is to work with writers and artists to convey the tone and voice she is seeking in a particular card. "I give them the guidance, and they write things for me," she said.

"I love the idea that I'm helping people connect on some level,"

she said. "I'm helping people find the right words."

The new line of Hallmark cards is earning Musick national media attention. She said she is currently averaging about three interviews a week with various newspapers about the new card line, has done a radio interview for NPR's "Weekend America," She has even had a segment about Journeys that aired on March 27 on NBC's Today Show. The Journeys card line will also be featured the Spring issue of the Hallmark magazine as well as in Oprah's "O" magazine under "Oprah's Favorite Things."

Musick did not start her professional career at Hallmark. She began teaching English, French and English as a Second Language in Nebraska and Wyoming. She credits her quality education from Dana and the faculty she worked with here in setting the course for her career.

"It prepared me well for whatever I wanted to do, whether teaching students or as Editorial Director guiding writers," she said. "I had so many great professors who were nurturing and wanted me to blossom."

Musick has had the opportunity to work closely with a number of celebrities, including Dr. Maya Angelou and the Dutch artist Marjolein Bastin and met such names as the late Alex Haley and "Cathy" comic strip artist Cathy Guisewite. "I feel like Dana gave me this great liberal arts base that has enabled me to converse with a wide variety of people, even celebrities."

She and her husband, David '70, live in the Kansas City suburb of Lenexa, Kan., when they're not traveling to visit their two daughters at their colleges in Indiana and Oklahoma.

India Visit Opens Heart to Other Cultures



A professor's nomination resulted in a life-changing experience for Kathy Montira '98, a second-year student at Wartburg Theological Seminary. Montira, who also worked at Dana College for seven years in Computer Services, was part of a delegation from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) who visited India in July to celebrate 300 years of mission in India.

"It was amazing," Montira said. "It was so eye-opening."

Montira spent 10 days in southern India with the 16-member ELCA delegation to celebrate the tercentenary of missionary Bartholomaeus Ziegenbalg's arrival in India. Programs were held at the Gurukul Lutheran Theological College and Research Institute, Chennai (formerly Madras), and in Tranquebar (Tarangambadi), India. The delegation included pastors, bishops, magazine editors and only two seminary students.

Ziegenbalg laid the foundation for how missionary work is done now, Montira said. He worked with the people, not for the people. "The more I learned about it, the more fascinated I became," she said.

She was exposed to the women's and health issues that are so central to the Indian culture and what the church is doing to help. "It made the world a much smaller place. It made me aware of the need for education and advocacy for all peoples," Montira said. "As a family of God, we are responsible."

Montira continued her time in the country with an additional 10 days in north central India with a friend from Wartburg, Manorama Ekka, and her family.

"A year ago, I wouldn't have dreamed of this," Montira said. "I thought, 'I don't have the money. I don't have the time.' But then I just gave it to God. It took awhile for it to become real."

Montira's trip was sponsored, in part, by her home congregation, First Lutheran Church in Blair, as well as Wartburg Theological Seminary and the ELCA.

Although she would love to go back, Montira's trip opened her heart to mission and advocacy for all cultures, not just India. "I've been opened and channeled in ways I didn't know before," she said.



Personal Blog Entrees

–blog June 13, 2006

This trip is offering me more "firsts" than I can count, as this is my first entry on a blog. I am very excited about the opportunity to do this and continue to be amazed at the way God moves when I let go.

Judging by the prelim info we have shared, most of the team has experience in traveling abroad and many have connections with India already. I feel like the proverbial "kid in a candy store" with eyes wide taking in more than I ever imagined was possible - so many wonderful things to see that I am overwhelmed by the possibilities! And we haven't even left yet...

May God continue to bless the final preparations as we prepare to celebrate a wonderful achievement in God's name!

–blog July 9, 2006

Reflections

As we traveled south to Tranquebar yesterday morning I had a chance to reflect on the past week's activities. As I try to take everything in and make sense of this very different world, I find myself suffering from sensory overload. There are so many people, sights, sounds, and smells in this place that never sleeps! I was told by one of the more seasoned international travelers in our group that this is quite common for a first trip and I shouldn't be too hard on myself. Grace abounds!

