

Winter 2013 Vol. 28, No. 3

Horizons

Graceland University Alumni and Friends Magazine



**Ushering in a new era
of performance and entertainment:**
*Jens Lindemann and students at the
Shaw Center Amphitheatre.*

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Horizons (USPS 0884-8939) is published three times a year, Spring/Summer, Fall and Winter, by Graceland University, Lamoni, Iowa. Send address changes to: Horizons, Graceland University Alumni Programs Office, 1 University Place, Lamoni, Iowa, 50140. The magazine is distributed without charge to alumni, faculty, staff, and friends of the university. Free copies are available upon request. Direct inquiries to the Alumni Programs Office at the address above, call 866-GU4-EVER, or on the university's website: www.graceland.edu.

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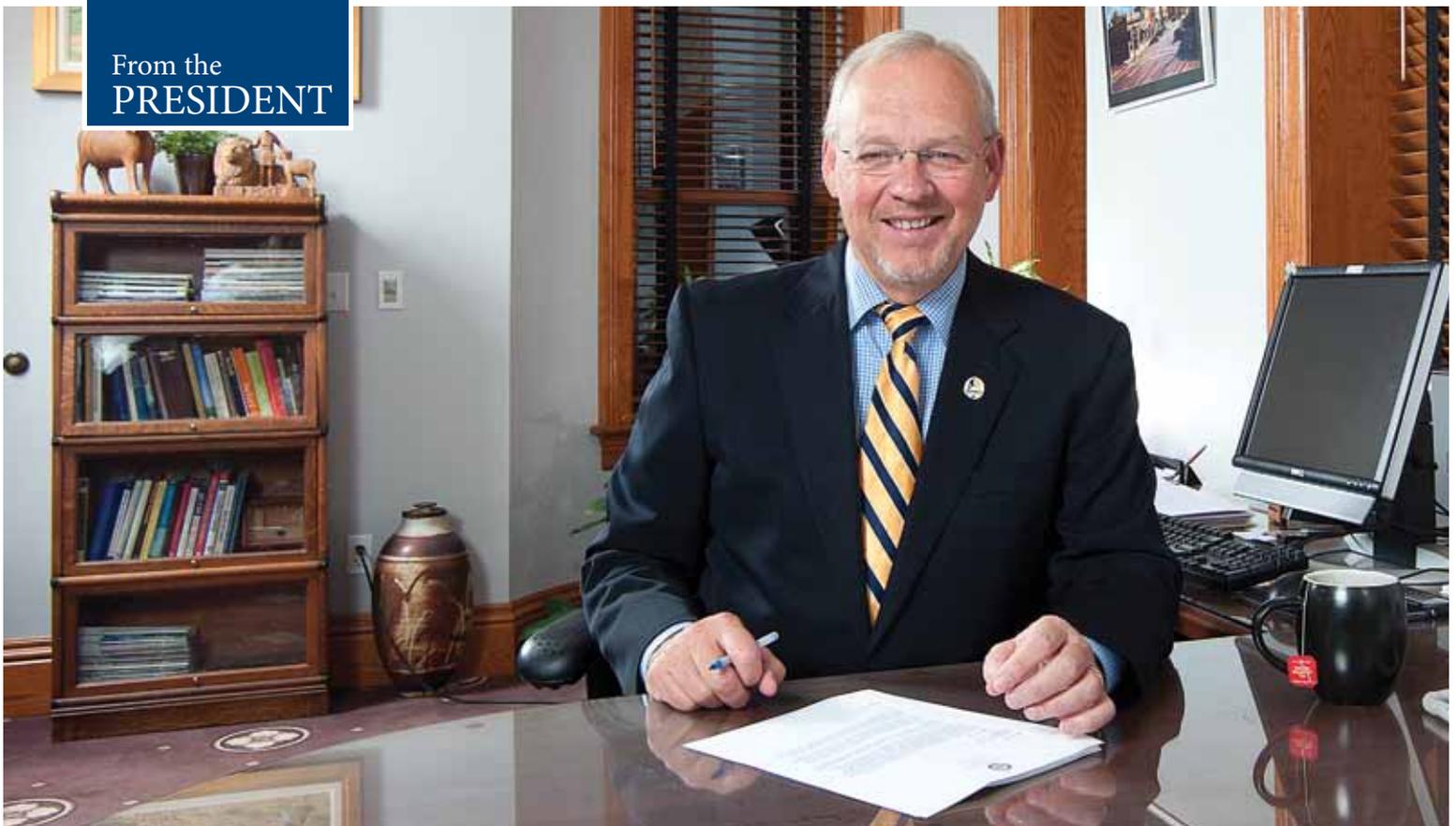
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When the Magic Happens

Being here on campus is always an indescribable experience—everyone should try it at least once. Be it Homecoming, a campus tour or a concert you will attend at the Lamoni campus, I know you will not be disappointed.

As you read through this issue of *Horizons*, our students, faculty and staff are working on many interesting projects—from making ceramics (a story on p. 5) to helping international communities during the Winter Term abroad (see p. 28) to tracking the Graceland campaign numbers (p. 26).

If you missed the excitement of 2012 Homecoming, you can experience it through the photos we've selected for you and plan for Homecoming 2013, scheduled for October 11-13. For many, this annual event has become a very special tradition. For me, it carries many fond and often emotional memories.

The *Horizons* cover speaks a thousand words: At Homecoming 2012, the outdoor Shaw Center Amphitheatre proved to be the perfect final piece in the 17-month long, \$16 million renovation. From socializing at the 50 Year House System Celebration to accommodating the talents of Jens Lindemann, Wycliffe Gordon and the Yellowjacket Jazz Band at a lively concert—

the Amphitheatre became a delightful hub for Graceland.

I would only suggest that if the opportunity avails—grab it, come to Graceland and witness what I'm confident will be one of the most fun and memorable experiences for you in 2013.

But Homecoming is not the only time of year when the Graceland magic happens! I am reminded of that kind of heart-warming approach to spreading the Graceland spirit when I read about success of Graceland graduates (see Kevin Barth's profile on p. 8); witness triumphs of our coaches and athletes (p. 6 and p. 20); and applaud abundant accomplishments of the Graceland Enactus team (p. 11).

Other people and their stories come to mind as I think about the Graceland magic: the close, multigenerational affinity for Graceland education (read about the Meads, a mother and daughter who share love for nursing), and commitment to success that stemmed from someone's belief in you at a time when the personal

confidence was low (Beth Clarke's profile, p. 18).

Beth Clarke's inspirational story about determination when facing challenges and commitment to Graceland success demonstrates that generic skills—those that all schools and colleges are supposed to teach—are not the only skills needed to succeed. High standards of student achievements for which Graceland is well-known are amplified by the sense of community and support Beth received during her years at Graceland. This is why Beth established endowment funds in music and nursing to help students defy the odds and ensure the Graceland magic continues for many future Yellowjackets.

Part of Graceland's mission is to prepare students for "meaningful and productive lives." The legacy of Beth Clarke is a great example of our mission in action. I hope it will inspire others to support our initiatives and ensure the Graceland students get unlimited possibilities for meaningful and productive lives.



13th Annual Alumni Emeriti and Awards Banquet

Friday, October 19, 2012 | MSC Main Room

Distinguished Service Award

This award is given by Graceland University to recognize achievement in a chosen field, service to community, good citizenship, humanitarian service and contribution to society. The award recognizes that Graceland University has been a significant influence in the lifetime accomplishments of these outstanding alumni.



Mark Thoman

As in so many areas of his life, Dr. Mark Thoman has met and exceeded all requirements for the Distinguished Service Award.

His Graceland classmates recognized his leadership when he was elected president of the student body. The Graceland faculty rewarded his scholarship with the Gold Seal, Graceland's highest academic award, at commencement ceremonies in 1956. He attended the University of Missouri and earned his M.D. degree in 1962, specializing in pediatric medicine.

His particular area of expertise has been toxicology, the study and treatment of poisons. Dr. Thoman was appointed Senior Attending Physician at the Iowa Methodist Medical Center in Des Moines and served in this position from 1969-2000 and an attending physician at Blank Children's Hospital. During these years he was also Chief of Pediatrics at Iowa Lutheran Hospital and Broadlawns Medical Center as well as Medical Director of the Iowa Poison Information Center. Dr. Thoman was also Editor-in-Chief of the American Academy of Clinical Toxicology and a medical examiner of the American Board of Medical Toxicology. Dr. Thoman

served as a delegate to world federations for toxicology and poison control centers. He achieved diplomate and fellow status in the American Board of Pediatrics, the American College of Medical Toxicology and the American Board of Medical Toxicology.

Dr. Thoman has a distinguished medical service record in the United States Navy. Now a retired captain in the Naval Reserve, he served as a senior medical officer, a flight surgeon, director of medical programs, and an aviation medical examiner. Dr. Thoman's resume lists 28 publications and an impressive list of lectures that literally span the globe—from Switzerland and Japan to Alaska and Washington, D.C.

Mark has earned Emeritus status from the American Medical Association and the Iowa State Medical Association, as well as the American Academy of Pediatrics.

From the Graceland campus to international distinction in treatment of children and improved treatment from poisons, Dr. Mark Thoman has exhibited the highest standards in scholarship and service. It is with pride that Graceland recognizes this outstanding alumnus with the Distinguished Service Award.

Graceland Award of Recognition

This award is made by Graceland University in recognition of those who have demonstrated special contributions of time, talents, resources and personal sacrifices to benefit Graceland University. The recipients do not need to be Graceland alumni.

Joseph Booz

The 2012 Award of Recognition goes to Joseph Booz for his distinguished service and sacrifice to Graceland University. Can others match his sacrifice? During a recent two-day visit to the Lamoni campus, Joe helped to recruit 17 youth to introduce them to the Graceland experience. The group had a great time; even sleeping on the floor in the Closson Center was a great experience for them...except for Joe who found himself locked out and slept outside. Yet, his love and enthusiasm for Graceland



never wavered.

Joe received his B.A. in Business Administration from Graceland ('86) and went on to study law at Creighton University (J.D., '89). After law school, he practiced in the Kansas City area for more than 20 years, concentrating in consumer finance, banking and corporate law. Earlier this year, Joe accepted a position with JPMorgan Chase Bank in Phoenix, Ariz., where he serves as Vice President and Assistant General Counsel.

Joe has taken on several leadership roles in support of Graceland. Last

Homecoming, Joe was elected to serve as a member of the Alumni Board of Directors and accepted the Chair of the Recruiting Committee. Under his leadership, the board sponsored five new ways for alumni to actively support Graceland's efforts to boost student enrollment. Joe was invited to join the Advisory Council for Graceland's Institute for Professional Development, an arm of the University that offers non-credit continuing education.

In his home congregation of Colonial Hills in Blue Springs, Mo., Joe was the obvious choice as its first Graceland Congregational Representative. With Joe's leadership, instead of simply one representative in the congregation, there is a large group, supporting the church's university. They created their own Facebook page, a newsletter and designed a T-shirt for the "GO GU" program.

