Seeking to Serve:
Alumni share stories of volunteerism and courage
As you will see in this edition of Affinity, there is a great and long-standing tradition of volunteerism and service by Columbia/Christian College faculty, staff, students and alumni.

We care about service because our effectiveness as an institution is formally evaluated on how well we serve and engage our communities. Our accreditor, the Higher Learning Commission, expects us to “engage with [our] identified constituencies and communities of interest and respond to their needs as [our] mission and capacity allow.”

But we would serve our communities regardless of accreditation requirements because doing so is in our DNA. Recently, I reviewed the annual self-evaluations of our full-time faculty. Here are their community service activities — and this is for less than 10 percent of our total number of employees:

Volunteering: 35
Organization officer or board member: 13
Pro bono consultations: 9

Locally, many faculty, staff and students participate in Relay for Life and United Way activities.

It is especially meaningful that Columbia College students serve everywhere they are. The communities benefit while students are establishing habits of service that endure a lifetime. Columbia College counts on alumni gifts of many kinds — certainly financial, but also of time and talent in your communities. I charge our students to answer the question: “How can you make your world, your country, your community, your family, your college better?” Serving is a way.

It has been my pleasure and privilege to serve as your interim president. Dr. Scott Dalrymple will take office on May 1, and you will hear from him in this space in the next issue. We are looking forward to welcoming Tina and Scott to join us as we continue to serve.
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**Affinity magazine is published in cooperation with Alumni Relations, Public Relations and Inside Columbia magazine.**
Caton's family has a strong connection to Columbia College, as his mother, grandmother and great-aunt all attended Christian College. According to Caton, his great-aunt even roomed with Jane Froman.

"My grandmother’s time at Christian College was formative for her," Caton says. "She was a very accomplished pianist. It was something she did for the rest of her life, which she attributed to her time at (the college)."

After graduation, Morris taught music, played in bands and wrote a column for the Boonville Daily News for several years. Her family’s connection to the college remained strong over the years, and when Caton had the opportunity to speak at the Kansas City campus’s graduation, he decided the time was right to donate his grandmother’s diploma.

"As I was meeting with Cindy, we talked about the school and how important it was to my family," he says. "I realized that she would really enjoy having her diploma on display at the school."

On Jan. 18, 1851, Christian Female College received its charter from the Missouri Legislature, becoming the first women’s college west of the Mississippi River to be chartered by a state legislature. Charter Day has become one of the most important dates on Columbia College’s calendar, providing an opportunity to reflect on the struggles, triumphs and heart-warming moments in the college’s history. Each of Columbia College’s 35 campuses observe Charter Day, and each campus has its own unique connection to the day.

At Columbia College-Kansas City’s recent Charter Day celebration, the campus received an original 1917 Christian Female College diploma from Cliff Caton, pastor of First Christian Church of Blue Springs. Caton’s grandmother, Sarah Morris, attended the college, graduating with an associate degree.

“It is a tremendous honor to have this historical document displayed on our campus,” says Cindy Miller, campus director. "This document demonstrates the long and distinguished lineage of Columbia College, which has served the underserved since 1851."

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Randerson Scholarship Exceeds Goal

AHE endowed scholarship will benefit veterans and their dependents

BY JENNIFER TRUESDALE • PHOTO BY KACI SMART ’09

Last September, before a conference for Nationwide Campus directors, Anita Abbott Timmons ’58, vice chair of the Columbia College Board of Trustees, addressed the group with an important announcement. Timmons revealed that the college would establish a fund with the goal of endowing a scholarship in honor of Col. David “Mike” Randerson, vice president for the Division of Adult Higher Education. Randerson had, just the month before, announced that he planned to retire after nearly 19 years of service.

Timmons pointed to Randerson’s intellect, imagination, enthusiasm and optimism in leading the division with such success. “You leave an extraordinary legacy,” she said.

Mary McCleary Posner, the chair and founder of the Memorial Day Salute to Veterans Air Show in Columbia, Mo., who has known Randerson since 1992, has chaired the scholarship fund effort. Posner presented the first gift toward the scholarship to Timmons and Interim President Dr. Terry Smith at the conference.

The scholarship will benefit veterans and their dependents attending AHE campuses. At press time, 96 gifts have been made, totaling more than $17,737. Alumni, faculty, staff and friends have contributed gifts.

The first recipient of the Randerson Scholarship will be presented at Military Recognition Day on the main campus, May 22. Gifts to the endowment can be made at www.choosecc.org.

Prior to beginning his career at Columbia College in 1995, Randerson dedicated 25 years of service to the U.S. Air Force in several positions, including director of Student Affairs and professor of National Security Studies at Air University’s Air War College at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Ala. He also served as professor of Aerospace Studies and department chair of Air Force Reserve Officers Training Corps at the University of Missouri.

Randerson was named Citizen of the Year in 2013 by the mid-Missouri chapter of the Military Officers Association of America. The award recognizes a person who has made significant military-related contributions in the community. He will also receive the Honorary Alumnus Award from the Columbia College Alumni Association during Reunion Weekend.
Join Together in Song

Music returns to Columbia College

BY JEFF BRANSCOM • PHOTO BY SARAH CORBETT

People familiar with Columbia College’s history know the college was one of the top destinations for young musicians looking to hone their skills. The college’s music conservatory attracted some of the brightest minds of the day, from renowned pianist Franklin Launer (namesake of Launer Auditorium on main campus) to the college’s most celebrated alumna, Jane Froman.

Despite its excellent reputation and distinguished tradition, the music program was discontinued in the early 1980s. During this time, the college was experiencing financial uncertainty and due to low enrollment, the program was cut. Amid the tumult, the college retained its choir, renaming it the Jane Froman Singers.

Now, after more than 30 years, Columbia College will once again offer an undergraduate music degree. Nollie Moore, instructor of music and director of the Jane Froman Singers, has high hopes for the music program’s return.

Moore says the degree is “very heavy in theory and performance,” but also is paired with “clusters” of classes that make it a very practical degree, which he feels is important. The four clusters are: education, which leads to certification to teach K-12; communication studies, which focuses on the performance aspect; business administration, which focuses on marketing and public relations; and religious studies. Each student’s experience will culminate with an internship tailored to his or her desired career path.

“Students who select the business cluster will have an internship with some sort of music business here in town … it could be the Blue Note (a local performance venue), a recording studio, or something else,” Moore says. “Hopefully, it’s a way to provide our students with real-world experience, giving them a leg up as they begin the interview process.”

Moore also is excited about the opportunity to recapture some of the college’s “grand experience,” in regard to music education and its place in a liberal arts institution. He hopes having a music degree available to students again will harken back to a previous time.

“There was a time when most students on campus would have been studying music of some sort,” he says. “I’m very excited — I want the degree to be successful, and I want it to be practical. It’s a great opportunity for the school, and I hope it enriches the overall (college) experience.”

And Moore believes bringing music back will be his hallmark achievement.

“I kind of consider my mark at Columbia College will be the return of the music program.”

By Jeff Branscom
New Releases
A recap on Columbia College staff and faculty books
BY JEFF BRANSCOM

Last year saw two members of the Columbia College family get their work published. Dr. Steve Wiegenstein, associate dean for academic affairs and dean for graduate studies, released *Slant of Light*, while Dr. Brad Lookingbill, professor of history, authored his third book, *The American Military: A Narrative History*.

*Slant of Light*, which is Wiegenstein’s debut novel, tells the story of a fictional group of utopians who establish a settlement in southern Missouri during the years before the Civil War. It draws on his academic research involving utopian communes of the 19th century and his upbringing as a fifth-generation Ozarks native.

“This novel is close to my heart, as much of it is based in the region where I grew up,” Wiegenstein says.

Wiegenstein’s novel received acclaim, as it was named runner-up for the Langum Prize in American Historical Fiction. In its award announcement, the Langum Trust praised the novel as “a lovely book on a neglected border state.” Wiegenstein also received praise from the *Southern Literary Review*, which described *Slant of Light* as “an exciting and original take on the history of America becoming America, full of complex characters and rich, realistic dialogue.”

Published by Wiley, Lookingbill’s *The American Military: A Narrative History* explores four centuries of military history, ranging from battles between militias and Native Americans to current operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. The book also looks at the patterns of military service within the U.S., as well as the broader impact of war on American society.

“This book really covers the breadth of my research and teaching, and I’m very excited to see it in print,” Lookingbill says. “I hope that by reading the book, people will gain a deeper understanding of our country’s armed forces and how men and women in uniform have shaped our world.”

Columbia College’s incoming president, Dr. Scott Dalrymple, has three English degrees and has published several works of fiction. To find out more, go to 26.
New Employees
Welcome Dan Kruse and Jayme Krizanich to the Alumni Relations team

Dan Kruse joined the Alumni Relations team in November 2013, in the newly created role of volunteer coordinator. He is responsible for identifying, cultivating and facilitating alumni volunteer opportunities and candidates across the country. Dan has been with Columbia College for nearly five years. Previously, he worked in the admissions office. He created the current Student Ambassador program and has spoken at numerous admissions conferences throughout his career. Dan will call upon his experience in higher education to develop a student mentoring program and build alumni affinity councils through personal relationships and networking at many of Columbia College’s nationwide locations. He holds a Bachelor of Science in business from the University of Missouri-Columbia. Contact him at djkruse@ccis.edu. If you’re interested in volunteering, complete the form at www.columbiacollegealumni.org/GetInvolved/Volunteer.

