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GRACELAND UNIVERSITY

# Horizons

*“Another world  
is possible”*

## TEAM BOLTON-WELTY

*THEIR POWERFUL MESSAGE TO THE CLASS OF 2018*

### **FOCUSED FACULTY**

Graceland faculty demonstrate their commitment as educators

**P.8**

### **GRACELAND'S TOP 10**

A list of inspiring attributes that make Graceland great

**P.14**

### **GRACELAND ENACTUS**

The team placed in the top 3.5% at the 2017-18 National Exposition

**P.19**

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**FROM THE  
PRESIDENT**

**We applaud many things at Graceland, but the crowning achievement is learning. Scholarship is the most important task of any university, and academic accomplishment is what we celebrate at commencement.**

This spring was my first Graceland Commencement on the Lamoni campus. I sat on the stage and looked out on graduating seniors sitting in orderly rows. Behind them were a couple more rows of Graceland faculty members who had mentored them in the classroom and on campus. Back further still were families and friends to celebrate this milestone with the graduates.

Of course, as I looked at faces I had come to know well, I couldn't help but wonder what their futures will be. Graceland has produced outstanding achievers in so many fields: the Pulitzer Prize, the Olympics, Congress, diplomats, cancer research, health care, law, education...Our commencement speakers this year — one of whom is an alumnus — helped their organization win the Nobel Peace Prize.

So, who among the class of 2018 will capture headlines in their lifetime? It's too soon to tell. They will take many different roads as they pursue their passions. Some may lead to fame and fortune; others may provide more private satisfactions of family and friendship. It is both a thrilling and unsettling fact of teaching that you never know if what you're saying may have a profound life-changing impact, even when you wondered if they were listening at all.

A philosopher tells us that the goal in life is not to try to do extraordinary things, but to do ordinary things with an appreciation of their extraordinary significance. And so, we send our graduates out to do ordinary things with confidence that, with their Graceland experience, they will in their own creative ways make the world a better place. We hope they will keep in touch and let us know how their Graceland DNA continues to shine through in ordinary, extraordinarily significant ways.

*Patricia H. Draves*

**COMMENCEMENT**

“  
Go in peace now, Gracelanders.  
Show us what is possible.”

— MATTHEW BOLTON, PhD, '01

**18**



Commencement photo albums can be viewed on Graceland's Facebook page



# 121st COMMENCEMENT

*Commencement provides an opportunity to give recognition for outstanding accomplishments in the Graceland community.*

Graceland's **December Commencement** was held Saturday, Dec. 16, 2017, at the Community of Christ Auditorium in Independence, Missouri. Dr. Stassi Cramm offered the commencement address. Cramm is on the Graceland Board of Trustees and is the Presiding Bishop and member of the First Presidency for Community of Christ.

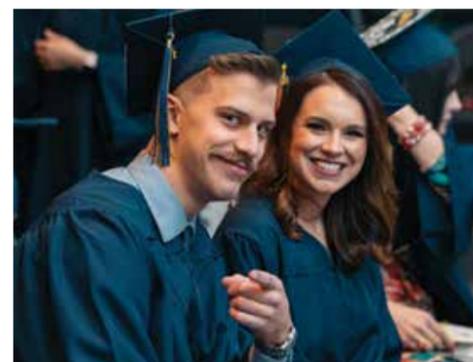
The Lamoni graduation ceremonies began Saturday, April 28, with the **baccalaureate service**. Board of Trustees member Laurie Heinz '85 offered an inspiring message:

*"Through giving of yourself to others, you lose your own burdens. Together, you (graduates) have a significant voice that can change our world."*

Following baccalaureate, a **reception with President Patricia Draves and Dr. Jeff Draves** was held for the graduates in the beautiful Shaw Lobby. Later that evening, the **19th annual candlelighting ceremony** was held on the brick plaza, where three students spoke of their Graceland memories.

The **Spring Commencement convocation** began Sunday, April 29, with a ceremonious processional and a welcome from President Draves and several graduates in their native language. It was a day of firsts — the first spring commencement for President Draves; the first **commencement address given by Drs. Matthew Bolton '01 and Emily Welty**; first duo address for Graceland graduates to hear; first spring commencement for Michele Black '81 as Alumni Board Chair; and for many graduates, they were the first in their families to receive a college degree.

In their commencement address, Welty and Bolton encouraged the candidates to live an authentic life — to be passionately curious about the world. Welty challenged, "Know the thing that is definitively and undeniably 'you,' and do not betray that thing." Bolton shared his memories of his time at Graceland and said, "This place nurtured me, and I was challenged. Go in peace now Gracelanders; show us what is possible."



*Awards were presented at both ceremonies to honor distinguished guests and faculty members.*

## HONORARY DOCTORATE

**Dr. Matthew Bolton '01** is director of the International Disarmament Institute and associate professor of political science at Pace University in New York City. He is an expert on global peace and security policy with a focus on disarmament and humanitarianism. He has been a participant observer in many multilateral disarmament and arms control policymaking processes on landmines, cluster munitions, guns, the arms trade, nuclear weapons and military robotics. Since 2014, he has worked on the U.N. advocacy of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, recipient of the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize.



**Dr. Emily Welty** is an academic ecumenist and artist living and working in New York City. She is the Director of Peace and Justice Studies at Pace University, where she teaches classes focusing on nonviolence, humanitarianism and reconciliation, and transitional justice. Her research focuses on the religious dimensions of peace building with an emphasis on humanitarianism and nuclear disarmament, as well as nonviolent social movements. She is part of the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize-winning International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), where she works on faith-based engagement in nuclear disarmament.



During his long and distinguished military career, **The Honorable Leonard L. Boswell '55** earned two Distinguished Flying Crosses, two Bronze Stars, the Soldier's Medal, an Air Medal, five silver oak leaf clusters and four bronze oak leaf clusters. He served in the Iowa State Senate, was elected as Senate President, and was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1996. As a member of Congress, education was of special concern to Boswell, as he worked to provide students with the means needed to continue their education and strive for a better future. He served on the Graceland University Board of Trustees from 1990-2014, which included time as chairman of the Business and Administrative Services Committee.



## ALUMNI AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

**Jeri Sindt, MSN**, Associate Professor of Nursing, demonstrates the hard work and sacrifice that Graceland's instructors make to continue in their calling as teachers. Her superior preparation and commitment to teaching has been a significant component of her students' success. "She went above and beyond in my methods class to help me improve as a nursing student," said one of her recent students.



Professor of Education **Michele Dickey-Kotz, PhD**, is a passionate teacher driven by the belief that it is her responsibility to promote, provoke or inspire those around her to become the very best version of themselves. Dickey-Kotz models a dedication to teaching for both her students and her colleagues. "She sees the capacity for a student to grow into a teacher," commented one of her students. "She believed in who I could become, and that has made all the difference." Her dedication to the art of teaching and to her students earned her the prestigious award.



## EXCELLENCE IN SCHOLARLY ACHIEVEMENT

**Raquel Moreira, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Communication, was awarded the Organization for Research on Women and Communication's Feminist Scholar of the Year Award Feb. 17. The award is given annually to recognize the best article published in the organization's peer-reviewed journal, *Women's Studies in Communication*, during the past year. Moreira's article explores the importance of embodied politics for marginalized women as a point of entry to instigate structural changes in sexist, racist and classist contexts.



## EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE AWARD

**Dan Platt, PhD**, Assistant Professor of English, served on several university committees, including the innovation committee, budget committee and faculty compensation committee, and he took the lead on professional development for Graceland's learning-management system. Platt was integral to Graceland's award of the Campus Kitchens grant, a \$5,000 grant to address issues of hunger and food waste on campus and in the Lamoni community. He shouldered much of the work for Graceland to host the Midwest Honors Conference, which included 17 universities on the Lamoni campus.