Joe and his wife, Sherry Hughes (B.S.N., '88) Booz, spend most of their time in Scottsdale, Ariz., but also maintain a home in Blue Springs, Mo. Their son, D.J., is a senior at Graceland and daughter, Layne, is in her first year at the University of Missouri at Kansas City.

Honorary Alumni Award

The purpose of this award is to recognize, include and honor individuals, living or deceased, who have not been enrolled as students at Graceland but whose affiliation would be beneficial to Graceland and who have related to the goals and purposes of the university and to other alumni as though they had been a member of the student body.

Peggy Hausheer

Peggy Hausheer was raised on a dairy farm in southwest Iowa. When she enrolled at Northwest Missouri State College in Maryville, she intended to major in teacher education, but discovered a major called Home Economics, and



asked, "You can major in this?" and promptly signed up. It was a choice that led to a lifetime of community service, promoting better nutrition, healthy eating and community education.

On the board of directors for the Community Service League in Independence, Peggy discovered that many families did not understand how to use the basic food commodities that programs provided. Peggy organized

Nutra-Net in 1986 and served as its executive director for 25 years, creating and implementing programs to teach better nutrition and cooking.

Peggy used drawings on 4x6 index cards to illustrate step-by-step instructions in teaching children to cook.

Peggy has been active in the Independence community throughout her career. She was a founding member of the Japanese Sister-City partnership, an Optimist Club officer, a Youth Friend volunteer and a volunteer for the Boys and Girls Club.

Peggy loves to garden despite the MS challenges that limit her physical activity. In 2009 she was recognized with the MS Society Achievement Award for her ability to transcend this disease and live a full exemplary life.

It would be appropriate to print the record of Peggy's achievements on a 4x6 index card and distribute them to the entire Graceland family, but the list is too long. It wouldn't fit.



When Science and Art Converge

For Charles “Chuck” Manuel ’73, there are four ingredients to a perfect job:

1. It requires you to use your hands.
2. It satisfies your creativity.
3. It involves problem solving.
4. It helps people.

Chuck’s problem? He found two jobs that met his criteria: a chiropractor and a potter. Luckily for Chuck, he could have both.

Chuck never touched clay or spun a potter’s wheel until his senior year at Graceland. A Biology major and a Chemistry minor, Chuck’s interest was Marine Biology. As he entered his senior year, he was finishing up electives and decided to try his hand at pottery. A semester later, he was hooked.

“I just fell in love with the clay. I wound up spending more on pottery alone than on my other classes combined. I decided that if I’d ever go to graduate school, I would get my Master’s of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) and become a potter,” said Chuck.

After graduation, Chuck and his wife MaryAnn moved to Grand Cayman. Pursuing Chuck’s passion for marine biology, the couple aspired to help start a lobster farm—but when they hit a snag with environmental regulations, Chuck returned to school to pursue his M.F.A. in Ceramics at the University of Puget Sound. At Puget Sound, a back problem afflicted his health. After seeing a chiropractor, Chuck became inspired to go to chiropractic school despite his passion for pottery. Chuck thought he could help more people with a chiropractic career.

The Best of Both Worlds

During chiropractic studies at Palmer College, Chuck continued working with ceramics and entered pottery shows to help pay his way through school. After finishing his degree, Chuck and MaryAnn returned to Lamoni to raise their children, and Chuck opened his own chiropractic practice. Now operating for more than 30 years, the business focuses on lifestyle management and takes a wholeness-based approach to wellness. The outside of the chiropractic building reads, “Helping people help themselves.”

Although Chuck took the chiropractic path, he frequented Graceland’s pottery room, calling himself a “studio rat.” Then, seven years ago when a ceramics instructor position came open, MaryAnn encouraged Chuck to apply. Now an Adjunct Instructor of Art, Chuck focuses on wheel throwing and hand building. He challenges his students to think positively and learn from the mistakes that might cause a piece to crack, or not survive the ceramics process.

“With ceramics, students really have to learn to take things in stride and learn from their mistakes. Wheel throwing is extremely difficult, and I love seeing students finally get it and really succeed,” said Chuck.

For Chuck, his two careers blend together naturally. He sees the role of a doctor and the role of a teacher in a very similar light, noting that the primary role of a doctor is to teach people to live healthfully. He also sees artistry in adjusting patients in his chiropractic practices; and a science in the process of

ceramics—from glazing to understanding why certain methods work.

Chuck combined his medical and artistic talents to build special chairs for Graceland’s ceramics studio. The chairs drop the knees lower than the hips and relieve stress on the lower back.

“Science explains why certain things are the way they are, but art is the process along the way, the expression of that. The two go hand in hand,” stated Chuck.

Bringing the Community to Campus

Chuck isn’t the only person in the classroom to spend most of his time off campus—his ceramics courses often attract members of the Lamoni community. Last fall, half of his students were non-traditional.

“It’s fun working with community members. Those students are here for a very specific purpose—they want to learn. It’s enjoyable to work with them and watch them; they’re not afraid to experiment and try new things,” said Chuck.

Whether working with future art teachers or community members perfecting a hobby, Chuck’s days are spent sharing knowledge and improving skills. Balancing his chiropractic and teaching careers is demanding and sometimes requires late nights and early mornings, but ultimately it’s his thirst to help others that keeps Chuck going.

“I do this because I love it, not for the money,” said Chuck. “I’ve always enjoyed sharing and teaching is a natural expression of my desire to share. This is a great opportunity, and I have a great studio where I can work with people and help them.”

By Becky Davis
Graceland Student

Keeping

When it comes to “Keeping up with the Joneses” athletically, there are few who can compete.

“When you are able to work hard at your trade, play with passion, ability and talent, you will become very unique.”

~Mike Jones

Up with the Joneses



Moriah Jones '13, or “Mo” as her friends call her, is a two-sport athlete at Graceland. Currently in the heat of her final basketball season as a Yellowjacket, Moriah’s specialty is volleyball, where she plays middle hitter. Recently named to the honorable mention team of the Midwest Region by the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA), Moriah is a force to be reckoned with on the court.

And the athletic gene runs in the family. Moriah spent most of her childhood growing up in Raytown, Mo., with her mother; however, for one month every summer, and every other holiday, Moriah lived with her father — retired NFL player Mike Jones.

Dreams Come True

Mike once played middle linebacker for the St. Louis Rams; and while just making the roster for an NFL team is a vast accomplishment, Mike’s bragging rights go on — he was a part of the Ram’s 1999 Super Bowl XXXIV championship team. In fact, it was Jones who took part in the late game spoiler play to the Tennessee Titans — a play that has been recognized as one of the greatest plays in Super Bowl history.

In the final snap of the game, with six seconds left on the clock, Jones snatched Titans receiver Kevin Dyson at the legs, tackling him less than a yard from the endzone. The image of Dyson, arms and ball outstretched mere inches short of the goal-line, remains iconic. After the game, Peter King of *Sports Illustrated* walked up to Jones and told him the play may go down as one of the greatest in Super Bowl history — and King was right. In 2007, ESPN.com ranked the play as the 35 Greatest Moments of the Past 25 Years of Sports.

“It [the conclusion of the Super Bowl] was an amazing time,” said Mike. “Everything happened in the span of ten minutes or less. It took about an hour before it really sank in.”

“I dreamed of playing in the NFL, and I was living my dream,” added Mike.

When Sports and Family Intersect

Mike retired from the NFL after the 2002 season. Today, he is Head Football Coach at Lincoln University, an NCAA Division II school in Jefferson City, Mo.

As Head Coach, he reminds his players that family life outside of sports and career is important. He advocates this principle by staying involved in his daughter’s life. Mike even made a poster several years ago, promoting fathers’ involvement, featuring a photo of Moriah.

The Graceland Experience

A basketball player since third grade, Moriah’s athletic career began 11 years ago, when a friend’s mother, who coached a youth club, asked Moriah to join her team.

Moriah came to Graceland to play volleyball and has spent the past four years as a part of the varsity volleyball and basketball teams.

“Moriah is the typical senior, one of our captains, who has always worked hard to accomplish whatever we ask,” said Stew McDole, GU’s Head Women’s Volleyball Coach.

Coach McDole noted that although Moriah came to Graceland as an established outside hitter, she has willingly and successfully played outside, middle and right side for the Yellowjackets.

“Mo has always been willing to make the ‘team’ choice for us,” praised McDole.

Head Women’s Basketball Coach Rich Harrop adds that Moriah’s work ethic and passion will take her far.

“She takes her talent and adds hard work, which makes her an exciting player to watch,” said Harrop.

A Competitive Nature On and Off the Court

Although Moriah chose Graceland for athletics, her favorite thing about the university is the student diversity.

“I’ve made friends from all over the world here. I would have never met so many different people elsewhere,” said Moriah.

Moriah, a History and Business double major, plans to pursue a master’s degree in Business Administration. Eventually, she says, she would like to work for a marketing firm or become a football scout.

“I’d love to do something with football; it feels natural. It’s in my blood,” said Moriah.

Her father is certain Moriah will keep her promise to make a great professional.

“When you are able to work hard at your trade, play with passion, ability and talent, you will become very unique,” said Mike.

Small Town Values Make Barth A Big City Success

Kevin Barth '82 grew up in Lamoni, frequenting Pizza Shack, waving hello to the owner of Varsity Drug and catching movies at the Coliseum. He spent afternoons at Lamoni High School playing football and weekends at the Sale Barn, visiting with locals like former Congressman Leonard Boswell.

Coming from the rural setting, where crops and cows are a part of the landscape, the view outside Kevin's windows nowadays is far from pastoral: his office at the Commerce Bank Corporate Headquarters sits right in the heart of downtown Kansas City.

Small Town Roots

Now the President and Chief Operating Officer of Commerce Bank in the Kansas City Region and the Executive Vice President of Commercial Line Business (Commerce Bancshares Inc.), Kevin attributes much of his success to growing up in a close-knit community. He says that living in a small town gave him the chance to interact with prominent adults in the community and build his self-esteem and confidence.

"I grew up thinking that everybody was approachable. In a place like Lamoni, you're able to talk to anyone. You'd walk into Pizza Shack and [Graceland coaching legend] Jerry Hampton would come up, put his arm around you and ask how wrestling was going," said Kevin.

After graduating from Lamoni High School, Kevin and his high school sweetheart, Lisa Peterson '84 (Barth), attended the University of Central Missouri. However, after two trimesters Kevin and Lisa transferred to Graceland because Kevin missed the one-on-one attention he had been used to in Lamoni. Back at Graceland, Kevin found the mentoring and personal attention he was

looking for: Graceland Professors Frank Hough and E. Wayne Chandler who were critical to Kevin's success.

