THE SEMESTER IN REVIEW

Saying that time flies seems cliché, but also so relatable. The first half of the 2018-19 year is nearly behind us when it seems like we just welcomed students to Opening Weekend and the start of a new chapter of their lives.

We celebrated Homecoming in September with an emphasis on the legacy of our athletics program. It’s always wonderful to connect with alumni and friends, hear about their stories and lives, and to give our students the opportunity to see what life could hold after Hesston as well.

This academic year is busy with new initiatives and ideas taking shape. The projects in the works will increase Hesston College students’ opportunities and continue making Hesston more relevant and accessible to students from all over the world. As you read through this magazine, you’ll hear more about some of these initiatives, but I want to highlight some for you here as well.

• Perhaps the biggest campus headline news is that we earned the $750,000 Mabee Foundation challenge grant for the Be Greater capital campaign by raising $5.25 million before the end of the year. Come to campus for Homecoming in September 2019 to see the completed spaces, celebrate these outstanding programs, faculty, staff and students and thank those who contributed.

• In late October we hosted a team from the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) that evaluated our readiness to expand the aviation program to the bachelor’s degree level. They were very positive about the Hesston Experience as well as the history and reputation of the program. We won’t receive final word on the HLC’s decision until early 2019, but we are hopeful for a positive recommendation for degree approval. Until then, we will continue to prepare and plan for a tentative fall 2019 launch.

• Transcultural learning and expanded global engagement are high on our list of priorities. We are having conversations with organizations that will give our students opportunities to travel, learn and grow in new cultures, as well as bring more students from around the world to our campus for their education. It is important that we equip students to be well-rounded, compassionate, receptive to new ideas and perspectives that differ from their own, and responsible global citizens.

It’s an exciting season at Hesston College and we are so humbled by and grateful for the many blessings we have received this year. As we move into a new semester, please continue to pray for this community and the important work with which we have been tasked.

Dr. Joseph A. Manickam ’87, President
ON THE COVER

4 Sports to live
A history of 60 years of Lark Athletics and how one man helped make it a reality.

Cover photo: Evan Oswald ’48

IN THIS ISSUE

4 ON THE COVER

8 Student & alumnus profiles
Meet freshman Paulina Diaz ’20 and catch up with alumnus Rusty Whitcher ’97.

13 Athletic news briefs
Learn about the newest developments in the athletic department.

14 Continuing the legacy
See which alumni have children at Hesston during the 2018-19 year.

15 Chatter in the nest
Student-athletes and coaches reflect on their favorite Lark Athletic moments.

16 Partners' Piece
Partners share about their reasons for supporting Hesston College.

17 Honoring legacies, helping students
A newly established endowed scholarship increases student financial aid opportunities.

20 Campus news
Catch up on the latest action around campus.

27 Alumni news updates
Read about the lives and accomplishments of friends and classmates.

31 Calendar of events
Coming soon to Hesston College.

FEATURE STORIES

10 The Lark Way
College staff and an alumnus reflect on the importance of athletics on life.

18 Seeing with new eyes
Joanna Osborne ’80 Masingila shares her experiences of stepping out to find connection and understanding.
Talk with Evan Oswald ’48 for even a few short minutes and a couple of things will become clear – he’s passionate and determined.

Those qualities dominate at 94 years old, and they were likely evident in Oswald as a “green” 24-year-old in 1949 when Hesston College President Milo Kauffman ’22, ’26 shoulder-tapped Oswald to help bring intercollegiate sports to Hesston College.

Born in Ohio, Oswald came to Hesston College as a student in the mid-1940s when the school’s opposition to intercollegiate athletics still dominated the campus.

The college’s catalog made it clear: “HC maintains a policy of strictly intramural athletics. This system best fulfills the purpose of athletics in our educational institution and eliminates some of the attending evils of intercollegiate athletics.” (A School on the Prairie: A Centennial History of Hesston College (1909-2009), John Sharp ’73).

But Oswald was determined. He described his persistence in a 2012 letter to the baseball team:

“With Ohio blood in my veins, I played so hard in the on-campus sports program that President Milo Kauffman called me into his office and asked me if I would consider going to the University of Illinois to get my degree and come back and set up an intercollegiate athletic program.”

So Oswald decided to make a career out of his two passions: sports and faith.

“Sports for church service! That sounded great to me, and that I did for 20 years,” wrote Oswald.  

After earning his degree, Oswald returned to Hesston College in 1951 as a physical education instructor with a mandate to begin the college’s exploration into intercollegiate sports.

Oswald has often been referred to as “the father of Hesston College intercollegiate sports,” and was recognized during Homecoming 2018 as a key player in the 60 year history of Lark Athletics, but he is quick to share the spotlight.

“Looking back, sports at Hesston became a reality because Milo was willing to take risks,” Oswald said.

As John Sharp notes in the centennial history of Hesston College, Kauffman was a sports nut himself and would sometimes sneak off to baseball games in Kansas City. The opposition from the college’s constituency was fierce. Many felt that sports were “indecent,”

“Sports for church service! That sounded great to me, and that I did for 20 years.”

– Evan Oswald ’48 –

“distracting,” would “lead to hostility between teams,” “Sunday morning weariness after Saturday night games” and would soon be followed by “betting, smoking and theater, and finally, [the players would have] no stamina to remain faithful as God’s peacemakers.”

Kauffman and Oswald didn’t see it that way, instead recognizing the camaraderie, teamwork and life lessons that sports provided. They decided to take the risk.

The first intercollegiate game Hesston College played
was a basketball game with Tabor College’s B squad on January 20, 1956, in which Hesston lost 61-52. Oswald was on leave from the college to work on a graduate degree, but the work he had done in the previous five years set the stage for President Roy Roth and Oswald’s interim, Ray Kauffman, to make the decision to move ahead with the game, and thus the advent of intercollegiate Lark athletics.

With the initial roll out of intercollegiate sports complete upon Oswald’s return to Hesston, he built and operated a highly organized intercollegiate program, adding sports one at a time based on student interest and what would be a good fit for Hesston’s culture. The success of the programs didn’t mean the criticism ceased, yet Oswald was unfazed by the critics.

“I learned to live with opposition,” Oswald said. “If you felt that what you were doing was right and necessary for the good of the church and the school, you took the criticism.”

– Evan Oswald ’48 –

In 1963, Oswald developed the Prairie Christian College Conference, later named the Prairie Junior College Conference, of which Hesston won the All-Sports sweepstakes award for six of the first eight years of the conference’s history.

By 1971, Oswald had established ten intercollegiate sports programs – seven on the men’s side and three for women. He was the first basketball coach, tennis coach, golf coach, baseball coach and first athletic director.

That year, Oswald planned for a one-year sabbatical and ended up at Navajo Community College in Arizona, now Diné College, and the one-year plan turned into a 14-year career helping build an athletic program for the Warriors, including a strong archery program that contin-
Oswald’s recruitment strategy was simple—asking: “Do you want to be a winner?”

And win they did. In 10 years, his archery program won five state championships and competed in six U.S. collegiate archery championships, winning second among U.S. community colleges at the Olympic Village in 1981.

Closing out his working career didn’t mean hanging up his passion for sports.

Oswald officiated at the archery championships at the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles. He also spent 10 years as the director of activities at the Glencroft Senior Living Community (Glendale, Ariz.), and he has played in the Phoenix Table Tennis Club for almost 30 years.

“I’m 93, I have neuropathy and vertigo, but still play in the Table Tennis Club,” Oswald wrote in a 2017 letter to Pankratz. “That’s TABLE TENNIS, NOT PING PONG.”

He’s competed in four National U.S. Senior Olympics and managed to match the sound of success that has echoed throughout his life.

“In the qualifying Arizona State Senior Olympics, I didn’t have any competition in the 90-94 age group so I had to play down in the 80-89 age group and I beat their gold medalist in that age group,” he said.

And even at 94 years old, he’s still coaching.

“I’m still a sports nut,” Oswald said. “I’ll sit and watch the Diamondbacks, turn off the sound and I’ll coach the pitchers to tell them what to pitch. Three out of four times I’m right.”

Even after the full life he has lived, Hesston continues to hold a special place in his heart.

“I left Hesston College but it still remains my second home in my priority of thinking,” he wrote. “None of the other schools compared to the influence that Hesston had on my life, though I value them all.”

In the end, Oswald’s philosophy of sports can be boiled down to a simple mantra.

“The concept of sports is not just ‘Sports to win,’ it’s ‘Sports to live,’” Oswald said. “A total life, recreation, appreciation, value of being together, of teamwork.”