As unsettled as my mind is, my heart knows peace. I have seen God in the people here, and have solidly connected with a few. Upon our partings, each says "We can pray for each other and hold each other up." What faith!

Yes, by our standards, there is much overcrowding, pollution, and poverty. But this is the way of life here and these are God's children. To look down upon them or "pity" them is to sin directly against God. They are no different than you or I; they laugh and cry, they hunger and thirst, they love and are loved. They are kind and gentle, have hope for the future and joy in the Lord. There is a great peace in their simplicity that I often long for in my "progressive" life.

This trip has been an exercise in patience, flexibility, endurance and humility, and I am extremely grateful for every moment! God has truly blessed this trip and all the people involved. We gathered to celebrate the work of a missionary 300 years ago, but I believe God is still planting seeds in each one of us today. May we have the courage and conviction to follow God's plans for our lives!

Hurricane Katrina

Out of the Headlines, but Not the Hearts of Dana College Students



Mildew. Not the typical words to describe what most college students saw during their spring break. Thirty-five Dana College students sacrificed their mid-semester time off to gut mildewed houses, poison rats, battle mosquitoes and bring hope to the victims of Hurricane Katrina in and around New Orleans.

It was the second trip to the area for Dana College junior Kendra Johnson of Cedar Falls, Iowa. "It was such a good experience last year," she said. "I knew being there last year that there was such a huge need."

Johnson appreciated the symbolism in making the trip during the Lenten season. "You go down there and you think there is no hope," she said. "They are stuck in Good Friday and they can't make it to the hope of Easter. Just seeing us brought them some hope."

As on Dana's last spring break trip in March 2006, the students worked through Operation Blessing, an international non-profit humanitarian organization.

Although organized through Dana's Campus Crusade for Christ organization, the student volunteers came from all sectors of the campus. "You don't have to be in campus ministry to want to help people," Johnson said.

The Dana students were split up into teams who had unique tasks for the day. Some gutted homes that had not been opened since the disaster 19 months prior. Others worked to rebuild a community gymnasium. A third team was coined "Rat-Busters" and another was "Bug-Busters." Others were needed to stay back to clean the base camp.

Matt Jacobson, a sophomore from Craig, Neb., spent his week working to rebuild the gymnasium. "People would come

inside every day and thank us," he said. "When you're this many miles away, you see it on TV and then the coverage just stops. It was amazing when you get down there 19 months later and it still looks the same way," Jacobson said. "It was really eye-opening to me to see they are still hurting after this long."

Rat-Busters is a new effort to try to control the increase in the rat population brought on by the tragedy. Volunteers worked with the New Orleans City Mosquito and Pest Control, walking city streets in some of the poorest neighborhoods to stick rat poison down sewer drains.

Bug-Busters' initiative was to control the mosquito population in some of the city's richest neighborhoods. Swimming pools have had stagnant water for 19 months and have become a breeding ground for mosquitoes. Fish were placed in the pools to eat the mosquito larva.

For Dana College sophomore David Manley of Omaha, his two trips to the Gulf have literally changed his life. The former art major returned to campus after this trip and changed his major to social work.

"It's something I've always had empathy for," he said. "I like working with my hands and making something better."

"You're always going to remain affected by what you saw down there," Manley said.

The trip was made possible by donations by members of the Dana and Blair communities, including a pancake-feed fundraiser held at St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Blair. "We couldn't have done anything without help," Johnson said.

2000s



Julia Peterson '06 and **Byron Burdick '06** (above) were married on June 10, 2006, in Ainsworth, Neb. They now live in Wood Lake, Neb., where Byron works on the family ranch, substitute teaches and is an assistant wrestling coach at Ainsworth High School. Julia teaches special education at Valentine (Neb.) Elementary School.

Brian Abrahams '05 and Elizabeth Winger were married July 4, 2006, in West Point, Neb. Brian is a purchasing analyst at Omaha Fixture International. The couple lives in Omaha.