"I would go in and work with Wayne after class once or twice a week. I learned more from him, academically, than from anyone else I've ever worked with. The individual attention that I got from Wayne and Frank, I really needed that... they really found a trigger inside my head that helped me think critically," said Kevin.

"I grew up thinking that everybody was approachable. In a place like Lamoni, you're able to talk to anyone."

Big World Success

Kevin worked his way through school, doing everything from working in the Graceland equipment room to helping at Casey's to working at the Lamoni utility office. During his senior year, a recommendation letter from Professor Hough helped Kevin secure a repossessions job in the inner Kansas City area. For Kevin, this was a "foot in the door" to the world of banking.

Kevin and Lisa married after graduation and relocated to the Kansas City area. The relocation led to personal and professional growth of the couple.

Lisa established her nursing career at Children's Mercy Hospital. After completing her master's degree in 1993 from the University of Kansas, Lisa became one of the first clinical nurse specialists in cardiac surgery.

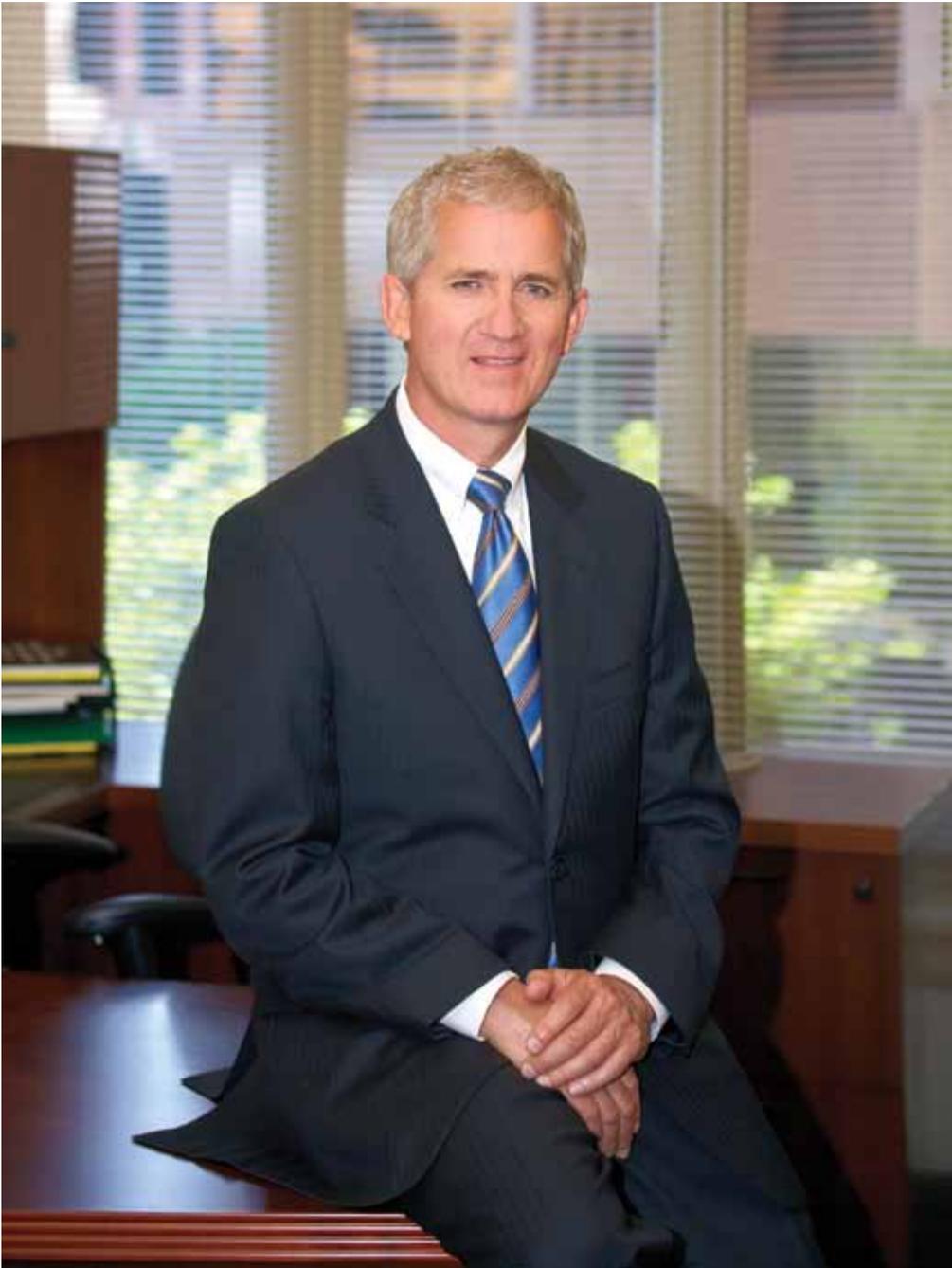
For Kevin, an MBA from Rockhurst University and working his way up the banking industry were important, professional milestones. Relying on his confidence, work ethic and a knack for creating genuine relationships, he created what many would call a success story today.

"So much of what I do revolves around developing relationships and getting to know people. You have to try to figure out people's problems and their needs, and try to come up with helpful solutions," said Kevin.

Kevin notes that his liberal arts education from Graceland has helped develop a well-rounded perspective, which ultimately brings better connections with his diverse clientele.

Remembering Where He Came From

Kevin has been with Commerce Bank, the largest bank based in the Kansas City metropolitan area, for more than 25 years. He is a key player at Commerce, involved in major loans and the bank's west



“Don’t worry about how much money you’re going to make. Find an opportunity where you can get experience, get involved in an area that you’re interested in and learn all you can.”

expansion into Colorado and Oklahoma.

Amid his success, Kevin is quick to remember his mentors and support along the way: Lamoni community members like Larry Sturgis, his high school football coach; and Graceland Professors Frank Hough and E. Wayne Chandler.

Kevin’s success has not come without a personal loss: his wife Lisa passed away in 2008 after battling glioblastoma, a cancerous brain tumor that, unfortunately, is one of the most aggressive types. Lisa left behind three children: Alexander, 20; John, 17; and Charlotte, 14. Children’s

Mercy Hospital, where Lisa worked for 23 years, is dedicating its new nondenominational chapel in her name, which Kevin has helped fundraise.

Reflecting on his success, Kevin advises graduates facing the delicate economy to work diligently to “get a foot in the door” and not worry about the money their peers might be making right out of school.

“Don’t worry about how much money you’re going to make. Find an opportunity where you can get experience, get involved in an area that you’re interested in and learn all you can,” said Kevin.

Justin Akers: Empowering Students to Make Positive Change

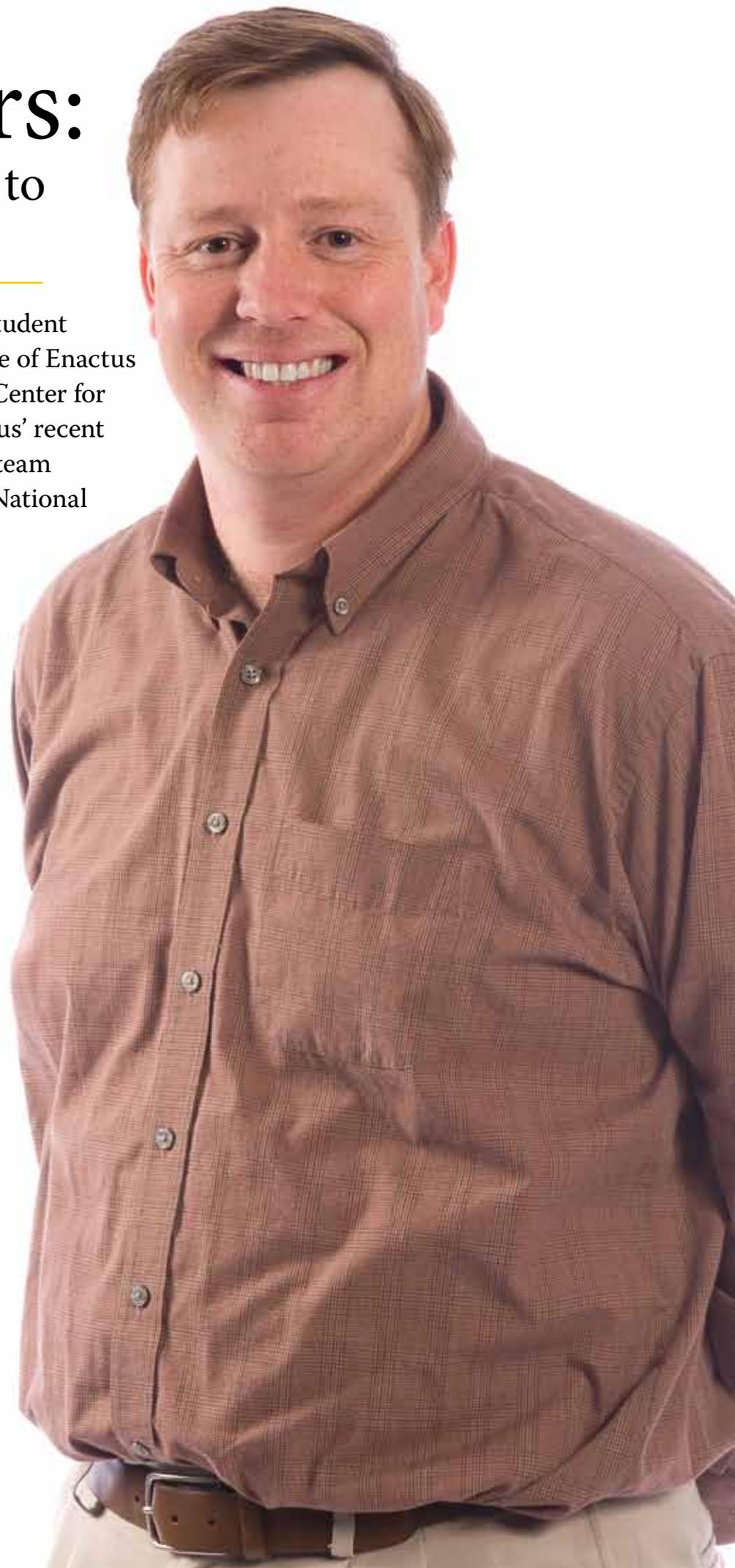
As you walk through the Memorial Student Center, you won't miss the multitude of Enactus trophies on display outside the Sandage Center for the Study of Free Enterprise. With Enactus' recent success, the case is loaded—Graceland's team has won Regionals and qualified for the National competition 12 times in the last 13 years.

But if you step inside the Sandage Center, a projection screen is often pulled down over the display case—the Enactus team is always working, with no time to sit around and admire their handy work.

At the helm of this ever-busy group is Justin Akers, Director of the Sandage Center for the Study of Free Enterprise and Entrepreneurship. Although Justin continually emphasizes it's the students who make Graceland Enactus a successful program, it's obvious that he's a key player in empowering the students to do what they do.

