



**Gv** magazine

Grand View University  
Fall 2016

# transformations

*noun*

a thorough or dramatic change  
in form or appearance.





President Kent Henning chats with Kylie Lamb '16, recipient of The Reverend Ronald P. Jespersen and Delores Holmgaard Jespersen Endowed Scholarship. PHOTO: JIM HEEMSTRA

**Transformations.** That's the word we used as the title of our recently completed capital campaign. It is also a term we use to describe the impact of what we do: we believe a Grand View education should be, and is, transformational for our students.

In this issue, you will read more about the success of the Transformations Campaign. We received \$22 million in gifts and pledges over the five years

of the campaign, a full 10 percent beyond our goal. As we celebrate this success, it is appropriate to reflect on the transformations made possible by our donors' philanthropy.

The signature project of the capital campaign was, of course, the Student Center. More than \$10 million of the total raised was designated for its construction. Without doubt, this new building has transformed both the look of the campus and life on campus. I often say education is done best in the context of an academic community. Indeed, the new Student Center has quickly become the place for faculty, staff, and students to gather for formal activities and informal interaction. The sense of community has been greatly enhanced—transformed, you might say—by the addition of this magnificent facility.

The new Student Center also has become a popular place for external groups to gather for meetings and special events. In that way, the Transformations Campaign has transformed Grand View's connections with Des Moines-area community organizations, various church groups, and other constituents who have found the Student Center to be an inviting place for their gatherings.

Beyond support for the Student Center, the Transformations Campaign raised another \$12 million for other important needs. For example, the family of Albert Ravenholt established a visiting scholars program in his memory. That \$500,000 endowment enables us to bring to campus notable speakers who spend several days here speaking to the community, visiting individual classes, and meeting with groups of campus leaders. The addition of the Albert Ravenholt Visiting Scholars program has transformed our Global Vision Week, a week we set aside every fall to focus the entire university's attention on issues of global significance.

A \$350,000 gift from R.W. and Mary Nelson, founders of Kemin Industries, enabled Grand View to acquire a state-of-the-art nuclear magnetic resonance spectrometer (NMR) for use in our chemistry and biochemistry programs. This instrument is the most powerful of its type in the metro area and allows our students to conduct their own research as well as participate in research performed at Kemin Industries.

Several donors, both corporate and individual, have also funded portions of our GV Complete program,

particularly the inclusion of financial literacy education. GV Complete is transforming how we help students plan for and finance their entire educational experience here. Other donors supported athletic programs, helped pay for the creation of our state-of-the-art wrestling facility, and contributed to student organizations. Alice Humphrey '49 made several additional gifts to fund the upkeep and further preservation of the Humphrey Center (Grand View's original building). A grant from the Lilly Endowment will help us encourage more young people to consider ministry and church vocations.

Darold Braida '49 bequeathed to Grand View more than \$1.5 million to endow a professorship in creative writing and provide scholarships for students. When that position is filled, Darold's estate gift will help transform our English Department and extend educational opportunities to countless students.

Equally noteworthy are the dozens of donors who have supported students directly through scholarships. Every year, more than 150 students receive financial assistance from donors who provide outright or endowed scholarships. For these students, funded scholarships often

make the crucial difference in their ability to continue their studies at Grand View.

Which brings me back to the broader notion of transformations at Grand View. Students come to Grand View eager to learn, filled with hopes for their future, and willing to engage in their academic and co-curricular pursuits. They grow and mature in their thinking, in their citizenship, and in their sense of vocation. Transformed by their experiences here, they are successful in moving on to the next chapters of their lives. And as graduates, they make an impact in their communities and in their places of work.

Those of us who work at Grand View get to witness these individual transformations on a daily basis. And what a privilege it is! All of you who contributed to the Transformations Campaign participate in these student transformations, as well. Your gifts help make them possible. For that, and on behalf of the thousands of students who have and will benefit from your generosity, I heartily thank you!

*Kent Henning*  
KENT HENNING  
PRESIDENT



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VOLUME 65, NUMBER 2

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Transformations Campaign complete: exceeds fundraising goals and transforms students' lives.

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Check out photos of our 2016 Homecoming celebration and read about alumni award winners.

GV Magazine is published twice annually by the Marketing Department at Grand View University and is distributed at no charge to alumni and friends of the institution.

Constituents are encouraged to send contributions, suggestions and information for Alumni News to: GV Magazine Editor; Grand View University; 1200 Grandview Avenue; Des Moines, IA 50316-1599 515-263-2846; cmueri@grandview.edu or fill out the form online at www.grandview.edu.

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GRAND VIEW UNIVERSITY



## COMING TO GRAND VIEW

Grant received to develop youth theological institute

where God's call meets your life

BY RACHELLE MITCHELL

Grand View University has received a \$600,000 grant from Lilly Endowment, Inc. to establish the NEXUS Community of Young Christian Leaders. Part of Lilly Endowment, Inc.'s High School Youth Theology Institutes initiative, NEXUS seeks to encourage young people to explore their theological traditions, ask questions about the moral dimensions of contemporary issues, and examine how their faith calls them into lives of service.

NEXUS is a collaboration between Grand View's Student Ministries and the University's Theology and Philosophy Department with the aim of producing theologically-minded youth who will become leaders in church and society. Each summer, 150 high school students will be invited to Grand View's campus

for a weeklong theological academy that includes elements of study, fellowship, and service. A "community" format will be utilized to provide participants with opportunities to explore the scriptures and Lutheran traditions, as well as engage and discover their personal vocations.

As Rev. Russell Lackey, senior campus pastor, explains, "Building on current research, NEXUS is intended to engage high school students in the complexities of faith while also challenging them to consider working for a lifetime in ministry."

Participants will enjoy Grand View's state-of-the-art educational facilities and technology, modern residential suites, and new dining and recreational facilities. During their stay at Grand View,

participants will be introduced to the NEXUS online community which will provide them with a continuation of the resources they experienced on campus as well as additional learning opportunities for when they return home.

Lilly Endowment, Inc. is an Indianapolis-based, private philanthropic foundation created in 1937 by three members of the Lilly family. Through gifts of stock in their pharmaceutical business, Eli Lilly & Company supports the causes of religion, education, and community development. It seeks to deepen and enrich the religious lives of American Christians, largely through initiatives to enhance and sustain the quality of ministry in American congregations and parishes. **GV**

## FIVE WOMEN JOIN GV BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**MARY BONTRAGER** is executive vice president of regional talent development for the Greater Des Moines Partnership, where she oversees all areas of talent recruitment and development, diversity/inclusion and education relations. Bontrager currently serves on the boards of several nonprofits in Iowa, including Girl Scouts of Greater Iowa, Iowa College Access Network (ICAN), and the Leadership Council for United Way's OpportUNITY initiative. In 2001, she was named to the Des Moines Business Record's "Women of Influence." Bontrager grew up in Exira, Iowa, and attended the University of Northern Iowa majoring in interior design and marketing.



Mary Bontrager

**ESPNOLA "NOLA" F. CARTMILL** works at Belin McCormick focusing on employment and family law. She has litigated cases before Iowa's district and appellate courts as well as the United States District Court for the Northern and Southern Districts of Iowa and the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals. Cartmill was named to The National Black Lawyers 40 Under 40 (2016), the Des Moines Business Record "Forty Under 40" Award (2016), and the Greater Des Moines Leadership Institute (2011-2012). Cartmill grew up in Fort Madison, Iowa, and earned her B.A. from the University of Iowa and her J.D. from Harvard University.



Espnola F. Cartmill

**MIRIAM DE DIOS**, a native of Jalisco, Mexico, is CEO of Coopera and a senior vice president of Affiliates Management Company. She has significant experience working in the financial services industry and has served as a board member of various nonprofit organizations in the Des Moines area. De Dios earned her bachelor's degree with honors from Iowa State University and is also a graduate of the Harvard Business School executive



Miriam De Dios

education program. She is currently pursuing her executive master of business administration degree from the University of Iowa and resides in Des Moines, Iowa.

**ROSALIND E.P. FOX** is factory manager at John Deere Des Moines Works, responsible for all aspects of operations including safety, quality, delivery, efficiency, and overall profitability. Prior to Deere & Company, Fox worked for Ford Motor Company and 3M. She graduated with a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering and a master's degree in industrial engineering, both from the University of Missouri at Columbia. In 2008, she completed her executive MBA from Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University. She was recently ranked one of the Top 26 Powerful Women Engineers by Business Insider. In 2015, she was



Rosalind E.P. Fox

awarded the Prism Award by the Society of Women in Engineering and 2013 STEP Award Honoree for Women in Manufacturing.