Adam Peterson '05 has been hired by Nebraska Farm Bureau as district director of member services for the central district. He lives in Osceola, Neb.

Maria Roesler '05 is currently working as project coordinator for ProLiteracy Worldwide on the island of Hispaniola. She lives in the Dominican Republic and travels to Haiti and other locations in the Americas.

Lynsie Cetto '04 was recently hired to work for Capital News Services and Mike Vasilinda Productions as a videographer. She lives in Tallahassee, Fla.

Lindsey Fox '04 and **Derek Hack '04** were married Aug. 5, 2006, in Lincoln, Neb. Derek teaches fourth grade at Morley Elementary School in Lincoln and Lindsey is a pharmaceutical sales representative for King Pharmaceuticals. The couple lives in Lincoln.

Jenny Kingsley '04 and Isaac Paden were married Nov. 25, 2006, in Fremont, Neb. Jenny teaches at Elkhorn (Neb.) High School. The couple lives in Fremont.

Melissa Scurlock '03 is teaching kindergarten for the Archdiocese of Omaha, Neb.

Justin Wiese '03 is a senior at Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa. His permanent residence is in Norfolk, Neb., where his wife **Jillian (Scheerhoorn '03)** continues to work as the resource teacher for Grant Elementary School.

Meagan (Ahrens '02) Engel teaches Spanish at Castlewood (S.D.) High School. She also is an assistant coach for

volleyball and cheerleading. She lives in Brookings, S.D.

Allison (Botkin '02) Wissman has a new position with ACI Worldwide as an area specialist for the sales and marketing departments. She lives in Omaha.

Nick Pribyl '01, Anthony Knuppel '02, Rachel Hospodka '00, Chris Sorensen '00 and **Jesse Otto '00**, all of Omaha, are five of the seven members of the pop band "Shelter Belt." The band released its third album, "Under the World Awhile," in October 2006. They performed a series of CD release parties throughout the region in the fall of 2006 and they toured the Hawaiian islands in January 2007. Visit beltcave.com for more information about Shelter Belt.

Sarah Hernandez '01 married Matthew Greer on Aug. 5, 2006. Sarah is in her final year of graduate school at the University of Missouri – Kansas City. After completing her coursework in May, Sarah will complete a six-month internship and will then be a certified music therapist.

Danielle Soby '01 started a new job in August as a kindergarten teacher at Boyd Elementary in Omaha, Neb.

Jennifer (Schaaf '01) Tougaw is currently living in San Antonio, Texas, with her one-year-old son, Carvin, while her husband serves in Afghanistan.

Kevin Kern '00 has successfully completed classes at the Nebraska State Patrol Academy in Grand Island, Neb. He will spend six months of field training in the Fremont, Neb., area with veteran officers before being qualified for solo duty.

Mark Lepper '00 was ordained on Sept. 23, 2006, and now serves as associate pastor at St. John Lutheran Church in Belle Plaine, Minn.



James '00 and **Melissa (Bliemeister '00) Walsh** (above) welcomed a son, Brody James, on Oct. 12, 2006. James continues to work at Woodhouse as a sales representative and Melissa teaches at Kiewit Middle School in Millard (Neb.). The family lives in Omaha.

1990s

Deena (Knapp '99) Bisig has been honored in the Vancouver (Wash.) Business Journal Accomplished and Under 40. She teaches at Clark College in Vancouver.



Jason and Carrie (Eckhoff '99) Kohl of Missouri Valley, Iowa, are the parents of a girl, Audrie Lynn, (above) born on Jan. 9. She weighed 7 pounds, 5 ounces and was 19 ¾ inches long.

Max Riffner '99 has been named interactive designer at Bozell in Omaha. Prior to joining Bozell, he was a web art supervisor in the e-commerce division of Oriental Trading Company.



Matt and Jamie (Rodenburg '99) Ryba (above) are the parents of a daughter, Chloe Lynn, who was born Apr. 3, 2006. She joins a brother, Hunter, 4. Hunter and Chloe are also the grandchildren of **Fred Rodenburg '72**.

