

A close-up, high-contrast photograph of a young person's face. The person has dark skin and is looking directly at the camera. Their forehead is covered with a white, gauzy bandage that has some frayed edges. The skin on their nose and cheeks appears dry and peeling, with some white, flaky patches visible. The background is blurred, showing a red surface on the left and a white surface at the bottom.

Northwestern College Magazine

SUMMER 2010

the Classic

Hope for Haiti

Northwestern alumni respond to nation's crisis

Also

Things to Do in Northwest Iowa
Christianity and Pop Culture
European Choir Tour



30

The Blue Mountain Culinary Emporium—with three restaurants and artifacts from six continents—offers visitors to Orange City a taste of the world.

Classic People

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The *Classic* is published three times a year—in March, June and November—for alumni and friends of Northwestern College. So named because it served what was then known as the Northwestern Classical Academy, the *Classic* was the school's first student newspaper, begun in 1891. It has been an alumni publication since 1930.

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Opinions expressed in the *Classic* do not necessarily reflect the official position of Northwestern College.

On the cover:

A young child is treated for his injuries at Port-Au-Prince General Hospital two days after a 7.0-magnitude earthquake devastated Haiti.

NIKKI KAHN/ THE WASHINGTON POST VIA GETTY IMAGES



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Providing medical care, housing refugees, counseling the wounded, and adopting children, Northwestern alumni are helping to meet physical and spiritual needs following a devastating earthquake.

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Your Turn

Add your comments to any article in this issue, including your thoughts about whether and how Christians should engage with popular culture.

visit classic.nwciowa.edu

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DAN ROSS

Zwemer View

Mission in Action

One of the things that has impressed me most since coming to Northwestern is the compassion of our students, faculty, staff and alumni for people in need. In this issue of the *Classic* you can read stories about members of the Northwestern family who have put that compassion into action.

The ravages of the earthquake in Haiti last January brought horrific pain and devastation to that country. Many of our alumni, students and RCA churches have been loving and serving the Haitian people in the moments, days and months since that disaster.

Dr. Bryan Den Hartog '81, a member of our Board of Trustees, was on a medical mission trip to Haiti at the time of the earthquake and was literally on the front lines trying to save lives. He has since made a return trip and is helping enable other surgeons to volunteer in Haiti.

Kristie (De Boer '95) Mompremier and her husband have been missionaries in Haiti for many years. Robin (Van Oosterhout '92) Lewis has counseled earthquake victims as a Public Health Service psychologist, and Sarah Earleywine '10 has made half a dozen mission trips to the country, including one as a member of Northwestern's Summer of Service (SOS) team.

Haiti is just one place where Northwestern students and alumni are making a difference. Each spring break, our Spring Service Projects program enables more than 200 students, faculty and staff to travel in teams to communities around the U.S. and abroad, where they volunteer in a variety of ministry settings. During the past 30 years, SOS has sent more than 500 Northwestern students to spend the summer as short-term missionaries. They have served on nearly every continent in almost 100 countries. I, for one, find it inspiring and humbling to witness these servants' participation in God's work in the world.

In February Northwestern was listed on the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, which is the highest federal recognition a college can receive for its commitment to volunteering, service-learning and civic engagement. Northwestern was honored for the fourth consecutive year and is among only 115 U.S. colleges and universities cited with distinction.

I am so proud of how Northwestern community members serve locally and globally. Their commitment to helping others is an expression of their commitment to responding when God calls them, and it is supported by the education they receive here—an education that engages them in courageous and faithful learning and living so they're empowered to follow Christ and pursue God's redeeming work in the world.

That's Northwestern College's mission. These servants are living it.

Greg Christy
President

in Box

Road-Trip Romance

We really enjoyed reading "Raider Romance" in the last issue of the *Classic*. It was fun to read some of the many ways God has written love stories on the Northwestern campus. It made me wish we had submitted our story.

Better late than never, here it is. My now-husband, Chad Fikse '00, and I had nearly all of our classes together our freshman year. We both returned to campus early our sophomore year to help with SMiLe (Student Move-In Leaders) and ended up in the same group of friends.

A few weeks into the school year, Chad told me his aunt and uncle had invited him to go to Indiana with them over Thanksgiving and that he could

bring his girlfriend along. Since he didn't have a girlfriend—and didn't think having one by Thanksgiving was likely—he asked if I'd like to go along instead. Little did we know that by the time Thanksgiving rolled around, he would have a girlfriend. Our first date was six days and 1,300 miles long—to Indiana with his aunt and uncle.

Lynnette (Van Gorp '00) Fikse
Sully, Iowa

Looking Sharp

Congratulations on the format of the winter *Classic*. The graphics are absolutely first rate! Please keep up the good work.

Karen and Donald Dykstra '59
New Brunswick, N.J.



A Real Dutch Treat

My sophomore year a guy named Terry Muller transferred from a junior college, where he had started his major in veterinary medicine. During his freshman year he responded to God's call to the pastorate, and with the influence of my roommate, Joan (Eilderts '70) Nulton—his first high school date—he transferred to NWC.

During orientation week she introduced me to him, a tall skinny guy who didn't pay any attention to me. When Dutch Treat Week came along in December and Friday was my only night without a date of some kind (our dorm had a contest to win points for treating the guys), I decided to ask him to join me at the basketball game and then accompany my older sister, Esther Graham '68, to help trim a friend's Christmas tree afterward.

On Sunday afternoon I got a phone call from Terry asking me to attend Sunday night worship service with him, and that began our courtship. We went caravanning together the next summer and exchanged rings. The second summer we enrolled in the Christian Ministry in the National Parks program and were engaged, and the next year we got married two days after Christmas in a snowstorm, wondering why none of our friends from Orange City came up to Chandler, Minn., for our wedding.

We have been married for 40 years and in the ministry for 36 years.

Laura (Kreun '70) Muller
Parma, Ohio

Kudos

John Menning and I wanted to formally thank the *Classic* for the recent feature on NWC students with disabilities ("Free to Be"). The photos were great, and Amy Scheer wrote a strong piece.

We particularly appreciated how she focused on the students and not necessarily our services or department. It was great to see Kyle Sauter, Laura Denekas and Kory Jensen recognized—they have definitely worked hard to succeed.

Tom Truesdell '01
NWC Director of Academic Support

Good Read

Thanks for another great issue of the *Classic*. We look forward to each issue and read it from cover to cover. Good job!

Velma (Van Driel '47) and Norm Boonstra '44
Orange City, Iowa

WE LOVE GETTING MAIL

Send letters to: *Classic*, Northwestern College, 101 7th Street SW, Orange City, IA 51041; e-mail: classic@nwciowa.edu; fax: 712-707-7370. Letters may be edited for length and clarity. Please include an address and daytime phone number.

around the Green



Northwestern's campus is one of only six across the country that have earned Groundwater Guardian Green Site designation.

Ever Green

In recognition of its groundwater and environmental stewardship, Northwestern has been named a Groundwater Guardian Green Site by The Groundwater Foundation for the third consecutive year.

Green Sites are highly managed green spaces such as golf courses, zoos, resorts, colleges, parks and hospital campuses that implement groundwater and surface-water-friendly practices. Of the 75 sites honored, NWC is one of only two from Iowa and one of only six colleges nationwide. This designation is awarded to organizations after a review

of their efforts to use chemicals and water responsibly, prevent pollution, and preserve water quality.

Northwestern's water-friendly practices include applying fertilizer based on nutrient analysis, maintaining a no-application zone around surface water and active wells, selecting plants adapted to the region's climate, disposing of toxic substances properly, and irrigating lawns at night to reduce evaporation.

Global Classroom

Nearly 50 students started off their summer with study in China, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Great Britain or Tanzania in programs offered by NWC faculty.

Under kinesiology professor Dr. Dean Calsbeek '97, students examined China's "body culture" by learning about current and past practices in medicine, physical fitness and sport. They also took weekend trips to the Great Wall and to a Buddhist monastery where they learned the ancient martial art of tai chi chuan.

Rick Clark, a Spanish professor raised in Ecuador as the son of missionary parents, led a trip in which students studied Spanish, learned about Ecuadorian culture, and lived with host families. They also participated in excursions to an indigenous tribe in northern Ecuador, to the Amazon rain forest, and to an Afro-Ecuadorian community on the Pacific Coast.

Students were immersed in the contemporary culture of Ethiopia as

they explored the city of Addis Ababa, recording their findings through drawings, writings, collections, sound recordings or photography. They also met rural Ethiopians and traveled to the Blue Nile Falls. Art professor Arnold Carlson, son of missionaries to Africa, taught the course.

Theatre professors Jeff and Karen Barker led a course that examined British culture through art and theatre. Students attended at least a dozen theatre productions and visited nearly that many museums. They also explored some of England's many cathedrals, markets, restaurants, parks and squares and lived with families in Gloucester.

Nursing students traveled to Tanzania with professors Dr. Ruth Daumer and Deb Bomgaars. The experience included an introduction to Tanzania's health services; visits to Selian Lutheran Hospital, rural clinics and an orphanage; and observations of health teaching in villages. Students also took Swahili language classes and went on safari.

Mission: SOS

Fifteen Northwestern students are volunteering their time as short-term missionaries around the globe this summer. As members of the college's Summer of Service (SOS) team, the students are ministering in a dozen countries: Ecuador, Ghana, Guatemala, India, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Namibia, South Africa, Spain, Togo, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

The students—whose majors range from computer science to history to pre-medicine—are learning from missionary pastors, physicians, teachers and others in churches, hospitals, orphanages and refugee camps.

They are teaching English, caring for AIDS orphans, leading worship, performing construction, and delivering community health programs with ministries such as Africa Inland Mission, the Luke Society, Pioneers and World Team.

Fifteen NWC students are volunteering as short-term missionaries in 12 countries this summer.



Of Course

Sound Learning

Class

The Audio Essay: Stories of Service

Instructor

Richard Sowienski

Assistant Professor of Composition and Rhetoric

Professor Richard Sowienski wants to teach his students to listen. He likes to quote radio producer David Isay, who says, “Listening is an act of love.” In The Audio Essay: Stories of Service course, students learned to listen better by going on Spring Service Project (SSP) trips and to other mission-based organizations to document their experiences and to listen to the stories of the people there.

“You cannot learn about yourself without actually putting yourself out there,” says Sowienski, which is why his students, digital recorders in hand, embarked on various SSPs this past March in order to capture the sounds of their project sites: from kids bouncing basketballs to roofers swinging hammers. Students also interviewed the people they encountered. When they returned, students wrote accompanying voice-overs and put everything together in a final narrative to summarize their service experiences.

Junior Jenna Van Oort incorporated the sounds of kids playing at the youth center in Cary, Miss., and saws cutting wood on their work day. “Sometimes you learn the most by just listening and taking it in. Listening to real stories is so powerful,” she says about the audio essay experience.

Sowienski is a big believer in giving students opportunities to work with digital technologies to give them an edge when they enter the job market. “Digital technology is one of those things that, from a marketability standpoint, is going to be great for our students,” he says.

Yes, students are getting the chance to work with new digital technology, but in reality, the oral aspect of storytelling is not new at all. “It is almost like coming full circle, and we now have the opportunity to tell our stories again,” says Sowienski—and the opportunity to listen.

Assignments

Before undertaking the main audio project, students listened to NPR commentaries, studied audio competition entries, researched their SSP sites, and analyzed the work of broadcasters David Isay, Glenn Gould and Sandra Loh. Other assignments included telling a story using just ambient sounds and no voice, going on a sound walk, and learning to write sound notations.

Training Mission

Northwestern students are getting first-hand experience in ministry and community development through a summer internship program funded in part by a grant from the Lilly Endowment. The program places students in a variety of ministry contexts, where the interns work with and learn from mentors.

Six students majoring in religion, Christian education or youth ministry are serving Reformed churches in Iowa, New Jersey and Washington; an independent church in Texas; and a consortium of Christian Reformed churches in Minnesota.

Another nine students are at one of seven Christian Community Development Association ministries: Cary Christian Center in Cary, Miss.; the John M. Perkins Foundation in Jackson, Miss.; Mile High Ministries in Denver; Mission Waco in Texas; Trinity Christian Community and Urban Impact in New Orleans; and World Vision in Philippi, W.Va.

Honored Prof

Ray Weiss, who served Northwestern as chaplain, dean of students and religion professor for nearly 30 years, received a Distinguished Alum Award from Western Theological Seminary in May.

Weiss joined the staff in 1970 as chaplain and retired from the religion faculty in 1998. He returned to serve as interim vice president for academic affairs in 1999–2000. He was a Reformed Church in America missionary in the Middle East for 11 years before coming to NWC.

Grade-A Teaching

An analysis of Northwestern course evaluations shows that students believe they are receiving high-quality instruction.