# 582

TOTAL DEGREES AWARDED  
2017-18 ACADEMIC YEAR

560 STUDENTS    39 STATES    16 COUNTRIES



# GRACELAND'S

# GUATEMALA

## C O N N E C T I O N

Over the past two years, members of the **Graceland community** have teamed up with the **Kansas City Chiefs** to raise funds to **build a middle school** in the village of **Palo Blanco, Guatemala**, and another in **La Majada, Guatemala**.

As part of their efforts to help, students from the **Graceland School of Nursing, Community Development Club** and **Enactus** worked each of the Kansas City Chiefs' home games offering wheel chair assistance.

This year, students worked a total of 10 home games along with a concert and have raised over \$21,000. **People for Guatemala**, a nonprofit U.S.-based organization that raises money for Guatemala, helped the Graceland groups find a donor who matched what was raised, for a total of over \$40,000.

This will be the second school built in Guatemala since Associate Dean and Professor of Nursing Dr. Sharon Little-Stoetzel and her family began an initial fundraising effort in 2016. Little-Stoetzel explains that she and her husband were in the village of La Majada building stoves when it was casually mentioned by Lois Werner, the president of **People for Guatemala**, that the land "over there" was where the village wanted a school to be built. They just needed \$20,000.



Upon returning to the U.S., Little-Stoetzel proposed the project to her daughter, Abbey, who was a Graceland student and a leader in the Community Development Club. Abbey brought the proposal to Max Pitt, faculty advisor to the club, and fundraising for the first school (La Majada) started in the fall of 2016. That year, the Graceland community worked six home Chiefs games as a joint effort between the School of Nursing and the Community Development Club.



March 10 – 17

**Chaperones** (Max Pitt, Cindy Pitt, Ethan Pitt and Jordan Byrd) accompanied **10 Graceland students** to **San Martin Jilotepeque** to celebrate with the communities of **Palo Blanco** and **La Majada** as they took the next steps in building their schools. The two NGOs, **People for Guatemala** and **Hombres y Mujeres en Accion**, are the bridge and the support to the communities. Graceland students worked and celebrated with the community members.

"The work we do with the Chiefs has provided one school in 2017 in the village of Las Majada where there was no school previously," commented Little-Stoetzel. "A middle school is being built in the village of Palo Blanco this summer. The previous school was overcrowded and had a combination of elementary and middle school students."

The people involved may have raised the money, but the planning and leadership of the school is in the hands of the community members surrounding where the school is to be built. Pitt says of the people in Guatemala, "Their investment and leadership ensures that our efforts do not create dependency or toxicity. We are only doing a small part. They are leading and giving their all for the benefit of their children and their community."



**The Chiefs appreciate the dependable efforts that have come from the 20+ volunteers at each of the games. With enough Gracelanders working together, it is very possible that we can do our small part again next year as people in Guatemala give all they have for their children.**

- Max Pitt, MBA, '86  
Associate Professor of Business

April 28 – May 26

**Sharon Little-Stoetzel** brought nursing students to work in clinics, take **Spanish lessons** and collaborate with nurse practitioner students from Florida Atlantic University. They also conducted **school screenings in La Majada and Palo Blanco**.

The nursing students spent one week in **Panajachel** (a transitional week) where they lived in homes, volunteered in clinics and went to **Spanish school**. The second week they worked in clinics and conducted well child checkups in the villages surrounding **San Martin**. Nursing students have the opportunity to differentiate between how nursing care is delivered in the United States and Guatemala. The experience is invaluable to see firsthand how poverty affects health in a third world country.



**IT'S NO SECRET THAT GRACELAND FACULTY ARE A FOCUSED BUNCH.**

*Their achievements are piling up, and the faculty bulletin boasts entries weekly. Graceland professors are not only excellent teachers, their scholarship is admirable. They're keeping up with the cutting edge of their disciplines and bettering themselves to provide Graceland students with the opportunities and knowledge they need to succeed.*

**74%**

**OF OUR FACULTY HOLD A PHD OR OTHER TERMINAL DEGREE (HIGHEST IN THEIR FIELD) in Lamoni and Independence**

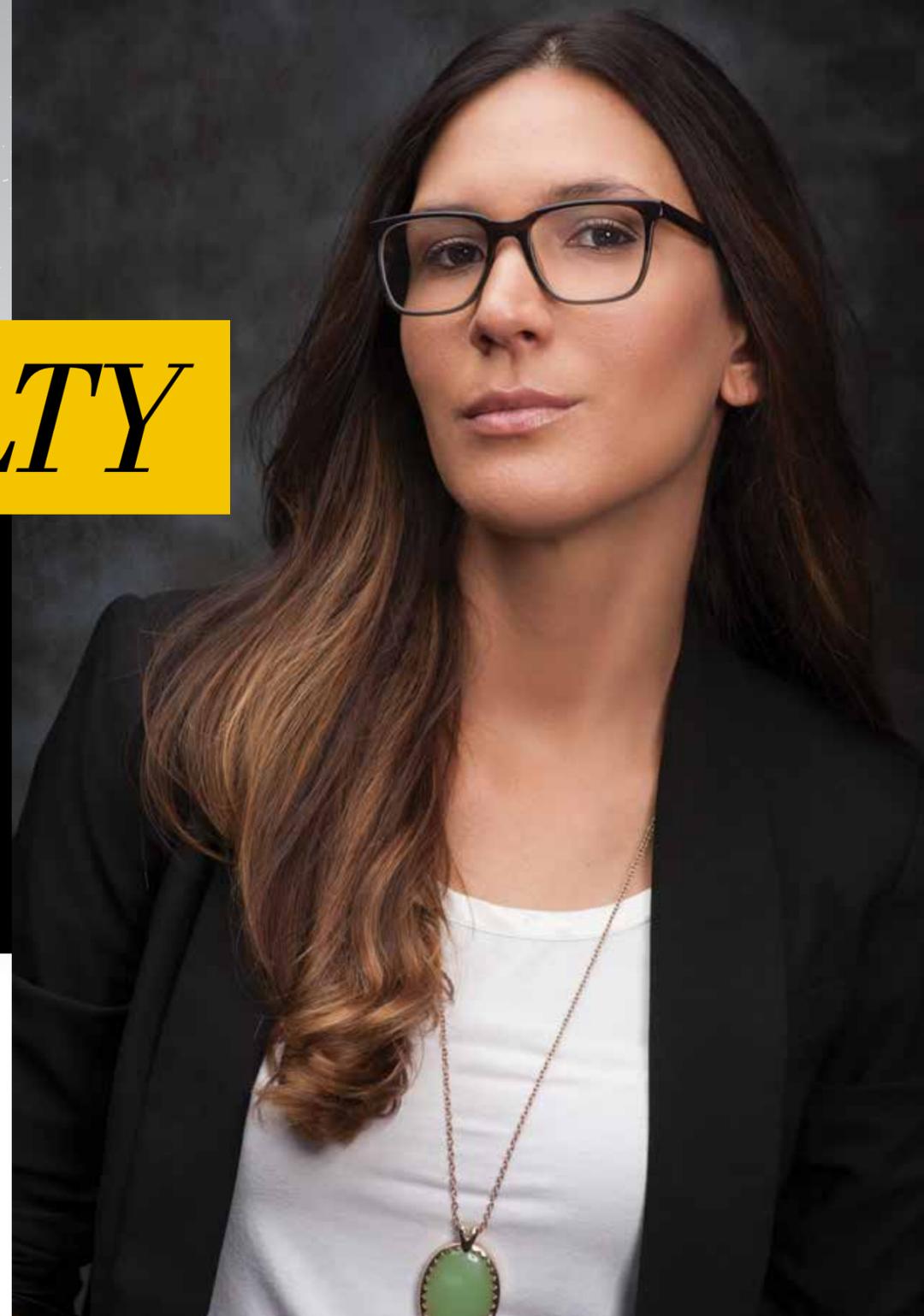


# FACULTY

These spotlights showcase the quality of commitment **Graceland's faculty** have to their scholarship and to their students, and the understanding they have of the ways in which the two intersect.