Clockwise from opposite page: Intramural baseball team from the 1950s with Oswald (back row, far left) as coach; Oswald and John Sharp presenting at the Homecoming 2018 celebration of 60 years of Lark athletics; Oswald as a student; student-athletes who won conference honors circa 1960s. Oswald is front row, right.
CROSS CULTURAL LIFE

I was born in Costa Rica, in the small town of Jerico. When I was five, my family moved to Michigan because of a great opportunity my aunt provided my mom to work as a cook at Camp Friedenswald, a Mennonite camp. I was very young when I lived in Costa Rica so my memory of living in that culture is poor, but the move to the U.S. did not stop my family from raising me with the Costa Rican culture in Michigan. Spanish is my first language, followed by English. I think having that as a part of my life and being able to relate to different types of people because of it, helped me develop a curiosity about both worlds and created my friendly, outgoing personality. Costa Rica has an atmosphere that is always buzzing with excitement, and I miss that – along with the amazing weather and landscape sites.

START HERE

I learned about Hesston through Joy (Smith) ’96 Yoder, who used to be my neighbor and now is a professor in Hesston’s nursing program. She helped me get in contact with the volleyball coach, DeeDee (Martin) ’02 Landes. I chose to start here because I wanted an adventure and to travel out of state. My visit to campus was amazing and I felt so welcomed and at home. I just couldn’t pass up the opportunity to be a part of such a special place. Having grown up at Camp Friedenswald, and attending every summer, I was familiar with the Mennonite culture. Based on that and my visit, I anticipated a great experience at Hesston, but I wasn’t expecting that I would make such great relationships with people so quickly. The people here have truly made this place my home away from home. It’s filled with so many cultures, languages, backgrounds, stories, opinions and ideas, and it still is accepting of each person. It’s a place where I can be 100 percent myself and know I am accepted and loved. I love it!

I also appreciate that Hesston does so much toward making the transition for international students so smooth. From offering so much support – both academically and personally – as they acclimate, to the Cultures Fair where they get to share pieces of their world with their friends and peers, to showcasing their flag around campus to let them know they are cared for. Having been part of two worlds, I have a little bit of an understanding of what they might be experiencing.

FOR THE LOVE OF THE GAME

Volleyball was a big part of my college decision. I love the sport so much and I wasn’t ready to let go of it. So I was excited that DeeDee was interested in having me be part of the team, too. Through my first college season, I’ve learned that collegiate sports take a lot more time and dedication than high school, and with that comes more responsibility. Being a college athlete has allowed me to practice my time management skills and responsibility. It has also showed me how important team work is, especially early in the season when everyone is still getting to know each other.
Rusty Whitcher ‘97
Hesston, Kan.

CAREER: Sportswriter and sports broadcaster

THE MAKING OF A SPORTS FAN

From the mid-80s on, my dad and I seemed to go to all of the Hesston College basketball, baseball and soccer games. Growing up in Hesston, and right across the street from the campus, made that an easy thing to do.

Both of my grandmothers and my parents (Sid ’70 (dec.) and Kathy (Erb) ’71 Whitcher) went to Hesston College, and, coming out of high school, it seemed like a natural fit for me as well. Originally I was a pre-engineering major, but my sophomore year was also the start of the Hesston College Horizon newspaper and I discovered I could write a little. I switched to a communications major and attended Hutchinson (Kan.) Community College before earning my bachelor’s degree in communications with an emphasis on print journalism from Wichita (Kan.) State University.

Now I am a sportswriter and sports broadcaster for local media outlets, including The Hesston Record newspaper and several radio stations out of the Hutchinson area.

THE VOICE OF LARK ATHLETICS

After getting my start in radio with play-by-play, I was approached by then athletic director Art Mullet and the late Phil Richard to help with the live audio streaming of Hesston College basketball in the latter half of 2004. I jumped at the chance to stay involved with Lark Athletics after spending my Hesston College years creatively heckling opposition from center court. Immediately we saw the impact of our broadcasts as people reached out via text messaging (and eventually social media) as they tuned into the game. I continue to do the online broadcasts of men’s and women’s basketball, softball and baseball games. I have the best seat in the house while being able to continue to fulfill a passion I have for sports.

I truly enjoy all of Hesston College’s sports, but if I had to pick my favorite to broadcast, basketball gets the nod. I’ve been a self-proclaimed hoops junkie since I can remember, even though I can’t run, jump or shoot and my basketball career peaked in eighth grade.

I have seen countless great Lark athletic moments, including memorable performances by so many athletes over the years. But two stand out – seeing the Lark men’s basketball team win games to make the NJCAA national tournament. The first time, the Larks had to defeat Eastfield Community College to make the journey, and did on the hallowed hardwoods of Yost Center in 1990. Lynn Miller ’90 made two free throws with a few seconds left to punch the Larks’ ticket to Michigan. The second was in 2015 when the Larks defeated Kansas City Kansas Community College at Wichita State’s Koch Arena to head to nationals, in a game which I was fortunate enough to be calling the play-by-play.

THE FUTURE OF LARK ATHLETICS

As we look toward the future of athletics, my hope is Hesston College can continue to be a place where athletes and students from all backgrounds can come together to compete at the highest levels while growing emotionally, physically and spiritually. In the two years they spend at Hesston, it’s amazing to see how much change student-athletes have, both on and off the playing surfaces, as they make the transition into young adulthood. I also hope Sieber Field, Oswald Field and Yost Center can become creatively raucous places that give our teams an incredible home field advantage. Hesston College is a one-of-a-kind special place not just for athletes but for fans as well.
There are a couple schools of thought on college athletics; perhaps even on athletics in general. What's their purpose in the grand scheme of life and vocation? After all, the vast majority of student-athletes won’t make athletics a career.

Hearing presentations from alumni and former athletes during the college's homecoming celebration in September brought forth a unanimous opinion on the matter: Athletics matter to the college experience and benefit life in general.

“In general, athletics, or competing, brings a different element to a student experience,” said DeeDee (Martin) ’02 Landes, Hesston College volleyball coach. “Athletics gets to the bottom of your heart, to the rawness, and sometimes it exposes the hard things like pride and selfishness. Experiencing that with a team provides opportunities that don’t happen just in the classroom or academics. I think student-athletes have more opportunity for personal growth than other students because they are faced with that exposed rawness and have to figure out how to work through it for their own benefit and the benefit of the team.”

“Athletics can be a bad thing and it can be a great thing,” said Chris Nachtigall ’01, Hesston College athletic director. “It can become bad when it’s focused on the glory it can bring or if you worship it and make it the center of all you do. But athletics develops so many things. Of course there are physical benefits and learning to take care of the physical self, but for me personally, it’s also helped develop me spiritually. It’s given me a self-discipline that feeds my relationship with Christ. It creates community, and, done right will create young people who will serve others their whole lives.”

Landes’ and Nachtigall’s perspectives come from experiences as former players and college coaches. Both were double sport athletes at Hesston. Landes played volleyball and basketball and continued both sports at Goshen (Ind.) College while also undertaking the demands of a nursing degree. Nachtigall played soccer and baseball, and prior to coming back to Hesston to serve as athletic director, coached softball at Northwestern College (Orange City, Iowa). Both also point to their time playing sports as the setting for various life lessons and character-building experiences.

“As a freshman basketball player, I took a sophomore’s starting spot,” recalled Landes. “I remember thinking, ‘Here we go, she’s going to hate me, but I’m just going to stand my ground and keep working hard.’ Instead, she came over to me and said, ‘DeeDee, you deserve this. I’m so proud of you and I’m your biggest fan.’ I would have never done that – I was too prideful – but to see humble servant leadership modeled in that way really impacted me.”

“Good coaches have the opportunity to
walk with their athletes through
the highest of highs and the lowest of lows.”
— Lynn Fielitz ’79 —

A similar experience was true for Lynn Fielitz ’79, a Hesston College track athlete who later played men’s volleyball at George Williams College (Downers Grove, Ill.) and has been a physical education faculty member and volleyball coach for nearly 35 years. Fielitz has led NCAA Division I programs such as the University of Tennessee, the University of Rhode Island, Virginia Commonwealth University and others.

“As an athlete, some of my biggest takeaways from my college experiences were outside the classroom,” said Fielitz. “Experiences and interactions I had with my coach, Gerry Sieber ’64, on the track and in the van on the way to a meet are the ones that stick with me. The connections you can make when you’re not worried about whether you’re going to pass the test gives coaches an edge if they have the right philosophy and attitude. Good coaches have the opportunity to walk with their athletes through the highest of highs and the lowest of lows. The way a coach responds to those situations – hopefully with a balance of gentleness and constructive criticism – can have a lasting impact on a person as a player and on a personal level.”
As is true with many parts of the Hesston Experience, the way the college approaches athletics is, to those who have experienced other programs in addition to being a Lark, a little bit different and more than a little special. With about 37 percent of students filling athletic roles in fall 2018, it’s also the second largest program on campus, lagging just a little behind nursing.

Arriving in September, Nachtigall has been in his role at Hesston a short time, but he's hit the ground running to define practices that have long been in place with Hesston Athletics that make it stand apart from other programs and help explain Hesston philosophy of college athletics.