A study of evaluations completed using a nationwide rating system revealed that Northwestern faculty rated higher than the national database average for quality of instruction. In addition, 73 percent of classes were at or above the national average on the “excellent teacher” rating, while 65 percent were at or above the average on the “excellent course” rating.

“I’m so encouraged by this study,” says Dean of the Faculty Dr. Adrienne Forgette. “The results show that our students are learning, and they appreciate the instruction provided by our faculty. The evaluations also show that our faculty frequently use teaching methods that are acknowledged as good for student learning.”



Northwestern students rate their faculty above national averages, according to an analysis of course evaluations.

Creation-Care Efforts

Two efforts to promote environmental stewardship were highlighted on campus during spring semester.

The Student Government Association’s ConServe initiative challenged students to implement changes that would help curb energy consumption. Encouraging students to take steps such as shortening showers, turning off computers when not in use, unplugging gaming systems and turning off water while brushing teeth, ConServe resulted in

a savings of nearly \$9,600 on Northwestern’s energy bill over a two-month period.

“I know students went around at night and made sure lights in the bathrooms and lobby areas were off or kept to a minimum,” says SGA President Wes Garcia. “It was interesting to walk through ConServe. It was a small change to have all the overhead hallway lights off, but in the end it definitely helped. Each dorm took

a different approach depending on its personality.”

From Northwestern’s energy savings, \$5,000 was donated to ministries suggested by students, faculty and staff: the Summer of Service program; The Bridge, a transitional housing facility for women and children; Bethany Christian Services, an adoption agency; and ATLAS, an organization that provides personal development services to hurting individuals and families. The remainder of the money will be

used to further campus creation-care initiatives next year.

A second effort, Give and Go, resulted in the collection of numerous furniture, clothing and household items that students cleaned out of their dorm rooms at the end of the semester. Goods worth a total of nearly \$10,000 were donated to Justice for All for use by needy families—items that in past years would have been placed in campus dumpsters.

Healthy Glow

“Glowing.” That’s the term Provost Jasper Lesage used to describe the exit comments of the Iowa Board of Nursing team that visited campus last October. “They confirmed the quality of our nursing program is not just adequate, it’s exceptional,” he added.

Northwestern’s department of nursing received documentation of the board’s formal approval in March.

Iowa Board of Nursing approval represented the last hurdle for the program, according to nursing department chairperson Dr. Ruth Daumer, who began work on establishing a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.) program in 2005–06.

Rays of Hope

Efforts to provide solar energy to low-income communities are getting a boost from Northwestern students and faculty.

Social work professor Mark De Ruyter ’94 and junior Seth Lembke traveled to West Virginia in January to learn to make solar panels. They constructed panels at Mendenhall Ministries in Mississippi during a Spring Service Project and taught local volunteers who will continue that effort.

Meanwhile, four business majors worked on a business plan for the World Vision subsidiary that seeks to expand the project across the country.

“It’s good for the environment, it helps families save money on their utility bills, it could lead to jobs in areas with high unemployment, and it helps form community as families work together to build the panels,” says Marlon Haverdink ’97, Northwestern’s director of service learning.



All eight nurses in Northwestern’s 2009 class passed their board exams, enabling the Iowa Board of Nursing to give final approval to the college’s Bachelor of Science in Nursing program this year. Amy Holecheck ’10 is one of this year’s 13 nursing graduates, several of whom had jobs even before earning their degrees from NWC.

Moving Music

The second award-winning hymn written this year by Dr. Heather Josselyn-Cranson, music, holds special meaning for her. She won a competition at her alma mater, Boston University School of Theology, which was created to celebrate the work of one of her former professors, Carl Daw, the retiring executive director of the Hymn Society in the United States and Canada.

Josselyn-Cranson drew on the musical aspirations of ancient Greeks, who thought there was music all around the universe, as she wrote *Planets Humming as They Wander*. Her piece was chosen from among 40 submissions by current and former Boston University faculty, staff and students, earning her a \$250 award. The hymn was performed by the School of Theology Seminary Singers at a community worship service in April.

Josselyn-Cranson won second prize last fall in a justice congregational song contest.

Dean Calsbeek

Fit for teaching

What makes your job great?

That’s easy—the students. Very early in my teaching career, I realized students have a lot more personality (most of the time) and provide much more fulfillment than the rats, mice and cell cultures I was working with as a researcher. I look forward to seeing and getting to know my students every day, and I miss them during the breaks and summers.

What is one of the most challenging aspects of being a professor?

Helping students to see and believe how talented and gifted they are. Most of our students eventually realize their potential, but as a professor few experiences are more difficult than watching a student not believe in himself and give up.

What is your favorite time of the year?

When the students return in the fall. It’s so fun to watch friends reunite and hear stories of adventures they had over the summer. There’s such a sense of optimism and grace when we start a new year.

Describe yourself in three words.

Sarcastic. Empathetic. Loyal.

What is one of your favorite NWC memories?

The summer course I taught in China in 2007 was great. I had an excellent group of students and a great co-leader, Dr. Paul Bartlett. It was physically and emotionally exhausting, but unforgettable. We tried new foods, hiked and camped out on the Great Wall, and studied a culture that is drastically different than our own. Our comfort zones definitely expanded, and I think everyone gained a greater appreciation for the value of cultural diversity.

What do you do in your free time?

When I’m not spending time with my wife and children, I’ll do about anything for an opportunity to golf. I also enjoy cycling and



Dr. Dean Calsbeek ’97 has been a member of Northwestern’s kinesiology department since 2004. He holds a doctorate in physiology from Colorado State University. The director of the exercise science program, Calsbeek serves as the faculty mentor for the Kinesiology Klub.

swimming. I follow Northwestern athletics as much as my schedule allows. Otherwise, I enjoy working on home projects.

How did you like participating in, and winning, Dancing with the Profs this year?

I had more fun than I deserve. It was a huge leap for me—I’ve never been as nervous about anything in all of my life—but it was worth it. I learned a lot about myself and made some great new friends along the way.

If you’d like to see a particular Northwestern faculty or staff member featured in Face Value, e-mail classic@nwc Iowa.edu.

Pomp and Circumstance

When Northwestern held its commencement ceremonies in May, 268 graduates received diplomas. Most earned Bachelor of Arts degrees, but 13 were granted the Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

This year's graduates already have jobs with Advocate BroMenn Medical Center, AXA Equitable, Ernst & Young, the FDIC, Pella Windows Corporation, the Sioux Central Community School District, Wells Blue Bunny and World Impact. They'll be living across the U.S., including in Sioux City, Des Moines, Omaha, St. Louis, Minneapolis, Fort Worth, Charlotte and New York City.

Other new alumni are entering graduate programs at schools such as Arizona State, Purdue, Washington University in St. Louis, and the universities of Iowa and Nebraska.



Diplomas were awarded to 268 graduates in May.

DAN ROSS

Retirement Calls

Sitting in her Zwemer Hall office, Tress Jacobsma heard her work-study next door answer the college switchboard.

"Bultman ... No, there's no one here by that name," the freshman replied to his caller.

Mortified and perhaps moving faster than ever before, Jacobsma hustled to the other office, exclaiming, "That's our president!"

Overseeing the switchboard since 1978, Jacobsma has seen—and heard—just about everything. In May she retired from her position as communications coordinator, a job she describes as a "catch-all." In addition to supervising about 10 students at the

switchboard each year, she printed purchase orders, collected parking ticket fines, ordered signs for doors and desks, handed out graduation robes, and locked Zwemer's doors.

"I've really enjoyed the interaction with students," she says. "That's been a lot of my job, and it's been fun to get to know them. They are so full of life. To see them come in and get prepared for the next phase of their lives has been fulfilling."

The next phase of Jacobsma's life will include some traveling, projects at home, and more time with the grandchildren—but she may not rush to answer the phone anytime soon.

Tress Jacobsma sits at the college's switchboard center, which she supervised for 32 years before retiring this spring.



DAN ROSS

Suite Life



Construction is under way on a suite-style men's dorm to be completed by the fall of 2011.

Plans for a \$3.5 million residence hall were approved by Northwestern's Board of Trustees during its April meeting. Following the meeting, a groundbreaking ceremony took place at the construction site, currently a parking lot north of Stegenga Hall.

The new men's dorm will house 68 students in 17 suites,

each with its own bathroom. The 23,000-square-foot facility has three floors plus a basement and includes many community areas. Its exterior will reflect that of the Bolks Apartments as well as other campus buildings, such as the recently remodeled Rowenhorst Student Center.

"This will be a great addition to

our nationally recognized residence life program, joining traditional residence halls and apartments," says President Greg Christy. "We are pleased to be able to provide this new housing option."

Construction began in May. The building is expected to be ready for occupancy in the fall of 2011. It will provide needed housing for

male students following the closing of Heemstra Hall at the end of this past school year.

The new residence hall was designed by Cannon Moss Brygger and Associates of Sioux City. Hoogendoorn Construction of Canton, S.D., is serving as the general contractor.

On Board

Dale Den Herder '63 of Sioux Center has rejoined Northwestern's Board of Trustees. Appointed for a four-year term, he attended his first board meeting in April.

Den Herder is the founder of American State Bank, where he serves as CEO and chairman of the board. He previously served on Northwestern's board for 18 years.



Dale Den Herder

Summer Study

Two NWC students are participating in competitive off-campus research projects this summer funded by Research Experiences for Undergraduates grants from the National Science Foundation.

Jacob Gaster, a junior biology-ecological science major from Bettendorf, Iowa, is studying at the University of Puerto Rico. He is examining how native tropical trees are growing amidst exotic tree species that were planted on a site about 20 years ago.

Jacob Peterson, a junior majoring in biology-health professions from Atkinson, Neb., is conducting research at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He is exploring autoimmune disorders and immune system activation in the context of oxidation-reduction biology.

Prize-Winning Poems

Weston Cutter, a first-year member of Northwestern's English faculty, received a \$2,500 Dorothy Sargent Rosenberg Poetry Prize in February.

Three poems by Cutter, *Pumpernickel*, *So Perhaps (After CL)* and *Spring Prayer*, were selected by judges and published at dorothyprizes.org among submissions by poets from London, Brooklyn, San Francisco and Seattle.

Dorothy Sargent Fraser Rosenberg wrote poetry but was not widely published. After she died in 1969, her husband and son privately published a selection of her poems. When Marvin Rosenberg died in 2003, his estate established a memorial fund in his late wife's name to award prizes to "young poets with unusual promise."

Cutter's poems, fiction, essays, book reviews, and interviews with writers and musicians have been published in numerous journals and magazines. He was included in *Best New Poets 2008*, and two of his poems were nominated for the Pushcart Prize in both 2008 and 2007.

New Majors for New Needs

Northwestern will offer two new majors this fall—one in sport management and the other in Spanish translation and interpretation. The new programs are a response to high demand and need.

"The sports industry has exploded," says Dr. Paul Bartlett, professor of kinesiology. Sport is the 11th largest industry in the U.S., and the Department of Labor predicts employment opportunities in the field will grow 15 to 23 percent during the next decade.

Northwestern's sport management program is interdisciplinary. Students will choose among three options, allowing them to focus on coaching/athletic administration, marketing/finance, or sports information/media. Career opportunities range from management to merchandizing and marketing to public and media relations.

The second new program is designed for fully bilingual students, making

Northwestern the first Christian college or university in the U.S. to offer a translation and interpretation major for those who want to work in this growing field. Only three other schools in the U.S. offer a similar major: the University of Arizona; California State University, Long Beach; and the University of Texas at Brownsville.

Leading Northwestern's program is Piet Koene, 2004 Iowa Professor of the Year and one of only 11 class A certified interpreters for Iowa's court system. Koene holds a master's degree in translation and interpretation, as well as professional certification in both areas.

NWC will build an interpretation lab and purchase portable translation and interpretation equipment for hands-on experience, while the area's growing Hispanic population will provide students with an opportunity to serve as they learn.



DAN ROSS

Exemplary Servant

When members of Northwestern's music faculty saw the criteria listed for the college's Staff Recognition for Inspirational Service Award, they immediately thought of Nora Verburg '88, their secretary.

The honor is given to recognize staff who consistently provide outstanding contributions by going above and beyond what is expected, personify a strong Christian commitment, and distinguish themselves as an inspiration to the campus community.

That's Verburg, says Dr. Tim McGarvey, chairperson of the music department. "While Nora is an hourly employee, she at times works at home without turning hours in and does many things way beyond the call of duty, simply because she sees a need and fills it," he wrote in a letter of nomination.

Dr. Thomas Holm wrote that Verburg "personifies Christian witness by always remaining kind,

patient and caring—even in the most challenging of circumstances. Her personal faith in God shows through in the ways she treats others with respect and handles delicate matters professionally, yet with kindness."