**LI ZHAO MANDELBAUM** is president of China operations for China Iowa Group. Mandelbaum is a native of China who has lived in Holland, the U.K., and the U.S. She holds undergraduate and master's degrees in international trade and economics from Central South University in Chengsha, China. Mandelbaum has a strong international business background and has worked for several companies in China. For her outstanding professional and civic achievement, she was recognized as The Business Record's "Forty under 40" in 2011 and with the Governor's Volunteer Award in 2010. **GV**



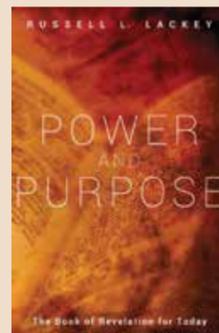
Li Zhao Mandelbaum

## SHARING THE MESSAGE OF REVELATION

The Rev. Russell Lackey, senior campus pastor at Grand View University and Luther Memorial Church, is celebrating the publication of his book, *Power and Purpose: The Book of Revelation for Today*. It is available through Wipf & Stock Publishers and Amazon.

The book of Revelation is confusing and hard to get through, and Lackey wanted to help. "I wrote the book for young adults (and anyone else interested in learning more about the Bible) who could benefit from the message of Revelation but who lack the biblical tools to understand this ancient book," he says.

Lackey feels that reading and studying Revelation can be especially useful for students and young adults. "Revelation speaks about issues that young people struggle with," he says, "such as ecology, unjust economic and political systems, community, and connecting faith with everyday life." His hope is that his book will guide readers on an adventure through the harrowing pages of Revelation in a clear and accessible way.



*Julefest 2016*  
*From Heaven Above*

**Saturday, December 3**  
7:30 p.m.  
St. John's Lutheran Church  
600 6th Avenue, Des Moines

**Sunday, December 4**  
4:00 p.m.  
Luther Memorial Church  
1201 Grandview Avenue, Des Moines

Admission free with ticket. For tickets and information, contact [music@grandview.edu](mailto:music@grandview.edu) or 515-263-2991.

# STUDENT SUCCESS



From left: Iyyad Rayyan '16, Brittany Bowman '16 and Assistant Professor of Business Administration Dmitry Yarushkin at the Alpha Chi national research conference.

**BRITTANY BOWMAN '16** and **IYYAD RAYYAN '16** presented their research projects at the Alpha Chi national research conference in Alexandria, Va. During the three-day conference, top academically performing students from around the country had a unique opportunity to network with peers, present their research, and listen to the research presentations of other undergraduate and graduate students.

**ANDREW MCGUIRE '17** and **MEGHAN GERKE '18** interned this summer at the Iowa Cubs. Gerke worked on the photo team and McGuire was part of the video team. He also works part-time at Mediacom as a video assistant and part-time at KCCI-TV as a photographer.

Meghan Gerke '18 and Andrew McGuire '17 (red shirt) interned at the Iowa Cubs. Photos: Doug Wells



Congratulations to **BONFIRE MAGAZINE** and the 2015-16 staff for being selected as a finalist in three categories of the national College Media Association's Pinnacle Awards competition. Bonfire was recently named one of three finalists in Best House Ad, Best Feature Spread, and Best Sports Spread.



**ANGELA LOSE '18** was named an Iowa Campus Compact Civic Ambassador for the second year. Lose was an intern at KCCI-TV over the summer.



**AMANDA BREON '17** and **KRISTER STRANDSKOV '16** were honored with blue ribbons at the 2016 Iowa State Fair Photography Salon competition. Breon's photo placed first in the Plants, Flowers and Trees class. Strandskov's (above) won the Infrared class and he had an additional image make the cut. **MELANIE LEACH VESPESTAD '16** and **MAGGIE GOLDHAMMER '17** each had photographs chosen for the display. Alums **JAY PROVENZANO '15** and **COURTNEY TOWNSEND '12** also had prints accepted for exhibition.

**LAUREN KANE '17** spent her summer as an intern at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn. Kane worked for eight weeks in the Cardiovascular Health Clinic in cardiac rehabilitation and cardiac stress testing. The internship offered plenty of hands-on experience working with patients of all ages from all over the world. She credits Associate Professor of Kinesiology Zeb Sullivan with helping her land the prestigious internship, as well as helping her prepare her resume and interview skills. **GV**



## FRESHMAN ENROLLMENT INCREASES 26%

Grand View University announced a 26% increase in its freshman class over fall 2015, the third largest incoming class in history. Full-time enrollment is also up this year to 1,550 students. The total number of students is now 1,970.

Grand View is also an increasingly residential campus with a record-breaking number of students living on campus. All campus housing facilities are nearly full, with 839 students living on campus, a 2.6% increase over last year.

Debbie Barger, vice president for enrollment management, discusses reasons for the increase: "New students and their families selecting Grand View as their college choice see a vibrant, exciting campus environment with state-of-the-art facilities and excellent academic programs. Through our GV Complete program, we are also assisting them in finding it an affordable choice and helping them plan for all four years while controlling their student debt."

New facilities, including a new Student Center last fall; new academic and athletic programs; a general positive interest; and increased awareness have also contributed to Grand View's growth. **GV**

## CAMPUS NEWS BRIEFS

### NETVUE GRANT RECEIVED

Grand View has received a \$25,000 NetVUE Vocation Exploration Renewal grant to help the University renew and revitalize vocation at all levels of the core curriculum. The grant will support GV's goal of revitalizing the Core I Seminar curriculum by bringing an expert to campus to assist faculty who teach in the freshman core seminar. The grant funded two vocational discernment coaches to advise students about degree progression and vocation exploration. Furthermore, the grant will allow the University to expand Vocation Week to include an advising day and to infuse vocation topics into the new faculty and staff mentoring programs. The NetVUE grant is supported by the Council of Independent Colleges and the Lilly Endowment, Inc.

### GOLD FIT-FRIENDLY WORKSITE AWARD

Grand View has received the Gold Fit-Friendly Worksite award from the American Heart Association. Fit-Friendly worksites are recognized by the American Heart Association as employers who go above and beyond when it comes to their employees' health. As a gold-level award recipient, Grand View has fulfilled

key criteria and demonstrated a strong commitment to providing a healthy workplace for employees.



### ACADEMIC LEARNING AND TEACHING CENTER OPENS

Grand View is celebrating the opening of its new Academic Learning and Teaching Center (ALT). This new learning support resource brings together the Writing Center, Math Lab, and Tutoring Tables in one area in the Rasmussen Center for Community Advancement Professions. With dedicated areas for group and individual study, the ALT Center offers students a wide range of learning support in one convenient location.

### CASE AWARD FOR FUNDRAISING

Grand View has been selected to receive a 2016 CASE Sustained Excellence Award in Fundraising. This prestigious award recognizes select fundraising programs that

consistently demonstrate excellence in fundraising, thereby contributing to the betterment of educational advancement worldwide. Grand View was selected for demonstrating the highest levels of professionalism and best practice in its fundraising efforts.

### KIDNEY SCREENING

On September 30, the National Kidney Association in coordination with Grand View's Department of Nursing held a free medical screening for kidney disease awareness and prevention. Twenty-two Grand View nursing students volunteered at the screening, which was organized by Brenda Carlson and Kristin Myers, assistant professors of nursing, along with many students. **GV**

Nursing students volunteering at the kidney screening.



## CLASSROOM TO CONFERENCE

Dr. Joshua Woods, assistant professor of psychology has been to his fair share of academic conferences. He stands in front of a full classroom six times a week and has testified more than once as an expert witness for the Iowa Innocence Project. But even he concedes that the annual conference of the American Psychological Association (APA) can be a little bit intimidating—presenting your own work to thousands of psychologists at the organization's largest professional conference is no small feat. The rejection rate is very high and there aren't many students there to begin with. But Woods is out to change that.