Jayme Krizanich joined the Alumni Relations team in January 2014. In her new role, she provides office management support to the Alumni Relations staff and the CCAA Board of Directors, heads the alumni merchandise store and often will act as the first point of contact for alumni. Jayme began her Columbia College career in 2012 in the development office. As part of the Columbia College family, she will continue to build relationships with Columbia College alumni. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Missouri-Columbia. Contact her at jkrizanich@ccis.edu or 573-875-2586 (ALUM).

Playing Cards
Columbia College Alumni Association Playing Cards feature Columbia College’s history, sports, architecture, traditions, famous alumni, campuses and more to help commemorate the 50th anniversary of the association! Cards are available for purchase online www.ccis.edu/ccalumnistore and also on campus during Reunion Weekend 2014’s anniversary celebration!
Greetings Alumni:

This is indeed an exciting time for Columbia College and the Alumni Association. In January, I had the opportunity to observe the process of selecting our new college president at the main campus. Both candidates were outstanding, and I was able to meet with them as they held forums for the college staff, professors, alumni, community leaders and students. The choice was a difficult one, but in the end the Board of Trustees voted unanimously to appoint Dr. Scott Dalrymple as our 17th college president.

Dr. Dalrymple is a young, enthusiastic and accomplished leader who will be able to direct our great institution well into the future. His goals are to grow the main campus, as well as increase enrollment in the AHE and on-line programs. Dr. Dalrymple’s wife, Dr. Tina Dalrymple, has a Ph.D. in nursing and should be an asset in championing our nursing program. The future looks bright at Columbia College with Dr. Dalrymple in charge.

If you haven’t already planned to do so, please plan to attend Reunion Weekend, April 25-26, 2014. This is our Association’s 50th Anniversary, and we have some special activities planned for all. We will present our Alumni Association Awards to six special people who have done some amazing things in their lives. We also will present our Association’s first Scholar Award to three very deserving students to help them achieve their dreams of a college education.

It’s an exciting time to be associated with Columbia College, so it is important that you become engaged and get involved.

Go Cougars!

Bill Leeper ’04
President, CCAA
Employers use a full array of strategies to identify, engage and recruit talent. The basic group of strategies includes alumni connections, career fairs, campus information sessions and internships. The most active strategies used by organizations were career fairs (36 percent) and internships (58 percent). The most popular methods were posting job announcements in college employment systems (82 percent) and organization websites (68 percent). Here is a listing of many of the strategies:

- Posting positions on college employment systems
- Attending career fairs
- Posting positions on organization’s website
- Hiring from intern and co-op pool
- Visiting campuses for information sessions
- Using alumni from target campuses
- Posting positions with national web aggregators

Social media, an increasingly important strategy, still came in below the 48 percent mark.

Less than 50 percent used ads, consultants and state and local job boards. 

Shop with Cops

CCAA President and Nassau County, Fla., Sheriff Bill Leeper ’04, CCA president and Nassau County Sheriff, spreads holiday cheer to underprivileged children

Each holiday season, CCAA
President and Nassau County, Fla., Sheriff Bill Leeper ’04 helps spread a little more cheer with the Nassau County Sheriff’s Office “Shop with Cops” event.

The event pairs underprivileged children and their families with cops for an evening of shopping. The children, selected by guidance counselors, are given $100 to spend at stores such as Target and Wal-Mart just before the holidays. In keeping with the spirit of the season, the children are instructed to think beyond themselves when deciding how to spend the money, dividing between “needs” and “wants” among themselves and their families. In December 2013, “Shop with Cops” benefitted more than 400 Nassau County children under the age of 11.

Thanks to generous donations from within the community, the event has become an annual tradition.
Celebrate Remarkable Alumni at Reunion Weekend 2014

On Friday, April 25, Columbia College will celebrate another year of alumni accomplishments at the Alumni Awards Banquet & Presentation during Reunion Weekend 2014. This year the following alumni will be recognized for their accomplishments:

**DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD**
James Benjamin Tilley ’96 is the Supervisor of Title I for Columbia Public Schools.

**PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

**COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD**
Ed Sasan ’11 is a 22-year Army veteran who has served the Madison City, Ala., Police Department as a school resource officer and has provided training to first responders. He is an expert on terrorism and explosives.

**COLUMBIA COLLEGE SERVICE AWARD**
Thelma Arthur ’01 & ’05 is a senior academic advisor at Columbia College–Lake of the Ozarks, where she uses her own history of struggles and triumphs in education to help current students excel.

**JANE FROMAN COURAGE AWARD**
Christopher Aquilina ’13 suffered a gunshot wound that left him legally blind, but he triumphs through adversity.

**HONORARY ALUMNI AWARD**
Col. Mike Randerson retired in January as vice president for Adult Higher Education at Columbia College after 19 years.
Alumni Holiday Party

Holiday cheer was abundant at the annual Alumni Holiday Cocktail Reception on Thursday, Dec. 12, 2013. More than 200 guests enjoyed drinks and appetizers, live music and carriage rides. Guests were invited to bring jars of peanut butter to support The Food Bank for Central & Northeast Missouri's Buddy Pack program.
Alumni Holiday Party
Alumni Gatherings

The CCAA celebrates its 50th anniversary across the country

Alumni Networking Social

Jacksonville, Fla.

On Feb. 18, 75 Jacksonville-area alumni and friends enjoyed an evening at Cantina Laredo. Among those in attendance included Dr. Scott Dalrymple, incoming Columbia College president, and his wife, Dr. Tina Dalrymple. To read more about the incoming president, see page 26.
Alumni Networking Social

Orlando, Fla.

On Feb. 19, more than 20 alumni and friends from the Orlando area gathered at Cantina Laredo for an alumni social hosted by the CCAA.

Alumni Networking Social

Melbourne, Fla.

More than 30 alumni and guests from the Melbourne, Fla. area gathered on Feb. 20 at The Mansion for an alumni social. Guests enjoyed appetizers and drinks while reconnecting with classmates.
On Saturday, March 1, more than 450 fans cheered on the Cougars at Southwell Complex on Alumni and Student Appreciation Day. Admission was free for all students and alumni to the double-header basketball games, and they enjoyed free Cougar T-shirts, food, beverages and photos with Scooter.
Awards and recognition of our alumni are possible, in part, because of generous support from our donors. These awards are a way to honor the recipients and also reflect back part of the Columbia College Alumni Association's mission to the purposeful development of our students, alumni and friends as volunteers, advocates, leaders and contributors.

You have the opportunity to show your support of the alumni association by making a gift in honor of one of these individuals.

Congratulations to this year's alumni award recipients for attaining success in your fields, in your service and through your leadership.

**Ben Tilley '96**
DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

**Greg Johnston '91**
PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

**Ed Sasan '11**
COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

**Thelma Arthur '01 & '05**
COLUMBIA COLLEGE SERVICE AWARD

**Christopher Aquilina '13**
JANE FROMAN COURAGE AWARD

**Col. Mike Randerson**
HONORARY ALUMNI AWARD

For a full list of past alumni award recipients visit http://tinyurl.com/CCAA-Archive

- **I would like to make a gift in honor of:**

  Award recipients' name

- **I would rather designate my gift to:**

  Please see ChooseCC.org for designated options

  Your Name

  Address

  City State ZIP

  Email

  Phone Number

**I would like to make a one-time gift of: $_______**

**I would rather make a monthly sustaining gift of:**

  ○ $15  ○ $10  ○ Other $_______

  Your monthly sustaining donation is automatically charged to your credit or debit card each month. Your giving continues uninterrupted. You can increase, decrease or stop your monthly donation at any time.

  To set up your sustaining gift by check please include a voided check.

  Please charge my: ○ MasterCard ○ Visa ○ Discover

  Credit Card number Exp. Date

  Print name as it appears on card

  Signature

Make checks payable to: COLUMBIA COLLEGE

Mail form to: Columbia College Office of Development

1001 Rogers St., Columbia, MO 65216

Make your gift online at www.ccis.edu/onlinegiving

Your contribution is tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.
Reunion Weekend

celebrating 50 years of the CCAA

50th Anniversary 1963-2013

Columbia College Alumni Association

Honor Class Years 1934 ~ 1944 ~ 1954 ~ 1964 ~ 1974

All alumni and guests welcome
FRIDAY, APRIL 25

1:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.
WELCOME CENTER & ALUMNI HOSPITALITY ROOM
DORSEY GYM
Check in to receive your registration materials. Visit with friends, and enjoy refreshments in the hospitality room.

2:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.
CAMPUS WALKING TOUR
MEET AT DORSEY GYM
Join Student Ambassadors on a guided walking tour, and check out all of the changes that have taken place since your last visit to campus.

3:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.
OPEN MEETING OF THE CC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
JANE FROMAN STUDIO, DORSEY HALL
Meet the CCAA Board of Directors at their spring meeting. Hear about the association’s plans for 2014-15, and learn more about the opportunities for you to get involved and stay connected!

5:30 P.M. – 6:30 P.M.
ALUMNI SOCIAL
COUGAR ROOM, DULANY HALL
Join alumni and guests for a festive social hour. Hors d’oeuvres, wine and beer will be served.
Tickets are $15 (social only).

6:30 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.
ALUMNI AWARDS BANQUET & PRESENTATION
BANQUET ROOM, DULANY HALL
Honoring this year’s deserving alumni award recipients:
Ben Tilley ’96 – Distinguished Alumni Award
Greg Johnston ’91 – Professional Achievement Award
Ed Sasan ’11 – Community Service Award
Thelma Arthur ’01 & ’05 – Columbia College Service Award
Christopher Aquilina ’13 – Jane Froman Courage Award
Col. Mike Randerson – Honorary Alumni Award
Tickets are $30 (social & banquet). Menu available at www.columbiacollegealumni.org/reunion.

SATURDAY, APRIL 26

9:00 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.
WELCOME CENTER & ALUMNI HOSPITALITY ROOM
DORSEY GYM
Pick up your name tags and reunion materials, and enjoy refreshments while visiting with former classmates.

10:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.
A WALK THROUGH HISTORY
DORSEY GYM
Rediscover the college’s rich history through its archival treasures with Bradley Meinke ’14, archives student assistant.

11:00 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.
ARCHIVES TOUR
RESEARCH ROOM, LOWER LEVEL OF DORSEY HALL
Tour the newly renovated college archives, and view college memorabilia.

1:45 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.
IVY CHAIN & REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY
DORSEY GYM
All alumni are welcome to participate in the Ivy Chain ceremony, with special recognition of the class of 1964. At the Remembrance Ceremony, celebrate the loving memory of all classmates who are gone, but not forgotten.

3:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.
FOREVER PLAID BY STUART ROSS
LAUNER AUDITORIUM
Performed by members of the Elysium Players and directed by Nollie Moore, “Forever Plaid” is a musical homage to the close-harmony “guy groups” that reached the height of their popularity during the 1950s.
Tickets are $10 at the door.

6:30 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.
CCAA 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
BANQUET ROOM, DULANY HALL
The grand finale celebration of the 50th anniversary features a live DJ and interactive showcases that represent Christian College and Columbia College life. Hosted by Dale Coe Simons ’65 and Debbie Bryant Berge ’65. Hors d’oeuvres, wine and beer will be served. Adults only, please.

For full Reunion Weekend details, visit www.columbiacollegealumni.org/reunion.
Molding Futures

How Bo Bedilion helps shape the arts at Columbia College

BY JEFF BRANSCOM  PHOTOS BY KACI SMART '09
During Bo Bedilion’s final semester in high school, his art teacher had a unique proposition for his class – anything that the students wanted to work with in the classroom was fair game for their final projects.

Bedilion’s curiosity led him to a forgotten pottery wheel, which was hidden under some boxes and bags.

“I said to my teacher ‘I want to try that thing back there.’ And he grimaced a bit, because we didn’t use it. It took about a week to get ready.

“From the first time I touched it, I was hooked.”

Heeding the advice of his art teacher, Bedilion attended California University of Pennsylvania in California, Pa., where he received a Bachelor of Fine Arts in ceramics. After he graduated, Bedilion followed his love of ceramics across the country, with postgraduate stops in Fairbanks, Alaska, and Manhattan, Kan.

Bedilion joined Columbia College in 2010 as an assistant professor of art, and much has changed during that time. Since he came on board, Bedilion has helped improve the department’s ceramics equipment, deepened the ceramics curriculum and most notably, built a new kiln.

The “Kiln Pad,” as it’s lovingly referred to by the art department, sits directly behind Brown Hall. The kiln used prior to his arrival was housed in the basement of Brown Hall.

“We looked at the kiln and thought that it was quite antiquated, and thought it might be good to have it outside (for safety reasons),” Bedilion says.

The “Kiln Pad” is a point of pride for Bedilion. Located in an 18-by-18-foot space he helped design using Google SketchUp, the kiln reaches a peak temperature of 2,350 degrees Fahrenheit and has produced more than 30 firings for Bedilion’s classes. Bedilion, with the help of a work-study student, built the kiln during the summer of 2011.

The support he received from students and administration in his quest to make the “Kiln Pad” is one of the reasons why Bedilion loves working at Columbia College.

“I asked to build a small building behind (Brown Hall) with a kiln inside of it, and getting that done was a large task for everyone involved, and I really appreciated that.”

Bedilion also has enjoyed the opportunity to revamp the art department’s ceramics curriculum, during which time he’s grown as an educator, as well as an artist.

“The students and I have gone through these first four years together, so that’s been really special. It’s been great to see the new focus on ceramics and see it blossom to where it is now.”

Bedilion regularly shows his work in juried invitational exhibitions across the country, most recently receiving an honorable mention at an exhibition in Minnesota. Bedilion says the endless possibilities associated with ceramics continue to fascinate him.

“I think what’s kept my interest in ceramics is that there’s so much more to it than just the (creation). Everywhere I’ve been in the last 15 years has been in the context of ceramics, so I’ve got to meet lots of different people and see a lot of different places.”

Faculty Profiles
Building Robust Learning Communities

Denver business instructor strives to promote diversity, inclusion

BY CELIA DARROUGH
PHOTO BY CARRIE ANNE DURKEE
Jeff Benson was only 12 when he made his first foray into the business world. A local farmer near Benson’s small hometown in Minnesota needed someone to manage a roadside fruit and vegetable stand.

“He thought my math skills — this was before point-of-sale terminals — and conscientious work ethic made me a good fit for the job,” he says. “I enjoyed both the customer interaction and the responsibility of managing it for the farmer.”

That experience and others that followed helped shape Benson’s future direction. Now, he leads a team supporting Pearson Learning Solutions as vice president for sales operations at Pearson, the world’s largest learning company.

Benson, a business adjunct instructor at Columbia College-Denver who played a role in the MBA program launch, has a profound business philosophy. Influenced by thought-provoking mentors and professional programs, a young Benson became convinced companies must play a role in establishing inclusive and sustainable communities.

“My early experiences oriented me to the importance of businesses playing active roles in their respective communities,” he says. “As full members of a society and community, businesses have responsibilities to the societies and communities that grant their existence.”

Benson is involved with Pearson’s corporate diversity and inclusion initiatives in Denver, an endeavor important to him as he has worked in multiple countries outside the U.S. He looks for opportunities that enable him to draw upon perspectives from different walks of life. The company sponsors various activities where employees have the opportunity to share aspects of their respective cultures — from foods to beliefs. They also sponsor events and forums with organizations dedicated to advancing understanding of global affairs and cultures.

In addition to teaching international business and statistics courses in the MBA program, Benson teaches an undergraduate multicultural management course, which is often composed of numerous international students, he says. Benson, who had the idea for a campus diversity potluck, also conducts select class sessions at Pearson’s facilities and occasionally includes Pearson executives in sessions.

Benson has taught business and marketing at Columbia College-Denver since January 2008, thanks to a higher education colleague who recommended the college even though she works for another institution. “She was very impressed with the sense of community she observed among Columbia College students,” he says.

That sense of a shared community, as well as a commitment to learning, are what Benson tries to provide at Pearson and Columbia College.

“One reason I’ve enjoyed teaching at Columbia College so much is that the Denver campus community includes a very diverse student population,” he says. “My colleague said Columbia students always seem to be so tightly connected to each other. I find that to be true, and hopefully I’ve continued to promote that sense of community among the students.”

Outside of Benson’s work and teaching he builds cedar chests. His father was a craftsman and cabinet maker. “As a boy, I spent many evenings working in his shop with him and inherited his love of fine woodworking,” he says.

But he doesn’t sell the chests. He leaves business out of it and gifts them instead.

“It’s a labor of love.”
Dr. Scott Dalrymple grew up in western New York, where children mastered driving tractors before cars and where, in the eighth grade, he was tasked with choosing a vocational or college track. After seeing a cherry red Dodge van complete with shag carpet and a twirling disco ball, he decided on the vocational track: auto body repair. His guidance counselor, however, noticed Dalrymple’s grades and chose the college track for him instead.

That guidance counselor’s decision prior to high school led Dalrymple here, to lead Columbia College. On Jan. 17, the board of trustees unanimously selected Dalrymple to serve as the college’s 17th president.

“This is the most exciting time that I have ever had at Columbia College,” says Dale Coe Simons, trustee of the college and a 1965 Christian College alumna. She, along with the 21 other trustees, cast a vote for Dalrymple as the next president for Columbia College. “We made history today,” she says. “It was the most transparent and thoughtful process that I have ever experienced, and we’re going to be so proud of our new president.”