"Our Enactus students are proud of who they are, and they understand that success doesn't come automatically—you have to work for it," said Justin. "I want to make sure our students have the best possible chance to showcase their work, and I'll do whatever it takes to help them do that—except do it for them."

This—empowering students to accomplish what's personally important to them—is Justin's passion. A family man with three children ages five and under, Justin also teaches classes in Graceland's Agricultural Business program and runs a family farming operation with his wife, Kristen. Justin is a busy man—but he wouldn't have it any other way.



Growing Up with Farm Roots

A farmer through and through, Justin grew up on a family farm near Kellerton, Iowa, a short distance away from Graceland's Lamoni campus. After finishing high school, he got his bachelor's from Iowa State in Agricultural Business and worked as a professional farm manager in northern Illinois. Later he returned to the local area, selling real estate and insurance in Mt. Ayr. There, Justin discovered his passion for working with people and helping them solve problems. As a teaching assistant at Iowa State, where Justin returned to get his master's in Agricultural Education, he discovered an interest in experiential learning. These interests eventually drew him to Graceland's Enactus program. In 2008, he worked as Associate Director for the Sandage Center under Andy Simpson.

"I learned so much from Andy Simpson. He really helped me understand how connected Graceland is, and how to function best in this environment. The Enactus program has been blessed by a consistent handoff in leadership and connectivity," said Justin. Leaving for a year to teach high school agriculture, Justin returned to Graceland in 2010, after Andy's departure.

Justin J. Akers

Director - Sandage Center for the Study of Free Enterprise and Entrepreneurship
Assistant Professor of Business Administration
C.H. Sandage School of Business
Enactus (formerly SIFE) Advisor
Graceland University

Enactus: Driven By the Students

Now with three years' experience as Enactus Director, Justin continues the tradition of letting the students drive Enactus.

"I keep the program as student-focused and directed as possible. It's the students' passion that drives what we do. When students get passionate about something, nothing will stand in their way," stated Justin.

It's that autonomy and Justin's resolution that have empowered Graceland Enactus students to help people across the world. Currently, Graceland Enactus students are driving projects on four different continents, doing everything from teaching cooking classes in Lamoni to inspiring community change in the Philippines to helping people in Zambia generate vital revenue (see story on page 28).

"Our students aren't making a conscious effort right now to win Enactus events—they're doing great project work that they're inspired to do, and doing their best to satisfy the Enactus criterion along the way," said Justin.

As the Enactus trophy case continues to fill, Justin says it's not the trophies that propel the program, but students. As for Justin, what keeps him going is his drive to empower students.

"My fear in life was to be stuck in a job that doesn't make a difference. At Graceland, I make a difference. I know it. My goal is to help our students be successful and empower them to thrive in a challenging century."

GU Enactus

Formerly Students in Free Enterprise, or SIFE

Founded in 1975, SIFE, or Students in Free Enterprise (known as Enactus since 2012) is a nonprofit organization that gives students the tools to learn the free enterprise system in a real working situation. Enactus challenges students on more than 1,800 college campuses worldwide to take what they're learning in the classroom and use their knowledge to better the world.

EnActUs is an acronym where "EN" stands for Entrepreneurial; "Act" is for Action; and "Us" represents all of us working toward the common good.

The SIFE criterion, quoted below, remains the same for Enactus and inspires our team to develop new projects:

"Considering the relevant economic, social and environmental factors, which SIFE team most effectively empowered people in need by applying business and economic concepts and an entrepreneurial approach to improve their quality of life and standard of living?"

The GU SIFE (Enactus) team, founded in 1989, has brought about positive transformation both in the community and in the students who work in those communities.

This year, students have spent over 5,000 hours on various projects: organizing a Winter Farmer's Market, creating an Energy Savers program for low income food pantry participants and assisting several local entrepreneurs with business consulting.

GU Enactus international work this year included helping community members with Income Generating Activities (IGAs) with HealthEd Connect in Zambia, and partnering with Outreach International to facilitate the Land Ownership Viable Enterprise or L.O.V.E. project with communities in the Philippines.



Jason Smith

Jason Smith used to be a Math man in denial.

Although the subject always came naturally to him, he didn't fully embrace it until a professor at the University of North Dakota (UND) told him outright: "Jason, you're a math person; you just haven't admitted it yet."

And the rest is history. Jason got dual master's degrees in Computer Science and Mathematics from UND, and then went on to get a Ph.D. in Mathematics from Iowa State University. As Graceland's newest Assistant Professor in the Division of Science and Mathematics, Jason is teaching courses in Statistics, Algebra and Probability.

"Now I'm a die hard," admitted Jason.

Originally from a small town in Minnesota, Jason did his undergraduate work at the University of Minnesota, Morris, majoring in Computer Science and Mathematics. An avid volleyball player, he originally heard about Graceland through tournaments.

During his first year of teaching, Jason is focusing attention on the classroom and academics, and says he'd like to get involved with Graceland's sustainability movement in the future. In his free time,

he calls himself a "tinkerer" with an interest in the environment.

"I'm a bit of a hippie. I have pet worms that eat my garbage, and last summer I had goats that ate my pasture," said Jason.



Tommy Lewis

When Tommy Lewis '10 first came to Iowa as a student, his attitude was to give classes at Graceland a try and if he didn't like it, return to his home in Alvin, Texas.

Six years later, he hasn't left.

Tommy is a Visiting Assistant Professor of Health and Movement Sciences, teaching courses in Personal Fitness Management, Stress and Relaxation and Calisthenics. He originally considered majoring in History, but discovered his passion for health and wellness later when he met Graceland professor Ed Thomas (now retired).

"My sophomore year I met Ed Thomas. I started taking all of his classes, then taking his classes again, sitting in on them whenever I could. I loved Ed's classes, his philosophies were so different and he talked about things that really interested me—the spiritual nature and the history of training," said Tommy.

With a spark from Ed Thomas, Tommy

graduated with degrees in Wellness and Physical Education, and then received his master's in Education: Instructional Leadership while working as Graceland's Strength and Conditioning coach. Now a first year professor, Tommy says he's enjoying collaborating with students and serving not just as a professor, but a mentor.

"I get to teach what I'm passionate about. I love Graceland's small class sizes, and I love teaching in a small community where everyone cares about each other," said Tommy.



Jay Hoffman

If you asked Jay Hoffman during his undergraduate years what he was going to do, his answer would be instant: he was going to become an athletic trainer for the Chicago Bears.

Then he was offered a prestigious internship with the Baltimore Ravens, a prize only two candidates are awarded annually, and had a surprising realization: the classroom, not the NFL, was where he truly wanted to be.

"I realized I always gravitated toward teaching. During my undergraduate years, I would mentor the younger students. I really enjoyed doing it. In graduate school, my favorite part of the day was working with students for a 'Question of the Day'

and leading discussions. When I was teaching, I was the happiest guy,” said Jay.

Jay declined the prestigious internship and began to follow the teaching path. After undergraduate work at Cornell College in Physical Education, Jay became athletic training certified and worked as a fitness director. Later, he returned to graduate school at Illinois State University for a master’s in Physical Education: Sports Management. Jay took a half-time faculty, half-time athletic trainer position at Graceland while finishing up his doctoral degree in Health Science from Nova Southeastern University, but eventually left Graceland to pursue a full-time faculty position at Texas Wesleyan University. After working for four years at Culver-Stockton College, Jay returned to “the Hill” this year when a full-time faculty position became available.

“I’m happy to be back at Graceland and to team up with old friends that I work so well with. I get to work with Diane Bartholomew [Division Chair] who always challenges and mentors me, and I’m a better professional because of it,” said Jay.



Adam Martin

During his undergraduate junior year at California Lutheran University (CLU), Adam Martin looked on as

two planes struck the Twin Towers on September 11, 2001. And that was the moment when Adam decided to change from a History major to a Political Science major.

“I didn’t just want to study history anymore: I wanted to be directing and changing it,” said Adam.

Armed with this conviction, Adam interned in Washington, D.C. with a policy office in the United States Senate. There, he became hooked on political science and decided to get his master’s and Ph.D. in Political Science at the University of California-Irvine, taking a particular interest in ethics, peace studies and reconciliation.

As Adam began to explore the job market, he wanted to find a small liberal arts college that valued community, similar to CLU. Adam says Graceland’s campus felt like “home” when he arrived.

In his first year as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Political Science, Adam teaches political science, international studies and peace studies. He has no favorite subject because “parents don’t have a favorite child.” Adam values his small classes and the opportunity to really get to know his students. To be “more present” on campus, he holds extra office hours during the week in the Swarm Inn.

“If I’m doing my job right, I’m more than a teacher here. I wasn’t hired just to teach, but to become a part of this community,” said Adam.

“Graceland University has been focused on creating an environment for learning that enables rich and meaningful relationships between students and faculty. Our new faculty members are focused on helping us pave the way for student success.”

President Sellars



David Trehitt

Like all good teachers, David Trehitt ’80 says he’s “still learning.”

And despite more than 30 years of experience in the field of education, he admits this semester at Graceland has been an excellent learning experience. David graduated from Graceland with an undergraduate degree in Elementary Education and an endorsement in Special Education; later, he taught special education for 12 years and received his master’s from Missouri State University. David worked as a principal in Cuba, Union, and Raytown, Mo., where he hired numerous Graceland graduates.

Retiring last year, David is now back in the classroom as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Special Education at Graceland’s Independence campus, bringing his insight as a teacher and a principal into the college classroom.

“I really like being able to share my experiences with students. I enjoy supervising student-teachers, giving them advice and sharing with them the things that principals are really looking for in a job interview,” said David.

Originally a Business Administration major, David changed his major to Education after the Special Olympics experience. He’s working on his dissertation through the University of Missouri-Saint Louis, researching if the school systems are preparing special education students successfully for the workplace.

Homecoming 2012



"I'm excited to have the Amphitheatre as our new home for the "Jazz on the Green" concerts. It's a much better acoustical facility and the audience can really see us and hear us," said Frank Perez, Director of Bands. "The Amphitheatre is a community space that's warm and inviting and it really helps us integrate music into campus life."





save the date
Homecoming 2013
October 11-13

All in the Family:

A Mother and Daughter Share Graceland's School of Nursing

Jenny Mead '89 Kramer doesn't think of herself as a risk-taker. So, last summer when she decided to return to school and enroll in Graceland's nursing program, Jenny was stepping outside her comfort zone. And when she and husband, Jeff, resigned from their jobs to move closer to Graceland's Independence campus, Jenny was nervous about the drastic life change they were making.

"We weren't sure what we were doing or where we were going," said Jenny.

But six months later, Jeff is steady in his new position as principal at Archie High School, and Jenny has a year left at Graceland's School of Nursing. The big life change they made is beginning to pay off.