Soren Schmidt '98 is program director at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp in Crystal Falls, Mich.

Christopherlee and **Heidi (Larson '97) Fejeran** welcomed a son, Christianlee Louis, on Nov. 22, 2006. The family lives in Boise, Idaho.

Two Dana alumni received Nebraska Art Teacher's Association's (NATA) Art Educator of the Year Awards last fall at the NATA Awards ceremony in Hastings. **Stephanie A. Carlson-Pruch '97**, an art teacher at Gomez Heritage Elementary School in Omaha, was named NATA Elementary Art Educator of the Year and **Paul Hundtoft '76**, art teacher at Westside Middle School in Omaha, was named NATA Middle School Art Educator of the Year.

Melinda (Almand '97) and Bret '97 Marchese welcomed their third child, Braden, on June 5, 2006. He joins Jessica, 7,

and Natalie, 6. The family lives in Goodyear, Ariz.

Heidi (Gerth '97) Wisniewski and her husband, Paul, welcomed a son, Benjamin, on Dec. 4, 2006. He joins his big sister, Lilly, 6, and big brother, Will, 4. The family resides in Minnesota.

Michael '96 and Heather (Kelley '97) Tupa welcomed a son, Mac, on Nov. 5, 2006. He joins big brother Kip, 3. The family lives in Blair, Neb.



Sandy (Smith '97) Watkins (above) and her husband, Lance, welcomed a daughter, Mia Grace, on May 19, 2005. Mia joins a sister, Holly, age 3. The family lives in New Port Richey, Fla.

Wendy (Gunderson '96) Johnson is deployed as a physician assistant with a medical support unit at Bagram Airfield in Afghanistan.

Joanie Loontjer '96 married Tarik Houti of Fes, Morocco, on Aug. 27, 2006. The couple lives in Spencer, Iowa.

Cindy (Aken '96) Smith and her husband, Ray, have adopted three more children, Seth, 12, Faith, 4 and Tanner, 3. They join Tyler, 8. The couple has been doing foster care for eight years and Cindy continues to teach sixth grade at Hickory Hill in Papillion, Neb.

Stacy (Stauss '94) Cox received a promotion to Individual Investor Specialist II in the Client Contact Center 401k division at the Principal Financial Group in Grand Island, Neb. She has worked for the company for nine years.

Troy Greder '94 has started a new business, Eric's Electric, along with his cousin Eric Kaub in Vail, Iowa. Troy lives in Denison, Iowa.

Bryan Scheer '93 has joined the staff of the Gordon (Neb.) Memorial Hospital as an orthopedic specialist. He lives in Scottsbluff, Neb.

Coleen (Lennemann '91) Denton and her husband, Troy, are the parents of a daughter, Brooke Ann, who was born Feb. 14, 2007. She joins a brother, Brock, 10, and sister Bailey, 1. The family lives in Oakland, Neb.

1980s

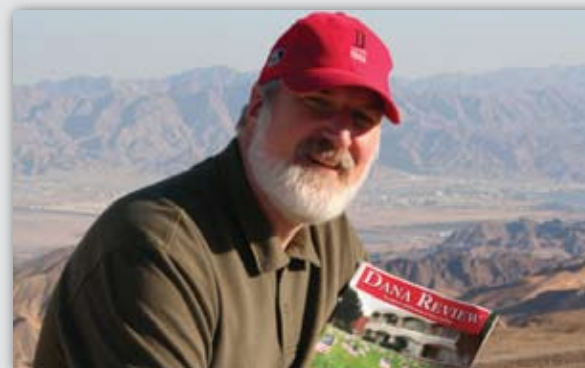
Gina Marie (Wilson '84) Scheffler is teaching at the Cass County Independent Learning Center, an alternative high school program located within Iowa Western Community College in Atlantic, Iowa, where she also teaches classes in art and computers. She is also the instructor for the Substitute Teacher Authorization Renewal Series (STARS) for the Area Education Agency 13 in Council Bluffs and is the Southwest Iowa Regional Liaison for Business and Professional Women of Iowa. She and her husband, John, live in Atlantic.