**R**AQUEL MOREIRA, PhD, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF COMMUNICATION, WAS PRESENTED WITH THE ORGANIZATION FOR RESEARCH ON WOMEN AND COMMUNICATION'S FEMINIST SCHOLAR OF THE YEAR AWARD Feb. 17 in Santa Clara, California. The award is given annually to recognize the best article published in the organization's peer-reviewed journal, *Women's Studies in Communication*. Moreira's article explores the importance of embodied politics for marginalized women in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, as a point of entry to instigate structural changes in sexist, racist and classist contexts."

"I sort of called out the white feminist scholars from the global north to rethink how they universalize or generalize experiences of white women with oppression, as though the path to overcome structural oppression is the same for everyone," she explained. "Through those Brazilian women I interviewed, I was able to gain those insights — a multifaceted viewpoint. Their lives are really hard. They challenge the status quo, and noticing that, and validating their experience, gave me a different way to look at feminism and a way to fight structural oppression."



After a long revision process, the piece was finally published in April 2017. Unaware that her article would even be considered for the award, Moreira was surprised in January of 2018 when the organization contacted her with news that her piece had been selected for the prize.

Moreira's grandmother and mother, both hemmed in by the walls of gender constraints in Brazil, gave her examples of strength under oppression as she began forging her own path.

"Grandma was pulled out of school in third grade to take care of her family — she struggled and wanted to be more than a wife and a mother. She wanted to be an independent person and paid a high price because the world was against her."

Moreira's mother, who is currently attending university, would advise, "The world will tell you what you can or can't do, but you stand on your own."

Growing up in Brazil, Moreira was also significantly impacted by her grandfather. "I've always been concerned with social justice. My grandpa was very influential in my life — he was in the Brazilian navy and was one of the few who opposed the military coup. It cost him his career, and he went to prison." Watching him struggle for justice inspired Moreira to fight for causes she believes in.

Moreira's undergraduate degree was in journalism, and she thought that was a tangible way to make changes. She interned and found there were too many restraints in journalism. Teachers and professors inspired and challenged her, and she realized that teaching provided a way to empower generations. Combining research and teaching, this headstrong woman is making a difference. "I wanted to change the world," explained Moreira.

**"My colleagues inspire me every day. I still have a lot to learn — from them and from my students. Students tell me that I changed their life, but really, they've changed mine. I enjoy scholarship, but teaching is why I do this. It's for the students."**

There were no classes for Moreira to take on the topic of gender in Rio, but that didn't stop her. She went in her own direction. Rather than writing on the political coup like everyone else, her first serious research was investigating what life was like for women during that historical period.

"People didn't think gender was important to study, but I had a wonderful professor who challenged me," she explained. "I needed to feel like what I was studying and would inevitably teach was validated." That's what motivated her to attend the University of Denver's doctoral program in communication and culture.

Moreira's journey was challenging and fast. One month after defending her master's thesis, she left Brazil to work on her doctorate in another language, which she completed in May 2014. She's been at Graceland for four years now and has an empathetic understanding for students with challenges of all kinds. On her office door is a poster that concludes, "You are an invaluable part of our campus community. I am committed to building an inclusive, supportive and equitable space where you know you belong, you are safe and you can thrive."

**IF YOU'RE READING THIS MAGAZINE, THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE YOU KNOW CHEMISTRY PROFESSOR DAN PRATT, PhD, '81 — OR SOME OF HIS COUSINS. PROFESSOR PRATT IS CONNECTED.** He is part of the legacy fabric of Graceland University. One of his initial conversations with people is usually on the line of "how are we connected?" and, undoubtedly, he will find the link.

Pratt has been teaching chemistry at Graceland for nearly 20 years and is famous for his grueling organic chemistry courses. Hundreds of students have had to pass the course to continue in their pursuit of a science career. In his defense, he is aware of the class stigma, and to prepare his students, he holds study-group meetings in his home. "Cookies and milk help," he explained.

An atmosphere of trust and respect is cultivated with his students, and Pratt tries to provide them with experiential opportunities. His wide net of connections, through a large family of Graceland graduates, Community of Christ affiliation, six different universities and his growing number of student devotees, provide him with a vast map of contacts to tap into when students leave Lamoni.

**"A friend once told me that the students don't care how much you know until they know how much you care. I want my students to understand how science affects their everyday lives."**

Quick to share the spotlight, Pratt will point to the success of many of his students and boast about what they're up to after graduating, peppering names with impressive achievements.

Pratt was awarded a summer fellowship at the University of Iowa through their program Fostering Undergraduate Talent Uniting Research and Education (FUTURE). What made it especially rewarding for him was that he was able to include his student Ryan Sheehy '10.



Sheehy went on to earn a PhD in 2015 and is now a professor at Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences.

Pratt encourages his students to question and to be curious about their world. "I do not believe there is a 'stupid' question," he relayed. "Students should be able to ask questions without feeling intimidated." He requires them to dissect problems into smaller pieces, solve the small problems first and then go on to the more complex ones. "These are skills that are not only important to become a good scientist, but they are necessary to successfully survive in today's workplace." He also asks them to communicate their scientific findings in written form as well as verbal presentations, preparing them for future graduate work.

Pratt graduated from Graceland in 1981 and received a PhD from the University of Washington. His fields of expertise include organic synthesis, analytical chemistry and instrumental analysis, and he has conducted two postdoctoral studies — one at Iowa State University and the other at the University of Kansas. Additionally, he spent a short stint in industry working for a small pharmaceutical company in New Jersey.

In March, Pratt was named first chairholder of the Daniel E. and Alice D. Waite Endowed Chair in Science. In his acceptance, Pratt told of his connection to the Waites and that his intent was to promote the science programs at Graceland and to help students — both science majors and nonmajors — see the relevance of science in daily life.



**AFTER JUST ONE YEAR AT GRACELAND, JOLENE LYNN, PhD HAS TAKEN ON THE ROLE OF THE ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR GRADUATE PROGRAMS. LYNN BRINGS A WEALTH OF EXPERIENCE TO GRACELAND.**

A registered nurse for 36 years, she graduated from Pittsburg State University in Pittsburg, Kansas, with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN). She has been a nurse educator for over 20 years, teaching for Johnson County Community College and the University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC) nursing programs. Her practice experience includes emergency, day surgery and wound care.

Serving as the BSN Program Director at UMKC for over nine years, Lynn completed her MSN-Nurse Educator at UMKC and her Doctor of Philosophy-Nursing at the University of Missouri-Saint Louis.

**Q Describe your new position?**

My position deals with administrative responsibilities like budgets and planning, but since we're such a small group of faculty for the nursing program, we do a lot of things together. We meet on Mondays and address all kinds of issues — from student concerns to teaching techniques — and have a good team approach. With nearly 700 students in the nursing program, our relatively small staff is busy.

I'm still teaching the introduction courses and am the lead for the Theory of Nursing course — my favorite.