This fall, Woods and Grand View students Catherine Cline '16 and Nicholas Little '17 traveled to Denver to the APA conference to present work from the Psych Lab. This is the first time Grand View students have presented at APA, which is recognized as the largest psychology conference in the world. While they were there, they also attended talks and presentations by leaders in

*"We're going to submit [to MPA]. The rejection rate is really high and there's no guarantee we'll be able to get everybody in, but that's exactly what I'm hoping to do. Providing those kinds of opportunities is just transformational."*

— Dr. Joshua Woods  
assistant professor of psychology

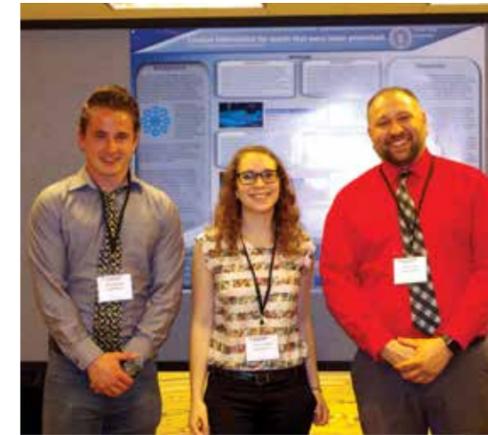
the field—including two of the three researchers who created a key research tool that students use in the lab on a daily basis.

As a precursor to APA, Woods took Cline and Paul Riesthuis '16 to present work from the Psych Lab at the Midwestern Psychological Association (MPA) Conference in Chicago. The group presented their work on false memory and gained valuable experience.

Woods credits a former professor with helping him understand how and why conferences are valuable for students as well as professors. As an undergraduate student, he presented

at MPA and found the experience to be tremendously valuable personally and professionally.

Psychology students regularly share research and information at on-campus symposiums and meetings, but there is no way to fully replicate the experience of going to a conference and presenting your work to other professionals. "There's just something to be said about professional psychologists coming around and asking you about the research you are doing," says Woods. It boosts confidence both in and out of the classroom and gives students a sense of what it's like to be a professional in the



Paul Riesthuis '16 and Catherine Cline '16 with Dr. Joshua Woods, assistant professor of psychology at the Midwestern Psychological Association Conference in Chicago last spring.

field. It also builds on what students are learning in the classroom.

Woods hopes to continue to take students to conferences. He is currently working with two senior research assistants and nine research assistants in the Psych Lab and he hopes to take all of them to MPA next year. "We're going to submit," he says. "The rejection rate is really high and there's no guarantee we'll be able to get everybody in, but that's exactly what I'm hoping to do. Providing those kinds of opportunities is just transformational," Woods says. "That's really what's exciting." **GV**

## PROFESSOR KEVIN GANNON FEATURED IN DOCUMENTARY

Dr. Kevin Gannon, professor of history, recently attended the New York Film Festival for the premiere of the documentary "13<sup>TH</sup>." The film takes a piercing look at the connection between crime, punishment, and race in America and features historical information alongside interviews with politicians and scholars, including Gannon. *The New York Times* called the film "powerful, infuriating, and at times overwhelming." It is showing in select theatres and is available on Netflix. Grand View will also be hosting a screening in early November.



Dr. Kevin Gannon, professor of history (fourth from left) backstage at the New York Film Festival for the premiere of the documentary "13<sup>TH</sup>."



The final event of Global Vision Week October 10-18 included a Civility in Politics discussion. Michael Gartner moderated the discussion with panelists retired Senator Tom Harkin, former Iowa House Speaker Kraig Paulsen and State Senator David Johnson. Photo: Todd Bailey '92

## FACULTY & STAFF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**DR. AHMADU BABA-SINGHRI**, professor of sociology, has been invited to attend the Nigerian Conference in Washington. He will be part of a panel on collaborative strategies with Nigerian national leaders, including Nigeria's first lady, as well as a panel on Nigerians in the Diaspora, which will focus on leadership, security, national development, and progress of the country.

**JACLYN EASTER**, education instructor, co-presented two papers and one poster at the North Central Regional Meeting of the Association for Science Teacher Education. She also co-presented two practitioner activities for middle school science teachers at the Iowa Science Teaching Section of the Iowa Academy of Science Conference in October. She and a co-author have an article on technology appearing in print in *The Science Teacher*, a journal of the National Science Teachers' Association.

**DR. CRAIG ERICKSON**, assistant professor of mathematics, co-organized a mini-symposium and gave an invited talk at the 20th Conference of the International Linear Algebra Society, which took place in Leuven, Belgium, in July. Dr. Erickson also co-authored a research paper in *Journal of Combinatorics* and gave an invited talk in a special session at the American Mathematical Society's Central Section meeting in Minneapolis in October.

**DR. SARAH MILLER BOELTS**, assistant professor of Spanish, will be presenting a paper at the XXVI Annual Conference of the Asociación Internacional de Literatura y Cultura Femenina Hispánica in Houston, Texas, in November.

**DR. CHRISTOPHER VIESELMAN**, assistant professor of kinesiology, attended and presented his research at the Iowa Athletic Trainers' Society's Summer Meeting and Symposium this summer. He was also elected as the chair of the Iowa Athletic Trainers' Society's Research and Education Foundation.

**DR. ALEC ZAMA**, associate professor of business, wrote a teaching case study that he presented at the Midwest Academy of Management in October in Fargo, North Dakota. Dr. Zama's work examines the human resources management (HRM) practices at a small business in Des Moines. **GV**

## FALL 2016 NEW FACULTY AND ACADEMIC STAFF

Front row from left:

Elizabeth Rullestad, assistant professor of kinesiology; Nana Cai, international studies program coordinator; Brian Carico, field experience coordinator; Julie Weichman, nursing clinical educator.

Middle: Dr. Heather Brady, associate professor of liberal arts; Bridget Drafahl, assistant professor of nursing;

Dawn Bowker, associate professor of nursing; Rachel Seltz-Falk, nursing clinical educator; Jori Avery, assistant professor of biology; Jaci Easter, instructor of education; Sherri Watts, assistant professor of nursing; Tom Annis, instructor of business administration; Dr. Roslyn Billy, assistant professor of education. Back: Dr. Carl Moses, provost and vice president for academic affairs; Michael Johnson, instructor of physics; Myke Selha, assistant professor of social work; Marisa King, assistant professor of biology; Ryan Sturms, instructor of chemistry.



# transformations

A CAMPAIGN FOR GRAND VIEW UNIVERSITY



## TRANSFORMATIONS CAMPAIGN BY THE NUMBERS

More than **\$22 MILLION**  
DONATED

**6,273**  
donors contributed

**46%** ↑ *from the previous campaign*

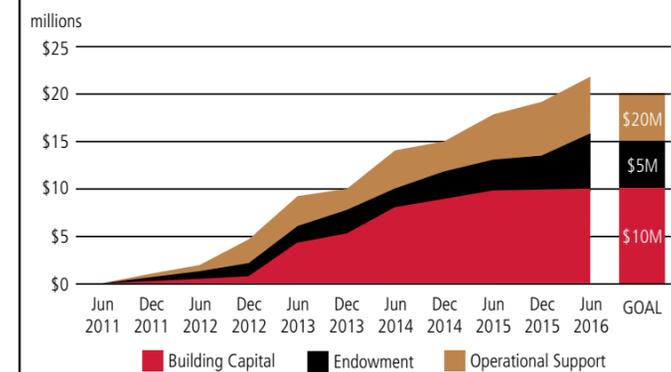
## TRANSFORMATION.

The formal definition is on the cover of this magazine: "a thorough or dramatic change in form or appearance." But there are many ways to understand and experience change. Transformation can be beautiful. It can be challenging. It can be bittersweet and heart-wrenching. Our individual experiences with transformation vary, but there is one common thread: transformation is powerful. It is eye-opening. It forces you to grow and change and when you experience it, you are never quite the same.

When President Kent Henning and the Board of Trustees launched Transformations: A Campaign for Grand View in 2011, they had a vision. And when you walk down Grandview Avenue through the heart of campus, there is no denying the physical transformation of campus. Whether weaving among the students hanging out in the new Student Center or passing over the bustle of E. 14th Street on the Jensen Bridge, even the most casual observer can see the physical evolution of our campus from a small college to a thriving university with successful athletic programs and record-breaking enrollment.

But the transformation at Grand View doesn't stop with bricks and mortar. More than 25% of the \$22 million given during the Transformations Campaign will go directly back to Grand View students through more than 30 new scholarships. Scholarship money lacks the visual punch of the beautiful new buildings lining E. 14th Street, but the impact is felt deeply by the recipients.

## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PROGRESS





*“For the rest of my life, every individual I am able to help will also be receiving the benefit of that scholarship.”*

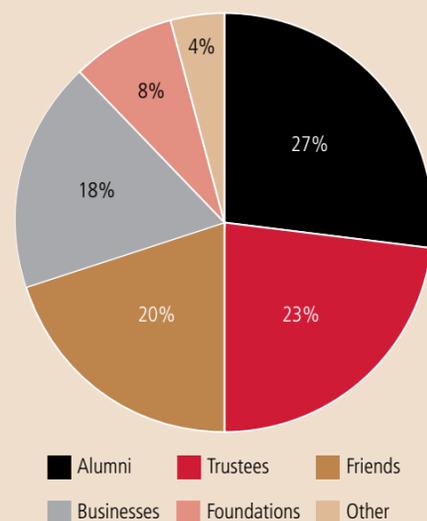
— Jon Brown '17

## TRANSFORMATIONS CAMPAIGN BY THE NUMBERS

More than  
**\$200,000**  
GIVEN FOR  
IMPROVEMENTS TO THE  
**Humphrey Center**

Alumni donors  
accounted for  
**27%**  
of campaign gifts

## TOTAL BY CONSTITUENCY



## CHANGING LIVES

Jon Brown '17 may not have used the word 'transformation' to describe his situation, but he knew something had to change. He was working full-time in an unrewarding career that felt, in his words, "like a dead end." He longed to have a career that connected with his passion of helping people. Jon had tried college before, but when he had to make the hard choice between work and school, he just couldn't get the money side of things to add up, so he withdrew. When he found Grand View's College for Professional and Adult Learning, Jon was ready to make something happen.



For the first few semesters, things were going great. Jon was taking a full load of classes and making great progress toward his degree in human services. But he was also working up to 55 hours every week to pay bills and tuition. And that pace was taking its toll—exhaustion set in and he was haunted by the ghosts of his past and afraid he would have to step away from school again for financial reasons. "I felt overwhelmed and defeated," he says. "I was starting to think about slowing down my pace or even dropping out of college completely until I could get my finances back on track."

But Jon wasn't ready to give up yet. He kept repeating his mantra: Remember what you're working for. It played over and over in his head when he was making the hour-long drive home to Yale, Iowa, after a full day of work and classes; when he started to feel like there weren't enough hours in the day for work and school and homework, those words ran through his head like a tape recorder stuck on play. Remember what you're working for. For Jon, that motivation is children. Specifically, foster kids who "age out" of the foster care system. Kids age out when they turn 18 or graduate from high school, and there aren't many resources available to help these children. Those kids—that's what he's working for. For kids who need a little bit of help and support to get on the path to happiness and success.

With his heart set on "helping these kids transition into happy and successful adult lives," Jon set about finding a way to achieve his goal of finishing his degree. He researched scholarships and found the Aage '52 and Geraldine Clausen Lifelong Learning Endowed Scholarship, which was specifically created with adult learners in mind. He applied with a letter sharing his passion for helping underserved youth, and he was selected as a recipient of the scholarship.

"I can't even begin to tell you how much the scholarship has changed my

## BRAIDA GIFT ENCOURAGES CREATIVITY

Grand View's recent campaign transformed our campus in many meaningful ways, including at the department level. The English department recently celebrated the creation of an endowed professorship in creative writing, thanks to a generous \$1 million gift from the trust of alumnus Darold D. Braida.

This endowed professorship will give Grand View students new perspectives and new opportunities. Regardless of a student's major field, Grand View's curriculum emphasizes writing. The English major, which offers concentrations in literature, writing, and teaching, provides students with a strong foundation of skills that are in demand by employers of all kinds: the ability to read critically, think analytically, write clearly, and approach tasks creatively.

All students have the opportunity to take creative writing courses and tap into the expertise this gift will bring to campus. And all students may submit work to GV's literary journal, *Bifrost*, which Braida helped underwrite at the time of its inception.

Braida, a 1949 Grand View alumnus, spent 40 years teaching English. Born in Williamson, Iowa, he graduated from Chariton High School and received his bachelor's from Iowa State Teachers College (now UNI) and his master's from the University of Iowa. He served two years in the military during the Korean War.

He loved creative writing, specializing in the Japanese style of poetry called Haiku. He won numerous contests and his poems often appeared in print. He also published a book of poems, *An Anthology of Haiku of Iowa: Daylilies & Other Important Things*.

"Creative writing is a passion for some, like Mr. Braida, and an important underpinning for workplace innovation for others," said President Kent Henning. "Our students will benefit from Darold's gift in so many ways, and their creative visions will, in turn, enhance the campus community. We are grateful for this significant gift."



President Kent Henning (left) and Vice President for Advancement Bill Burma (right) accept a \$1 million gift from alum Darold D. Braida's siblings John Braida, Jaynane Hardie, and Janice (Braida '57) Twinam. The gift establishes an endowed professorship in creative writing.

life," he says. "I have been able to back off on working so much and focus more time on my classes and on helping others in my community." Life is still busy, but Jon is focused on completing his degree next year. After that, he plans to pursue a master's degree in social work so that he is fully equipped to help Iowa's foster children transition into adulthood with the resources and support they need.

The day that he walks across the stage to receive his degree will be a proud one for Jon, but his personal evolution won't stop when he leaves Grand View. "For the rest of my life, every individual I am able to help will also be receiving the benefit of that scholarship," he says. This statement truly fulfills Aage Clausen's desire for the scholarship to go to students who will seek to better their own lives and be a positive role model for others as they work to improve the quality of life in their communities. Jon is committed to his own transformation, with the ultimate goal of also sparking change in others.



## PUSHING FORWARD

Jailene Rodriguez '19 knows firsthand what hard work can achieve. A first-generation college student, she has watched her parents work hard for a better life than they had growing up in Honduras. They immigrated to the United States when they were 18 in hopes of finding a safer place to start a family. They found not only a safe place in Des Moines, but also a community where their children would flourish. A sophomore biology/pre-med major, Jailene graduated from East High School in 2015 and

## RAVENHOLT SCHOLAR FEATURED AT GLOBAL VISION WEEK

Several years ago, Grand View received a generous gift from The Albert Ravenholt Fund to bring a prominent scholar to campus annually. This year's Albert Ravenholt Visiting Scholar Address was given by Dr. Eboo Patel, founder and president of Interfaith YouthCore. Dr. Patel discussed the idea that religion should be a bridge of cooperation rather than a barrier of division. For more than 15 years, he has worked with governments, social sector organizations, and college and university campuses to help make interfaith cooperation a social norm.

The Ravenholt Endowment allows Grand View to commemorate the many contributions Albert Ravenholt '39 made to international journalism and higher education. Ravenholt loved to travel, hitchhiking across the country from Wisconsin to California, where he signed on as a cook with a Swedish freighter sailing for Asia and beyond. He was a founding member of the American Universities Field Staff and he and his wife, Marjorie, created an endowed lectureship at the University of Washington. Each year,

Grand View hosts a visiting scholar to present his or her work for community groups, organizations, and the Grand View community.

Global Vision Week was created to offer students, faculty, staff, and the larger community opportunities to encounter belief systems, heritages, and perspectives that differ from our own. Our goal is to develop a deeper understanding of others, ourselves and our relationship with the world.

*Dr. Eboo Patel's day at Grand View was funded in part by Humanities Iowa and the National Endowment for the Humanities.*



From top: Dr. Eboo Patel, founder and president of Interfaith YouthCore and the 2016 Albert Ravenholt Visiting Scholar provided the keynote address during Global Vision Week. Patel engaged with Grand View faculty, staff, students, and Des Moines community members throughout the day. Dr. Jan Lowe, 2016 World Food Prize laureate, presented the World Food Prize address, educating the campus community about using sweet potatoes to improve diets in Kenya and Mozambique. Ancestry.com provided DNA test kits and students participated in a discussion after learning their ethnic mix and discussed how the results affect their view of our diverse world.

Photos: Todd Bailey '92 and Doug Wells

followed her older sister to Grand View. She immediately felt at home, thanks to supportive faculty, staff, and her soccer coach. She loved the challenge of college courses and started dreaming about her future as a pediatrician. But she struggled with finances in her first year and contemplated leaving Grand View until she was awarded the Dean and Sandra Carlson Scholarship. Established by trustee emeritus Dean Carlson and his wife, Sandra, the scholarship is given to sophomore students of need from Polk County. The gift could not have come at a better time for Jailene. She is grateful and humbled by the award, which she says made her feel like she belongs at Grand View and has given her an extra push to keep going.