“We want students who engage in some other piece of Hesston apart from just athletics – the culture, the mission, the academics, the social life.”
– DeeDee (Martin) ’02 Landes –

“I love to focus on vision and culture,” said Nachtigall. “There’s no way to know where you’re going if you don’t have a vision for it; you’re going to wander aimlessly. So coming in I wanted to cast a vision for what we’re going to do and what we want to see happen. My predecessor, Rob Ramseyer, did a tremendous job of laying a good foundation, of establishing values for the program. I’m trying to take that a step further by figuring out how we will live out those values.”

Nachtigall’s vision, being defined as a new concept of “The Lark Way,” is based on Hebrews 12:1-3, acknowledging Jesus, “the pioneer and perfecter of our faith,” at the center of the work being done. It also brings a holistic view of the individual and focuses on whole person development rather than strictly athletic development.

“The Lark Way is an overarching commitment to developing young people in their walks with Christ,” said Nachtigall. “It’s a commitment to excellence, which means continually striving to improve. It’s a commitment to developing high-quality servant leaders. We’re not looking for people who think less of themselves, instead, they’re thinking of themselves less. These students are going to go on and do things other than athletics, so we have to be committed to developing them as students and well-rounded people.”

“I don’t know that I’ve heard of any other college that would say, ‘If your sport is the only reason you’re coming here, you’re not the right fit,’ but that’s true here,” said Landes. “We want students who engage in some other piece of Hesston apart from just athletics – the culture, the mission, the academics, the social life. If they don’t buy into the incredible opportunities Hesston can offer, they won’t buy into the Lark Way and they won’t have a good experience. I tell my young women that I don’t expect them to be the same as me or a teammate – they may believe differently or be at different spots in their spiritual journey – but I want them to each be challenged and grow through their challenges and become more confident in their beliefs.”

“Being part of a team doesn’t mean you see eye to eye with everyone on the team, but you have to learn to work together toward a common goal,” added Landes. “You have to learn to respect each person’s contribution. That’s life, too. It’s a good learning experience.”

Lynn Fielitz ’79 and Malcolm Mann ’15 share about how athletics have shaped them at Homecoming 2018.
ATHLETICS NEWS UPDATES

NACHTIGALL NAMED ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Chris Nachtigall ’01 assumed the role of athletic director at Hesston College in September. Nachtigall holds a bachelor’s degree in sports management from Iowa Wesleyan College (Mount Pleasant) and a master’s in coaching and athletic administration from Concordia University (Irvine, Calif.). While at Hesston, Nachtigall played baseball and soccer. “One thing I loved about my experience as an athlete at Hesston was that I could also be involved in many other things,” said Nachtigall. “I got to lead as a resident assistant and be involved in campus worship and intramurals. The experience helped shape me into a well-rounded leader on and off the field. It is what excites me about being back at Hesston – giving unique opportunities to develop young people into leaders.” Nachtigall’s professional journey includes work as a program director, physical education teacher and high school basketball and softball coach. Most recently, he was head softball coach at Northwestern College (Orange City, Iowa) for seven years.

SOCCER FIELD NAMED IN HONOR OF COACH

The Hesston College soccer field underwent some upgrades before and during the 2018 season. Leveling and resurfacing took place during the summer and a new scoreboard was installed in September. The transformation was complete Sept. 29, during Homecoming Weekend, when the field was named Sieber Field in honor of Gerry Sieber ’64, who coached Lark student-athletes in several sports for 30 years – 23 of which were as men’s soccer coach. “We are grateful to Gerry for his many years of dedication to Hesston College and our student-athletes,” said President Joseph A. Manickam. “His commitment to the school, our students and the Hesston Experience deserves recognition in this lasting way.”

STUDENT-ATHLETES EARN ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICAN STATUS

In the summer 2018 issue, we reported on student-athletes who were recognized as Academic All-Americans by the National Junior College Athletic Association for 2017-18. The following students were unintentionally left off the first list. In total, 42 student-athletes – 24 percent of Hesston’s total student-athletes – received the honor.

Named to the first team with a GPA of 4.0: Landon Baer (North Lima, Ohio), men’s soccer; Jeremy Deckinger (Wichita, Kan.), baseball; Luke Hertzler (Harrisonburg, Va.) men’s soccer; Levi Litwiller (Hopelade, Ill.), men’s cross country; Rio Mori (Osaka, Japan), women’s tennis; and Jaelyn Rufenacht (Pettisville, Ohio), softball. Named to the second team with a GPA of 3.80 to 3.99: Andre Eanes (Harrisonburg, Va.) men’s cross country; Zac Neely (Ada, Okla.), men’s basketball; and Payton Yehnert (Parker, Colo.) women’s soccer. Named to the third team with a GPA of 3.60 to 3.79: Savannah Bontrager (Milford, Neb.), women’s cross country; Sierra Broce (Goddard, Kan.), women’s cross country; Jacob Harris (El Paso, Texas), baseball; Shaelyn Headrick (La Junta, Colo.), women’s basketball; Preston Judd (Hayden, Ala.), baseball; Miho Okuda (Chiba-ken, Japan), women’s soccer; and Lindsey Yoder (Millersburg, Ohio), women’s soccer.

Courtesy photo
CONTINUING THE LEGACY
53 STUDENTS FROM ALUMNI LEGACY FAMILIES FOUND THEIR START AT HESSTON COLLEGE IN 2018-19.

Jacob Baker ’20, Andover, Kan. – Mike ’93, faculty and Joanne (Monney) ’94 Baker
Erin Beachy ’20, Middlebury, Ind. – Sheila (Eash) ’92 and Douglas Beachy
Sabrina Bellar ’20, Conway Springs, Kan. – Chris ’87 and Amy (Koehn) ’88 Bellar
Sam Blosser ’20, Hesston, Kan. – Vernon ’76 and Brenda Blosser
Jenna Boller ’20, Kalona, Iowa – Jeff ’89 and Carol Boller
Josiah Brejda ’20, Lincoln, Neb. – Janet Friesen ’85
Jessica Buckwalter ’20, Yona, Guam – Russel ’88 and Cheryl Buckwalter
Simone Burgess ’22, Los Angeles, Calif. – Frank ’90 and Marion (Price) ’90 Burgess
Aubrey Crouse ’14, ’18, Wichita, Kan. – Dawn Crouse ’02
Lora Ferguson ’20, Hesston, Kan. – Scott Ferguson ’91
David Flores Cano ’20, San Pedro Sula, Honduras – Melvin Flores ’89 and Mary Cano
Will Gaby ’21, Goshen, Ind. – Christopher Gaby ’94 and Tonya (Hunsberger) ’94, former staff, Detweiler
Brianna (Lamb) ’15 Garces Soliman ’18, Newton, Kan. – Jaime ’11 and Shawn Lamb
Autumn Gehman ’20, Adams, Tenn. – Brooke ’93 and Dana (Zimmerman) ’92 Gehman
Brett Heitschmidt ’20, Lindsborg, Kan. – Julie (Diller) ’93 and Darren Heitschmidt
Esni Hernandez ’20, Newton, Kan. – Jesse ’96 and Judy Hernandez
Alyssa Hershberger ’20, Wellman, Iowa – Jim ’88 and Audra Hershberger
Layne Higgins ’19, Cheney, Kan. – Craig Higgins ’86
Jaden Hostetter ’19, Harrisonburg, Va. – Eric ’83 and Janet Hostetter
Leah Huyard ’19, Staunton, Va. – Susan (Miller) ’91 and Dwight Huyard
Lily Kauffman ’19, Mountain Lake, Minn. – Galen ’76 and Betty Jean Kauffman
Kate Kilmer ’20, Goshen, Ind. – Kevin ’91 and Karilyn (Kauffman) ’92 Kilmer
Cassidy King ’19, Cochranville, Pa. – Nolan ’91 and Nori (Bontrager) ’90 King
Jaden Lais ’20, Grantsville, Md. – Lynn ’75 and Janice (Bryant) ’83 Lais
Sadie Leatherman ’20, Kouts, Ind. – Brent ’93 and Kim (Birky) ’93 Leatherman
Ellena Lehman ’20, Sarasota, Fla. – Ryan ’90 and Heather Lehman
Faith Manickam ’19, Hesston, Kan. – Joe ’87, staff and Wanda (Wyse) ’88 Manickam
Sophia Miller ’19, Newton, Kan. – Forrest ’85, staff and Nora, former staff, Miller
Janie (Hofflinger) ’07 Mosqueda ’18, Newton, Kan. – Edna ’91 and Barry Hofflinger
Karen Munoz ’19, Wichita, Kan. – Anita (Douthart) ’80 (dec.) and Earnest Hofflinger
Reese Nebel ’20, Hesston, Kan. – Brian ’83 and Brenda (Hooley) ’83 Nebel
Jared Oyer ’19, Hubbard, Ore. – Stan ’78 and Vonnie Oyer
Wyatt Roth ’19 and Camryn Roth ’19, Canby, Ore. – Jerry ’90 and Wendy (Troyer) ’90 Roth
Kayla (Kauffman) ’14 Rudy ’18, Hesston, Kan. – Shelby (Martin) ’82 and Dan ’83 Kauffman
Jodi (Renollet) ’14 Ryan ’19, Newton, Kan. – Marcy Renollet ’95
Kenton Schroeder ’19, Harper, Kan. – Kerry ’87 and Donica Schroeder
Robin (Morris) ’15 Slabach ’18, Hesston, Kan. – Pam (Meadows) ’80 and Loren, former staff, Morris
Therin Smith ’19, Key West, Fla. – Jeff ’87 and Kathy (Reber) ’87 Smith
Justus Sneary ’20, Harrisonburg, Va. – Shannon (Martens Sneary) ’92 Albanza
Abby Spunaugle ’20, Park City, Kan. – Randy ’79 and Vicky (Box) ’79 Siebert
Vanessa Steckly ’19, Milford, Neb. – Blane ’81 and Nan (Stuckey) ’81 Steckly
Malachi Swartz ’19, Overland Park, Kan. – Anthony ’95 and Angie (Moyer) ’95 Swartz
Addie Swartzendruber ’19, Henderson, Neb. – Brent ’91 and Tara (Siebert) ’92 Swartzendruber
Madison Swartzendruber ’20, Goshen, Ind. – Calvin ’91 and Karen (LeFevre) ’91 Swartzendruber
Emily Taylor ’14, ’18, Hutchinson, Kan. – Angie (Taylor) ’05 Dunn
Sarah Teeter ’20, Hesston, Kan. – Tyson ’94 and Angie (Maury) ’94, staff, Teeter
Matthew Unzicker ’19, Goshen, Ind. – Tony Unzicker ’87 and Carol (Snyder) ’87 Snyder Unzicker.
Brooke Weaver ’19, Goshen, Ind. – Lisa (Nunemaker) ’88 and Lonnie Weaver
Mackenzie Weber ’21, Newton, Kan. – Julia Weber ’00, ’01
Kaylee Wedel ’20, Moundridge, Kan. – Julie (Oswald) ’94 and Brian Wedel
Ellie Yoder ’20, Seattle, Wash. – Wes ’91 and Kate (Miller) ’92 Yoder
Zachary Yoder ’19, Berea, Ky. – Gary ’91 and Kathleen Yoder.
WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR FAVORITE LARK ATHLETIC MOMENT?