The college introduced Dalrymple to the public Jan. 22 on the main campus. Students, faculty, staff, alumni, trustees and community leaders crowded into Launer Auditorium to welcome the college’s next president.

Daisy Grossnickle ’66, chair of the board of trustees, delivered a speech thanking everyone involved, including students and alumni. “It is hard for me to express how much this
Dr. Scott Dalrymple was welcomed to the college community at a public introduction Jan. 22.
institution means to me,” Grossnickle said as she welcomed Dalrymple at the introduction. “This has truly been a labor of love.”

As Dalrymple reached the podium, the audience embraced him with a standing ovation.

In a speech peppered with humor, Dalrymple jokingly asked about his ability to make decrees and declared cheeseburger sliders the official appetizer of the college. More seriously, he and his wife, Dr. Tina Dalrymple, vowed to visit all 34 nationwide campuses in his first year.

Dalrymple, who will take the helm May 1, says he takes serving all of the college’s constituents seriously. While still interviewing for the position, he participated in multiple forums. During a community forum that trustees attended, Simons’ phone began ringing, much to her embarrassment. She later mentioned it was her mother, a 1937 Christian College alumna, who had called with a question. She wanted to know what his strategy was for building community at extended campuses while keeping tradition alive on the main campus. He answered the question, and later, followed up with an email to Simons. “He said in his email, ‘If there is a Dalrymple presidency, your mother can call me anytime,‘” Simons says. “And my heart just jumped for joy.”

Dalrymple considers it noble to serve students, from the freshman straight out of high school to the military service member to the working parent. After endeavors in traditional liberal arts and sciences colleges, then spending the past four years as a dean at Excelsior College, an online-only institution in Albany, N.Y., Dalrymple says he intends to ensure the main campus and the adult-serving operations flourish. In fact, it’s one of the reasons he applied for the job.

“The primary appeal of Columbia College is the fact that it’s the best of both worlds as far as I’m concerned,” Dalrymple says. “It has the traditional world, which I frankly miss. I miss the students and being in a room of 19- and 20-year-olds, some of whom will actually listen to me. At the same time, I don’t know that I’d be interested in just a traditional institution, because I wouldn’t be leveraging the things I’ve learned at Excelsior.”
In his personal life, Dalrymple is fond of reading, writing and science fiction. He has a Ph.D., a master’s degree and a bachelor’s degree in English, in addition to an MBA. For his postgraduate degrees, he specialized in Mark Twain, Shakespeare and turn-of-the-century American novels. His doctorate dissertation was titled “Capital Fictions: The Business Novel in America, 1880-1910.”

He also writes science fiction of his own. In 2010, he received Realms of Fantasy magazine’s Readers Choice Award for “Queen of the Kanguellas.” The short fiction piece is set in mythical Africa and features sorcery and a tribe of fabled Kanguellas, which is led by an immortal warrior queen. He co-authored Time Mastery, a book on leadership published by the American Management Association in 2005. He also has published other works of fiction in The Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction.

Dalrymple’s wife, Dr. Tina Dalrymple, has her Ph.D. in nursing with an emphasis in rural populations. She is a tenured professor at Hartwick College and a nurse practitioner in a school-based health clinic. They have five grown children. Because all of their children left the nest, Dalrymple and his wife are looking forward to completely immersing themselves in Columbia College, participating in everything from faculty/student volleyball games to Schiffman lectures.

Dalrymple says the proper role of the president is to cheerlead. He will read anything a faculty member writes. He will boast of the college’s sports teams. He will encourage students, staff, faculty and everyone with an affinity for the college to go for greater.

“Tina and I both are looking for a place to just pour ourselves into,” he says. “You’re going to see us at students’ recitals and games. If [faculty] invite me to [a] class, I’ll come. We like that stuff. That’s why we’re here.”

Dr. Scott Dalrymple and his wife, Dr. Tina Dalrymple, visit with college constituents at a reception at Atkins-Holman Student Commons after the public introduction.
When NFL Hall of Fame Chuck Bednarik’s limousine pulled up in front of Independence Hall in Philadelphia one rainy January day, Wayne Rogers was waiting with a child’s excitement. Fox Sports was scheduled to film the Philadelphia Eagles star and WWII veteran speaking a line of the Declaration of Independence for its 2014 Super Bowl pregame show, at the national park where Rogers, a Columbia College student, serves as a guide.

Stepping out of the limousine, the 88-year-old Bednarik did not notice Rogers at first.

“Welcome to Independence Hall, sir. It’s an honor to have you here,” Rogers offered.

Bednarik regarded Rogers. “You’re a big one.”

Without hesitation, Rogers quipped, “I hear you’re trouble.”

A smile swept across Bednarik’s face, and the two entered the grand monument to begin filming.

Rogers is a Columbia College student and a veteran, who grew up in the Philadelphia area cheering for the Eagles and idolizing Bednarik.

“When I found I was going to assist in this project and escort Chuck Bednarik,” Rogers said, “my head hit the table and bounced. Twice. I couldn’t believe I got to talk to him. Here I was with my Greek god, and he was a veteran. It was great.”

Escorting personal heroes is a special complement to Rogers’ typical work of educating guests about the park’s features, such as the Benjamin Franklin Museum, and his favorite place, the Liberty Bell. This is Rogers’ first experience stepping into America’s rich colonial heritage, but he is no stranger to the concept of using our national parks as a portal to the past.

Until June 2013, you could find Rogers clad in Civil War-era wool uniforms, both Union and Confederate depending on the day, roaming the grounds of the Fort Pulaski National Monument Park in Georgia, educating tourists, military groups and Boy Scout troops through exhibitions and reenactments.

While serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom, Rogers was stationed at Fort Stewart, Ga., where he began taking classes at the Columbia College campus there, as well as through the Online Campus. When Rogers retired from the Army following injuries he sustained on tour in Fallujah, he became an employee of the Fort Pulaski park through Post to Parks, a military outreach program.
program of the National Park Service.

At the conclusion of his work at Fort Pulaski in June, Rogers, along with his wife and two sons, moved to the Philadelphia area. Continuing classes through the Online Campus, Rogers spent most of his summer as a ranger at Valley Forge National Park, where he stepped even further back in time to the Revolutionary War, trading his Civil War rifled musket for an earlier flintlock musket.

In December, he accepted his current position as a guide at Independence Hall.

Rogers looks to complete his associate degree in general studies in 2014, but with passion for the subject, hasn’t dismissed the idea of one day pursuing a bachelor’s in history.

“Working at Independence Hall is stepping out of my comfort zone of military history, but I hope to revive their historic weapons program from the French-Indian War to the Civil War.”

As a veteran who has served overseas, Rogers continues to serve the country as a time traveler, reminding us of a rich history of nearly 200 years of veterans who have served the country.

“I am just one of a few hundred veterans in the National Park Service who decided to continue to serve our country, no longer defending it, but preserving it.”

A Critical Connection

Two alumnae find bond through one’s battle for her life

BY CELIA DARROUGH • PHOTOS COURTESY OF ANN FLEURY AND HEATHER BISGES
Ann Fleury heard a voice telling her to let go, that her family would be cared for.

After hours fighting for her life, she felt no pain, had no emotions. An invisible witness to her own life, she last felt her bed rolling over a threshold that led into the Neuroscience ICU at Boone Hospital. Then she lost her hearing, her memory and control of her own body.

After what was meant to be a routine surgery to repair a hernia and remove her gallbladder, Fleury, a Columbia College alumna who had eight previous surgeries and a history of illnesses and a blood disease, was dying.

The Fight
But there was someone else fighting for her life.

Before Fleury, 27 years old at the time and a mother of two, was admitted into the ICU that night, Heather Bisges, an RN and a graduate of the Columbia College nursing program, had been assigned as her nurse.

Fleury’s heart rate was in the 120s and her blood pressure ranged from 60 to 80. She was having trouble breathing and was in excruciating pain.

“From the time Ann rolled in through the door, I knew it was something more than a side effect from the surgery,” Bisges says. “When I felt her abdomen, it was very distended and hard as a rock. I could tell she was bleeding internally.”

It took her multiple tries to convince the surgeons something was wrong. The main surgeon had left for the night and instructed Bisges to observe Fleury overnight and call with any questions. No, she argued, that wasn’t enough — someone needed to see what she was seeing.

“Absolutely not,” Bisges said when the surgeon said she wasn’t planning on returning to the hospital. “Someone has to get back here. She was crashing, and she was crashing fast.”

The Surgeries
Through Bisges’ insistence, doctors returned and performed an exploratory surgery and found that Fleury was, in fact, bleeding internally. They could not find the source of the bleed, but removed several units of blood from her abdomen. But shortly after coming out of the surgery, the bleeding was back and even worse. Ten to 12 doctors, nurses and staff members operated on Fleury as her blood pressure dropped.

“They were pumping blood in, but it was coming out just as quickly,” Fleury says. “One nurse said they were draining blood so fast they didn’t even have time to dispose of it. It sat on the counter in cups, waiting to be emptied.”