The Path Back to School

Since graduating in 1989 with degrees in Business Administration and Human Services, Jenny worked in the Kansas City Metro, eventually ending up in the small town of Higginsville, Mo., where she and Jeff raised their two children, Arielle '12 and Gage.

When the children left for college, Jenny found herself with an empty nest and a "there's got to be more than this" feeling. She began toying with the

"She became my motivation and now, a few semesters into nursing school, she is my cheerleader."

idea of going back to Graceland to major in Nursing. Jenny's older sisters, Kerri Mead '74 Booth and Mindy Mead '76 Day, became Registered Nurses (R.N.s) through Graceland's School of Nursing, and Jenny has always had an interest in the area, particularly after a hospital stay when a compassionate nurse took some of her personal time to rub lotion on Jenny's back. Though the field of nursing appealed more and more, hesitations kept Jenny from returning to school.

As Gage and Arielle were contemplating their career paths, Jenny recommended nursing to them. Arielle, who had been thinking about a degree in Art, found her Science classes on Graceland's Lamoni campus intriguing and eventually declared a Nursing major.

As Arielle navigated the challenges of Nursing School, it inspired Jenny to take prerequisite classes for Graceland's School of Nursing. And when Arielle finished her final semester of Nursing School and prepared to take her NCLEX exam to become a registered nurse, Jenny found herself back in the classroom, following in her daughter's footsteps.

"I think I was living vicariously through Arielle for a while. She became



*"Being an ER R.N., you have
I'm thankful I have that Gr*

my motivation and now, a few semesters into nursing school, she is my cheerleader," said Jenny.

Arielle has been helping her mother explore the intricacies of nursing school, including everything from PowerPoint tutorials to "don't stress" pep talks. The two have even experienced some of the same professors.

"My older sister Mindy had Dr. Voshall as a professor, then Arielle had her, and now I have her. Dr. Voshall has been teaching that long, but her enthusiasm for teaching and her drive to stay current on what's new in the field persist; she is simply amazing," said Jenny.



*to be able to work hard, think on your toes...
Graceland experience.”*

The Graceland Advantage

As Jenny tackles the rigorous workload of nursing school, Arielle is seeing her hard work pay off. Since graduating last May, she started work as an Emergency Room (ER) R.N. at Centerpoint Medical Center in Independence, Mo.

“Being an ER R.N., you have to be able to work hard, think on your toes and have a strong base of knowledge. Graceland’s School of Nursing is challenging and at times the work can be a little overwhelming, but now when I’m out of school and in an area that demands so much, I’m thankful I have that Graceland experience,” said Arielle.

Although Arielle never saw herself as an ER R.N., she says she fell in love with the area during her capstone at Graceland. The relationships she made during the capstone helped her secure a job immediately after graduation. She noted that Graceland’s program gave her the chance to experience eight different hospitals in the Kansas City Metro, as well as a variety of different areas of nursing, something that prepared her for the workplace.

“In nursing, there are a lot of jobs but there’s also a lot of competition. Something great that Graceland offers is its image: there’s prestige behind going to a private college. Graceland’s professors are both passionate and knowledgeable about

the field. You’re given a ton of knowledge in the classroom and then you have so many opportunities in clinicals to apply that knowledge,” said Arielle.

Nursing: A Family Affair

Although Jenny has just begun nursing school and Arielle has hardly started her career, the two say nursing has helped them grow together.

“Some stories you have as a nurse can only be appreciated by other nurses, other people that understand the nursing field,” said Arielle.

“I knew Arielle was a nurse, and I knew she had a lot of responsibility, but there was one day when I was leaving clinicals at

“She’s not just my little girl: she’s doing big and important stuff in the world.”

Centerpoint, and I knew Arielle was just starting her shift there. There were four police cars and a Life Flight helicopter lined up at the ER, and I was overwhelmed to realize how responsible, grown up, intelligent and capable was she. She was in there, saving lives. She’s not just my little girl: she’s doing big and important stuff in the world,” declared Jenny.

As Jenny continues her clinicals at Graceland, she is still deciding which area of nursing she’ll go into. However, one thing she knows for sure: she loves patient care. In the meantime, Jenny says that her “there’s got to be more” feeling is gone and most of the time she feels she is doing exactly what she should be doing.

“I’m proud of my mom for going back to school. She left a job she had for over ten years; she left the past behind when it was so comfortable. I’m proud of her for taking a leap of faith and going to nursing school,” said Arielle.

To learn more about Graceland’s Nursing programs, visit www.graceland.edu/nursing.



Beth Clarke Inspires the Next Generation of Nurses

Don't tell Beth Clarke she can't do something unless you like being proven wrong.

Case in point: Beth's high school guidance counselor. Beth struggled through high school with academics, particularly with test taking. When the time came to sit down and map out her future, Beth confidently told her counselor exactly what she wanted to be: a nurse.

"The counselor looked at me and said, 'No no no, you don't have the grades. You

wouldn't be able to make it in nursing.' I just thought 'Well, you just watch and see,'" said Beth.

After her high school graduation in 1965, Beth applied to Graceland's prestigious School of Nursing. When Graceland nursing icon Nelle Morgan interviewed Beth for the program, she expressed concern about Beth's grades, but Beth simply replied: "I want to try."

And Beth was admitted into Graceland's School of Nursing. Forty eight years later, Beth has had a long and successful career in a variety of nursing fields, including pediatrics, surgery and her current area, hospice.

"The counselor looked at me and said, 'No no no, you don't have the grades. You wouldn't be able to make it in nursing.' I just thought 'Well, you just watch and see.'"

~ Beth Clarke

Nursing: Commitment and Devotion

Beth's inspiration for nursing started when she was a "candy striper" in a Lincoln, Neb., hospital. While she knew little about nursing then, Beth says she was "bound and determined to become a nurse." She pushed her way through nursing school, seeing a gamut of patient care: from tuberculosis patients during her clinicals in Mount Vernon, Mo., to distressed kids caught in the middle of gunfire during the Kansas City racial riots.

"Nursing school gave me a lot of hands-on experience. I was a little hick kid from Lincoln, Neb., and I had never been involved in racial riots. Then I was in the middle of it all at Children's Mercy Hospital during my first year of nursing school," said Beth. "It was like, 'Welcome to nursing.'"

Immediately after graduation, Beth worked as Head Nurse in the Nursery at the Independence Sanitarium, later specializing in pediatrics. In the 70s Beth transferred to the Sanitarium's Surgical Ward and eventually moved to Lee's Summit Hospital, where she worked in surgery for 18 years. Now 65, Beth works at Kansas City Hospice, a patient care service Beth calls "spiritually rewarding."

"In hospice, I'm holding my patients' left hand and God is holding their right hand. To me, it's an honor to know that I might be the last person to hold that person's hand before they take God's hand and go to heaven," said Beth.

Finding Meaning in Giving Back

Beth calls nursing "the most wonderful profession there is." For her, the best part of nursing is giving and being able to serve others.

"Nursing has always been about giving, caring and compassion; it has never been about a paycheck. It's about sharing and taking care of someone like they are your own family," said Beth.

Beth's passion for giving has inspired her to fund a nursing endowment, earmarked for someone with a similar story—a student who is told she or he doesn't have the grades to make it through nursing school, but who is determined to defy the odds.

"I don't want to just finance their education. I want to tell them I believe in them. I want them to know there is somebody who has gone through the same thing that they're going through now," said Beth.

In addition to the nursing endowment, Beth is also funding a music endowment, inspired by her love to play the organ. During her year in Lamoni, Beth studied organ with Graceland professor Oliver Houston. Beth says the desire to return to "the Hill" and play the grand piano in the Shaw Center is on her bucket list.

Degrees of Inspiration to Last a Lifetime

Though Beth has had a lengthy and successful career as a registered nurse, for many years one thing was missing from her "success" equation: the Bachelor's degree.

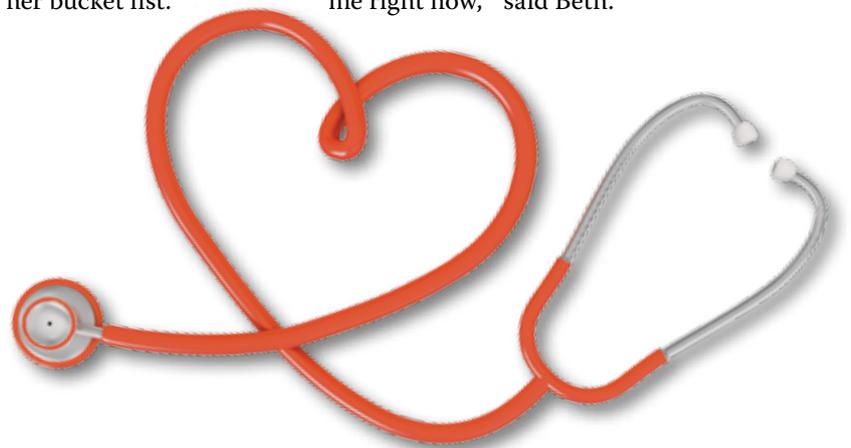
Beth earned her associate's degree in 1969 through Graceland, but had always wanted to receive a bachelor's degree. That's why, at the age of 48, Beth decided to go back to school.

With a fulltime job, Beth's evenings were committed to homework and studying, and her kitchen table was mostly occupied by textbooks and papers, the intellectual kind of nourishment.

Originally Beth wanted to pursue a Bachelor of Science in Nursing; however, Graceland's Bachelor of Arts in Health Psychology piqued her interest. With the busy schedule and her test anxiety, acquiring a bachelor's was no easy task. Nevertheless, after seven years of long nights and hard work, Beth came back to Graceland again to walk across the commencement stage at the Eugene E. and Julia Travis Closson Center.

Reflecting back on her studies at Graceland, Beth says she is excited to help fund the nurses of the future, advising students to be dedicated and believe in themselves.

"Go into nursing with a compassionate heart and a caring spirit. Be the nurse who's going to sit down, hold my hand and say, 'You're the most important person to me right now,'" said Beth.



Yellowjacket Fall Athletes Compete at National Level

From the young talent on the Men's Tennis team to the end of a storied cross-country career for senior Ahmed Khalif, last fall was yet another memorable season for Yellowjacket athletics. The Yellowjackets proved to be a HAAC force to be reckoned with—contenders that can compete with the best, at a national level.