Lindsey James ’19, softball, Butte, Mont.
“Watching Autumn Lungwitz ’19 serve in a volleyball game after she tore her ACL. The whole gym stood in support of her, and I cried.”

Jaden Lais ’20, men’s soccer, Grantsville, Md.
“When I was able to wear number 10 to honor Stephen Gonzalez ’19 when he was in the hospital on sophomore recognition night.”

Samuel Rios ’19, men’s soccer, Houston, Texas
“Scoring the game-winning goal against Pratt last year.”

DeeDee (Martin) ’02 Landes, head volleyball coach
“When I was a sophomore, our baseball team was doing really well and had a big group of followers who would travel to watch them play. There was one specific game for them to go on to post season – everything was going well and there were a bunch of us fans cheering loud, and I just felt proud to be a part of the program.”

Dave Ryan ’19, baseball, Bixby, Okla.
“When we had an impromptu dancing/singing competition.”

Sarah Keck, women’s soccer and basketball, Topeka, Kan.
“Being close with my teammates and just getting to play the game I love with my friends.”

Cassidy King ’19, volleyball, Cochranville, Pa.
“Sophomore night. We played two games that night, and we played so well and were just having fun together. We won both games in three sets.”

Chris Nachtigall ’01, athletic director
“When I was a sophomore, the men’s basketball team took down a tough Johnson County team at home. That was a really incredible game with a lot of energy and a packed gym.”
IN SUPPORT OF THE
STUDENT EXPERIENCE

BY BEN SHETLER ’02

Reflecting on my time at Hesston, there were a lot of factors that made it such an important period in my life. Coming from a public high school in a large city, I really enjoyed being a part of a small faith-centered campus community. I learned and practiced the fundamental skills for my career as a pilot. There are also small details I still remember, like how much I loved watching the tulips push through the brown earth in the spring. Most importantly though, I read, studied and engaged with fellow students and faculty on topics that helped shape my worldview and theology. Being an Anabaptist Mennonite was no longer just how I had been raised, it was something I studied, learned to love and claimed as my own. Those values have continually shaped the way I move through and engage the world around me. When I returned to Phoenix after my time at Hesston, there was no question in my mind that I was not only going to continue to participate in my home congregation, but also in the wider church.

I choose to give to Hesston out of gratitude. Gratitude for all the conversations, the community I felt, the things I learned, the career path I set out on, the faith that became my own. I choose to give so that unique Hesston Experience can continue to be shared and available to as many young people as possible.

I hope that Hesston College continues to evolve in ways that keep it relevant, while holding close the values that make it such a unique and special place.
HONORING LEGACIES, HELPING STUDENTS

Institutional scholarships are vital to the 99 percent of Hesston College students who receive institutional aid. These scholarships are awarded to students who have particular interest, qualifications or financial need. The following scholarship was added to the list of more than 100 endowed scholarships since fall of 2017.

THE WILMETTA D. (WEAVER) AND ARNOLD J. DIETZEL SCHOLARSHIP

After graduating from Hesston Academy in 1940, Wilmetta studied for one year at Hesston College before transferring to La Junta (Colo.) Nursing School, where she earned her registered nurse (RN) degree. The Dietzels met in 1944 when they both attended a training session for people considering foreign mission work. Arnold had served in Civilian Public Service during World War II, and in 1946 he signed on as a “seagoing cowboy” to deliver horses to Poland to help farmers recover from the devastation of the war. As soon as Arnold was discharged, the couple married in the Hesston College chapel.

In their first year of marriage, Arnold taught business courses at Hesston College and worked on the construction of Hess Hall. He also started soccer for students, using a cow pasture for a soccer field.

From 1948 to 1953, the Dietzels served at a leprosy colony in India under the Mennonite Board of Missions and Charities (now Mennonite Mission Network). Arnold was the superintendent of the Shantipur leprosy hospital and homes, and Wilmetta was nursing supervisor for the medical dispensary.

After spending three years in the United States where Arnold again taught at Hesston College, he was hired by Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) to work in the department called Menno Travel Service (MTS). This appointment launched a long career in the travel industry with a focus on making travel arrangements for MCC and church service workers. In 1957, the family moved to an MTS office in Beirut, Lebanon, which turned into five years of living in the Middle East, during which time Wilmetta also became an MCC/MTS employee, specializing in Holy Land tours.

When the Dietzel family returned to the United States in the early 1960s, they settled in Newton, Kan., where both Arnold and Wilmetta continued to work for MTS until their retirement in 1988. Arnold passed away in 2014 and Wilmetta in 2016.

Intended recipients of the Wilmetta D. (Weaver) and Arnold J. Dietzel Scholarship will be international students from countries where the Dietzels served and had connections throughout their lifetimes, or students with a strong interest in becoming a service worker with a Mennonite church organization.

To discuss ways to support Hesston College with a legacy gift, contact Vice President of Advancement, Byron Rupp at byron.rupp@hesston.edu.

THE NEUF 9K/2-MILE RUN/WALK

January 12, 2019 // Bethel College campus, North Newton, Kan.

The race honors Russ Neufeld '97 and former director of Information Technology who passed away in January 2017 from aggressive lymphoma. Proceeds benefit The Russ Neufeld Memorial Scholarship at Hesston College, as well as other organizations important to the Neufeld family during Russ’ fight.

Register at runtheneuf.neuf.ca and follow The Neuf Facebook page.

Pictured at The Neuf 2018 are Russ' Class of 1997 classmates Crystal (Hershey) Wenger, Monica (Swartzendruber) Janzen, Lisa (Swartzendruber) Yoder, Kendra (Duerksen) Neufeld, Lynn Roth and Steve Janzen.

To discuss ways to support Hesston College with a legacy gift, contact Vice President of Advancement, Byron Rupp at byron.rupp@hesston.edu.
The field of mathematics is one with set rules and processes and any deviation may result in an incorrect conclusion. Fortunately for Joanna Osborne ’80 Masingila, a math professor and dean of the School of Education at Syracuse (N.Y.) University, the same is not true of life – it allows for new paths and new ways of perceiving.

Looking at Masingila’s life experiences from the outside shows many opportunities for learning from others and gaining understanding of new ideas. From her childhood, several experiences introduced Masingila to different deviations from “the norm” – like her family hosting international students in their home, moving from Oregon to Kansas at the age of 10, and living and studying with other students from across the globe at Hesston College. Later, Masingila married a man from Kenya, spent time living, working and serving in Kenya, and taught in classrooms from high school through doctorate level both in the U.S. and overseas. Many of her life experiences wouldn’t fit the stereotypical “norm.”