Part of her plans for the future include visiting Honduras this winter to meet her extended family for the first time and better understand where she came from. Her desire to become a doctor was born out of the life her parents left behind—a life in a third-world country with little access to health care and too many family members whose lives were cut short as a result. Jailene has made her parents proud and will no doubt make the Carlsons proud as she uses her education to make the world a healthier place.

### HONORING HERITAGE

Grand View's Megan Hummel '17 inherited more than her genes and last name from her Danish ancestors. The senior nursing major from Cherokee, Iowa, comes from multiple generations of family who work hard, seize opportunities, and dedicate themselves to the community.

A 2016 recipient of the Danish Brotherhood Scholarship, Hummel says her Danish ancestors' work ethic and a fortunate missed boarding on the



Titanic played a role in her success. It all started in 1902 when Megan's great-great-grandfather, Johannes, traveled from Denmark to the United States and settled in Battle Creek, Iowa. He didn't know English, yet through hard work and commitment was able to make a living farming. On a return trip to Denmark to visit family a decade later, he met his future wife, Maren, who agreed to travel back to Iowa with him to start a family. They were supposed to make the trip on the Titanic in 1912, but thankfully arrived late and missed the boarding. They made it safely back to Iowa and started a family.

More than 100 years later, Hummel is honoring her family's heritage by giving as much as she's getting from her experience at Grand View. Hummel works part-time as a patient care technician at UnityPoint; is a member of the junior varsity tennis team; is active in student ministry; is a member of the GV United Leadership team that connects alumni donors with students; and she still finds time to volunteer. Megan is part of GV's Dance Marathon, which raises money for the University of Iowa Children's Hospital and is involved with Love your Melon, an effort to raise money for childhood cancer research.

Hummel reflected fondly on the importance of her Danish heritage and the dedication she knows it took for Johannes to make it in America. She says she is thrilled to be attending Grand View with its Lutheran foundation and is extremely grateful for the scholarship. Hummel, who says college is an opportunity to gain independence and discover who you are, plans to be a labor and delivery nurse in the Des Moines area.



### EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS

Bryon Christensen '17 came to Grand View with, in his words, "average test scores and an average GPA." But now that he's more than halfway through his college career, it's safe to say that his time at Grand View has been anything but average. Early on, he says, he made the decision to "fully commit to the Grand View experience," and that choice, it turns out, was the beginning of transformation for Bryon.

His lanky stride and big smile are easy to spot on campus, as he crisscrosses E. 14th for classes (he works hard to keep up that 3.65 GPA), track practice (he's the team captain), and Student Leadership Team meetings. This year, Bryon also managed to fit in an internship with Principal Financial Group. With so much going on, an extra part-time job isn't realistic. But Bryon was committed to finding a way to pay for school, so he



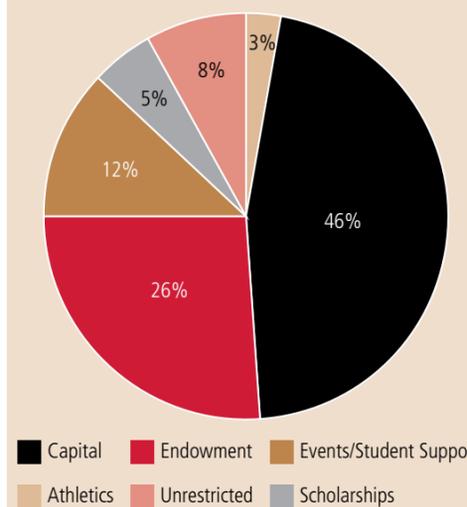
### TRANSFORMATIONS CAMPAIGN BY THE NUMBERS

The wrestling team's new facility is **one of the largest** in the Midwest

**\$250,000**

WAS GIVEN TO ESTABLISH **GV COMPLETE**  
Whole-degree planning and financing

### TOTAL BY FUND





## TRANSFORMATIONS CAMPAIGN BY THE NUMBERS

More than **2.5 million** DONATED TO ESTABLISH **20 new scholarships**

More than **\$10 MILLION** DONATED FOR THE STUDENT CENTER

## transformations

A CAMPAIGN FOR GRAND VIEW UNIVERSITY

DESIGNATION	GOAL	JUNE 30, 2016
Student Center	\$10,000,000	\$10,130,475
Scholarships/ Annual Fund	\$5,000,000	\$6,233,771
Endowment	\$5,000,000	\$5,679,129
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$20,000,000</b>	<b>\$22,043,375</b>

jumped at the chance to apply for The Living History Farms Race Scholarship. The scholarship gave Bryon more than a few extra dollars—it gave him the gift of time. And he has used that time well—to become a leader on campus and on the track team. His choice to fully embrace the entire GV experience was a smart one, as Bryon has learned valuable time management and leadership skills that will undoubtedly help him as he joins the workforce after graduation this spring.

## TRANSFORMATION = GROWTH

These stories are unique, but they are not unusual at Grand View. During the recently completed Transformations Campaign, nearly 1,400 scholarships were awarded, providing countless opportunities for both personal and educational transformation. For some, a scholarship meant the difference between staying and finishing a degree or leaving school to support family or loved ones. For others, it meant less time at work and more time participating in the campus community. Each GV scholarship recipient has their own story of change, and each student would choose different words to describe their own GV experience—exhilarating, overwhelming, challenging, terrifying, thrilling. We each experience transformation differently, and however it happens, the end result is always change.

And, as we've seen over the past five years of the Transformations Campaign, change is a necessary part of growth. We have all marveled at the amazing changes to the physical landscape of our campus—the beautiful new buildings, the renovated classrooms, and the updated technology are constant visual reminders of how far Grand View has come since it opened its doors to students in 1896. And the funds raised for scholarships and endowed professorships and programs will bless our entire community for generations to come.

But perhaps one of the most crucial things the Transformations Campaign has done for Grand View is to prepare us for what's to come. The next few years will undoubtedly bring new challenges and new opportunities for growth. With record-breaking freshman enrollment, exciting new graduate programs, and a newly revamped approach to adult learning, the next decade will be anything but routine.

The Transformations Campaign may be complete, but the transformation of Grand View University has just begun. **GV**

# ON THE ROAD AGAIN

BY STEPHEN HARVEY '17 & TAYLOR ROSEBOOM '17

On September 29, two-time All-American men's volleyball player Pedro Cardoso '17 and teammate Felipe Nogueira '17 walked out of the training room in the Johnson Wellness Center with ice on their shoulders, bodies sore from an intense volleyball practice and weightlifting session. It was the best they had felt in a long time.

Four and a half months ago, Cardoso and Nogueira were seriously injured in a brutal car accident in downtown Des Moines (see sidebar).

Donan Cruz, head men's volleyball coach, was the first to be notified of the accident. He then notified the men's families back in Brazil. Cardoso's mother was the first on a plane, and his girlfriend made the trip from Ohio to be by his side. By morning, President Kent Henning

had made his way to this hospital to extend support.

"The next day when I woke up, I was surprised to see friends and faculty members from Grand View that came to show support, to show love, to show that they were caring for us, and that was amazing to see," Cardoso says.

The support continued to pour in from Grand View students, faculty, and staff. The entire community rallied around the injured students, and

even though they were thousands of miles from home, they felt surrounded by love and support from their Grand View family.

Considering the intensity of the accident, it truly is amazing that they are playing again—throwing their bodies around and diving for balls without even a second thought. Cardoso is attacking the ball with the same aggression he has always had and Nogueira is as tenacious as ever in every aspect of his game. It is as if the accident never occurred.

Even more impressive has been their return to the road. Nogueira was back in a car just two days after the accident. He stayed with his girlfriend's family in Madison, Wisc., during his recovery. Cardoso was in a vehicle one week later when he and his family returned to GV to begin the rehabilitation process.

"I was very scared," he says. "I felt that an accident could happen at any moment. That lasted for a couple weeks. I would be paying attention to signs and if the cars are crossing or not."

They have come a long way since those trying times. The soreness they are dealing with now is a familiar one. More importantly, it's a soreness that is not life threatening. While the accident and the pain it caused are in the rearview mirror, they're looking ahead to the upcoming volleyball season and all the joys (and soreness) that will accompany it. **GV**

## ABOUT THE ACCIDENT

On May 14, two Grand View men's volleyball players were involved in an accident. Around 1:30 a.m., Pedro Cardoso '17 was traveling east on Grand Avenue with Felipe Nogueira '17. Police reports indicate their car was hit by a drag racer traveling 100 mph. The collision sent their car spinning, launching the engine hundreds of feet and damaging a fire hydrant and light pole.