Stefany Castano Cardozo

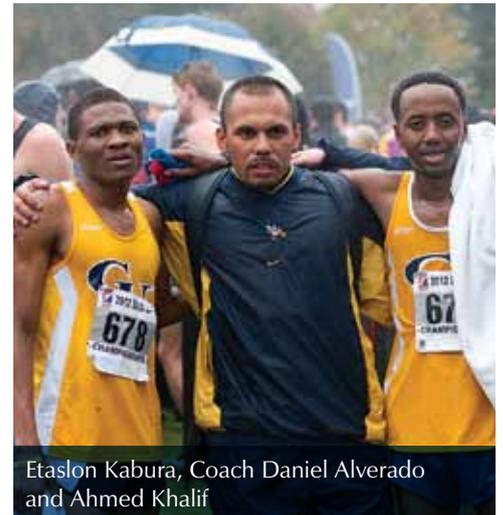
Women's Soccer Makes Seventh Consecutive National Appearance

Excellence is something Graceland has come to expect from the Women's Soccer program, and this year the team didn't disappoint: they won their ninth consecutive HAAC Championship, made their seventh NAIA appearance in nine years and had six players recognized as HAAC All-Conference. Further, goalie Stefany Castano Cardozo, selected to the Colombian Olympic Soccer team last summer, was awarded both HAAC Defensive Player of the Year and HAAC Player of the Year with an average of 7.38 saves per game. Castano and midfielder Gisela Arrieta were given All-American honors, and Head Coach Fred Wagenaar was awarded HAAC Coach of the Year for the sixth time in his eight-year career at Graceland.

The team's excellence doesn't stop on the soccer field. Nine players—five varsity, four junior varsity—were recognized as Daktronics-NAIA Scholar Athletes, which required players with junior or senior status to maintain a 3.5 GPA or higher.

The Yellowjackets thrilling season came to an end during the opening round of the NAIA playoffs when the team fell to Robert Morris University. The team finished the year with an impressive 17-3-1 record, going 6-0-1 in the HAAC.

"The Yellowjackets had outstanding success on the field and in the classroom. They came together as a cohesive group, with everyone consistently putting forth their best effort. I am far more proud of the character shown by these young ladies than any numbers in the win column; they are a fantastic group," said Wagenaar.



Etaslon Kabura, Coach Daniel Alverado and Ahmed Khalif

Kabura Finishes Cross Country Career at Nationals

Senior Ahmed Khalif and junior Etaslon Kabura joined hands as they crossed the finish line at the HAAC Cross Country Championship last fall, tying for third place and clinching NAIA berths.

The runners went on to compete at Nationals in Vancouver, Wash., where Kabura finished with a personal best time and 67 of 307 national runners. Khalif, a three time national qualifier, wrapped up his Yellowjacket career with a 175 finish, a remarkable feat after an injury-plagued season last year. The run signified not only a monumental recovery but also the end of a treasured four years on "the Hill."

"I felt at home at Graceland since I first showed up on campus as a freshman," said Khalif.

"It provided me with experiences I'm not sure I could have gotten anywhere else. I am proud to belong to a select group of people, who call themselves 'Yellowjackets,' and I have created memories to last me a lifetime."

Men's Tennis Sends Doubles Team to ITA Nationals

This year's Men's Tennis team has three distinct features: First, with twelve freshmen and sophomores the team is remarkably young. Second, the group is notably diverse — the team's 14 members hail from nine different countries, including Malaysia, Chile and England. Perhaps most notably, the team is talented.

At the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) Regional tournament, five Yellowjacket players made it to round 16 of the tournament, with three players advancing to the quarterfinals. The doubles team of freshmen Raul Mendez and Juan Jose Mateus went on to defeat the tournament's top seed and take the title championship, automatically qualifying for the ITA National Tournament in Mobile, Alabama. Mendez and Mateus came back from the national tournament empty-handed, but with valuable experience.

"The men didn't receive the results they wanted, but we have confidence they will be back," said Head Coach Monroe Walker.



Juan Jose Mateus, Coach Monroe Walker and Raul Mendez



Denise Atualevao

Women's Volleyball Takes 2nd in HAAC Conference Tournament

The Women's Volleyball team thrilled the home crowd in the Eugene E. and Julia Travis Closson Center this year during the HAAC Conference Tournament. GU defeated Culver-Stockton, the tournament's 2 seed, knocking off the team in three matches, and then faced Evangel University in front of a rowdy home crowd in the tournament semi-finals. The rivals went back and forth, with Graceland capturing the first match, Evangel taking the second two, and Graceland striking back with two more victories to electrify the home crowd and advance to the Championship game against a nationally ranked MidAmerica Nazarene

University team. The Yellowjackets fell in a hard-fought four matches, falling just shy of the automatic berth to the National tournament.

Despite walking away without the HAAC Championship, the year was a success for the Yellowjackets—they finished 19-10 overall with an impressive 7-2 HAAC record. Denise Atualevao was

named HAAC Libero of the Year with 65 aces, and six women were given HAAC All-Conference honors. The team's new assistant coach Eric Majors was given AVCA/NAIA Midwest Region Assistant Coach of the Year honors, and the team received votes in the national top 25 poll.

"This was a special group of student-athletes and staff. Together, we created a year to remember," said Head Coach Stew McDole.



Coach Eric Majors

Stay Connected

Graceland is excited to announce a new way for you to stay connected to your Graceland family. *My Graceland* is a website that gives you access to your Graceland information such as:

- your unofficial transcript for post 1988 alumni
- your giving history
- your biographical data on file

The Social Networking page allows you to search for your friends and classmates. If you prefer not to share your contact information with others, you can set the security in My Graceland to be private.

You'll be able to view and/or subscribe to announcements and calendars.

There is a convenient section to submit Class Notes, news about yourself/family and biographical updates, such as your new address when you move.

Each person in your family needs a separate login, so their own information is displayed.

To request access, go to <http://my.graceland.edu> and click on the "Alumni and Friends" tab to fill out the form and hit "submit." It's that easy.

Alumni Board of Directors

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 Adam Smith '96
 Wade Wallace '82
 Jeannine Ward '84
 Michael Wiley '83
 David Yost '67
 Zana Zeqiri Rudi '06

The 1970s

Sharon R. Becker '74 has published two books, *Ringgold County, Iowa*, and *Bonnie and Clyde*, the latter of which features the story of the pair in Ringgold County (Iowa) and elsewhere. She writes a weekly column, "Tales from the Front Porch," for the *Mount Ayr Record-News* and has served as first vice president of the Iowa Poetry Association.

David J. Grant '75 recently retired after working as a US Army operations research analyst for 30 years. He also received the Commander's Award for Civilian Service.

The 1980s

Rita M. Lester '89 has been named the 2012 Nebraska Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. She is professor of religion at Nebraska Wesleyan University where she also serves as faculty president, member of the Board of Governors, and chair of the Philosophy and Religion Department.

D. Merle Jones '87 was inducted into the Iowa High School Coaches Hall of Fame. He teaches and coaches at Keokuk (Iowa) High School.

The 2000s

Bruce Eric Koehler II '02 received his MD degree from the University of Texas, Southwestern Medical School and will be doing a pediatric residency in Dallas. He previously received his MS at Boston University and has worked for Baylor Health Systems.

Eric Tripp '07 has published a book, *Dominique Ick Lessont and the Dragon Knight*, which is available on amazon.com and on Kindle.

Anniversaries

Those celebrating 50 years or more.

Samuel '52 and **Lucille Anderson** celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on January 22, 2012.

Rick '63 and **Judy Ellis '60 Vogel** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on October 30, 2010.

Weddings

Christopher Barlow and **Kristin Shantz '06**, July 7, 2012.

Lance Patterson '91 and Kristin Morrison, Paradise Cove, HI, December 30, 2009.

Allen Hare '06 and Cori Lynn Duffus, Rossville, KS, June 16, 2012.

Brian Elkins '98 and **Misty Sanchez '05**, Brighton, MI, July 21, 2012.

Births

Grant '98 and Christine **Terauchi**, Prescott, AZ, Noah Everett, August 18, 2009 and Christopher Thomas, August 17, 2011.

Rob and **Katie Powell '02 Vozza**, Bondurant, IA, Cooper Lee, December 27, 2011.

Nathan '95 and Leigh **Mussell**, Lake Balboa, CA, Graham Thomas, March 28, 2012.

Heather Fann '01 Varner, Independence, MO, Emily, October 28, 2009 and Alena, March 7, 2012.

Quincy '06 and **Amy McAlister '05 Clark**, Forney, TX, Abby, November 18, 2009 and Corby, October 26, 2012.

Garrett '11 and Nicole **Grundman**, Crosswell, MI, Mason Mark, June 28, 2010.

Christopher '03 and Bethany **Stowell**, Lewisville, TX, Alexander Wesley, October 7, 2011.

Camron and **Traci Schwab '00 White**, Excelsior Springs, MO, MacKinley Scott, April 15, 2012.



Robert Dimmitt of St. Louis, Mo., accompanied his wife Beverly (Taylor '52) Dimmitt, to her 60-year class reunion at Homecoming 2012. Though Bob himself is not an alumnus, he is a Gracelander through and through. Bob makes pens using a wood lathe. He uses a variety of woods, all of them beautiful, to create these elegant pieces. He made enough to give one to every member present at the Class of '52 reunion.

Ben and **Robin Barker '01 Solinski**,
Liberty, MO, Gabriel Arthur,
May 17, 2012.

David and **Cara Calloway '02 Young**,
Nashville, TN, Matthew Clark,
June 1, 2012.

Brian '96 and Hannah **Brock**,
Muscatine, IA, Michael James and
Matthew Lee, July 17, 2012.

Mark Mesle '02 and Abbey Studer,
Chicago, IL, Nora Parker, August 26, 2012.

Timothy '96 and Katie **Crowley**, Atchison, KS,
Abbigale Angela, September 1, 2012.

Ryan and **Shannon McCoy '02**
Redington, Seattle, WA, Hudson Phillip,
September 1, 2012.

In Memoriam

Robert E. Price '47,
Salem, OR, December 3, 2003.

B. John Cheasebro '29,
Seattle, WA, January 26, 2004.

Donald D. Dunn '39,
Miami, FL, February 12, 2006.

Virgil L. Epperly '30,
Naples, FL, June 19, 2007.

David R. Beckmann '75,
Rogers, AR, April 1, 2008.

Anne Thomas '38 Moe,
Independence, MO, July 15, 2008.

Nanette L. Sour '76,
Des Moines, IA, November 28, 2008.

Janice Cackler '62 Snapp,
Blue Springs, MO, January 29, 2009.

Donald W. Guinee '38,
Lees Summit, MO, February 15, 2009.

Martha Ford '40 Floro,
Wilmot, SD, April 8, 2009.

Wilma Nelms '47 Willmarth,
Tucson, AZ, September 20, 2009.

Robert G. Smith Jr. '76,
Crescent, IA, November 1, 2009.

W. Foch Worthington '48,
Banning, CA, April 20, 2010.

Albert A. Teniente '96,
San Antonio, TX, November 17, 2010.

Margery Donnelson '60 Wahl,
Council Bluffs, IA, February 9, 2011.

James W. Davidson '38,
Kirtland, OH, March 9, 2011.

Ruby Lovell '40 Krubert,
Burlington, WI, April 1, 2011.

Barbara Watkins '71 Letterman,
Lees Summit, MO, April 15, 2011.