Only in the last year did Masingila discover a quote by the French novelist Marcel Proust that encompasses much of what she has found to be true about life: “Discovery consists not in seeking new lands, but seeing with new eyes.”

“Seeing with new eyes didn’t start when I came to Hesston, and it didn’t end when I left Hesston, but Hesston College has played a significant role in how I see and interact with the world,” said Masingila. “I had what I call a God encounter at Hesston where I heard God speaking to me about opening my eyes and seeing, learning and trying to understand others’ universes. Faculty, staff and my peers challenged me to do that and to think in different ways and examine my beliefs critically.”

After finishing at Hesston, Masingila continued on to Goshen (Ind.) College, where she was again influenced through engaging with Haitian people during a three-month Study Service Term (SST). She earned her undergraduate degree in mathematics and was also prepared as a teacher. She and her husband, Adamson Masingila ’79, were married and she began teaching high school math. Joanna soon returned to school to complete a master’s in mathematics education from Indiana University-Purdue University, Indianapolis, and later a Ph.D. in mathematics education from Indiana University (Bloomington). Masingila was hired at Syracuse University as professor of mathematics and mathematics education in 1992. In 2014 she was named interim Dean of the School of Education before accepting the role permanently following a nationwide search.

As she’s moved through life and her career, Masingila has remembered God’s call for her to open her eyes and remained receptive to the opportunities and experiences placed before her.

“Continually seeking to open my eyes and see with new eyes has enabled me to have many different experiences and establish many meaningful relationships – with students, colleagues, community members and people around the world,” she said.

In 1998, the Masingila family spent seven months in Kenya when Joanna was a Fulbright scholar at Kenyatta University (Nairobi). That time in Kenya led to 20 years of collaborative work for Masingila in teacher education and research in the country. Through Masingila, Syracuse University established institutional linkages with Kenyan universities, and has had more than 30 Kenyan students pursue graduate studies in education at Syracuse.

More personal connections with international students have also formed as the Masingilas offer students rides to their church. One such connection resulted in the church congregation taking on a nine-year collaborative project (2002-11) to build a new primary school in a small Kenyan village, as well as offer workshops for children and youth, professional development for teachers and more.

Through each of her roles – scholar, instructor, mentor, friend – Masingila’s experiences can show the people she encounters the value of stepping outside their comfort zone and seeking understanding in new situations – seeing with new eyes.
A HESSTON COLLEGE HOMECOMING
A Celebration of 60 years of Lark Intercollegiate Athletics
Hesston College celebrated Homecoming Weekend with the theme "A Celebration of 60 Years of Lark Intercollegiate Athletics" Sept. 27 to 30. About 500 guests came to campus for events in celebration and remembrance of where Hesston College has been and where it is going.

Photos counterclockwise from top left: Student-athletes ride on a float in the community-wide homecoming parade.

Iris Miller Hesed and her mother, former statistics instructor Christy Miller Hesed, daughter and wife of biology professor Kyle Miller Hesed, enjoy the inflatables at the Kids’ Festival.

Gerry Sieber ’64 shares reflections on his years as a student and coach at Hesston College during the Sept. 29 dedication of Sieber Soccer Field, named in his honor. Sieber coached Lark athletes in several sports for several years, including 23 years as men’s soccer coach, prior to his retirement in late 2017. Pictured with Sieber is Athletic Director Chris Nachtigall ’01.

President Joe Manickam congratulates the winner of the Manickam Mosey Two-Mile Run/Walk, Campus Pastor Todd Lehman, who finished with a time of 11:28.

Bluegrass band, The Steel Wheels, perform a concert to help cap off a busy weekend.
HOMECOMING 2018
CLASS REUNIONS

First row: Academy Class of 1958, Academy Class of 1963, College Class of 1958, College Class of 1963
Third row: College Class of 2003, College Class of 2008 and College Class of 2013, Kansas City General Hospital School of Nursing (KCGH)

Photos by Delbert Tieszen.
Above right: Of the 73 nurses who took pre-nursing classes at Hesston before finishing their nursing degree at KCGH from 1958-68, 22 were able to come back to campus for a celebration in their honor. The recognition ceremony included the unveiling of a historical composite photo panel that is now displayed with all the other Hesston College nursing class photos. Pictured from left: Pat (King) ’58 Miller, Noreen (Garber) Ac56, ’58 Penner, Carol (Rice) Ac56, ’58 Katf, Shirley (Lauber) Ulrich ’66, Janice (Birky) Ac58, ’60 Eckels, Arla (Eichelberger) ’65 Yu, Jeanette (Horst) ’66 Arello, Detta Saltzman Ac55, ’57, Mary Lou (Erb) ’62 Detweiler, Pauline (Kauffman) Ac56, ’60 Yatzy, Norma (Zehr) ’57 Schrock, Freda (Yoder) ’60 Kauffman, Barbara (Erb) Ac56, ’59 Wyse, Virginia (Hostetler) ’60 Wenger, Judy (Graber) ’65 Kliewer, Judy (King) ’63 Selzer, Frances Otto ’67, LaDonna (Egli) ’64 Gaedde, Shirley (Hjelmstad) ’63 Hostetler, Sherry (Jones) ’62 White, Joan (Bontrager) ’64 Boley, Tuyila (Selzer) Ac58, ’60 White.
Enrollment for the fall 2018 semester includes a total student headcount of 420, with 90 percent of students enrolled at a full-time status. The total enrollment falls right at the average of the last five years.

With an institution-wide focus on broadening global engagement launched a year ago, diversity at Hesston College is on the rise. For fall 2018, 56 international students are enrolled from 22 countries, which is 13 percent of total enrollment. While the percent of international students within the student body held steady from 2017, the countries students call home grew in 2018, widening the college’s global reach. U.S. students represent 28 U.S. states and territories, including about 51 percent from Kansas and 36 percent from other U.S. states and territories.

Hesston is committed to being an institution that welcomes students from all backgrounds and beliefs. Nearly 21 percent of students come from the Anabaptist-Mennonite faith tradition, and more than 30 other Christian denominations and world religions comprise the campus community.

“One population that was exciting to watch this past recruitment cycle was students seeking an aviation degree,” said Rachel Swartzendruber ’00 Miller, vice president of enrollment. “Our new aviation student number more than doubled from eight to 18 since last fall, which echoes the reality of job demand within the aviation market. We will continue to watch trends across all industries and try to respond appropriately with our programs of study.”

Of total student enrollment, 184 are new students. Following Hesston College trends for the last several years, fall to fall retention of students who were new in 2017 remains high at almost 73 percent, as compared to a national average of about 61 percent according to The National Student Clearinghouse Research Center. Students living in campus housing make up 70 percent of the population.

“We continue to closely monitor retention, both overall and of sub-populations, as one of our tools to gauge student satisfaction with the Hesston Experience,” said Brent Yoder ’98, vice president of Academics. “Once again, we are pleased to see better than 80 percent retention of nursing students, international students and others, but we are also thinking strategically about what we can do to ensure a positive experience and high retention for all students.”

---

**Fall Enrollment Numbers Highlight Diversity**

Enrollment for the fall 2018 semester includes a total student headcount of 420, with 90 percent of students enrolled at a full-time status. The total enrollment falls right at the average of the last five years.

With an institution-wide focus on broadening global engagement launched a year ago, diversity at Hesston College is on the rise. For fall 2018, 56 international students are enrolled from 22 countries, which is 13 percent of total enrollment. While the percent of international students within the student body held steady from 2017, the countries students call home grew in 2018, widening the college’s global reach. U.S. students represent 28 U.S. states and territories, including about 51 percent from Kansas and 36 percent from other U.S. states and territories.

Hesston is committed to being an institution that welcomes students from all backgrounds and beliefs. Nearly 21 percent of students come from the Anabaptist-Mennonite faith tradition, and more than 30 other Christian denominations and world religions comprise the campus community.

“One population that was exciting to watch this past recruitment cycle was students seeking an aviation degree,” said Rachel Swartzendruber ’00 Miller, vice president of enrollment. “Our new aviation student number more than doubled from eight to 18 since last fall, which echoes the reality of job demand within the aviation market. We will continue to watch trends across all industries and try to respond appropriately with our programs of study.”

Of total student enrollment, 184 are new students. Following Hesston College trends for the last several years, fall to fall retention of students who were new in 2017 remains high at almost 73 percent, as compared to a national average of about 61 percent according to The National Student Clearinghouse Research Center. Students living in campus housing make up 70 percent of the population.

“We continue to closely monitor retention, both overall and of sub-populations, as one of our tools to gauge student satisfaction with the Hesston Experience,” said Brent Yoder ’98, vice president of Academics. “Once again, we are pleased to see better than 80 percent retention of nursing students, international students and others, but we are also thinking strategically about what we can do to ensure a positive experience and high retention for all students.”
The summer issue included a list of new faculty and staff joining this campus community, and the following joined since that time:

**Will Friesen**, chemistry professor, holds a Ph.D. in analytical chemistry and mass spectrometry from the State University of New York at Buffalo and a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Tabor College (Hillsboro, Kan.).