A former music teacher at Christian schools in Hospers and Inwood, Iowa, Verburg taught piano lessons for 20 years. She is in her ninth year on the Northwestern staff. As the 2010 service award winner, she received a \$500 honorarium funded by the Alumni Association, a plaque, and a luncheon to share with her coworkers.

Nora Verburg's attentive service to the music department led to her being named the 2010 Staff Recognition for Inspirational Service Award recipient.



DAN ROSS

Summer Research

Ten Northwestern professors are spending their summer pursuing scholarship and research with funding from the college's Scholarship Grant Program.

Awards of up to \$2,250 were presented to six professors; the remainder will receive grants of up to \$5,000 for collaborative research with students.

Music professor Dr. Luke Dahn is working with other composers on a CD of new piano music to be released on the Albany label, while theatre professor Dr. Robert Hubbard is developing the five individual performances in his solo show, *Grace Notes*.

Three professors are working on books. *The Gospel and the Good Life*, by philosophy professor Dr. Randy Jensen, integrates philosophical and gospel-centered views about ethics. Dr. Kim Jongerius and mathematicians at other Christian colleges are writing *Mathematics Through the Eyes of Faith*. And history professor Dr. Robert Winn is revising his doctoral dissertation on Eusebius of Emesa.

History professor Dr. Michael Kugler is examining the historical and cultural context for a collection of comics drawn by his father during the 1940s.

Grant winners collaborating with students include chemistry professor Dr. Karissa Carlson '03. She and Adam Verhoef, a biology-health professions major, are examining interactions between a specific protein and DNA using a fluorescence-based assay.

Biology professor Dr. Sara Sybesma Tolsma '84 and biology-health professions major Dan Locker are researching the genetic relationships between mayfly populations on Santa Cruz Island and the California mainland, as well as between mayflies in northwest Iowa watersheds. And two other biology professors, Dr. Laurie Furlong and Dr. Todd Tracy, are studying the impact of invasive plants on northwest Iowa ecosystems. Assisting them are Erin Brogan Vander Stelt and Olivia Norman, both ecological science majors.

A New Song

A new music group added to worship services at Northwestern during the spring semester, thanks to sophomore music education major Darian Parker.

A transfer student, Parker missed being involved in the gospel choir at his previous institution. He suggested that Northwestern invite a choir to campus for Black History Month in February, but staff members convinced him to start a campus group instead.

Over 40 students attended the first rehearsal of Northwestern's Gospel Choir, exceeding Parker's expectations. The ensemble sang music in the style of Kirk Franklin and Israel Houghton at two chapel services, as well as at the Ethnic Fair. Next year the group is to be directed by a member of Sioux City's Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church Consecrated Mass Choir.



Northwestern's Gospel Choir debuted with chapel performances this spring.

DOUG BUNG

New Directors

Northwestern is welcoming three new staff members this summer.

Eric Anderson is the new director of financial aid. Formerly Northwestern's associate dean of residence life and resident director of West Hall, he has been a financial planning assistant in Orange City the last two years. He earned an M.B.A. at Ball State University.

Jackie Davis joins the Northwestern staff as director of capital giving after 17 years of experience in higher education advancement. She comes from her alma mater, Dakota Wesleyan University, where she worked with the annual fund, major and campaign gifts, alumni relations, planned giving and administration.

Tim Schlak, a recent Ph.D. graduate in library and information science at the University of Pittsburgh, is the new director of Ramaker Library. In addition to his doctorate, Schlak earned a master's degree

in library and information science and a master's in Slavic languages and literatures, both from Pittsburgh.



Eric Anderson



Jackie Davis



Tim Schlak

Building Determination

BY AMY SCHEER



Construction of Christ Chapel began in 1986, despite a Midwest farm crisis, thanks in large part to the leadership of board member Marv DeWitt. He was awarded an honorary doctorate during the building's dedication two years later.

Land values plummeted. The fiscal year ended in the red. Northwestern's president declared it "a time when economic conditions in our immediate vicinity have seldom been worse."

The year? 1985. That August, Jim Bultman stepped into the presidency of Northwestern College and faced both a budget shortfall and a large-scale farm crisis in the Midwest.

He also received an invitation to lunch from Marv DeWitt, a board member with a mission: Build a new chapel.

DeWitt and his brother, Bill, had bought a few turkeys back in 1938. They raised them on their parents' farm north of Zeeland, Mich., and sold eggs the following spring. The turkeys multiplied,

waddling through wartime even as other hatcheries failed, and the brothers moved into year-round production by 1958. Naming themselves BilMar Foods, the DeWitts turned a few turkeys into a multi-million-dollar business, eventually merging with the Sara Lee Corporation in 1987.

Farm crisis? College budget concerns? DeWitt could see a light at the end of the tunnel—or, rather, sunlight streaming through the tall, elegant windows of a new chapel and adjacent music hall. A fund for the building had begun some 25 years prior, and DeWitt was determined to see its construction through to completion.

"It was a tough time for the college," says DeWitt. "Some thought we shouldn't go ahead

with the chapel. I pushed hard for it. I said it was the best time to build."

After pledging to give \$50,000 a year toward the project, DeWitt presented the board with a check in the amount of \$180,000. In response, four other members of the board stepped forward and promised to bump up their own pledges as well.

In March 1986, the executive committee unanimously approved

the project. Ground was broken two months later. The building was dedicated on April 10, 1988, and DeWitt was awarded an honorary doctorate.

"It is his positive spirit, his contagious enthusiasm, his 'you can do it' attitude that has most endeared him to those closest to Northwestern and to me," Bultman said at the dedication ceremony. "This came at a time when we needed it most."



Brad Payne etched his name in Northwestern's record books, finishing his career second in runs (151) and triples (16) and fourth in batting average (.386).

Red Zone

Baseball National Qualifiers

Northwestern won the Great Plains Athletic Conference postseason tournament and qualified for the NAIA national tourney. The Raiders went 3-2 in opening-round play at nationals and finished among the top 19 teams. With a 37-20 record, the squad tied the school record for most wins in a season and set marks for runs (410), RBIs (360) and hits (551). Shortstop and pitcher Brad Payne received NAIA All-American honorable mention after hitting at a .451 clip and compiling a 6-2 record.

Men's Golf First All-American

Senior Luke Vermeer became the first Red Raider golfer to be named an All-American after tying for 26th at the national meet. The conference golfer of the year won four meets and set school records for lowest average in a season (74.4) and career (75). Aaron Aberson '06 will serve as head coach next year after two seasons as an assistant to Mark Bloemendaal '81.

Outdoor Track Freshman Soars

High jumper Kendra De Jong placed second at the NAIA national outdoor meet with a 5-08.75 effort, earning All-American status. Three other Raiders also competed at nationals.

Service Projects Teams on a Mission

Members of the football and wrestling teams served in Italy and the Czech Republic, respectively, in May. They practiced and competed with club teams, led clinics and shared the gospel.

Scholar-Athletes Class Act

Twenty Raiders earned NAIA Scholar-Athlete honors this spring, including nine in track.

Softball Honorable Mention

Junior Rachel Harris, who led the GPAC with a .449 batting average, received All-American honorable mention. Under first-year coach Stephanie Kuhl, the Raiders compiled a 9-31 record and were 5-19 in the league.

Women's Golf All-Conference

Senior Maggie Achterhof earned all-conference honors for the second straight year. She was the medalist at the Sioux Falls Spring Invitational.

Women's Tennis Sixth in GPAC

Freshman Kellie Korver received all-conference honorable mention recognition following a season in which the Raiders went 3-11 overall, 3-5 in the GPAC.

Red Raider Club Hall of Famers

The Red Raider Club added three alumni to the Athletic Hall of Fame in February: Renae Bahrke '02 (softball), Nick Scholten '03 (football), and Jaime Woudstra '04 (basketball).

Bryan Case '95, head football coach at Southern Cal High School in Lake City, Iowa, was named coach of the year after leading his teams to two consecutive state titles. Pete Stevenson '79 received the Barnabas Award.

For more on Raider sports, visit www.nwcraiders.com

A Season to Remember

Coach Earl Woudstra knew a year ago that the 2010 Northwestern women's basketball team had the potential to go far in the NAIA Div. II national tournament. His 2009 squad surprised many by advancing to the tourney's Final Four with four freshmen receiving significant playing time and no seniors on the roster.

Then a mission trip to Mazatlan, Mexico, last summer helped

deepen relationships among the team members. "There's no doubt that created team chemistry, which is so critical," says Woudstra. "Our players enjoyed being with each other on and off the court."

The Red Raiders didn't disappoint Woudstra and NWC fans. Ranked second in the national preseason poll, the squad was rated in the top five all season and dominated the national tourney in

March, closing out the year with a 31-5 record and the program's third national title in 10 years.

The Raiders defeated Shawnee State of Ohio in the national championship game, 85-66, after leading by as many as 34 points in the second half. Averaging more than 91 points in the five games at nationals and winning by a 27-point margin, NWC was tested most severely in a semifinal round game against GPAC foe Briar Cliff. Playing their fourth contest of the year with the Chargers—this time before a full house in Sioux City's Tyson Arena—the Raiders prevailed, 91-83.

Woudstra says he was amazed by the way his athletes complemented each others' talents, gifts and styles of play. "They really came together the last week of the season, and then into the conference tournament and nationals. We had great leadership from our All-Americans, Becca Hurley and Randa Hulstein. They played their very best and helped bring other people with them."

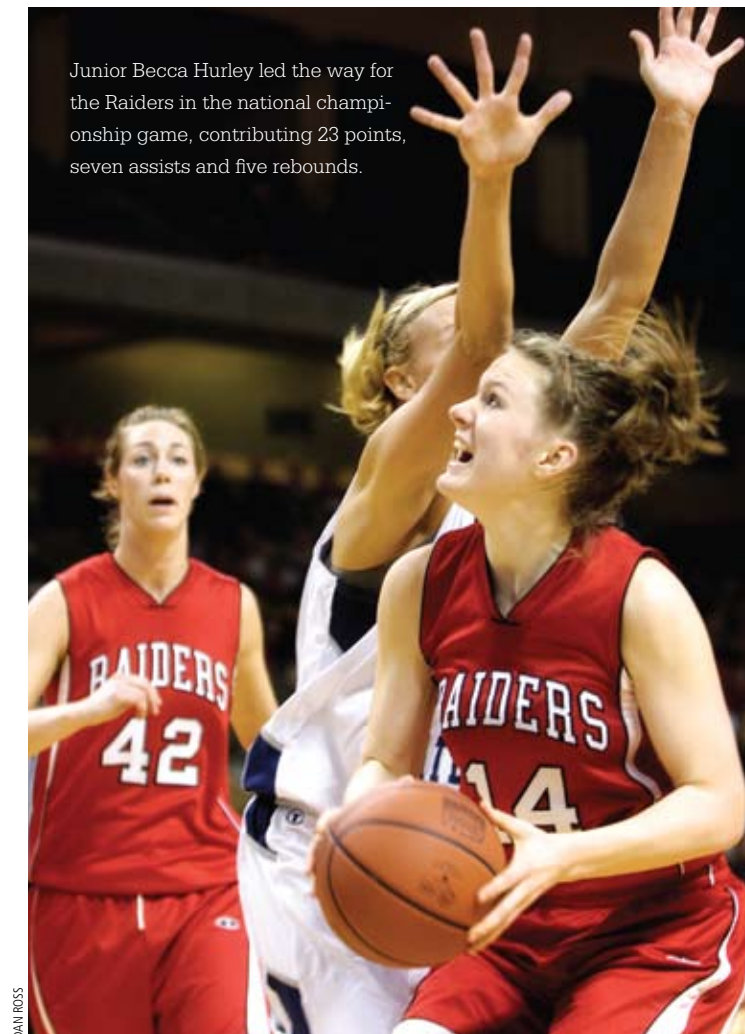
The coach says the season would have been a success even without bringing a third national championship banner home to the Bultman Center. "The relationships formed and lessons learned throughout the year outweigh the national championship by a lot. Our focus is on enjoying the journey. If you're only centered on what happens in March, it can be empty. It's like taking a vacation and only focusing on the final destination but not stopping to see the sights along the way."



Senior Randa Hulstein (center) celebrates her second national title with teammates. She was also on the 2008 national championship squad.

Red Raider Feats

- Becca Hurley was named MVP of the national tournament. Teammates Randa Hulstein and Kendra De Jong also earned all-tourney honors.
- Earl Woudstra earned national coach of the year honors for the third time.
- Hurley was named a first-team All-American for the second year in a row, and Hulstein earned second-team honors.
- Hurley and Kristin Neth were selected as NAIA Scholar-Athletes.
- The team set a national tournament scoring record with 457 points.
- Hulstein set the all-time national tournament rebounding record with 157.