Fleury’s cardiologist, pulmonologist, hematologist and primary doctor were called to the ICU. Fleury’s husband, Sam, who is a Columbia College employee, calls them her “starting basketball team” of doctors. Her primary doctor told her parents through tears that it wasn’t looking good.

Clergy was notified.

A second exploratory surgery was scheduled to find the source of the bleed. The incision went from Fleury’s sternum to her pelvis, and after extracting many more units of blood, two areas were found — one above a surgical clip on her right hepatic artery near her gallbladder and the other near her spleen.

In 13 hours, Fleury was transfused with 60 units of blood products. She woke up connected to a ventilator, now back in her body and again aware of her pain and emotions. But she was alive; she knew her children were safe with her sister, Latricia Ferguson, another Columbia College alumna; and Bisges was by her side.

The Advocate
Fleury spent nine days in the hospital — seven in the ICU and two in a regular unit — and Bisges was her dedicated nurse for half that time. But while she was off duty, she would call the hospital to check on Fleury because she was still in critical condition.

“I came home during the day, and she was all I thought about,” Bisges says. “I wanted to get back
to the hospital. When you connect with a patient … I couldn’t think about anything else. I wanted to make sure she was taken care of.

Fleury is indescribably grateful for Bisges’ dedication to her patients and her profession. A couple of days after the surgeries, Bisges stayed up late one night to help Fleury with her hair.

“I remember her taking the time to braid my hair to keep it from getting knotted and to provide a sense of normalcy after this experience,” Fleury says. “She sat up late and spent about 30 minutes braiding my hair. She’s just that awesome.”

Bisges says nursing is all about the patients, and it’s important to not lose sight of that. During her time at Columbia College when she received her ASN, one of the main things she was taught in her classes was that patients come first, she says.

Even when the doctors have a different view, a nurse is a patient’s best advocate. A nurse has to prioritize the patient and stand up for them, even if it means they might get yelled at.

“My instructors taught me to make sure your patient is taken care of, because that’s your No. 1 concern,” she says. “Take care of them the best you can and everything else will fall into place.”

The Bond
Bisges and Fleury didn’t know they were both Columbia College alumni until Fleury’s husband, Sam, mentioned his work as the senior community and alumni relations coordinator at the college.

Sam Fleury is based at the Lake of the Ozarks campus. He coordinates blood drives each year, which now have a special significance for him and Ann.

“They see each other around the neighborhood, and the Fleurys make a special call each year on March 15, the day Bisges saved Fleury’s life and the day a bond began. They celebrated three years in 2014.

“Without her, I would not be here,” Fleury says. “She was that influential. She went to the surgeon, a doctor who didn’t have to listen to her, and fought for my life when I couldn’t. All nurses are special, but there are ones that set the bar. She didn’t have to fight. We were told many times, ‘It’s fine.’ And she fought. For me.”

Columbia College nursing students transition to nurses at the traditional Nurses’ Pinning Ceremony each semester, putting them on a path to making a difference in patients’ lives, just as Bisges did.

“The experience has transfused its way into other areas of the Fleury’s lives as well.

When Fleury was in the hospital, Bisges developed a relationship with Fleury’s parents, Bill and Lou Ann Cross. Lou Ann Cross taught Bisges’ brother in grade school. During a conversation, Bisges mentioned that she was selling her house, which was just down the road from the Cross’ house.

The Fleurys had been looking for a new house for more than two years.

Two months after Fleury was out of the hospital, they toured Bisges’ house and made an offer a few days later. Bisges now lives in her new house, about a half mile from her old one where the Fleurys live.

“It’s great because I know it’s being well taken care of, and the memories of bringing my children home are still there, and they’re making new memories on top of that,” Bisges says. “It’s so nice to be at the mailbox and have Sam honk and wave.”

Without her, I would not be here,” Fleury says. “She was that influential. She went to the surgeon, a doctor who didn’t have to listen to her, and fought for my life when I couldn’t. All nurses are special, but there are ones that set the bar. She didn’t have to fight. We were told many times, ‘It’s fine.’ And she fought. For me.”
“Not even one blood drive would cover the amount of blood that I received in 13 hours. It’s very humbling that people donate.” – Ann Fleury
The Thrill of Discovery

Doug Weaver ’11 and his wife, Kirsten, seek new adventures as Peace Corps volunteers in Rwanda

BY LAURA DAUGHERTY ▪ PHOTOS BY DOUG WEAVER ’11
The thrill of discovery drives many to travel abroad, but it takes a rare individual to do so in the service of others. For Peace Corps volunteers, Doug Weaver ’11 and his wife, Kirsten, the thrill of discovery in their remote African village is as much about learning as it is teaching; it’s about receiving as much as it is serving.

For Doug and Kirsten, applying to the Peace Corps was not a swift decision. “While I was a student at Columbia College, my wife saw a brochure for the Peace Corps at Mizzou (where she was a student),” he says. “She thought, ‘that sounds like something Doug and I would do!’ We prayed about it for a couple years and felt that it was the right thing for us. We are done with school, don’t have careers yet, and don’t have children yet. This is the perfect time for us to dedicate our lives to service, and through the Peace Corps, we can have a maximum impact on those with the greatest need.”

After making the decision to apply to the Peace Corps, Doug and Kirsten were thrilled to discover they had been accepted — and were going to be serving in the continent they requested: Africa.

“We didn’t know what to expect when we came here,” says Doug of Rubengera, Rwanda, their placement for the next two years. “When we thought of Africa, we thought of a flat desert with elephants and lions … but they call Rwanda the ‘land of a thousand hills’ for good reason. It is such a lush and beautiful country!”

“Rwanda ended up being the perfect place for us,” he adds. “We are both able to do jobs we are passionate about and qualified for. We love our placement, but we would have gone anywhere they chose for us.”

To fulfill their assignment, Doug and Kirsten teach at the Rubengera Teacher Training College, a select boarding school for juniors and seniors in high school who express a desire to become teachers. Doug explains the importance of students learning from and listening to native English speakers, as all classes in Rwanda must be taught in English. “This is the main reason we are here,” he says.

But Doug and Kirsten are helping to improve more than just their students’ English skills. Since most of their students will become teachers after they graduate, the teachers at Rubengera TTC emphasize nontraditional teaching methodologies in the hope their students will apply these methods to their teaching someday.

“Most schooling in Rwanda is rote memorization,” Doug says. “They (the students) seem shocked and confused when we actually want them to participate in class. If we can impact how our students approach teaching
when they leave our school, then we could have a much larger impact on their students in their communities.

“Rwandan students are very dedicated to their studies,” Doug adds. “They are very inquisitive and eager to learn.”

As much as Doug and Kirsten spend their time teaching, they’re also students exploring their vibrant, oftentimes surprising, setting.

“We are sometimes surprised by how uniquely and almost stereotypically African some things are. I remember thinking, Wow! Women really do carry everything on their heads here! Taking a bus can also be quite a unique African experience. You find yourself crammed in a bus with someone else’s child on your lap. The woman next to you is breast-feeding, and somehow they just crammed four more people on the bus without it even coming to a stop. It is moments like this that you think to yourself, is this really my life now?”

Adapting to their new environment has been challenging, but not in the ways they anticipated. It only took a few weeks for them to adjust to living without electricity and plumbing, but integrating into their new community has proven much harder. “The Kinyarwanda word for a white person is ‘muzungu,’ which also means ‘rich person,” Doug says. “We have dollar signs written all over our skin. I planted a garden here, and when I bought a hoe and walked back home with it, the community gawked at me. I could hear them saying, ‘Muzungu, azi guterra’ (‘The white person knows how to cultivate’) with perplexed looks on their faces. They think that all Americans have servants who do everything for them, so they are shocked when we do normal activities like laundry, cooking or housework. It doesn’t help that most white people they see are tourists, who stay at nice hotels and give money and candy to children. It’s hard not to feel
“We hope that a part of us will be left behind in Rwanda, just like we will be taking some of Rwanda back with us to America.”
guilty about how privileged we really are."

Another difficulty of serving in Rwanda relates to the Rwandan Genocide. Although the genocide occurred 20 years ago and the country has significantly recovered in that time, some scars remain. For Rwandans, “it is not uncommon for your next-door neighbor to be a person who aided in murdering one of your family members or friends,” Doug says. “They (the Rwandans) do a surprisingly good job of holding the community together.”

Even so, the memories of the genocide have ways of cropping up when Doug and Kirsten least expect it. During a recent visit to their next-door neighbor, Doug and Kirsten were sharing family photographs with the neighbor when he told them his grandparents had died in the genocide. The neighbor explained how children and the elderly were taken into the street — right in front of Doug and Kirsten’s home — and murdered.

“It’s difficult to know how to respond in these situations,” Doug says. “We can’t really comprehend what they have gone through. On most days, the genocide doesn’t come up because they try very hard to put their past behind them, but its presence is always here.”

One way Doug is able to process his experiences in Rwanda is through painting, but even this favorite pursuit of his had to be adjusted to his new environment. Since most painting supplies aren’t allowed on airplanes, Doug has resorted to making his supplies with vegetable oil, dirt, beeswax and even eggs from the market.