**Q How did you choose nursing?**

I'm a first-generation college student, and my parents were adamant that my sisters and I continue our education. My dad was frustrated

without a degree to get ahead and wanted better possibilities for us. I was a candy striper in junior high, and the nurses were so kind and inspiring. They treated me like I was part of the team even though I was just passing out water and magazines. It was because of that experience that I went into nursing.

I was the first nurse in my family. My husband was a respiratory therapist for 30 years and six years ago went to nursing school. My son is a nurse, and my niece is a nurse now too. I guess I've been recruiting for nursing school! It's such a good career and so flexible.

**Q Why did you move into academia?**

I had worked in an emergency department and ran a wound care center, but we needed to adjust our schedules to accommodate child care, so I actually moved to teaching for the flexible schedule.

I started out at Johnson County Community College and then got my master's at UMKC, which was starting a BSN program, so I got in on the ground floor. It was perfect for raising our three sons. I don't know how it happened, but they're all grown!

**Q Best part of your job?**

I love the collegiality of Graceland and the process of problem-solving at the lowest level. You can't get that at a lot of places. Everyone's been so welcoming to me as a new person. When new nurses came to UMKC, they would drone on and on about their last place, so I was hesitant to say much. The Graceland faculty encouraged, "Jolene, how did you do it at UMKC?" They've wanted me to share my previous experience and perspectives.

I originally didn't think I wanted to be in administration again, but the faculty was very supportive, and Dr. Jan Rice was so organized and helpful in the transition. In the past, I had to invent or create my position, so it is exciting to find that there are such good pieces already in place.

**Q Hobbies?**

Reading fiction, bargain thrifting, Royals baseball, boy scouting — my husband and three boys are all Eagle Scouts — and our 1920s house is a hobby all in and of itself.



**RYAN GATZKE, MS,**  
IS THE DIVISION CHAIR FOR  
GRACELAND'S HEALTH AND  
MOVEMENT SCIENCE PROGRAM.

Health and movement science has concentrations in allied health, coaching, health, health education and physical education, which often leads to graduate work in physical therapy, occupational therapy or chiropractic studies.

Gatzke has been leading the program toward an evidence-based practice model using research and experience to help drive the decision-making process as a practitioner.

**"I had a vision of where we wanted to go – to bring in a stronger scientific base. We want students to know what they're doing, but also why."**

Gatzke is up to date with this changing and prevalent area in higher education. Currently, all the health and movement science professors are working toward their terminal degrees — the highest in their field. Gatzke is in a doctoral program in human sport performance at Rocky Mountain University of Health Professions in Provo, Utah.

He plans to complete his dissertation in strength conditioning with the Graceland women's volleyball team and coach Stew McDole.

"I was in Utah for my doctoral work and spent time with physical therapists, occupational therapists, nutritionists, athletic trainers, strength conditioning folks and all kinds of professionals, which really let me collaborate with them. I'm always concerned for Graceland's students and thinking of ways that we can make our program better. We are trying to prepare them at this level for what they'll need at the next."

Growing up in Wisconsin, Gatzke comes from a blue-collar factory working family and is a first-generation college graduate. He nearly didn't make it through undergrad and had never considered graduate school as an option, but once he found his path, he made up for lost time.

"I changed my major four times — I can relate to many students who haven't found just what they want to do yet. I had terrible grades and took time off; I just wasn't focused," explained Gatzke. "I had to come back from that. I was readmitted conditionally at the university. I switched over to fitness management and took anatomy physiology, and

it turned out to be the best class I'd ever taken. Something clicked, and I realized I needed to put in serious effort. I couldn't get through by guessing — I needed to really know the content. There is no easy street. It was the first class that really instilled my academic work ethic."

Gatzke finished his undergraduate degree at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside in fitness management. He made an amazing comeback from a 1.0 grade point average to finish top of his class for fitness management students. While he was there, he worked in their biomechanics lab, presented at the state symposium and attended a few national conferences.

Now working on his doctorate, he realizes the importance of the academic field and brings his expertise to the classroom. Gatzke is making sure Graceland students are as well-equipped as any in the country.

Student-athlete Lucky Lovan '19 noted the time Gatzke has taken to answer questions from lectures and help him prepare for physical therapy school: "Professor Gatzke is very knowledgeable in his field and values my learning by explaining the material in great detail," says Lovan. "He expects the most out of his students and wants us to succeed in our future endeavors as clinicians."



# FACULTY FOCUS



**FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS**

This section of our website features more of our faculty's efforts and the successes that come from them. There are awards, conference presentations, published works and residencies all worth mentioning, and you can read them right here: [graceland.edu/FacultyHighlights](http://graceland.edu/FacultyHighlights)



**KAREN GERGELY**  
AWARDED SIX-WEEK ARTIST  
RESIDENCY

Assistant Professor of Art Karen Gergely was awarded a six-week artist residency at Brickscape in Charlestown, West Virginia, this summer. Gergely was one of 10 artists selected to create an immersive, socially-engaged installation responding to the history and culture of the Charleston community. The residency culminated in an exhibition for FestivALL June 15-24.



**KEVIN BRUNNER '86 AND  
JACOB BELMORE TAKE STUDENTS  
TO MIDWEST INSTRUCTION AND  
COMPUTING SYMPOSIUM**

Professor of Information Technology Kevin Brunner and Assistant Professor of Computer Science Jacob Belmore attended the annual Midwest Instruction and Computing Symposium at the College of Saint Scholastica in Duluth, Minnesota. They were accompanied by nine Graceland University Computer Science and Information Technology students. The students participated in a programming contest, and all participated in listening to presentations and posters on current topics.



**DAVID DEVONIS**  
CROSS-CULTURAL PSYCH TEXT  
PUBLISHED

Professor of Psychology David Devonis' cross-cultural psych text, *Interactive Exercises for Cross-Cultural Psychology: Encounters With a Complex World*, was published in May with Routledge. The text emanates from the collective efforts of classes over the past three years to identify and give voice to personally important cultural issues. The cover illustration is an adaptation of a diptych by Anne Simpkins '82, and the indexing was done by Graceland Honors student Madeline Glodowski.



**OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES HANDBOOK WITH ESSAYS  
BY TIM ROBBINS AND MATT MOORE '18 WINS 2018  
OPEN EDUCATION AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE**

The Open Education Consortium, a global nonprofit network promoting open pedagogy, recently announced the 2018 Open Education Awards for Excellence. This year's best Open Textbook — "an openly licensed textbook of exemplary quality in its presentation of educational content" — was awarded to *A Guide to Making Open Textbooks with Students*, a collection containing essays from Assistant Professor of English Tim Robbins, PhD, and English and art double major Matt Moore. Robbins and Moore are currently editing the *Open Anthology of Earlier American Literature* with support from the Rebus Foundation. Their essays discuss the anthology's genesis from a collaborative course project in Robbins' Early American Literature survey course at Graceland.



**ANTHONY  
CHVALA-SMITH  
ARTICLE PUBLISHED**

An article by Assistant Professor of Theology and Director of Scripture and Paul E. Morden Seminary Chair of Religion Anthony Chvala-Smith titled *In Life and in Death: Barth, Bonhoeffer, and the Path from the Great War to the Confessing Church* was just published in the *Mennonite Quarterly Review* 92 (April 2018): 149-172.



**MELINDA LEOCE  
SELECTED AS CLINICIAN  
AT PERCUSSION FESTIVAL**

Visiting Instructor of Percussion and Director of Athletic Bands Melinda Loece was a clinician at the Point Percussion Festival at University of Wisconsin, Steven's Point April 14. Loece presented on Brazilian drumming and performed a steel pan solo for the Guest Artist Recital.