1970s



Iris (Frey '78) Doolittle (above) was the headline performer as a pianist at the Rhythm of Autumn event of the Peninsula Stroke Association in Sunnyvale, Calif., in October 2006. She lives in Madison, Neb.

Rev. Renae Johnson '77 was the keynote speaker at the Women of the ELCA Spring Gathering at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Hooper, Neb., in March. She serves as chaplain for hospice at Tabitha Health Care Services in Lincoln, Neb.



Rev. Alan Hanson '76 (above) toured in Israel and Jordan in January. He has served Immanuel Lutheran in Omaha, Neb., for the last 10 years.

Dr. Donald Baack '75 has published a new book, "International Business." The book was produced by Glencoe/McGraw Hill and will be used as a high school text throughout the United States, beginning this fall. He lives in Joplin, Mo.

Russ Finken '73 of Glenwood, Iowa, earned his Education

Specialist degree from the University of Nebraska-Omaha in December.

Nancy Johnson '73 has retired from Indian Hill Elementary in Omaha Public Schools after 33 ½ years of teaching. She was installed as National President of Kappa Kappa Iota (a professional teachers' organization) on June 24, 2006, in Charleston, S.C. She lives in Omaha.

James Black '70 of Lincoln, Neb., writes: "I'm retired. I work and play with First Plymouth Church, Contra Dance of Lincoln, UNL International Folk Dancers, Lincoln Irish Dancers and the Lincoln Association for Traditional Arts."

Ramona (Alwill '70) Klaasmeyer retired in November 2006 from the Omaha Community Foundation where she was finance director for approximately 5 ½ years. Prior to that, she worked at the University of Nebraska at Omaha for more than 26 years, including stints as manager of grants accounting, finance/administration officer of UNO's Afghanistan cross-boarder education project located in Peshwar, Pakistan, and business manager of UNO Television/KVNO Radio departments. In her retirement, Ramona plans to do genealogy research, travel and volunteer work. She lives in Omaha.

1960s

Kathleen Zwanziger '69 writes: "In December 2006, I fulfilled a dream of many years (even pre-Dana!): I visited Machu Picchu and several other Inca (and pre-Inca) sites in Peru. Before returning home, I celebrated Christmas with my son Eric in Florida, along with my sisters Marie and Chris (Zwanziger '70) Faust. Earlier in the year, I welcomed my first grandchild, Daniel Hutton, born to son Jeremy and wife Anne, in Princeton, N.J. I live in Columbus, Ohio, and work at The Ohio State University."

Jay Planalp '68 is a semi-retired consultant in the fields of corporate compliance and business resumption planning. He lives in Berkeley Springs, W.V.

Jim Jorgensen '66 received the emeritus award from the Planned Giving Council of Nebraska in recognition of his long career in planned giving for Dana College. He lives in Blair.



(above) A group of friends traveled from California, Wisconsin, Illinois and Nebraska to gather at the Archibald condo in Mesa, Ariz., in February. Time together was spent reminiscing about

their days at Dana along with a little shopping and sightseeing. One highlight of the weekend was a trip to Sedona where this group photo was taken at the Tlaquepaque shopping area. Pictured are (back row, from left): **Judy (Mortensen '65) Heil, Jackie (Swendseid '65) Dudley, Linda (Anderson '65) Howland, Jann (Terwileger '65) Rodberg, (front) Marilyn (Andersen '65) Abariotes, Linda (Money '65) Jorgensen and Judy (Jensen '65) Archibald.**

1950s



Marion Hudson '56 (above) received the Martin Luther King "I Have a Dream" award during a ceremony at the Golden Living Center-Sorensen in Omaha, Neb., where he lives. Hudson was Dana's first black student and has been honored for his collegiate athletic achievements. **Frank Gabby '57** and **Vaughn Christensen '53** joined him for the ceremony.

Don Poh '50 was honored with a concert by the Green Bay (Wis.) Civic Symphony in October 2006. In 1995, Poh helped organize the Civic Symphony as a community orchestra and became its first financial backer.