“Everything I paint here literally has a little bit of Rwanda in it. Many Peace Corps volunteers blog about their experiences, but this is how I document it. It helps me reflect on my experiences, and hopefully can teach others about Rwanda and the Peace Corps.”

When asked what Doug and Kirsten hope to gain from their experience in Rwanda, they are, above all else, open to learning and growing. “We have a lot of the same goals as we would in any other period of our lives,” Doug says. “We want to do our jobs to the best of our abilities. We hope to build meaningful and lasting relationships. We hope to get closer to God. We hope that after two years our community will be better off than before we came. We hope that a part of us will be left behind in Rwanda, just like we will be taking some of Rwanda back with us to America. If nothing else, living here broadens our view of the world.”

After all, the best teachers never stop learning. \textcopyright
Cougar alumni and friends,

Every golfer shows up expecting, or at least hoping, for that one great shot that feels so good you can’t wait to come back and do it again. But to hit that shot, you need to make a few preparations to increase your odds of it happening. Below, I have made a short list of things that just might help you reach your goal.

**Warm-up Time**
Always try to arrive early enough to have time to stretch, hit a few balls, and stroke a few putts before your tee time. Creating a tempo and rhythm for your round before getting to the first tee will greatly increase your likelihood of success on the course.

**Fundamentals**
There are five main fundamentals to golf: grip, stance, posture, alignment and tempo. If you want to improve your game and lower your scores, you must constantly focus on the fundamentals. If you do not know or understand these fundamentals, see your local golf professional. It will make the game easier and more fun.

**Visualization and Commitment**
You must see the shot in your mind before you make the swing or stroke. And I’m talking about seeing a successful result from the shot you are wanting to hit! Once you see the shot in your mind, make a couple practice swings to feel the rhythm, then commit to your plan and let it go. The worst thing that can happen is you hit a bad shot, and without a plan and commitment, you’re less likely to hit a good one.

**Course Management**
There are multiple ways to attack most holes, and most golfers know what they can and can’t do. You don’t have to hit your shot at the pin every hole to shoot a good score, so hit shots that keep you in the hole and on the course. Then give your strength a fair chance to make each hole a success. Oh, and be sure and hit enough club. That doesn’t always mean that if you hit it your career distance it might get to the hole … also meaning you don’t always need to swing as hard as you can just because you can! Allowing for enough club will improve your rhythm and tempo and, in turn, improve your contact and consistency.

**Practice**
In golf there is no substitute for practice. You can’t buy a golf game, but paying for a lesson or two could be the most beneficial investment you ever
make. When practicing, you must incorporate the things I have mentioned before into that practice to have any chance of executing the shots on the course, alignment and ball positioning being right at the top of that list on the practice tee. Simply laying two clubs down in a + shape does two things: it allows you to mentally know you are aligned properly and trains your eyes to see the correct alignment when addressing the ball. What we think we are seeing and what is actually the case are often two different things. If I catch my players on the practice tee without a club or something being used for alignment, they will have something on the ground before they hit the next shot. There is no reason to practice if you are not forming and reinforcing good habits.

I wish you all much success with your 2014 golf seasons. If you ever have any questions, feel free to drop me an email, and if you would like to set up a private lesson, that can be arranged as well.

Go low,

Coach John Utley
Head Golf Coach
Columbia College
jmutley@ccis.edu
Columbia College’s Tanner Sutton has been selected to the 2014 Allstate National Association of Basketball Coaches and Women’s Basketball Coaches Association Good Works Team. The honor recognizes college basketball players who demonstrate a commitment to their communities and helping others.

“This is an amazing honor for Tanner,” says Columbia College Head Coach Bob Burchard. “This is a very select group of individuals that spans all divisions of college basketball. Tanner’s ‘good works’ as a student-athlete at Columbia College represent everything that is positive about the intercollegiate athletic experience.”

The Allstate NABC and WBCA Good Works Teams are each composed of 10 student-athletes; five from the NCAA Division I and five from NCAA Divisions II, III and the NAIA. A total of 117 NABC nominees and 84 WBCA nominees were submitted by sports information directors across the nation on behalf of their colleges and universities. The final team rosters were chosen by prestigious voting panels composed of former coaches, student-athletes and media members.

Sutton, a junior guard from Harrisonville, Mo., has played in all 94 games the Cougars have played since he was a freshman. He was a starter on last year’s team that went 35-1, was ranked No. 1 in the country for most of the season, and won 35 consecutive games before losing in the Elite Eight of the NAIA National Championships. Since his arrival here, Columbia has amassed a total of 84 wins. Sutton has posted 696 points, 194 rebounds, 173 assists and 72 steals to date. In addition to his contributions on the court, he has been stellar in the classroom. Throughout his first five semesters here at Columbia College, he has achieved a perfect 4.0 grade point average.

Off campus, he has volunteered at the Boys and Girls Club of Columbia for its Fall Family Festival. The past few summers he has spent time working at Camp Barnabas in Purdy, Mo., a nationally renowned Christian camp for kids and teens, ages 7 to 17, with life-threatening illnesses and disabilities. He has participated as a volunteer counselor, and this past summer worked his way up to a member of the cabin staff. Tanner, along with two other Columbia College students, has worked diligently to bring a chapter of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes to the campus. Prior to their efforts, anyone wishing to participate in the FCA would have had to travel across town to the University of Missouri. While those dedicated to that endeavor would have traveled, having a chapter here on campus has affected the athletic department immensely.

“Tanner excels in the classroom, on the court and is committed to serving others,” Burchard says. “It is awesome that Allstate is willing to pay tribute to these deserving students who demonstrate the commitment to the core values of integrity, respect, responsibility, sportsmanship and servant leadership. The Columbia College community is proud of Tanner and how he represents our men’s basketball program, the athletic department and our institution.”
Soccer is one of the most popular sports in Belgrade, Serbia, so it’s no surprise that Vladimir Roganovic started playing it in his hometown at just 7 years old. “My friends in the neighborhood were always playing it, and they wanted me to go play with them,” he says.

It wasn’t long before coaches noticed his talent. He quickly rose through the ranks to play at the highest levels in the country. By age 10, he was playing for the prestigious Red Star Belgrade Club in the youth academy division. Five years later, he was playing for the Under 17 Serbian National Team, where he and his team competed with others worldwide.

Soccer was his passion, so he thought about playing professionally. However, he wanted a back-up plan just in case things didn’t work out. As he finished high school, he decided he wanted to get a college degree in the United States. A friend suggested that he start looking for schools by emailing soccer coaches.

One problem: He didn’t have a computer at home. So he bought one and started contacting coaches throughout the country. He also made VHS tapes of his games to show the coaches his skills on the field.

One of the coaches he talked with was John Klein from Columbia College. When Klein offered a full scholarship, Roganovic accepted, even
though he wasn’t exactly sure where Columbia was.

“I had a world map and tried to look it up, and there was St. Louis, and there was Kansas City, but on the map there was nothing in between,” he says.

While he might have been a little nervous about coming to a smaller city, Roganovic quickly saw that he had made the right decision. “Once I got here, I really loved it. It’s a great college town. And I really liked the smaller size of the school because the professors all knew me and my teammates.”

It wasn’t long before Roganovic made a name for himself at Columbia College with his hard work and leadership on the soccer field. He was team captain for three seasons, including 2003, when he helped his team qualify for the NAIA National Tournament for the first time in the school’s history. He was a four-time All American and the first player in the history of the school soccer program to be named First Team All American, in 2004. Other honors included the American Midwest Conference (AMC) Freshman of the Year in 2002, and Columbia College Male Athlete of the Year in 2005. He was inducted into the Columbia College Hall of Fame in 2013.

Soccer wasn’t the only part of his plan. He majored in international business and, at first, planned to move back to Serbia to work with an international company. While at college, he met his future wife, Shannon, and decided to stay in the U.S. After graduation, they both moved to New York City. There, he played for a semi-professional team, the New York Islanders, while searching for a day job. With the competitive job market, he decided he needed a master’s degree, so five months later, the couple moved back to Columbia. There, he completed the master’s program in business administration while working as a student assistant for Coach Klein.

After getting his MBA, Roganovic had another dream — to develop his own soccer club. “I came to the U.S. on a full scholarship,” he says. “So one of my goals is to develop soccer players who can achieve the same and get their education paid through hard work and talent.”

He moved to Kansas City where he and a business partner founded Puma FC, a premier youth soccer club for kids ages 4 to 18. In just three years, the club has grown from four teams to more than 500 members. The club also launched a nonprofit after-school program, Chance for All, which provides opportunities for underprivileged children to participate and develop a love for the game.

During the day, Roganovic is engaged in running the business, but late afternoon and weekends, he’s also coaching the teams. “I always want to coach soccer because it’s my passion,” he says. “When you teach kids something in practice and see them do it in the game, that’s the most rewarding part for me.”
On the Web:

Scootergraphs

Check out where CC alumni have taken Scooter this time!

Would you like to submit your own Scootergraphs? Email them to ccalum@ccis.edu or send to Alumni Relations, 1001 Rogers St., Columbia, MO 65216.