Junior Becca Hurley led the way for the Raiders in the national championship game, contributing 23 points, seven assists and five rebounds.

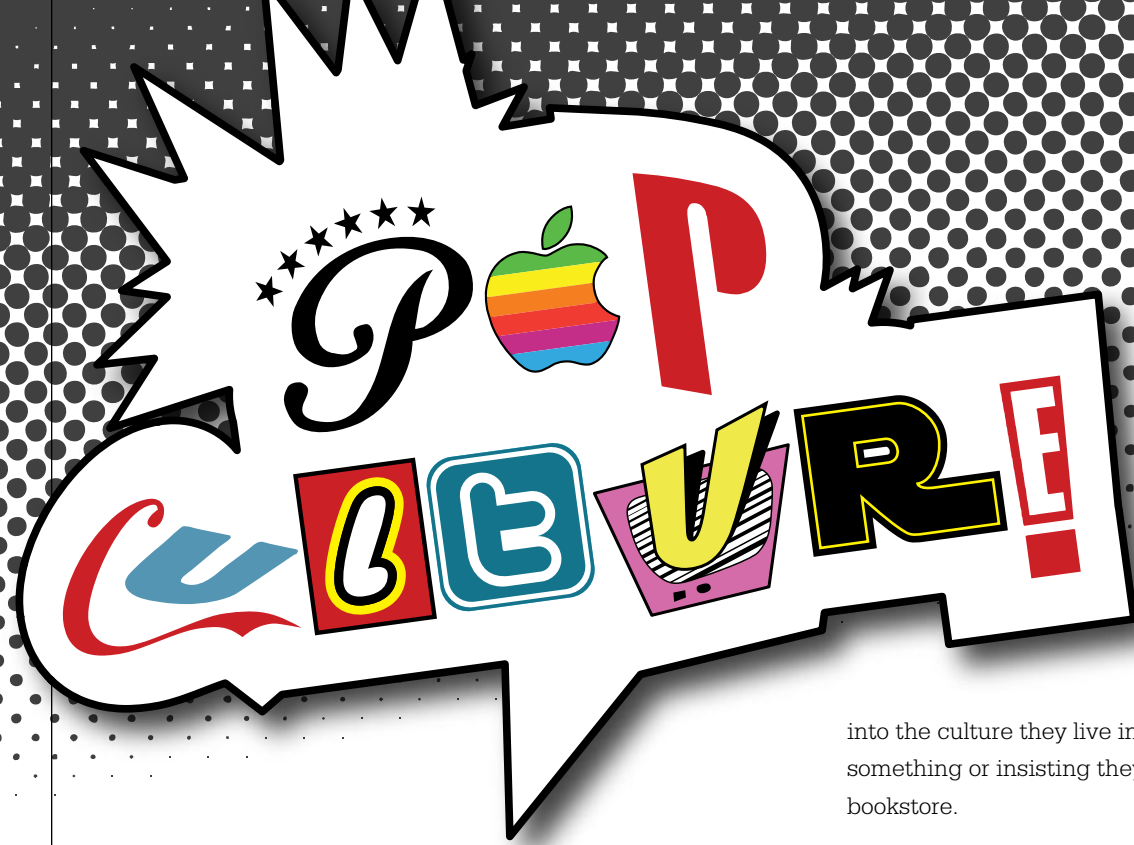
Musical Light

The A cappella Choir's spring break tour of Eastern Europe included concerts at churches in the Czech Republic, a mass at the Salzburg Cathedral, a visit to Auschwitz, and ministry to students and senior citizens. Missionaries told director Thomas Holm, "You have no idea the bright light you're bringing into this place with your music and your lives."



Photos by David and Nick Crippin '11





An interview with Jeffrey Keuss, Ph.D.

A Christian college professor and pastor, Jeff Keuss has been called “an engaging interpreter of theology in popular culture” by colleagues at The Kindlings (www.thekindlings.com). Keuss’ work with youth and his research on Christ and culture has led to scholarship on subjects like Dr. Seuss, Bruce Springsteen, *Star Wars*, *Twilight* and U2. During his visit to Northwestern for the college’s third annual Day of Learning in Community, *Classic* staff asked him about Christianity and pop culture.

Classic: I understand you’ve read *Twilight*.

Keuss: I have. Three of Stephenie Meyer’s books are in my office at Seattle Pacific University, which both shocks and awes students. They ask, “How can you read that?” And I ask, “How can I be conversant with culture if I don’t know what’s happening in culture?” The questions *Twilight* raises—about love, intimacy, growing up, life after death—these aren’t just Christian questions.

Classic: OK. But would you let your daughters read *Twilight*?

Keuss: My oldest is 9, and she asked but then she got interested in *Percy Jackson*. When she picks up *Twilight*, we’ll read it together. I don’t believe in shielding her from the world, but I’d also never send her out there alone. As a parent, I need to nurture my daughters

into the culture they live in instead of forbidding them from reading something or insisting they read only books from a Christian bookstore.

Classic: Something wrong with the books in a Christian bookstore?

Keuss: Probably not. But books, music and movies created for a Christian subculture aren’t always representative of the real world, which means they’re not really telling the truth. I don’t see anywhere in Scripture where the church is called to create its own culture apart from the world. Yes, we’re to be in the world and not of it, but we’re not to create our own Christian subculture that secludes us. The problem with Christian subcultures is that one of the implications is “Be afraid.” I don’t think it’s helpful to instill children with a fear of the world, so they’re terrified—and unable to think clearly—when they inevitably encounter it.

Classic: As parents—or educators or pastors—how do we help prepare young people to engage popular culture?

Keuss: We need to help them develop open hearts and critical minds. I think I do my children—or my students—a disservice if I try to protect them from the world as opposed to preparing them to go into the world. Preparing means listening to the world’s questions and the way the world has framed them. What are people hungering for? Meaning. Intimacy. Life after death. They want to be moved by something, but they don’t even know what to call it. I agree with Pascal who said there’s a God-shaped hole in everyone. A lot of popular culture won’t fill that. But not everything in Christian music or a Christian bookstore will either.

Classic: What will?

Keuss: The truth. The search for truth is ongoing, and Christians are not the only ones or sometimes even the best ones at recognizing the truth. Sometimes people we think of as pagans are creating the best art, doing the best research, asking the best questions and seeing in ways that open our eyes.

Classic: What hinders Christians’ search for truth?

Keuss: Some Christians are confined by what psychologist Dr. Tim Clydesdale calls a lockbox spirituality. They want to keep the faith they had when they were 10 years old. Students with a lockbox mentality sit in classes—even at Christian colleges—with Teflon, nonstick surfaces. They perceive all questions about faith as an assault on their own carefully guarded faith.

Classic: So what’s a lockbox Christian to do?

Keuss: Move from bounded to centered spirituality. A bounded Christian is concerned primarily with borders and fears crossing lines because those on the other side might be wrong. A bounded Christian tries to figure out who he’s not—all he sees are walls. A centered Christian assumes God is in the middle, and she’s making her way to God. She welcomes others who might be journeying to God too, even if they’re coming from a different direction. She reveals God to other seekers by saying: “I think we’re looking for the same thing.”

Classic: You’re a U2 fanboy.

Keuss: After becoming a Christian in high school, I was in a Christian music store—and among albums by Keith Green and Randy Stonehill, I found U2’s *War*. I bought it, listened and was telling my friends about this cool Christian band, and my friends said, “They’re not Christians.” I thought, “What?!” Their music, like “40” about Psalm 40, reached me in ways music by Christian artists hadn’t. So I bought more albums.



Classic: Bono and his band are rock stars, though. Some Christians are uncomfortable with that.

Keuss: Right. When I was a youth pastor in Dublin, we took teens to the gate outside Bono’s house. One time an American, Eric, tried to “spread the gospel” by throwing a Gideons Bible into Bono’s compound—like an evangelistic hand grenade. After I calmed the guards and police, I asked Eric, “What were you thinking?” He said, “If I don’t share the word of God with Bono, who will?” Apparently Bono wasn’t Christian enough for Eric. Bono’s theology may not be your theology, but there’s a faithfulness to U2’s journey that challenges *both* the church and the world—and that middle space is so interesting to me. 🏠

On the Web exclusive

Visit classic.nwciowa.edu to comment on Dr. Keuss’s views and share your thoughts about whether and how Christians should engage with popular culture.

Did you recognize all of the icons from the title? See below for a guide.

1) Paramount Pictures 2) Apple 3) PlayStation 4) Coca-Cola 5) Pixar’s Up 6) Lego 7) Twitter 8) UHF 9) *Star Wars* 10) E! Channel

Rebuilding Haiti

After a devastating earthquake hits an already destitute nation, members of the Northwestern family find ways to help

BY ANITA CIRULIS

Bryan Den Hartog was thrown from his seat on the bus when the earthquake struck. As the vehicle shook violently, he looked out the windows and saw buildings and trees mirroring the bus' movements. Across the mission compound, his father was on the ground, trying to get up on all fours since it was impossible to stand. Shockwaves moved through the earth like waves on water.

Then everything stopped. Stunned, Den Hartog and his mission team colleagues emerged from the bus and looked out over Port-au-Prince, Haiti. Huge fissures split the walls around the compound. Dust rose over the city. Then came the cries of people trapped under the rubble.



Rubble in a Port-au-Prince market is evidence of the power of a quake that claimed at least 230,000 lives, injured another 300,000, and left an estimated 1 million people homeless.

JEROME SAMAD/AFP/Getty Images

When we heard the screams, that’s when it really hit me what had happened,” says Den Hartog, a 1981 Northwestern graduate who works as an orthopedic surgeon in Rapid City, S.D. “I knew there were going to be thousands of casualties, I knew we weren’t prepared for that, and I felt this hopeless, sinking feeling in my heart.”

Den Hartog, his father, and two of his sons had arrived in Haiti on Jan. 11, the day before the earthquake, as part of a 48-person construction and medical team working with an organization called Mission to Haiti. Within minutes of the 7.0-magnitude quake, however, their focus changed from building a clinic and seeing patients to saving lives.

As aftershocks rumbled through the area every 15 to 20 minutes, the two doctors and seven nurses on the team began treating the wounded. Because the clinic wasn’t finished—and because aftershocks made it dangerous to be in any building—triage was done outdoors on folding tables. People arrived with leg and skull fractures, paralyzing spinal cord trauma, and open, contaminated crush injuries.

“Five kids died in front of us that night,” Den Hartog remembers. “We pulled two little girls, 2 and 4 years of age, out of the rubble, and then three other kids died later on—one from a collapsed lung.”

Without the proper equipment and quickly running low on medical supplies, Den Hartog and his colleagues did what they could. Out of gauze, the team tore bed sheets into bandages. They cut plywood intended for the clinic’s walls into makeshift splints and administered life- and limb-saving antibiotics.

They worked through the night, treating as many as 70 Haitians by the light of headlamps and a yard light run by a generator. The next morning they drove 15 critically injured patients to a nearby hospital, only to discover it had no running water, no electricity and—at the time—no doctors.

“There were dozens of people

in the courtyard of the hospital who needed treatment desperately, and it was so frustrating we couldn’t deliver that for them,” Den Hartog says.

The quake created chaos in a country with little infrastructure and a nominal emergency medical system. The team contacted six different embassies and the Red Cross, offering to help and pleading for medical supplies, but was stymied by a lack of communication and coordination. Finally, running low on food and water and with security becoming an issue, they began searching for a way to leave the country.

Fifty miles north of Port-au-Prince, Kristie (De Boer ’95) Mompremier and her husband, JeanJean, were standing by their Ford pickup when it began rocking up and down, its springs squeaking. The stone bench their daughters were sitting on swayed back and forth, and inside the house, pictures fell off the walls. Initial excitement at having experienced

an earthquake, however, soon gave way to alarm when they learned how destructive the quake had been in Port-au-Prince and they were unable to reach family and friends living in the city.

Kristie first visited Haiti as an agricultural missionary a year after graduating from Northwestern. She fell in love with the country and its people—and eventually with JeanJean, a Haitian secondary math and physics teacher she met at the mission where she was working. The two were married in 1998 and then spent four years in Orange City, where Kristie worked as a nurse while JeanJean completed an online seminary degree.

Moving back to Haiti, the Mompremiers settled in JeanJean’s hometown of Caiman, a small, poor community composed of subsistence farmers. With the help of several friends, they founded United Christians International, a ministry that works through the local church to teach the word of God and equip Haitian leaders.

JeanJean leads Bible seminars for Haitian pastors, many of whom have had no formal training.



In Haiti on a mission trip when the earthquake struck, Dr. Bryan Den Hartog ’81 worked through the night treating people injured by collapsed buildings and falling debris.