Emil Arbtin Jr. '50,
Marysville, WA, May 13, 2011.

Marianne Wofford '56 Day,
Federal Way, WA, June 3, 2011.

Robert N. Garrett '66,
Raymore, MO, June 4, 2011.

Mary Tesman '62 Mathews,
Lansing, MI, August 10, 2010.

Eugene A. Reinwasser '73,
Swartz Creek, MI, August 18, 2011.

MaryBeth Edaburn '55 Behrends,
Portland, OR, August 21, 2011.



Lewis A. Meloan '65,
Libby, MT, August 22, 2011.

Alesa Sharp '75 Jones,
Blue Springs, MO, August 23, 2011.

Evelyn Chock '49 Mun,
Honolulu, HI, September 6, 2011.

Beth Griffin '48 Selle,
Victor, MT, September 6, 2011.

George K. Floro '39,
Wilmot, SD, September 19, 2011.

John B. Heddal '53,
Los Fresnos, CA, September 26, 2011.

John L. Porter '54,
Spokane, WA, October 21, 2011.

Raymond L. Knapp '50,
Endicott, NY, November 15, 2011.

Joanne Parsons '57 Heegaard,
Plymouth, MN, December 23, 2011.

Dianne Stiles '55 Tingle,
Des Moines, IA, December 26, 2011.

Francis Rogers '54 Satchell,
Pearland, TX, January 2, 2012.

Margaret Ferro '95 Haile,
Nampa, ID, January 15, 2012.

Rosa Cary '60 Strandberg,
Lacey, WA, January 15, 2012.

Betty Anne Ward '54 Anderson,
Vancouver, WA, February 24, 2012.

Eldon W. Dickens '43,
Colorado Springs, CO, March 27, 2012.

Darrell C. Warner '77,
Johnston, IA, April 1, 2012.

Pam Teeter '80 Holler,
Overland, KS, April 7, 2012.

E. Wayne Chandler '60,
Charleston, IL, May 3, 2012.

Harold J. Wade '47,
Dora, AL, May 15, 2012.

Kiyoshi A. Sekine '80,
San Francisco, CA, May 17, 2012.

Otto W. Bacon Sr. '47,
Morley, MI, May 28, 2012.

Robert A. Davies '58,
Chicago, IL, June 5, 2012.

C. Maurine Anderson '47 Price,
Salem, OR, June 8, 2012.

Deborah Axelsen '73 Salyards,
Winona, MN, June 13, 2012.

Kay Premoe '58 Mehlisch,
Independence, MO, June 14, 2012.

James E. Grimm '56,
Anaheim, CA, June 14, 2012.

Harold E. Mann '60,
Santan Valley, AZ, June 15, 2012.

James W. Braby '49,
Lamoni, IA, July 1, 2012.

Carolyn Carter '64 McCracken White,
Medford, OR, July 4, 2012.

Flora M. Holmes '52,
Colorado Springs, CO, July 6, 2012.

Carol Meek '50 Arbtin,
Bellevue, WA, July 7, 2012.

Phyllis Moore '40 Hamilton,
Mill Valley, CA, July 24, 2012.

Michael C. Noble '73,
Lawrence, KS, July 25, 2012.

Vivian (Joni) Ensley '46,
Grain Valley, MO, August 11, 2012.

Pauline Flowers '43 Rowan,
Independence, MO, August 13, 2012.

Marvel Stabnow '43 Westwood,
Wichita, KS, August 20, 2012.

Bill L. Knapp '52,
Xenia, IL, August 29, 2012.

Roy J. Benson '37,
Corydon, IA, September 4, 2012.

June Field '40 Seddon,
Tucson, AZ, September 15, 2012.

Phyllis Limb '49 Knapp,
Endicott, NY, September 19, 2012.

Mark G. Burgoyne '67,
Juneau, AK, September 20, 2012.

Joyce Lightell '69 Carter,
Beverly Hills, FL, September 20, 2012.

Eriel Miller,
Honolulu, HI, September 23, 2012.

Joy Esgate '56 Heddal,
Los Fresnos, CA, September 30, 2012.

Lois Heap '48 Cockcroft,
Russellville, TN, October 9, 2012.

Shirley Thomas '57 Dausvardis,
Independence, MO, October 10, 2012.

Anan J. Smith '06,
Independence, MO, October 12, 2012.

Barney C. Parker '58,
Garden City, ID, October 14, 2012.

Dorace Fike '44 Wilson,
Independence, MO, October 21, 2012.

Delores Tandy '54 Cannon,
Lees Summit, MO, October 22, 2012.

Dawn A. Smith '96,
Brodhead, WI, October 29, 2012.

Paul A. Tankersley '87,
Independence, MO, November 2, 2012.

John D. Hinkle '54,
Santa Barbara, CA, November 4, 2012.

Carlotta Ballantyne '44 Sinclair,
Independence, MO, November 19, 2012.

Edmere A. Shaw,
Santa Maria, CA, November 27, 2012.

The Best is Yet to Come: Let's Make 2013 Graceland's Best Year

A friend of mine recently shared that a sign in his office says, "Abandon All Hope for a Better Yesterday." Even though we have had a fabulous 2012 at Graceland with the grand opening of the new Shaw Center and the Fitz, I realize the saying is right. Regardless of what we have accomplished in the past, the only thing we can influence is our future.



With that in mind, why not make 2013 Graceland's greatest year? Recently, John Sellars and I sat down to discuss the next steps for University advancement. We dubbed the effort the Great University Project. A Committee is now meeting with the goal of turning Graceland from a good school to a great University.

The Committee is looking at all aspects of University life: facilities, academics, athletics, faculty compensation and the endowment.

Facilities

While our accomplishments with the Shaw, Fitz, Small and Thomas Apartments, the Resch Science Building and the Helene Center are wondrous, the next phase of facilities improvement is just as important.

What's on our list? To start, a renovation of the Student Center, Briggs, Zimmermann and Closson. Also, a replacement of obsolete (due to technology advances) book collections in Frederick Madison Smith Library. The men's residence halls are on our project list as well. If you attended Graceland in the 1950s, you will recognize Graybill — it hasn't changed much since then.

We estimate the renovation of the campus could be accomplished with an additional \$30 million. If you consider how much we have raised in the last ten years, you realize such an ambitious goal is within our reach.

Academics

We have made substantial improvements in academics in the last several years. ACT scores and grade point averages of our students continue to rise. We are now listed by the *U.S. News & World Report* as a top tier school. In order to become an elite school, an even more rigorous academic environment must be developed. Best practices and benchmarks are being sought out so that we can fulfill this part of the Great University challenge.

Athletics

There is much to admire about our athletic programs. We have about a fifty percent participation rate in athletics. Many of our teams compete for conference titles and produce top scholar athletes.

The Committee is analyzing the role and scope of athletics on campus. How many resources are being devoted to our athletic endeavors? Is each program compatible with a learning community of excellence? It is the Committee's goal to have all our programs satisfy these two criteria.

Faculty Compensation

Our faculty is beloved by the Graceland community due to its excellence, commitment and dedication. In fairness, however, its compensation has been questioned recently, and the suggestion that the compensation is

inadequate is under review. Determining comparator groups and defining a model for compensation is tricky. This is why the Board has undertaken a study to determine how Graceland compares to its "peers" and what can be done to make it compatible with its relevant comparator group. There will be more on this in future issues of *Horizons*.

Endowment

Frankly, the endowment needs to be strengthened for us to reach Great University status. A donor recently encouraged us to start thinking in really big terms about our endowment and we are doing so.

Graceland's endowment is over \$30 million. Our endowment has been supplemented by income from our subsidiary, *Skillpath*. Over the last ten years, *Skillpath* has generated over \$100 million for the University. However, *Skillpath* may not always be able to supply these types of revenue; an endowment of over \$100 million is needed. Ways to achieve this are being examined and will become part of the Great University project.

Won't you join the project? Let's make 2013 Graceland's best year yet.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kenneth B. McClain". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



Graceland Forever

Mid-Campaign Update

Our campaign's goal of \$75 million is a big number. We know it. And we're well on the way to reaching it, with 69 percent already committed!

	Amount raised	Goal	% Met
Facilities & Technology	\$20,866,570	\$30,000,000	70%
Students	\$6,071,519	\$15,000,000	40%
Faculty	\$4,055,987	\$18,750,000	22%
Special Programs	\$2,617,215	\$3,750,000	70%
Operating Cash	\$3,522,380	\$7,500,000	47%
Operating (Grants)	\$5,289,574		
Operating Deferred	\$10,183,721		
Total	\$51,943,384	\$75,000,000	69%

Everyone can be a part of this fund drive through participation in the Annual Fund drive, the Phonathons, Yellowjacket Club membership, special projects and other areas of the donor's interest.

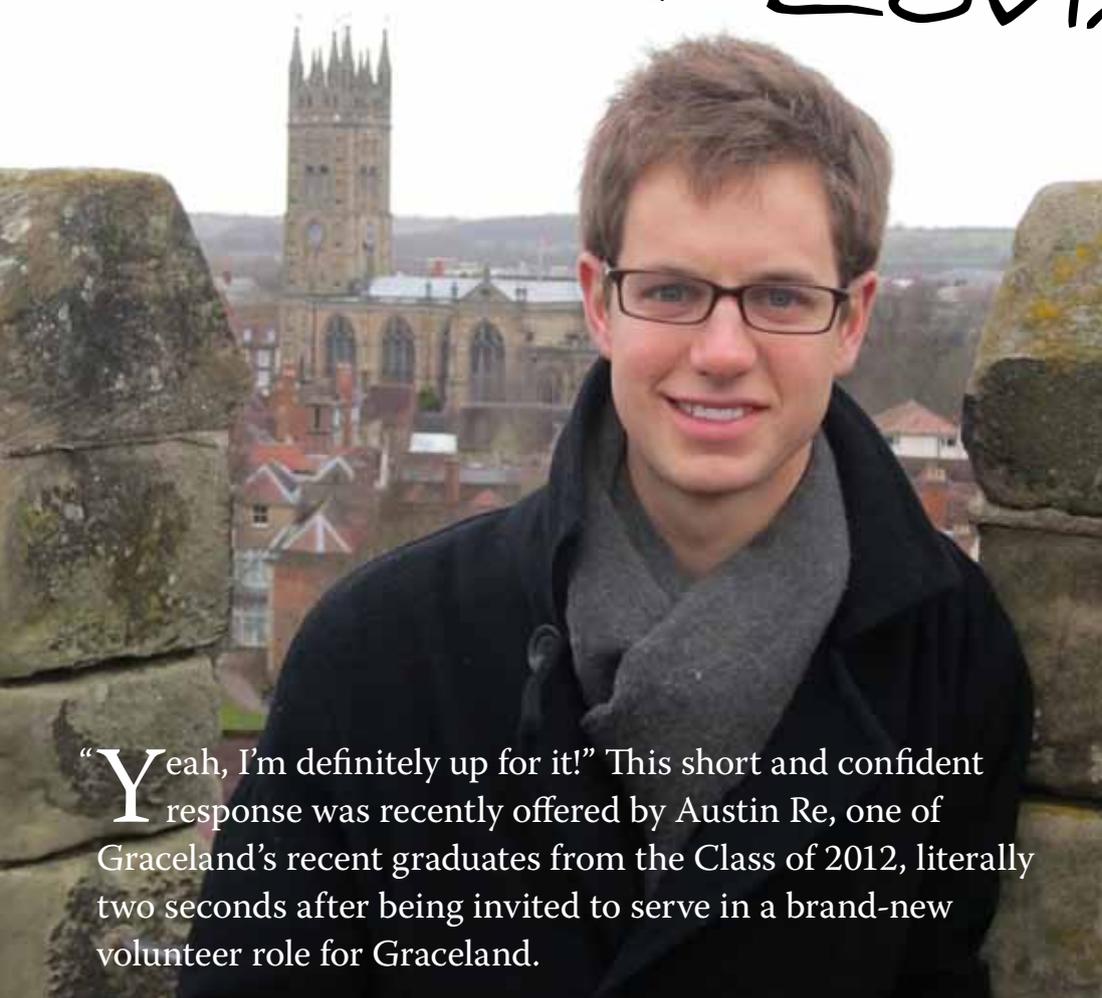
The Board of Trustees is personally offering a 1:1 matching challenge this school year for the first \$200,000 new or increased unrestricted or general scholarship gifts. Give your annual gift before May 31 for your gift to qualify for the match.