Brook Nichols ’12 and Matthew Colen ’15 took Scooter to Las Vegas.

Lollie Zander Reed ’68 and Scooter visit the Burren, near the Cliffs of Moher along the western coast of Ireland.
On the Web

Logan Muehlman ’09 brought plenty of Scooters to share with fellow Peace Corps volunteers while training in Ukraine. Logan is a community development Peace Corps volunteer working in the “Vzayemodiya” (mutual action) community organization in Ukraine.

Laura Small ’89 invited Scooter and other Columbia College alumni to her wedding. Also pictured: Kim Bobbitt-Trimble ’88, Dawn Jackson Nemanick ’90, Siobhan Burke Sullivan ’89, Doris Venable ’89 and Vicki Baumgartner Levinson ’88.

Shelley Dale ’69 and Scooter visit Vigeland Park in Oslo, Norway.

Mary Shumaker ’11 took Scooter to the PALS Stitching at the Beach retreat in Myrtle Beach, S.C.
Lucy Conkey Cummings ’55 is a retired business owner. She and her husband live in Forsyth, Ga.

Irene Ledbetter Christenson ’60 resides in Lake Barrington, Ill.

Susan Phillips Moskowitz ’65 retired from her project coordinator position at Stanford University in December 2013. She is in the process of starting her snack food business, Mrs. Moskowitz’s Munchies. She and her husband reside in Palo Alto, Calif.

Ella Dunn Mowrer ’69 and her husband live in Oak Ridge, Tenn.

Jacqueline Eck Decker ’73 works at the Mental Health Association of Essex County, N.J. She resides in Montclair, N.J.

Carol Siegel Turner ’77 has started a storytelling business. She is also an assistant preschool teacher at Butler Community College Educare Early Childhood Learning Lab. She and her husband reside in El Dorado, Kan.

Linda Hutton ’69 (left) with Ella Dunn Mowrer ’69

Dr. Penny Rafferty Hamilton ’76’s painting, “Oncology Odyssey,” was selected as a winner for Lilly Oncology and the National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship’s Oncology on Canvas® competition. Entrants were invited to submit works of art that express their journey through cancer. “Oncology Odyssey” was recreated as a mural on the side of a building in Indianapolis. Penny was our 2013 Distinguished Alumna, and she was inducted into the Colorado Women’s Hall of Fame on March 20 at the Denver Marriott City Center. Penny and her husband reside in Granby, Colo.
1st Lt. Caryle L. Jordan ’87 is a regional supervisor at the administration office of the courts in Louisville, Ky. He is retired from the Army. Caryle and his wife reside in Louisville, Ky.

Dr. Edwina C. Fluker Hart ’89 retired as an instructor from Alabama Southern Community College. She resides in Coffeeville, Ala.

Peggy Reed-Lohmeyer ’89 is an assistant director of social services at Fulton State Hospital and an adjunct faculty at Columbia College–Jefferson City and William Woods University. She and her husband reside in Fulton, Mo.

Susan Albin-Connor ’91 is an independent consultant and recruiter at Rodan + Fields Dermatologists. She and her husband reside in O’Fallon, Mo.

Saundra Mason ’91 resides in Hampton, Va.

Glenda Davis Richardson ’10 wed Michael Richardson on June 22, 2013, in Orlando, Fla.

Frances N. Rivera ’13 married Nathan Vedder on June 25, 2012, in San Francisco. Nathan plans to graduate from Columbia College this year.
Llona C. Paul Weiss ’91 is the director for the Missouri Division of Energy at the Missouri Department of Economic Development. She and her husband, Garry, reside in Columbia, Mo.

Dr. Michael Innis-Jimenez ’93 published his first book, Steel Barrio: The Great Mexican Migration to South Chicago, 1915-1940. (New York University Press: 2013.) He is an assistant professor and director of graduate studies in the department of American studies at the University of Alabama. He resides in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Pamela Heilmann ’94 has been appointed to distiller and vice president of production at Michter’s Distillery LLC in Louisville, Ky. She and her husband reside in Elizabethtown, Ky.

David D. Belmonte ’98 was selected as police chief for the Lake Bluff Police Department out of 123 applicants. He resides with his family in Lake Bluff, Ill.

Anthony Kropp ’05 is the first school resource officer for Deerfield High School in Deerfield, Ill. He is a 13-year police veteran. He lives in Grayslake, Ill.

St. Francis Borgia’s women’s volleyball head coach Brad Bruns ’06 recently coached his team to a Class 3 Missouri State High School Activities Association state championship. He resides in Washington, Mo.

Shelly Dunnegan Sconce ’06 was nominated for the LifeChanger Award, a national teaching award that recognizes educators who support students academically and emotionally. She is a math teacher at South Callaway High School, and she and her husband reside in Holts Summit, Mo.

Demond Harper ’07 was promoted to unit supervisor at Denver County Probation Department in Denver. He resides in Aurora, Colo.

Rose Gautier ’08 is completing a master of arts in military studies at Columbia College. She resides in Kissimmee, Fla.

Todd Ullum ’08 & ’11 and his wife, Heidi Ullum ’09, reside in Spring Hill, Tenn.

Allyson Lesinski ’10 works as a permanent substitute teacher at Crete Monee High School in Crete, Ill. She resides in University Park, Ill.

Anton Lukyanov ’10 is completing his MBA at Seattle Pacific University and pursuing dance as a side career. He resides in Seattle, Wash.

Douglas Weaver ’11 and his wife are Peace Corps volunteers in Rwanda. He graduated with an MFA in painting from Fontbonne University in 2013. To read more about the Weavers’ story, see page 36.

Alexandro Alcala ’12 received an honorable discharge from the U.S. Navy. He served from 2006 to 2013. He resides in San Antonio.

John Chism ’12 was promoted to lieutenant with the Callaway County Sheriff’s Office. He has been employed with the
Eduardo Clemente ’12 welcomed a son, Eduardo Clemente Jr., on Oct. 9, 2013.

Cindy Potter ’05 welcomed a daughter, Caitlynn Jae Potter, on Oct. 8, 2013.

Callaway County Sheriff’s Office since 2000. He and his wife reside in Auxvasse, Mo.

Kimberly Craig ’12 is the admissions events manager for the admissions office at Columbia College. She resides in Columbia, Mo.

Serena Jenkins ’12 was recently hired as the head varsity volleyball coach for Lynbrook High School in San Jose, Calif.

Dustin Johnson ’12 is an energy specialist at Cenergistic.

He and his wife reside in Hanford, Calif.

Sgt. Ret. Jon McCracken ’12 is a teacher at Lena Pope Home. He is retired as a Marine Corps E-9 Master Gunnery Sergeant. He resides in Fort Worth, Texas.

Tracy Pierce ’12 has published his first book on leadership, The 2 Faces of Leadership – Merging the Best of Both Leadership Styles. He resides in Fort Worth, Texas.

Katherine Reed ’12 is the new communications manager for the Jefferson City Convention and Visitors Bureau in Jefferson City, Mo., where she resides.

James Morrison ’13 is a U.S. Army active duty disabled veteran. He resides in Fort Worth, Texas.
In Memoriam