ADDISON DEN HARTOG



CHRISTI GABRIEL

The family of Kristie (De Boer ’95) Mompremier (center), a missionary in Haiti, housed as many as 35 refugees from Port-au-Prince in the months after the earthquake. The disaster, she says, has made people more open to the good news about Jesus Christ.

Kristie provides medical care and teaches public health. UCI also has an agricultural ministry to help people support themselves. And when the Mompremiers saw children eating ashes because they were so malnourished, they started a feeding program that has grown to seven nutrition centers.

Despite its distance from the epicenter of the quake, the Caiman community was deeply impacted by the disaster. JeanJean’s nephew survived after being buried overnight in the rubble of his medical school in Port-au-Prince, but seven sons and daughters of the Mompremiers’ church friends perished in collapsed buildings. JeanJean conducted a memorial service for the victims. No bodies were recovered.

For several weeks after the earthquake, the Mompremiers were housing and feeding 35 refugees from Port-au-Prince. Four months later, they still had 19 houseguests. Those victims of the quake, however, have food and shelter. With southern Haiti now in its rainy season, hundreds of thousands of others are still living in massive tent cities in Port-au-Prince and the surrounding area.

“I never thought I would be holding children at night as they cry themselves to sleep longing for their mommies.”

Even before the earthquake that claimed at least 230,000 lives, injured 300,000, and left an estimated 1 million people homeless, Haiti was the poorest country in the Americas. As much as 80 percent of its population lives on less than \$1.25 per day.

But it wasn’t always so. When Columbus landed in 1492 on what the native Taínos called Ayiti—“Land of High Mountains”—he found a lush, tropical island paradise. The establishment of the first European settlement in the New World, however, introduced a lethal combination of infectious diseases, slavery and genocide that decimated the native population.

Looking for a new source of expendable manpower to cultivate sugar cane, the Spanish colonists began trafficking in slaves from Africa. When the western third of the island was ceded to France, the practice of slavery continued.

Slaves and the goods they produced made the colony the French renamed Saint-Domingue the richest in the world. By the late 1700s, it supplied three-fourths of the world’s sugar; was a leader in the production of coffee, cotton, rum and indigo; and generated more revenue for France than all 13 American colonies combined did for England.

Saint-Domingue was arguably the most brutal slave colony of all time. One out of every three slaves died within a few years of arriving on the island. Despite such high mortality rates, at the close of the century, Saint-Domingue’s population included at least a half million slaves.

Haiti’s birth as a nation began in 1791 when 35,000 slaves rose up against the slaveholders, killing white colonists and burning plantations. For 12 years they fought French, Spanish and English troops sent to quell the rebellion. More than 150,000 slaves lost their lives in the battle for independence.

In 1804 the last European troops were driven from the island, and Haiti became the first sovereign “black” country in the modern world and the only nation born of a slave revolt. But in the centuries that followed, most Haitians would find themselves living under a different kind of oppression: 200 years of exploitation, corruption and tyrannical rule that played a major role in the devastating impact of the January 2010 earthquake.

Hundreds of Haitian earthquake victims received medical treatment aboard the *Comfort*, a U.S. Navy hospital ship that spent two months anchored in the bay outside Port-au-Prince.



ROBIN LEWIS

Den Hartog and his colleagues were evacuated from Haiti on an Air Force transport plane three days after the earthquake hit. Just 14 hours prior to the team's departure, the first American troops landed in the country to provide humanitarian support, disaster relief, and security.

"It's hard for people to understand just how disabled Port-au-Prince was the first few days," Den Hartog says. "The United States military is probably the best kind of an organization to handle these kinds of major catastrophes."

Robin (Van Oosterhout '92) Lewis, a Public Health Service psychologist, agrees. She spent six weeks on the *Comfort*, a U.S. Navy hospital ship that arrived in Haiti the week after the quake and was anchored in the bay outside Port-au-Prince for two months. A converted oil tanker, the *Comfort* has 12 operating rooms, a medical staff of 550, and a 1,000-bed capacity.

"The injuries were just incredible," Lewis says. "There were a lot of crush injuries beyond repair, and because it had been a week since the earthquake by the time the *Comfort* arrived, severe infections had set in."

The ship's surgeons performed more than 850 operations during the *Comfort*'s time in Haiti, and while numerous amputations were necessary, physicians were also able to save many injured limbs. Lewis, who was known as "Dr. Ma'am" by the Haitian children on board, provided assessment and counseling for the patients who had been traumatized by the disaster.

The 18-hour workdays were exhausting, but the work, meaningful. Lewis found herself doing whatever was necessary: emptying bed pans,

changing IV bags, feeding adults, cleaning blood off the floor. In an e-mail to family and friends, she wrote: "I never thought I would practice deep breathing/relaxation with a patient while he was having his raw stump cleaned. I never thought I would be exploring occupations with a woman with no arms. I never thought I would be holding children at night as they cry themselves to sleep longing for their mommies."

Lewis also provided support to the staff—some of whom, though seasoned combat veterans, were brought to tears by the suffering they saw. Also difficult was the prospect of sending patients back home, where continued treatment and therapy would be inadequate for their needs.

On many occasions Lewis ended up escorting children to orphanages, which gave her a close-up view of Haiti. "It was the worst poverty I've ever seen in my life," she recalls. "I'd seen Third World poverty before. I've just never seen it to the extent that was Haiti."

Faced with such acute poverty, people search for answers—an explanation for Haiti's problems. Dr. Paul Farmer is a physician and professor at Harvard Medical School who has worked in Haiti for more than 25 years as the founder of Partners in Health. According to Farmer, it's convenient to attribute the country's ills to causes native to Haiti.

"Among the most popular explanatory models are those invoking 'cultural' factors," he writes in his book *The Uses of Haiti*. "Voodoo, in particular, is often evoked to 'explain' Haiti."

While Roman Catholicism is the official religion of Haiti, Voodoo may be considered the country's national religion. Haitian Voodoo

blends many of its rituals and beliefs—brought by slaves from Africa—with Catholicism. Central to Voodoo is the practice of serving and communicating with spirits.

"There's a joke rooted in fact that says Haiti is 80 percent Catholic, 20 percent Protestant, and 100 percent Voodoo," says JeanJean Mompremier. "That's because everyone, Christians and non-Christians, has to deal with Voodoo all the time."

Televangelist Pat Robertson made headlines when he said Haiti's earthquake happened because the country is cursed for making "a pact with the devil." His comments referred to accounts, passed down through the years, of a Voodoo ceremony that served as a catalyst for the slave uprising that started the Haitian Revolution.

The reasons for Haiti's misery, however, are much more complex.

As Farmer writes, "Haitians found themselves in a world entirely hostile to the idea of self-governing blacks. [Anthropologist] Sidney Mintz puts it neatly when he suggests that the birth of Haiti was a 'nightmare' for every country in which slavery endured."

In a concerted effort, the United States and Western Europe took steps to cripple the new nation politically and economically. The U.S. refused to grant diplomatic recognition to Haiti for nearly 60 years and pressured other countries to do the same.

In 1825, faced with a global economic embargo imposed by the United States and Europe, Haiti was forced to accept France's demands for compensation of 150 million francs for the losses of the plantation owners. Payments on loans to cover the debt—equal to half a billion U.S. dollars today—had a catastrophic impact on Haiti's economy.

Similar injustices permeate Haiti's history. Divided by race and class, the country—95 percent black and 5 percent mulatto and white—is controlled by a few elite families that stepped into the positions of the former colonial plantation owners. Just 1 percent of Haiti's people own 50 percent of the country's wealth.

The poor in Haiti are used as a source of cheap labor. In 1925 an American financial newspaper lauded the fact that the average Haitian "gives a hard day's labor for 20 cents, while in Panama the same day's work cost \$3." Fifty years later, U.S. manufacturers were taking advantage of a 70 percent unemployment rate and wages of 14 cents per hour to

establish assembly plants in Haiti.

By tradition, those who rule Haiti view the country as their private property and its treasury as their bank account, says journalist and author Amy Wilentz. Perhaps that's why, over the course of nearly 200 years, Haiti has experienced more than 30 coups and suffered under a series of dictators backed by a repressive military, Haiti's elite and foreign interests.

As much as 40 percent of Haiti's more than \$1 billion debt today is due to loans made to the brutal dictators François "Papa Doc" Duvalier and his son, Jean-Claude. During their reign, writes Farmer, the U.S. Department of Commerce produced figures to show that "no less than 63 percent of all recorded government revenue in Haiti was being 'misappropriated' each year." At one point, Haiti's finance minister revealed that "a monthly average of \$15 million was being diverted from public funds to meet 'extra-budgetary expenses' that included regular deposits into [Duvalier's] private Swiss bank account."

With such a history of oppression and corruption, it's little wonder



JOE RAED: EGENCY IMAGES

Although it has been months since the earthquake devastated Port-au-Prince and the surrounding area, hundreds of thousands of people are still living in tents in makeshift camps.

Haiti lacked the construction standards, infrastructure, health care and planning to help it cope with a killer earthquake.

In the weeks following the disaster, the eyes of the world were focused on Haiti, and donations for relief efforts topped \$305 million.

Sarah Earleywine, a 2010 Northwestern graduate from Brodhead, Wis., participated in six different mission trips to Haiti during high

school and college and is there this summer on a 10-week internship with Lifeline Christian Mission in Grand Goave, Haiti.

“The first couple of weeks were really hard for me because I wanted to be there so badly,” she says of the earthquake. “I don’t think I’ve ever prayed to God without ceasing that much before. It was constantly on my mind and heart.”

Because of her experience in Haiti, Earleywine was asked to speak at various fundraisers, where she answered people’s questions about how they could give to—and pray for—Haiti. “I think God used me here during that time to be more of a benefit to Haiti than I could have been if I was there,” she says.

The earthquake also spurred an increased interest in adopting children from Haiti. Even before the quake, the country had 380,000 orphans—a number that likely grew by tens of thousands as a result of lives claimed by the disaster. After the quake, the U.S. and Haiti worked together to ensure orphans who had been matched with Americans for adoption before the earthquake received the care they needed. Humanitarian parole granted by the U.S. Immigration Services allowed nearly 500 orphans to enter the United States the week of Jan. 18.

Sara (Cleveringa ’00) Van Zee and her husband, Tim, had begun the process of adopting a child from Haiti in the fall of 2009. The Orange City couple felt called to adopt shortly after their marriage when they saw children living in poverty during a mission trip to Nicaragua.

Matched with 1-year-old Albear, the Van Zees were relieved to learn the orphanage he was in 90 miles north of Port-au-Prince was untouched by the quake. But their hopes for a speedy union with their son were dashed by the arrest of 10 American missionaries who were attempting to take children out of the country without the proper paperwork.

All processing of orphans stopped while Haiti changed its procedures, requiring the prime minister to sign every child’s paperwork and for all children to fly out of Port-au-Prince.

“I don’t know what their hearts were,” Sara says of the missionaries, “but I do know that when children and countries are involved, whatever your motivation is, you need to do things the right way. It’s just frustrating because you think, ‘If you really care about kids, do it so everybody can continue in this process.’”

When it was finally Albear’s turn to travel to the U.S., however, there were more problems. Haitian police at the airport refused to believe his travel papers were legitimate, and his American escorts were detained while Albear and five other children were taken and placed in a tent city.

Four harrowing days later, the Haitian government finally confirmed the paperwork was legitimate, and in a story covered by CNN, the children were reunited with their American escorts and flown to Miami, where their new parents awaited them.

As the Van Zees fielded questions from reporters, Sara told them that while Albear now has a home, there are thousands of children in that same situation who have no hope. “It was worth it if this helps direct the light back on those children—if we can get them help and people can see this is *not* OK for a child to live like that,” she said.

Like Sara, the Mompremiers see good coming out of the disaster. On the one-month anniversary of the earthquake, Haitian government officials canceled the annual three-day Carnival festival and instead called for three days of national prayer.

So far this year, JeanJean has baptized more people than in all the previous years of the Mompremiers’ time in Haiti combined.

“There is something about having the very foundations of the earth shake under your feet that makes you realize how we depend on the temporal instead of the Eternal One,” says Kristie. “I think the earthquake shook up the land, but it also shook up people’s faith.”

The Mompremiers have seen firsthand the difference God can make. Voodoo was a major influence in Caiman when they arrived, but the community has undergone a radical transformation. Where once there were Voodoo drums at night, now there is singing about Jesus. Where there was jealousy and suspicion, now there are people working together. Neighbors are helping neighbors in the process of

replacing unsanitary dirt floors with poured cement.

“This wouldn’t have been the case even six years ago before the gospel was bought here,” Kristie says. “There would have been people sabotaging work sites and theft of materials. Truly, God’s love changes people’s hearts.”