# DID YOU KNOW



**WHAT MAKES GRACELAND GREAT?**  
AFTER ASKING STUDENTS, ALUMNI, FACULTY AND STAFF WHAT THEY WOULD CHOOSE AS THEIR **GRACELAND TOP 10**, WE POOLED THEIR ANSWERS TO BRING YOU THIS LIST OF INSPIRING ATTRIBUTES THAT MAKE GRACELAND THE PLACE WE ARE ALL PROUD TO CALL HOME.

## 1 **Graceland values learning, wholeness and community, with the aim to change the world for the better.**

That goal is being lived out every day on both campuses and through students' efforts around the world. The School of Nursing has partnered with the Community Development Club and Graceland Enactus to build schools in Guatemala, and Enactus is making a difference closer to home as well. One of their projects this year focused on providing fresh foods to people in the Lamoni community through a partnership with the Lamoni Food Bank and Funshine Learning Center. Social justice is also abundant in the classroom: Assistant Professor of English Tim Robbins assigns "public scholarship" to students in his Poetry and Social Justice course; he, and personal counselor Dee White Eye, have brought awareness to Indigenous Peoples Day; and Assistant Professor of Art Karen Gergely asks students in her Social Practice class to create an activism project about a topic for which they are passionate. Graceland organizations on the Lamoni campus decided it is important for all students to have access to these conversations. For the past couple of years, Student Life, Graceland Student Government (GSG), Black Student Union (BSU) and others have sponsored "campus climate conversations" in the form of town hall meetings intended to expose the Graceland and Lamoni communities to a variety of topics that challenge our comfort and broaden our exposure to other viewpoints and ideas. Graceland's focus on peace and social justice really is impacting lives.

## 2 **We pay it forward. And forward.. And forward...**

Graceland is a place where people can practice and promote peace and social justice because it has been made that way by generations of Gracelanders. But more than just the development of a mindset, Graceland graduates understand the important role alumni played in their own Graceland experience and are more than willing to give back. The generosity of Graceland donors is impressive, but that's not the only way Graceland alumni give of themselves. They come to Lamoni to speak at campus events — large and small. They sponsor internships and dedicate their time to the GU4U program as mentors to students and new graduates trying to make it in their field. Graceland alumni pay it forward to their alma mater, and the students reap the benefits. This example is hard wired into the very culture of Graceland, and even students find ways to pay it forward around campus and through their own acts of kindness. Each fall on the Lamoni campus, student-leaders and fall student-athletes help new students move into the residence halls for the first time through an enormous community effort. Move-in day has become a tradition of camaraderie. All these examples, and many more, provide tangible examples of The Power of Together.

## 3 **We're "essentially" changing the way people think about general education.**

Our new Essential Education program asks the question, what if "general education" were more than just prerequisite courses? One of the first of its kind, this curriculum seeks to connect knowledge with choices and action, and seeks to prepare students for citizenship and work through engaged and guided learning on real-world problems. Students can choose from five themes: equality, innovation, peace, sustainability and world citizenship. Each of the five themes has courses in its curriculum unique to that theme but share six student learning outcomes: communication, critical thinking, ethical thinking and action, global learning, knowledge of human cultures, and knowledge of physical and natural world. Equipped with these essential, highly adaptable skills, Graceland graduates will continue to be prepared for the rapidly changing 21st-century and will continue to change the world for the better.

## 4 **We've got una cultura acogedora.**

That's "a welcoming culture" in Spanish; and we've got it. Graceland welcomed its first student from outside the U.S. and Canada in 1908 (Freda Haas from Germany), and now the Lamoni campus is home to students representing 48 states and 30 countries (43 states and six countries are represented by the Independence campus). Bringing all those cultures and backgrounds to one small community means people from all over the world get to know people from all over the world, right here in the Midwest. And because we are such a small campus, students who come to Graceland from anywhere in the world can take part in a variety of activities — visual and performing arts, athletics, clubs and organizations, student leadership and more. The fusing of cultures and experiences creates a uniquely welcoming place. *Una cultura acogedora* is reflected even further in the Hispanic Studies program, led by Assistant Professor of Spanish Jonathan Montalvo. Professor Montalvo will be joined in his home of Puerto Rico this summer by a group of Graceland students who will take part in an experiential learning opportunity. Puerto Rico was first represented at Graceland by Ann Kelley of San Juan in 1957.



**5 We know that experiential learning is some of the best learning, and we put our money where our mouth is.**

Our nursing students on the Independence campus have been taking part in experiential learning practices in the form of clinicals for a long time, but the practice of experiential learning, or service learning, for other areas of study is newer — at least in its official form. Service learning is characterized by acts of service in which students experience real-life problem solving coupled with classroom reflection connected to defined learning objectives. Pat Hoffman has taken on the role of Service Learning Coordinator for the Lamoni campus and has been busy connecting experiences to students in the Lamoni community. Over the past three years, Graceland has consistently increased the number of courses that implement service learning, and during the 2017-18 school year there were 20 classes that took part in this high-impact practice. Students volunteered at an animal shelter; worked with the elderly, writing their stories to share with loved ones; walked kids to school and worked with them to reduce math fear. Lamoni now has a beautiful mural, and people in Guatemala have had access to health care, all because of service learning projects carried out by Graceland University students. These efforts are visible in Graceland's student government and have even expanded to clubs and organizations.

**We educate nurses faster.**

The truth is, whether we're talking about essential education, sustainability or activism, we have always been progressive. One way Graceland has been ahead of the curve is in our nursing program. Graceland's School of Nursing was one of the first to offer nursing degrees virtually all online, providing bachelor of nursing degrees through distance learning in 1987. Today, the program can produce a nurse in just 18 months with a quick but rigorous online format. Many of the students who enroll in the program already have careers and families, and Graceland has figured out how to accommodate the needs of today's students. The program has grown to one of the most recognized nursing programs in the country with an accredited Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program.



**FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS**  
[graceland.edu/  
 FacultyHighlights](http://graceland.edu/FacultyHighlights)

**8 Our faculty just. don't. stop.**

Of course, behind each Graceland student-athlete, student-leader, international student and service-learning experience are the caring and passionate faculty who not only participate in the culture of Graceland University — in many ways, they make the culture. But our faculty don't stop at the classroom doors. They are out in the world providing research, presenting ideas, sharing knowledge and absorbing innovative thoughts. We have showcased many of them in this issue of *Horizons*, but there isn't enough room in one publication to share them all.

**We're leading the way with leadership opportunities.**

Graceland has always offered an abundance of ways for students to get involved. We have 20 varsity athletic teams, more than 40 clubs and organizations and, impressively, there are 270 student leadership opportunities on the Lamoni campus. Here are a few of the acronyms we use for areas of student leadership:

- GSG** Graceland Student Government
- CHP** Council of House Presidents
- CHC** Council of House Chaplains
- SAAC** Student-Athlete Advisory Committee
- ASC** Academic Student Council
- BSU** Black Student Union
- SCO** Student Communications Organization
- ACM** Association of Computing Machinery
- GSEA** Graceland Student Education Association
- SAGE** Sexual And Gender Equality club

With so many ways to gain leadership experience, it's no wonder Graceland alumni are leading the way in changing the world.