Marian B. Bryant Cubbage ’28
March 29, 2013

Inez Yates Munsell ’33
Aug. 2, 2013

Dorothy Jane Keithley Parham ’36
June 7, 2013

Elanor Jones Polk ’36
Feb. 6, 2013

Dorothy Morris Hull ’37
Dec. 4, 2013

Virginia Meacham Kizer ’37
June 8, 2013

Betty Fisher Medbourn ’38
July 2, 2013

Kay Jacobs Sells ’38
Sept. 11, 2013

Betty Timmerman Evans ’40
Nov. 11, 2013

Martha Alexander Laslie ’40
Aug. 3, 2013

Margaret Wells Lindberg ’40
Sept. 16, 2013

Ruth Ann Chaney Sansing ’40
Sept. 14, 2013

Mary Smith Teterus ’40
July 17, 2013

Wanda Taylor Glidewell ’41
Oct. 27, 2013

Mary Penisten Whitesides ’41
July 31, 2013

Mary Badgett Willoughby ’41
Aug. 30, 2013

Harriett Schwaderer Neidhart ’44
Feb. 10, 2013

Constance Cooper Thacker ’45
Sept. 14, 2013

Winifred Williams Sparks ’46
Sept. 8, 2013

Mary Husted Staggs ’49
Sept. 27, 2013

Jerry Louise Walter Talley ’50
May 28, 2013

Jean Farrar Fager ’51
Sept. 20, 2013

Elizabeth Davis Schwarz ’52
March 13, 2013

Jane Ann Martin Leak ’53
Dec. 2, 2013

Marjorie Chalfant O’Connell ’54
Oct. 22, 2013

Joyce May Owens ’54
July 16, 2013

Anita Hall Stapp ’54
July 6, 2013

Doris Smith Wyrsch ’54
July 30, 2013

Harriet Person Allen ’55
July 24, 2013

Betty Gail Russell Poole ’55
Oct. 20, 2013

Ann Pittenger Lorenzen ’60
June 3, 2013

Jane Mead Barberousse ’61
Oct. 26, 2013

Suzanne Evans Hearnes ’61
Nov. 21, 2013

Sarah Sue Leopold West ’61
July 16, 2013

Nancy Washco Ayer ’65
Feb. 20, 2013

Patricia Smith Knight ’65
Aug. 20, 2013

Karen Teuscher MacNames ’67
Aug. 12, 2013
Hubert Roberson ’74  
Oct. 3, 2013

Mary M. Burgess ’80  
Dec. 10, 2013

Suzan Ann Higgins Gillespie ’92  
Dec. 20, 2013

Darwyn Venden ’74  
Oct. 7, 2013

Mathews Kelley ’80  
Oct. 17, 2013

Michael Graham ’96  
Oct. 22, 2013

Jerry Bidwell ’75  
March 12, 2013

Michael Conrad ’82  
Aug. 13, 2013

Corrine Cushna Baum ’98  
Nov. 29, 2013

Woodrow Bridges Jr. ’75  
May 19, 2013

Floyd Logan Jr. ’82  
Dec. 13, 2013

Belinda Freeman Hulen ’99  
Sept. 14, 2013

Barbara Cox ’75  
Oct. 16, 2013

Bennie Hardy ’84  
Nov. 4, 2013

Nancy Hart ’00  
Feb. 15, 2013

Walter Liddle ’75  
March 28, 2013

Stephen Riffel ’84  
Oct. 30, 2013

Jason Romano ’06  
Nov. 12, 2013

Eldon Foss O’Neill ’75  
Oct. 22, 2013

Mary Ellen Rogers Hart ’85  
Nov. 6, 2013

Warren Sims ’06  
Oct. 25, 2013

Oct. 10, 2013

Mark Weaver ’86  
Sept. 12, 2013

Ashley Marie Monnig-Burns ’07  
Nov. 30, 2013

Gene Autry Strouth ’75  
Oct. 10, 2013

Dana Louise Coats ’89  
Oct. 19, 2013

Karl Bargenbruch ’09  
Aug. 28, 2013

Ronald Henry ’76  
Nov. 4, 2013

William Woodard ’90  
Jan. 13, 2013

Tracy L. Ballstaedt ’11  
Dec. 7, 2013

Jeffrey Dalzell ’78  
Oct. 24, 2013

Frank Williams ’91  
Oct. 4, 2013

Laila Johnson Carpenter ’11  
July 15, 2013

Jessica Danyale Lee ’12  
Aug. 6, 2013
Columbia College Calendar of Events

Unless otherwise noted, all events will be held on the main campus in Columbia, Mo.

April 25-26
Reunion Weekend and 50th Anniversary Celebration

May 29
Alumni Networking Social
Jefferson City, Mo.

May 3
Columbia College-Lake of the Ozarks Alumni and Community Appreciation Day
Osage Beach, Mo.

June 24
Columbia College-Lake of the Ozarks Nursing Alumni Social
Osage Beach, Mo.

September 12
CC for a Cure Golf Tourny
Eldon Golf Club
Eldon, Mo.

October 3
Athletic Hall of Fame

October 4
Family Day & Homecoming

October 4
Hughes Hall 75th Anniversary

December 4
Columbia College-Lake of the Ozarks Holiday Party
Osage Beach, Mo.

Shop online at www.ColumbiaCollegeAlumni.org
A. T-shirt with imprinted logo
Navy Pink Indigo Blue White Sport Gray
M-XL: $12, XXL: $14

B. Long sleeve t-shirt with imprinted logo
Navy Pink Indigo Blue White Sport Gray
M-XL: $15, XXL: $17

C. Denim shirt with embroidered logo
M-XL: $35, XXL: $37

D. Hooded pullover sweatshirt with imprinted logo
Navy Pink Indigo Blue White Sport Gray
M-XL: $28, XXL: $33

E. Sweatshirt with imprinted logo
Navy Pink Indigo Blue White Sport Gray
M-XL: $25, XXL: $28

F. Sweatshirt with embroidered logo (not shown)
Navy Pink Indigo Blue White Sport Gray
M-XL: $30, XXL: $35

G. Ladies flatback rib full-zip jacket with embroidered logo
Navy Pink Indigo Blue White Sport Gray
M-XL: $42, XXL: $45

H. Men’s flatback rib ¼ zip pullover with embroidered logo (not shown)
Navy Pink Indigo Blue White Sport Gray
M-XL: $42, XXL: $45

I. Microfleece ½ zip pull-up with embroidered logo
Ladies’ Colors: Riveria Blue Rose
Men’s Colors: Riveria Blue Nickel
M-XL: $44, XXL: $47

New Alumni Items!

J. Scooter tumbler
16 oz. tumbler with Columbia College Alumni logo and Scooter. Lid and straw included. Color of Straw: green, red, blue, purple $8

K. CCAA colored triton with color coordinated straw 16 oz. with white imprint and lid. Colors: blue, red, green, smoke, clear $8

L. CCAA colored sports bottle with Columbia College Alumni Association logo. Colors: purple, blue, red, green $12

M. CCAA picture frame 6” x 4” Beveled glass with white imprint $10

N. Columbia College alumni license plate White with Navy imprint $5

Make check payable to Columbia College Alumni Association or charge to:
☐ Mastercard ☐ VISA ☐ Discover

Account number: __________________________
Expiration date: _____/_______ CVC ______

Mail order to:
Columbia College Alumni Relations
1001 Rogers St.
Columbia, MO 65216

Please allow 6-8 weeks for delivery. U.S. postage paid only.

APPAREL:
☐ Christian College Alumnae ☐ Columbia College Alumni ☐ Columbia Cougars

| Name ______________________________________________ |
| Phone number ____________________________________________ |
| Address ____________________________________________ |
| Email address ____________________________________________ |
| City __________________________ State ___________ Zip __________________________ |
| Item description____________________________ Color _____________ Size _____________ Cost _________________ |
| Item description____________________________ Color _____________ Size _____________ Cost _________________ |
| Item description____________________________ Color _____________ Size _____________ Cost _________________ |

Shipping charges:
U.S. Postal Service: $8 and $1 for each additional item
FedEx Two Day: $13 and $2 for each additional item
FedEx Priority - Next Day: $20 and $3 for each additional item

Subtotal ___________
Shipping ___________
Total ___________

All adult clothing items are available with Columbia College or Christian College logos. Complete catalog available online.
What’s New?

What’s new with you? If you have a change of address, marriage, birth, new job, awards, etc., we’d like to know about it!

Use the form below or fill out the alumni update form online at www.columbiacollegealumni.org, and we’ll update your alumni records and share the news in Affinity magazine. We also encourage you to submit a photo with your news to ccalum@ccis.edu.

Name: ________________________________

First  Maiden  Last

Preferred name: ________________________________

Address: ___________________________________________  □ Check if new

City: ___________________________  State: _______  Zip: _______________

Home phone: (____)_________________________  Cell phone: (____)_________________________

E-mail: ________________________________  Date of birth: ________________________________

Campus attended: ________________________________  Class year: ________________________________

Employer: ________________________________

Job title: ________________________________  □ Check if new  Effective: ________________________________

Business Address: ________________________________

Name of spouse: ________________________________

Spouse’s job title: ________________________________  Employer: ________________________________

Business address: ________________________________

Wedding announcement (within the last 12 months)

Married to: ________________________________  Date of marriage: ________________________________

CC campus attended (if applicable): ____________________________  CC graduation year (if applicable):

City: ___________________________  State: _______  Zip: _______________

Birth (Adoption) announcement (within the last 12 months)

Birth of a:  □ Daughter  □ Son  Date of birth: ________________________________

Name: ________________________________  Spouse’s name:  □ Check if CC  Grad year ________________________________

Career Notes/Retirement Update/Community Service/Military (within the last 12 months)

Please attach additional information if necessary.

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

Mail this form to: Columbia College Alumni Relations Office  •  1001 Rogers St.  •  Columbia, MO 65216
(800) 231-2391, ext. ALUM (2586) or (573) 875-ALUM (2586)  •  (573) 875-7733 Fax  •  www.ColumbiaCollegeAlumni.org
Introducing our Go for Greater® series, a collection of interviews with alumni who’ve taken their CC degrees and gone for greater.

For a chance to be featured in our Go for Greater® series in future print issues of Affinity magazine, please visit www.columbiacollegealumni.org/goforgreater.
You have career opportunities.

Our students are starting their careers.

Make an impact, become a Cougar Colleague!

Be A Cougar Colleague!

The Cougar Colleagues program is a way to leverage Columbia College talent by connecting current CC students to employers where CC alumni are working. A degree from Columbia College is a common bond that alumni and students share. This program serves as a resource for networking, recruiting and hiring qualified Columbia College students and alumni.

We ask our alumni to complete the form at www.ccis.edu/cougarcolleagues so the Career Services team can reach out to employers and assist them with promoting their job and internship opportunities to current Columbia College students. All Career Services’ employer services are completely FREE. Thank you for your support!

Stay connected to the Grossnickle Career Services Center.

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