“We believe God is the only answer to Haiti’s problems,” adds JeanJean. “Without people in the government and other leadership positions that truly care for the people and not just about lining their own pockets or advancing their power, there can be no progress.”

Although Haiti is now fading from the headlines, the crisis continues. People lack shelter. Disease runs rampant. The injured still need treatment.

Because of his connections in Haiti, Den Hartog has been commissioned by the American Orthopedic Foot and Ankle Society to make arrangements for teams of orthopedic surgeons to travel to Haiti.

“There’s no shortage of volunteers,” he says of the waiting list of 600 of his peers willing to travel to Haiti. “People are still interested in helping. They just need to plug in with somebody who has a plan.” In April, Den Hartog spent a week in Haiti, providing medical treatment and working out the logistics for such teams. In two to four months he will return with a group of surgeons to conduct reconstructive foot and ankle surgeries and train Haitian orthopedists.

Both Den Hartog and the Mompremiers, however, stress that humanitarian aid is not enough. Prayer, they agree, is the most important way to help Haiti. As for financial support, Den Hartog encourages people to give to organizations “not just worried about saving lives, but saving souls.”

“We have seen many great projects that are here for a short time and then collapse,” echoes Kristie. “We see Christian missions so concentrated on humanitarian acts that they forget to share the gospel of Christ. Without Christ, hearts can’t be changed and all the good deeds in the world will not last.” 🏠



After being involved in six short-term mission trips to Haiti, Sarah Earleywine ’10 was asked to speak at several events in which funds were raised for earthquake relief.

Northwestern Responds

In the days following the Haiti earthquake, Lindsey Geels found herself in a conversation with a professor and fellow student about what the Northwestern community could do. There were special times of prayer set aside for Haiti, but she wanted to put her prayers into action. Searching for a way to help, the freshman from Sheldon, Iowa, decided to design and sell T-shirts as a fundraiser.

“God just put this idea on my heart. Not only could we raise money for Haiti, but it was also a way to show support for them,” she said. “And the T-shirts would be a good reminder for people to pray.”

Donors were found to fund the cost of producing the black shirts featuring the words “Hope for Haiti” and the Bible reference of Romans 12:12–13. A local high school used the design for a similar fundraiser, and together the two schools sold more than 700 T-shirts.

Drew Nonnemacher, an Orange City junior who participated in the college’s chapter of International Justice Mission, organized a “Blackout for Haiti” event during a home basketball game. Students were asked to wear their Haiti T-shirts to the game, and Nonnemacher found local businesses to sponsor a basketball shooting competition at halftime, with all proceeds going to Haiti.

\$3,800 Amount raised through T-shirt sales and the basketball game fundraiser. The money was given to Promise for Haiti, an organization located in Pignon, Haiti, which used the funds for medical supplies; fuel for hospital generators; and food, clothing and shelter for earthquake refugees.

\$1,200 Amount the Northwestern community donated for Haiti in the days following the quake. A portion of the money was used to buy supplies for relief kits assembled by the women of Stegenga Hall. The kits and remaining money were sent to Church World Service.

55,000 Number of meals for Haitians assembled by more than 200 students, faculty and staff during two food packaging events held in February and April. The baseball team raised \$3,000 and Pizza Ranch donated \$1,500 to help fund the meals, which were provided to the organization Kids Against Hunger by NWC’s Hunger/Homeless Ministry.

Much More Than Dutch

Northwest Iowa offers diverse dining, sight-seeing and cultural experiences

BY TAMARA FYNAARDT

If you missed Orange City's annual Tulip Festival, there are still good reasons to visit northwest Iowa. When you join us for Homecoming—or take your kids to visit your alma mater—you can browse Dutch-fronted shops, visit windmill replicas along a miniature canal, and play 18 holes among native prairie grasses at Landsmeer Golf Club. You can also taste alligator, buy jewelry from Peru, and explore a geological wonder.

Shop

After stocking up on Raider-wear from the Northwestern Bookstore, you can wander off campus to buy tulip bulbs, wooden shoes or Woudstra bratwurst. Among Orange City's shops like the Dove Christian Bookstore and Old Wagon Wheel Antiques is one where buying is a way to give back.

Hands Around the World

In the middle of our Dutch downtown, Hands Around the World celebrates the global neighborhood by selling the fair-trade handiwork of artisans in more than 30 developing countries, including Haiti. Friendly volunteer shopkeepers share stories of craftspeople who've fashioned the jewelry, tableware, linens, nativity sets, musical instruments and more that fill the store. Proceeds enable the artisans—including women who have no other way to earn a living—to feed and house their families and educate their children.

Play

Orange City-area recreation includes Holland Plaza Theatres, Windmill Park, and Kinderspeelland, where parents can chase their children up ladders, across bridges and through tunnels ill-sized for adults. If you come for Homecoming in October, you can also look for the Great Pumpkin.

Pumpkinland pumpkinlandiowa.com

Located just three miles north of Orange City, Pumpkinland is on the family farm of Helen and Dave Huitink '71, also known to area children as "Grandma and Grandpa Pumpkin." In addition to a pick-your-own pumpkin, you can also go home with gourds, ornamental corn, and squash from a selection of 35 varieties. After visiting Animal-land—with kittens, puppies, bunnies, peacocks, ponies, llamas and more—you might lose the kids for awhile in the seven-acre corn maze.



Eat

If thinking of Orange City makes you crave poffertjes and fudge puppies, you'll have to wait until the tulips are blooming. Until then, there's still plenty to satisfy your appetite, including Pizza Ranch's "Roundup" with Blue Bunny's "Peanut Butter Panic" ice cream for dessert. Other area restaurants offer one-of-a-kind dining experiences.

Old Factory Coffee Shop

View vintage wooden shoe-making machinery while you wait for your gourmet coffee, brewed to order one cup at a time by owners Rola and Richard Sowienski. The historic Orange City landmark is just a walk away from Northwestern's campus, where Richard—a former editor for *Better Homes and Gardens* magazine—teaches creative writing.

Blue Mountain Culinary Emporium
bluemountainemporium.net

The Blue Mountain Culinary Emporium is named for proprietors Deb and Clayton '87 Korver's beloved Blue Mountains of Jamaica. In addition to **The Barn**, a restored post-and-beam Iowa barn that is part art gallery, part reception hall, the emporium includes three distinct dining experiences:

Unwind in front of the fire in the **Blue Mountain Lodge**. Your kids will gape at the wild game trophies while they enjoy house-made root beer and hotdogs. You can wash down your "Jalapeño Papa" burger—fired over hardwood charcoal—with a Blue Mountain Brew made with locally grown raspberries, rhubarb, black walnuts or toasted pumpkin seeds.

Or leave the kids with a sitter and escape to the **Passport Club**, where you can sample both exotic and home-grown appetizers like gator remoulade and fried green tomatoes. Pop the cork on a rare vintage from Passport's 1,300-bottle wine cellar. Large-gathering or nook-and-cranny private seating is surrounded by the Korvers' museum-quality art, artifacts and antiques from six continents—including fossilized trilobites from prehistoric Africa and a Tibetan drum large enough to serve as a table for eight.

After an appetizer, head downstairs to the **Smokehouse Grille** for Northern Plains Cuisine™, including wood-fired pizza or an award-winning rack of ribs, slow-smoked over apple wood. Side dishes are grown in Blue Mountain's own garden and greenhouse. The Grille, also housed in a restored Iowa barn, offers cozy booths in an Americana atmosphere, a European-style conservatory, or a garden piazza for alfresco dining.

Archie's Waeside
archieswaeside.com

Archie's Waeside in nearby Le Mars was judged the best steakhouse in the Midwest by Rachael Ray during her 2009 "Search for the Great American Steakhouse." Roadfood.com's Michael Stern rated it "worth driving from anyplace" and described his hand-cut, dry-aged ribeye entrée as "deliriously succulent." If you visit Archie's, you may wonder if you're in the right place when you drive up to the unpretentious building. But if the spacious parking lot is full—even on a weeknight—you've found it.

Explore

A walk in the woods is as close as the Puddle Jumper Trail between Orange City and Alton. If you're game for roaming farther, a trip to Sioux City will enable you to follow the trail of Lewis and Clark or wander along the ridge of an uncommon landform.

Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center
siouxcitylcic.com

The only member to die on Lewis and Clark's expedition from the Mississippi to the Pacific Ocean did so in what is now Sioux City, Iowa. Listen to animatronic Lewis and Clark tell the harrowing

story of Sergeant Charles Floyd's death by appendicitis—and other memorable moments from their journey—at Sioux City's Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center along the Missouri River. The center, with its interactive exhibits, is surrounded by gardens of plants that were among Lewis and Clark's species discoveries, such as curlycup gumweed and buffaloberry.

Loess Hills
visitloesshills.com

The Loess Hills along Iowa's western border run from north of Sioux City down to near St. Joseph, Mo. Visitors can drive the 200-mile Loess Hills Scenic Byway or explore the geology and wildlife around Sioux City at Stone State Park, which includes the Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center. The nature center has a "walk-under" prairie and children's discovery area with touchable furs, antlers, fossils and other artifacts. Loess (pronounced "luss") is soil that's been ground fine as flour during an ice age and blown into dune-like hills. Loess deposits can be found elsewhere in the U.S., but the one between Iowa and Nebraska is the largest. And to find higher loess hills than Iowa's, you'd have to travel to China. 🏠



Blue Mountain Passport Club



Archie's Waeside



Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center



Loess Hills

class Notes

'45 Jean (Roelofs) Miersma received a BRAVO Award, which recognizes individuals for acts of outstanding service in support of public safety in Bellflower, Calif. She was honored for her role as a foster parent, along with her husband, Ed, to over two dozen babies over the years.

'68 Nancy (Den Hartog) Hurley, San Marcos, Calif., recently retired after more than 30 years of teaching. Her last job was in Encinitas, where she taught middle school theatre for nine years. Her book, *175 Theatre Games: Warm-up Exercises for Actors*, was published in October.

'70 The Rev Mark Kraai recently retired after 25 years of pastoring churches in Chicago; Kalamazoo, Mich.; and Somerville, N.J. He also taught at New Brunswick (N.J.) Theological Seminary for 10 years. He and his wife, Linda, live in a converted warehouse in downtown Kalamazoo. He plays the tuba with the Kalamazoo Concert Band.

Joe Petrill is in his 39th year of teaching physical education and coaching weight events at Somerville High School in New Jersey.

'77 The Rev. Nolan Palsma accepted a call as pastor to the Community Church at Upper Ridgewood, N.J., after 19 years of serving at Pitcher Hill Community Church in North Syracuse, N.Y. He is a member of Northwestern's Board of Trustees.

'82 Jim Boeve was inducted into the NAIA Hall of Fame at the American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA) convention in Dallas. The head baseball coach at Nebraska's Hastings College since 1989, he was named the GPAC Coach of the Year in 2009. An ABCA officer for eight years, he served a two-year stint as president and developed the baseball playoff format now used by the NAIA.

Marty Guthmiller, chief executive officer of Orange City Area Health System since 1994, was named one of two finalists for the American Hospital Association's Shirley Ann Munroe Leadership Award. The award recognizes the accomplishments of small or rural hospital leaders who have improved health care delivery in their communities through innovative and progressive efforts. Guthmiller oversaw the construction of a new \$32 million medical campus, was instrumental in developing a new community daycare center and preschool on the health system's property, and served as president of a rural regional dialysis center and Community Health Partners of Sioux County.

Lynn (Patton) Schneider received the inaugural Leader Among Us Emerald Award presented by the Holyoke (Colo.) School District in April. A third grade teacher, Schneider was recognized for being an inspirational leader.

Marlo Van Peursem is the theatre and speech director at Pella (Iowa) Christian High School. For three years in a row, his one-act competition team has been selected as one of only eight ensembles to perform at the IHSSA All-State Festival in Ames. This year PCHS's one-act was also named "Critic's Choice" as the festival's top one-act. Van Peurse and his wife, **Sue (Dalman)**, are the parents of three daughters, including **Kristina Reiter '09**.

'83 Jim Svoboda is the new head football coach at the University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg. He previously served as an assistant coach and quarterbacks coach at Montana State University.

'84 A poem by **Debora (Jensen) Smith**, entitled "What Christmas Means to Me," was published in the 17th edition of *Famous Poets in the Heartland*. She lives in Eagle Grove, Iowa, and works at Webster City Preschool-Daycare.

Red Ties

INTERVIEW WITH
MARK BLOEMENDAAL '81
Director of Alumni Relations

Mark Bloemendaal will become director of alumni relations in July. A member of Northwestern's admissions office since he graduated, he has been the admissions director since 2003.

What interests you about the alumni director's job?

The primary appeal is being in a position to connect alums with the many good things happening on campus. Northwestern's mission continues to be focused on transformation, and I really enjoy hearing the transforming stories from graduates, but sometimes I think we get trapped into thinking those life-changing moments and insights happened only when "I was there."