Deaths

Robert Milliken '03 died Feb. 26, 2006, at the age of 24. Survivors include his wife, Melissa (Einrem '04).

Tim L. Johnson '83 died Jan. 12, 2007, in Blair, Neb., at the age of 45 after a fight with cancer. He worked for First Data in Omaha for 22 years. He was active as a baseball player and coach in Blair and was an avid golfer. Survivors include his wife Penny (Hineline '82) and two children.

Evelyn M. Peterson '71 died Dec. 24, 2006, in Logan, Iowa, at the age of 90. She taught school for 32 years, including positions at Magnolia Elementary School and Lo-Ma School. Survivors include a daughter, five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

David C. Paul '69 died Jan. 11, 2007, in Bloomington, Ill., at the age of 63. He worked for State Farm Insurance Company for 35 years. Survivors include his wife, Mary (Peterson '69) Paul, his father, two sons and two brothers.

Muriel (Christensen) Olsen '65 died Jan. 13, 2007, in Council Bluffs, Iowa, at the age of 90. She was a teacher for many years in the Walnut, Hancock and Avoca (Iowa) Schools. Among her survivors are three children, including son and daughter-in-law Harry '71 and Kay (Rock '71) Olsen, a brother, eight grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Rev. Andrew G. Jensen '60 died March 2, 2007, in Lincoln, Neb., at the age of 68. He earned his master's of divinity degree from Wartburg Theological Seminary in 1964. He served congregations in North Dakota, Minnesota and California. He also served in the Development Department of California Lutheran Homes and Lutheran Social Services of California. Survivors include wife, Mary; three sons, including Daniel '84, and four grandchildren.

Dr. Paul Jahnke '55 died Jan. 19, 2007, in Newberg, Ore., at the age of 73. He taught ophthalmic surgery at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston for a time, then moved to McMinnville, Ore., and opened a private practice in 1969. He continued in private practice until his retirement in 1995. Survivors include his wife, Martha, two sons, two daughters and 12 grandchildren.

Clarice (Sommers '52) LeMaster died Dec. 19, 2006, in Sioux City, Iowa, at the age of 83. She taught English, geography and was the librarian at Leeds High School and Junior High School. Her last teaching assignment was at Hoover Middle School, retiring in 1984. Survivors include her husband, Charles, three children and three grandchildren.

Irene (Wittig '57) Bernhardt died August 28, 2006, at the age of 70. She and her husband, Bob, lived and farmed near Hay Springs, Neb. In June 2006, they celebrated 50 years of marriage. She is survived by her husband, four children, 12 grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Alice Marie Sorensen '49 died Dec. 30, 2006, in Armstrong, Iowa, at the age of 72. She was an organist at her church for 38 years and farmed with her husband, Leo. Survivors include two children and five grandchildren.

Mildred (Romer '45) Carlsen died Feb. 21, 2007, in Corona, Calif., at the age of 83. She ministered as a pastor's wife alongside her husband, Stanley D'45 T'47. Survivors include a daughter, a son, a sister Alice (Romer '49) Hanson, three grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

Norbert T. Johnson '42 died Dec. 13, 2006, in Denmark, Wis., at the age of 87. He was a dairy farmer. Survivors include his wife, Arlene, two daughters, six grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, two brothers and a sister.

Gatherings Bring Alumni Together

Dana College alumni are making connections with each other across the country. Gatherings were held in the last six months in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Oregon, Arizona, and Omaha.

"These alumni events offer opportunities to not only reconnect with friends, but also network with alumni in your area," said Julie Rohlfin, director of alumni affairs.



David Hess '58 was among the alumni who gathered in Wisconsin at the home of Doris (Siersbeck '61) and Luther '61 Kloth

Luther '61 and Doris (Siersbeck '61) Kloth and Phil '69 and Paula (Westfall '69) Vasby hosted Wisconsin gatherings at their homes. Minnesota events were held 7500 York, the home of several retired alumni in Edina, and at the Jensen Supper Club in Eagan, owned by the sons of Dana alumni Richard '56 and Bonnie (Hagedorn '70) Jensen.