**7 We're Green, obviously — because blue and gold make green.**

While the essential education sustainability track is new, sustainability at Graceland is not. Mary Kay Kenworthy '78 Speaks started Graceland's recycle program when she worked here (1987-98). Since that time, such initiatives have made great strides in decreasing Graceland's carbon footprint and educating the Graceland community on ways they can also make an impact. Sustainability Coordinator Jennifer Abraham-White '08 oversees Graceland's eco plot, which includes a hoop house with raised garden beds, an orchard, and other fruit and nut trees, and, through her efforts, it is expanding each year. The produce grown on Graceland's eco plot helps to provide food to the local community and Graceland students through a partnership with Sodexo, Graceland's food service. Sodexo's involvement in Graceland's sustainability efforts also extend to post-meal habits in the form of a Campus Kitchen grant that enables Graceland and Lamoni community members battling with food insecurity to gain access to food that would otherwise go to waste. Graceland Sustainability recycles more than just food — they are responsible for providing recycle bins around campus, creating a rain garden that prevents water runoff, and have even hosted end-of-year donation drives to avoid unwanted items ending up in the trash as students move out of their rooms for the summer.

**We're churchy — but we don't push it.**

Graceland is sponsored by the Community of Christ. It's something most of us know, and it's woven into the very fabric of the university's foundation, including the programs those Christian ideals have influenced. Based on the Christian values of human dignity, mutual respect and social responsibility, Graceland welcomes persons of all faiths. Unlike many higher educational institutions, Graceland does not push religion. The Campus Ministries Office has a large footprint on the Lamoni campus — each house has a Chaplain called to build community, share faith, and create justice and peace in their respective houses, in the residence halls and campus wide through creativity and collaboration. The Interfaith program on the Lamoni campus provides a place for people to gather, share ideas and share different perspectives on prominent issues in accordance with their religious beliefs and values.

**SHARE  
 YOUR  
 TOP 10**

**This is just a handful of the amazing attributes that make the Graceland experience so extraordinary, and all of it is connected.** None of it happens without the interwoven web of passionate individuals and the innovative community we have built together for more than 120 years. And because every Graceland experience is different, we are curious to know what makes your **GRACELAND TOP 10?** Share your list with us on social media. #GracelandTop10 #WeAreGraceland #GracelandForever

# GENEROSITY ABOUND

Our third annual Day of Giving campaign on March 6, 2018, continued to grow with alumni and friends responding to the challenge!



**330**  
TOTAL DONORS

## DONORS



♂ = ALUMNI DONORS ♀ = OTHER DONORS

**292**  
ALUMNI DONORS

Our pool of **matching challenge donors** provided funding so every gift was matched. A special thank you in alphabetical order goes to this group ➔

- Anonymous couple and their employer
- Susan Bevington and her employer, Microsoft
- Gail Brown
- Curtis Calloway
- John Godfrey
- Graceland employees as a group
- 103-year-old John Green
- Jim and Lorene Henson
- Dean Limric
- Jay and Cherry Newcom
- Scott and Heather Ourth

Graceland Enactus has completed the 2017-18 school year with the recognition that their efforts rank them among the top 16 teams across the entire country. We know...you've heard this before. But how many of us actually know what it means?

# enactus™

2017-18 U.S. NATIONAL EXPO  
**TOP 3.5%**  
IN THE UNITED STATES

Graceland's Enactus program has been consistently winning awards for so long that many of us take it for granted. Not all Enactus programs are winning these awards, however, and not many teams have had the amount of success that Graceland's program has had.

## Fast Facts

### ENACTUS PROGRAMS

#### GLOBAL FOOTPRINT

**72,000**  
STUDENTS

**1,730**  
COLLEGE  
CAMPUSES

**36**  
COUNTRIES  
WORLDWIDE

#### IN THE U.S. ALONE

**12,000** **440**  
STUDENTS | TEAMS

When the Graceland team made it into the top 16 at the Enactus U.S. National Exposition this spring, that placed them in the **top 3.5 percent in the entire country**. And there are no levels that separate schools by size or financial access. Graceland University Enactus project work holds its own against schools like Penn State and the University of Florida (neither of which advanced to the semifinals this year — Graceland did.)

But it's not all about the competition. At the root of this program is the act of instilling the entrepreneurial spirit into students in order to be able to touch the 1.3 million lives around the globe for whom Enactus projects are intended.

Through this work, some amazing young entrepreneurs are born, and companies across the world have taken notice. Companies like Walmart Inc., Unilever, PepsiCo and Hallmark send representatives to the national expo each year for the annual career fair. Enactus students — *and only Enactus students* — have direct access to on-the-spot job interviews. This year, all graduating Graceland Enactus students already had jobs lined up — a testament to the program — but it didn't stop executives from trying to steal their talents.

**NATE MYER '10** hired **MELISSA SHERER '18** to work with him at Ericsson Communications in Texas. He made the connection after asking Enactus Director Jared Doty, "Are there any seniors on the Enactus presentation team that I can hire?" He knew what a fabulous job Graceland does, and that someone on this year's presentation team would be a good fit.



## Graceland PROJECTS

**TIRE GARDENS IN ZAMBIA**  
that are now feeding hundreds of orphans



### AEROPONICS PARTNERSHIP WITH SODEXO

that supports the sustainable growth of fresh produce for the Lamoni Food Pantry and Funshine Learning Center



### ALEXA DOT "BRAIN BREAKS" APPLICATION

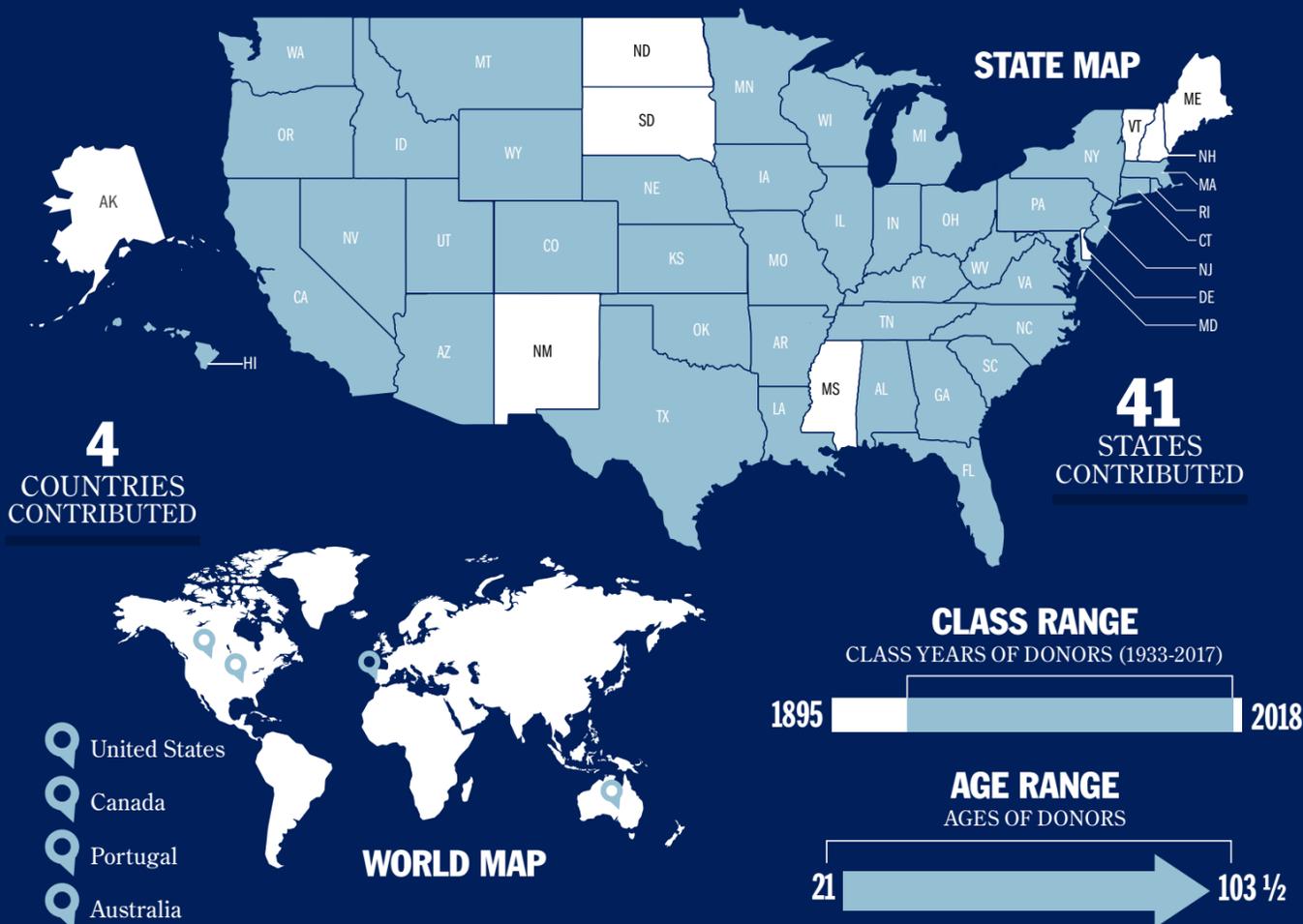
available to school teachers in 86 countries around the world, designed to enhance learning in the classroom