What excites you the most about beginning this new phase of your career?

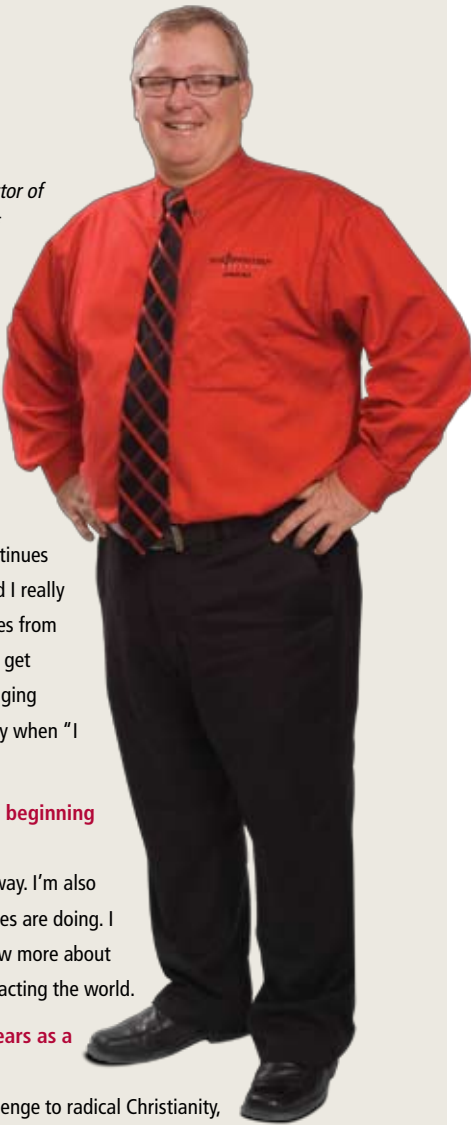
Being challenged to think in a new way. I'm also excited to find out what our graduates are doing. I think we'd all be surprised if we knew more about where and how NWC alums are impacting the world.

What experiences shaped your years as a Northwestern student?

[Former chaplain] Jerry Sittser's challenge to radical Christianity, "getting it" after being challenged by Dr. Lyle Vander Werff to make the most of learning, being an RA in Colenbrander Hall with Ray Reid as RD, and a war of pranks with others in the plexes.

From what you've seen, how does the Northwestern of your student days compare to the Northwestern of today?

I believe the biggest difference is that the NWC of today is comparable to the schools we wanted to be like at that time. I believe we have become a leader in Christian higher education; when I was a student, we were probably more of a follower. The commitment to integrating faith and learning has remained consistent. Our student body is much more diverse, which provides *all* students with a really rich experience.



'94 Kurt Dykstra and Deepak Chopra were among the speakers at "Wellbeing: The Leading Metric of Thriving Cities," presented by Gallup in Washington, D.C., May 10. Dykstra is the mayor of Holland, Mich., which was named the second happiest city in the U.S., according to The Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index.

'95 Steven Bogaard, Orange City, is the natural science lab coordinator at Dordt College. His wife, Rebecca, works at the Sioux Center Public Library.

'97 Peter Errington recently moved to Plano, Texas, with his wife, **Esther (Leman '98)**, and their three children. He is the director of mobilization at the headquarters of Mission to Unreached Peoples.

Stephanie (Hutchcraft) Hamby, Thornton, Colo., is pursuing a master's degree in public administration with a focus on nonprofit management from the University of Colorado Denver.

Kris Kling was a cast member when The Play Company presented the English-

language premiere of *Enjoy*, by renowned Japanese playwright Toshiki Okada, this spring. The off-Broadway production followed the romantic adventures of 20- and 30-year-old workers at a Tokyo manga café.

The Rev. Derek Vande Slunt pastors the Interlaken Reformed Church in New York.

'99 Heather (Finkelstein) Dalal, Jersey City, N.J., is pursuing a master's degree in instructional design from the University of Massachusetts Boston. She is an information literacy librarian at the New Jersey Institute of Technology.

Denise (Damstra) Morris teaches first grade at Oskaloosa (Iowa) Elementary.

'01 Josh Neeb was recently promoted to president of Associated Bank in Sheboygan, Wis. He has been with the bank for eight years, serving most recently as a relationship and portfolio manager.

Joy (Hibma) Pritchard, Spirit Lake, Iowa, is a freelance writer, photographer and piano teacher.

Josh Russell, Davenport, Iowa, is the manager of technical accounting for John Deere in Moline, Ill.

'03 Samuel Van Wyk played the role of the young fool in Minneapolis Musical Theatre's April production of *Big River: The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*.

'04 Kelli (Vermeer) Cummins, Fort Collins, Colo., is a records management technician for the Eighth Judicial District.

Victoria Kastens is Nebraska City's account clerk.



Marilyn Clauss, a retired schoolteacher who continues to sub in West Des Moines, received the 2009 Educator of Character Award from Iowa Character Counts.

From Good to Best

"Good, better, best: Never let it rest, until your good is better, and your better is best!" When Marilyn (DeBoer '69) Clauss shares her motto for learning and life, it sticks in students' minds and encourages them to be like their teacher: always learning.

"When we think we've accomplished something, we can always learn more," says Clauss. That dedication earned her the 2009 Educator of Character Award, given by Iowa Character Counts, which honors innovative character development.

Clauss retired from 36 years of teaching in 2006. All but two of those years were spent teaching second grade in West Des Moines, where she continues to substitute teach regularly.

Clauss practices lifelong learning herself. She earned a master's degree in special education from the University of Iowa and an administration certification from Drake University.

She also serves on the board of the Storybook Project, which promotes literacy by enabling incarcerated parents to read to their children. As a member of Meredith Drive Reformed Church, Clauss volunteers for Habitat for Humanity and assists African refugees transitioning into the community.

BY **EMILY HENNAGER '06**

HEADING SOUTH THIS WINTER?

Let Northwestern know of your winter address so we can invite you to alumni gatherings in your area.

Contact Mary Beltman:
mbeltman@nwc-iowa.edu
712-707-7106

'05 Kara (Dehmlow) Knaack, Grimes, Iowa, earned a master's degree in communication and leadership from Gonzaga University in May.

Andrew Rorabaugh is an academic administrative assistant at Church Divinity School of the Pacific in Berkeley, Calif.

Lindsey (Brouwer) Weber, Plymouth, Minn., is a senior treasury accountant for Concur Technologies.

'06 Amy Commers, Eagan, Minn., is a children's librarian at the South St. Paul Public Library.

'07 Michael Ten Clay is an account executive for Cranford Johnson Robinson Woods in West Des Moines, Iowa.

Jaimi (Joneson) Vander Berg is the lead abstinence educator for Lakeshore Pregnancy Center in Holland, Mich.

'08 Elizabeth Colbert is a marketing consultant for the Sioux Falls Avera Cancer Institute, which will open this fall.

Joe Grady is a behavioral service tech for Avantas in Omaha.

Stephanie Grieme, Alta, Iowa, has begun working toward a master's degree in Spanish from the University of Northern Iowa. Her graduate work will be done at the University of Santiago de Compostela in Galicia, Spain.

Jill (Kruger) Haverdink, Alton, Iowa, serves as the children's pastor at Maurice First Reformed Church.



PAUL PINNER

Andrew Hugen is the business manager for a Boeing program that is modernizing 200 Air Force planes.

Flying High

“Minds of men fashioned a crate of thunder, Sent it high into the blue ...”
Andrew Hugen '02 may not know all the words to *The U.S. Air Force* song, and he doesn't actually fashion the thundering crates flown by USAF pilots—he helps finance them.
Hugen joined Boeing after graduating from Northwestern and is now a business manager for the C-130 Avionics Modernization Program (AMP) Low-Rate Initial Production. He acts as the liaison among the various finance functions at Boeing and the U.S. Air Force, which operates more than 200 of the C-130 aircraft.
AMP involves removing the cockpit analog controls of the decades-old C-130s and replacing them with digital displays in order to extend the operating life of the planes.
Boeing is currently finishing the development phase of the program, waiting on final tests and authorization from the Air Force.
Hugen says it's a thrill to work for a company connected to the front lines of U.S. defense and security. “Across the runway from my project is the C-17 Globemaster III airlifter—a bigger military cargo plane you sometimes see on the news or hear about with relief efforts. To know people at our company built that, you definitely feel a sense of pride.”

BY SHERRIE BARBER WILLSON '98

'09 Ben Kester, Chicago, is an actuarial analyst for Segal.

Tyler Nesper is the branch manager for Battery Systems in Medford, Ore.

Amanda Wright is a public relations specialist and graphic designer for Lake Regional Health System in Osage Beach, Mo.

New Arrivals

Rob and **Trisha (Shelton '92) Gray**, daughter, Bethany Nicole
Gina (Mast '93) and Jason Smits '94, daughter by adoption from China, Jaylynn Mae Lian, joins John (10), Jared (9) and Jillian (6)
Erin and **Bryce Armstrong '96**, son, Logan Luke, joins Gabe (6) and Caleb (3)
Laurie (Aykens '96) and Vince Kurtz '97, daughter, Katie Janae, joins McKenzie (8) and Kylie (4)
Jeff and **Rachel (Vermeer '96) Runia**, son,

Carsten John, joins Mason (8), Grace (6) and Cole (4)
Tina (Jackson '97) and Derek Vande Slunt '97, daughter, Jenna Grace, joins Noah (6) and Micah (4)
Lance and **Courtney (Steele '99) Eggers**, daughter, Afton Grace
Brooke (Blevins '99) and Todd Hartbecke '98, son, Paxton Donald, joins Tyler (8) and Kalen (5)
Bob and **Denise (Damstra '99) Morris**, daughter, Lilia Kay, joins Sam (17), Lyric (17), Lincoln (15) and Lawson (4)
Anjanette and **Wes Treadway '99**, daughter, Piper Evelyn, joins Bryton (4)
Erin and **Matt Trost '99**, daughter by adoption, Mallory Kamille
Angela (Grosvenor '00) and Adam Collins '99, daughter, Amelia Faith, joins Madeline (2)
Chad and **Erica (Huyser '00) Kluver**, daughter, Avery Mae, joins Jake (5) and Chase (3)
Marissa and **Eric Vermeer '00**, daughter, Elliana, joins Cael (2)

Jeremy and **Joy (Hibma '01) Pritchard**, daughter, Anna Joy, joins Charlotte (4)
Jessica and **Andrew Hugen '02**, son, Trey Andrew
Kyle and **Melodee (Crouse '02) Webb**, daughter, Juliana Paige
Craig and **Lindsey (Buche '03) Alcock**, daughter, Lydia Jean
Angela (Huisman '03) and Scott Bock '03, daughter, Lillian Lucille
Jason and **Andrea (Brummel '03) Taylor**, son, Owen Christopher, joins Carson (3)
Josh and **Wendy (Marlow '03) Visser**, daughter, Audika Jorie, joins Jamison (4)
Eric and **Valerie (Harms '04) Van Zee**, daughter, Madelyn Ann
Mikyla (Hardersen '05) and Ryan Dittman '04, daughter, Meraya Leigh
Lisa (Miller '05) and Jeremy Koerselman '05, daughter, Marci Joy
Carrie (VanderStoep '05) and Brandon Scheevel '03, son, Micah James, joins Malachi (2)
Brook and **Joe Schueller '05**, daughter, Ava Grace, joins Kale (3)

Kara (Wismer '05) and Aaron Willems '05, daughter, Eden Sue, joins Titus (3)
Bobby and **Jenna (Schweitzer '06) Johnson**, daughter, Dreleigh Ann, joins Laiken (2)
Sara (Kernes '06) and Jake Nessa '06, daughter, Collins Marie
Morgan (Walker '06) and Dan Swier '06, daughter, Brooke Lynnea
Caleb and **Jill (Kruger '08) Haverdink**, son, Micah John
Bri and **Tom Eaton '09**, daughter, Evangeline Pamela, joins Caleb (1)
Tamika and **Kyle McGranahan '09**, daughter, Kwinn Rae

Marriages

Steven Bogaard '95 and Rebecca Franje, Orange City
Steven Van Gorp '97 and Anzur Williams, Oostburg, Wis.
Heather Finkelstein '99 and Bhavin Dalal, Jersey City, N.J.

SPEAK UP

Tell your NWC friends and classmates about the latest news in your life.