The first-ever Dana After Hours brought more than 125 Omaha-area alumni together to visit with former professors and reminisce with classmates. The class of 2007 will be the special guests at the second After Hours May 24 at the Ice House, 108th and Maple, in Omaha. A third event is being planned for September.

The Oregon gathering was held at Bethesda Lutheran Church in Eugene, Ore., and was organized by Bill '56 and Toni (Nelson '57) Lawson, Jack '56 and Carol (Olsen '58) Lodl, Bud '43 and Karen (Thomsen '48) Peterson and Tom '85 and Krista (Lawson '85) Goodrie.

www.dana.edu



Dana Alumni at "Dana Fun Gathering" on Saturday, March 24, 2007, held at Bethesda Lutheran Church, Eugene, Oregon. (front row, from left) Lisa (Peterson '74) VanHorn, Ruth "Pinkie" (Solevad '50) Nyegaard, Clatys (Andersen '52) Montoya, Carol (Olsen '58) Lodl, Karen (Thomsen '48) Peterson, Ruth (Hansen '72) Peterson, Toni (Nelson '57) Lawson, Jim "Buck" Heiser '59, (middle row) Ann (Jessen '56) Bansen, E.J. "Ernie" Kersgaard '43, George Peterson '40, Karen (Peterson '59) Jensen, Richard Gregersen '56, Allan D. Hansen '44, Julianne (Schwandt '84) Bansen, Krista (Lawson '85) Goodrie, Bill Lawson '56, (back row) Lloyd Bansen '53, Jack Lodl '56, Richard Jensen '59, Allan Nyegaard '50, Lee Barney '61, Jon Bansen '85, H. Milton "Bud" Peterson '43, (not pictured) Erma (Christiansen '46) Hansen, Mary Sue (Peterson '68) Edgcomb, Beth (Peterson '75) Papasadero, Richard "Rick" Peterson '66, Erma (Hough '68) Peterson.

The annual Arizona Luncheon was held in February in conjunction with a retreat by the Dana College Board of Regents, allowing an opportunity for alumni to connect with board members.



Paul Ahrendt '68 visits with fellow alumnus and Board of Regents member Richard Vierk '68 at the annual Arizona Luncheon.

If you are interested in organizing an alumni gathering in your area, please contact Julie in the Alumni Office, jrohlfm@dana.edu, 402-426-7235. We can assist you in sending invitations for your event.

Watch the Dana web site for details about other upcoming alumni events, www.dana.edu/alumni.



Upcoming Events

Alumni Events:

May 24, 2007: Dana After Hours, The Ice House, 108th & Maple, Omaha
For more information, visit www.dana.edu/alumni/afterhours

May 28 - June 10, 2007: Alumni Trip to Europe
For more information, contact Prof. Jim Olsen at jolsen@dana.edu or 402-426-7206.

October 12-14, 2007: Homecoming
For more information, contact Julie Rohlfing, Alumni Affairs, 402-426-7235.

January 2008: Discovery Term trips
“From the Eternal City to the City of Light” - Rome, Florence and Paris
For more information, contact Prof. Jim Olsen at jolsen@dana.edu or 402-426-7206.
Meet Germany: A Cross-Cultural Experience - Berlin, with trips to Lutherstadt
Wittenberg and Dana’s exchange sites in Denmark, Vejle and/or Aalborg.
For more information, contact Dr. Sybille Bartels at sbartels@dana.edu.

February 23, 2008: Annual Arizona Luncheon
For more information, contact Jill Clark, President’s Office, 402-426-7200.

Campus Events:

May 18-19, 2007: Graduation Weekend
For meal reservations, contact Carrie Reed, College Relations, 402-426-7385.

May 30-June 10, 2007: Chorale Tour to Germany and Denmark
For more information, contact Carrie Reed, College Relations, 402-426-7385.

December 2, 2007: Sights & Sounds of Christmas
For more information, contact Carrie Reed, College Relations, 402-426-7385.



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