**Marilyn Galliardt**, Food Service.

**Erin Hershberger ’10**, nursing clinical instructor, holds a bachelor of science in nursing from Tabor College. She is pursuing a master's in nursing education from Wichita (Kan.) State University and works at Kidron Bethel Village (North Newton, Kan.).

**Erin Hershberger ’10**

**Mahlon Janzen ’77**, Campus Facilities.

**Chandra Johnson**, Intensive English Program director, holds a master's in TESOL from Fresno (Calif.) Pacific University and a bachelor's in English from Tabor College. She has twenty years of teaching experience as well as several years of administrative experience directing intensive English language programs.

**Nick Ladd ’14**, Bible professor, holds a master's in elementary education from Grand Valley State University (Allendale, Mich.), and was most recently co-pastor of Salem Mennonite Church in Waldron, Mich..

**Megan Leary**, mathematics professor, has a master of science in mathematics from the University of Oklahoma (Norman) and a bachelor's from Bethel College (North Newton, Kan.).

**Collin Loutensock ’16**, athletic administrative assistant, intramural director and athletics events manager for volleyball and basketball, holds a bachelor's in sports communication from Newman University (Wichita, Kan.).

**Serena Lytle**, assistant athletic trainer, has a master's from Missouri Baptist University (St. Louis).

**Michele Miller ’74 Sharp**, athletics compliance and eligibility specialist, earned a physician assistant degree from Alderson Broaddus University (Phillippi, W.V.) and a bachelor's from Goshen (Ind.) College.

**Colby Moritz**, database and systems administrator, studied network administration at Wichita (Kan.) Technical Institute.

**Helen Norris-Tuohy**, Food Service.

**Kelsay Rychener**, adjunct communications professor, has a master's in communications from Wichita State University.

**Jessica Schmidt**, social work professor, holds a master’s degree from Newman University.

**Eric Schwab**, cross country coach, holds a master’s degree from Azusa (Calif.) Pacific University.

**Dan Sigley**, head athletic trainer, holds a doctor of athletic training degree from the University of Idaho (Moscow) and a bachelor's in athletic training from Tabor College.

**Stephanie Taylor**, Food Service.
INCREASED GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT
A CAMPUS PRIORITY

Just days before the official kick-off of the 2018-19 year, Hesston College unveiled a new campus feature. The Global Pathway – lightpole banners based on the flags of the countries and U.S. territories that make up this year’s student body – line the campus’ center walkway and emphasize a collective mind toward global engagement.

A global focus is nothing new for Hesston, but the arrival of President Joseph A. Manickam ’87 in 2017, elevated the campus community’s global thought and action processes to the next level by building on the foundation already in place.

“Being globally engaged is unquestionably what it means to be faithful followers of Jesus, and that’s what we are at Hesston College,” said Dr. Manickam. “We can’t sit unto ourselves, in our own bubble. Hesston College has something to offer the world, and we are being beckoned to engage widely. It’s the missional mandate of following Jesus.”

New positions, job descriptions and initiatives with a global focus are structured to provide answers to the “What does the world need from Hesston College?” question President Manickam introduced during his first year in office.

“Many of our job shifts are to ensure we have a coordinated initiative to move all parts of campus in the same direction,” said Manickam. “It helps us better analyze the gaps in what we’re doing and shift to fill those gaps.”

New appointments include:

• John Murray ’81, who began as Director of International Admissions in 2017, moved into an expanded role of Dean of Global Engagement. He works intentionally across all aspects of the student experience to ensure student success.
• André Swartley ’99, director of the English as a Second Language program since 2014, took on a new position to coordinate transcultural experiences.
• Mackenzie Miller ’18, is participating in a global experience pilot program, spending the 2018-19 year in China through a partnership with Mennonite Partners in China in which she is studying Mandarin at Nanjing Normal University, serving with a local organization and being completely immersed in a new culture.
• Following a feasibility study, the college decided to launch an Intensive English Language Program for fall 2019. Program director Chandra Johnson is developing the program to provide additional English language training to incoming international students and those attending other schools, and serve as a resource for immigrants in the region to receive English language assistance.

While these new initiatives are still being developed, students have been able to connect globally in more tangible ways this semester, including celebrations of International Day of Peace in September and the annual Cultures Fair in October.

“It may seem that Hesston College is blazing into new territory, but Manickam notes that these initiatives are the result of work that has been in process at the college for decades.

“The reason we are able to implement these initiatives so quickly is because the community was primed for them already,” Manickam said. “This kind of global engagement is at the core of who Hesston has been all along.”

Top: Mackenzie Miller ’18 at Nanjing Normal University in China. Bottom: Laura Yeboah-Appiah ’20 (Kumasi, Ghana) talks to Dylan Slabach Brubaker ’19 about her home country at the Cultures Fair in October. Photo by Jaden Hostetter ’19.
1930-39

DEATHS

Olive (Miller) Ac32 Landes, Denver, Colo., April 29, 2018

1940-49

DEATHS

Leonard Lichti ’40, former faculty, Hesston, Kan., June 7, 2018

Lydia (Thiessen) Ac41 Klaassen, Mount Hope, Kan., July 3, 2018

Mary (Zimmerman) ’45 Willems, Protection, Kan., June 20, 2018

Wallace Fisher, husband of Marilyn (Kisinger) Ac47 Fisher, Wellman, Iowa, March 6, 2018

Barbara (Detweiler) Ac47, ’50 Gleysteen, Goshen, Ind., June 13, 2018

Bill Nitzsche Ac49, husband of Irene (Schmidt) Ac49 Nitzsche, Hesston, Kan., Sept. 24, 2018

Leroy Bitikofor ’49, husband of Doris (Setzer) Ac45 Bitikofor, Hesston, Kan., Sept. 26, 2018

1950-59

Lois (Shetler) Ac56, ’58 Decker, Fort Worth, Texas, a retired professional musician who is now concentrating on being an artist in oils, watercolors and oils on porcelain portraits.

Marian (Histant) Ac56, ’58 Schwabbauer, Iowa City, Iowa, is retired and living in a continuing care retirement community. She volunteers regularly at the retirement community, as well as at the local Mennonite Central Committee thrift shop, and she has recently been doing some memoir writing.

DEATHS

Thelma (Roupp) Ac50, ’53, wife of Julio Rivera Ac52, ’54, San Juan, P.R., June 16, 2018

Nina (Beachy) Ac51 Reber, wife of John Reber Ac50, South Hutchinson, Kan., Aug. 19, 2018

Dora Willems, wife of John Willems Ac51, ’65, Albany, Ore., Jan. 26, 2018

Harold Blosser ’57, Iowa City, Iowa, March 25, 2018

Nancy Peachey Bontrager, wife of Marion Bontrager ’57, former faculty, Hesston, Kan., Sept. 30, 2018

Lawrence Birky Ac58, Kalispell, Mont., Aug. 4, 2016

Howard Birky ’58, Overland Park, Kan., Aug. 29, 2018

Mary (Heyerly) ’59 Strong, wife of Sam Strong ’59, Wellman, Iowa, Aug. 28, 2018

Phyllis (King) Ac59 (Kauffman) ’71 Stutzman, wife of Doug Stutzman Ac57, Hesston, Kan., Oct. 16, 2018

1960-69

Marilyn (Begly) ’60 Stauffer, Orrville, Ohio, moved with her husband, Norm, to Orr’Villa Retirement Center in April 2018 from Waxhaw, N.C., where they had been living and serving at the JAARS Center, the service arm of Wycliffe Bible Translators.

Norris Glick Ac63, ’65 and Sandra (Gering) ’69 Glick, Middleton, Wis., retired from their careers as a physician (Norris) and elementary school teacher (Sandra) in 2016. Norris continues to work in consultation and research.

Virginia Swartzendruber Ac63, Hesston, Kan., returned to painting in 2017, and recently had two of her paintings chosen to hang with other local artists in the Schowalter Villa’s new Mullet Place residence complex and café.

Carol (Zehr) Ac66, ’68 Brown, Shawnee Mission, Kan., is project manager at U.S. Bank, where she writes operating procedures for a call center group and manages audits and the department’s business continuity plan.

Geneva (Reeves) ’68 Duff, Philadelphia, Mo., taught elementary school for 20 years before her current role of working with developmentally disabled adults.

Stan Hoffman ’68, McDonogh, Ga., retired in April 2018 from a 40-year career as a psychologist.

J.D. Martin ’68, Snowmass, Colo., is a professional musician and is working on his ninth CD with his wife, Jan Garrett.