Cardoso's injuries caused heavy internal bleeding, which required a blood transfusion and eventually, surgery. He found out later that he also tore his posterior cruciate ligament.

"The recovery took a while," Cardoso says. "My parents and my girlfriend were assisting me for awhile with basic things. It was frustrating."

Nogueira broke his sternum in the crash and suffered lacerations just above his right eye that were so deep that his skull was visible through the cuts.

"I had glass sticking out of my head when the ambulance arrived," he says, "And I could actually feel the crunching of the bones in my head."

He needed immediate plastic surgery to repair the damage. The scars are healing nicely. In fact, they are barely noticeable.



Left: Pedro Caroso '17  
Right: Felipe Nogueira '17



# A NEW LIFE AND A NEW SPORT

BY MIKE KELLY '17

Standout freshman running back Jerry Lowe '20 is developing into a key impact player. Since he arrived in August, the 5'8, 212-pound back has trampled his way onto the varsity squad. His punishing style has even made defensive coaches worried that he could injure linebackers in practice.

The South Tama High School graduate has only played football for four years but is already turning heads at the collegiate level. What is his secret? Jerry draws strength from the adversity he's overcome in his past, which fuels him to conquer new challenges both in football and in life.

His story of overcoming the odds began long before he set foot on the Grand View gridiron. In 1996, he was born in the midst of civil war in Sierra Leone. The 11-year conflict killed tens of thousands and displaced a third of the country's population. Born in a small, rural village, Jerry's life began tragically with his father's death in the war. His mother was born with a walking disability, which forced Jerry and his siblings to find ways

to feed their family.

"We didn't have enough income, and my mom couldn't do anything," he says. "Sometimes, my brothers and I would have to go find something like firewood and sell it for money to buy something to eat."

Jerry and his family faced a daily struggle to survive, and eventually it was too much for his disabled mother – she placed six-year-old Jerry in an orphanage

*"I've just got to keep working harder, stay positive, and do everything I can to achieve my goals."*

— Jerry Lowe '20

in the city of Bo, where he spent the next 10 years of his life.

At the orphanage, life improved, and Jerry could focus on his education without the pressure of providing for his family.

"It was quite different and a lot better than living in the village," he says. "We woke up and went to school, and

they fed us three times a day. That was the first time we ate three times a day." He also said he enjoyed his well-rounded schedule of school, church, Bible studies, and free time to play. But his situation was about to get even better when he met Ron and Brenda Lowe from Tama, Iowa.

The Lowes were friends of the founder of Jerry's orphanage and they would often pray for and financially

support the children there. After becoming acquainted with the situation from a distance, the Lowes decided to become more personally involved. In 2006, Ron and his oldest son visited the orphanage during a mission trip to Sierra Leone. Jerry was one of the children they had prayed for previously and when the opportunity came to meet him, it was

even more meaningful than they had imagined.

"They actually warned us ahead of time that we would want to bring some [children] home with us," Ron says. And although the Lowes had no intention of adopting prior to the visit, "Jerry made quite an impression on us." The Lowe family fell in love with Jerry and in 2008, they began the process of adoption.

"I was so excited," Jerry says. "When I went home that night, I didn't even sleep because I was so excited."

The Lowe family spent the next four years going through the court process to finalize the adoption. There were many setbacks, including an adoption ban and restrictive age limits. The Lowes traveled back and forth to Sierra Leone to be present at numerous court dates. Multiple times, their application was rejected.

However, they refused to quit, and finally in 2012, the adoption was finalized and approved. Jerry moved with his adopted family back to Tama, Iowa,

where he began attending school and kicking for the football team.

"I didn't actually know what I was doing," Jerry says. His only knowledge of kicking came from soccer, but, he says, "As time went on, I got better."

But he soon realized that the real action came from carrying the ball instead of kicking. "After my sophomore year I was like, I want to get the ball all the time," Jerry says. "My dad told me that the best position for me was running back, so I decided to go for it."

His size, strength, and natural ability drew the attention of college coaches, including Mike Woodley, GV's head football coach, who was amazed the first time he saw Jerry play.

"Power is something you cannot coach," Woodley says. "He just ran through people. And he played the whole season on a torn ACL."

Woodley immediately offered Jerry a position as running back at Grand View. After a visit to campus, Jerry decided it was the place for him.

"My Grand View experience has been great," Jerry says. "They're nice people to be around. Great teammates and great coaches."

Jerry looks to continuously improve himself and make the most of his opportunities going forward.

"I've just got to keep working harder, stay positive, and do everything I can to achieve my goals," he says. **GV**



## GV ADDS SHOOTING SPORTS

Grand View launched a co-ed shooting sports team this fall. In its debut, the team defeated Simpson College in a dual, scoring 438/500, and tied Southwestern Community College (SWCC). GV took home third in the first-ever home invitational held October 8, at the Indianola Izaak Walton League.

Charlie Mundy leads the inaugural team. He comes to Grand View after three successful seasons at SWCC where he was instrumental in the startup of the first collegiate shooting team as a school-funded varsity sport. Mundy's teams won 15 competitions and qualified for the national tournament three times. Mundy has coached six individuals to qualify at nationals to apply for Olympic Training Camp. He is a National Rifle Association of America (NRA) Certified Shotgun Coach, a National Rifle Association of America (NRA) Certified Range Safety Officer (RSO), and an Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Certified Shotgun Coach.

Grand View's Shooting Sports team practices at the Izaak Walton League in Indianola. **GV**



# Grand View University Homecoming 2016

September 30 – October 2

Grand View's Homecoming weekend Sept. 30 – Oct. 1 welcomed back six decades of graduates. From long-standing traditions like inducting the 50-year class into the Mighty Oaks Club to new events such as the young alumni reception on the Jensen Bridge, Homecoming weekend offered numerous opportunities to connect with the University, with faculty and staff, and with fellow GV alumni. Head to our Facebook page for more photos: <https://www.facebook.com/grandviewuniversityalumni>.

## SAVE THE DATE: HOMECOMING 2017 – SEPT. 22-24



1



2



3



4



5



6



9



10



11



12



15



13



14



16



7



8



17

1 & 2. Approximately 60 alumni who graduated in the last 10 years enjoyed Cocktails on East 14th Street, located on the Jensen Bridge on Friday evening. 3. Members of the Class of 1960, who celebrated their 50-year reunion. 4. Annually, members of the 50-year reunion class are presented with Mighty Oaks medallions. 5. Alumni were honored with awards during the President's Club Dinner (see page 20 for more details). 6 & 7. Alumni and friends gathered during the President's Club Dinner, which annually recognizes those making gifts to Grand View of more than \$1,000 as well as members of the Heritage Society. 8. Delores (Holmgaard '40) Jespersen and Dan Jespersen '88 attended the President's Club Dinner. 9. The 24th annual Viking 5K began on campus and wound through the Grand View neighborhood. 10. Following the 5K, children 9 and under participated in the Kid Trot, a 100-meter dash on Grand Central Walkway. 11. #82 Tyce Sarver and #13 Alex Bush celebrated during the Saturday Homecoming football game. 12. #45 Zach Downs during the 56-28 win over MidAmerica Nazarene. 13. Students participated with The Punching Pandas during the band's performance at the tailgate. 14. Football alumni gathered during the Homecoming tailgate. 15. Carol '76 and Michael '76 Framke coordinate the Viking 5K and manage the results. 16. Theatre students offer free facepainting at the tailgate. 17. Aebleskive, a Danish pancake, was part of the tailgate experience.

Photos: Krister Strandskov '16, Chloe Pacha '18, Brian Patterson '95, Carrie Sponheim, and Doug Wells

# 2016 ALUMNI AWARD WINNERS

The following 2016 Alumni Award recipients were recognized during the President's Club Dinner and at halftime of the Homecoming football game.



**DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD**

**Dana Wingert '11**  
Police Chief,  
Des Moines Police Department

Dana Wingert began his law

enforcement career with the City of Des Moines in December 1991 as a police officer. He was promoted to senior police officer in February 1995; Police Sergeant in May 2000; Police Lieutenant in January 2005; Police Captain in September 2007; Police Major in February 2011; and Chief of Police in 2015. He is a 24-year veteran of the department.

Wingert has a bachelor of science degree in criminal justice from Grand View. is a graduate of the FBI National Academy and the Police Executive Training Program at Boston University.