The \$75 million is split between categories of needs, but students are the end-beneficiaries of all categories.

We track numbers to evaluate success, but the true success happens in the lives of the students who are impacted by the generosity of those who walked "the Hill" before them.

Thank you to the 4,773 families who have already made their commitment to strength Graceland's future. It takes us all to make Graceland a truly Great University.

Giving Back to Graceland and Loving it



“Yeah, I’m definitely up for it!” This short and confident response was recently offered by Austin Re, one of Graceland’s recent graduates from the Class of 2012, literally two seconds after being invited to serve in a brand-new volunteer role for Graceland.

As a volunteer, Austin will be called upon to support GU’s Admissions staff in a number of ways, including meeting one-on-one with high school students and their families, attending high school events on behalf of GU and escorting students to campus for visits. As a former member of the Yellowjacket’s men’s soccer team, Austin will also be assisting in recruiting high school soccer players.

“I was just telling my parents I needed to find a way to give back to Graceland. This sounds perfect for me,” added Austin. “I can hardly wait to get going.”

Alumni Board member Cal Closson presented the concept to Austin. “His enthusiasm for serving Graceland just blew me away,” said Cal. “Austin represents a generation of young alums

eager to be a part of Graceland’s exciting future.”

In fact, Austin has already tapped one of his classmates, Gage Tubbs, to join him in this new alumni endeavor. “I was pretty pumped up about this opportunity and immediately thought about Gage,” Austin noted. Guess what? Gage is raring to go, too! And so are the 45 other alums of all ages and backgrounds who have recently volunteered to promote GU in a variety of ways (see column on right).

“We are thrilled by the willingness of a growing number of alums to step up for Graceland,” commented President John Sellars. “Such collaboration promises to expand Graceland’s outreach into communities nationally—and even internationally.”

“Her sons and daughters carry to others her fame throughout the land...”

Graceland is determined to spread the good news from campus, and our vast alumni network is the perfect vehicle to help make that happen. In fact, a growing number of alums have already signed up to represent Graceland far and wide in communities and congregations:

Gordon Ashley, Naomi Barlow, Sandi Boyd, Rick Bunch, Jack Cady, Frances Cantrell, Melody Carroll, John Chatburn, Jane Cochran, Sarah Crowley, Judith Fletcher, Tony Gencarelli, Mark Grundman, Darrell Hammond, Curtis Harper, Jan Hawley, Don Hickman, Travis Hunt, Rick Isham, Coral Johnson, Dante Johnson, Kasey Johnson, Jim Lysinger, Kathryn Lysinger, Tim Lubbers, Zac McLaughlin, Jeff Martin, Bobbi Mier, Karen Muma, Larry Norris, Scott Ourth, Steve Peck, Dick Pennington, Max Pitt, Austin Re, Jeremy Roark, Dee Robino, Ralph Ruckman, Shawn Sahlberg, Randy Shelton, Kacey Sires, Sam Smalldon, Mike Stowell, Gage Tubbs, Jamie Varvaro, Angel Velichtkov, Paige Warner.

Please contact Joe Booz or Cal Closson if you would like to add your name to the list. There are many different ways you can help.

Joe Booz
816-977-4962
jbooz@graceland.edu

Cal Closson
816-308-1436
cclosson@graceland.edu

Students Experience Winter Terms Abroad

A standout feature at Graceland is Winter Term—a three-week period between fall and spring semesters when students take one class for 15 hours a week. Although students can take general education classes, many chose to participate in the semester's unique electives, like Metal and Mixed Media Jewelry, Introduction to Modern Greek, or The Science of Cooking.

Winter Term is also an ideal time for students to get international experiences. This year, students are in Central America, Asia and Africa, living with local families, volunteering and working to serve others in need. To follow their exploits, visit the online blog, <http://guwinterterm.blogspot.com/> where students are posting stories and photos from these international experiences.



Nicaragua

Graceland has been collaborating with Outreach International staff to take students to Nicaragua for 12 years now, making this trip one of Graceland's most popular Winter Terms. This Winter Term, students are experiencing what Outreach calls "Participatory Human Development," a process that focuses on community integration, ground work and reflection.



Jamaica

An Independence campus favorite, both the Edmund J. Gleazer School of Education (GSOE) and the School of Nursing (SON) are holding Winter Terms in Falmouth, Jamaica. For the GSOE, students are getting a two-week field experience in the classroom. "This trip lets students see what it's like teaching outside their culture, to a whole different type of student," said GSOE Dean Tammy Everett. SON students are volunteering in local primary care clinics. Students are learning to adapt to diverse work settings, while also experiencing cultural activities and local attractions, including bamboo raft rides and phosphorescing (glowing) algae.



Follow their exploits

<http://guwinterterm.blogspot.com/>



Guatemala

SON students are spending two weeks in San Pedro, Guatemala, learning about the culture and honing their language skills. Living with a local family, students are experiencing the socio-cultural environment of the country, taking rigorous Spanish classes to enhance their language skills and volunteering at local clinics.



Zambia

An Enactus favorite, this is the organization's fourth year partnering with HealthEd Connect in Zambia, a non-profit organization that empowers women and children through health and education. Enactus will be continuing its work from previous years, helping locals organize income-generating activities to benefit local schools. This year, the GSOE is along for the ride, working in the classroom and helping local teachers improve their methods of instruction.



Philippines

Enactus is teaming up with Outreach Philippines Incorporated (OPI) for the second year, helping rural communities in the Philippines generate capital. Enactus is focusing on collaboration with locals, working to brainstorm ways to produce revenue for the community during "lean months" when profit is low.

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL



DOWNLOAD

the free GU View app for
tablet or smart phone.
www.graceland.edu/GUView



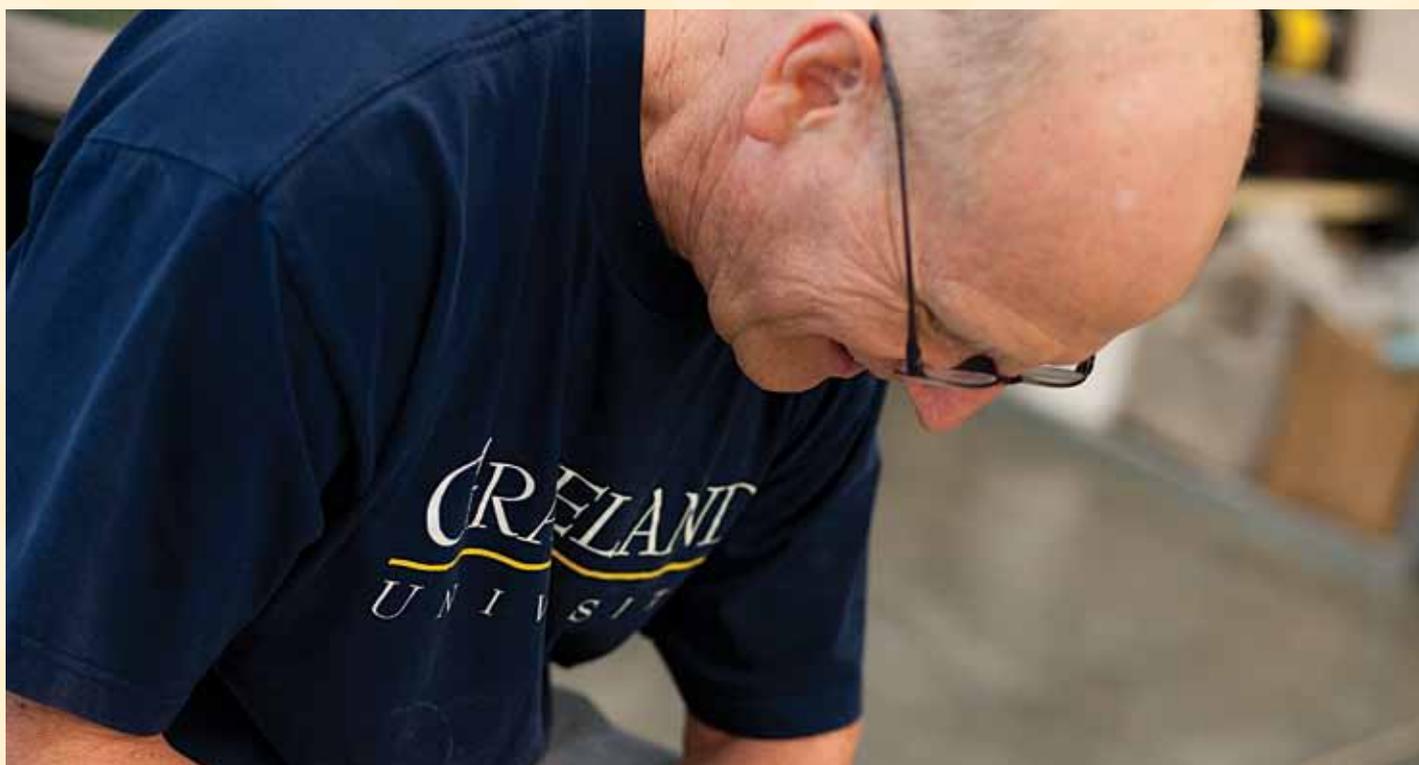
LAUNCH

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VIEW

the picture below
as it comes to life.



WATCH 
THE VIDEO

THEN

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THE STORY
ON PAGE 4