Submit for consideration by August 6 to:

Office of Public Relations • Northwestern College
101 7th Street SW • Orange City, IA 51041
classic@nwc Iowa.edu • classic.nwc Iowa.edu
712-707-7370 (fax)

Name _____
Address _____
Home/cell phone _____ Class year _____
E-mail _____
Current employer(s) _____
My news _____



Spread Red

Homecoming 2010 • October 1 & 2

Remember what you love about Northwestern during Homecoming 2010. Cheer for the Raiders, reminisce at your reunion (for the classes of 1980, 1990, 2000 and 2005), run in the road race, and take the family to Morning on the Green.

www.nwc Iowa.edu/homecoming



JIMMY ABEGG

Connie O'Hara, left, raised daughter Stacey as a single mom on welfare. When Stacey moved to Nashville to pursue a career in Christian music, it was important to her that Connie came along.

All She Needs

By the time Stacey O'Hara '94 penned songs for her Christian pop album *All I Need*, nominated for an Indieheaven Momentum Award in 2008, her life had been an exercise in proving the title track's theme.

Raised in Sioux City, Iowa, by her mother, the singer/songwriter grew up on welfare and lived in low-income housing.

"We had times of not knowing where the next meal would come from," she says.

In 2006, O'Hara moved to Franklin, Tenn., just minutes from "Music City" Nashville. Both she and her mother—who went back to school in her 40s—secured teaching positions in the same school district. "Life is way too short. It's important that family live near each other," says O'Hara.

O'Hara performs regularly with her church's worship band and continues to gather material for her next album.

All she really needs, she says, is music, family, strong church ties, and the Lord to see her through.

"It's amazing how far God has brought us," O'Hara says. "From being on welfare and having nothing to becoming college graduates—things that so many years ago we would have never thought possible. Here I am, following my dream."

BY AMY SCHEER

Ariel Emery '05 and Corey Butler, Northfield, Minn.
Aaron Haverdink '06 and Amanda Scott, Orange City
Katie Schueller '07 and Cole Leiding, Primghar, Iowa
Caitlyn Boot '08 and James Chandler, London, England
Andrew Mahoney '08 and Jena Mulder, Luverne, Minn.
Samantha Schneider '08 and **Scott Arft '07**, Bristow, Va.

The couples reside in the city listed.

In Memoriam

Mathilda Vander Wilt '34, age 97, died Jan. 1 in Orange City. After graduating from Northwestern Junior College, she was a schoolteacher for several years. She was a member of First Reformed Church, where she participated in women's organizations and was involved in Christian education. She is survived by two children, including **Glenda De Jong '60, '62**, and a brother, **Clarence Buurman '34**.

The Rev. Henry Vander Schaaf '36, '38, of Holland, Mich., died June 23, 2009, at age 91. He was a pastor for 37 years and served RCA churches in Sibley, Iowa; Prairie View, Kan.; Steen, Minn.; and Buffalo Center, Iowa. He was a member of Calvary Reformed Church. Among his survivors are four children.

Wilmina Grooters '37, '66, age 90, of Boyden, Iowa, died Jan. 8 in Sanborn. She taught in the Boyden-Hull School District for 28 years before retiring. She was a member of First Reformed Church of Sheldon, and she served as organist at First Reformed in Boyden for 40 years. She was a member of the Reformed Church in America Women's Ministries as well as the American Legion Auxiliary in Boyden. Among her survivors are two sons and two sisters, including **Harriet Vande Hoef '45**.

Harold Vande Berg '39, age 90, died Dec. 29 in La Vista, Neb. After graduating from Northwestern Junior College, he at-

tended Central College and New Brunswick Seminary. He and his wife served as missionaries in India and Bahrain for many years; he later pastored a Reformed church in New Jersey. Most recently, he was active at Faith Presbyterian Church in La Vista. He is survived by his wife, Yvette, and three children.

Henry Dale Hubers '45, '47, age 81, died Dec. 29 in Orange City. He earned a bachelor's degree in education and math from Central College and a master's degree in education from the University of South Dakota. He served as a principal at various schools, including Northwestern Classical Academy and Maurice-Orange City High School, where he also taught math for 30 years. An adjunct professor at Northwestern, he served on the Board of Trustees. He was a longtime member of Trinity Reformed Church, where he served as an elder, deacon and Sunday school teacher. He is survived by his wife, **Margaret (Bastemeyer '47)**; sisters **Marcia Zwiep '41, '43** and **Lois Vermeer '52**; and three children, including **Barbara Hubers-Drake '76** and **John '76**.

Wilbur Wiersma '46, '48, Orange City, died Dec. 21 at age 80. Following his graduation from Northwestern Junior College, he attended Calvin College. He then served in the Air Force for four years and later was a farmer and egg plant operator. He was a member of Calvary Christian Reformed Church, where he served as a Sunday school teacher and council member. His survivors include his wife, Mary; five children; and three brothers, **Ralph '51, '53; Glenn '54, '56**; and **Lee '60, '62**.

Peter Andringa '58, '65, age 68, of Cherokee, Iowa, died Jan. 10 in Sanborn. He attended Dordt Junior College, Calvin College and Calvin Theological Seminary before graduating with a bachelor's degree in education from NWC. He was a high school English teacher in Sioux Center, Rockwell City-Lytton, and Washington High School in Cherokee, where he spent most of his career. In addition to teaching, he coached speech and drama. His survivors include a sister.

Rod Vlieger '72, age 59, died July 23, 2009, in Des Moines. After attending NWC for two years, he transferred to the University of Illinois, where he earned a degree in agricultural engineering. He competed internationally on the U.S. Wheelchair Olympic Team for over 16 years. An engineer for several years, he later became a pastor and served on the staff of Altoona (Iowa) United Methodist Church. He is survived by his wife, Norine; three children; his mother; two sisters, including **Sandra Ritsema '70**; and a brother, **David '79**.

Mark Peterson '08, age 23, died April 10 in Creston, Iowa, from injuries suffered in a motorcycle accident. He taught high school English for the Orient-Macksburg (Iowa) Community School District. He is survived by his parents and three brothers.

Dr. Rodney Jiskoot, professor of music at Northwestern from 1964 to 2000, died Feb. 7 in Mesa, Ariz., at age 70. He earned a bachelor's degree from Morningside College, a master's degree from San Jose State College and a doctorate from the University of Colorado. He was a member of American Reformed Church, where he served as organist for 45 years. He is survived by his wife, **Marilyn (Holtrop '70)**; two children, **Doug '85** and **Brenda Geisinger '89**; and four brothers, including **Donald '59, '61** and **Allen '72**.

What prof has your undying affection?

Tell us who and why for a fall *Classic* feature on favorite faculty.

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DAN ROSS

After starting more than 600 varsity high school meets and officiating more than 260 college meets, Cornie Wassink has been inducted into the Iowa Track Officials Hall of Fame.

Track Authority

Officiating 30 high school and college track and field meets a year over four decades, Cornie Wassink '73 has seen athletes like Olympic decathlon gold medalist Brian Clay recognized for outstanding achievements. In December, Wassink was also honored—inducted into the Iowa Track Officials Hall of Fame.

Northwestern's planned giving director, Wassink got his start in track officiating in 1970. A work-study job preparing Northwestern's cinder track before meets led to opportunities to clerk for officials and eventually assume other responsibilities.

He co-founded the Iowa Association of Track Officials and has edited its procedures manual for 10 years.

Wassink has also officiated seven other sports. He continues with cross country, having worked three NCAA Div. I national championships, and with football, where he has officiated 48 high school playoff games. He was inducted into the Iowa High School Athletic Association Officials Hall of Fame in 2008.

But track and field is special to Wassink. "What's nice is the camaraderie," he says. "The athletes develop friendships with kids from other schools, and at state and national meets, they pull for each other."

Named the state track official of the year four times, Wassink serves as the assistant head umpire at the Drake Relays. He has worked eight NCAA Div. I national track championships and been referee at five NAIA national championships.

BY DUANE BEESON

Classic Thoughts

Our Past, Haiti's Future

BY CARL LINDSKOOG '02

In 2002, just days after I arrived in Washington, D.C., for a semester-long internship program, I met Augustine, a beautiful and captivating fellow intern from Florida. Augustine is Haitian, and as I got to know this fascinating woman, I also became fascinated by the rich history and culture of Haiti. Now I'm completing a dissertation on the history of Haitians in the United States, and Augustine is my wife. Through her, I've fallen in love with the people of Haiti.

As thrilling as it has been to explore Haitian culture and history, it has also been uncomfortable and painful. I have been especially interested in the historical relationship between the United States and Haiti and in the experience of Haitian immigrants in the U.S. It was not easy, therefore, to learn about the many instances in which my country has adopted policies that have led to extreme hardship for the Haitian people.

Even in just the past 100 years, much is disturbing about the United States' relationship with Haiti. During the American occupation from 1915 to 1934, the U.S. imposed the *corvée*, a labor system of forced servitude that reminded the Haitian people of their past enslavement. When peasants resisted the *corvée*, U.S. Marines violently suppressed the insurgents and executed their leaders.

Post-occupation turmoil contributed to the rise of the now notorious dictator Francois "Papa Doc" Duvalier. Papa Doc has become synonymous in the minds of many Americans with the worst excesses of government brutality and state terror. What is less well-known is the degree to which he enjoyed U.S. support. American leaders tolerated Duvalier because they regarded him as reliably anti-Communist.

After Papa Doc's death, the U.S. supported his son, Jean-Claude "Baby Doc," working with him to institute an economic model that enriched international agribusiness and manufacturers while destroying peasant agriculture and entrenching Haitian cities in poverty. When the Haitian people finally broke the chains of dictatorship and democratically elected a populist priest, Jean-Bertrand

Aristide, the U.S. backed his overthrow twice.

American policies have contributed to hardship for Haitians in the U.S. as well. Undocumented Haitians in South Florida—after escaping Haiti's political and economic oppression—have been imprisoned and deported by officials who claim they are economic immigrants rather than political refugees. Cubans, meanwhile—another group of undocumented refugees to Miami—have been allowed to stay.

Why review all this unpleasant history? Shouldn't we look ahead to a reconstructed post-earthquake Haiti rather than glancing backward?

I believe we must acknowledge our responsibility in past injustices before we can resurrect a new, more equitable relationship between the U.S. and Haiti. Moreover, understanding the way American policies have often harmed Haitians might help us avoid similar abuses in the future.

For example, more than \$9 billion has been pledged for the next three years and beyond to rebuild Haiti. However, the accompanying economic plan continues and even increases Haiti's dependence on foreign investment and proposes rejuvenating Haiti's low-wage, labor-intensive assembly industry.

This is the same failed economic model imposed on Haiti in the 1970s and '80s. No wonder, then, that members of Haitian grassroots organizations—who have been shut out of these meetings about Haiti's future—have claimed the plan "fails to address sustainable development needs."

Because of the tragic Haitian earthquake, many Americans are taking a new interest in Haiti. For the sake of my wife Augustine's family members who remain in Haiti—and for all Haitians—I hope this renewed interest includes an honest appraisal of our role in Haiti's past and a genuine effort to help Haiti achieve a sustainable recovery.

Carl Lindskoog attended Northwestern from 1998 to 2000. He has a B.A. from the University of Iowa, an M.A. from Northern Illinois University, and is a Ph.D. candidate at City University of New York. Carl is the son of Dr. Don Lindskoog and Dr. Verna De Jong, Northwestern professors emeritus of psychology and English, respectively.

What's Your Legacy?



As a little girl, Miriam (Korver '74) Hector watched Dr. Rodney Jiskoot play organ at Alton Reformed Church. "My family didn't have a piano yet," she says, "but I'd go home and pretend to play like him, with my fingers on two levels of a windowsill."

When Hector came to Northwestern, she was thrilled to study with the musician who first

inspired her to play. "He said, when accompanying hymns, to read the words and convey their meaning through my playing," she says. "People tell me my accompaniment is worshipful. He taught me that. He gave me so much." That's why Hector wanted to give back, helping to establish the Dr. Rodney Jiskoot Organ Scholarship in memory of her mentor.

Be intentional.

To contribute to the Dr. Rodney Jiskoot Organ Scholarship—or to give to one of 33 other scholarships that honor the legacies of Northwestern professors and staff members—contact Cornie Wassink, 712-707-7109 or corniew@nwciowa.edu.



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Top Prof



Although Dr. Elizabeth Heeg-Truesdell is sometimes mistaken for a student, those who have taken a class from her know her talents as a teacher. Not only is she extremely knowledgeable, but she's able to relate well with students and excite them

about science.

Small wonder the biology professor was named the 2010 recipient of the \$1,500 Northwestern Teaching Excellence Award in April.

"She is one of my favorite professors because of her willingness

to treat students as colleagues in science, not subordinates," says senior Jacob Peterson.

Rachelle Pedersen '10, who will begin medical studies this fall, says Heeg-Truesdell's office door is always open. "She has provided me with

priceless guidance over the years."

A 2001 NWC graduate, Heeg-Truesdell completed a doctorate at Northwestern University and joined the faculty in 2006.

the Classic