**DANISH HERITAGE PRESERVATION AWARD**

**Erna Jensen**  
Retired Grand View  
Math Professor

Erna Jensen was born in Nebraska in

1934. Both of her parents were Danish—her father came from Denmark in 1920—and she grew up speaking Danish at home. Jensen graduated with a bachelor's degree in chemistry and eventually earned her master of arts in education with a math major from the University of Northern Iowa.

She taught in Nebraska before coming to Grand View in 1966. She retired from teaching math in 2001 and served as college marshal for 13 years.

Since retiring, Jensen has served several prominent Danish organizations in various roles, including vice president, president, and board member. She remains actively involved in preserving Danish heritage and is currently serving

on the board of the Museum of Danish America. Since her first trip in 1972, Jensen has traveled to Denmark four times, and she dreams of spending a summer traveling Denmark and finally becoming fluent in Danish.



**SALLY CARTWRIGHT VOLUNTEER-SERVICE AWARD**

**Peter Kiernan '94, '11**  
Parts Business  
Manager,

**John Deere Intelligent Solution Group**

Peter Kiernan is John Deere's Parts Business Manager for its Intelligent Solutions Group in Urbandale, Iowa. He received his bachelor's in accounting and business in 1994, and his master's in Innovative Leadership in 2011, both from Grand View. He continues to support Grand View today as a member of the Business Advisory Board, which also allows for formal mentoring of students.

Kiernan is actively involved in agriculture outside of John Deere by

Ashley Hartkorn '09; Laure Nagle, on behalf of her daughter, LB Lyons '08; Obsie Birru '12; Brenda Wahlert-Brown '11; Mitchell Johnson '12; Steven Neville '07; Bill and Sue Thompson, on behalf of their son, Eric Thompson '14, and President Kent Henning. Photo: Krister Strandskov '16



**10 UNDER 10 YOUNG ALUMNI AWARDS**

The 10 Under 10 Young Alumni Awards recognize 10 alumni who have graduated from Grand View in the past decade and are making a significant impact in their profession and/or community. Nominators were asked to describe nominees' outstanding contributions as well as the individual's vision, drive, and leadership. The 10 Under 10 award will be an annual event, and we look forward to recognizing our outstanding alumni each year.

**Obsie Birru '12** – U.S. Olympic Marathon Trial qualifier; Special Education Associate, Johnston Community School District

**Ryan Cosgrove '08** – Pastor, Faith Lutheran Church, Burlington, Iowa

**Ashley Hartkorn '09** – Marketing Specialist II, Strategic America

**Kelley Johnson '15** – Miss Colorado 2015; Brand Ambassador, United Staffing Solutions, Inc.

**Mitchell Johnson '12** – Financial Advisor, Principal Financial Group

**LB Lyons '08** – Associate Athletic Director/Marketing, Illinois State University

**Steven Neville '07** – Dentist, Bondurant Family Dentistry

**Amy Rost '12** – Math Teacher, North High School

**Eric Thompson '14** – 5th in 2016 Olympic Wrestling Trials; Assistant, Lock Haven University; Assistant Coach, Mat Town RTC, Lock Haven, Penn.

**Brenda Wahlert-Brown '11** – Reading Interventionist Coach, Saydel Community School District



**ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME – BASEBALL**

**Mark Zeratsky '88**  
Correctional Officer,  
Brown County  
Sheriff's Department,  
Green Bay, Wisc.

Mark graduated from GV in 1988 and was drafted and played baseball for the New York Yankees for a year. He has worked as a correctional officer for the Brown County Sheriff's Department since 1989. He has been married to his wife, Wendy, for 27 years and they have two daughters, Lauren and Hannah. Both girls graduated in May—Lauren from graduate school and Hannah from undergraduate.

## HELPING THE HOMELESS, ONE BURRITO AT A TIME

Sometimes all it takes is one question. To make a connection. To make a difference. To make someone's day. For Peter Kiernan '94, '11 and his friends in the Urban Bicycle Food Ministry – Des Moines, that question is simple enough: Have you had supper tonight?

The answer to this question is often no, but the stories behind those answers are anything but simple. As Kiernan and his fellow volunteers hand out burritos and peanut butter and jelly sandwiches every Thursday night, they hear about

personal struggles, tragedy, and triumph. And they hear a lot of thank yous from grateful men, women, and children.

Kiernan's co-worker, Joe Laslo, started Urban Bicycle Food Ministry (UBFM) in 2015, but Kiernan had had the same thought as he biked through downtown Des Moines and noticed the homeless camps not far from the trail. As he rode, he wondered if anyone used bikes to help feed the homeless. When he mentioned it to Laslo, the two chuckled at their shared revelation and set about

making it happen.

The end result is an incredible volunteer-driven food ministry that hits the road every Thursday night to distribute 900+ burritos, PBJs, and ham sandwiches to Des Moines' hungriest residents. Teams of volunteers also hand out fruit, water, bug spray, and lots of love and goodwill. What started with one guy on a bike has grown to a dedicated group of more than 50 volunteers who break up in to seven



GV grad Peter Kiernan '94, '11 (back, in blue shirt) rides with one of UBFM's seven ministry teams.

teams to cover the entire Des Moines metro area.

Kiernan has been part of UBFM since the very beginning, in part because he feels inspired to give back and help

those who are less fortunate. His faith is also a big part of why he volunteers with UBFM—he takes the Christian directive to feed the hungry to heart. "I believe it is important to give back to those who are less fortunate," he says. "It aligns

with my faith and I enjoy giving my time back."

As the organization grew, other needs arose, and Kiernan stepped up to help. When the group was trying to figure out how to apply for nonprofit status, he reached out to a good friend for counsel. Part of that process involved creating a more formal governing structure and establishing a key leadership team, and Kiernan was happy to serve. He is currently on the board of directors and maintains the books and tax returns

for UBFM.

Kiernan originally graduated from Grand View in 1994 with a degree in accounting and business, and he later returned to complete his master's degree in the innovative leadership program. He was also nominated and chosen as a recipient of an alumni award this year.

To learn more about UBFM or how you can be part of feeding Iowa's hungry, check out UBFM's Facebook page (just search 'Urban Bicycle Food Ministry Des Moines').

★★★  
GRAND VIEW NATIONAL  
**ALUMNI**  
COUNCIL

Last month, we celebrated Homecoming on campus and it made me think about what “homecoming” means for Grand View alumni. For graduates in the last decade, it likely has a more traditional collegiate meaning – tailgating, football, alumni reunions, and fun activities hosted by clubs and organizations.

Many Grand View graduates, however, haven’t experienced homecoming in this classic sense. Some alumni speak fondly of a springtime event called Studenterfest, while others graduated during a time when Grand View had no annual campus homecoming celebration.

Alumni who return to campus are often amazed by Grand View’s ongoing transformation of its campus, programs, and athletics. It’s an exciting time to be a Viking, and regardless of what year you graduated, I invite you to visit and see the transformation firsthand.

There are many ways to be part of the community. Volunteer with students through our Viking Volunteers program. Speak to a class of soon-to-be graduates about what it’s like to work in your field. Connect with other alumni at one of our many events. However you choose to be involved, we’re happy to count you as part of the Viking family.

And, of course, mark your calendars for next year’s Homecoming celebration September 22-24, 2017.

Want to get involved? Email [alumni@grandview.edu](mailto:alumni@grandview.edu) today!

*Laine Mendenhall-Buck '92*  
Director of Alumni Relations  
#vikingforlife

1950

**GLORIA (FAUGHT '50) STRANDSKOV** just celebrated her 85th birthday.

1952

**GRETA (STRANDHOLT '52) DAWSON** is still going strong and was pleased to participate in an arts and crafts fair in Murphy, North Carolina, this fall. She loves spending time with her family, including eight grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

1990

**MICHELLE KELLER DECLERCK '90** was named one of 2016’s Top 20 Change Makers in the Event Industry and 2016 Clive Citizen of the Year.

1999

**BRIAN HOUGH '99** is assistant professor of communication at Frostburg State University in Frostburg, Maryland.

2005

**AARON DAVIS '05** has been busy making a career in recreation and parks. In 2013, he was named the North Carolina Recreation and Parks Athletic Directors Workshop “Young Professional of the Year.” In 2014, Davis became a Certified Parks and Recreation Professional and in 2015, he received the highest honor a young professional can receive, earning the NCRPA State Young Professional of the year award. Davis and his wife, **JENNIFER (MILDER '03) DAVIS**, live in North Carolina with their children: Lukas (8), Payden (7), Finely (5), and Keylin Rae (3).