DEATHS

Luis Vargas ’61, Chicago, Ill., March 22, 2017

Abe Clymer ’63, former board member, Harrisonburg, Va., Sept. 1, 2016

Merlin Unruh ’63, husband of Vesta (Thomas) Unruh, Atwater, Calif., Sept. 27, 2018

Merri (Hinkley) ’68 Roderick, Sarasota, Fla., Jan. 11, 2018

1970-79

Brian Roth ’76, Safed, Israel, will soon return to the U.S. after living and working in Israel for the past five years.

Joy (Kelmer) ’78 Reichenbach, Bluffton, Ohio, is a nurse who has spent most of her career in geriatrics, including nursing home administrator in nonprofit organizations for the last 16 years.

Jane (Birky) ’78 Rittenhouse, Mount Pleasant, Pa., is a nutritionist in the WIC program.

Cheryl (Egli) ’78 Roth, Mesa, Ariz., is a nurse practitioner working in the area of High Risk Obstetrics in Scottsdale, Ariz. She was recently named president elect for the national Association of Women’s Health, Obstetric, and Neonatal Nurses (AWHONN), with her presidential role beginning in 2019.

Phyllis (Schmidt) Shirk ’78, Portland, Ore., started a new nursing job in February 2018 on the Adult Day Surgery unit at Legacy Emanuel Hospital.

Marty Roth ’79, Mesa, Ariz., is a master electrician and general contractor who spends part of his summers in Wasilla, Alaska, doing contracting work, hunting and fishing.

DEATHS

Sid Whitceter ’70, husband of Kathy (Erb) ’71 Whitceter, Hesston, Kan., July 16, 2018

Mahlon Yoder ’70, husband of Rosemary (Roth) ’71 Yoder, Linn Creek, Mo., Sept. 3, 2018

Chuck Amstutz, husband of Esther (Unternahrer) ’74 Amstutz, Orrville, Ohio, Feb. 15, 2018
1980-89

Andrea Springer ’80, Hutchinson, Kan., left her job as director of development at local NPR station Radio Kansas in spring 2018 and opened a business, The Wool Market and DIY School, with her husband, Steve Snook. The Wool Market is a place for all things fiber — knitting, crocheting, needlework, spinning and weaving, and also showcases artisan pieces from around the region and offers a variety of hands-on classes.


Shannon (Bisoni) ’84 Pauls, Hutchinson, Kan., retired in 2018 after teaching in Kansas public schools for 31 years.

Terri (Swartzendruber) ’85 Leichty, Superior, Colo., released her book Body Love/Food Peace: Ten Practices to End the War in August 2017.

Rick Toews ’85, ’86, Hesston, Kan., is vice president of loans at Midland National Bank in Newton.

Dawn Leatherman ’86, Goshen, Ind., worked as a private duty nurse in home care focusing on pediatric respiratory patients with ventilators for 26 years, and began a job as a private duty supervisory nurse/case manager in fall 2017.

Stephanie (Atwell) ’87 Willson, Venice, Fla., is a medical social worker at Sarasota Memorial Hospital.

Glen Rhodes ’88 and Rhonda (Yoder) ’88 Rhodes, Arthur, Ill., continue to serve at Arthur Mennonite Church, where Glen has been pastor for 16 years. Rhonda is a third grade teacher at Arthur Elementary School.

MARRIAGE

Dawn Leatherman ’86 and John McCarty, Goshen, Ind., Sept. 9, 2018

DEATHS

Cathy (Kletke) ’82 Kletke Shea, Shamong, N.J., June 15, 2018
Betty May ’84, Marion, Kan., Aug. 11, 2018
Rick Troyer ’88, Salem, Ore., Oct. 16, 2018
LaVern Wedel ’89, Newton, Kan., Feb. 1, 2018

1990-99

Daniel Bran ’93, Little Rock, Ark., is pastor of Latino ministry at Fellowship Bible Church.

Julia (Wyse) ’98 Richer, Archbold, Ohio, teaches high school Spanish, and completed a M.A. in education in summer 2018.

BIRTHS

Nate Selzer ’94 and Hortencia Armendariz, Monterey Park, Calif.: Metzli Sol Travis ’99, ’00, faculty, and Christy (Berkey) ’03 Pickerill, Moundridge, Kan.: Zuriel Sherrill, June 28, 2018

DEATH

Alice Chavez ’90, Newton, Kan., July 21, 2018

2000-09

Brit Wegmann ’03, Tampa, Fla., teaches K-5 art at Riverhills Elementary IB Magnet School, and is the secretary/treasurer of the Hillsborough Classroom Teachers Association.

Vaughn Miller ’04, Virginia Beach, Va., is working on a doctorate in family counseling at Regent University (Virginia Beach).

Nathan Gunawan ’05, Surabaya, Indonesia, is a lecturer in the business school at Universitas Pelita Harapan.

Neal Detweiler ’06, Goshen, Ind., began as assistant professor of biology at Goshen College in fall 2018.

Stephanie Friesen ’07, ’08, Troy Osborne ’91, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, was selected as Dean at Conrad Grebel University College and the University of Waterloo. He will begin his new role Jan. 1. Osborne is a historian whose research and teaching interests center on Mennonite history and the Reformation, particularly on the development of the Dutch Anabaptist tradition. He has been a professor of history at Grebel since 2011.

“I’m excited about taking on this new role at Grebel, a remarkable community of talented and accomplished teachers, scholars, staff and students,” said Osborne. “The college has an invaluable legacy of contributing to the Mennonite community, the University of Waterloo and the broader community. I’m eager to build on our accomplishments and cultivate a vision for Grebel’s future.”

Osborne’s connections to Mennonite institutions are vast. After attending Hesston College, Osborne earned degrees from Goshen (Ind.) College and Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (Elkhart, Ind.). He served as a professor of history at Bluffton (Ohio) University prior to teaching at Grebel, and while working on his Ph.D. at the University of Minnesota (Minneapolis), he performed dissertation research in the Netherlands, connecting him to European Mennonite communities.

“Excerpted from Conrad Grebel University College, June 26, 2018. Photo courtesy of Conrad Grebel University College.”
Englewood, Colo., works as a paraprofessional to children with moderate/mild needs in Denver.

John Huber ’07, Wichita, Kan., is the Morning Edition host and a producer at Wichita NPR station, KMUW. He received the national second place award from Public Radio News Directors, Inc., in the “Best Newscast” category, Division B.

Jennifer (Troyer) ’08 Carmichael, Mount Hope, Kan., is a registered nurse and patient care supervisor at Hutchinson Regional Medical Center.

Regina (Weaver) ’08 Horst, Newmanstown, Pa., is a registered nurse at Landis Homes.

Zach Schroeder ’08, Hays, Kan., is a nurse anesthetist at Hays Medical Center hospital.


**MARRIAGES**

Katie Wahl ’07 and Elia Mataboro, Phoenix, Ariz., June 8, 2018

Nozomi Suzuki ’08 and Naoya Iriomote, Osaka, Japan, May 4, 2018

Morgan (Sayles) ’06 and Patrick Einspahr, Seibert, Colo.: Crue Hochstetler ’14, staff, Hesston, Kan., Oct. 6, 2018

Marcus Unruh ’09 and Marissa Hochstetler ’14, staff, Hesston, Kan., May 22, 2018

Janine Coblenz ’02, former staff and Mike McDowell, Sugar Land, Texas: Maren Louise, July 2, 2018

Sam ’02 and Rebecca Nice, Manistee, Mich.: Joel Aaron, June 14, 2018

Jon ’02 and Meredith Trotter, Harrisonburg, Va.: Hannah Elise, Dec. 26, 2017

Adam Friessen ’04 and Kelsie Miller, Goshen, Ind.: Ada Kathryn, July 6, 2018

Drew ’04 and Annie Gerber, Harper, Kan.: Benjamin James, June 16, 2018

Vaughn ’04 and Caroline Miller, Virginia Beach, Va.: Adia Lincoln, April 7, 2018

Zack ’04 and Rachel (Yoder) ’04 Miller, Baltic, Ohio: Abha Lahela, born Aug. 22, 2013, received for adoption Dec. 19, 2017

Moon (Yu) ’06 and Kenneth Evans, Cedar Park, Texas: Collin Shay, Nov. 3, 2017

Morgan (Sayles) ’06 and Patrick Einspahr, Seibert, Colo.: Crue Hochstetler ’14, staff, Hesston, Kan., Oct. 6, 2018

Jared ’07 and Katelyn Boese, Hesston, Kan.: Emersyn Mae, Aug. 17, 2018

Katie (Wahl) ’07 and Elia Mataboro, Phoenix, Ariz.: Malaika Ann, June 16, 2018

Samantha (Schlabach) ’08 and Kendall Sommers, Unipontown, Ohio: Colton Michael, June 9, 2018

Heidi (Boese) ’09 and Brendon Derstine, Harrisonburg, Va.: Ava Mae, Aug. 26, 2018

Katelin (Landes) ’09 and Eric Hamlin, Muscatine, Iowa: Ainsley Rae, June 7, 2018

Lance ’09 and Kristin (Nussbaum) ’09 Wenger, Rockingham, Va.: Everly Mae, Aug. 3, 2018

Jason ’09 and Anna (Yoder) ’11, Unruh, Peabody, Kan.: David Todd, July 25, 2018

**2010-18**

Brittany (Albrecht) ’10 Carter, Enid, Okla., is Chief Financial Officer for Farm Credit of Enid.