The takeaway here is that there is likely much more to this program than many of us ever realized.

It is an impressive program, and Graceland Enactus is an impressive member of the international efforts.

There is a lot to watch for in the coming months and years from Graceland's Enactus team — both in their project work and their competitive presentation team — so be on the lookout for what's to come.



MONTH DAY YEAR  
**OCT 5-7 2018**  
 DESTINATION TIME

1895... 1958... 1983... 2018...

# COME BACK TO THE FUTURE

## THE HOMECOMING '18

### FRIDAY

- Noon Alumni and Friends Golf Tournament
- 4 p.m. Choir Concert
- 5 p.m. 19th Annual Emeriti and Alumni Awards Banquet
- 7:30 p.m. Homecoming Production: *Ghost the Musical*
- 5-8 p.m. Alumni Basketball Games
- 10 p.m. Student Airband Show
- 11:30 p.m. Post-Airband Ice Cream Party

### SATURDAY

- 8:30 a.m. 5K Run/Walk
- 10:30 a.m. Choir Concert
- 11:15 a.m. Pep Rally with Gadets and Cheer Squad
- 11:35 a.m. Homecoming Court
- 11:45 a.m. Yellowjacket Tailgate Party
- Noon Annual Alumni Association Forum
- 12:35 p.m. House Chaplains' Clash for Cash Tug of War
- 1 p.m. Brad Carr Paver Reveal
- 2 p.m. Football Game vs. Evangel University
- Ergo and Friends Recital
- Ice Hockey Reunion
- 5 p.m. Honor Class Dinners
- 6 p.m. Women's Soccer vs. William Penn University
- 7:30 p.m. Homecoming Production: *Ghost the Musical*
- 8 p.m. Homecoming Alumni/Student Talent Show
- 8:30 p.m. Men's Soccer vs. William Penn University

### SUNDAY

- 8 a.m. Crescent Breakfast
- 10:30 a.m. Homecoming Worship Service
- 11:45 a.m. President's Brunch
- 2 p.m. Homecoming Production: *Ghost the Musical*

1958-1968-1978-1983  
 1988-1993-1998-2008

## HONOR CLASSES

For the full and most current schedule, visit:

**GRACELAND.EDU/HCSCHEDULE**

## CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS & LEARNING: IT'S REAL!



**LEARNING TO LEARN – THE ESSENTIAL SURVIVAL SKILL IN A WORLD CHANGING AT RECORD SPEED. AT GRACELAND, IT'S REAL.**

When I unpacked my suitcase as a Graceland freshman in the fall of 1966, I assumed I was there to acquire a body of knowledge that I could efficiently apply daily in my personal and professional life for the rest of my life. That year, I came to realize I was there to learn how to learn.

Slowly, and sometimes even surprising myself, I began to develop the tools, sometimes with frustration, but sometimes with exhilaration, to constructively critique the world. In classes, in assigned readings, in research and discussion with friends, I began to rethink some of my assumptions about the world in which I lived and the world beyond my immediate experience. Sometimes without knowing it, I was making progress in solving problems and making better decisions.

The Graceland community of learning was teaching me how to think, how to evaluate all of my life assumptions, and how to engage the world with a sense of wonderment and openness. I came to understand that the ultimate goal of education was not to pile up an encyclopedia of facts in my brain.

The world changes and many of those facts could soon be obsolete, but if I could learn how to continue to learn, to think critically yet constructively, I could survive. I could adapt — make better decisions and be successful in whatever I chose to do in my life.

Today, Graceland is even more intentional in its goal of teaching students how to think. The university has created a freshman seminar for virtually all incoming students that places them in a learning community of around 15 colleagues. Faculties from across the academic disciplines model critical thinking skills that can be applied to any subject. As the classes evolve from random groups to supportive learning communities and students develop friendships with those from different lifestyles and backgrounds, they listen to new ideas and develop the confidence to revisit past assumptions. Yes, it can be scary, but to discover new windows on the universe — not how much we know, but how much we don't know — that's what a good education can provide.

As an employer in my professional years, I searched for employees who could comprehensively evaluate information, consider alternatives, and arrive at good decisions through constructive dialogue and teamwork. Through collaboration and creativity, the Graceland faculty have implemented a new curriculum that makes critical thinking a primary goal. Do freshmen find it threatening? Often. Do they feel supported by competent and caring instructors? Almost always. Do seniors appreciate the intellectual journey and look back on their Graceland days as a time of rewarding personal growth? Almost always. Learning to learn, the essential survival skill in a world changing at record speed — at Graceland, it's real.

*Harry A. Stewart*



Dr. Jill Rhea was hired as Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of Faculty effective July 1 following a national search assisted by the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB). She comes to Graceland with experience in both traditional liberal arts undergraduate education and in overseeing online, adult on-site and graduate programs.

## GRACELAND WELCOMES DR. JILL RHEA

"Graceland's commitment to the liberal arts and to its core values of learning, wholeness and community is laudable and inspiring," stated Rhea. "I am incredibly excited and honored to join the Graceland family."

After earning her PhD in organizational communication (with a related area in quantitative research methods) at Ohio University, she taught for 10 years at the University of North Texas. While there, she became a certified mediator and was a founding member of the task force charged by the Chancellor with creating a university-wide alternative dispute resolution program.

For 12 years, she taught a variety of communications courses at Buena Vista University (BVU) in Iowa.

In 2013, she was promoted to the position of dean of Online, Site and Graduate Programs at BVU. As Chair of the Faculty Senate, she was an active member of the President's Council and the Dean's Council, and was involved in the meetings of the Board of Trustees. She has led Buena Vista's 16 campus sites across Iowa, five graduate programs and a full slate of online programs.

"I am excited about Dr. Rhea being part of the Graceland team and confident she will be a great leader of the academic program at our university," commented President Draves.

## WEDDINGS

**Karin Blythe '08** and Darian Richardson, St. Cloud, Minnesota, February 2016.

Austin and **Madison Vanriper '15 Henry**, Archie, Missouri, October 2016.

**Justin '15** and **Alexandria Krabbenhoft '16 Kaminski**, Rogers, Arkansas, Sept. 2, 2017.

**Cody Phillips '15** and **Kaitlin McGlynn '12**, Lee's Summit, Missouri, Nov. 25, 2016.

Corrie Olford and **Jessi Eide '15**, Perry, Iowa, Sept. 10, 2016.

Jacob and **Kylie Parks '13 Verhagen**, Osborn, Missouri, April 2013.