2009

**SARAH CLOUD '09** married Layton Peddicord on June 25 in Des Moines.

**ROXANA (CHAVARRIA '09) SIXTOS** started a new job in September as a child care consultant at Orchard Place in Des Moines.

2013

**BROOKE CURRY '13** married Craig Follette May 21.

2015

**BRIGID ERNST '15** has joined the GV Complete Whole Degree Planning program as a Student Empowerment Coach.

Future Vikings

**JILL NOWADZKY MONTENGA '04** and her husband, Chad, celebrated the birth of their son, Caleb, in December.



**KATIE (OSTREM '06) ROYER** and husband, Casey, celebrated the birth of their son, Easton Charles, May 24.



**MOLLY (GUNSAULUS '10) AND DAN BRANDHORST '06** celebrated the birth of their son, Cole Daniel, August 10. Cole joins big sister, Brynn.

In Memoriam

**DORTHEA M. (LUND '47) JENSEN** passed away in June. Her husband, **Rev. Herluf M. Jensen '47**, precedes her.

**KEITH W. GAAR, JR. '48** passed away in July.

**AGNES E. (RAVENHOLT '51) NUSSLE** passed away in April. Several family members were GV alumni, including **Johanne M. (Ravenholt '43) Fremont**, sister, **Rev. Paul Nussle '51**, husband, **Astrid Ravenholt '51**, twin sister, **Albert V. Ravenholt '39**, brother, and **Ansgar B. Ravenholt**, 1903 father.

**DAVID P. WATERMAN '51** passed away in August.

**PATRICIA L. (NYHUS '55) GRASSFIELD** passed away in June.

**DAVID A. IBSEN '57** passed away in April. He is mourned by his family, including his sisters, **Joy M. Ibsen '60** and **Karma J. Ibsen '63**.

**MARJERY (KRAFT '59) FJELDE** passed away in September. She is survived by her husband, **Tom Fjelde '58**.

**TIM FOSHE '62** passed away in January.

**BRUCE A. WOODS '62** passed away in May. His wife, **Karen J. (Lucas '62) Woods**, precedes him.

**CHERYL (WANDLING '63) ADES** passed away in October.

**KEN LIBBY '64** passed away.

**GEORGE DURBALA '66** passed away in May.

**DANIEL M. SAMPSON '68** passed away in March.

**CURTIS MACKIE '72** passed away in January.

**JOYCE A. (KOMMER BEADLE '83) BEASLEY** passed away in July.

**DORENA (DRYER '71) MARSHALL** passed away in February.

**DAVID W. NELSON '72** passed away in August.

**PAUL A. STEFFENSEN '78** passed away in August.

**ROSS F. WEINMAN '93** passed away in July.

**MARCIA L. (CALDWELL '01) SMITH** passed away in March.

**RONALD LEE GALVAN**, former GV student, passed away in December.

**JOHN HUSTON**, former GV student, passed away in March.

**BARBARA BURN** passed away in April. She was the library director at Grand View for 36 years until retirement in 1994.

Retired Grand View professor **JOHN GERTENRICH** passed away in October.

Gertenrich taught mathematics for 34 years, retiring in 1999. He will be remembered for his stentorian voice and

meticulous preparation as the announcer at hundreds of GV athletic events.

Former Grand View instructor **HARLAN HOLM '47** passed away in January. Harlan was awarded the medal of Knight of the Legion of Honor by the Government of the French Republic for his courageous service as an American soldier in France during World War II. His heirs accepted this award in his place on June 1, 2016.

**JOSEPH ROBERT (BOB) HUDSON** passed away in March at the age of 92. Hudson served as an honorary Board of Trustee member since the early 1990s. He joined the Board of Trustees in 1966, serving as vice chairman and then chairman.

Honorary trustee **RICHARD "DICK" JACOBSEN** passed away in April at the age of 79. Jacobsen joined the Board of Trustees in 1997 and served as an honorary Board member until his passing. He was very fond of Grand View and generously supported many fundraising campaigns.

**PATRICIA ANN SCHEBEL**, former Grand View textbook coordinator, passed away in February.

WHAT'S NEW WITH YOU?

Something new in your life? We'd like to share your news in the GV Magazine Alumni News.

Send your information to GV Magazine, Marketing Department, 1200 Grandview Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50316 or email [cmueri@grandview.edu](mailto:cmueri@grandview.edu).

Full name \_\_\_\_\_ Maiden name \_\_\_\_\_ Last year at GV \_\_\_\_\_  
 Spouse full name \_\_\_\_\_ Maiden name \_\_\_\_\_ Last year at GV \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please put a check by the news you want to share.  New job  Promotion  Retirement  Achievement  Marriage  Birth/Adoption  Death

Photos are welcome and will be used on a space-available basis.

Details \_\_\_\_\_

Please send GV magazine in the following format:  Electronic (Please include email address above.)  Print

# GV alumni

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Register online at [www.grandview.edu](http://www.grandview.edu) > Alumni



### DISNEY ON ICE "PASSPORT TO ADVENTURE"

Wednesday, November 23 • \$18 per person (kids under 2, free)

Mark your calendars as we continue a Grand View tradition of seeing Disney on Ice the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. Join us for a Passport to Adventure and celebrate with all of your favorite Disney characters.

### COOKING PASTA WITH ALESSANDRA

Monday, January 16, 6 – 8 p.m. • \$35

Learn to make delicious pasta! This great hands-on class will be small enough to encourage questions and conversation. Class is limited to 18 slots, so grab a friend, sign up and enjoy a fun night out.



### WATCH FOR MORE DETAILS ON THESE 2017 EVENTS...

**February** – Murder Mystery Dinner Party      **March** – Iowa Barnstormers game

**June** – Annual Firetrucker Brewery Bike Ride

Questions? Email [alumni@grandview.edu](mailto:alumni@grandview.edu) or call 515-263-2957.

*With Thanksgiving approaching, we are reminded of all we have to be thankful for at Grand View.*

For lifelong connections being made, for state-of-the-art facilities, for professors who challenge students to be their best each day – we are grateful for all of the big and small things that come together to create a meaningful educational experience for Grand View students. And none of these things are possible without you!

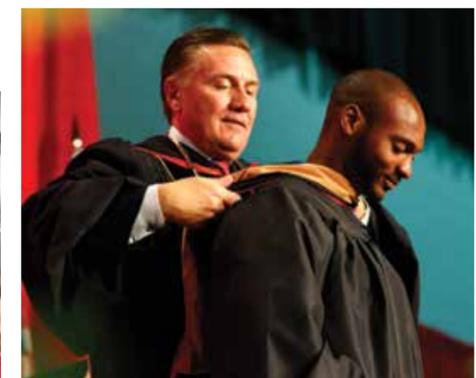
When you make a gift to the GV Fund today, your generosity supports students through scholarships, new technology, and maintenance of the buildings on campus.



Give online at [www.grandview.edu](http://www.grandview.edu) > Give to Grand View (under Quick Links)

# COMMENCEMENT

## CLASS OF 2016



**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**

NOTE TO PARENTS: If this issue of GV Magazine is addressed to your son or daughter who no longer lives at your address, provide a change of address to Grand View. Contact the Alumni Office by mail, email [alumni@grandview.edu](mailto:alumni@grandview.edu) or phone at 515-263-2957.



“Grand View provided me an opportunity to earn a degree, meet my best friends, and launch my career in collegiate athletics because the coaches and administrators care deeply about the student-athletes. I look back at those four years with gratitude and a desire to pay it forward for the next generation of Vikings.”

**LB Lyons '08**  
assistant athletics director  
Illinois State University



The past decade has been an exciting one for Grand View Athletics — new athletic programs, national attention, a new conference, national championships, and a newfound brand of Viking Pride!

Viktor's Circle Athletic Club was founded to generate interest and financial support for GV's 25 sports, and to connect alumni back to the university and the success of Viking Athletics.

Funds donated to GV through the Viktor's Circle initiative will be used for facility renovations or future facility expansion, athletic budgetary needs, resources to enhance student-athlete experiences, Hall of Fame recognition, and much more.

**JOIN TODAY AND HELP US TAKE VIKING ATHLETICS TO THE NEXT LEVEL!**

[www.gyvikings.com](http://www.gyvikings.com) > Viktor's Circle