Matt Lehman ’10 Wiens, Bel Aire, Kan., worked at Mennonite Mission Network for five years, most recently as director of donor relations, before beginning a new job as director of development at local NPR station Radio Kansas in Hutchinson in August 2018, filling the role vacated by Andrea Springer ’80.

Jerry Acosta ’11, Wichita, Kan., is pastor of At the Feet of Christ Church. The church will soon begin providing biblical training for their members by starting an Instituto Bíblico Anabaptista (IBA) center at the church.

Darin Bontrager ’11, Goshen, Ind., began a new role as Regional Operations Coordinator for Region 2 of Mennonite Disaster Service in July 2018.

Zenawit Nerae ’13, Doraville, Ga., is working on a master’s of public health degree from Mercer University (Atlanta, Ga.).

Marissa Schuett ’13, Kansas City, Mo., works in a LTC and rehab facility whose focus is getting individuals to their highest level of function on everyday tasks in order to return home safely and independently or prepare for the next level of care.

Victoria Gunawan ’14, Arlington, Va., works as a digital specialist and production artist at George Washington University.

**TRAVEL WITH HESTON COLLEGE!**

**THAILAND**

› June 1 to 16, 2019, Led by Joe Manickam, Tony Brown and Kyle Miller Hesed

› Trip highlights: Orientation in Bangkok; overnight train to Chiang Mai; debrief on the beaches of Patani; Thai culture, music and history classes; visit to Mae La Refugee Camp; meetings with religious leaders, young business owners, artists and others working toward peace.

› Program package: $2,000 plus airfare; Covered expenses include all domestic travel within Thailand, lodging, most meals, museums, parks, shrines and cultural events.

› $500 deposit due by January 11, 2019. Remaining amount due by May 1. Deposits will be refundable until April 1. Contact kylemh@hesston.edu with questions.

**JAPAN**

› May 22 to June 12, 2019, Led by Andre Swartley

› Cost: $3,500 including airfare, all in-country transportation, event admission, lodging and some meals. For those who cannot fly out of Wichita, the cost is $2,200 plus airfare.

› Contact andre.swartley@hesston.edu if interested.
Mason University (Fairfax, Va.).
Simon Zehr ’14, Tiskilwa, Ill., lives and works on his family’s vegetable farm.
Reagan McClellan ’15, Reading, Kan., is an Animal Control Officer with the Emporia (Kan.) Police Department. After finishing at Hesston, Reagan played basketball overseas before completing her degree in criminal justice.
Kiara Boettger ’16, Charlotte, N.C., is a digital and design intern at Elevation Church.
Gracie Tijerina ’16, Brownsville, Texas, joined the Hesston College Board of Directors with her first meeting in October. Gracie is a pastor at Hope for the Broken Mennonite Church in Los Fresnos, Texas.

MARRIAGES
Lee Voth-Gaeddert ’10 and Mollie Nebel ’13, Atlanta, Ga., Sept. 2, 2018
Meredith Roth ’12 and Richard Erdkamp, Exeter, Neb., Sept. 8, 2018
Grace Schmidt ’12 and Joshua Bitikofer, Colorado Springs, Colo., June 2, 2018
Megan Stauffer ’12 and Matthew Genung, Nashville, Tenn., June 16, 2018
Evette Yoder ’12 and Stuart Kauffman-Kurtz, Indianapolis, Ind., July 28, 2018
Erin Albrecht ’13 and Brandon Gibson, Berkley, Mich., Aug. 25, 2018
Neal Brubaker ’13 and Carley Wyse ’14, staff, Hesston, Kan., July 7, 2018
Mariah Martin ’13 and Nick Bowman, Goshen, Ind., July 28, 2018
Heidi Schmidt ’14 and Collin Quiring, Barnett, Mo., June 9, 2018
Isaac Dahl ’15 and Jacinda Stahly, Harrisonburg, Va., June 23, 2018
Sarah Hostetler ’15 and Mike Youngquist, Milford, Neb., Oct. 6, 2018
Cynnandra Luttrell ’15 and Jacob Hilde, Peoria, Ill., June 9, 2018
Caleb Geary ’16 and Ally Steiner ’17, Peoria, Ariz., June 23, 2018
Mallorli Mills ’16 and Cameron Qualls, Cheney, Kan., April 21, 2018
Maddy Black ’17 and Daniel Dick, Maize, Kan., June 30, 2018

**Correction from Summer 2018:**
Alicia Wenger ’14 and Shane Showalter, April 21, 2018, Rockingham, Va.

**Faculty/Staff**
Travis, faculty, and Cayla Bunk, McPherson, Kan.; Rynnie Jo, Oct. 10, 2018
Courtney, former staff, and Katie, former staff, Spitz, Nixa, Mo.; Walker Michael, June 25, 2018

**BIRTHS**
Ana Loucks ’10 and Juan Diaz, Goshen, Ind.; Guadalupe Mae, Sept. 12, 2018
Dustin ’10 and Mallory Linder, Grove City, Ohio; Roman Lee, April 29, 2018
Meg (Leatherman) ’11, former staff and Cole Ingham, Pegosa Springs, Colo.; Thaddeus Aitan, Aug. 9, 2018
Kenzie (Jones) ’11 and Logan Truong, North Logan, Utah; Brielle Thi, July 26, 2018
Lindsey (Carter) ’13 and Andrew Johnson, Alden, Kan.; Evelyn, Sept. 28, 2017
Mallorli (Mills) ’16 and Cameron Qualls, Cheney, Kan.; Creighton Russell, Sept. 11, 2018
Teresa Foltz ’17, Wichita, Kan.; Hannah Elise, Feb. 28, 2018
Maddy ’18 and Dylan McLemore, Deridder, La.; Ezra Ben, Sept. 16, 2018

**REFER A STUDENT**
Do you know a high school student who should know more about the Hesston Experience? Send us his or her name and contact information so we can be in touch soon!

Send to Admissions Office
Hesston College
Box 3000
Hesston, KS 67062
or email admissions@hesston.edu
## DECEMBER
- 1 - Prospective student open house
- 4 - Hesston-Bethel Performing Arts: Sons of Serendip
- 8 - Peace On Earth Christmas concert featuring music and theatre departments
- 13 - RN to BSN pinning ceremony
- Fall term ends

## JANUARY
- 16 - Spring term begins
- 18 to 20 - Michele Hershberger at Illinois Mennonite Conference high school youth retreat, Camp Menno Haven
- 21 - Martin Luther King Day celebration, no classes

## FEBRUARY
- 1 to 3 - Anabaptist Vision and Discipleship Series
- 3 - Bel Canto Singers at West Zion Mennonite Church, Moundridge, Kan.
- 7 to 9 - Board of Directors meeting
- 8 - Performing Arts Scholarship auditions
- 8 to 9 - Prospective student visit days
- 9 to 10 - Know Jesus junior high youth event for Western District and South Central Mennonite Conferences
- 12 - Hesston-Bethel Performing Arts: The King’s Singers, Bethel College (North Newton, Kan.)
- 17 - Bel Canto Singers/Bethel College joint choir concert, Tabor Mennonite Church, Newton, Kan.
- 18 - Prospective student open house
- 23 - Keyboard competition: “A Festival of Baroque Music”
- 24 - Andover Organ Series: Marco Bij de Vaate
- 27 to 29 - Spring musical: Big Fish

## MARCH
- 1 - Grandparent Day
- 1 to 2 - Prospective student visit days
- 5 - Hesston-Bethel Performing Arts: Armida Quartet
- 11 to 15 - Spring break
- 31 - Bel Canto Singers and Tony Brown at First Presbyterian Church, Wichita

## APRIL
- 5 to 6 - Prospective student visit days
- 6 - Sophomore and Junior prospective visit day
- 9 - Hesston-Bethel Performing Arts: The Ruth Moody Band, Bethel College
- 19 - Good Friday – no classes
- 26 to 27 - Pen to Paper to Performance playwriting festival

## MAY
- 2 - New Alumni Dinner for class of 2019
- 5 - Bel Canto Singers and President Manickam at Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church, Goessel, Kan.
- 16 - Spring term ends
- 19 - Commencement
- 19 to 30 - Bel Canto Singers spring tour

See the full campus calendar and more details at hesston.edu/calendar

In an effort to be more sustainable with resources, we are communicating more by email than print mail.

Help ensure we’re up to date and do a Contact Information Update at hesston.edu/address-update.
Box 3000
Hesston, KS 67062

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED
(If you are a parent receiving your child’s mail, please forward his or her current address to Hesston College today)

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:
MARK SCANDRETTE

Visit hesston.edu/avds for more information and registration.