**Jerry '55** and **Mary Jo Mader '55 Rhodes Wolfe**, Kansas City, Missouri, Jan. 19, 2018.

## ANNIVERSARIES

**Nick '58** and **Merilou Gilmore '58 Hartwig** will celebrate their 60th anniversary June 29, 2018.

**Fred '52** and **Gwen Kimball '52 Howes** will celebrate their 64th anniversary Aug. 21, 2018.

## BIRTHS

**Louis '04** and **Gretchen Bloom '04 Johnson**, Lee's Summit, Missouri, Jet, born Aug. 8, 2016.

**Dakota Little '13**, Sigourney, Iowa, Rory, born July 27, 2016.

Adam and **Kasey Johnson '08 Steen**, Pleasant Hill, Iowa, Maverick Kai, born Sept. 5, 2017.

Jacob and **Kylie Parks '13 Verhagen**, Osborn, Missouri, Ty, born July 23, 2016.

Brandon and **Brooke Johnson '04 Wright**, Clive, Iowa, Zander Edward, born April 7, 2017.

## Stay CONNECTED

WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

 Graceland University

 @GracelandU

 @gracelanduniversity

## IN MEMORIAM

**Gladys Fee '59 Amsberry**, Urbandale, Iowa, March 6, 2018.

**William "Bill" Barlow '75**, Atlanta, Georgia, Feb. 28, 2018.

**Tracey Caldwell '96 Bergeron**, Middleton, New Hampshire, April 20, 2018.

**Robert Berkins '75**, Southbury, Connecticut, April 28, 2018.

**Tamara Diamond '66 Bingham**, Del City, Oklahoma, March 22, 2018.

**Evelyn Butrum '68 Brightman**, Chariton, Iowa, May 7, 2017.

**Rogene Boren '49 Colby**, Seibert, Colorado, Nov. 27, 2017.

**Ann Everett '00**, Lamoni, Iowa, March 24, 2018.

**William Fox '39**, Republic, Missouri.

**Lysle Gilmore '36**, Hagerman, Idaho, Jan. 19, 2018.

**Barbara Phillips '69 Hamann**, St. Joseph, Missouri, Feb. 28, 2018.

**Kazuichi Hamasaki '48**, Wailuku, Hawaii, Sept. 4, 2017.

**Robert Harder '58**, Annapolis, Maryland, May 15, 2018.

**Peggy Harder**, Annapolis, Maryland, May 10, 2018.

**Joseph Holst Jr. '54**, Spokane Valley, Washington, March 8, 2018.

**Doris Engelhard Jackel**, San Antonio, Texas, Dec. 27, 2017.

**Dana Keller '42**, Gretna, Nebraska, Jan. 2, 2017.

**Clifton McArthur '48**, Bayfield, Colorado, Sept. 11, 2015.

**Pete McArthur '72**, Bayfield, Colorado, 2015.

**Eileen Diggle McPhie**, Surrey, British Columbia, Canada, Dec. 5, 2017.

**William "Bill" M. Miller '49**, Fairland, Oklahoma, May 4, 2017.

**Donald Northey '73**, St. Thomas, Ontario, Canada, Sept. 2, 2012.

**Donna Gossadge '58 Payne**, Lamoni, Iowa, May 13, 2018.

**Howard Raines '56**, Fanshawe, Oklahoma, Oct. 30, 2008.

**Marvin K. Richter '64**, Kent, Washington, Sept. 11, 2017.

**Mark Wellington '83**, Edmond, Oklahoma, April 9, 2018.

**Anna Elizabeth Gunzell '45 Wikoff**, Blue Springs, Missouri, March 23, 2018.

**Edmund Wong '43**, Kaneohe, Hawaii, April 23, 2018.

## TAKING THEIR SHOW ON THE ROAD THE 2018 ARDYCE KOONCE HONORARY CHOIR TOUR



The **2018 Ardyce Koonce Honorary Choir Tour** was comprised of singers from Graceland's Concert Choir and Chamber Singers. Conducted by Professor Sara Blessing and accompanied by Professor Jack Ergo, the choir embarked on a two-week trip with performances at several Community of Christ congregations and other venues in Missouri; Kentucky; Ohio; Pennsylvania; Washington, D.C.; Indiana and Iowa. The tour group had some fun along the way with activities at each destination, such as the St. Louis Arch and Museum, riverfront cruise, escape room adventure, scavenger hunt, Broadway shows in NYC, sights in Washington, D.C., and even zip-lining. It was a memorable trip, made possible through the generous support and hospitality of donors, alumni and friends.

## 00s

**Dr. Cara Calloway '03 Young** was awarded the Rising Star Faculty award at the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties conference in Indianapolis April 21, 2018. This award is given annually to one early career nurse practitioner faculty who exemplifies excellence in teaching, research and practice.

**Donan Cruz '07**, head coach for the Grand View University men's volleyball team, led the Vikings to a NAIA National Invitational Championship April 21, 2018.

## 90s

## 80s

**Laurie Adkins '86 McElderry's** novel *Love and Other Hot Beverages* (written under the pen name Laurie Loft) was published by Riptide Publishing. The novel is a Lambda Literary Awards finalist in the Gay Romance category with the winner being announced in June. The book is available from Riptide as well as Amazon and other retailers.

## 70s

**Ric Hettrick '74** recently retired from Preferred Risk/Guidance Insurance Company after 40 years with the company. Ric was the Senior Vice President of Sales for the western half of the United States.

**Rob Johnson '76**, will be retiring at the end of 2018 after a successful 42-year career. Rob is the Global Director for Health, Safety and Environment for an oil and gas company in Houston, Texas. He has earned certifications as a Certified Safety Professional and a Certified Hazardous Materials Manager. He attributes his success to the educational foundation he received at Graceland: "Thank you Graceland (College)...It would not have happened without you!"

**Karin Blythe '08** is the manager for refugee services with Lutheran Social Service in St. Cloud, Minnesota: resettlement, social services, immigration, trafficking victims, after-school education and housing. Karin provides services for newly arrived families after years of waiting in refugee camps and helps educate the community about the growing refugee crisis and the importance of U.S. involvement in providing a safe haven for refugees from around the world.

**Tiffany Sinnott '07** illustrated a children's book in collaboration with a friend. The book, entitled *Let's Have a Staycation!*, will be published this summer.



"I am excited to be joining such an important voice as American Public Media Group and such an important effort as public broadcasting."



After an extensive national search, American Public Media Group (APMG) named **Michael Lewis '90** as the company's new senior vice president and general counsel March 7, 2018.

APMG is the largest station-based public radio organization in the U.S., combining multi-regional station operations, national programming creation, and distribution and innovative digital, social and mobile services in one organization.

"As a public radio listener for my entire adult life, I am excited to be joining such an important voice as American Public Media Group and such an important effort as public broadcasting," Lewis said. "APM's and MPR's (Minnesota Public Radio) mission of assisting our audiences to enhance their lives, expand perspectives and strengthen their communities thrills me, and I cannot wait to get to work."

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

🔍 View the extended version of *Horizons* online: [graceland.edu/Horizons](http://graceland.edu/Horizons)

**GRACELAND.EDU/HOMECOMING**

**COME BACK** ←  
**TO THE FUTURE**  
**HOMECOMING '18** →

*We hope you  
will make plans  
to attend and  
set your  
time machines  
for a weekend to remember!*

**MONTH**

**OCT**

**DAY**

**5-8**

**YEAR**

**2018**

**DESTINATION TIME**

**HONOR CLASSES**

1958 - 1968 - 1978 - 1983 - 1988 - 1993 - 1998 - 2008